



NEWS

SUMMER 2016

from The Native Sons and Daughters of Greater Kansas City

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

Plan to be part of this Royal Gala!



W

hile it is hot in the mid-summer, everyone should be looking forward to a cooler fall, by pulling out their smart phone or checking their appointment book to make sure they have marked November 10 for this year's Outstanding Kansas Citian gala.

We will be gathering in the exciting confines of the Diamond Club at Kauffman Stadium to honor five-time All-Star second baseman and eight times a Golden Glove recipient and current Jackson County Executive, the Honorable Frank White, Jr., with well-deserved recognition. This is a special venue to complement a career where Mr. White achieved a most impressive career in professional sports and now serves the people of Jackson County as its highest elected official.

As we honor Mr. White, NSDKC will also recognize the governmental organization with even closer ties to the Jackson County Sports Complex; the Jackson County Sports Complex Authority, the owner of this unique sports venue. NSDKC will

recognize the Jackson County Sports Complex Authority for its four decades of providing a home for two of the Kansas City area's iconic sports franchises.

The histories of the Kansas City Chiefs and the Royals are deeply intertwined into the social fabric of Kansas City. By providing an appropriate historic marker for display at the Truman Sports Complex, NSDKC will be sharing part of its history for all of the millions of guests and visitors who come to Kauffman and Arrowhead Stadiums each year.

Due to the unique size and configuration of the Diamond Club, only about two hundred spaces are available. Please do not be disappointed when this event sells out— **MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW.** Be part of this unique event, and help us honor these Kansas City icons. **Order now at nsdkc.org!**

The President's Message

Dear members:

2016 is off to an exciting start. We had a tour of the Federal Reserve Bank on March 30 coordinated by Dick Retrum. We were led on a private tour, saw a film that outlined the history of the bank, and saw the historical progression of coin and paper money. It was a thrilling opportunity to see money moved by robots and inspected by workers. More details were available in our spring newsletter.

On April 23, we had a Meet & Greet of the Roasterie, coordinated by Lisa Hickok. It was an informative tour that gave us an understanding of how coffee is grown and picked plus the unique air roasting process that makes Kansas City's own Roasterie a leader in the industry. See the story in this issue.

On May 4, an open-house was held at the former home of Bruce Prince-Joseph. Then on May 21, Steve Noll gave us a private tour of the Jackson County Courthouse in Independence and we saw the Bingham art collection on display there. We had the opportunity to view courtrooms that take one back in time. See the stories in this issue.

I am pleased to announce that The Native Sons and Daughters of Greater Kansas City are finalizing plans for our very own monument. The members involved in the project are Carl DiCapo, Gary Hicks, Chuck Eddy, Diane Pepper and myself. We will keep you updated on our progress.

Upcoming events include a trip to the Ben Ferrell Museum and McCormick's Distillery on August 20. More details to follow. Additionally, we are working on a car museum tour and a trolley tour of our historical markers. We will have our OKC event, honoring the Honorable Frank White, Jr., Jackson County Executive, on November 10 at the Royals Kia Diamond Club. Finally, we will have our annual Holiday Brunch on December 10 at Indian Hills Country Club. I look forward to the next six months and hope you will join us.

Sincerely,
John Hess, Jr.
2016 NSDKC President



**2016 President
John Hess, Jr.**



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

Newsletter Production

Ross Marshall, *Editor*

Norman Besheer, *Proof Reader*

Administrative Staff

Susan Hughes
Executive Secretary

Linda Dillon
Administration and IT

Contact Information

Phone: 816-926-9397

Email: publications@nsdkc.org

NSDKC.org

6320 Brookside Plaza, Suite 213
Kansas City, MO 64113

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.

Sat., August 20 - Ben Ferrell Museum & McCormick's Distillery
Wed., October 12 at 6:00 pm - NSDKC Annual Membership & Board Meeting

★ **2016 CALENDAR** ★

Tues., November 10 at 6:00 pm - Outstanding Kansas Citian
Sat., December 10 at 11:00 am - Holiday Brunch

Meet & Greet

A wonderful visit to the Roasterie!

An excited group of about 30 NSDKC members and guests met for one of our Meet & Greets on the morning of Saturday, April 23 at the Roasterie.

The Roasterie has been named one of the Top 10 Small Businesses by the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce and is a very successful coffee-making operation since its founding more than 20 years ago.

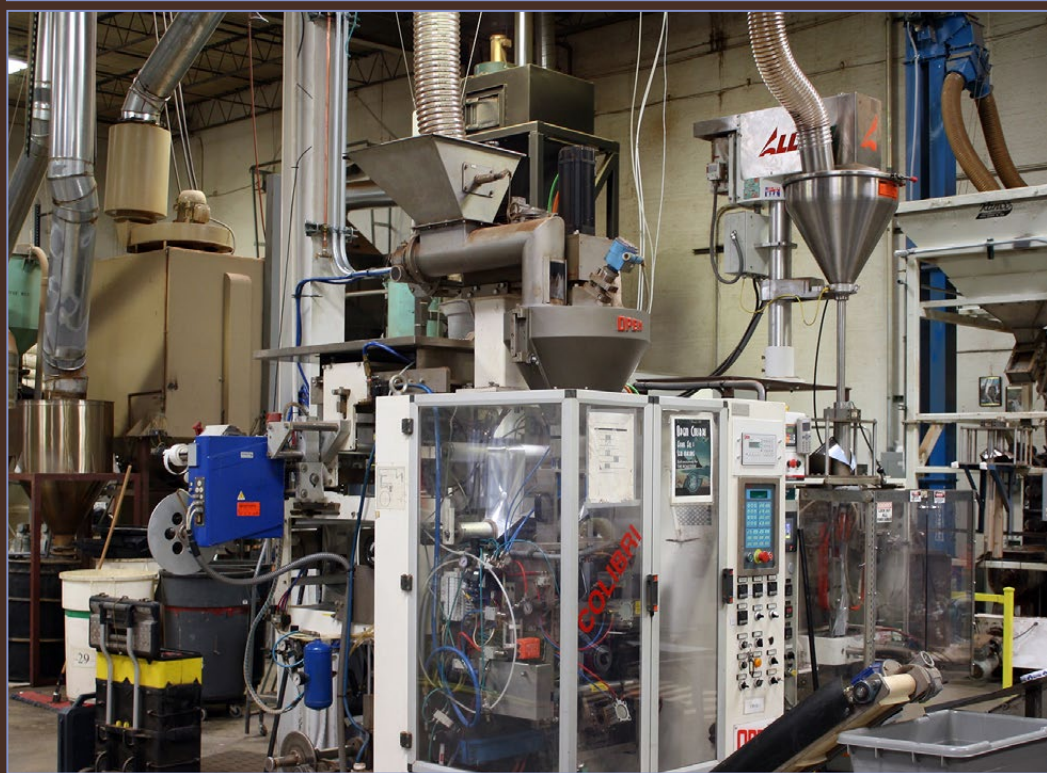
It was founded by Danny O'Neill, a native of Denison, Iowa, in the basement of his home in the Brookside neighborhood in 1993. He traveled around the world as a young man to learn about coffee making and decided that air-roasted coffee was the best.

That is the reason their logo is the image of a DC-3 airplane, to show the importance of air! In fact, an actual DC-3 was mounted on top of their building at 2012 at 1204 West 27th Street in Kansas City as shown at right.

We were given a very thorough and interesting guided tour of the facility and saw much of their coffee-making equipment as pictured lower right.

During our tour, we saw their main air-roaster, called "Brutus". The roaster blows coffee beans around in the air inside it at 680 degrees, rather than a method that simply cooks the beans in the bottom.

A very interesting and fun event! And thanks to Dick Retrum, our Program Committee Chair, for arranging it.



Did you know that:

- Coffee is the 2nd largest traded commodity in the world
- An average coffee tree yields about 1½ pounds of coffee beans per year
- All coffee beans have caffeine and that 96% of the world's caffeine comes from coffee beans

NSDKC members head east to historic Truman Counthouse



Members and guests of NSDKC were treated to a guided tour of the Historic Truman Courthouse on Saturday May 21, 2016. Led by NSDKC 2nd Vice President, Steve Noll (who also is Executive Director of the Jackson County Historical Society) the group enjoyed a combination history lesson, with plenty of Harry Truman stories, as well as architectural insights into this historic building.

Parts of the structure date back to 1836, with the last major expansion in 1933 as a WPA project under the supervision of then Jackson County Presiding Judge Harry Truman. Truman was very involved in the façade design, which is reminiscent of Independence Hall in Philadelphia, and took great pride in the completed project.

In 2008, the building grounds were reconstructed to reflect Truman's original landscaping plan, with symmetrical walkways and elevations. In 2011, Jackson County undertook a complete renovation of all interior spaces, including completely updated electrical, plumbing and HVAC systems.

The tour included the hearing room used by Mr. Truman when he presided over the County Court and was responsible for managing the affairs of Jackson County. Members also enjoyed access to the Brady Courtroom with its elegant



Bingham art collection



Truman Courtroom
(l-r) Jeff Davis & Steve Noll

*COURTHOUSE continued on
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Wine & cheese open-house at at Bruce Prince-Joseph House

On May 4, The Native Sons and Daughters were invited to a Wine and Cheese Open House held at the former home of Bruce Prince-Joseph, the recently deceased nationally known pianist who has entertained us at numerous NSDKC events.

The event was hosted by Steve Tremaine with PrimeLending and our President John Hess, Jr. with ReeceNichols. The event drew 100 attendees from the NSDKC, the Historic Kansas City Foundation, the Kansas City Bungalow Club and local realtors.

It was great to see the transforming renovations of Bruce's home during tours which were led by Jeffrey Hon. The home was originally built in 1927 by Ernest Brostrom, who was both the architect and builder. It was designed as Kansas City's first fire safe home constructed with reinforced concrete.

Some of the unique features of the house are circular stairways, original tile work, archways, curved doorways, original wood doors, original casement windows and beveled mirrors. The restoration includes a new kitchen, refinished hardwood floors and new carpet.

Thanks to all who attended.

Steve Noll, Chair, NSDKC OKC Committee



(l-r) Steve Noll, guest, Diane Pepper and John Hess, Jr.

The Prince-Joseph House stucco house at 6540 Pennsylvania Avenue, Kansas City



NSDKC Monument design & planning underway

The formal design and planning process for the Monument is now in full gear! For several years the NSDKC Monument Committee has been seeking a location with high visibility, accessibility, and appropriate for the significance of the Monument.

Its location has been selected and it will be in mid-town Kansas City, in Westport. The Monument will be positioned in the green space located between Westport Road and 43rd Street between the north and southbound lanes of Southwest Trafficway. The site is located directly across from the Westport Shopping Center and its ol' Conestoga Wagon! This site is administered by the KCMO Public Works Department, and maintained by the KCMO Parks Department.

The Monument Project Committee, led by NSDKC Past President Carl DiCapo, includes representatives from JE Dunn Construction; Kansas City's Public Works, Parks Board, and City Engineer's office; BNIM Architects, Inc.; and other members of NSDKC. Current planning is to construct and dedicate the Monument by late fall of 2016.

Note: the conceptual design for the Monument was created by NSDKC Past President Gary L. Hicks, to represent the mission of NSDKC and reflect the heritage of our Greater Kansas City Metropolitan Area.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBER

Melissa Roberts

IN MEMORIAM

Shawsie Branton

Dick Fickle

Robert L. Smart

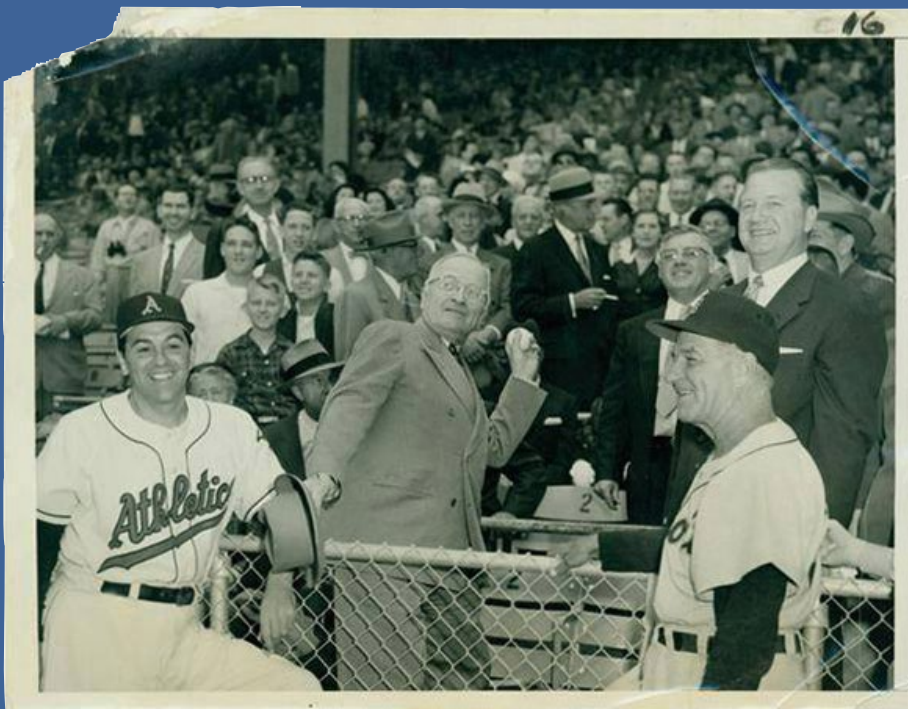


*COURTHOUSE continued from
page 4*

Views of old Kansas City

Look who's throwing the first ball!

1956, Municipal Stadium with the Kansas City Athletics



oak and walnut interior. The group concluded their visit with a private showing of the Ken and Cindy McClain Collection of art by George Caleb Bingham, which is an on-going exhibition at the Truman Courthouse. One of the largest collections of Bingham art in private ownership, this unique collection is displayed in a suite of six rooms and covers his entire body of work.

Another important aspect about the Courthouse's history is that it is directly on the Santa Fe, Oregon and California National Historic Trails. From the 1830s to the 1850s, the Independence Route of the three trails coursed south four miles from the Wayne City Landing on the Missouri River down to the Courthouse and then south on the Blue Ridge before finally turning westward.

Countless thousands of mountain men, traders, freighters and emigrants to the west bought their animals, wagons and supplies in the area around the Courthouse. It is truly an icon in the westward movement of our nation.

A special thanks to Steve Noll for giving his time and knowledge to this interesting tour.

National Historic Trails Workshop



The Fairbanks Medallion in Independence

One of the key historical legacies of the Kansas City area continues to be our National Historic Trails and we are an important national focal point.

This year's very successful biennial Workshop sponsored by the Partnership for the National Trails System was held in Kansas City June 6-9, with the theme Trails Enhancing the Quality of Life.

Headquartered at the Stoney Creek Hotel and Conference Center in eastern Independence, it was hosted by the Missouri River Outfitters Chapter, Trails Head Chapter and the Kansas City Area Historic Trails Association.

The highlight of the Workshop was the continued development of the 40-mile-long 3-Trails Corridor Retracement Trail Project involving the Santa Fe, Oregon and California National Historic Trails from Sugar Creek, MO at the Wayne City Landing, into Johnson County, KS at Gardner Junction.

Partnering with the National Park Service and local cities and communities, scores of signs have been erected that will enable drivers to easily follow the historic trail corridor. In addition, cities and communities are building hiking trails along the corridor as well. All of these trail enhancements will allow people to "retrace" the historic trail by driving or hiking.

There were two Mobile Workshop bus tours that allowed attendees to not only see the trail and all the new signage, but also to participate in several dedication ceremonies of national importance.

The first was the dedication of the huge Fairbanks Oregon Trail Bronze Medallion, three feet in diameter, on the Independence Courthouse Square.

Another one was the \$1.5 mm Powder Mill Bridge spanning over I-435 alongside the Bannister Road Bridge. It is the longest pedestrian bridge across an Interstate Highway on a National Historic Trail in the nation.

Powder Mill Bridge across I-435 in south Kansas City

