



# NATIVE SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF GREATER KANSAS CITY

April/May 2009

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

## Tour with Friends of Sacred Structures, April 18th

Twenty four members and guests of Native Sons and Daughters were led by the knowledgeable Joanie Shields, from Friends of Sacred



*Dr. Bruce Prince Joseph at the organ at Grace and Holy Trinity*

Structures, on a tour of some of Kansas City's historic churches on Saturday, April 18.

The churches visited were St. Paul's Episcopal at 40th and Main, Grace and Holy Trinity at 13th and Broadway, The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception at 11th and Broadway, and Redemptorist Church at Linwood and Broadway.

People had a fine time on the luxurious bus and we also learned about several other structures on the travels between each church.

The interior of each church was gorgeous. We climbed the choir loft at Grace and Holy Trinity to watch and listen to Native Sons and Daughter member Bruce Prince Joseph, as he played a marvelous mini-concert on Grace and Holy Trinity's organ. At the conclusion of the half-day tour, we enjoyed lunch at Grand Street Cafe.

Thanks to Norm Besheer, Joanie Shields, Susie Hughes, and Mary Lee Sturdevant for organizing this event.



*The tour group at Redemptorist*

If you have ideas about tours of historic Kansas City, please call Dan Sturdevant, President, at 816.421.4783 or send email to [dan@sturdevantlawoffice.com](mailto:dan@sturdevantlawoffice.com).

More photos of the churches on the tour may be viewed at the Native Sons and Daughters web site, <http://www.nsdkc.org>.

## Upcoming Events

Archives tour, Saturday, May 16, 10:00 a.m. This event is free to members and guests.

We'll meet at 10:00 a.m. for the tour of Linda Hall Library, located on the UMKC campus. At 11:00 a.m., David Boutros, member of the Native Sons and Daughters and archivist at the Western Historical Manuscript Collection, will guide us through the Native Sons and Daughters archive housed by WHMC in Newcomb Hall, just across the street from Linda Hall Library. We'll gather at Pizza 51's outdoor patio for an optional lunch after the tours. Please check [www.nsdkc.org](http://www.nsdkc.org) for updates, and watch your inbox for an invitation to join the tour, which starts between 51st and 52nd on Cherry Street.

## Outstanding Kansas Citian

The Outstanding Kansas Citian Award recipient for 2009 is John A. Dillingham.

The awards ceremony is scheduled for September 24th, 2009, Thursday, 6:30 p.m., at the Golden Ox, Kansas City, Missouri.

John A. Dillingham is a distinguished historian, admired civic activist, and generous philanthropist. Put this date on your calendar and make your reservation early.

## President's Letter

Dear Native and Sons and Daughters,

We thank everyone helping us gather email addresses. This allows us to inform you of upcoming events and news in a more timely fashion.

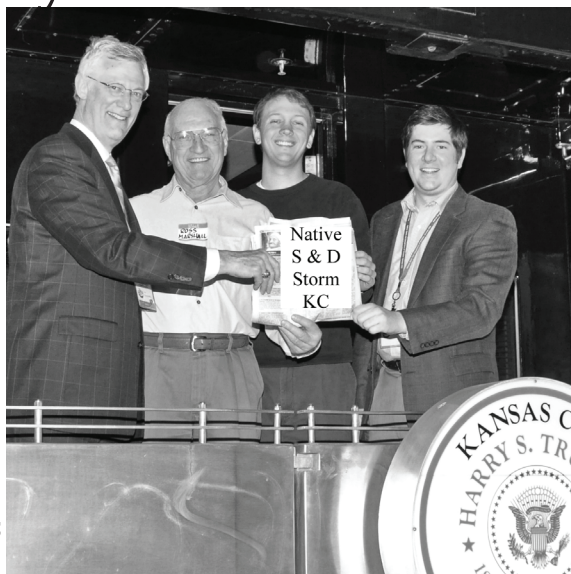
If you didn't receive an email from us on Saturday, April 25, about the upcoming May 16 program, we do not have your email address. Would you please let me know your email address if we don't have it? Please call me at 816-421-4783 or email [dan@sturdevantlawoffice.com](mailto:dan@sturdevantlawoffice.com). We now have about 150 email addresses of our members. About 20 members indicated they don't have a computer or don't want us to use their email address. So we'd like to know the email addresses of several of our members who have not yet responded.

Our 2009 Membership Roster is being prepared and you should receive it in May. It includes many additional email addresses and other improvements. Finally, please use our website: [www.nsdkc.org](http://www.nsdkc.org).

*Dan Sturdevant, President*

## Meet and Greet at Kansas City Southern Railway

Twenty-five attended the spring Meet & Greet event held April 7th at Kansas City Southern offices. Ten of the attendees were prospective members. We toured the Grand Hall and the "Harry Truman" railcar, with commentary by Doug Banks of Kansas City Southern and coordinated by Patti Tamisiea. It was a terrific opportunity to view the restored railcar and hear the history of Kansas City Southern. Afterwards, part of the group socialized at Harry's Country Club Bar in the River Market.



*Dan Sturdevant, Ross Marshall, Matt Harris and Brian Flanagan revisit Mr. Truman's newspaper photo "Dewey Defeats Truman"*

Our next Meet & Greet is scheduled at Buttonwood Art Space on July 22. Please plan to attend and invite potential members. Please check [www.nsdkc.org](http://www.nsdkc.org) for details as we near the date, as well as a fall Meet and Greet. I appreciate the efforts of those that invited potential new members.

*John Hess, Jr., Co-chair, Membership Committee*

## New Members

Thomas Edward Schmutz  
Richard W. King  
Melinda J. Mehaffy  
John William Forbes  
Jan Marie Marcason  
Timothy O. Kristl  
Carol Kristl

## Obituaries

We wish to recognize the passing of a member, Katherine W. Berrey. Mrs. Berrey was a member but was also the widow of past president, Robert Berrey.

## Stories Behind the Markers

*Member Dave Baumgartner will be spotlighting the history behind the markers erected by the Native Sons and Daughters in each newsletter. This is his first installment.*

Under the shiny new Sprint Arena lies the site of a two story brick and frame building. In early August 1863, this building was to house some of the sweethearts and wives of known bushwhackers, members of Quantrill's Guerrillas.

General Thomas Ewing, the commander of the Union troops in the Kansas City area, decided to arrest and lock up some of the seditiously spirited women, wives and girlfriends. They allegedly furnished food, ammunition, and other contraband to their men in the various bands of Confederate raiders.

Ewing reasoned, hold them hostage, so to speak, and give the Confederate raiders fewer fried chicken dinners and fewer kisses too, thinking to put a damper on some of the raids.

Captured and arrested were Josephine, Mary and Jennie Anderson, sisters of "Bloody Bill," Nattie McCorkle, Mrs. Charity Kerr, sister and sister-in-law of Sgt. John McCorkle, Nannie Harris, Susan Vandiver, the Munday Sisters, Mrs. Armenia Gilvey, a cousin of the Younger Brothers, and Molly Grindstaff.

The youth and beauty of many of these girls ended abruptly on August 14, 1863, along with the lives of four of the women when the prison building collapsed. Among the dead were Josephine Anderson, Christie McCorkle and Susan Vandiver. Southern sympathizers promised revenge as they claimed

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# Book Signing at Alexander Majors House 2009

Just 153 years young, this pre-civil war residential icon is open once again to tour and enjoy. The new Operators Manager, Ken Howard, is available to act as your guide as are Terry and Victoria Chapman, the trustees. The House is open most days of the week with expanded hours to provide you with a touch of the age and a sense of the era. Admission for Adults is \$5.00 and children, \$3.00. Efforts are underway to develop a website and market the House to the public. Enjoy a Kansas City heritage at 8204 State Line Road! For more information about the Alexander Majors House, please see the section of the Native Sons and Daughters web site devoted to the House at [http://nsdkc.org/projects/alexander\\_majors.html](http://nsdkc.org/projects/alexander_majors.html). Or send me a note at [lepickering61@hotmail.com](mailto:lepickering61@hotmail.com).



And coming April 26th, Marty McCarty presents a book signing at the Alexander Majors House at 3:00 p.m. The work is "A Wind of Many Colors" by John Brown. The book chronicles pre-Civil War life and times. The author will be autographing his book following the presentation. Refreshments will be served and tours of the House will be available. Walk-ins are welcome. If you are planning to attend with a group of 4 or more, please call for reservations at 816. 223.5008. Please ask for Kenny Howard, the operations manager.

*Lee Pickering, Chair, Alexander Majors House Community Service Committee*

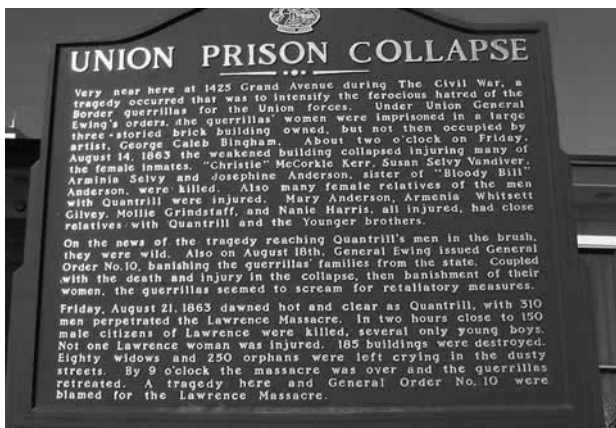
## Stories behind the markers

*Continued from page 2*

the building was undermined by Yankees tired of verbal abuse from the girls, Yankees claimed that the tragedy was caused by rooting hogs that freely ranged beside the walls and under the building from a farm lot behind it. Another story has the girls digging tunnels in the basement of the building in an attempt to escape. The digging supposedly undermined the rickety building and a wind storm blew it down.

Regardless of the story, the result was to fire the feelings of Bill Anderson and Quantrill's men far beyond those of patriotism, states rights, and slavery. Their revenge came in the attack on Lawrence on August 21, 1863, quickly followed by Ewing's issuance of Order Number Eleven. The Order cleared the state line of all but loyal Union residents from the Missouri River to Harrisonville.

Visit our marker at 15th and Grand Avenue, north of the freeway. Photos and a locator map may be found at [http://native-sons-daughters.org/projects/markers\\_detail/union\\_prison\\_collapse.html](http://native-sons-daughters.org/projects/markers_detail/union_prison_collapse.html).



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2nd Vice President, Lee Pickering  
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Mary Lee Sturdevant  
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Outstanding Kansas Citian,  
Lee Pickering  
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Museum, Edwin Shutt, II

## Executive Secretary

Susie Hughes

# Upcoming Events

Native Sons and Daughters Archives tour, Saturday, May 16, 10:00 a.m., UMKC campus. Free to members and guests. Free parking at Linda Hall.

David Boutros, member of the Native Sons and Daughters and archivist at the Western Historical Manuscript Collection, will guide us through the Native Sons and Daughters archive housed by WHMC in Newcomb Hall at UMKC. We'll meet at Linda Hall Library, on Cherry Street between 51st and 52nd Streets, at 10:00 a.m., followed by a tour of the Native Sons and Daughters Archive at Newcomb Hall across the street from Linda Hall. We'll gather for an optional lunch on Pizza 51's outdoor patio, just 4 blocks away. See page 1 for more details or [www.nsdkc.org](http://www.nsdkc.org). To RSVP, please email Susie Hughes, [phughes9@kc.rr.com](mailto:phughes9@kc.rr.com), or call 816.926.9397.

Meet and Greet, July 22, details coming.

## Outstanding Kansas Citian for 2009

The Outstanding Kansas Citian Award recipient for 2009 is John A. Dillingham. The awards ceremony is scheduled for September 24th, 2009. More details coming.

## Go Paperless

Would you prefer to read the Journal Notes online rather than receive a printed version? Please email Keith Krieger, [kkrieger@nsdkc.org](mailto:kkrieger@nsdkc.org), and we'll change your delivery option. You'll receive an email notice when the newsletter is posted to the web site.

## Bequests

Including the Native Sons and Daughters of Greater Kansas City, Inc., a 501(c)(3) tax exempt Missouri corporation, offers members the opportunity to make a gift which will support our efforts to preserve and promote local history for years to come. A legacy may be granted to one of the Native Sons and Daughters projects as designated for use in future projects to be established and approved by the board of directors.

For more information, please contact the President of the Native Sons and Daughters, Dan Sturdevant at 816.421.4783, or [dan@sturdevantlawoffice.com](mailto:dan@sturdevantlawoffice.com).



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