



The Native Sons and Daughters of Greater Kansas City

December 2013

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



Museum Markers Dedicated

Not often has NSDKC had the opportunity to dedicate two markers at the same time in its several decades of marker dedications, but that actually occurred December 3 at 18th and Vine. Both the American Jazz Museum and the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum markers were dedicated at 11:00 that morning.

President Chuck Eddy began the ceremony by welcoming about two dozen people who braved some rather brisk weather to be present.

Pictured above are the two one-sided markers that were mounted adjacent to each other in the public garden area behind the two adjoining museums. Both of these museums are dedicated to preserve and celebrate their two rich cultural themes which are very much a part of Kansas City's historical traditions.

The American Jazz Museum has a mission to not only preserve jazz history but to continue to exhibit jazz through performances, education, exhibitions and research that helps to expand the influence and knowledge of jazz throughout Kansas City and the world. The Museum continues to present thousands of world-class performances at his "Jammin' at the Gem" series, Rhythm and Ribs Jazz and Blues Festival and its award-winning Blue Room jazz club.

Enjoy more photographs of the event on the photo collage in this newsletter and online at http://nsdkc.org/photo_gallery.

The Negro Leagues Baseball Museum's mission is to preserve the rich history of professional African-American baseball of the early 1900s to the 1950s and its profound impact on the social advancement of America. The Museum opened its doors to the public in a tiny room in 1991 but now is located at 18th and Vine in a 10,000 square foot museum and exhibit area. In July, 2006, the Museum gained national distinction from the U. S. Congress earning the designation as "America's National Negro Leagues Baseball Museum."

President Eddy introduced, in order, the following speakers: NSDKC Historical Marker Committee Chair Ross Marshall, NSDKC Secretary Carl DiCapo, Lance Conley, who is the 5th District NTFD representative, AJM Director Greg Carroll and NLBM President Bob Kendrick.

The American Jazz Museum marker was presented to Director Carroll as a part of the 2012 Outstanding Kansas Citian event at Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts and the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum marker was presented to President Kendrick as a part of the 2013 OKC event at Kauffman Stadium. Both men were very helpful in developing the marker texts and partnering in these two projects.

An additional key partner in both projects was the Neighborhood Tourist Development Fund, which helped fund both markers and whose name appears on each one.

Ross Marshall, Chairman, Historical Markers Community Service Committee



The Native Sons and Daughters of Greater Kansas City

Dr. Charles 'Chuck' Eddy
President

Ross Marshall
1st Vice President

William 'Chris' Sizemore
2nd Vice President

James 'Jim' Flannagan, IV
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Carl DiCapo
Secretary

Frank McMillian
Historian

Dorothy 'Dot' Benner
Immediate Past President

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

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President's Message

Our team this year has been fabulous. Your officers and board members have each made this year a great success. I am so very proud to have been a part of the progress that has occurred in 2013.

We have had a huge growth in membership, with many of the new members being less than 30 years old. The 80 in 80 membership program was a complete success. We are now well over 400 total members in the NSDKC.

This year our Newsletter, the membership data base, the roster, and our email delivery systems were completely renovated. Our data base is now not only totally secured but accessible to all of our members through the website and mobile application. You can access our roster anywhere in the world. I cannot thank our dedicated member Frank McMillian for all of his help this year with our technology needs.

We are making great headway on our Monument project for NSDKC. We have met with the leadership of the Majors House and Park property. They are very excited about the possibility of our monument being placed at this historic location. We will have much more information after the first of the year. This project will be a permanent landmark for our organization.

This year's OKC event met and exceeded our expectations. The interview by Frank Boal of George Brett was a once in a lifetime occurrence. If you were unable to attend, please get one of the DVDs available on our website. Marilyn Maye's presentation of the award to George was priceless. She wrote the words of the song she sang at her table just prior to presenting the award to him. In the last three years, this event has raised more than \$53,000 for the NSDKC and provided hundreds of thousands of dollars in media exposure each year.

We had a wonderful brunch at Indian Hills Country Club with 96 members and guests attending. Special Recognition Awards were presented to David Baumgartner for his work with the Speakers Bureau and John Hess, Jr. for his dedicated service as membership chair and board member. Award Certificates were presented to outgoing board members Bruce Pennington, Gerald Gorman, and Ray Elder for their service. The George E. Hicks Award of Perseverance was presented to Gary Hicks for his work on the exit drive at the Alexander Majors House. We will never know how many lives he will save by completing this important project. The Lee I. Pickering Award for Excellence was presented to Frank McMillian for his inclusive detailed transformation of our digital inventory.

Please accept my sincere appreciation for the dedicated service each of our staff, committee chairs, board members, and officers provided to our great organization this year.



Charles A. Eddy, President
The Native Sons and Daughters of Greater Kansas City

Outstanding Kansas Citian dinner and award ceremony

More than 200 members and guests celebrated a grand evening in the Kia Diamond Club at the Kauffman Stadium where George Brett was presented with the 2013 Outstanding Kansas Citian award.

And grand it was! Even before the evening finished -- with Marilyn Maye presenting the OKC award to Brett and singing him a song she had written for the occasion -- everyone had been treated to an evening of fine food and entertainment.

The evening began with plenty of time for everyone having the chance to visit with fellow-members and friends while enjoying complimentary wine and musical entertainment by The Chuck Eddy Band. As the time for dinner approached, every seat in the Kia Diamond Club filled for a four-course meal served by the Aramark staff. During dinner everyone enjoyed a view of the Royals stadium while a video highlighting George Brett's career played on the giant screen in Royals' centerfield.

Following dinner and remarks by Chuck Eddy, the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum was presented with a historical marker to be placed alongside the American Jazz Museum marker in the 18th and Vine Museum District. Bob Kendrick, president of the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum accepted the marker from NSDKC 1st Vice President Ross Marshall.

Enjoy more photographs of the event on the photo collage in this newsletter and online at http://nsdkc.org/photo_gallery.

The program continued with Frank Boal, local sports contributor and a long-time friend of George's, interviewing Brett. The interview included questions that guests had provided to Frank during the dinner -- providing everyone, including George, some very 'non-traditional' insights into George Brett and his career.

Before the presentation of the OKC award to George, Chris Sizemore, NSDKC 2nd Vice President and OKC Committee Chair, introduced past OKC recipients who were in attendance and invited them to the stage. They were presented medallions commemorating their past award and remained on the stage to assist in presenting the 2013 award to Brett.

Finally, it was time to present George Brett the award as the 2013 Outstanding Kansas Citian, and who could do it better than the 2012 OKC recipient Marilyn Maye. A true entertainer, a true performer -- Marilyn May brought everyone to their feet with a standing ovation for George Brett as she presented him his award and sang a song about his career and this special evening -- a song she composed while having dinner at George's side.

Yes, a grand evening indeed. On behalf of the NSDKC organization our thanks go out to the Royals for their assistance along with OKC Committee members who made the evening a success.

Chris Sizemore, Chairman, Outstanding Kansas Citian Corporate Standing Committee

Welcome new members

Julie Avila
Ernest "Van" Chappell
Judy Chappell
Virginia Hulen
Gloria Smith

Memorial Committee

We are sad to report that Board Member Emeritus and Past President, George E. Hicks, passed away on October 24. George worked tirelessly, and successfully, to preserve the Daniel Morgan Boone Park.

We also lost two loyal members, Charles W. Scott, Jr. on October 27 and Dan G. Jackson, III on December 28.

Carl J. DiCapo, Chairman, Memorial Committee



Past OKC recipient, Marilyn Maye presenting George Brett the 2014 OKC award.

Annual Meeting and Election of Officers

Sixty members attended our Annual Membership Meeting on the evening of October 9 at the Golden Ox Restaurant. This may have been the largest attendance we have ever had at our annual meeting. Very encouraging!

After dinner concluded, President Chuck Eddy introduced Zoe Honeck, who presented the talk “Little People Like Us” portraying Esther Brown’s fight to integrate the South Park School District in Merriam, KS. She won first place at the Missouri State National History Day competition and received the annual cash prize from NSDKC.

Chuck then presided as brief annual reports were presented. Among the items of business was the presentation of the slate of officers and board members by Norm Besheer, Nominating Committee Chair. Officers elected were President Ross Marshall, 1st Vice President Chris Sizemore, 2nd Vice President Carl DiCapo, Secretary Frank McMillian, Historian Steve Noll, and Immediate Past President Chuck Eddy. Steve Noll, Diane Pepper, Dick Retrum and Robert Corum were elected to the Board of Directors.

After the conclusion of the membership meeting, the Board of Directors held their regular meeting.



President Chuck Eddy with our award-winning guest speaker Zoe Honeck.

Chuck Eddy, President, NSDKC



Enjoy more photographs of both these events on the photo collages in this newsletter and online at http://nsdkc.org/photo_gallery.

2013 Holiday Brunch

One of the more festive NSDKC occasions each year is our Holiday Brunch, held December 7 at the Indian Hills Country Club. After a reception period enhanced with entertainment provided by the Chuck Eddy Band and vocalist Lori Tucker, we enjoyed a wonderful buffet.

It is also the time when the Awards Committee, co-chaired by Kathryn Pickering and Jennie Hicks, presents awards to NSDKC members for special achievements. At the close of the program, additional entertainment was provided by members Dr. Bruce Prince-Joseph and vocalist Jeffrey L. Hon.

Please enjoy the following pictures and captions of this special annual event.



President Chuck Eddy welcoming incoming President Ross Marshall.

Chuck Eddy, President, NSDKC

Norm Besheer -- Waldo's Honorary Mayor

NSDKC past president (2011) and longtime member Norm Besheer was announced as the new "Honorary Mayor" of Waldo at the Waldo Fall Festival that took place on Saturday, September 21.

A native of Kansas City, Norm attended Central High School and UMKC undergraduate and Law School. At the age of 16, his family moved away from Kansas City, but Norm remained in town and worked to put himself through high school. He served two years in the Marine Corps at the end of WWII, and later was commissioned and retired as a Major in the Marine Corps Reserve, where he served for an additional 13 years.

He married his bride, Pat, sixty-four years ago and they parented four successful children -- Kimbrough, Jay, and Zachary Besheer and Christie Besheer Biggs. He is currently CEO of Gunter Pest Management, Inc., their family business, located in Waldo.

Through the years, Norm served on the Waldo Area Business Association Board of Directors and was an active leader on many of its working committees. He was instrumental in the planning and development of the Harry Wiggins Trolley Track Trail and the Waldo Fountain and Monument (on the southeast corner of 75th and Wornall Road). The Waldo Fountain was a long labor of love for Norm and because he insisted and persisted, both the fountain and monument became a reality in 2009.

He and Betty Tillotson, also a member of NSDKC and also the Honorary Mayor of Waldo in 2010, were installed as the second and third stones in the "Waldo Walk of Fame" at the base of that fountain to kick off the Waldo Fall Festival.

Congratulations to Norm and also to Betty!



Norm with his Honorary Waldo Mayor plaque

Ross Marshall, 1st Vice President, NSDKC



Elmwood Cemetery picnic

The 5th annual Elmwood Cemetery picnic was held on October 5, 2013 and was a great success. Thanks to the help of vendors, volunteers, the picnic committee (consisting of Shawsie Branton, Anita Gorman, Barbara Unell, Barbara Potts, Shirley Helzberg, Mary Cohen, Mary Hunkeler) and the coordinator Stephanie Noland, approximately 300 people attended. Special thanks to Don Hall, Jr. who donated in the name of deceased Adele Hall, a founder of the picnic idea along with Bruce Mathews. Tours of the Cemetery were done on the Trolley Bus and the Kansas City Police Department provided mounted officers.

The fundraising so far has netted about \$40,000 with more coming to us each day. It is an ongoing effort to take care of the trees and the 2014 mowing season will be here too soon. The Board of Trustees greatly appreciate all donations and volunteer services.

Visit the website elmwoodcem-kc.org for pictures of the picnic and details about the Cemetery.



Attendees eagerly lining up at the food

Ross Marshall, 1st Vice President, NSDKC

Majors Old-Fashioned Picnic - October 26, 2013



Time rolled back on the day of our Old-Fashioned Picnic at the Majors House. The weather was perfect. Alexander and his wife welcomed the nearly 60 members and guests to their estate for a wonderful day of food and entertainment. The Knobtown Skiffle Band was simply outstanding performing music for all to enjoy.

We celebrated Alexander's birthday after his wonderful presentation of his accomplishments.

Donna Eddy, Chair, Programs Corporate Standing Committee

Gary and Louise Hicks as portraying the Majors.

Past Presidents Luncheon

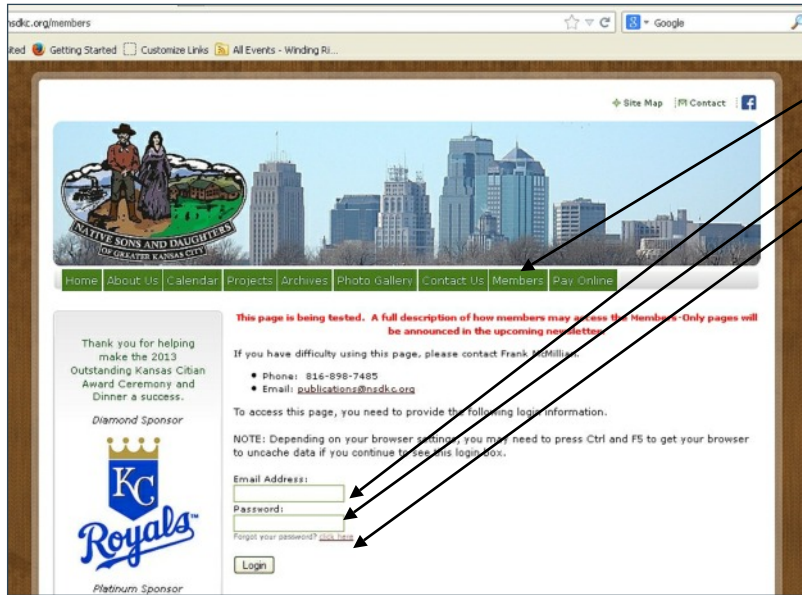
The picture below was taken at a recent Presidents Luncheon.

Chuck Eddy, President, NSDKC



(L-R) Dan Creasy (2005), Norm Besheer (2011), Dot Benner (2012), John Mura (1986), Jim Bernard, Jr. (2004), Dan Sturdevant (2009), Ross Marshall (2014), Chuck Eddy (2013), John Hess, Sr. (2002), John Dillingham (2003), Gary Hicks (2010), Ted Seligson (1989), Howard Hendricks, Jr. (1988), and Dick Fickle(1999). Absent, but pictured in front are Joe Vaughan, Jr. (1998), Ray James (2001), Tom Skates (1997), and Bruce Pennington (2000).

Members tab at www.NSDKC.org

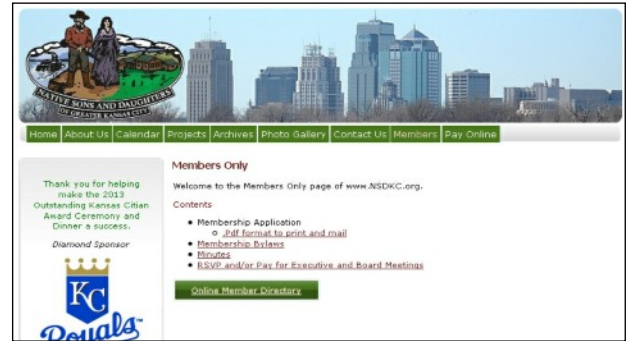


Members tab on the website menu

UN: The email we have for you at NSDKC.

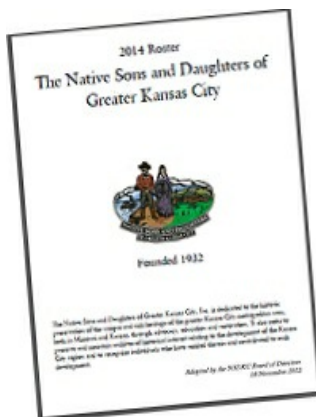
PW: The initial default is nsd1932 .

Use this command to reset/personalize the PW.



Using the Member's tab

- Do not use on a public terminal, for example, a public computer in a coffee shop or library.
- These are not interactive pages. If you see something that needs changed, please contact us.
- If you have trouble accessing the membership area from the menu . . . Contact Frank at frankmcm@windingriver.com
- If you see incorrect information on your membership record . . . Send an email to Susie at secretary@nsdkc.org
- If you have questions about the digital updates . . . Contact Chuck at president@nsdkc.org



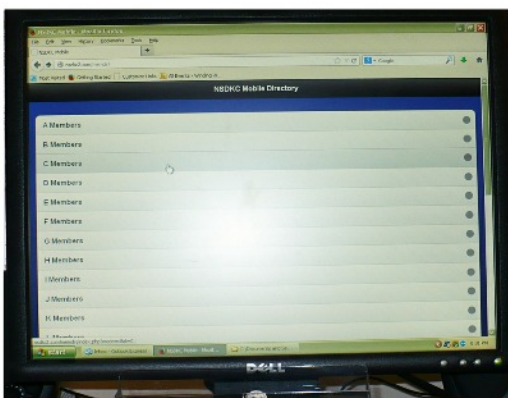
Membership Roster (Print-Friendly Format)

The annual membership roster will be available in the Members Only section of the website in a .pdf format that can be used from your computer or printed for offline reference.

Scheduled to be published in late December

Online and Smart Phone Membership Roster

An online membership roster is now available in the Members page on the website. It is a web link to our secure web server hosting our membership database. The link from the Member's page to the online database can be copied and entered into the browser of your smart phone.



Outstanding Kansas Citian Photo Collage

Collage by Chuck Eddy, president, NSDKC

Photos by MMG



Fantastic 1st year auction raised more than \$4,800



Mayor James, our Honoree George Brett and his son Robin



George signing autographs for our guests.



Honorees that were present and participated in the presentation this year: Carl DiCapo 2001, Whitney & Day Kerr 2000, Marilyn Maye 2012, George Brett 2013, John Dillingham 2009, Dr. Bruce Prince-Joseph 1998



Presentation of the marker for the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum to Bob Kendrick, CEO. Also in picture are Ross Marshall and Chuck Eddy.



Annual Meeting Photo Collage
 Collage by Chuck Eddy, President, NSDKC
 Photos by Frank McMillian
 For more photos www.nsdkc.org



Steve Noll, Diane Pepper, Dick Retrum, Robert Corum are new members of our board



Norm Besheer, Bruce Pennington, & Dot Benner all Past Presidents



Mr. & Mrs. Honeck, and Gary Hicks with our award winning guest speaker Zoe Honeck



Pat Besheer, Dot & Earl Benner, Diane Pepper, President-elect Ross Marshall, Shirley Marshall and Donna Eddy at the Golden Ox



Donna Eddy, Program Chair

Holiday Brunch Photo Collage
 Collage by Chuck Eddy, President, NSDKC
 Photos by Debbie LeGrotte
 See all photos at www.nsdkc.org



Chris Sizemore gets things started with a great invocation from Carl DiCapo



President-elect Ross Marshall accepting his new office



President Chuck & Award Committee Co-Chair Kathryn Pickering presenting the Special Award to David Baumgartner for his work on the Speakers Bureau. His wife Nancy accepted the award due to his illness.



Gary Hicks received the George E. Hicks Award for Perseverance for his dedicated work on the entrance driveway to the Majors House



John Hess, Jr. and Bruce Pennington received Special Awards for service.



Frank McMillian receives the Lee I. Pickering Award for Excellence for his magnificent work on our digital assets



Past President Dot Benner presents President Chuck Eddy with his Past Presidents Medallion and Plaque

Jeff Hon and Bruce Prince-Joseph provided wonderful entertainment



Alexander Majors Picnic Photo Collage

Collage by Chuck Eddy, President, NSDKC

Photos by Chuck Eddy & Ross Marshall

See more photos at www.nsdkc.org



Susie Hughes & Donna Eddy working Registration



Knobtown Skiffle Band playing music of the times.



Alexander (Gary) & wife (Louise Hicks)



Alexander and his wife greeting our guests at the picnic



Old fashion picnic food was enjoyed by all.....



Happy Birthday to Alexander!!!



Knobtown Skiffle Band truly entertained to make the event so historically accurate.

American Jazz Museum and Negro Leagues Baseball Museum Marker Photo Collage

Collage by Chuck Eddy, President, NSDKC
Photos by Ross Marshall, 1st VP, & Gary Hicks, Past President, NSDKC
For more photos visit www.nsdkc.org



President Chuck Eddy with Jermaine Reed 3rd District Councilmember



Bob Kendrick, President of Negro Leagues Baseball



Our markers for both museums supported by the grants from the Neighborhood Tourist and Development Fund



Some of the more than two dozen attendees on this December day



Greg Carroll, CEO of American Jazz