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Photos from the 2011 Holiday Brunch



Incoming President Dot Benner presents outgoing President Norm Besheer with the President's Plaque. Photo courtesy of Louise Hicks.



From left, Kathy Pickering; Gary Hicks, recipient of the Lee Pickering Award; and Louise Hicks

Julia Kauffman Honored as 2011 Outstanding Kansas Citian

On October 25th, the Native Sons and Daughters of Greater Kansas City honored Julia Irene Kauffman as Outstanding Kansas Citian for 2011 in the building her support made possible, the Kauffman Performing Arts Center.

Events

[Board and Executive Meeting Schedule](#)

[Obituaries and Memorials](#)

We have [video of the event](#), along with [photos and an interview televised on Fox 4 with the chair of the event, Dr. Chuck Eddy](#).

[Found! 1946 Native Sons Roster](#)

Joe Vaughan appears in historic Constitution Video

Kansas City, Kansas Community College, and the Wyandotte County Historical Society recreated the final day of the Wyandotte Convention of July, 1859. Past president and current historian of NSDKC appears in the video. The full story appeared in the Kansas City Kansan. You can [read the article online](#) at the Kansas City Kansan web site.

Dr. Prince-Joseph to Restore Antique Piano at Majors House

At the 2010 Holiday Brunch, NSDKC member Dr. Bruce Prince-Joseph announced he will be restoring the antique orchestra piano in the parlor at the historic Majors House. Restoration begins this spring.

The estimated cost will be \$10,000, of which Dr. Bruce is donating \$5,000 towards the restoration. Donations from other NSDKC members exceed \$3,000. In the spirit of historic preservation, NSDKC members are encouraged to donate funds to the restoration. Please contact Dr. Bruce Prince-Joseph for further details and donation inquiries.

NSDKC member Ray Elder Interview Featured in the Kansas City Star
Member Ray Elder is a retired firefighter and historian for the Kansas City Fire and Historical Society. His book, *Historic Street Scenes of Kansas City, Missouri, 1867-1931*, was the subject of an [article in the August 2011 newsletter](#).

The [interview appeared in the Kansas City Star](#) on December 14th, and covered Ray's time with the Kansas City Fire Department, his writing work, and growing up in Kansas City.

Sacagawea Plaque Dedicated April 23 at Fort Osage



Left to right, Dan Sturdevant; Lewis and Clark Elementary School Students Allison Swearingin and Erin Stevens; Sacagawea bronze plaque sculptor Sabra Tull Meyer; Norm Besheer, President of Native Sons and Daughters of Greater Kansas City.



John Hess, chair of the Ft. Osage committee for the Native Sons and Daughters of Greater Kansas City, on the left. John helped this event by proposing that the Native Sons and Daughters help fund the plaque; on the right is Steve Wilson, site administrator for Ft. Osage National Historic Monument.



Remarks by Steve Wilson, Site Administrator of Fort Osage, Chick Stessman for Lewis and Clark Riverbend chapter and Dan Sturdevant for the Native Sons and Daughters of Greater Kansas City opened the event. The Big Soldier Creek dancers from Haskell Indian University in Lawrence performed, and concluded with the unveiling of Sabra Tull Meyer's Sacagawea plaque.

Trader and explorer Henry Brakenridge kept a journal in 1811, documenting his experiences on the Missouri River upriver from St. Louis. His entries, considered to be accurate, are the basis to prove Sacagawea's presence at Ft. Osage. Ft. Osage fell into disuse after its closing around 1830. Historians believe the wood used to build the fort was re-used by pioneers and local farmers. Over time, this resulted in no standing structures at the fort. In the 1940s, the Native Sons, as the organization was originally named, was the primary civic group to organize, promote, and fund the re-building of the replica Ft. Osage currently standing.

Historic Map Collection Donated to the Native Sons and Daughters

At the February 9 board meeting, Ray and Nancy Elder presented a map collection to the Native Sons and Daughters. Ray and Nancy are life-long members. He and Nancy have been collecting historic maps of the development of Kansas City, Missouri, dating back about 160 years. This came about through a meeting between Joe Vaughan, past president and current historian, and Ray Elder during the Town of Kansas marker dedication in June, 2010. Ray and Nancy presented several items of historical interest to the Native Sons and Daughters. These include the map collection, a digital archive of

the collection, and a 20-page document about the 8th Street Streetcar Tunnel near 8th and Broadway, closed in 1956. Ray has been conducting research on the streetcar tunnel for many years.

The board presented Ray and Nancy with a commemorative plaque marking their contributions to documenting another facet of Kansas City's history. Dave Boutros, Associate Archivist and Historian of the Western Historical Manuscript Collection, received those historic items on behalf of NSDKC and Ray and Nancy Elder.

Member Ted Seligson Honored

Theodore Seligson, FAIA emeritus and visiting professor in the University of Missouri-Kansas City College of Arts and Sciences' Department of Architecture, Urban Planning + Design, is nationally known for his achievements in architecture, urban design, and higher education in Kansas City. To honor his contributions to architecture and design, the faculty and advisory board of AUP+D and Seligson's friends recently established the Seligson Fund for AUP+D. The fund will provide financial backing for lectures, special events, and projects that support and advance the AUP+D program.

Seligson received his professional degree in Architecture and has taught at Washington University in St. Louis. He has received more than 25 national, regional, and local awards for his projects.

For more than 40 years, Seligson served as principal at his Kansas City, Mo.-based architectural firm, which is known as one of the most innovative design practices in the Midwest. Before establishing his firm, he was head of design at Kivett & Myers, a well-known architectural firm recognized for many important projects in Kansas City, Mo. Kivett & Myers also was the architect for Katz Hall, which now houses AUP+D at 5005 Rockhill Rd.

Instrumental and a leader in the U.S. preservation movement, Seligson has served as president (1989), board member (1978-1994) and vice president (1988) of the Native Sons and Daughters of Kansas City. He also served as a board member of the Historic Kansas City Foundation and Friends of Sacred Structures. He participated in the establishment of the Landmark Commission of Kansas City, Mo., and was instrumental in the designation of the first seven buildings in Kansas City, Mo. that were listed on the National Register of Historic Places. He served as president of the Missouri Valley Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians (1973-1975). He also is mentioned in the Congressional Record for his influence to save and restore the West Front of the United States Capitol.

Board Adopts Statement About Changes on the Plaza

The Board of Directors adopted a statement and submitted to the Kansas City, Missouri 4th District City Council representatives, and to the City Planning Commission. The statement reflects opposition to the plans proposed by Country Club Plaza owners Highwoods Properties, and the Polsinelli-Shughart law firm. The firm proposes to construct a multi-story office building near the northeast corner of 47th and Broadway. The historic 1920's Balcony Building stands at this corner. The statement expresses concern regarding a concept which changes the landscape of the Country Club Plaza.

The Plaza is one of the most recognizable shopping districts in the nation and has become a signature of Kansas City. The Plaza needs to be preserved to continue to be both a destination and a testament to the late J.C. Nichols. The statement proposes that the architectural and historical integrity of the District should be preserved by adhering to the 1989 Plaza Design Plan which was adopted by the City Council of Kansas City, Missouri.

The NSDKC statement also holds that a building of the size proposed does not belong on the Plaza proper and should be moved to the surrounding area. It is considered that the Plaza does not have the infrastructure in place to accommodate a building of this size. In addition, the future of the Country Club Plaza and Kansas City, Missouri rely upon the intelligent decisions of the current owners, tenants, and the City Council that will not allow the removal or displacement of irreplaceable buildings such as the Balcony Building in the name

of so-called progress. The Country Club Plaza is an integral part of the heritage of Kansas City, which defines the Greater Kansas City metropolitan area. Preserving our heritage is a key component in connecting our city's past to its future.

Gary Hicks, President

Members Tour Historic Arrowhead Stadium
 Photos from the tour



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