



NEWS

SUMMER 2015

from The Native Sons and Daughters of Greater Kansas City

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

Be part of this great TRADITION!

Mark your calendar to join the fun at the Outstanding Kansas Citian Gala!

Can you believe it? For 43 years The Native Sons and Daughters of Greater Kansas City has been honoring special Kansas Citians because of their efforts and hard work that has made Kansas City one of the greatest places in which to live!

Last year we had a wonderful event that honored Larry Moore.

It is a tradition for our organization to honor someone that has made a difference for the people of Kansas City. This year we will honor Mayor Kay Barnes for all her accomplishments to improve the city's neighborhoods and to revitalize the city's downtown area which includes an expanded Bartle Hall, the \$276 million

in 2007. She also ran in 2008 for the United States Congress.

Born and raised by her parents who were school teachers in St. Joseph, Missouri, she learned the importance of education. Kay graduated from Central High School in St. Joseph in 1956 and earned a Bachelor's degree in Secondary Education from the University of Kansas and went on to teach in the Shawnee Mission School District.

She received a Master's degree in Secondary Education and Public Administration from the University of Missouri, Kansas City, where in March of this year she was inducted

Proceeds from the OKC will continue to allow us to place HISTORICAL MARKERS in our 10 COUNTY AREAS. We will also be placing a marker in Swope Park that will recognize the ETHNIC ENRICHMENT COMMISSION and list the names of their 60 ethnic groups.

Sprint Center, the \$138 million H&R Block headquarters and the \$850 million Power & Light District, to name a few.

In 1974, she was one of the first two women to serve a four-year term on the Jackson County Legislature and in 1979 won a seat on the Kansas City, Missouri, City Council.

On her birthday March 30, 1999, she made Kansas City history by being elected the first woman to serve as Mayor. She was re-elected for a second term in 2003, serving when 9/11 occurred, but due to term limits could not seek another term

into the new Starr Women's Hall of Fame.

As Founding Director, she is currently working as a distinguished professor for Public Leadership, for the Center for Leadership at Park University at the Hauptmann School for Public Affairs.

Part of Kay's legacy has been to be a mentor to the women of Kansas City. She co-authored the book *About Time! A Woman's Guide to Time Management* and is one of the 12 co-founders
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KAY BARNES
2015 Outstanding Kansas Citian



November 10, 2015

Grand Ballroom

Kansas City Convention Center

16th Street & Central Avenue

Kansas City, MO

Reception & silent auction: 6 p.m.

Dinner: 7 p.m.

Program: 8 p.m.

Since 1976, the Ethnic Enrichment Commission has helped preserve the cultural heritage of people for the enrichment of our entire community.



The President's Message

To all our members:

It's been an exciting year so far!

As president I felt that in the past, our members paid their dues but many never attended our events. So, I met with our program chairman Dick Retrum and planned our Meet and Greet meetings for the year.

Our January event was at the Union Station with 87 people attending. Brancato's provided us with an array of food and the CEO took us on a tour of the new \$300,000 exhibits.

In April, John Hess, Jr brought us to the home of members Ann & Frank Uryasz' Janssen Place. It was absolutely breathtakingly beautiful! (See article on page 5)

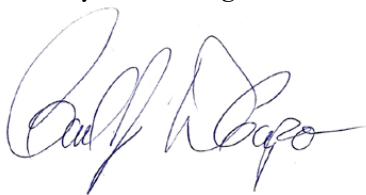
Last month we went to the Kansas City Museum in old Northeast Kansas City. CEO Anna Marie Tutura gave us a preview of what the new museum will look like. We partnered with Kansas City Parks & Recreation Assistant Director Terry Rynard, who cooked all of the Italian sausage and hot dogs, and also parked all our cars within the museum grounds. 115 people attended!

Our next Meet and Greet will be held on August 22 at the Kansas City Ethnic Enrichment Festival. Some 35,000 people attend each year. We will have a booth and will tour with our Native Sons and Daughters of Greater Kansas City. In November, under the leadership of our OKC Chairman Diane Pepper, we will honor the 60 Ethnic Commissioners and place a placard of our marker in Swope Park.

Our Outstanding Kansas Citian event on November 10 will be the largest in our history, honoring Mayor Kay Barnes, who transformed a very old downtown to a very exciting city.

Chairman Chris Sizemore has eight new members in our brand new Founder's organization. We hope to have 20 by November. They too will be honored in November.

Thank you for being a member and I am very excited to be your president.



Carl DiCapo, President



2015 President Carl DiCapo

In Memoriam

Bruce Prince-Joseph

A past Outstanding Kansas Citian award recipient.



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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.



Big night at Kansas City Museum

On June 25th the Kansas City Museum foyer was filled with well over 100 Native Sons and Daughters and their guests. We enjoyed a picnic buffet of grilled Italian sausages and hot dogs, which were cooked by the Kansas City Parks and Recreation staff, plus soft drinks and chips. President Carl DiCapo welcomed and thanked everyone for coming and encouraged the guests attending to join our organization.

Then he introduced our host and Executive Director of the Museum, Anna Marie Tuter. She gave a brief history of the building and grounds.

Named for its six Corinthian columns, the estate was also known as the “Palace on Gladstone Boulevard”. It was built in 1908 by lumber baron Robert A. Long, who was a co-founder of Long-Bell Lumber Co., for an estimated \$1 million. This 35,000-square-foot mansion served as the residence for the Long family until Long’s death in 1934. The estate was donated to the Kansas City Museum Association in 1939 by the Longs’ daughters and was opened to the public in 1940.

She discussed the current multi-year renovations which are in progress. All of the exterior work which includes new windows, doors, roof and general cleaning has been completed. Over the next two years when the work is completed, it will bring the facility back to its original glory. A visitor parking lot is also on the drawing board using City park land on the west side of the museum. She also hinted that exciting news will be made public in the next few months about the future of the museum project. Stay tuned.

Everyone had a good time and gained the knowledge that the future of this historic structure was in good hands.

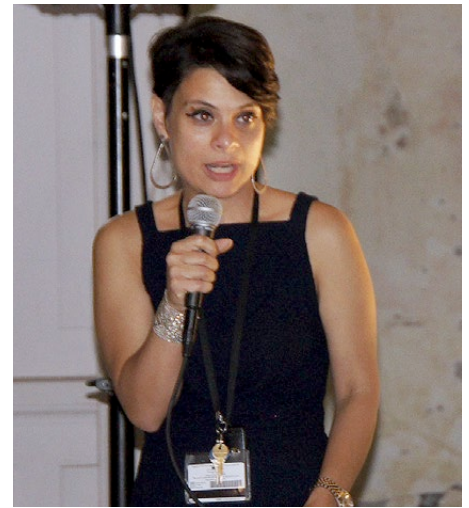
Right: Kansas City Museum, the former R.A. Long mansion.

L Right: Members standing in front of the salon

L Left: Members socialize in the foyer of the Museum



Photos courtesy of Wikipedia Commons



CEO Anna Marie Tuter tells the story of the Museum.



Members enjoy a picnic on the grand staircase of the KC Museum



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of the Central Exchange, an organization that provides the venue and voice for women seeking to reach their full personal and professional potential by providing over 400 programs a year.

This year is an exciting year for Kay. Besides being honored by The Native Sons and Daughters of Greater Kansas City she recently married Tom Van Dyke, a longtime friend.

It is appropriate that at the same time we are honoring Kay we are also recognizing the Ethnic Enrichment Commission. As Mayor of Kansas City she improved diversity in Kansas City by appointing a record number of minority appointments to the city's 100 boards and commissions.

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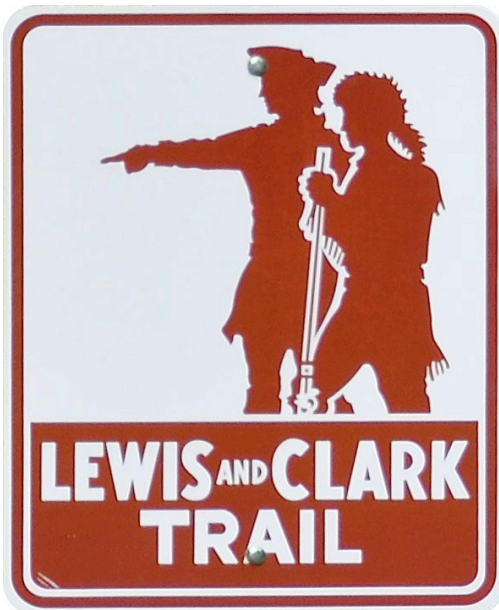
Charles B. Wheeler, Mayor of Kansas City during the Bicentennial year, formed the Ethnic Heritage Committee. The group hosted its first Ethnic Enrichment Festival at the Liberty Memorial. The festival drew the attention of Mayor Richard Berkley and City Councilman Victor Swyden who introduced a resolution to the City Council in 1980 creating the Mayor's Ethnic Enrichment Commission. Current NSDKC President Carl DiCapo, John and Carol Duncan, Leonard Pryor, Chet Ellis, and Louise Birt are the Commission's founders.

The OKC gala gets bigger and better each year and this year in order to involve more of our members the OKC tickets have been reduced to \$100 a ticket. So please support our mission by being a part of this great tradition!

Lewis and Clark Convention in KC August 1-5

For the first time ever, the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation will be holding their annual convention (their 47th) in the Kansas City area from August 1 through 5.

Founded in 1969, it was the key organization that helped secure National Historic Trail designation by the U. S. Congress in 1978. It is one of 30 National Scenic and Historic Trails that comprise the National Trails System. Some other National Historic Trails are the Santa Fe, Oregon and California Trails which course through the Kansas City area.



The convention is being hosted by the local Missouri-Kansas River Bend Chapter of LCTHF. Bus tours, speakers, dinners, and other special events are scheduled. Approximately 160 people are registered for the convention, headquartered at the Argosy Hotel in Riverside, MO.

NSDKC is one of the sponsors of the convention and several of our members are planning to attend. We extend a warm welcome to Lewis and Clark visitors to Kansas City! For information call Yvonne Kean 816-560-2763.

NEW MEMBERS

Scott Burnett

Lance Bryan

Larinda Bryan

Jared Campbell

Garrett Gardner

Martha Noland

David Seeman

Janet Seeman

Richard Smith

Peggy Smith

Troy Wahlborg

Anne Young

David Young



2015 CALENDAR

Saturday, August 22

Ethnic Enrichment Festival
and NSDKC Meet & Greet

Wednesday, October 14, 6:00 pm

Annual Membership &
Board Meeting

Tuesday, November 10, 6:00 pm

Outstanding Kansas Citian

Saturday, December 12, 11:00 am

Holiday Brunch

BETHERE

Meet & Greet at Janssen Place home, April 23

On Thursday, April 23, The Native Sons and Daughters had the privilege of holding a Meet & Greet at the home of our members Frank and Ann Uryasz. They graciously opened their home at 7 Janssen Place so that approximately 70 attendees could have the opportunity to see a home in an area which is rich in Kansas City history.

They asked one of their neighbors, Steve Mitchell, to share some of that history with us. Janssen Place, located in Hyde Park, was the vision of Railroad Baron Arthur Edward Stilwell, who formulated his plan in 1897. He was an extraordinarily active urban promoter who commissioned the local architect George Matthews to design the layout.

Located off 36th Street between Locust and Holmes Streets, it is one of the few streets in Kansas City that one can drive through and be taken back in time. The Uryasz' have restored their home to be a functional home with many of today's conveniences but with much of the original craftsmanship and attention to detail that is difficult, if not impossible, to duplicate in today's world.

The venue and the history made this event one of our most memorable to date. We would again like to thank the Uryasz' for their hospitality and thanks to Debbie LeGrotte for taking pictures at the event.



NSDKC President Carl DiCapo is flanked by hosts Frank and Ann Uryasz



Steve Mitchell, a resident of Janssen Place describes the history of the area.



On March 3, 1897, Arthur Stilwell and three associates filed the plat of Janssen Place, named for his Dutch friend and business associate, August Janssen. There were 16 large lots on each side of a double driveway and a wide center parkway. High stone pillars with a flower garden in front framed the entrance on 36th Street and made it the most attractive residential development in the Kansas City-Westport area.

—hydeparkkc.org

Our next Meet & Greet at the Ethnic Enrichment Festival August 21–23

“Feel the World Beat in the Heart of America” at the 36th annual event in Swope Park



The Ethnic Commission of Kansas City, Missouri invites you to the 36th Annual Ethnic Enrichment Festival to be held on Friday, August 21, 6–10 p.m.; Saturday, August 22, Noon–10 p.m.; and Sunday, August 23, Noon–6 p.m. Adult admission is \$3 and children, 12 and under, are free if accompanied by an adult.

The location of the Festival surrounds the Swope Park Bandstand near the park's main gate at Meyer Boulevard and Swope Parkway. Parking is free.

The Festival, one of the largest and long-running of its kind, annually attracts more than 35,000 visitors. The 2015 Festival features food, crafts, music and dance from 60 countries. Each country hosts a booth that displays and sells authentic food, artifacts and crafts from their respective country. The Festival also has a beer garden offering domestic and imported beer selections from around the world.

Free stage entertainment includes performances by a different ethnic group every 30 minutes and the traditional and majestic “Parade of Flags” begins at 4 p.m. on Saturday afternoon.

**For additional information contact Vanessa Brandon at 816-513-7553 or Vanessa.brandon@kcmo.org .
Find it at www.eeckc.net**

