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EL DORADO

THE FINE ART OF LIVING WELL



Flint Hills Heritage Conference

El Dorado Civic Center, El Dorado, Kansas
Friday, February 20, 2009

Kansas Flint Hills



Flint Hills Tourism Coalition

www.kansasflinthills.travel



About our speakers

Judge Deanell Tacha, Lawrence, KS

U.S. Court of Appeals Judge and Board Chair of Freedom's Frontier NHA President Ronald Reagan appointed Deanell Reece Tacha to the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit in December of 1985, where she currently serves as a federal appellate judge. Judge Tacha served as Chief Judge of the Tenth Circuit from January 1, 2001 through December 31, 2007. Judge Tacha currently serves as the Board Chair of Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area.

Marci Penner, Inman, KS

Executive Director, Kansas Sampler Foundation

Marci Penner graduated from the University of Kansas and went on to receive her Masters Degree from the University of Wisconsin. Marci co-founded the Kansas Sampler Foundation along with her father Mil Penner in 1993. As a result of her dedication to rural Kansas, Marci has been recognized nationally for her ability to provide leadership resulting in the improvement of the quality of life, the creation of jobs and new opportunities for growth and development in rural America.

Dr. Jim Hoy, Emporia, KS

Center For Great Plains Studies

Jim is author of numerous books relating to Cowboy Heritage throughout the Flint Hills, including *Flint Hills Cowboys*, *Tales of the Tallgrass Prairie*. Dr. Hoy is a professor of English and director of the Center for Great Plains Studies at Emporia State University.

Becky Blake, Topeka, KS

Director of the Kansas Travel and Tourism Division

As Director of the Kansas Travel and Tourism Division, Becky Blake brings a working knowledge of the industry to the capitol. She has utilized the experience she gained as the VP of Manhattan Convention & Visitor's Bureau to ensure that the state programs provide direction and success to the future of the Kansas tourism industry.

Friday's Program

- **9:30 a.m.** Registration
- **10:00 a.m.** Welcome and Introductions
Dennis Toll, Moderator
Manhattan Convention & Visitors Bureau
- **10:05 a.m.** What is the Heritage of the Flint Hills?
Dr. Jim Hoy
Center for Great Plains Studies
- **10:30 a.m.** Celebrating our Heritage by
Celebrating our Communities and Festivals:
Rural Kansas has a lot to celebrate!
Marci Penner
Kansas Sampler Foundation
- **11:15 a.m.** Break
- **11:30 a.m.** Panel Discussion facilitated
by *Marci Penner*
- **12:15 p.m.** Lunch
- **1:15 p.m.** Freedom's Frontier National Heritage
Area – Telling Our Story
Judge Deanell Tacha
Board Chair, Freedom's Frontier NHA
- **2:15 p.m.** Break
- **2:30 p.m.** Break-Out Sessions
 - *Judge Tacha* – NHA's
 - *Becky Blake* – Marketing your festivals
Director Kansas Travel & Tourism
- **3:15 p.m.** Wrap-up
- **4:00 p.m.** Adjourn