



# NATIVE SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF GREATER KANSAS CITY

November 2009

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

## Holiday Brunch, December 12

Our event will begin at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, December 12, with cocktails, followed by a buffet at 11:45. Join us at our Holiday Brunch at Indian Hills County Club, 6847 Tomahawk Road, just east of the Prairie Village Shopping Center. Indian Hills has been newly remodeled and you'll enjoy the brunch.

We'll briefly install the officers for 2010 and have a very short business meeting. Entertainment includes a women's vocal barber shop ensemble holiday singing and act, followed by

new Kansas City area history song, written by Dan Sturdevant with altered lyrics to Billy Joel's "We Didn't Start the Fire." Finally, Dr. Bruce Prince-Joseph, formerly Leonard Bernstein's pianist with the New York Philharmonic, performs a piano solo and a concluding holiday sing-along. We're sure you'll enjoy this event.

Reservations are required by December 4th at P.O. Box 10046, Kansas City, Mo 64171. The cost is \$20.00 per person, by check to "NSDKC" or "Native Sons and Daughters."

## Please welcome our new members

|                 |                  |                   |                 |
|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Jan Marcason    | Christy Shafer   | James Malouff     | Clifford Cohen* |
| Thomas Schmutz  | John Martin      | Bill Dillingham   | Homer Williams* |
| John Forbes     | Lisa Martin      | Keri Dillingham   | Kenny Howard*   |
| Melinda Mehaffy | Jeff Bradshaw    | Richard Fuller    | Yelonda Jones*  |
| Richard King    | Frank McMillian  | Paul Christiansen | Andrew White*   |
| Timothy Kristl  | Nancy            | Janet Sue Barelli | Janice White*   |
| Carol Kristl    | Yuelkenbeck      | John McGraw       | Arlon Ebright*  |
| Lawrence Lyons  | Matt Harris      | Wendy McGraw      | Trudy Hall*     |
| Betty Tillotson | Ralph Matkin     | James Jackson     |                 |
| Clark Benner    | Robert Matkin    | Jane Brown        |                 |
| Jamie Benner    | Alan (Kent) Hall | Tom Brown         |                 |
| Quint Shafer    | Barbara Dietrich | Joanie Reist      |                 |

\*Applicants  
pending approval  
at the November  
Board meeting

## Holiday Brunch

December 12, 2009  
Cocktails at 11:00 a.m. Cash bar  
Holiday Buffet at 11:45 a.m.  
Indian Hills Country Club  
6847 Tomahawk Road  
Shawnee Mission, KS  
Cost: \$20 per person  
Reservations: Must be received by  
Friday, December 4, 2009  
Please mail your check payable to  
Native Sons and Daughters to: P.O.  
Box 10046, Kansas City, MO 64171.  
Your check is your reservation. No  
refunds



*Former President Ray James and members at the 2008 Holiday Brunch at Indian Hills CC*

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# President's Letter

The board hopes that the programs and events of our organization are compelling to you, so that you want to attend upcoming programs. Our recent programs were especially good. The Outstanding Kansas Citian program for John Dillingham on September 24 was a first-rate event, as the approximately 185 attending know. The October 17 Kauffman Performing Arts Center site visit, attended by about 60 members and guests with the lunch at Webster House was an excellent time. The Roasterie tour (see below), organized by John Hess, Jr., was fun and tasty. We hope that our new members will attend our programs, starting with the Holiday Brunch on December 12. Please see page 1 for more details. Finally, I want to thank Keith Krieger, newsletter editor and web site manager, who exceeds expectations. Check it at [www.nsdkc.org](http://www.nsdkc.org), as we update it regularly.

I encourage our members who do not regularly attend our programs to try to come in the future. Our regular practice is to have name tags displayed on the attendee's clothing, to reduce the "I can't remember your name but I don't want to admit it" problem. One of my objectives this year has been to emphasize us as a friendly organization. Thanks.

*Dan Sturdevant, President*

## Meet & Greet at The Roasterie

Our October 22nd event was a tour of a fine Kansas City business, the Roasterie, and its factory, with food and fine coffee. We were advised that the second most traded commodity in the world, just behind oil, is coffee.

Roasterie guide Norm Killmon describes himself as "Bean Browner" on his business card. Norm mentored volunteers Gary Hicks and Shirley Marshall, and demonstrated



*Kent Hall and Frank McMillian at the Roasterie*



*Members tour the Roasterie with Bean Browner Norm Killmon.*

## Outstanding Kansas Citian

On Thursday, September 24, 2009, John A. Dillingham, past president and board member of the Native Sons and Daughters, received the Outstanding Kansas Citian Award.

More than 185 members and guests, a record turnout, attended the event at the Golden Ox Restaurant. The site is significant, as Mr. Dillingham's father, Jay B. Dillingham, founded the restaurant over 60 years ago.

The evening began with cocktails and wine tasting at Inland Sea Wines. After a sit-down dinner, President Dan Sturdevant gave welcoming remarks.

Mr. Dillingham was presented with a plaque, followed by the presentation of a "Bird's Eye View" 1878 lithograph of Kansas City.

The lithograph was accepted by David Boutros, Associate Director of the Western Historical Manuscript Collection. Geoffrey Pickering, son of the late Dr. Lee Pickering, presented a two-thirds size replica of the lithograph to Mr. Dillingham.

Dr. Lee Pickering acquired the Bird's Eye View lithograph, and wished to donate it to the Western Historical Manuscript collection and to John Dillingham.

## Members in the News

President Dan Sturdevant recently appeared in a profile published in the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar newsletter. The profile in the Metro Voices section of the newsletter, included Dan's remarks about the work of the Native Sons and Daughters.



# Program Chair Report

Our programs for 2009 began with a trip to the Wyandotte County Museum on a cold and icy day in late February. Amazingly, more than 20 people braved the roads to attend.

In April, we toured four historic Kansas City churches by bus. On this tour, we had the special privilege of listening to our own Dr. Bruce Prince-Joseph play the organ at Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral. In May, we visited the Linda Hall Library and the Western Historical Manuscript Collection, where President Dan Sturdevant formally announced NSDKC's pledge of \$10,000 for the Manuscript Collection. Our final program for 2009 was a tour of the construction site of the new Performing Arts Center followed by lunch at Webster House October 17. We had approximately 60 people in attendance for this program with 51 staying for lunch. We presented Chris Beal, Senior Director of Development for the Kauffman Performing Arts Center, with a check for \$525. Thank you for your generosity!

It has been a privilege to serve as your Program Chair for the past five years. I am now retiring from this position, but I look forward to attending future programs. A new Program Chair will be appointed soon, and I am confident that our members will have many interesting programs planned for the future.

*Mary Lee Sturdevant  
Program Chair*

## Members Tour Kauffman Site

We enjoyed the 17th and Broadway construction site of the Kauffman Performing Arts Center and its two halls, the Concert Hall, with seating in the round, and the Proscenium Theatre. At the Dunn Construction office, across the street from the construction site, we learned that the sound inside the new building can be tested in a small model and the big hall can be revised if necessary. The sound testing technique, involves making a 1/10 scale model of the music hall. This model, housed inside the construction offices, is tested by closing it off, then injecting nitrogen. Nitrogen, 1/10 the weight of regular air, allows the sound technicians to add sounds to the model. Microphones embedded inside the



*Members view the acoustic model of the Performing Arts Center at the Dunn construction office.*

model at various locations can detect echoes and other defects in acoustics caused by construction, building materials, and seating arrangements. This fabulous new facility will be a superb showcase for the performing arts in Kansas City, and a real attraction. We can look forward to the completion and grand opening of the Performing Arts Center in the fall of 2011.



*Members enjoy lunch at the Webster House following the tour*

## Officers for 2009

President, Dan Sturdevant  
1st Vice President, Gary Hicks  
2nd Vice President, Norm Besheer  
Treasurer, James Flanagan, IV  
Secretary, Joanne Collins  
Historian, Joe Vaughan

## Directors

Dorothy Benner  
Joanne Collins  
Mary Cross  
James Davis  
Charles Eddy  
John Hess, Sr.  
John Hess, Jr.  
Whitney Kerr  
Ross Marshall  
Edwin Shutt, II  
Mary Lee Sturdevant  
William Worley

## Directors Emeritus

John Dillingham, William "Dick" Fickle, George Hicks,  
Bruce Pennington, Sunday Siragusa

## Corp. Service Committees

Advisory, J. Dan Creasy,  
Eileen Sullivan, & Tom Sims  
Bylaws, John Dunnewind  
Public Relations, Gary Hicks  
Legal Affairs, Jim Bernard  
Membership,  
John Hess, Sr., & John Hess, Jr.  
Memorial, Pat Barelli  
Media Editor, Keith Krieger  
Outstanding Kansas Citian,  
Norm Besheer  
Program, Mary Lee Sturdevant

## Community Service

Alexander Majors, TBD  
Archives, Eleanor Schwarz  
Daniel Morgan Boone Park,  
William Worley  
Fort Osage, John Hess, Sr.  
Historic Markers, Roger Smith  
Liberty Memorial,  
Bruce Pennington  
Town Site Preservation, Tom Sims  
Union Cemetery, Jeff Davis  
Westpt Hist. Society, J. Dan Creasy  
Wyandotte Co. Historical Society and  
Museum, Edwin Shutt, II

## Executive Secretary

Susie Hughes

# Upcoming Events

Holiday Brunch December 12th at the newly remodeled Indian Hills Country Club. Please see page 1 for details. Reservations are required by December 4th at P.O. Box 10046, Kansas City, Mo 64171. The cost is \$20.00 per person, by check to "NSDKC" or "Native Sons and Daughters."

## Special Subjects Committee Meeting, October 14



From left: John Dillingham, Laura McKnight, Greater Kansas City Community Foundation President and member of NSDKC, Tom Sims, Dan Sturdevant, David Boutros, Norm Besheer, and Gary Hicks

This photo shows the presentment of a check from Native Sons and Daughters to David Boutros of the Western Historical Manuscript Collection, where most NSDKC records are stored.



Native Sons and Daughters of  
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P.O. Box 10046  
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