



NEWS



FALL 2023

from The Native Sons and Daughters of Greater Kansas City

Dedicated to the recognition, preservation and restoration of Greater Kansas City's unique heritage.



OUTSTANDING KANSAS CITIAN —2023— GALA

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CALENDAR

2023 OKC GALA

November 8 at 6:00 p.m.

NEW MEMBERS

Richard L. Mann, II
Deborah K. Rhinehart

2023 OKC GALA

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2023 ♦ THE CARRIAGE CLUB

Our 2023 Annual OKC Gala (the 51st!) will be held Wednesday, November 8. Our OKC Honoree will be Dr. Matthew Naylor, Ph.D., (above) President and CEO of WWI Museum and Memorial. He is truly deserving of official recognition as an Outstanding Kansas Citian by NSDKC!

YOU'RE INVITED

To the Carriage Club at 5301 State Line Road in Kansas City, Missouri

Reception & Silent Auction: 6:00 p.m.

Dinner: 7:00 p.m.

Program: 8:00 p.m.

(Black Tie Optional)

\$1,500 for a table of 10 or \$150 per person. Proceeds support the NSDKC mission

RESERVATIONS NEED TO BE RECEIVED BY FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27

RSVP and pay with a credit card at www.nsdck.org

Or mail your check, payable to NSDKC to

NSDKC-OKC, PO Box 25513, Kansas City, MO 64119-0913

FOR INFORMATION, CALL 816-223-7118

\$95 of the single ticket price may be considered a donation

NSDKC is a 501(c)(3) organization



Dear Members:

Hello to fellow members of Native Sons & Daughters of Greater Kansas City. As our weather is changing, we want to remind you about several things we have going on:

- We hope you have made your reservation for the Annual Meeting on October 18, 2023. This is the one meeting where all Members are invited to hear about the activities of NSDKC, select members of the Board of Directors (six positions), discuss and approve Bylaws changes to be approved. Two committees, Advisory and Bylaws have been working very hard on bringing the Bylaws up to date. Copies were sent with the notice about the annual Meeting and final copy will be sent upon approval of the changes.
- The very important annual event, the Outstanding Kansas Citian Gala is coming up very soon on Wednesday, November 8, 2023. Have you made your reservations? Cost is \$150 for individual and a table of 10 is \$1,500. This event is a fundraiser for funds to continue the activities and programs of NSDKC. Send your check and the reservation card you received to NSDKC, P. O. Box 25513, Kansas City, MO 64119-0813 no later than October 27, 2023. OKC always proves to be special and we want you with us.
- Notice for the Awards to be given out at the Holiday Brunch will be coming via email in the next few days. Please visit the NSDKC website, nsdkc.org, click on Awards, and read the guidelines carefully and use the nomination form for a member you feel deserves recognition, or an outside person for the James Anderson award. Nominations are due no later than November 1, to be sent to **Ms. Joanne Collins**, mommajmc@gmail.com.

We have much going on and are always looking for new members to join the Organization and become active. If there someone you want to nominate, contact our Administrator, Mrs. Nancy Elder for an application to be sent to you.

Until next time we meet, stay safe, healthy, enjoy the Fall colors and have a special Holiday Season.



Ray Elder
2023 President



Ray Elder
2023 President



OFFICERS & STAFF

Ray Elder
President

John Dunnewind
1st Vice President

Christy Chester
2nd Vice President

Nancy Elder
Treasurer

Paul Christiansen II
Secretary

Nancy Elder
Historian

Linda F. Mills
Event/Programs Chair

*A list of all committees and
committee chairs is available at
NSDKC.org*

Newsletter Production

Ross Marshall, *Editor*

Norman Besheer, *Proof Reader*

Administrative Staff

Nancy Elder, *Administrator*

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Kansas City MO 64119-0813

MISSION

The Native Sons and Daughters of Greater Kansas City, Inc. is dedicated to the historic preservation of the unique and rich heritage of the greater Kansas City metropolitan area, both in Missouri and Kansas, through advocacy, education and restoration. It also seeks to preserve and maintain archives of historical interest relating to the development of the Kansas City region and to recognize individuals who have resided therein and contributed to such development.

NSDKC Enjoyed An Event at Harry S. Truman Presidential Library & Museum on July 25



This is the huge south side which was the main entry until the current renovations.

Members of Native Sons & Daughters of Greater Kansas City gathered at Café Verona in Independence, MO, on July 25, 2023 for lunch, before adjourning to the Harry S. Truman Presidential Library and Museum for a two-hour guided tour arranged by our Events Chair **Linn Mills**.

The Library, at 500 W. Highway 24, has just finished an expansion and massive renovation of its building and museum exhibitions, the first major restoration in more than 20 years and the largest since the Library opened its doors in 1957.

It reopened in July, 2021 with a new museum entrance and permanent exhibition of the 75th anniversary of Truman's ascension to the presidency.

The Truman Library is a Presidential Library operated by the Federal Government. The Library offers exhibits for all age groups.

24 NSDKC members and guests followed a coherent path, encountering assorted corners, cul-de-sacs, nooks and some aptly named "theaters."

The tour ended in the outdoor courtyard, visiting the gravesite of President Truman and his immediate family members.



The renovation has created a new main entrance (above) on the east side of the museum building. At right is a large statue of **Harry S. Truman** welcoming people to the entrance!

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Harry S. Truman Presidential Library

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In the photo at right are the burial sites of **Harry** and **Bess**. They were laid to rest in the huge enclosed area shown above surrounded by museum display rooms and also Harry's office. **Harry** passed away December 26, 1972 at age 88. **Bess** passed away October 19, 1982 at age 97 of congestive heart failure. She was the oldest first lady in U.S. history.

Their daughter **Margaret** and her husband **E. Clifton Daniel** are buried adjacently.

Interestingly enough, **Harry** had no middle name. He was given the letter S as his middle name because the middle names of both his grandfathers started with S.

Harry was a Missourian, having been born in LaMar, Missouri. He became a U.S. Senator in 1935 and became Vice-President in 1945 for a brief time before Franklin D. Roosevelt passed away. He was President until 1953, for nearly eight years.

The very extensive Harry S. Truman historical displays and text material inside the museum are mostly about his life in Congress and as President. This was not only an enjoyable event but highly informative about Truman's history and his residency in Independence.



World War I Museum Tour Sunday, August 27 at 2:00

Pictured at right is the spectacular Liberty Memorial Tower which rises 217 feet above its main courtyard. The cylindrical tower is 36 feet in diameter at its base, tapering to 28 feet at the top.

Under this tower is the magnificent World War I Museum which we visited this past August 27 at 2:00 on a Sunday afternoon. It opened in 2006 and is inside the red doors.

It has numerous art galleries and holds the world's most diverse collection of Great War memorabilia. It contains wondrous interpretive displays, maps, collections and souvenirs concerning the battles and hardships of World War 1.

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World War I Museum Tour Sunday, August 27

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Pictured above is our group of 26 as we arrived at 2:00 standing on the “Glass Floor”. This is just inside the main entrance and displays about 9000 poppies below the glass floor. The poppies signify the 9000 or so deaths of our soldiers in World War 1. What a spectacular setting!

Deb Rhinehart was a good guide and led us throughout the tour inside the large rooms and displays. She also joined our NSDKC organization during this visit!

At the beginning of the 20th century, a conflict erupted in Europe that rapidly escalated into a war of unprecedented destruction and bloodshed. Totally, about 65 million soldiers from all nations fought and over nine million of them died.

The war involved 36 countries around the world including the United States, who sent two million men and women overseas.

On April 6, 1917, President Woodrow Wilson signed the declaration of war against Germany. The United States quickly took steps to put our entire country on a war footing.

Millions of men were inducted into the united forces and given basic combat training. By August, 1917

nearly 2 million American soldiers were in France, giving the Allies the numerical superiority they needed to end the war.

About 15,000 women also served overseas, working as doctors, nurses, drivers, and secretaries and other roles in the Western Front.

Although the guns fell silent on November 11, 1918, peace did not officially come until the following years. This museum is dedicated to sharing the stories of those who experienced this global disaster, the consequences of which

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World War I Museum Tour

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are still with us.

Our group assembled above near a lot of wall displays, maps and pictures which were on all the walls as we toured the Museum. And Deb explained all of them very clearly to us!

Near the end of our tour, we seated ourselves in their large movie theater setting and watched a short film about the war and especially its impact on our nation, before, during and after the war.

Near the end of our tour, several of us went downstairs to their new huge displays of war artifacts and collections of memorabilia.

The WW1 Museum is spectacular, historic and well displayed. We would recommend people visit this famous and modern site!

NSDKC MEMBERSHIP

Dues are \$35.00 for individuals and \$50.00 for couples. We encourage members to sponsor a family member or friend with a membership. The membership dues are tax deductible. NSDKC is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. The membership application is on The Native Sons and Daughters website: nsdkc.org.



Nsdkc Annual Meeting Held October 18

Pictured above are our Officers, Members, OKC Committee members, etc. as we met for our Annual Meeting on October 18 at The Carriage Club at 5301 State Line Road, KCMO.

At 4:30, the Outstanding Kansas Citian Committee, chaired by Christy Chester and assisted by Administrator Nancy Elder, Auction Co-Chair Linn Mills and others, met in a smaller room and reviewed the progress and plan details in preparation for the 51st Annual Gala, sponsored by NSDKC for recognizing and honoring Outstanding Kansas Citians.

The Honoree this year will be Dr. Matthew Naylor, Ph.D. President and CEO of the National WWI Museum and Memorial.

At 5:30, the OKC group joined others who had arrived for the Cash Bar. Dinner was served about 6:00 as shown above. The Business Meeting started at 7:15 PM, chaired by President Ray Elder (seated at the far left).

One of the most interesting presentations was led by Bylaws Committee Chair and 1st Vice President John Dunnewind. Over a span of time, many edits and upgrades have been developed on our Bylaws. All of those items were put to a vote by John, one page at a time, and all were approved unanimously by the Members! A great deal of satisfaction and confidence was expressed by all when it was completed.