



NATIVE SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF GREATER KANSAS CITY

August 2011

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



Three Trails Bus Tour, Saturday, September 10

NSDKC member Ross Marshall conducts a guided bus tour of the Santa Fe, Oregon, and California Trails, on Saturday, September 10. This bus tour leaves from the parking lot at Main and Truman Road, Independence, Missouri, just north of the Courthouse at 8:30 a.m. and returns at 5:00 p.m.

The tour covers trail routes and sites from Independence to Gardner, Kansas.

See the new signs and parks that have been created or improved including Independence Landing, National Frontier Trails Museum, Hickman Mills Park, Minor Park, New Santa Fe Park, Lone Elm Park, and Gardner Junction Park. As we travel, we will discuss the history of the Santa Fe Trail from 1821 and its importance to U.S. commerce, the history of the first wagon trains on the Oregon Trail and the California Trail, both of which started in the KC area.

Lunch is included at the Western Sizzlin' in Grandview.

Cost is \$50 per person. You may send your check for your seat to NSDKC, P.O. Box 10046, Kansas City, Missouri, 64171.

Outstanding Kansas Citian Honors Julia Irene Kauffman, October 25th

This year's Outstanding Kansas Citian event is very exciting. We are honoring a Kansas Citian, Julia Irene Kauffman, who has dedicated her efforts for the greater benefit of our community. The construction of the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts would not have been triumphant without Julia Irene's leadership and commitment. This iconic building will provide Kansas City with a performing arts venue for more than a lifetime.

We are hosting this year's event at the Performing Arts Center in The Great Brandmeyer Hall. Our event is one of the first to have this opportunity. Of equal importance, the event will be a fundraiser for our organization. The committee is focused on bringing corporate sponsorship and the community to the 2011 Outstanding Kansas Citian event. We are also determined to provide the most exciting evening possible.

Seats for this event are limited to 400. Please do not wait until the last

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President's Letter

Greetings fellow members of The Native Sons and Daughters.

2011 has been going by at a rapid pace. We have accomplished much and still have many interesting and significant events happening in the next few months. Coming soon will be another **Trails Tour on Saturday, September 10**, conducted by Ross Marshall. You should have received notice of this event recently. I urge all of you to attend this all-day tour of the three historic trails, Santa Fe, California and Oregon!

As you can see by all of the articles in this newsletter, our officers, directors, and committee chairs, as well as our great staff members, Susie, Linda, and Keith, have been very busy planning and executing a variety of events and celebrations.

We will have our **annual meeting of membership on Wednesday, November 9**, at the Golden Ox Restaurant. Notices will have gone out by the time you receive this newsletter. Please add this to your calendars and plan to attend, because your attendance is needed and desired. At this meeting, we will elect new directors, succeeding those directors whose terms have expired. We will also vote on one bylaw amendment and take up other business of interest to the members.

Please plan to attend our exciting **Outstanding Kansas Citian event to be held October 25, in the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts** in downtown Kansas City, Missouri. We will honor one of our most prominent citizens, Julia Irene Kauffman.

Our official year will end with our **Holiday Brunch at the Indian Hills Country Club** on December 10. We will install our new president for 2012 as well as all other officers and directors at that time. We will have our usual holiday entertainment as well as excellent food. We look forward to seeing you there. I hope to see all of you very soon!

Norman O. Besheer, 2011 President

Boone Grave site Needs Support

The Daniel Morgan Boone Gravesite committee considers the site to be one of our organization's most important historic sites.

Daniel Boone (1734-1820) was elected to the Virginia legislature when Thomas Jefferson was governor and served multiple terms. He served with George Washington in the battle against the French Ford Necessity. He was acquainted with the founding fathers and did surveys for them. Boone's first son, Daniel Morgan Boone (1769-1839), and his wife are buried on their former 80-acre farm at 63rd and Euclid.

Our responsibility is to protect and preserve this historic site. However, access must be improved with a road to the grave site. Planning and funding is necessary. In addition, we need the cooperation of the City of Kansas City, Missouri, and the Parks Department. These improvements should be made in time for a rededication of the grave site in 2012.

With the considerable experience and connections of our members, we can absolutely do this. Let's get started!

Herbert Ziegler, Jr., Committee Chair, Daniel Morgan Boone Gravesite

Town of Kansas Preservation Committee Reports Progress

While Robert Collins was city manager of Kansas City, he directed the city planning department to undertake planning for the restoration of the Town of Kansas. The site was the founding in the early 1830's of what is now Kansas City, Missouri. Vicky Noteis, Assistant City Manager and Director of Development, supervised the work.

In 1998, Joe Vaughan, then president of the Native Sons and Daughters, established the Town of Kansas Preservation Committee. Joe appointed recently retired judge Tom Sims to chair the committee. He appointed a six-member committee that began meeting jointly with the Kansas City, Missouri Planning Department and the Kansas City Port Authority.

In January, 2000, a master plan was published titled *Town of Kansas Master Plan*. The plan included the goals and scope of the plan, elements of the Town of Kansas, realizing the plan, and an agenda of action items. In addition, the plan required a review of the historic development patterns and the Town of Kansas' relationship to the trails west. The plan included a section titled Site Research and Archeology to define the effort to determine the existence of historically valuable objects at the site.

The fourth section defined the plan and core area of the site and
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Elder Publishes Historical Photos

Compiled by Native Sons and Daughters member Ray Elder, Historian of the Kansas City Fire Historical Society, *Historic Street Scenes of Kansas City, Missouri, 1867-1931*, is a collection of photographs not seen in over 100 years.

The idea for the book came when Joseph D. Galetti, a retired fire captain with the Kansas City Fire Department, asked what could be done with 100 photographs belonging to his great-grandfather, Val B. Mintun. Mr. Galetti agreed that the photographs be published. The book was born.

The book will be available online from M.T. Publishing, at www.mtpublishing.com. Amazon will stock the book and local outlets Barnes and Noble, the Jackson County Historical Society Book Store, the Best of Kansas City in Crown Center, and the Kansas City Book Store in Union Station have expressed interest in selling the book.

Dillon Joins Staff

We want to welcome Linda Dillon to the Native Sons and Daughters in her role to support the Board, the Corporate and Community Services committees. Her efforts this year have been focused on the Outstanding Kansas Citian event, and has helped edit the membership roster.

Linda has served as executive secretary of the Kansas City, Missouri Mayor's Prayer Breakfast for several years, and other civic organizations.

Meet and Greet at Loose Park

The summer Meet and Greet for the Native Sons & Daughters of Greater Kansas City was held on June 23, at Loose Park near our historical marker located adjacent to the shelter house. 26 attended, which included a few prospective members.

We'd like to thank Ross Marshall for a fascinating presentation about the Battle of Westport, which included battles that occurred in the area.

Please look for an Evite about our fall Meet and Greet. Plan to attend and bring friends, family and colleagues that share our interest in Kansas City history. I look forward to seeing you there.

John Hess, Jr., Membership Chair

Welcome Our New Members

McKay S. Anderson, Catherine E. Bossert, Edward F. Bossert, Patrick B. Hosty, Whitney Hosty, and Susan Hughes

Obituaries

Harry D. Brown and past presidents, Patrick L. Hughes and Arthur Bowen

Historic Street Scenes of Kansas City, Missouri 1867 - 1931

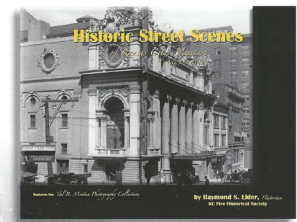
Compiled by Ray Elder, Historian of the KC Fire Historical Society, *Historic Street Scenes of Kansas City, Missouri 1867-1931* is a collection of photographs that have not been seen in over 100 years.

The book idea was born when Joseph D. Galetti, a retired Fire Captain of the Kansas City Fire Department, asked what could be done with about 100 old photographs that belonged to his great grandfather Val B. Mintun.

In reviewing the photographs it was positive this was a small treasure of historical photographs of Kansas City, Missouri. It was suggested to Mr. Galetti the possibility of the photographs being published in book form, he readily agreed and so this book began.

Only a limited number of books are available, so please place your order now. This 72-page book is available for \$29.95!

Features
11" x 8 1/2" Landscape
Hardbound Cover
Dustjacket
Superior Photo Reproduction
Quality Printing/Binding
Acid Free Paper



A QUALITY BOOK

M.T. Publishing Company, Inc. takes the utmost pride in producing their books. High-quality, glossy paper is used for superior photo reproduction. The deluxe edition is made with a fine, sturdy cover that is easily wiped clean.

SPECIAL NOTE

A portion of the proceeds from the sale of this book go to the KC Fire Historical Society for the work in purchasing and preserving historical artifacts and equipment of the Kansas City Fire Department.

Arrow Rock Tour

Combine nice weather, a guided tour of a 162-year-old mansion, lunch in a 177-year-old restaurant, a great theater play, and learning the history of the Boonslick area as we traveled, and you have the perfect ingredients for a great day! Such a day was experienced by those on the bus tour to Arrow Rock on June 11.

We arrived at Prairie Park, the 1849 mansion built by William Breathitt Sappington, where we were hosted and guided by our friends, members Whitney and Day Kerr. They have owned the Greek Revival mansion for many years and have invested much effort to its restoration.

A short ride brought us into Arrow Rock, founded in 1829. Lunch at the historic Arrow Rock Tavern, built in 1834 by Joseph Huston, came next. After lunch, the group walked through Arrow Rock, including the Arrow Rock Visitor Center and Museum before we met at the Lyceum Theater. We enjoyed the musical *Forever Plaid*. It was a great day thanks to the efforts of Whitney and Day Kerr as well as Susie Hughes, our Executive Secretary.

Ross Marshall

Upcoming Events

Full-day Tour of the Three Trails, September 10, led by Ross Marshall. This tour focuses on the Trails routes from Independence to eastern Kansas.

Outstanding Kansas Citian Dinner, October 25, Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts. You may buy tickets online at <http://www.nsdkc.org/>

Holiday Brunch at Indian Hills Country Club, December 10.

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 a 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 Norm Besheer, 2011 President at president@nsdkc.org

The Native Sons and
Daughters of Greater Kansas City
P.O. Box 10046
Kansas City, MO 64171-0046
<http://www.nsdkc.org>
info@nsdkc.org



Official Notification of the 2012 Candidates for Directors of The Native Sons and Daughters of Greater Kansas City

Pursuant to Article VII of the Bylaws, the membership shall be notified three weeks prior to the annual election of Directors. This election shall be held at the annual membership meeting of the Corporation on November 9, 2011, which is also the date of a Board of Directors meeting. Following is the list of current Directors and also those nominated to serve for the ensuing Term, beginning January 1st, 2012. The names indicated with X or *** shall be placed before membership as candidates for the position of Director nominated to serve for the ensuing Term, beginning January 1st, 2012. The Term # of respective Years, date of Term Expiration, and Term Limit Dates are noted.

	2012 Current # Term	Current Term Expiration Date	Term Limit Date
David Baumgartner	2nd	December 31, 2012	December 31, 2015
John Dunnewind	2nd	December 31, 2012	December 31, 2015
John Hess , Sr.	2nd	December 31, 2012	December 31, 2015
Ross Marshall	2nd	December 31, 2012	December 31, 2015
Frank McMillian	2nd	December 31, 2012	December 31, 2015
Chris Sizemore	2nd	December 31, 2012	December 31, 2015
Dot Benner	3rd	December 31, 2013	December 31, 2013
<i>Ray Elder</i> ***	1st	December 31, 2013	December 31, 2019
Gerald Gorman	1st	December 31, 2013	December 31, 2019
John Hess, Jr.	3rd	December 31, 2013	December 31, 2013
Henry Leonard	1st	December 31, 2013	December 31, 2019
Chuck Page	1st	December 31, 2013	December 31, 2019
<i>Joanne Collins</i> *	3rd	December 31, 2014	December 31, 2014
<i>Mike Burke</i> **	1st	December 31, 2014	December 31, 2020
<i>Chuck Eddy</i> *	3rd	December 31, 2014	December 31, 2014
<i>Jim Flanagan</i> *	3rd	December 31, 2014	December 31, 2014
<i>Whitney Kerr</i> *	3rd	December 31, 2014	December 31, 2014
<i>Mark Wasserstrom</i> ** 1st		December 31, 2014	December 31, 2020

Norm Besheer: In 2012, will continue with Board as chair of the Advisory Committee, in capacity of immediate Past-President. (See note 3 below)

The Term # noted above (e.g., 2 of 3) represents into which term the Director is currently serving of a three Term eligibility. The current Term Expiration date is noted. The Term Limit date is the date enforced should a Director complete a full three Terms as limited by the Bylaws.

A single Term is a maximum of three years. A Director is eligible to serve a maximum of three Terms, and may return to the Board, if duly elected, following a one year absence following the Term Limit date.

Norm Besheer has elected to vacate years two and three of his 3rd Term, and shall assume the voting position of Immediate Past-President, Chair of the Advisory Committee.

Individuals whose names are not highlighted have agreed to continue serving in the Term as Director for 2012.

* : individual nominated to serve 3rd Term, beginning Jan. 1, 2012

** : individual nominated to serve 1st Term, beginning Jan. 1, 2012

*** : individual nominated to serve two years of unexpired 3rd Term of Norm Besheer.

Orientation for Newer Members and Director Nominees, September 8th

Have you joined Native Sons and Daughters in the past few years and wish to learn more of our mission of historic preservation and advocacy?

Along with Board Nominees for the 2012 Term, you are invited to attend an orientation for new members. The orientation will explain and explore the mission, history, operations, and activities of the Native Sons and Daughters. The following will be addressed by current Officers and Past-Presidents, including:

- History of NSDKC
- Corporation Articles of Incorporation & Bylaws
- Board / Officers / Directors / Committees-Chairs
- Employees (direct hire / contractors)
- Trust Fund / Checking Account
- Membership database
- Committee Interests
- Community Outreach
- Website / Newsletter / E-mail to members
- Activities / Programs / Events

The orientation for newer members will begin at 7:30 p.m. at the barn of the historic Alexander Majors House and Museum, located at 83rd and State Line, in Kansas City, Missouri. This meeting follows a special orientation beginning at 6:30 p.m. for the 2012 Board Nominees.

There is no fee for this event, and light hors d'oeuvres and beverage will be served.

No RSVP is required. We would appreciate it to plan for refreshments. Please contact Susie Hughes at secretary@nsdkc.org, or Gary Hicks at orientation@nsdkc.org if you'd like to join us.

Outstanding Kansas Citian *continued from page 1*

minute to decide to attend. This event will sell out early. Contact Linda at 913-207-3310, linda.dillon@native-sons-daughters.org, or visit www.native-sons-daughters.org for Linda's email address on the home page.

In this picture, the committee put their hard hats on to visit



From left: John Dillingham, Norman Besheer, Ross Marshall, Chuck Eddy, Frank Armato, Dot Benner, and Carl DiCapo.

the site while still under construction. The venue is indescribable. The pre-function social hour on the 7th floor balcony provides for a breathtaking view. The Great Brandmeyer Hall, where dinner will be served, is a venue like no other. Aramark Catering is promising an outstanding meal to match this unbelievable location. This will be a long remembered event in the history of the Native Sons and Daughters.

Historian Rebuilding Archives Committee

After obtaining annual committee reports, the Historian is responsible for submitting the collected records of NSDKC activities to the files maintained at the Western Missouri Historic Manuscripts Collection, located in Newcomb Hall on the UMKC Campus.

The NSDKC is considered a credible source of information and is referenced frequently by Kansas Citians researching local historical information. We are very proud of this hard-earned credibility.

The Historian is in the process of re-building an Archives Committee. This committee must be composed of NSDKC members who have a love of local and regional history and a proven loyalty to serving the best interests of this organization. The first member of the revitalized committee was recently selected.

Many members are already acquainted with M. Scott Vogel, who has served on the Communications Committee and numerous other activities in recent years. Scott grew up in Overland Park and graduated from Kansas State University. He is employed by CBIZ in Leawood and resides in Olathe with his wife and two children.

One of the goals in identifying members for this committee is to recruit younger members, like Scott. We need to involve them to build long-term stability and institutional knowledge of our history and goals as a major historic preservation resource in the Kansas City region.

Please contact me if you have ideas and input for these two areas.

Joe H. Vaughan, Jr., Historian

Town of Kansas

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established a plan for building a bridge and viewing platform. The Kansas City Port Authority built a bicycle and pedestrian bridge from 1st and Main Street to near the edge of the Missouri River.

The joint meetings between the Planning Department and the Port Authority continued, with representatives of local agencies and citizens, along with members of the committee. Follow up meetings between the Town Site committee chair and the directors of the Port Authority moved the project forward.

One of the results of these ongoing meetings culminated with the erection and dedication of a permanent historic marker at 1st and Main Streets.

Recent progress includes the completion of the archaeological survey of the site, with the greatest concentration of artifacts around Main Street.

In addition, naming of the site to the National Register of Historic Places is expected by the end of the year. Site fencing and trail signage is being coordinated by Native Sons and Daughters members Ross Marshall and Craig Crease.

Honorable Tom Sims, Town of Kansas Site Committee Chair

Join Our Speakers Bureau

Do you have a specific interest devoted to our history, or are you knowledgeable about an area of history that would interest others? Could you outline a presentation for a twenty to twenty-five minute talk? We would like you to consider our Speaker's Bureau.

Here are some suggestions that interest Kansas Citians:

Jesse and Frank James, the truth versus the legend
Pendergast's 1930's
The Union Station Massacre
The French Settlers
Establishing Town of Kansas,
Possum Trot, and One-Eyed Ellis
Kansas City as a transportation hub, cattle trade to wheat and grain
The Battle of Westport

Please contact Dave Baumgartner at 913.649.9845 or email to speakersbureau@nsdkc.org

Murder Most Foul on the Santa Fe Trail

When Daniel Yoacham learned that the plot to rob wealthy trader Antonio Chavez and his Company as they returned to Westport from Santa Fe was hatched in the bar-room of his tavern, he had to take action.

You can almost hear ol' Dan talking to himself about, "...such a foul and dirty deed planned right here in my hostel; not good for business, at all..." as he saddled his best mule and, at the head of a quickly formed posse, began the long trip to overtake the would-be villains.

It was 1843, and Dan Yoacham had worked hard to establish his footprint in the up-coming town of

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Majors' House Moves into New Phase

Having assumed control of the Alexander Majors House and Museum in January, 2011, the Board of Directors for the Wornall-Majors historic sites has stabilized the operations of the Majors site, assuring its continued preservation as a national historic treasure. With the efforts of Kandice Walker, Wornall-Majors Executive Director, the Majors' site has sponsored many historical, educational, and entertainment events in 2011.

The Board has coordinated the inventory of the Majors' house, and will begin inventorying the artifacts of the blacksmith shop, carpenter shop, and the barn containing wagons, carriages, and other museum artifacts.

The Wornall-Majors Board has created an Advisory Committee including NSDKC members McKay Anderson, Dr. Bill Bell, David Baumgartner, and Gary Hicks. The committee will advise the Board on:

- Funding/Sponsorships/Memberships
- Volunteer Programs/Personnel support/Educational outreach
- Activities and Programming
- Branding/Marketing
- Facilities/Maintenance/Development
- Administration and Operations
- Maintenance and site upgrade
- Future Site Development / Site Planning
- Facilities (including site, structures, and artifacts)

McKay Anderson has concentrated on assessing themes, displays and furnishings of various rooms, and has initiated protection of various papers from the desk of Louisa Johnston. An 1856 flag previously donated to the Majors site by NSDKC has been recently found, along with several contemporary U.S. flags. Once a new lanyard is mounted to the pole, the flags shall once again fly proudly!

The Advisory Committee has initiated a report on a line-of-sight traffic study to assess traffic safety at exit of the Majors parking onto State Line Road. In addition, the Advisory Committee is planning to extend its focus to the biography of Alexander Majors and his contributions towards our Nation's westward expansion, perhaps separating facts from lore. Another preservation project in process is Dr. Bruce Prince-Joseph's work on the 1870's piano at the Majors house. The restoration is made possible by approximately \$10,000 in donations, primarily from NSDKC members, including the time and skills of Dr. Prince-Joseph.

In addition, construction of a marquee sign at 83rd and State Line and 83rd and Ward Parkway is in the development of concept stage. These signs will advertise upcoming events and activities at the Majors site.

If you want to be a docent, or a volunteer to help preserve and support the Majors' site, please contact Gary Hicks, or Ms. Kandice Walker at 816-444-1858.

Gary L. Hicks, Alexander Majors Committee Chair

Murder Most Foul *continued from page 7*

Westport, now the jumping-off point to Santa Fe, and Oregon, too. Hadn't he served eight years as Justice of the Peace and married numerous Westporters in the spacious room of his tavern, hadn't he loaned the same space to neighbors for funerals? Why, such a happening on his property was an insult. Imagine the gall of those Jackson and Clay County ruffians using his establishment as their lair.

It was about 1825 when Dan first built a two-room, log cabin with fireplaces at each end in the little valley where Spring Branch Creek crossed the beginnings of the wagon-road to Santa Fe, near where today Mill Street meets Westport Road.

Read Dave Baumgartner's entire article online at the Native Sons and Daughters web site, <http://www.nsdkc.org/>. Click the link labeled Kansas City History by our members.