



# NEWS

WINTER 2020

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 Gala full of great memories!

On November 6, 2019, from the exquisite Kay Barnes Grand Ballroom, The Native Sons and Daughters of Greater Kansas City bestowed the honor of Outstanding Kansas Citian to the President and CEO of Union Station, George Guastello.

The evening began with a reception and time to view the silent auction tables. President Nancy Elder welcomed all guests and expressed her appreciation to all for attending this historical event.

Nancy requested a moment of silence to remember the organization's Past President and Business Manager Chuck Eddy, who passed away September 5, 2019. Eddy was a true leader and a key person in organizing OKC events.

President Nancy continued by outlining the 87-year-old mission of NSDKC which has now been fully interpreted by our new Monument in Ilus Davis Park.

Fox4 News Co-Ancor Mark Alford served as Master of Ceremonies. Journalist Steve Kraske conducted a 20-minute interview with George Guastello asking questions about the rebuilding of Union Station, his goals for the future and much more.

With assistance from 1st Vice President Dick Retrum and 2nd Vice President Linn Mills, Markers Committee Chair Ross Marshall



Our 2019 Outstanding Kansas Citian George Guastello is flanked by our 2020 President Dick Retrum on the left and 2020 1st Vice President and Chair of the OKC Committee Linn Mills on the right



On stage (l-r) Past Outstanding Kansas Citians Mike Burke (1987), John Dillingham (2009), Anita Gorman (1995), Carl DiCapo (2001) and Kay Barnes (2015)

*OKC continued on page 3*



# 2019 President's Message

## Dear members:

Happy New Year to Native Sons and Daughters members and friends. The year 2020 starts a new decade, is an Olympics year and we look forward to peace for everyone. May 2020 be a great year for all of us and may the membership in NSDKC grow.

Our organization will be 88 years old this year and we look back on accomplishments and think about things to be done in the New Year. As I step down as your President and look forward to this year under the guidance and leadership of Dick Retrum, we pledge support for events and projects as they evolve. My year has been very special and I thank each of you for your participation in 2019 and we hope you continue in 2020.

My special thanks to all 2019 Officers and Board Members. Your support and willingness to make our organization thrive is sincerely appreciated.

I challenge each member to bring in one new member for this year. New people will bring new ideas.

Please stay healthy and safe. Let me know if I can be of further service to any one of you.

Sincerely,

Nancy L. Elder,

2109 NSDKC President



**Nancy Elder**  
2019 President

# 2020 President's Message

## Dear members:

With a loud cry, I announced my presence in the world at St. Luke's Hospital on the Plaza! There is no question about my local heritage!

Now, 72 years later I am taking on the role of President of The Native Sons and Daughters of Greater Kansas City. It is certainly an honor and privilege, but it is more than that. It is a responsibility to carry on our traditions and programs.

This is not accomplished by one person, but rather by a team of dedicated people who create and plant historic markers, interesting educational programs at our monument, Meet & Greet events to increase membership, our annual Outstanding Kansas Citian Gala and Silent Auction, and also our Holiday Brunch.

The 2020 Outstanding Kansas Citian event this November will honor two dynamic people and there are at least three new historic markers on the drawing board to be placed at sites around the city. Keep an eye on our newsletter for details.

Thank you for your trust in me as your new president. I am thankful for all the members who have agreed to work on and chair various committees to insure a successful year. I wish you all a happy and productive new year.

Sincerely,

Dick Retrum

2020 NSDKC President



**Dick Retrum**  
2020 President



## OFFICERS & STAFF

Dick Retrum  
*President*

Linda F. Mills  
*1st Vice President*

(Unoccupied)  
*2nd Vice President*

Jim Flanagan  
*Treasurer*

Paul Christiansen II  
*Secretary*

Ray Elder  
*Historian*

Nancy L. Elder  
*Immediate Past President*

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

## Newsletter Production

Ross Marshall, *Editor*

Norman Besheer, *Proof Reader*

## Administrative Staff

Linda Dillon, *Administrator*

## Contact Information

Phone: 913-207-3310

Email: linda.dillon@nsdkc.org

**NSDKC.org**

## NEW Mailing address:

PO Box 26071,  
Overland Park, KS 66225

## 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.



*OKC continued from page 1*

presented the Union Station marker to Guastello. Dedication of the marker will be later this spring.

Dick Retrum introduced past OKC recipients and invited them to join George on stage for the 2019 OKC presentation. Lifetime friend of Mr. Guastello and 2006 OKC recipient Carl DiCapo presented the 2019 Obelisk and Medallion to George. All attendees were moved by George's acceptance speech. Information will be contained in future newsletters about the availability of the evening's DVD.

The Gala was a huge success due to volunteers that helped with the intricate details of the silent auction and set-up. NSDKC expresses their gratitude to Boy Scout Troop #10 who conducted the Opening Flag Ceremony and managed the coat check.



**Top: (l-r) 2019 OKC George Guastello, long-time City official Mike Burke and former KC Mayor Kay Barnes**

**Right: Our Union Station Kansas City historical marker presented to George Guastello (2nd from left) and other Union Station officials. It will be dedicated at Union Station next spring**



**Left: Linn Mills and Gary Hicks met with the Scouts who for the second year in a row, helped with set-up, coat check-in and also marched to the front to conduct the Opening Flag Ceremony**



# 2019 NSDKC Annual Holiday Brunch returns to Indian Hills Country Club

A wonderful Annual Holiday Brunch was held on Saturday, December 14 as we returned to the Indian Hills Country Club at 6847 Tomahawk Road in Mission Hills. This is a location that we have used for many years until last year.

After the delicious buffet lunch and desserts, 2nd Vice President Linn Mills gave the invocation and made opening remarks to the crowd.

President Nancy Elder welcomed everyone and introduced the officers, board members, committee chairs and Administrator Linda Dillon, who stood and received applause.

She then introduced Awards Committee Chair Diane Pickman, who presented the Special Recognition Award to our Administrator Linda Dillon. With Business Manager Dr. Chuck Eddy's recent death, Linda has substantially increased her duties and responsibilities.

Steve Noll and Joe Vaughan presented a new award, the James Anderson Historic Preservation Award, to Lucinda

Rice-Petrie for her many years as a leader with Historic Kansas City Foundation, Kansas City Young Matrons, Board member of Missouri Preservation and many positions with the State Historical Society of Missouri.

The Carl DiCapo Award for Most Outstanding Member was presented by Carl in remembrance of Dr. Chuck Eddy for his exceptional leadership of NSDKC for many years. He was truly outstanding!

The Lee I. Pickering Award of Excellence was announced for John Dunnewind, who was unable to attend. He has done exceptional work on revising our Bylaws, Policies and Procedures.

President Nancy Elder then introduced our 2020 President-Elect Dick Retrum who spoke briefly about next year and his hopes for NSDKC's progress.

The officers and new board members for next year were introduced.

Then we enjoyed a few minutes singing with Dan Sturdevant's excellent piano accompaniment.

**2nd Vice President Linn Mills opened with the Invocation and greeted the crowd**



**Incoming President Dick Retrum presents the 2019 President Award to Nancy Elder**



**Awards Committee Chair Diane Pickman Presents the Special Recognition Award to Linda Dillon, our Administrator**

*BRUNCH continued on page 5*



*BRUNCH continued from page 4*



**A lovely setting for our annual Holiday Brunch**



**2018 President Steve Noll (left) and Joe Vaughan (right) presented the James Anderson Historic Preservation Award (a new award) to Lucinda Rice-Petrie for her many years of service and leadership in the Kansas City preservation community.**

**Dan Sturdevant led us in singing a few Christmas songs**



**Carl DiCapo presented the Carl DiCapo Award for Most Outstanding Member to our Business Manager Dr. Chuck Eddy, recently deceased.**







## Annual Past Presidents Luncheon welcomes 2020 NSDKC President Dick Retrum

As has been our custom for many years, NSDKC Past Presidents gathered and extended a warm welcome, support and encouragement to our incoming President Dick Retrum on November 18, 2019 at the River Club in downtown Kansas City overlooking the Missouri River.

The group picture above was taken in front of the spectacular Thomas Hart Benton painting Trading at Westport Landing. Westport Landing is located very close to the River Club, which is just north down the hill. It is where Kansas City started in 1838, called then the town of Kansas.

**Standing (left to right) are Ross Marshall (2014), Dan Creasy (2005), Jim Bernard, Jr. (2004), Diane Boos Pickman (2017), John Mura (1986), incoming President Dick Retrum, President Nancy Elder (2019), John Dillingham (2003), Gary Hicks (2010) and Joe Vaughan (1998). Seated clockwise from left are John Hess, Jr. (2016), John Hess, Sr. (2002), Norm Besheer (2011), Steve Noll (2018), Host Whitney Kerr and Carl DiCapo (2015).**

## 20% Discount on Monument Inscriptions!

Have you visited The Native Sons and Daughters of Greater Kansas City Monument dedicated to the history and heritage of our metropolitan region? Many of you have likely purchased or sponsored a 'red brick', or 'granite paver' in support of sites such as Union Station or Liberty Memorial.

**Have you purchased an inscription at our own Monument?** As with other inscription programs, our Monument's granite plaza area provides for inscriptions to be purchased in recognition of individuals, businesses, or organizations. Unlike other programs, we offer five (5) inscription levels for sponsorship.

Your inscription purchase is easily made online at [nsdkc.org](http://nsdkc.org). After making a payment, you will go to a webpage of the engraver Frisbee Monuments to write your inscription. They will engrave your inscription as weather and schedules permit.

**WE ARE NOW OFFERING A 20% DISCOUNT UNTIL MARCH 31!**  
Find out more at [nsdkc.org](http://nsdkc.org).

### MEMORIALS

Marilyn Ahnefeld

Scott Faucher

Eulalia Zimmer