The Village Photographer
Mary Armstrong
208 East St. Republic, OH 44867
(419) 585-7131

Angie,

Sorry this took so long to get to you.

Hope your Celebration turned out Wonderful. Bet you had a great time (even though there was a lot of work involved)

Hope my proposal helped you with your local photographers.

As much as I wanted to Come out, It really worked out better for us not to. Thank You for Considering us for the Event.

Hope I get to see You again at Cardome in 95.

Mary

BIKING Across KANSAS

JUNE 6 - 13 1992

EACH YEAR IN JUNE, ABOUT 1000 BICYCLISTS FROM ALL OVER THE COUNTRY PARTICIPATE IN BIKING ACROSS KANSAS, AN EIGHT-DAY 450-MILE TOUR OF THE SUNFLOWER STATE.

WICHITA, KS 672
PM
4 AUG
1992

8-1-92

Dear Angela,

Good Luck on your Celebration - & thanks for sending us the info,

We couldn't make it this year (my brother was in an accident) but keep us on your mailing list. Hope to see you next year.

Norma Christie

© 1992 BIKING ACROSS KANSAS ■ Design: David Rohr

BAK POSTCARD

Angela Bates
Nicodemus Historical Society
RR2 - Box 139
Nicodemus, KS 67625

July 2, 1990

Pepsi-Cola
Hays, Kansas

We write to thank you and to confirm your contribution of soda for our 2nd Annual Bar-B-Q, on July 28, 1990. We have requested soda for 400 people, however it is currently estimated that there will be 600 - 800 people in attendance, therefore we are requesting a donation of sodas for 800 people.

We would like to also confirm that you will be making the delviery of the soda and cups on Friday, July 27, 1990 at the Historical Society adjacent to the Township Hall.

In appreciation for your contribution we will be publishing a thank you ad for in our July issue of The Nicodemus Historical News Review, our monthly publication.

We thank you again and hope that this event is successful with your contribution.

Sincerely,

Angela Bates,
President

Pepsi - Hays 628-3024
Butch
Vonda-Sec.

FILE

July 2, 1990

Kevin Dunn
Logan Lockers
111 S. Mill
Logan, Kansas 67646

Dear Mr. Dunn:

Thank you for your donation of beef for the Nicodemus Historical Society's Second Annual Bar-B-Q. We appreciate your donation and will be printing a thank you ad in our July issue of the Nicodemus Historic News Review.

We encourage you, your family, and friends to attend this annual event held this year on Saturday, July 28th. It will be inconjunction with the Nicodemus' 114th Emancipation Celebration held July 27-29th. We are anticipating a record crowd.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,

689-4288

Angela Bates,
President

Unified School District No. 281
Hill City - Bogue

Thomas V. Heiman
Superintendent of Schools

Jeannette Nobo
Kansas State Department of Education
Equity Education Opportunity
120 East 10th Street
Topeka Ks 66612

Dear Jeannette;

I am writing in support of the program at Nicodemus, Kansas on July 27, 1991. The program of Linda Brown Buckner and Jerry Shaw will cost $150 each, plus expenses for each. The committee planning the Emancipation does not have funds available and are requesting your financial assistance.

Both Linda Brown Buckner and Jerry Shaw will provide a wonderful educational experience for the people of this area. USD 281 students will have the chance to benefit from both presentations.

I would ask that you consider funding this program for the Emancipation Celebration on July 27, 1991 at Nicodemus, Kansas.

Sincerely,

Tom Heiman

Tom Heiman
Superintendent, USD 281

sb

cc: Angela Bates

P.O. Box 309
Hill City, Kansas 67642-0309
913/674-2135

May 7, 1991

Oprah Winfrey
Hapro Studios
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Oprah:

I wrote you in June of 1989 requesting your honorary membership to the Nicodemus Historical Society. You declined due to the construction of Harpo Studios and various projects you were working on then.

I appeal to you again. This year at our 114th Emancipation Celebration a documentary film is being made and we would like for you to be a part of this celebration and documentary film. We would like for you to do the commentating for it. We are very much interested in what your association with Nicodemus, one of the most famous all black towns west of the Mississippi River.

We are beginning our campaign to have Nicodemus selected to the roster as a National Historic Site. This takes an Act of Congress to designate it as such. Nicodemus presently is a national historic "landmark", but with the status of historic "site" the federal government is mandated to assist in the restoration and maintenance of this most historic place.

It is a living witness to the time in our American history when black pioneers went against all odds, came to Kansas with courage, faith and self determination to create an existence for themselves by establishing their own all black town.

With the documentary we are hoping to get publicity for this most significant project. The governments roster of national historic sites only includes seven Afro-American sites out of over three hundred total sites. We have support of individuals within the Department of Interior that are encouraging of us, but we are the ones that have to lobby the Kansas legislature and congress to nominate Nicodemus to the roster.

I hope you have had a chance to read the book I sent yu "Promised Land: Black Settlement at Nicodemus, Kansas". It gives you the history and the historic buildings of Nicodemus.

Nicodemus and it's rich history is even worth considering for a movie or small series. I believe the american public has been primed by "Dances With Wolves" to see our american history portrayed in a new light. Hollywood always depicted the Indians as savages, and blacks did'nt exists as a part of the west, in

the minds of Hollywood or movie makers. It's time for the black pioneers of the west to have their story told. This type of approach will bring "Oprah" back to the TV sets or to the big screen. You need a project that has this type of appeal and has heart, and we need you and your public appeal.

Please consider our request, and let me know if you can be the commentator on the documentary film. Hoping that you will consider. Please get back with me as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Angela Bates,
President

May 23, 1991

Dear Pottowatami Tribe:

I write or to request your presence at our 114 Emancipation Celebration at Nicodemus, Kansas. The Pottowatami indians assisted the new settlers at Nicodemus in the early years from 1877 and 1878 while they were trying to carve out an existence on the great plains of Kansas. Record of the Pottawatami indians visiting the townsite to assist new settlers is admirable, and we would like to bring that part of our history to our annual emancipation celebration by having representatives from your tribe present. We would like to have you particpate by offering a speech or dancing, or what ever you feel appropriate. We would like to have representatives from your tribe on Saturday, July 27, 1991. We hope that you will be able to put up a tee-pee and wear your traditional dress.

The Nicodemus historical society is limited funds and will try to assist in by giving you a small donation of about $50.00. If we can afford more, we will definately give more.

An independent producer from Baltimore, Maryland and Kansas University will be on the townsite to film a documentary, that will be shown on PBS stations across the United States next fall. We hope that we can have your presence.

Thank you,

Angela Bates,
President

STEPHEN P. KATZ
4515 Walnut Apt 210B
Kansas City, Missouri 64111
(816) 426-1001

NICODEMUS BIKE TOUR -- JULY 26-28

WHERE THE HECK IS NICODEMUS???? Join us the last weekend in July on this historic bike tour. We will leave Kansas City Friday afternoon for a four hour drive to Nicodemus, KS.

We will travel back 113 years in history when about 300 ex-slaves from post Civil War South established Nicodemus. Today, over five generations have survived. to make Nicodemus the only all Black community in the U.S. today. It is designated as a National Historic Landmark.

We have been invited to participate in the town's annual reunion. Also, we will be a part of a one hour documentary to be filmed that weekend.

Saturday's bicycle tour of approximately 62 miles will depart Nicodemus and travel through Stockton. Plainville, Zurich, Palco. Damar. and return to Nicodemus. Each town will provide something special for us.

Boarding arrangements include a choice of motels. bed and breakfast, or camping. Space will be limited to about 30 cyclists. Contact Steve Katz (816-426-1001) for additional details and reservations by no later than June 15.

STEPHEN P. KATZ
4515 Walnut Apt 210B
Kansas City, Missouri 64111
(816) 426-1001

KANSAS CITY, MO 641
PM
13 MAY
1991

Angela Bates
The Nicodemus Group
P.O. Box 70
Bogue, KS 67625

STEPHEN P. KATZ
4515 Walnut Apt 210B
Kansas City, Missouri 64111
(816) 426-1001

May 24, 1991

Angela Bates
1015 Main, #8
Hill City, KS 67642

Dear Angela:

I'm fast becoming an "expert" on Nicodemus and enjoying every minute of it. The Nicodemus project has opened many doors for me.

The Bike Tour has the making of a very interesting event. I think we can figure on about 30 participants. Some preparations you can help with are as follows:

1) Lodging as soon as I get an actual list -- approx. June 15.

2) Informal Friday evening gathering in Nicodemus for the history.

3) Scheduled rest stops in each town to include fruit, water donuts, bakery items, and maybe a souvenir of the town.

4) A shortened route for some who might want to return early.

I have suggested to LucyAnn Kerry that we do a brief video tape to use for fund raising. She could describe the project and your could summarize the history. I'd appreciate your thoughts on the matter.

In my fund raising activities, I have encountered three resources that might be helpful. The Gentlemen of Distinction, The Bruce R. Watkins Cultural Center, and the Metropolitan Ebony Theater. Cheryl Collins of the Theater saw the word "Home" in the Salina article and immediately linked it to her play. If you have an opportunity to travel to Kansas City, June 8-23, I'd like for you to see this production. I'm thinking that the documentary could be the basis for a play.

Angela, I'm in the process of finalizing a grant proposal. I'm thinking that your visit to Kansas City would be an effective way to launch a fund raising for the Nicodemus Project and to heighten the awareness of Nicodemus. With sufficient notice I can arrange talk show interviews, newspaper articles, etc.

I'd like to plan a trip to Nicodemus the last week in June.

Kindest personal regards,

Stephen P. Katz

SPK:smc
cc: Tammy Tiemeyer
LucyAnn Kerry

THE METROPOLITIAN CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

tax exempt arm of

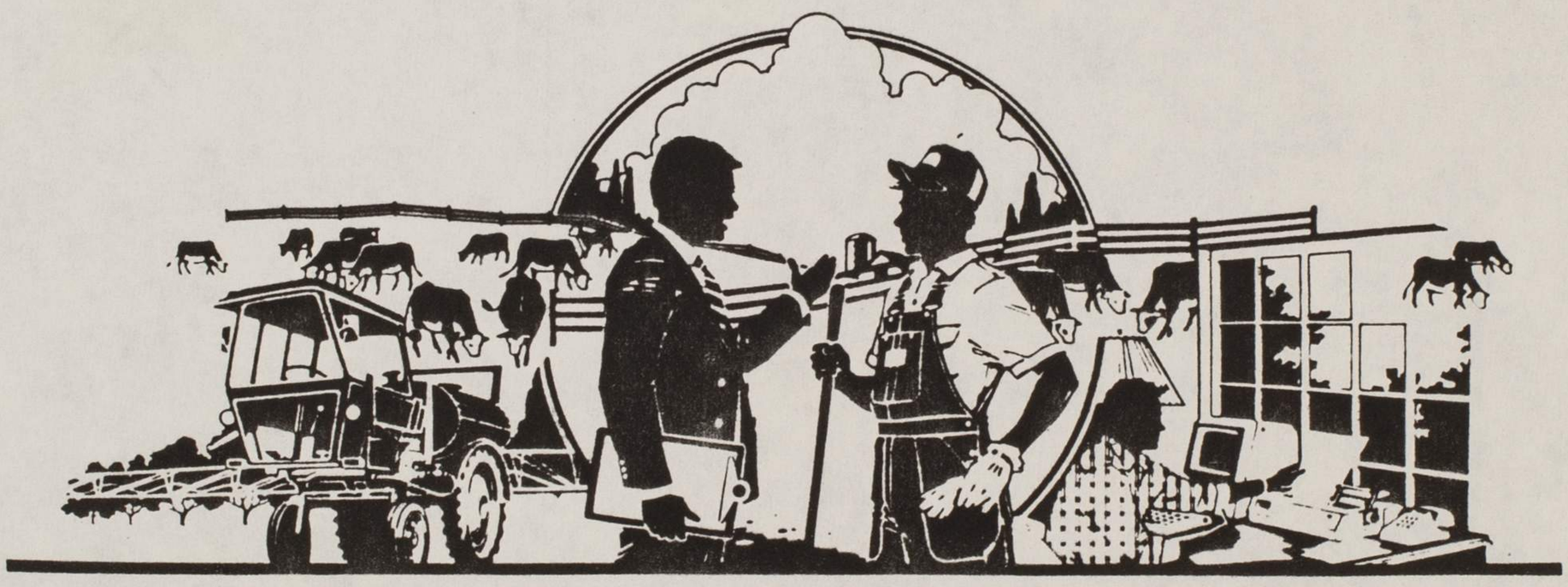
GENTLEMEN OF DISTINCTION LTD.

in association with

BRUCE R. WATKINS CULTURAL HERITAGE CENTER

PRESENTS

"HOME"



Performed by the Metropolitian Ebony Theater

Bruce R. Watkins Cultural Heritage Center~3700 Blue Parkway K.C.MO.

Ticket Information 923-6226

- **Friday: June 14th, & 21st 8:00 p.m.** • $7.50
- **Saturday: June 8th, 15th, & 22nd 8:00 p.m.** • $7.50
- **Sunday Matinee: June 9th, 16th & 23rd** • $5.00

The Gentlemen of Distinction will observe their **10th Anniversary Celebration** *on July 13, 1991, at the Carolton Ritz Hotel, Guest Speaker~Jessie Jackson Jr. III*

THEME: **African American Men Building Bridges and Ladders for the Future**

- *Tickets $30.00*
- *For Reservation Information call 333-5169*

STEPHEN P. KATZ
4515 Walnut Apt 210B
Kansas City, Missouri 64111
(816) 426-1001

NICODEMUS BIKE TOUR -- JULY 26-28

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We will travel back 113 years in history when about 300 ex-slaves from post Civil War South established Nicodemus. Today, over five generations have survived, to make Nicodemus the only all Black community in the U.S. today. It is designated as a National Historic Landmark.

We have been invited to participate in the town's annual reunion. Also, we will be a part of a one hour documentary to be filmed that weekend.

Saturday's bicycle tour of approximately 62 miles will depart Nicodemus and travel through Stockton, Plainville, Zurich, Palco, Damar, and return to Nicodemus. Each town will provide something special for us.

Boarding arrangements include a choice of motels, bed and breakfast, or camping. Space will be limited to about 30 cyclists. Contact Steve Katz (816-426-1001) for additional details and reservations by no later than June 15.

NICODEMUS, KANSAS
Established 1877

It has been over 113 years since the founding of Nicodemus. Over five generations have survived and weathered the storms which stifled the growth of this spirited and struggling community. When the original settlers arrived in this barren "Promised Land" in 1877, this land that held the hopes and dreams of a promising future, they believed that God had not forgotten or forsaken them.

The migration of many ex-slaves from the post Civil War South in search of personal freedom and the opportunity to build a new life, brought many black settlers to Nicodemus. Benjamin "Pap" Singelton promoted throughout the South, the establishment of all Black towns in Kansas. However, a group of Black men from Topeka established the The Nicodemus Town Company. The first group numbering around 30, came from Kentucky in September of 1877. Another group nearly 200, arrived the next spring. Another group of settlers arrived in 1878, also from Kentucky. Finally, in 1879 the last two groups arrived from Mississippi.

Nicodemus flourished for several years, during which time a strong commercial district was established, with hotels, a bank, law firms, physicians, blacksmiths, loan agents, livery stables, and a school. Also during this period Nicodemus organized a baseball team, a literary society, and a benefit society dedicated to assisting distressed residents of the community.

In 1887 when the Union Pacific and Missouri Pacific Railroads failed to extend their rails through Nicodemus, the beginning of the major decline of Nicodemus began. Little did they know that they decided the fate of Nicodemus, and it's ability to thrive was soon diminished.

However, in 1976, 99 years later, Nicodemus finally received recognition and consideration for it's unique position in the history of the great American Mid West. Designated as a National Historic Landmark, Nicodemus was given a renewed sense of hope in fulfilling the dream of economic and self sufficient freedom.

In April 1989 the Nicodemus Historical Society was established. We are currently taking steps to re-establish Nicodemus and its place in History, through historic preservation. Our major objective is to rebuild and preserve the existing historical structures on the townsite, collect and preserve the written, oral, and photographic history of Niocdemus. Finally we want to establish Nicodemus as a National Historic Site.

We appreciate your interest and welcome your donations and support.

The Nicodemus Historical Society
Rural Route #2, Box 139
Nicodemus, Kansas 67625
(913) 839-4280

STEPHEN P. KATZ
4515 Walnut Apt 210B
Kansas City, Missouri 64111
(816) 426-1001

Don

KANSAS CITY, MO
PM
24 MAY
1991

ALWAYS USE
ZIP CODE

Angela Bates
1015 Main, #8
Hill City, KS 67642

June 5, 1991

Never Sent

Jessie Jackson
Rainbow Coalition
110 Vermont Ave.
Washington, D.C., NW 20005

Dear Mr. Jackson:

I write to invite you to participate in our 113th Emancipation Celebration, July 26, 27, 28th. We hope that you will be able to attend at least one of those days. We would perfer saturday, July 27 if you can make it.

Nicodemus is the only all black town in Kansas, and one of the only two all black towns west of the Mississippi River. It was designated by the National Parks Service as a National Historic Landmark in 1976. We are currently appealing to our Kansas legislature to introduce a bill that will nominate Nicodemus to the National Historic Sites roster. If this happens government funds will be allocated to help rebuild and preserve one of our most precious and historically signifcant Afro American landmarks west of the Mississippi.

During our Emancipation Celebration we are hoping that you can give a speech on the significance and importance of reconnecting with our roots and the Afro American pioneers place in the history of this great United States.

We are a non-profit organization and we have only operational funds. We hope that you can provide us with your presence at this most historic event, with no charge. We know that may be asking alot, however, Nicodemus is a living testimony to great pioneer past and your presence would be most honorable.

Kansas University will be on the townsite filming a documentary and we would love to have you in it. The documentary is already scheduled to be shown on PBS stations across the nation next fall.

Please let us know if you can attend our event.

Sincerely,

Angela Bates

Angela Bates,
President

NICODEMUS BIKE TOUR PARTY

BRING: A FRIEND/TOUR PROSPECT(ABOUT 18 ALREADY SIGNED UP)
ALSO BRING: A SIDE DISH OR DRINKS
MAIN COURSE IS SMOKED TURKEY

MEET ANGELA BATES

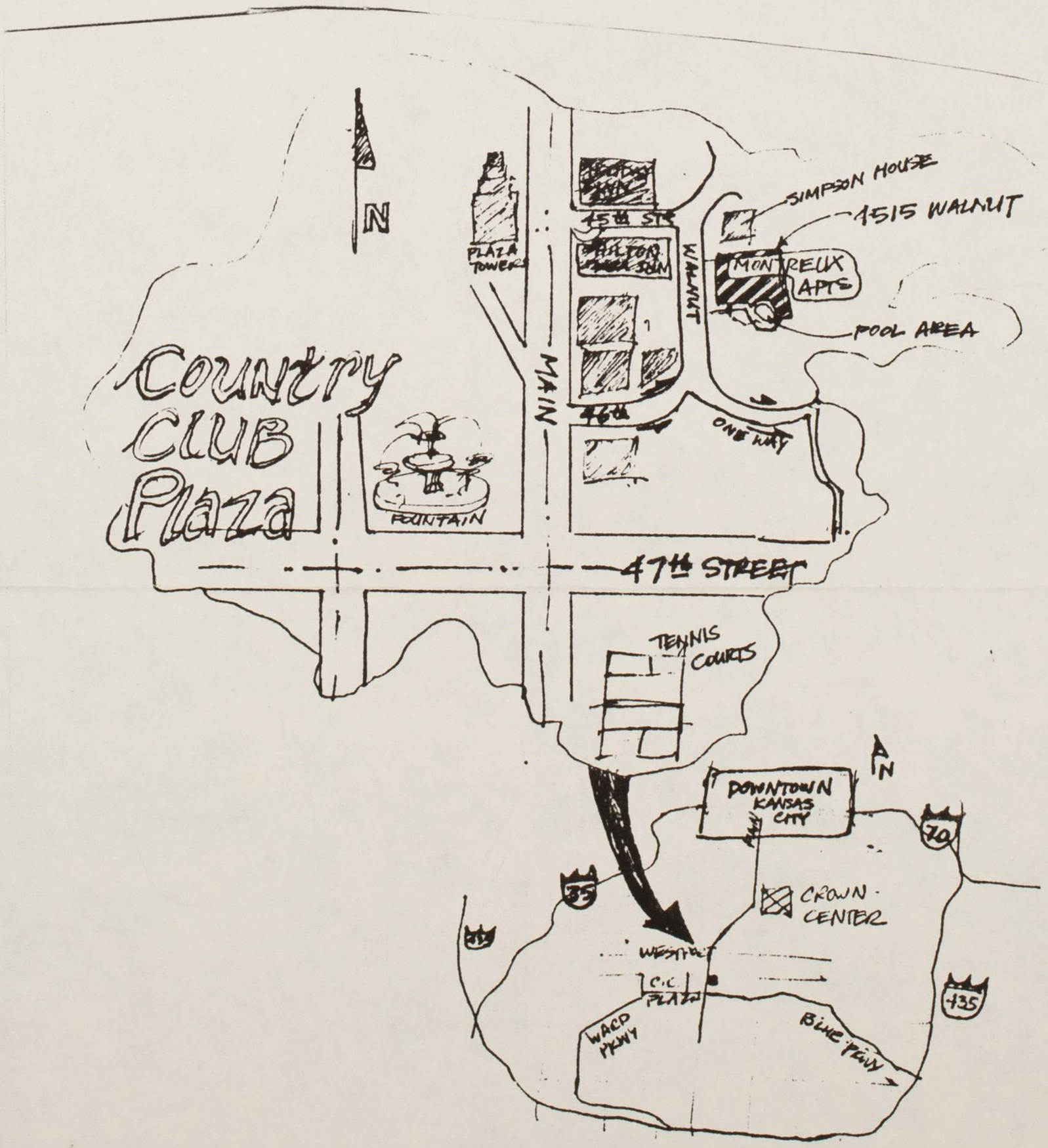
MS. BATES IS A DESCENDANT, A NATIVE, AND KEEPER OF THE HISTORY OF NICODEMUS. SHE WILL TELL US WHAT TO EXPECT WHILE IN "DEMUS" AND ON THE BIKE TOUR.

DATE: THIS FRIDAY NIGHT, JUNE 28

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

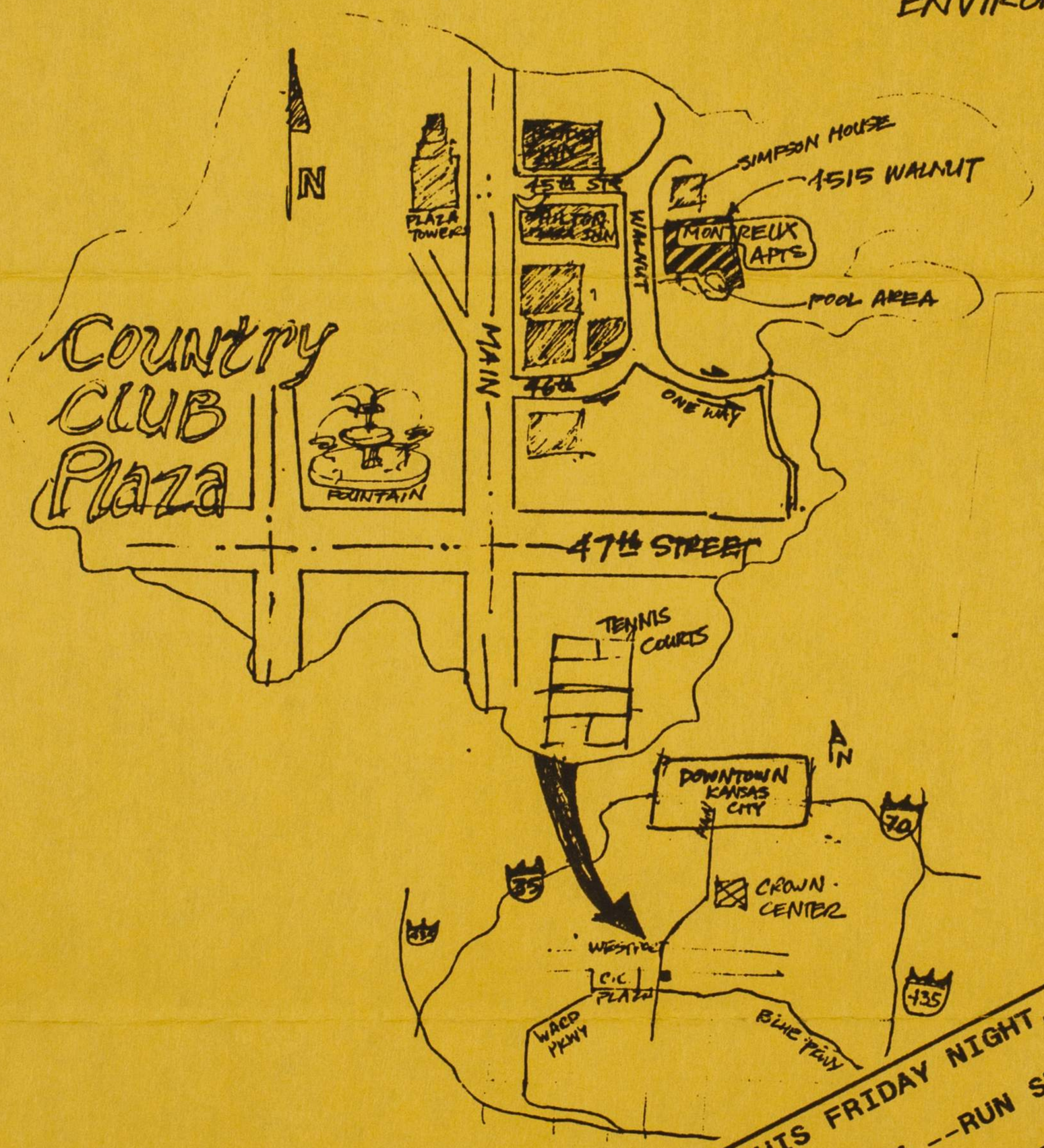
LOCATION: MONTREUX APTS--POOLSIDE CLUBHOUSE
4515 WALNUT -- COUNTRY CLUB PLAZA

R.S.V.P. STEVE KATZ 426-1001



FRIDAY NIGHT RUN

@ COUNTRY CLUB PLAZA
&
ENVIRONS



DATE: THIS FRIDAY NIGHT, JUNE 28

TIME: 6:00 P.M.--RUN STARTS PROMPTLY

LOCATION: MONTREUX APTS--POOLSIDE CLUBHOUSE
4515 WALNUT -- COUNTRY CLUB PLAZA

R.S.V.P. STEVE KATZ 426-1001
MIKE GARDIPE 531-1291

SHARE THIS INVITE WITH A WNR RUNNER

BRING: A SIDE DISH OR DRINKS
MAIN COURSE IS SMOKED TURKEY

STEVE KATZ
4515 WALNUT APT 210B
KANSAS CITY, MO 64111
(816)426-1001

KANSAS CITY, MO
PM
24 JUN
1991

29 USA Wood Duck
CONQUER CYSTIC FIBROSIS

Angela Bates
1015 MAIN #8
Hill City, KS 67642

STEPHEN P. KATZ
4515 Walnut Apt 210B
Kansas City, Missouri 64111
(816) 426-1001

July 1, 1991

Angela,

You were a big hit! Please distribute these bike notices to your friend in Lawrence and anywhere else.

We'll probably have several extra rooms at the Midwestern Motel in Stockton.

Keep me posted on the T-shirts.

Would you send me a copy of "The Promised Land"?

Give me some notice prior to your next trip to K.C.

Regards,

Steve

NICODEMUS BIKE ROSTER

KATZ, STEVE (2)
4515 Walnut 210B
KCMO 64111 (816)426-1001

KROTZINGER, DR. SUSAN
P.O. BOX 8296
PRAIRIE VILLAGE, KS 66208 (913)677-2621

HEIL, CAROL
Box 171072
Kansas City, KS 66117 (913) 371-0025

SOUTHWICK, DIANE/COTTER, SCOTT (2)
11310 W. 77 Place
Shawnee, KS 66214 (913) 268-4157

BAKER, NEIL (H)432-2154 (W)943-3981
6300 W 75TH
OVERLAND PARK, KS 66204

BLASER, MIKE (2)
9809 Belleview
Kansas City, MO 64114 (816)942-6040
(W) 997-5248
TIPTON, FRANK & Baerbel (2)
10327 Garnett
Overland Park, KS 66214 (913)599-5638

PRICE, STEVE (2)
4403 W 87th Place
Overland Park, KS 66207 (913) 649-8914

TALBOT, NATHAN (1)
13901 Falkirk Circle
Grandview, MO 64030 (w) 926-6620 (h) 761-5861

PHIL BROWN
4232 Brookridge Dr
Fairway, KS 66205 (H)677-1167 (W)556-0325

HOWARD KAYE (2)
5807 Howe Drive
Shawnee Mission, KS 66205 (H)913-722-1200 (W)932-9600

STEPHEN P. KATZ
4515 Walnut Apt 210B
Kansas City, Missouri 64111
(816) 426-1001

NICODEMUS BIKE TOUR -- JULY 26-28

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Boarding arrangements include a choice of motels, bed and breakfast, or camping. Space will be limited to about 30 cyclists. Contact Steve Katz (816-426-1001) for additional details and reservations

****

STEVE:
PLEASE RESERVE ____ PLACES ON THE NICODEMUS BIKE TOUR.
WE REQUIRE ____ MOTEL ROOM(S) FOR FRIDAY NIGHT.
WE PLAN TO DRIVE TO NICODEMUS ON FRIDAY_____
OR, WE NEED TO CARPOOL WITH SOMEONE _____

A SOCIAL GATHERING WITH A GUEST FROM NICODEMUS IS PLANNED IN K.C. SOMETIME PRIOR TO THE BIKE TOUR WEEKEND. IF YOU HAVE ANY NEEDS OR SUGGESTIONS, PLEASE LET ME KNOW. LIKE NICODEMUS, THIS TOUR IS A "FAMILY" AFFAIR.

Steve

STEVE KATZ

LIST

* MILK
* Sports 5/4/91

STEVE KATZ
4515 Walnut #2103
K.C. MO 64111

will be contacting you soon to set up

19 Riders from Morgan

"Gentlemen of Distinction"
Bachelors

- LEAVE KC — FRIDAY NITE
- Accommodations
  - "
  - "

"Bugle Tour
"Cyclist!"

*Bananas
*Cookies
*Orange slices
*Water
*Conversation!

Angela, 7-2-91

This is our new logo, and how I want it to be presented in our ad.

↑ Quality Foods
LOGAN Lockers, Logan Ks. 67646

Please run a coupon reading: Present this coupon for 10% off any purchase at Logan Lockers, or redeem it at our food booth during the celebration or buy 3 sandwiches get the Third one free.

Buy 3 Get One Free!!!

We will plan on
Setting up and Serving
Friday evening July 26th
and Sat. afternoon and eve-
ning 27th. I will be in
contact with you closer
to the date to get the
location and any other
information. We are going
to serve Bratwurst, Polish
Sausage, and Roast Beef
Sandwiches.

Thank You
Kevin J. Lenz

Logan Lockers

Custom Butchering — Curing
Processing — Locker Rentals
Kevin and Teresa Dunn, Owners

913-689-4288 "Service and Satisfaction" Logan, KS 67646

7-9-91

Angelia Bates
1015 Main St.
Hill City Ks. 67642

STEPHEN P. KATZ
4515 Walnut Apt 210B
Kansas City, Missouri 64111
(816) 426-1001

JULY 9, 1991

Dear Angela,

Received your letter yesterday. The book is fabulous!!! Enclosed is the check for $300.00 Love the layout for the bike shirts.

Enclosed is copy of the bike sign-up. You might want to get copies to Hays. Carol Heil from Kansas City by way of Hays is joining the tour.

At your convenience, send my several copies of the newsletter. The enclosed figurines brochures I saw in Leavenworth last weekend. It might be something you ultimately want to do for DEMUS.

Thanks for your follow-through. It's going to be a terrific homecoming.

Kindest personal regards,

Steve

NICODEMUS BIKE ROSTER

KATZ, STEVE (2)
4515 Walnut 210B
KCMO 64111 (816)426-1001
Leaving early Fri via Logan: can take cyclist & non-cyclist

HEIL, CAROL
Box 171072
Kansas City, KS 66117 (913) 371-0025
Joining tour from Hays

SOUTHWICK, DIANE/COTTER, SCOTT (2) ??????????
11310 W. 77 Place
Shawnee, KS 66214 (913) 268-4157

BAKER, NEIL (H)432-2154 (W)943-3981 Would like rider
6300 W 75TH
OVERLAND PARK, KS 66204

BAKER, ROBERT (H)888-2159 (W)339-4320 Room for 1 or 2 riders
10613 Reeder
Overland Park, KS 66214

BLASER, MIKE (2) ??????????
9809 Belleview
Kansas City, MO 64114 (816)942-6040
(W) 997-5248

TIPTON, FRANK & Baerbel (2) Room for riders????
10327 Garnett
Overland Park, KS 66214 (913)599-5638

PRICE, STEVE (2) ??????????
4403 W 87th Place
Overland Park, KS 66207 (913) 649-8914

TALBOT, NATHAN (1) Needs ride
13901 Falkirk Circle
Grandview, MO 64030 (w) 926-6620 (h) 761-5861

PHIL BROWN (1) Needs ride
4232 Brookridge Dr
Fairway, KS 66205 (H)677-1167 (W)556-0325

HOWARD KAYE (2) Needs ride or rider
5807 Howe Drive
Shawnee Mission, KS 66205 (H)913-722-1200 (W)932-9600

Jane Smeltzer (1) Needs ride
6727 W. 126 CT
Overland Park, KS 66209 (H)469-0842 (W)966-4000

Jim Megerson (1) ??????? Needs ride
7610 W 59 Terr
Roeland Park, KS 66205 (H) 677-1096

STEPHEN P. KATZ
4515 Walnut Apt 210B
Kansas City, Missouri 64111'
(816) 426-1001

NICODEMUS BIKE TOUR INSTRUCTIONS

THE NICODEMUS BIKE TOUR IS A REALITY!!!! ONLY TWO WEEKS FROM THIS SATURDAY.

WE CARPOOL FROM K.C. ON FRIDAY TO ARRIVE STOCKTON, KS 5-6 PM FRIDAY EVENING. SEE ENCLOSED MAP FOR VARIOUS ROUTES. IT'S PROBABLY A 5 HOUR DRIVE. IF ARRIVAL IS LATER, DRIVE DIRECTLY TO NICODEMUS FOR FRIDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES. SEE ENCLOSED ACTIVITY LIST.

WE WILL BE STAYING FRIDAY NIGHT AT THE MIDWESTERN MOTEL; 1401 E. MAIN IN STOCKTON, KS 67669 (913-425-6706) THE COST PER ROOM IS LESS THAN $25.00. SPECIFY TO ME DOUBLE OR SINGLE. AT THIS POINT WE HAVE THE ENTIRE MOTEL OF 15 ROOMS. ROOMS IN THE ENTIRE AREA ARE AT A PREMIUM.

ROSTER REVIEW THE ENCLOSED ROSTER AND MAKE YOUR OWN CARPOOL PLANS. IF YOU NEED HELP, CALL ME AT 426-1001. THIS ROSTER INDICATES ABOUT 16-18 CYCLISTS BUT THERE WILL BE ADDITIONAL PEOPLE FROM HAYS AND NICODEMUS ON THE BIKE TOUR.

BIKE TOUR EARLY SATURDAY MORNING WE'LL DEPART STOCKTON AND DRIVE 23 MILES WEST TO NICODEMUS. IT'S PLANNED THAT WE'LL TRY TO LEAVE DEMUS BY 7:00 AM RETRACING OUR STEPS TO STOCKTON, THE LONGEST LEG OF THE TOUR. A MAP OF THE BIKE TOUR IS ENCLOSED. EACH TOWN WILL BE A REGROUP AREA FOR PICTURES AND FOOD/DRINK. WE'LL HAVE A COUPLE OF SAG CARS ON THE ROUTE BUT NO CAPABILITY FOR MAJOR BIKE REPAIRS. WE ARE SCHEDULED TO RETURN TO DEMUS BY 1:00-1:30 FOR A BBQ. THE SECOND HALF OF THE BIKE TOUR FROM PLAINVILLE TO DEMUS IS BASICALLY DOWNWIND AND DOWNHILL.

TOUR COSTS BELIEVE IT OR NOT YOUR ONLY EXPENSE OTHER THAN THE MOTEL($25.00) AND CAR EXPENSE, IS A $15.00 REGISTRATION FEE WHICH COVERS THE BBQ AND A COMMEMORATIVE T-SHIRT. I HAVE PERSONALLY ADVANCED $15.00 PER PERSON TO ANGELA BATES OF NICODEMUS SO REIMBURSE ME.

DEMUS HISTORICAL BACKGROUND A ONE HOUR DOCUMENTARY WILL BE IN THE FINAL STAGES OF SHOOTING WHILE WE'RE IN DEMUS. WE WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE FILMING, SO SMILE ALL THE TIME. FOR ANYONE INTERESTED IN LEARNING EVERYTHING THERE IS TO KNOW ABOUT NICODEMUS AND WHY IT'S SO IMPORTANT, I HAVE AVAILABLE ONE COPY OF THE U.S. DEPT OF INTERIOR'S 133 PG BOOK, "PROMISED LAND ON THE SOLOMON: BLACK SETTLEMENT AT NICODEMUS".

YOU NEED TO DO THE FOLLOWING:

1) CONFIRM TO ME THAT YOU'RE DEFINITELY GOING AND HOW MANY AND SPECIFY SINGLE OR DOUBLE ROOM
2) MAKE CARPOOL ARRANGEMENTS
3) SEND ME A CHECK FOR $15.00 PER PERSON
4) WE STILL HAVE ABOUT FIVE(5) ROOM LEFT; SPREAD THE WORD

1922 5th Avenue
Leavenworth, KS 66048
February 6, 1994

Ms. Angelia Bates
Nicodemus Historical Society
R. R. #2, Box 139
Bogue', KS 67625

Dear Ms. Bates:

I am writing concerning the upcoming celebration in Nicodemus this year. I have heard from several sources that it would be worth my while to come to Nicodemus this year and participate in the festivities.

Would you please send me any information concerning when the festivities will be held. I would also be interested in hotel/motel accommodation, since I will probably stay for a few days.

Thank you very much for you time and I will look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,
Pat Bloodworth

Pat Bloodworth
1922 5th Ave
Leavenworth KS 66048-3731

KANSAS CITY MO 641
PM
7 FEB
1994

The White House
1792
1992
29 USA

Ms. Angelia Bates
Nicodemus Historical Society
R.R. #2, Box 139
Bogue, KS 67625

March 29, 1994

James Madison
1944 E. 72nd
Kansas City, MO 64132

Dear James:

On behalf of the Nicodemus Historical Society and the Nicodemus Homecoming Committee we cordially invite you and your members to Nicodemus for the 116th Annual Emancipation Celebration. (July 29, 30, 31)

We will try and coordinate activities that include the history of the buffalo soldiers and would like your participation. We hope that you can bring your items to sell and be present to answer questions and tell stories, etc. for all the visitors. We are planning a successful 3 day event. We can reserve rooms for your group, however, there is no money to pay your fees. We are sure that with the sell of promotional items it will be well worth you while.

Sincerely,

Angela Bates,
President

Jerry Martin
President
321 S. Saginaw Road
Midland, Michigan 48640
(517) 792-3336

Frank Ocasio
Executive Secretary
UAW Local 1112
11471 Ruether Drive
Warren, Ohio 44481
(216) 538-2213

Charles W. "Bill" Black
Treasurer
755 Shelley Drive
Batavia, Ohio 45103
(513) 732-0711

Brenda Ward
Recording Secretary
2307 Embury Park Road
Dayton, Ohio 45414-5599
(513) 275-7471

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Medina, Ohio 44256
(216) 267-9900

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Chicago, Illinois 60604
(312) 987-0987

INDIANA
DONNA GOLDBAR
3640 Southwest-R
Richmond, Indiana 47374
(317) 983-9443

IOWA
LANCE COLES
1118 E. University
Des Moines, Iowa 50316
(515) 285-7371

KANSAS
WILLIAM J. McNEAL
500 Kindelberger Road
Kansas City, Kansas 58115
(913) 342-7330

KENTUCKY
GEORGE BOYD
824 Second Street
Louisville, Kentucky 40203
(502) 587-1557

MICHIGAN
LEONARD BALLOSH
6190 Birchview Drive
Saginaw, Michigan 48603
(517) 781-3749

MINNESOTA
RICK PALMER
2600 Eagan Woods Drive
Suite 220
St. Paul, Minnesota 55121
(612) 688-2640 Ext. 116

MISSOURI
CARY W. GREEN
212 Utz Lane
Hazelwood, Missouri 63042
(314) 731-0603

OHIO
JERRY RHOADES
4140 E. Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43213
(614) 236-8065

TENNESSEE
BUTCH DEARMON
RR #1 Box 154-A
Gordonsville, Tennessee 38563
(615) 735-2956

WISCONSIN
CAROLE CASAMENTO
633 S. Hawley Road
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53214
(414) 771-7070

April 15, 1994

Nicodemus Historical Society
RR 2 Box 139
Bogue, KS 67625

Dear Sir or Madam:

I would like to get some current information on the celebration in Nicodemus for 1994.

There are a number of people from Kansas City who would like to attend.

Please address all correspondence to me at the following address:

William J. McNeal
500 Kindleberger Road
Kansas City, KS 66115

I'm looking forward to hearing from you.

Yours truly,

William J. McNeal

William J. McNeal, Editor
UAW Local #31 NEWSLINE

WJMjm/opeiu 320

Sent 4/25/94

U.A.W. LOCAL 31
500 Kindelberger Road
Kansas City, Kansas 66115

32

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Nicodemus Histoircal Society
RR 2 Box 139
Bogue, KS 67625

May 28, 1994

Congressional Black Caucus
Washington, D.C.

Attn: Kevin Parker

I write to formally request the presence of a member from the Congressional Black Caucus at the 116th Emancipation Celebration in Nicodemus, Kansas on Saturday, July 30, 1994.

We are currently under congressional legislative nomination for National Park status and feel that with our proposed National Park status that there should be some congressional representation at our Celebration in July. We are expecting Jerry Belson, African American superintendent of Yosemite National Park and former Superintendent at Martin Luther King National Site, as one of the guest speakers. We are also expecting Senators Dole and or Kassabaum, from Kansas.

Nicodemus is an all African American town, the only one still in existence today west of the Mississippi River that represents the African American experience in the western frontier during the 1870's. It is an all African American pioneer town.

For a copy of the Feasibility Study that was completed by the National Park Service, please contact Senator Dole's office of Sandra Washington, National Park Service regional office in Omaha, Nebraska.

Please let us know who can come and represent the Congressional Black Caucus.

I look forward to hearing from you soon. I will follow up this fax with a hard copy and additional information that will be mailed to you.

Sincerely,

Angela Bates,
President

May 28, 1994

Jerry Belson
46390 Riverview Pl.
Oakhust, CA 93644

Dear Jerry:

It was a pleasure talking with you the other day. I write to formally request your presence at our 116th Emancipation Celebration in Nicodemus, Kansas on Saturday, July 30th.

Enclosed is some information about Nicodemus and our efforts. Please call if you have any questions.

You will need to Fly into Hays, Kansas via Denver, Colorado and then rent a car to drive over to Nicodemus, which is about an hour northwest. If you plan to spend the night, I advise that you stay at the Holiday Inn in Hays. We apologize for not being able to providing transportation and accommodations, however, we have little to no operational money. We will provide you with all the food that you can eat and can guarantee that you will not taste Bar-b-que like we cook it here in Nicodemus.

We sure hope that you can come. Hoping to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

Angela Bates,
President

IMPORTANT MESSAGE

FOR _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ A.M. P.M.

M _____

OF YES - TENATIVELY

PHONE _____
AREA CODE NUMBER EXTENSION

❑ FAX

❑ MOBILE _____
AREA CODE NUMBER TIME TO CALL

TELEPHONED		PLEASE CALL	
CAME TO SEE YOU		WILL CALL AGAIN	
WANTS TO SEE YOU		RUSH	
RETURNED YOUR CALL		SPECIAL ATTENTION	

MESSAGE

Jerry Belson
46390 Riverview Pl.
Oakhurst, CA.
93644.
(209) 683-3097

SIGNED

TOPS FORM 3002S
LITHO IN U.S.A.

June 27, 1994

Bill Jackson, Superintendent
George Washington Carver
National Monument
P.O. Box 38
Diamond, Missouri 64840

Dear Bill:

Per our conversation I write to officially request your presence at the 116th Annual Emancipation Celebration in historic Nicodemus, Kansas on Saturday, July 30, 1994. We would like for you to be our major speaker for the after noon program starting around noon. We would like for you about what it is like to be a superintendent at an African American site, pros and cons.

As I stated legislation is current being introduced to Congress to nominate Nicodemus for National Historic Site status. Nicodemus, this all African American town represents the African American Pioneer experience in the West.

We look forward to you on Saturday July 30th.

Please let me know the details of your travel itinerary. As we stated before we do not have funding and hope that the Department of Interior will permit you to attend at their expense, like they have several others over the past three years.

Sincerely,

Angela Bates
President

NOTES

Fr - Warnock
Yosemite Nat. Park
209 - 372-0204

MLK - Sup
Town of Lissanore
404 - 331-5190

* Bill Jackson, Supervisor
417 - 325 - 4151
Superv. of Dr. Carves
(etc. map)
G. W. Carved Natural
Mount.
P.O. Box 38
Diamond Museum
64840

IMPORTANT MESSAGE

FOR _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ A.M. P.M.

M 213 code for Answering

OF _____

PHONE (419) 589-4273
AREA CODE NUMBER EXTENSION

☐ FAX

☐ MOBILE _____
AREA CODE NUMBER TIME TO CALL

TELEPHONED		PLEASE CALL	
CAME TO SEE YOU		WILL CALL AGAIN	
WANTS TO SEE YOU		RUSH	
RETURNED YOUR CALL		SPECIAL ATTENTION	

Larry Darwin Harvel 839-4480

MESSAGE

(606) 863-4165 Emma
(606) 299-3794 Hadie

SIGNED

TOPS FORM 3002S
LITHO IN U.S.A.

June 27, 1994

Paul MacDonald Chevrolet Mazda
2917 Vine
Hays, Kansas 67601

Dear Mr. MacDonald:

Please consider placing an ad in our 116th Annual Emancipation Celebration Program. We would like for your organization to purchase a full page ad for $100.00. Support us in our efforts to become a National Park. Legislation is currently before Congress. With the proposed legislation before congress, we are expecting record attendence.

Thank You,

Angela Bates,
President

KANSAS
Travel & Tourism
700 SW Harrison, Suite 1300
Topeka, KS 66603-3712
913–296–2009
FAX: 913–296–6988

Dear Kansas Community:

Kansas Travel and Tourism has contracted with Burrelle's Clipping Service to survey national travel publications and newpapers for Kansas travel articles. Your community/attraction was featured in the attached article! See the publication name indicated.

Bob Knight
Secretary

Department of Commerce & Housing

Joan Finney
Governor

STAR TRIBUNE

MINNEAPOLIS, MN
SUNDAY 687,027

JUL 17 1994

BURRELLE'S

380 KH

Quick trips/

1970

Illinois

■ **Sheffield Garden Walk and Festival** July 23-24 in Chicago. (312) 929-9255.

■ **Oz Park Festival** Aug. 5-7 in Chicago. (312) 880-5200.

■ **Blacklight Film Festival** July 27-Aug. 10 in Chicago. (312) 443-3733.

Iowa

■ **Iowa Storytelling Festival** July 29-30 in Clear Lake. (515) 357-6133.

■ **Nordic Fest** July 29-31 in Decorah. (800) 382-3378.

■ **Backbone Bluegrass Music Festival** July 29-31 in Strawberry Point. (319) 933-6512.

Kansas

■ **Emancipation Homecoming Celebration** July 29-31 in Nicodemus. (913) 674-3311.

Minnesota

■ **Festag Festival** July 19-20 in Minnesota Lake. (507) 462-3424 or 462-3273.

■ **Cruisin' in '94** July 23-24 in Duluth. '60s festival. (800) 438-5884 or (218) 722-4011.

■ **Riverboat Heritage Day** July 22-24 in Aitkin. (800) 526-8342 or (218) 927-2316.

Nebraska

■ **Summer Solstice Festival** July 30-31 in Alliance. (308) 762-4110.

North Dakota

■ **Forx Fest** July 30 in Grand Forks. (701) 772-3152.

■ **Historic Walking Drama** July 23-24 in Mandan. (701) 663-1464.

■ **Fiddlefest** July 23-24 in Bismarck. (800) 767-3555.

South Dakota

■ **Lode Star Celebration** July 28-30 in Fort Thompson. 245-6000.

■ **Days of '76** Aug. 5-7 in Deadwood. (605) 578-1876.

Wisconsin

■ **Country Jam USA Festival** July 21-24 in Eau Claire. (800) 669-5266.

■ **St. Spyridon Greek Festival** July 23-24 in Sheboygan. (414) 452-2589.

■ **Polk County Lakes Fair** July 23 in Balsam Lake. (715) 485-3725.

— **Colleen Coles**

1996 Nicodemus Homecoming Committee, P.O. Box 97, Bogue KS 67625
Chairperson: Kim Thomas 913 425-7004
Co-Chairperson: Debra Alexander-Wilson 913 674-5639
Treasurer: Freddie Switizer 913 839-4469
Sargeant of Arms: Ernestine VanDuVall 913 839-4287

Broadcasting P&A

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NICODEMUS KANSAS

The Nicodemus Homecoming Committee is seeking vendors for July 26-28, 1996 Homecoming Celebration. We will have many activities for this years celebration and vendors are needed for a food faire, arts, and crafts. Tables and chairs will be provide per request, and the committee is asking for donations.

Come join us and attend this historic event the 118th Nicodemus Homecoming Celebration!!! Call now for a vendor application dead-line July 12, 1996 and ask for Debra 913 674-5639.

If, anyone would like to volunteer or contribute by lending or leasing or sponsoring any items, please do. We need, Picnic Tables, Benches, Additional Table and Chairs, plus plenty of volunteers. Any sponsorship for additional lighting on the townsite would be welcomed. Please contact us right-way !

#####

Sincerely yours,

Nicodemus Homecoming Committee

Buffalo [redacted]
Soldiers' Association
10th Calvary
Barrie Tompkins

NICODEMUS HOMECOMING COMMITTEE
P.O. Box 97
Bogue, Kansas 67625
913 674-5639/or 913 425-7004

VENDORS AGREEMENT:

Name:_____

Address:_____

City:_____State_____Zip_____

Phone:_____

Organization/or Company:_____
Contact Person (If other than yourself)_____

Items Being Sold:_____
_____
_____
_____

Do you need an electric outlet?_____If yes, R.E.A. charges $35.00 per outlet, and checks must be made out in advance to R.E.A., D-line 7-12-96.
Do you need a permit to sell your items?_____If yes, you will need to provide a copy of the permit for the Committee's records.
Do you need insurance to run your stand?_____If yes, you will need to provide a copy of the insurance for the Committee's records.

Waiver: Please read and sign here_____
I (We) release the Nicodemus Township and all of its residents and representatives from any responsibility connected with the vending stand during the Homecoming Celebration 1996. I(We) assume all responsibility for any damages, accidents, etc., that may result of my vending stand.
I guarantee that I am following all health and safety codes for my stand and that all perishables are fresh and all other goods are safe and appropriate for customers. I am responsible for any lost or stolen items and will not hold the Nicodmeus Township, Nicodemus Homecoming Committee or any of its residents or representatives responsible.

Nicodemus Historical Society
Angela Bates

NICODEMUS HOMECOMING COMMITTEE
P.O. Box 97
Bogue, Kansas 67625
913 674-5639/or 913 425-7004

VENDORS AGREEMENT:

Name:_____

Address:_____

City:_____State_____Zip_____

Phone:_____

Organization/or Company:_____
Contact Person (If other than yourself)_____

Items Being Sold:_____
_____
_____
_____

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Nicodemus Group Line.
Angela Bates

NICODEMUS HOMECOMING COMMITTEE
P.O. Box 97
Bogue, Kansas 67625
913 674-5639/or 913 425-7004

VENDORS AGREEMENT:

Name:_____

Address:_____

City:_____State_____Zip_____

Phone:_____

Organization/or Company:_____
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_____
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_____

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Nicodemus Black Smith Co.
Barrie Tompkins

NICODEMUS HOMECOMING COMMITTEE

P.O. Box 97
Bogue, Kansas 67625
913 674-5639/or 913 425-7004

VENDORS AGREEMENT:

Name:_____

Address:_____

City:_____State_____Zip_____

Phone:_____

Organization/or Company:_____
Contact Person (If other than yourself)_____

Items Being Sold:_____
_____
_____
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Academia Homecoming Committee
Mrs. W. Alexander-Wilson
P.O. Box 97
Bogue, KS 67625

Mr. & Mrs. Barrie Tompkins
907 Hummingbird Rd.
Bogue, KS 67625

DATE 2 may

Dear Program Chair:

Jimmy is honored that you requested his presentation. Unfortunately he will be at school during this time.

Sincerely
L. Creighton
Mom.

The Nicodemus Historical Society
R.R.#2 Box 139 o Bogue o Kansas 67625
(913) 674-3311

Dear: Jimmy

As the Program Chair for this year's Homecoming (July 26-28) I am requesting that, in keeping with the theme "Unity in the Community", you be on the program to talk about what Nicodemus means to you. The program will be a presentation of individuals making 3-5 minute exerpts about their experiences in Nicodemus. We want to share with all of those that will be in attendance what Nicodemus means to us personally, and/or recount experiences that you have had here that has made a difference in your life.

Please let me know as soon as possible if you will attend and present.

Yes_____ No____

Thank You - Hope to see you there!

Patsy Creighton
1469 Kingman St
Leavenworth, KS 66048

KANSAS CITY, MO
PM
04 MAY
1996

The Nicodemus Historical Society
R.R. #2 Box 139
Bogue, Kansas 67625

The Nicodemus Historical Society
R.R.#2 Box 139 Bogue, Kansas 67625
(913) 839-4280 o Nonprofit Tax ID #: 93-1012167

June 17, 1998

Angela Oh
President's Invitiative on Race
601 W. 5th St., 12th Fl
Los Angeles, CA 90071-2025

Dear Ms. Oh:

On behalf of the **National Park Service, residents of Nicodemus, Kansas, the 1998 - 120th Emancipation Celebration Committee, and The Nicodemus Historical Society** we request your presence on **August 1, 1998, 1:00 PM** for the **official dedication of Nicodemus as a National Site.**
On November 12, 1996 President Clinton signed into law **Nicodemus National Historic Site** - the **ONLY REMAINING ALL AFRICAN AMERICAN TOWN** west of the Mississippi. It is an 'OLD WEST' town and is the only National Park/Site that **exemplifies the African American experience in the West.**

The dedication of Nicodemus National Site is a long sought after achievement that all Americans and the world can look to as a monument of African American self determination, autonomy and community continuity in spite of all the social, political, economic, physical and environmental obstacles.

Please let us know if your troop can attend.

Sincerely,

Angela Bates-Tompkins
President

RE: Invite other Black Towns here

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Fort Larned National Historic Site
Nicodemus National Historic Site
Route 3, Box 69
Larned, Kansas 67550-9321

IN REPLY REFER TO:

November 1, 2004

A8215 (NICO)

Angela - see next page
Buxton Canada
Blk Towns

Nicodemus Homecoming Committee
Fred and Ivalee Switzer, Chairpersons
517 Adams Street
Nicodemus, Kansas 67625

Dear Members of the Nicodemus Homecoming Committee:

Nicodemus National Historic Site is considering a few ideas (all in the planning stages at this time) that could impact the Homecoming event in small ways. We wanted to notify you early so you would have time to consider and respond to these ideas.

1) One of the activities that the National Park Service will be sponsoring over the Homecoming weekend is an intensive visitor survey program. In past years we have handed out a simple survey card at the bookstore desk, that visitors may fill out to rate our performance and the services we provide. However, this year, we have funding to conduct a more extensive survey. National Park Service staff (from another office) will be handing out more in-depth surveys to visitors in a location outside the Township Hall. This survey should provide helpful information that we will share with the Township Board and to the County; the survey will include questions about desired services (hotels, restaurants, etc.) in or near town. We will need to discuss obtaining a booth space for use by the survey crew during Homecoming, located either near the Hall or in the Township Park. We ask that you consider this request during your planning.

2) As many of you have heard, we are also beginning a process to develop a long-range interpretative plan for Nicodemus National Historic Site. That process needs to include a few public meetings, so residents and descendents have an opportunity to provide ideas and express concerns about the way we interpret the history of Nicodemus. Because we would like as many descendents as possible to participate, we were wondering if we could sponsor a public meeting on Friday morning, July 29, 2005. We would have to use the Township Hall, but the physical set-up would be the same as for the Committee's program on Saturday, so there will not be much interference from that aspect. However, we certainly do not want to interfere with any activities the Committee is planning.

3) Finally, we are thinking of sponsoring an "exchange program" of sorts, where we would sponsor a visit by representatives from other African American sites to Nicodemus during Homecoming, and then representatives from Nicodemus would reciprocate the visit at a later date. For example, Buxton National Historic Site in North Buxton, Ontario, Canada is a community whose history and physical layout is very similar to Nicodemus. Slaves fleeing oppression in the United States prior to the Civil War founded the community and Buxton has a homecoming celebration over the Labor Day weekend. The federal government of Canada designated the town as a national historic site. Other communities that may be appropriate to invite would include Langston and Boley (Okalahoma) or Allensworth (California). It may also be desirable to invite representatives from the new Freedom Center in Cincinnati, Ohio and from the planned National Museum of African American History and Culture (Washington, D.C.). We will need a grant to finance this networking effort, so we will begin the application process in the near future. Because the grant is not secured, the "exchange program" may not happen. But, one option that we would like to discuss with the Homecoming Committee would be to have these representatives provide an overview of each of their sites or organizations as the program on Saturday afternoon that the National Park Service usually provides. As I mentioned, we are just beginning to explore this idea and would like to have your reaction and input on how or whether you think this is a desirable idea.

As always, we will reduce the impact of our presence in the Township Hall and will assist you by providing extra dumpsters and porta-potties for the weekend. Please call me at 785-839-4321 or visit me at our office (Apartment 4B, 510 Washington Avenue, Nicodemus) if you have any questions or concerns. I look forward to meeting with you as the Homecoming Committee begins planning for the 2005 celebration!

Sincerely,

Sherda K. Williams, Superintendent
Nicodemus National Historic Site

Cc: Superintendent, Fort Larned (NICO Files)
Executive Director, Nicodemus Historical Society
Interim Executive Director, Kansas State Historical Society
Superintendent, Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site

Angela would NHS be interesting in collaborating on this grant?
Sherda

From: 'Dowdell' <dowdell@ruraltel.net>
To: 'Gil Alexander' <alexander@ruraltel.net>, 'A ...
Subject: Homecoming 2006

Sent: Thu Sep 8 11:56
Priority: High

Hey,
Trying to get organized for the meeting on Saturday. HELP!! What have I gotten myself into!! :>) Anyhow, since this was YOUR idea that the board steps to the top, would one of you make the motion to have that happen. It seems to be the consensus that there still needs to be a 'chairperson'. I will take that spot, if you all agree. If so, I suggest that you make that part of the motion. Or if one of you wants that position or has a better idea, PLEASE speak up. Should we 'elect' the other two positions – treasurer and secretary? Or could I just appoint those positions? I would suggest that Dot retain the treasurer position with help from Esther (financial secretary) so we can have reports as needed. I would suggest/ask Yvonne or ? to be secretary. I am also working on the committee list that you saw earlier. I have made a couple of changes and added the Miss Nicodemus pageant (Chitteria & Yvette) and the children's activities (Debra – if she will do it). Oh yeah by the way, I put Gil and Angie as the Vendor/Electricity/medical ctr. Committee. OK? Thanks!! :>) I moved Tom off the donations and put him on security/parking/blockades/gate security with Gary. I will expand the committee list to include spreading out the different stuff we talked about last week to the appropriate people. I will send you that document later. As always, open to suggestions….thanks..sharyn

From: 'Dowdell' <dowdell@ruraltel.net> - Homecoming 2006

Homecoming

From: Sherda_Williams@nps.gov **Sent:** Tue Oct 4 15:56
To: dowdell@ruraltel.net, angela@ruraltel.net **Priority:** Normal
Subject:

FYI,
Here are some ideas on future Homecoming speakers to keep in mind. I had asked a friend at Bowling Green, KY for a reference on Dr. Carleton Jackson (guy who spoke on Hattie McDaniel this year) and she also provided a few other names we might consider down the road. Sherda

----- Forwarded by Sherda Williams/NICO/NPS on 10/04/2005 03:53 PM -----
----- Forwarded by Sherda Williams/NICO/NPS on 03/21/2005 09:00 AM -----

Evanstar86@aol.co
m To: Sherda_Williams@nps.gov
cc:
03/16/2005 01:17 Subject: speaker, thumbs up w/ ?
PM EST

Hello Sherda of the High Plains:

I asked around about Prof. Jackson. I got positive responses w/ one question-what will he talk about? He is likable, has the ability to speak to nonacademic audiences, is on optional retirement, has longish hair, shuns suits and ties. His wife supposedly put him thru college by working in a hosiery mill. He finished a book for Zane Gray and wrote about Hattie McDaniels. He writes so that his manuscripts are accessible to many folks, not a selected few of academics. So what would you have him talk about at the homecoming at NICO?

Three more thoughts-alternatives that you may have already considered...

1. Jim Horton at Geo Washington U. Is a big buddy of Dwight Pithcaithly, wrote a nonacademic coffee table book that was popular in mid to late 90s on blacks in Am. Has been on TV many times. He would be good and loves the spotlight. Just remember that the cause of the Civil War was slavery. He is African Am. He has spoken at several NPS venues.

2. John Long, Prof of Religion, head of Dept., here at Western. Good speaker, popular, is currently researching to find out if any of the early slaves were Muslims. Was a minister or organizer in the 60s in Detroit. Wants equitable housing for low income folks in BG. Heard him speak at the Unitarians and he was interesting. I don't know him personally but he gets a good review from various sources. He is African Am. John.Long@wku.edu He is a serious dude whereas there is a light hearted ness that comes thru w/ Horton. I know Horton much better because I had him for 2 social history classes.

3. More expensive. A man named Hasan Davis portrays an African Am solider during the C. War. He has done lots of Chataqua appearances in KY and is quite good. Also portrays York, the slave who went along the Lewis and Clark expedition. He lives in Louisville and works w/ troubled kids. Could find out contact info.

That's the news! Hope something helps. Gotta prep for a talk I'm giving tomorrow at a historic house museum on Irish cottage architecture. Happy St

Pat's Eileen

Homecoming

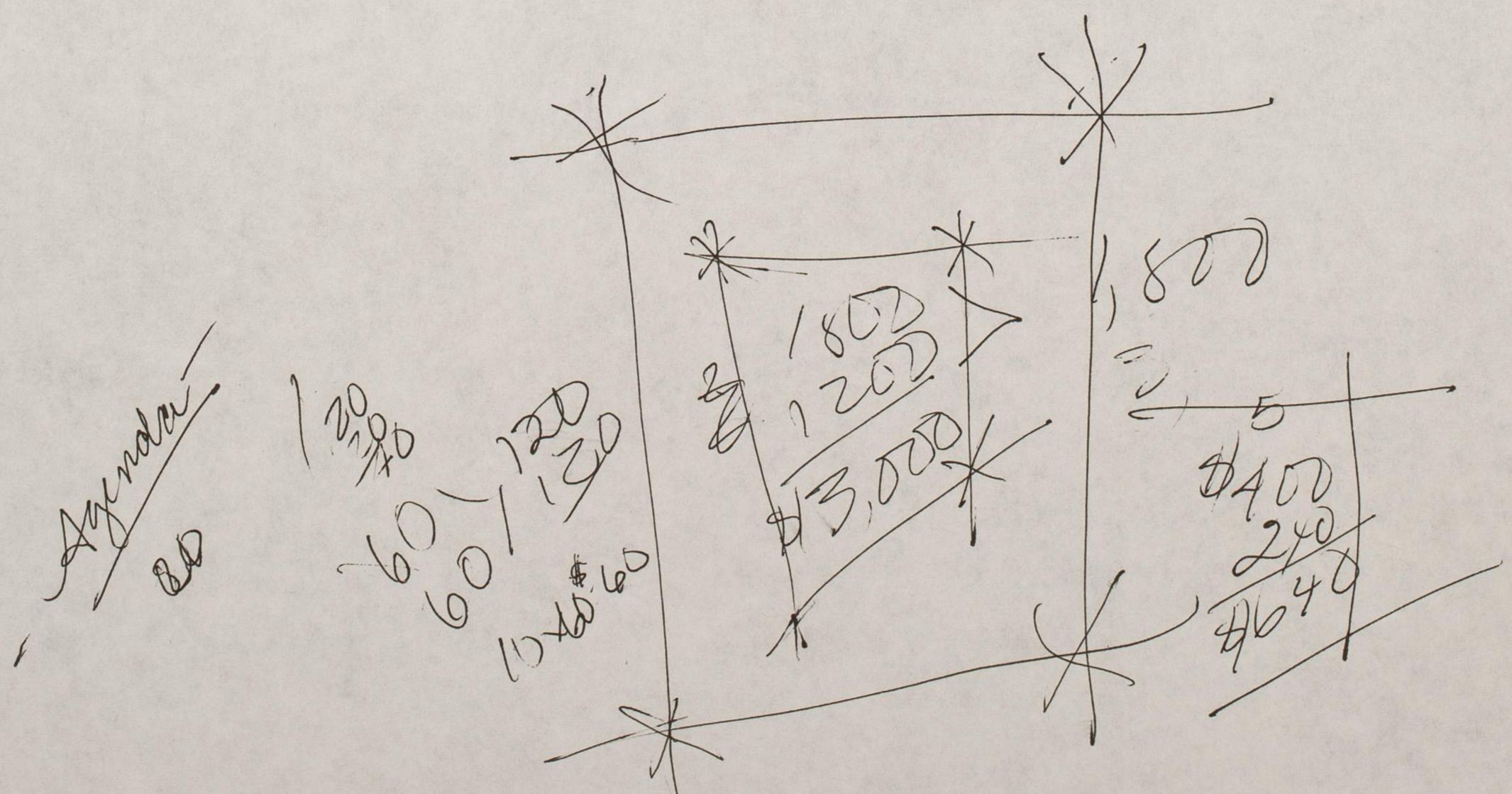
From: 'Dowdell' <dowdell@ruraltel.net>
To: 'Thomas Wellington' <wellington_thomas@hotmail. ...
Subject:

Sent: Thu Oct 6 9:14
Priority: Normal

Hi all,
Just another reminder that our October meeting is scheduled for 11am on Saturday at the Villa. Hope to see many of you there. **Also a reminder that I need a written report from each committee chairperson, please.** I think requesting a report each month will help keep everyone focused on their responsibilities and how important it is to keep working toward our goals. We as a people have a tendency to wait until the last possible moment to start working on projects! And through years of practice, we have gotten pretty good at it!! :>) But with the awesome group of people we have assembled to work on this, we have no excuse for not having the best ever Homecoming in 2006 and beyond. Ok, end of today's pep talk! Looking to hear from you.....sharyn
PS Please pass this on to anyone you think of who might be interested. Thanks.....

AGENDA OCTOBER MEETING.doc 21.5 kb

From: 'Dowdell' <dowdell@ruraltel.net> -



From: Sherda_Williams@nps.gov
To: angela@ruraltel.net
Subject: draft letter

Sent: Thu Oct 6 16:09
Priority: Normal

Angela,
At the Homecoming meeting, I'll let you decide if you want to pass this draft invitation around or not. (Haven't started on letter to Stanton and others, but indicated approach). Guess I will need to know how Committee/partners want to be listed or if they want to create a separate letter to attach. I think it's very important the letters go together, so doesn't create confusion and impression we're not on same page. However, when I asked about us attaching a letter to something the HC committee sends out, that was vetoed, as there are strong prohibitions against us "endorsing" things (people, services, fund-raising, etc.). While this situation is fairly benign, our regional specialist felt the primary letter should be from us.

However, would you review and see what changes you recommend?

(See attached file: Letter to Congressional Delegation 10-05.doc)

Maybe we can get together week of Oct. 17th to finish this up?

Sherda

Sherda K. Williams, Superintendent
Nicodemus National Historic Site
510 Washington AVE, Apt. 4B
Nicodemus, KS 67625

Office: 785-839-4321 phone / -4325 fax
Visitor Center: 785-839-4233 phone/ -4323 fax
Email: Sherda_Williams@nps.gov
Website: http://www.nps.gov/nico

Letter to Congressional Delegation 10-05.doc 37.5 kb

From: Sherda_Williams@nps.gov - draft letter

November 1, 2005

Ms. Angela Bates-Tompkins
Nicodemus Historical Society
Bogue, Kansas 67625

Dear Ms. Tompkins:

The Nicodemus, Kansas Homecoming Celebration will begin on Thursday, July 27 and continue until July 30, 2006. This celebration is the Tenth Year Anniversary designation as a National Historical Site and its 128th Year Homecoming event.

The Nicodemus Homecoming Parade Committee is extending an invitation to the Nicodemus Historical Society to be a participant in the parade to be held on Saturday, July 29, 2006, at 11:00 a.m. in Nicodemus, Kansas.

When we receive your response back indicating that you are interested in being a participant in the parade, we will send to you a parade entry form requesting the following information:

a. Name/Address
b. Telephone Number and/or e:mail address
c. Type of Parade Entry:
d. Number of Participants for the Entry:
e. Accommodations Requested:

Please respond to the above request no later than December 31, 2005. If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me at 816-363-1037 or write to me at 8024 Holmes Road, Kansas City, Missouri 64131.

Thank you and we look forward to seeing you in July 2006.

Sincerely,

Carol Alexander

Carol Alexander
Chair
Parade Committee

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Fort Larned National Historic Site
Nicodemus National Historic Site
Route 3, Box 69
Larned, Kansas 67550-9321

FILE COPY

IN REPLY REFER TO:

November 15, 2005

A3815(NICO)
x K1815 (NICO)

Honorable Robert J. Dole, Special Counsel
Alston & Bird LLP
601 Pennsylvania Avenue, North Building, 10th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20004-2601

Dear Mr. Dole:

We invite you to be our guest of honor at the 128th Annual Emancipation/Homecoming Celebration at Nicodemus, Kansas on Saturday July 29, 2006. The Homecoming Committee, the Nicodemus Historical Society, and other community partners are collaborating with the National Park Service to recognize the 10th anniversary of the designation of Nicodemus National Historic Site, as well as the 30th anniversary of the designation of the town as a National Historic Landmark.

As the primary sponsor of the enabling legislation for this Historic Site (P.L. 104-333, Nov. 12, 1996), we felt this coming Homecoming is an appropriate occasion to publicly thank you for your long-time support. We ask that you speak on why it was important to include Nicodemus as part of the National Park System in 1996. Your participation will confirm and enhance the importance of this designation for the residents and descendents of a place that represents such a significant aspect of American history.

Other invitees to this 129th Emancipation/Homecoming Celebration will include a keynote speaker, Mr. Robert Stanton, the former Director of the National Park Service. We are asking Mr. Stanton to compliment your remarks by speaking about progress made in preserving and interpreting African American history over the past 10 years. Mr. Stanton is a member of the Board of Directors for the National Park Foundation's African American Experience Fund, a foundation that supports National Park sites that focus on African American history. We are also asking members of our current Kansas Congressional Delegation for their presence at this event.

You are also welcome to attend a pancake breakfast and parade on the morning of July 29. The afternoon program—during which you will be honored—starts at 1:00pm. However, the Committee will accommodate your schedule as needed. The National Park Service and our community partners are also willing to assist you and your staff in preparing for this event. If you, or your staff, have any questions or concerns, please call me at 785-839-4321.

We hope that your schedule will allow you to join us in celebrating this most important accomplishment! Your presence will enrich the connections and pride that residents, descendents, and citizens of Kansas feel towards this special place. We look forward to publicly thanking you for your continual support of Nicodemus National Historic Site and the historic community of Nicodemus, Kansas.

Sincerely,

Sherda K. Williams, Superintendent
Nicodemus National Historic Site

List of Community Partners:

Nicodemus Homecoming Committee
Sharyn Dowdell-Kountz, Chairperson (785-839-4475)
Vicky Chapman, Treasurer
Fred Switzer, Jr., Parade Marshall
Approx. 25 volunteers

Nicodemus Historical Society
Angela Bates, Executive Director (785-421-3311)
Thomas Wellington, President

Nicodemus Township Board
Sharyn Dowdell-Kountz, Trustee
Esther Clark, Treasurer
Alvena (Mrs. Ordral) Alexander, Clerk

Nicodemus First Missionary Baptist Church
Rev. James Manual, Pastor
A. Gilan Alexander, III, Trustee
Sharyn Dowdell-Kountz, Music Director

Nicodemus Flour Coop
A. Gilan Alexander, III
Sharyn Dowdell-Kountz
Edgar Hicks (Omaha)
Wilbur Howard
Gary Alexander
Veryl Switzer

Assisting: Graham County Commissioners, Graham County Sheriff, Graham County EMT; Kansas African American Affairs Commission; Kansas Geological Society; University of Kansas Medical Center; etc.

Cc: Midwest Regional Director Ernest Quintana
Attn.: Public Affairs Specialist Patty Rooney
Chairperson, Nicodemus Homecoming Committee
Executive Director, Nicodemus Historical Society

NICODEMUS HISTORICAL SOCIETY
"The Master Has Already Written the Script"
611 South 5th Street
Historic Nicodemus, Kansas 67625
785-839-4280 email: nichis@ruraltel.net

November 15, 2005

Honorable Robert J. Dole, Special Counsel
Alston I& Bird LLP
601 Pennsylvania Avenue, North Building, 10th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20004-2601

Dear Mr. Dole:

It's been ten years since the Nicodemus Legislation you proposed passed in Congress, to designated Nicodemus a National Historic Site. Time sure does fly! As we are approaching our Annual Emancipation Celebration on July 29, 20, 31, 2006, we are planning to celebrate our 10th year anniversary as a National Historic Site, and want to invite you to be a special guest and provide us with a talk about the importance of Nicodemus as a unit of the National Park Service.

As you know some of your old friends, such as Ernestine, are no longer with us. However, she would have loved to see you again here at Nicodemus and at our 10th Anniversary. She is missed greatly, but her legacy lives on with her bar-b-que sauce that is sold throughout Kansas. We hope that you will bless us with your presence here at Nicodemus, and support us as you always have. It is because of your insight and vision that we are a national treasure. We thank you!

Looking forward to hearing from you and hoping that you can attend this anniversary event!

Sincerely,

Angela Bates

Angela Bates,
Executive Director

BOARD of DIRECTORS
Thomas Wellington President
Gil Alexander Treasurer
Theresa Switzer Secretary
Veryl Switzer
Angela Bates
Twilla Wilson
Johnine Powell

NICODEMUS HOMECOMING
PO BOX 190
NICODEMUS KS 67625

Ernestine's BBQ
Angela Bates
PO Box 29
Bogue KS 67625

GREETINGS FROM HISTORIC NICODEMUS KANSAS

We are letting all of our vendors know that Homecoming 2006 will be an extra special event. We will be celebrating the 10th Anniversary of our designation as a historic site and being added to the National Park System. There will be events beginning on **Thursday, July 27th** and continuing **through Sunday, July 30th**. In a few months, you will receive the vendor form needed to secure your spot for this special event. Any contact with the planners of Homecoming 2006 should be sent to the following address:

NICODEMUS HOMECOMING
PO BOX 190
NICODEMUS KS 67625

Telephone calls will be taken by Gil Alexander (785-839-4488) and Alvena Alexander (785-839-4494). ***Please discard any contact information you have been using.***
Thanks and we look forward to seeing you next July!!

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Nicodemus National Historic Site
510 Washington Avenue, Apt. 4B
Nicodemus, Kansas 67625

FILE COPY

IN REPLY REFER TO:

A3815(NICO)

March 10, 2006

Robert G. Stanton
5608 Dogue Run Drive
Fairfax Station, Virginia 22039

Dear Mr. Stanton:

We met briefly meeting during the MEDLI summit on diversity in Ann Arbor last August. On behalf of Nicodemus National Historic Site, the Nicodemus Historical Society, and the Nicodemus Homecoming Committee, I am extending a formal invitation for your participation in the 128th Annual Homecoming Celebration at Nicodemus, Kansas on Saturday July 29, 2006. Ms. Angela Bates, Executive Director of the Nicodemus Historical Society, mentioned that she had also extended a personal invitation to you while attending The Roundtable Associates award program in Washington in February 2005. I apologize for the lateness in extending this written invitation. We experienced difficulty in locating your address.

The National Park Service is collaborating with the town's Homecoming Committee, the Historical Society, and other community partners to recognize the 10th anniversary of the designation of Nicodemus National Historic Site during this upcoming Homecoming Celebration. As the Director of the National Park Service that dedicated Nicodemus National Historic Site in July 1998, residents and descendents continue to mention how important your presence was at that ceremony. They are excited that you may be able to return to Nicodemus, Kansas. On behalf of the National Historic Site, we feel honored by your interest in helping us celebrate this 10th anniversary!

Other invitees include former Senator Robert J. Dole (our guest of honor) as well as members of our current Congressional delegation. We have asked Senator Dole to speak about why it was important to include Nicodemus as part of the National Park System in 1996. Would you be willing to compliment Senator Dole's remarks by speaking about progress made in preserving and interpreting African American history over the past 10 years? We felt this would be an appropriate and complimentary topic, given your continued involvement with the African American Experience Fund and with recruiting of minority students.

You are also welcome to attend the community pancake breakfast and parade on the morning of July 29. The afternoon program—during which you would be speaking—starts at 1:00pm. We hope that your schedule will allow you to join us in celebrating this most important anniversary! Your presence will enhance the pride that residents and descendents feel towards this special place. We certainly look forward to welcoming you back to Nicodemus National Historic Site and the historic community of Nicodemus, Kansas! My staff and I are available to assist you in preparing for this event. If you have any questions or concerns, please call me at 785-839-4321.

Sincerely,

Sherda K. Williams

Sherda K. Williams, Superintendent
Nicodemus National Historic Site

List of Community Partners:

Nicodemus Homecoming Committee
Sharyn Dowdell-Kountz, Chairperson (785-839-4475)
Vicky Chapman, Treasurer
Fred Switzer, Jr., Parade Marshall
Approx. 25 volunteers

Nicodemus Historical Society
Angela Bates, Executive Director (785-421-3311)
Thomas Wellington, President

Nicodemus Township Board
Sharyn Dowdell-Kountz, Trustee
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Alvena (Mrs. Ordral) Alexander, Clerk

Nicodemus First Missionary Baptist Church
Rev. James Manual, Pastor
A. Gilan Alexander, III, Trustee
Sharyn Dowdell-Kountz, Music Director

Nicodemus Flour Coop
A. Gilan Alexander, III
Sharyn Dowdell-Kountz
Edgar Hicks (Omaha)
Wilbur Howard
Gary Alexander
Veryl Switzer

Assisting: Graham County Commissioners, Graham County Sheriff, Graham County EMT; Kansas African American Affairs Commission; Kansas Geological Society; University of Kansas Medical Center; etc.

cc: Midwest Regional Director Ernest Quintana
Attn.: Public Affairs Specialist Patty Rooney
Superintendent, Fort Larned (NICO Central Files)
Chairperson, Nicodemus Homecoming Committee
Executive Director, Nicodemus Historical Society

June 21, 2006

Ms. Angela Bates-Tompkins
Nicodemus Historical Society
Bogue, Kansas 67625

Dear Angela:

I am writing this letter as an update regarding your participation in the Nicodemus, Kansas Homecoming Parade to be held on July 29, 2006.

The parade will begin at 11:00 a.m. I will be sending to you a map of the parade route and also the time and place where the participants will lineup.

There will be a person announcing each parade entry and I am asking that you send to me three or four lines of information that you would like to have the announcer to say about your organization. This can be written out by hand and send back to me within the next five days or sent to my e:mail address: cbitofhistory@peoplepc.com. If I do not receive any information back from you, we will only announce your name.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to call me at 816-363-1037 or write to me at 8024 Holmes Road, Kansas City, Missouri 64131.

Thank you and we look forward to seeing you in July 2006.

Sincerely,

Carol Alexander

Carol Alexander
Chair
Parade Committee

Nicodemus Historical Society

From: "Pyle, Pia" <Pia.Pyle@alston.com>
To: <nichis@ruraltel.net>
Sent: Friday, June 23, 2006 11:21 AM
Subject: Regrets

Angela,

Senator Dole thanks you for the kind invitation to attend the 128th Homecoming celebration. He has had to limit his travel per his doctors orders so, he must send his regrets. We both hope you have a wonderful event!

Pia

Pia Pyle

Office of Senator Bob Dole

Alston & Bird LLP

950 " F" Street NW

Washington, D.C. 20004

202-654-4855

pia.pyle@alston.com

****

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E-mail
bridegr1@
cox.net
Brenda Jean

[illegible] 7/13

MAILED FROM ZIP CODE 67642
0004617595 JUN 29 2006
02 1A
$ 00.39[0]
PITNEY BOWES
UNITED STATES POSTAGE

Homemade

Nicodemus Historical Society

From: "Dowdell" <dowdell@ruraltel.net>
To: "Angie Bates" <nichis@ruraltel.net>
Sent: Friday, June 30, 2006 1:43 PM
Subject: me again

Would you send a healthy supply of flyers to our DJ please. I was getting ready to type a label to do it and caught myself!! :>) Thanks

NATE JACKSON
2043 SE 11TH TERR
TOPEKA 66607

Send flyers

(5)

Check out website & send flyers to DOCLD@mindsprings.com

7/13

Send

6/22/2005

send to Edgar

Hmeeg

Put on web

Nicodemus Historical Society

From: <Sherda_Williams@nps.gov>
To: <dowdell@ruraltel.net>; <nichis@ruraltel.net>
Sent: Friday, June 30, 2006 9:20 AM
Subject: Fw: Your Events

Sherda K. Williams, Superintendent
Nicodemus National Historic Site
510 Washington AVE, Apt. 4B
Nicodemus, KS 67625

Office: 785-839-4321 phone / -4325 fax
Visitor Center: 785-839-4233 phone/ -4323 fax
Email: Sherda_Williams@nps.gov
Website: http://www.nps.gov/nico

----- Forwarded by Sherda Williams/NICO/NPS on 06/30/2006 09:20 AM -----

"EventInfo America" <email@eventinfo.us>
To: <sherda_williams@nps.gov>
cc:
Subject: Your Events

06/27/2006 02:14 PM ZE2

Hello sherda_williams@nps.gov
I found your email address in the Kansas Tourism event listings (travelks.com) and would like to let you know that you can advertise your events for free on www.eventinfo.us. Add any kind of event happening anywhere in the United States or Canada. EventInfo is an events calendar completely driven by people like you. Manage your own events, make changes whenever you want, share events with others, and get free online promotion! EventInfo is, and always will be, free to use.

Signup a free member account and start submitting events! EventInfo was designed by event organizers to be a fast and simple online promotional tool. You can also enter event venues, business listings, website links and more. It's easy to enter and manage your own entertainment listings. Please contact us if you have any questions or comments.

Kind Regards,
Andrew Klassen
EventInfo Network

To create a new account:
http://www.eventinfo.us/myadmin/signup.php

6/22/2005

To submit events:
http://www.eventinfo.us/myadmin/add_event.php