National Women's History Project

# How Women Won the Vote

1920 \* Celebrating the Centennial of Women's Suffrage \*

2020

**VOLUME TWO** 



### **A Call to Action**

# Now is the Time to Plan for 2020

Honor the Successful Drive for Votes for Women in Your State

ENS OF THOUSANDS of organizations and individuals are finalizing plans for extensive celebrations for 2020 in honor of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary U.S. women winning the right to vote. Throughout the country, students, activists, civic groups, artists, government agencies, individuals and countless others are preparing to recognize women's great political victory as never before.

Their efforts include museum shows, publications, theater experiences, films, songs, dramatic readings, videos, books, exhibitions, fairs, parades, re-enactments, musicals and much more. The National Women's History Project is one of the leaders in celebrating America's women's suffrage history and we are encouraging everyone to recognize the remarkable, historic success of suffragists one hundred years ago.

Here we pay tribute to these women and to the great cause to which they were dedicated. These women overcame unbelievable odds to win their own civil rights, with the key support of male voters and lawmakers. This is a celebration for both women and men. Join us wherever you are. There will be many special exhibits and observances in Washington D.C. and throughout the nation, some starting in 2019. Keep your eyes open; new things are starting up every day. We hope you'll be part of one or more.

### A Call to Action

he goal of this Gazette is to encourage people throughout the country to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of American women gaining political freedom.

The women's suffrage movement culminated with the passage of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution on August 26, 1920. While many things have happened since, in 2020 we want to focus on the suffragists and what it took for them to win basic civil rights for women. The Suffrage Movement expanded our democracy and served our nation's interest, it is time to write these women back into history.

#### **Ratification Centennials Approaching**

Here we break down the national movement to help people learn about women from their state, understand the state's suffrage history, and mark the date each state ratified the amendment. These upcoming ratification centennials offer state residents another specific date to honor suffragists in addition to August 26. States played a critical role in the drive for equal suffrage, and each one produced brave, dedicated women and men who devoted themselves to winning equal rights for women.

To encourage widespread participation, we also offer hundreds of ideas, links and resources (with more online) to help readers imagine their own local obser-

vances. Women in some states are already hard at work and offer examples and inspiration for those not yet organized. 2020 will see a diverse, decentralized national celebration which, like the suffrage movement itself, will depend on local initiatives and limited funds. Unable to count on national political leadership, activists are enlisting state governments and civic organizations to take action and make official plans now for the



upcoming centennial. Women are rarely the focus of national observances or holidays, so we want to make the most of this opportunity to place American suffragists solidly in our nation's history.

#### **A Diverse Movement**

The drive to win the vote was a broad and diverse effort beyond the mass, mostly white, movement. There was a thriving suffrage movement in many black communities but black women, particularly in the south, were barred from voting for decades after 1920. It wasn't until passage of the Voting Rights Act in 1965 that their rights were finally upheld. The voting rights of Native American women were not recognized until 1924. For Chinese American women, it was 1943, and for Japanese and other Asian American women it was 1952. Struggles for true equal rights continue.

We also want this Gazette to recognize that many men were suffragists, offering advice, raising money, and organizing campaigns side by side with the women. We celebrate men's support for women's rights and the fact that male voters in the hundreds of thousands supported equal suffrage. In the end, male legislators throughout the country endorsed the measure and insured its ultimate victory.

This is an exciting chapter in American history, filled with tragedy and achievement, with larger than life personalities and earth-shaking events. It rewards study, it offers entertainment and inspiration, and it features countless

events. It rewards study, it offers entertainment and inspiration, and it features countless "ill-behaved" women who literally made history. Full victory for women is yet to be won but we celebrate the remarkable achievement of suffragists who, 100 years ago, changed the U.S. Constitution and brought women liberty and political power as voters.



Women's History is women's right. It is an essential, indispensable heritage from which we can draw pride comfort, courage, and long range vision.

- Gerda Lerner

# LEAVE A LEGACY

Gerda Lerner was a pioneer in the field women's history. As a scholar, author, and historian she spearheaded the creation of the first graduate program in women's history in the United States. She served as the Chair of the National Women's History Project's Advisory Board and shared her expertise and support generously



Ask your employer about matching funds. Lerner remembered the NWHP in her will, and we are forever grateful. *All contributions are fully tax-deductible*.

Please donate today and support women's history! NWHP P.O. Box 469 Santa Rosa, CA 95402 707-636-2888 www.nwhp.org



### How Women Won the Vote

Volume Two

#### ORDER MORE COPIES TODAY

Share your copy and order more to help prepare for the Suffrage Centennial in 2020.

Order from the **NWHP** at www.nwhp.org, web store. Single copies are free. Packets of 25 are \$15 + shipping

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#### **Cover Art by Meneese Wall**

The cover image, *Columbia, the female personification of the United States*, was created by Meneese Wall to commemorate the centennial of the women's suffrage movement. Meneese is a graphic artist and designer based in Santa Fe, NM. Each image is available as a 9" x 12" signed art print and a 5" x 7" note card. Accompanying each of these works is a brief historical background describing its significance within the struggle to win the right to vote. For more information visit Menesse Wall's website www.meneesewall.com or email her at Meneese@meneesewall.com.

We are indebted to the Library of Congress and to Bryn Mawr College Library Special Collections for the use of photographs from their Carrie Chapman Cat Collection. The suffrage leader's scrapbooks hold a wealth of images including many of the leading women in the states. http://triptych.brynmawr.edu/cdm/landingpage/collection/suffragists





Supporters in Arkansas posed in front of the State Capitol on February 7, 2017, Women's Primary Suffrage Centennial Day. They were reenacting a rally celebrating passage of the bill to allow Arkansas women to vote in primary elections in 1917. The event was followed by the Inaugural Arkansas Women's History Month Festival, presented by the Arkansas Women's History Institute www.arkansaswomen.org. Photo courtesy of the Arkansas State Archives, an agency of the Department of Arkansas Heritage.

### Exciting Plans Under Way for the Suffrage Centennial

ANY EXCITING EFFORTS are already underway to celebrate women's history and the Women's Suffrage Centennial in 2020. From national organizations to state institutions to local groups, you'll find tremendous diversity, creativity, involvement and purpose here, whether planned or already happening.

Women in an increasing number of states are organizing to see that the suffrage centennial is appropriately recognized. There are both new and existing organizations that are integrating anniversary events into their schedules. City and small town museums and civic organizations, historic sites, communities and individuals are also developing special ways to celebrate this historic advancement for both women and men.

One clear message all agree on is that there's no reason to wait until 2020. There is a lot to do now and a lot to celebrate wherever you are. National groups need volunteers in the states, so whatever your local involvement, you might consider connecting with one of the organizations like the WVCI that wants to involve and assist citizens, activists, artists, institutions, businesses, teachers and public officials throughout the country.

Each of these groups would love to hear from you and would certainly make good use of your financial support.



#### Massachusetts

The Women's Suffrage Celebration Coalition of Massachusetts (WSCC), which has grown to over 60 partner organizations (http://suffrage100ma.org), is pleased to be collaborating with the Massachusetts Commonwealth Museum on *The Suffrage Centennial Display Panel Project*, The project will create "Suffragist of the Month" panels from August 2017 to August 2020 which will be displayed in the Museum's lobby and on the WSCC website.

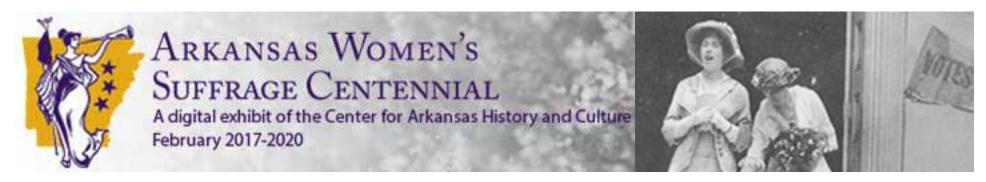
For February 2019, the Coalition and the Boston Women's Heritage Trail are planning a re-enactment of a historic Boston suffrage protest. In June, the centennial of ratification by Massachusetts, the WSCC is planning a kick-off event for the upcoming centennial. The

Coalition holds annual Women's Equality Day celebrations and has collaborated with the Worcester Women's History Project and the League of Women Voters of Needham.

2020 is not only the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of suffrage, but also the 200<sup>th</sup> birthday of Susan B Anthony. The suffrage leader was born in 1820 on a farm in Adams, Massachusetts. To commemorate her life, the **Adams** 



Members of the Womenis Suffrage Celebration Coalition of Massachusetts and the Boston Women's Heritage Trail have worked with the City of Boston for more than seven years to show the suffrage colors on the Public Garden's famous Swan Boats on Equality Day.



Suffrage Centennial Celebration Committee has begun to raise money, with help from the Adams Community Bank, for a bronze statue by sculptor Brian Hanlon depicting young Susan reading a book and adult Susan delivering a speech. For information and suffrage products, visit www.celebratesusanbanthony.org. In addition, the committee is promoting a two-year-long voter registration drive and making plans for a parade, symposium, fireworks and much more in 2020.



The Susan B. Anthony Birthplace Museum, also in Adams, has created a three-panel travelling display from its collection of over 600 suffrage postcards. It has been exhibited in New York libraries, historical sites and societies, and is available for other suffrage celebrations. Visit www.susanbanthonybirthplace.org or contact Cynthia at cynwhitty@aol.com.

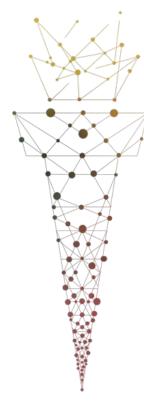


Colleen Janz from the Susan B. Anthony Birthplace Museum with the museum's travelling display of suffrage post cards.

#### lowa

The Iowa League of Women Voters, AAUW, The Iowa Commission on the Status of Women, and Carrie Chapman Center at Iowa State, and others have joined together for a 2020 commemoration. Their plans include artworks, billboards, lectures, musical performances, curricula and much more.

The Carrie Chapman Catt Girlhood Home in Charles City honors the national suffrage leader. Their educa-



#### Women's Vote Centennial Initiative

The Women's Vote Centennial Initiative (WVCI) is a national collaborative effort created to ensure that the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment is widely celebrated throughout the country. The Initiative is the central national organization encouraging commemorative activities culminating in 2020. WVCI has launched its new website, www.2020centennial. org, which will serve as a central organiz-

ing and information-sharing center for centennial dates and plans, with plenty of links to resources as well. A recent WVCI sponsored discussion, Women's Suffrage and the Vote: Funding Feminism, held on March 15, 2018, can be viewed at www. youtube.com/watch?v=65TD1Rhk1Tk.

The 2020Centennial Facebook page offers the latest on what's happening for 2020 and on suffrage history. Check out what others have planned, post your own activities, or learn what happened today in suffrage history. Find it on Facebook by searching 2020Centennial.org.

### Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission

The Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission Act (S. 847) was incorporated into the agreement for a FY17 omnibus spending measure, along with an initial \$2 million dollar appropriation for the commission. Congress appropriated \$2 million for the 2020 Commission in the bill signed by the president but the work of the Commission can't start until all members are appointed. The Speaker of the House and the White House have yet to announce their choices.

tional website includes a rich Print and Media Resources List of vintage films, books, recordings, videos and more. www.Catt.org

#### **Arkansas**

Arkansas Women's History Institute (AWHI) celebrates the unique place Arkansas holds in the history of women's suffrage. Arkansas became the first non-suffrage state to allow women to vote in primary elections in early 1917, and was the 12th state – and the first Southern state – to ratify the 19th Amendment. The Arkansas Women's Suffrage Centennial Project, at https://ualrexhibits.org/suffrage, was formed in early 2016 and received a planning grant from the Arkansas Humanities Council. In February 2017, supporters gathered at the Arkansas State Capitol to celebrate the centennial of the state primary suffrage bill.

Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson issued an executive order in August 2017 creating an official committee, the Arkansas Women's Suffrage Centennial Commemoration Committee, under the Department of Arkansas Heritage (DAH). Committee members include the DAH Special Projects Coordinator, State Historian, Secretary of State or designee, League of Women Voters and the Arkansas Women's History Institute representatives, and three at-large appointees.



The Committee logo and website were unveiled on July 28, 2018, the 99th anniversary of Arkansas' ratification of the 19th Amendment.

Kathleen Pate, president of the AWHI, noted that, "Spearheading a suffrage commemoration campaign at the state level is not as difficult as you might imagine. With creative partnerships and dedicated volunteers, many of our goals in Arkansas were accomplished with little or no outside funding." A second Annual Suffrage Sprint & Stroll, a 1.9 mile fun run/walk, will be on August 25, 2018. Visit https://runsignup.com/Race/AR/LittleRock/SuffrageSprintStroll.

#### California

In California, activity has started in several parts of the state. Plans are currently being made for a California state centennial committee; contact nwhp@nwhp.org to participate. Activists in Santa Clara County are organizing a Task Force with the assistance of the Board of Supervisors to locally commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary and to address women's political equality as well. The Task Force's objectives are to analyze current conditions and create an actionable plan to increase women's political equality in the county's diverse communities. Contact Carla Collins at Carla.Collins@ceo.sccgov.org.

### Fabulous Sites on Suffrage Centennials and Women's History

Including Women's History Trails, Exhibits, Halls of Fame, State Centennials & more



Arizona Women's Heritage Trail <u>womensheritagetrail.org/women/FrancesMunds.php</u> Arkansas Women's Suffrage Centennial Project <u>ualrexhibits.org/suffrage/</u>

California Centennial summary

sos.ca.gov/elections/celebrating-womenssuffrage/california-women-suffrage-centennial/

Georgia 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

5.galib.uga.edu/blog/?p=3920 links

Kentucky Woman Suffrage Project Site <u>networks.h-net.org/kywomansuffrage</u> Votes for Women Trail

Maryland Women's Heritage Center

mdwomensheritagecenter.publishpath.com/

Massachusetts - Women's Suffrage Celebration Coalition of Massachusetts <a href="mailto:suffrage100ma.org/">suffrage100ma.org/</a>

Worcester Women's History Project wwwhp.org/Resources/links

Boston Women's Heritage Trail <u>bwht.org/</u>

Michigan Women's History Trail

<u>michiganwomenshalloffame.org/womens\_history\_timeline1.aspx</u> Timeline

Women's Suffrage in Missouri and the Golden Lane <u>c</u> span.org/video/?307551-1/womens-suffrage-missouri video

Montana Centennial montanawomenshistory.org/how-to-celebrate/ montanawomenshistory.org/for-teachers/ Lesson plan on Hazel Hunkins

Nevada Suffrage Centennial <u>suffrage100nv.org/</u>

Nevada Women's History Project nevadawomen.org/

New Jersey Women's History <u>njwomenshistory.org/nj-womens-heritage-</u>

<u>trail/</u> run by the Alice Paul Institute

Alice Paul Institute www.alicepaul.org

New York Centennial Resource Guide and video <u>ny.gov/programs/new-york-state-womens-suffrage-commission</u>

New York State Women's History <u>nywomenshistory.com</u> Trails, videos, NY Cultural Heritage Tourism Network

New York Centennial Calendar <u>rochester.edu/sba/events/2017-centennial-celebration/2017centennial/</u> calendar of events

Oregon Centennial Site centuryofaction.org/

Oregon Experience: The Suffragists Public TV show

opb.org/television/programs/oregonexperience/segment/the-suffragists/

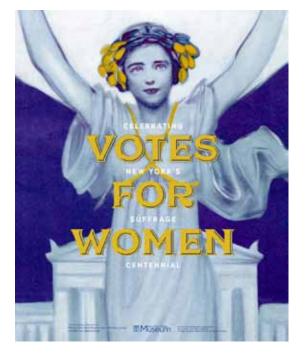
Tennessee Suffrage Monument <u>tnsuffragemonument.org/</u>

Tennessee Suffrage Memorial tnwomansmemorial.org/

Vermont Women's History Project/Vermont Historical Society

vermonthistory.org/research/vermont-women-s-history

Washington Women's History Consortium washingtonhistory.org/research/whc/



#### **New York**

New York State Women's Suffrage Commission, the official Commission for the state centennial, has organized a series of statewide programs continuing into 2020. New York just completed its own state suffrage centennial, complete with museum shows, publications, performances and more. Countless programs celebrated the accomplishment of women's suffrage and the central role of New Yorkers and New York State. Website includes profiles of historic state suffragists. https://www.ny.gov/programs/new-york-state-womens-suffrage-commission.

The **New York State Museum's** exhibit, "Votes for Women: Celebrating New York's Suffrage Centennial," produced a fascinating illustrated catalog (above) that is now available. The Museum also created a sixpanel traveling exhibition that will be at smaller venues around New York State. http://www.nysm.nysed.gov/exhibitions/votes-for-women.

### Keep Up on Suffrage Centennials Online

#### **Suffrage Wagon News Channel**

The award-winning Suffrage Wagon News Channel (SuffrageWagon.org) covers suffrage news, features, videos and action campaigns. The site features columns about travel, food, history, books and human interest related to the suffrage movement. The platform is inspired by the suffrage wagon "Spirit of 1776" that was used for campaigning by New York activist Edna Kearns, grandmother of site editor Marguerite Kearns. The news channel, has been publishing since 2009. Follow SuffrageWagon.org on Twitter, Facebook, email subscription and quarterly newsletter.

#### SuffrageCentennials.com

SuffrageCentennials.com is a website that highlights events, celebrations, trends and news about the women's suffrage movement and anniversary celebrations. Enjoy learning about American history, suffrage related events and interesting programs in states and nationally. SuffrageCentennials.com features a rich archive of news from the past five years. Follow with Twitter, Facebook, email and the quarterly newsletter. This site collaborates with other organizations including the National Women's History Project and the Inez Milholland Centennial campaign.

#### **Centennial Listserv**

The Women's Vote Centennial Initiative is 2020 Centennial listserv began in March 2015 as a way to share information and ideas and connect with others planning for 2020. You can post information or questions about Centennial planning or read what others around the nation are proposing to commemorate the occasion. A compilation of messages is sent out about once a month. Sign up by sending an email to Suffrage2020@thezahnisers.com (the listserv is moderated by Jill Zahniser).

The League of Women Voters New York State is planning a variety of events around the national centennial in 2020. They've posted a useful Women's Suffrage Resource Kit online to help groups plan, work with others, and publicize their activity. http://www.lwvny.org/programs-studies/womens-suffrage/.

Women's Rights National Historical Park tells the story of the first Women's Rights Convention held in Seneca Falls, New York, on July 19-20, 1848. It is a story of struggles for civil rights, human rights, and equality that continue today. Each July, the park hosts Convention Days, three days filled with speakers, historical actors, and demonstrations to commemorate the New York suffrage movement and the national centennial. The park was established in 1980 to preserve and interpret significant sites associated with the drive for equal rights for women. www.nps.gov/wori.



### Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony Statue Fund

The Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony Statue Fund aims to break the "bronze ceiling" to create the first statue of real women in New York City's Central Park.

# RATIFICATION

### The Final Drive That Won the 19th Amendment

AR MORE THAN a footnote in women's suffrage – and American – history, the drive for ratification of the 19th Amendment was an unprecedented national campaign that involved politically sophisticated women in every state. The movement's ultimate success - amending the U.S. Constitution - relied on experienced suffragists throughout the country who had spent years in politics and who had come to understand the mechanics of government. When they needed to act - exactly one hundred years after the birth of Susan B. Anthony – they were ready.

Immediately after the Senate passed the suffrage bill on June 4, 1919, suffragists focused all their energy on getting 36 states to ratify the proposed amendment.



As each state ratified the 19th Amendment-National Woman's Party head Alice Paul sewed another star on the Ratification Flag. Around her are organizers Mabel Vernon, Elizabeth Kalt, Florence Boeckel, Anita Pollitzer, Sue White and Vivian Pierce.

A century later, 2019 marks the start of the ratification centennials, leading up to the national centennial in 2020. The ratification campaign offers an excellent opportunity to both celebrate the suffrage movement and to recognize each state's suffrage history. (For state ratification dates, check the article starting on page 8.)

#### **An Unprecedented Movement**

After the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment was finally confirmed, several states competed to be the first to ratify. Wisconsin won the race on June 10 after a technicality ruled out Illinois, which was second, and Michigan was third. The fast start reflected suffragists' careful preparation. By June 1919, every legislature

had been polled, every governor had been interviewed, the press had been informed, and "an expectant, eager army, thoroughly well-equipped and trained" was ready to go.

After nearly three decades, the National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA) had grown in size and influence under Anna Howard Shaw and Carrie Chapman Catt. These national figures worked with the leaders of suffrage associations throughout the country to craft a successful plan, first to win passage and then ratification of the 19th Amendment. Suffrag-

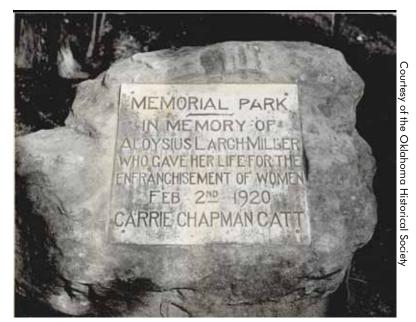
ists in each state were crucial to the plan since it required simultaneous work in every House of every legislature in every state. "There is no quick, short cut to our liberty," Catt warned them, "Nothing less than this nationwide, vigilant, unceasing campaigning will win the ratification."

#### The Ultimate Challenge

This was the ultimate challenge for women who had been working for their rights for decades. Defeat would cast a pall over their immediate chances of voting and undercut all the work suffragists had done up to that point. Passage meant victory for their hopes and dreams. No wonder suffragists, at the peak of their strength nationally, threw themselves into this final campaign with all the power they could summon.

Opponents had been able to delay the vote in Congress until most state legislatures had adjourned, forcing suffragists to ask governors to call special sessions to approve ratification so women could vote in the 1920 election. This was the case in at least 29 states. In addition, political conditions were different in every state and demanded carefully calculated strategies.

Suffragists used all their influence from years of work to persuade governors and representatives and win each legislatures support for ratification. Not everything went smoothly and states where women had won the vote were surprisingly slow to ratify. State and national organizers were in constant motion while the country was still recovering from the First World War and dealing with the passage of Prohibition. A dozen legislatures ratified the amendment unanimously while others were divided or dragged their feet. Many southern states came out forcefully against federal action and some even sent organizers to other states to defeat it.



Memorial marker for Aloysius Larch-Miller in Memorial Park, Shawnee, Oklahoma.

#### A MARTYR TO THE CAUSE

GETTING GOVERNORS to call special sessions to ratify the 19th Amendment before the 1920 presidential election demanded everything from the women involved. The complexity and cost were shown in Oklahoma. In their book, *Woman Suffrage and Politics*, Carrie Chapman Catt and Nettie Rogers Shuler included the following tribute:

"In September, Miss Aloysius Larch-Miller, secretary of the Oklahoma Ratification Committee . . . secured signed pledges from a majority of the legislators that they would attend, serve without pay, consider no other legislation and vote for ratification. When these were presented, the Governor's answer was a refusal to answer. . . .

"In January 1920, the Democratic State Central Committee called county conventions to select delegates to the Democratic State Convention. Many of these county conventions passed resolutions asking the Governor to call the session. Although she had been confined to her room for several days with influenza, Miss Larch-Miller attended the convention of her county – Pattawatomie – and spoke for the resolution in opposition to Attorney General S.P. Freeling, one of the ablest orators of the State and also the strongest opponent of woman suffrage in Oklahoma. Her enthusiasm and eloquence carried the day for suffrage. The resolution was adopted. For her the price was her life. The exertion proved too heavy a tax and in two days she paid the supreme sacrifice for the cause she had served."

Aloysius Larch-Miller, 33, described as a gifted orator with abundant energy, charm, and "impressive ideas," was mourned as a martyr to woman suffrage. In her memory, local citizens and children raised funds to create the Larch-Miller Park in Shawnee, Oklahoma.

#### **Calling on Party Support**

Because of the work and sacrifices of suffragists throughout the states, the campaign surged ahead through the second half of 1919. To keep up the momentum, Catt led a "Wake Up America" tour of the western states in the fall. At the same time, Alice Paul was directing National Woman's Party (NWP) efforts in certain states, including neglected southern states, with the same goal in mind. Members of the two rival organizations occasionally clashed.

The NWP had long been criticized by NAWSA for its political partyoriented strategy, but the ratification drive showed the importance of party support. NWP officer Dora Lewis observed that in Kentucky, where ratification passed, "many of the men who voted in favor of ratification were antisuffragists and told me they were only doing it on account of their party." How Women Won the Vote nwhp.org 7









Victorious state suffragists gathered to witness their state's governor signing the bill ratifying the 19th Amendment in Nevada, Kentucky (top), Maine and Nebraska (bottom).

To bring pressure on Republicancontrolled states, the NWP picketed the Republican National Convention in June demanding party action. Lobbying and political maneuvering continued simultaneously.

With a determination and drive that

in retrospect make the great campaign almost look easy, suffragists won state after state, suffering setbacks but moving steadily ahead. In less than a year, they won the approval of 35 states while eight states had rejected the amendment. By April, suffragists needed only one more state.

This set the scene for the climactic vote in the Tennessee House during the hot summer of 1920. Using every tactic they could, opponents forced favorable representatives to change their positions and tried to defeat the measure in every way possible. "Never in the history of politics," one suffragist recalled, "has there been such a nefarious lobby as labored to block the ratification in Nashville."

#### "The soul of every woman"

Even after the measure passed by just one vote – Harry Burn's – opponents continued to try to block or overturn the amendment. However, following passage on August 18, the governor quickly signed and sent the ratification bill to U.S. Secretary of State Bainbridge Colby. He signed the Proclamation on August 26 and triumphant women immediately launched celebrations nationwide. Over the next two years, suffragists successfully held off relentless legal challenges by opponents.

After their victory, Carrie Catt praised her fellow suffragists for "leading the woman's crusade for the liberation of the mothers of the race."

She celebrated those who felt "the grip of the oneness of women struggling, serving, suffering, sacrificing for the righteousness of woman's emancipation. . . . Let your joy be unconfined and let it speak so clearly that its echo will be heard around the world and find its way into the soul of every woman of any and every race and nationality who is yearning for opportunity and liberty still denied her sex."

"You've won!"



Posing with bouquets for a victory portrait, national suffrage leader Carrie Chapman Catt sat surrounded by suffrage leaders Mary Garret Hay, Harriet Taylor Upton, Maud Wood Park and Marjorie Shuler.

### Register to Vote – and Vote!

- ✓ If you're not registered, get registered at vote.org
- ✓ Volunteer at a local high school or college to encourage young voters
- ✓ Help register voters
- ✓ Work at your local polling place
- ✓ If you're unable to vote, encourage others to vote
- ✓ If you're unable to vote, participate in the discussion through other civic opportunities



#### **RESOURCES**

- All in Together aitogether.org/
- Representation 2020 www.representation2020.com/
- Vote Run Lead voterunlead.org/

### Make August 26, 2020, a National Holiday

**Today, there is no national holiday that honors women.** The great achievement of the 20th century - the emancipation and empowerment of women - call for recognition at the national level. Join us in working with individuals, organizations, institution throughout the country to honor the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of women in the United States winning the right to vote.

It is time for August 26, 2020, to become a national holiday that truly honors the hundreds of thousands of suffragists who fearlessly campaigned for 72 years to secure a woman's right to vote. This will be a serious challenge, but what better way to celebrate "Women's Independence Day" and honor the inspiring nonviolent movement that overcame tremendous odds to win civil rights for American women

#### **How To Take Action**

#### 1) Proclaim

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Encourage local officials and organizations to draft a proclamation that declares August 26, 2020, as a holiday.

#### 2) Educate

Through your networks, social media, and local press share why it's time for August 26, 2020 to be a national holiday.

#### 3) Identify

Work with your local schools, libraries, and historical societies to identify local women, men, and locations that were instrumental in supporting the suffrage campaign. Share these local stories and celebrate the brave women and men of your town.

#### 4) Share

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Start today in sharing with your networks, social media, organizations, and local press about the upcoming Centennial, the incredible accomplishments of the Suffrage Movement, and the need for a national holiday.

# Suffragists Active in Every State

ho won the vote in my state? Who led the campaigns and where can I learn more?

We attempt to briefly answer these questions below with a summary of each state's suffrage history, the names of a number of state suffragists and links to more information. We want to particularly emphasize the national scope of the women's suffrage movement and to encourage individuals to study and share their state's role in the enfranchisement of women.

Our choices as to where to place some of these women can be debated – some are under their birthplaces while some are not – but we want to give states maximum opportunity to claim local women who were important in winning enfranchisement at the state and national levels.

#### 56 Campaigns, 41 Defeats

Suffragists waged 56 electoral campaigns in 31 states to win Votes for Women. They lost 41 of these drives and yet they persisted to reach their ultimate goal. Eventually, they won passage of equal suffrage measures in 15 states and won presidential, or partial, suffrage through 15 state legislatures.

By the time the 1920 election approached, politicians were shocked that women would be voting for president in 30 of the 48 states, even without the 19th Amendment. This was the direct result of the work of state suffragists.

These same women, many now with years of experience, won ratification by the necessary 36 state legislatures just months before the 1920

### 16 NATIONAL SUFFRAGE LEADERS AND THEIR BIRTHPLACES

ALICE STOKES PAUL Moorestown, NJ ALICE STONE BLACKWELL

Orange, NJ ANNA HOWARD SHAW

Newcastle-on-Tyne, England

CARRIE LANE CHAPMAN CATT Ripon, WI

CHARLOTTE PERKINS GILMAN Hartford, CT

ELIZABETH CADY STANTON
Johnstown, NY

FRANCES ELIZABETH CAROLINE WILLARD Churchville, NY

HARRIOT STANTON BLATCH

Seneca Falls, NY

IDA BELL WELLS-BARNETT Holy Springs, MS

JEANNETTE PICKERING RANKIN Missoula, MT

LUCRETIA COFFIN MOTT

Nantucket, MA

LUCY STONE

West Brookfield, MA

MARY ELIZA CHURCH TERRELL

Memphis, TN

MAUD WOOD PARK

Boston, MA

**SOJOURNER TRUTH** 

Swartekill, NY

SUSAN BROWNELL ANTHONY Adams, MA



Miss Evans as Joan of Arc, Florida

election. The date each state ratified is included as another date to celebrate in addition to August 26.

The key actions and coordinated strategies by suffragists in local communities, cities and states throughout the country deserve much wider recognition. They played a crucial role in securing Votes for Women nationwide.

For our information we relied primarily on printed sources and online resources posted by state libraries and historical societies. We consulted internet sources like Wikipedia cautiously and always confirmed facts elsewhere.



Virginia Clay

#### Alabama

Never voted Rejected ratification September 22, 1919 Ratified September 8, 1953

Adella Hunt Logan Alva Belmont Helen Keller Virginia Clay Lulu Hemingway Margaret Murray Washington Pattie Ruffner Jacobs Hattie Hooker Wilkins huntsvillehistorycollection.org/hh/index.php?title=%22They\_Are\_Too\_Sweet\_and\_Angelic\_to\_Reason,%22\_Or,\_How\_Women\_Got\_the\_Vote\_in\_Alabama



Frances Munds

#### Arizona

★ Passed 1912 Ratified February 12, 1920

Frances W. Munds Pauline O'Neill W. B. Cleary
Lida P. Robinson
Fred Colter
Alice Park
Sally Jacobs
Maybelle Craig
Rachel Berry
Josephine Brawley Hughes
www.uapress.arizona.edu/catalogs/
dlq\_show\_excerpt.php?id=2072

#### **Arkansas**

Passed Primary Suffrage 1917 Defeated 1919 Ratified July 28, 1919

Hattie Wyatt Caraway Alice Ellington Florence Brown Cotnam Minnie Rutherford Lizzie Dorman Fyler Clara McDiarmid Mary Fletcher Adolphine Fletcher Terry Kate Cunningham www.encyclopediaofarkansas. net/encyclopedia/entry-detail. aspx?entrylD=4252

#### California

Defeated 1896 ★ Passed 1911 Ratified November 1, 1919

Clara Shortridge Foltz Elizabeth Clark Sargent Elizabeth Kent Elizabeth Lowe Watson Elmira T. Stephens **Emily Pitts-Stevens** Helen Todd John Hyde Braly Katherine Edson Laura DeForce Gordon Lillian Harris Coffin Marietta L. Stow Mary McHenry Keith Mary T. Longley Maud Younger Mrs. Seward A. Simons Naomi Talbert Anderson Sara Bard Field Selina Solomons bancroft.berkeley.edu/Exhibits/suffrage/index.



Katherine Edson

#### Colorado

Defeated 1877 ★ Passed 1893 Ratified December 15, 1919

Caroline Nichols Churchill
Ellis Meredith
Helen Ring Robinson
Omar E. Garwood
Martha Pease
Mary Bradford
Sarah Platt Becker
Natalie Gray
womhist.alexanderstreet.com/teacher/
colosuff

How Women Won the Vote nwhp.org 9



Connecticut suffragists pose before their state parade banner

#### Connecticut

#### Never voted Ratified September 14, 1920

Abby & Julia Smith
Caroline Ruutz-Rees
Catharine Beecher
Catherine Flanagan
Isabella Beecher Hooker
Annie G. Porritt
Elizabeth D. Bacon
Katharine Houghton Hepburn
Mary Jane Roberts
Grace Gallatin Seton
Katharine Ludington
Prudence Crandall
ctexplored.org/the-long-road-to-womens-suffrage-in-connecticut

#### Delaware

#### Never voted Rejected ratification June 2, 1920 Ratified May 6, 1923

Annie Arneil
Mabel Vernon
Mary Ann Shadd Cary
Mary R. de Vou
Martha Cranston
Grace B. Tounsend
Mary Clare Brassington
Winifred Morris
Mary E. Brown
Florence Bayard Hilles
delawareeranow.org/a-brief-history-ofdelawares-role-in-womens-suffrage/



Mary McLeod Bethune

#### Florida

Never voted Ratified May 13, 1969 Mary Nolan Mary A. Safford Mrs. Roselle Cooley
Frances Anderson
Mary McLeod Bethune
Ivy Stranahan
May Mann Jennings
Ella Chamberlain
www.floridamemory.com/
blog/2014/08/26/womens-equalityday-2/

#### Georgia

#### Never voted Rejected ratification July 24, 1919 Ratified February 20, 1970

Lugenia Burns Hope
W.E.B. DuBois
Mary Latimer McLendon
Helen Augusta Howard
Frances Smith Whiteside
Mary McCurdy
Lucy Laney
Leonard J. Grossman
Jane Porter Barrett
Rebecca Latimer Felton
Julia Flisch
www.georgiaencyclopedia.org/articles/
history-archaeology/woman-suffrage

#### Idaho

#### ★ Passed 1896 Ratified February 11, 1920

Mrs. M. J. Whitman Abigail Scott Duniway Emma F. A. Drake Eunice Pond Athey Mrs. J. H. Richards Helen Young Elizabeth Ingram Annette Bowman Francena Kellogg Buck Kate Felton Helen L. Young www.projects.vassar.edu/1896/suffrage

### Illinois

#### Never voted ☆ Presidential Suffrage 1913 Ratified June 10, 1919

Antoinette Funk Elizabeth K. Booth Ella S. Stewart Flora Sylvester Cheney Fannie Barrier Williams Grace Wilbur Trout Jane Addams Julia Clifford Lathrop Kate F. O'Connor
Katherine Hancock Goode
Margaret Dreier Robins
Louise de Koven Bowen
Madeline Watson
Margaret Haley
Mrs. James W. Morrison
Ruth Hanna McCormick
Sophonisba R. Breckenridge
Thomas J. McMillan
www.lib.niu.edu/2004/ih110604half

#### Indiana

## Never voted ☆ Presidential Suffrage 1919 Ratified January 16, 1920

Amanda Way
Helen M. Gougar
Ida Husted Harper
Mary Meyers Thomas
May Wright Sewall
William Dudley Foulke
Zerelda Wallace
www.digitalcommons.butler.edu/cgi/
viewcontent.cgi?article=1359&co
ntext=ugtheses

#### lowa

## Defeated 1916 ★ Presidential Suffrage 1919 Ratified July 2, 1919

Amelia Bloomer
Mary Jane Coggeshall
Flora Dunlap
Arabella Babb Mansfield
Mary Newbury Adams
Hortense Butler Heywood
Martha C. Callanan
Anna Bell Lawther
Margaret Atherton Bonney
www.sdrc.lib.uiowa.edu/exhibits/suffrage/index



Laura Gregg

#### Kansas

#### Defeated 1867, 1894 ★ Passed 1912 Ratified June 16, 1919

Annie L. Diggs
Jane Lilly Brooks
Laura Gregg
Laura M. Johns
Lucy B. Johnston
Carrie Langston
Helen Kimber
Catharine A. Hoffman
Genevieve Howland Chalkley
Minnie J. Brinstead
Mary E. Ringrose
www.kshs.org/kansapedia/women-ssuffrage/14524



Chicago Suffrage Parade , 1914

#### Kentucky

#### 

Desha Breckinridge
Laura Clay
Lucie Wilmot Smith
Mary Barr Clay
Eliza Calvert Hall
Mattie Griffith Browne
Madeline McDowell Breckinridge
www.networks.h-net.org/kywomansuffrage

#### Louisiana

#### Defeated 1918 Rejected ratification July 1, 1920

#### Ratified June 11, 1970

Caroline Merrick
Emily Collins
Jean Gordon
Kate M. Gordon
Lydia Wickliffe Holmes
Miriam [Mrs. Frank] Leslie
Lucretia Horner
Celeste Claiborne Carruth
Lilly Richardson
Ida Porter Boyer
Robert Ewing
Henry Dickson Bruns
www.knowlouisiana.org/entry/
woman-suffrage

#### Maine

# Defeated 1917 ☆ Presidential Suffrage 1919 Ratified November 5, 1919

Deborah Knox Livingston Florence Brooks Whitehouse Katharine Reed Balentine Gail Laughlin Florence L. Nye
Helen N. Bates
Mabel Connor
Lucy Hobart Day
www.mainememory.net/bin/Features?
t=fp&feat=13&supst=Exhibits



Lavinia Engel

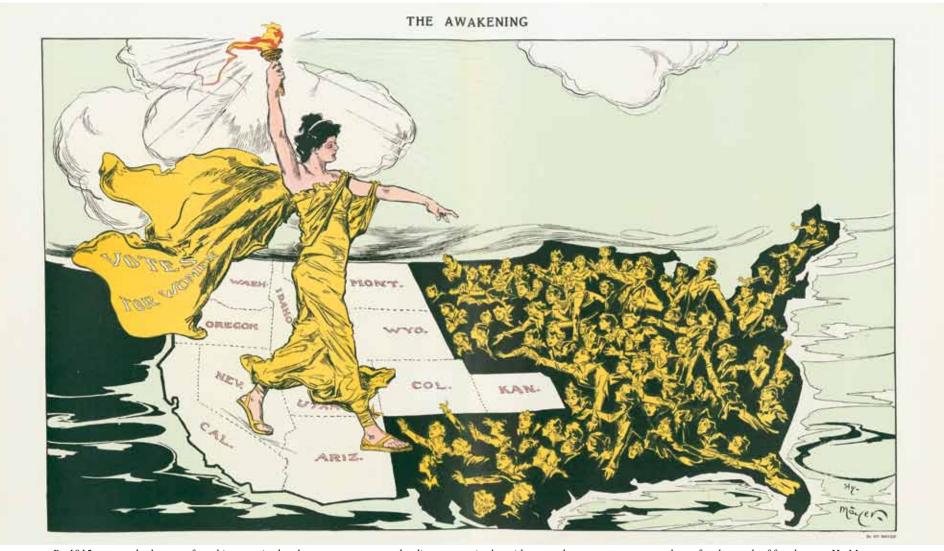
#### Maryland

#### Never voted Rejected ratification February 24, 1920 Ratified March 29, 1941

Clara Barton
Edith Houghton Hooker
Etta Maddox
Frances Ellen Watkins Harper
Lucy Branham
Margaret Brent
Lavinia Engle
Augusta Chissell
Julia Emory
Emma Maddox Funck
historyengine.richmond.edu/episodes/
view/6259



The Governor of Maine signs a partial suffrage bill in February, 1917.



By 1915, women had won enfranchisement in the eleven western states, leading women in the midwest and eastern states to reach out for the torch of freedom, as Hy Mayer suggested in his illustration for Life magazine. New York became the first equal suffrage state east of the Mississippi in 1917.



Margaret Foley

#### Massachusetts

#### Defeated 1915 Ratified June 25, 1919

Abigail "Abby" Kelley Foster Edith Nourse Rogers Evelyn Peverley Coe Florence Luscomb Henry Blackwell Josephine St. Pierre Ruffin Julia Ward Howe Lydia Maria Child Margaret Foley Margaret Fuller Maria Louise Baldwin Maria Weston Chapman Martha Coffin Wright Mary Livermore Mary Ware Dennett Pauline Agassiz Shaw Sarah Remond Susan Walker Fitzgerald Thomas Wentworth Higginson Wendell Phillips www.masshist.org/objects/2010july.php

#### Michigan

Defeated 1874, 1912, 1913

☆ Presidential Suffrage 1917

★ Passed 1918
Ratified June 10, 1919

Belle Brotherton
Ida Rust Macpherson
Mary Eleanora McCoy
Mrs. Percy J. Farrell
Clara B. Arthur
Katharine Dexter McCormick
Margaret Whittemore
Eva McCall Hamilton
Lucinda Hinsdale Stone
Clara Comstock Russell
seekingmichigan.org/look/2011/03/08/
woman-suffrage

#### Minnesota

# Never voted ☆ Presidential Suffrage 1919 Ratified September 8, 1919

Clara Ueland
Elizabeth Wood Harrison
Emily Gilman Noyes
Ethel Edgerton Hurd
Isabel Lawrence
Maria Sanford
Jane Grey Swisshelm
Emily Haskell Bright
Nellie Griswold Francis
Julia Bullard Nelson
Sarah Burger Stearns
www.collections.mnhs.org/
MNHistoryMagazine/articles/54/
v54i07p290-303.pdf



Annie K.Dent

#### Mississippi

#### Never voted Rejected ratification March 29, 1920 Ratified March 22, 1984

Belle Kearney
Nellie Nugent Somerville
Lily Wilkinson Thompson
Pauline Orr
Annie K. Dent
Allen Thompson
Hala Hammond Butt
Thomas K. Mellen
Robert Campbell
Fannie May Witherspoon
Estelle Crane
www.mshistorynow.mdah.ms.gov/
articles/245/mississippi-women-andthe-woman-suffrage-amendment

#### Missouri

## Defeated 1914 ★ Presidential Suffrage 1919 Ratified July 3, 1919

Edna Fishel Gellhorn Emily Newell Blair Francis Minor Kate Richards O'Hare Luella St. Clair Moss Helen Guthrie (Mrs. Walter McNab) Miller Rose O'Neill Phoebe Couzins



Emily Newell Blair

James Beauchamp "Champ"
Clark
Jane Thompson
Virginia Minor
Florence Weigle
Florence Atkinson
Mary Semple Scott
Florence Richardson Usher

www.shsmo.org/searchresults.sht ml?cx=002011585713746245898 %3Aancagzvk0d4&cof=F0RID%3 A11&q=woman+suffrage&sa=Se arch&siteurl=shsmo.org%2Findex. shtml&ref=&ss=2031j391089j14

#### Montana

#### ★ Passed 1914 Ratified August 2, 1919

Belle Fligelman
Hazel Hunkins
Margaret Smith Hathaway
Lucile Dyas Topping
Mary E. O'Neill
Mary C. Wheeler
Ida Auerbach
Grace Rankin Kinney
Maria M. Dean
Mary Stewart
Wellington Rankin
www.montanawomenshistory.org/
suffrage/

#### Nebraska

# Defeated 1882, 1914 ★ Presidential Suffrage 1917 Ratified August 2, 1919

Clara Beckwith Colby
Henrietta I. Smith
Doris Stevens
Grace Abbott
Grace Wheeler
Mary Williams
Harriet S. Brooks
Rheta Childe Dorr
www.nebraskastudies.org/0700/sto-ries/0701\_0110.html

#### Nevada

#### ★ Passed 1914 Ratified February 7, 1920

Anne Martin
Felice Cohn
Eliza Cook
Mary Stoddard Doten
Sadie Dotson Hurst
Mila Tupper Maynard
Frances Slaven Williamson
Bird May Wilson
www.nevadawomen.org/Nevada
Women History Project

#### **New Hampshire**

#### Defeated 1903 Ratified September 10, 1919

Abigail "Abby" Hutchinson Armenia Smith White Parker Pillsbury Mary Ann Filley Mary Olive Hunt Marilla Ricker Sarah Whittier Hovey www.cowhampshireblog. com/2016/11/05/new-hampshirepolitical-heroines-suffragists-electedwomen-and-record-breakers/ New Hampshire political heroines



Lillian Feickert

#### **New Jersey**

#### Defeated 1915 Ratified February 9, 1920

Lillian F. Feickert
Mina C. Van Winkle
Portia Gage
Anna B. Jeffery
Mary D. Hussey
Florence Howe Hall
Louise M. Riley
Verona H. Henry
Dorothy Frooks
Elinor Gebhardt
Julia Hurlbut
Antoinette Brown Blackwell
www.capitalcentury.com/1919 summary



Suffragists use umbrellas for shade on their decorated parade float in Blair, Nebraska, July 1914.

#### **New Mexico**

#### Never voted Ratified February 21, 1920

Isabella Munro Ferguson
Ella St. Clair Thompson
Ellen J. Palen
Deane H. Lindsey
Nina Otero Warren
Catharine P. Wallace
Kate Hall
Margaret Cartright
Ann Webster
newmexicohistory.org/people/womens-suffrage-movement-1915

#### **New York**

#### Defeated 1915 ★ Passed 1917 Ratified June 16, 1919

Caroline Lexow Caroline M. Severance Catharine Waugh McCulloch Crystal Eastman Dorothy Day Edna Buckman Kearns



Bessie F. Brainard, New York

Ernestine Rose Fanny Garrison Villard Florence Kelley Harriet Burton Laidlaw Harriet Tubman Inez Milholland Boissevain James Lees Laidlaw Louisine Havemeyer Lucy Burns Mary Garrett Hay Matilda Joslyn Gage Maud Malone Nettie Rogers Shuler Rosalie Gardiner Jones Rose Schneiderman Rose Winslow Vira Boarman Whitehouse rbscp.lib.rochester.edu/wny-womensrights-movement

#### **North Carolina**

#### Never voted Ratified May 6, 1971 Lillie Devereux Blake

Gertrude Weil
Anna J. Cooper
Helen Morris
Walter Clark
Julia Erwin
Kate Pearsall
Susanne Bynum
Lillian Exum Clement
www.ncpedia.org/women-suffrage

### **North Dakota**

## Defeated 1914 ★ Presidential Suffrage 1917 Ratified December 1, 1919

Clara L. Darrow
Cora Smith Eaton
Linda Slaughter
Flora Naylor
Emma S. Pierce
Elizabeth Darrow O'Neil
Grace Clendening
Elizabeth Preston Anderson
ndstudies.gov/gr8/content/unit-iiiwaves-development-1861-1920/
lesson-4-alliances-and-conflicts/
topic-8-suffrage/section-3-womansuffrage-1912-1920

### Ohio

# Defeated 1912, 1914 ★ Presidential Suffrage 1919 Ratified June 16, 1919

Belle Sherwin Elizabeth J. Hauser Frances Dana Gage



Hallie Q. Brown

Harriet Taylor Upton Florence E. Allen Hallie Quinn Brown Hannah Cutler Jane Hitchcock Jones Victoria Woodhull www.corescholar.libraries.wright.edu

#### Oklahoma

#### Defeated 1910 ★ Passed 1918

Ratified February 28, 1920

AloysiusLarch-Miller
Adelia C. Stephens
Kate H. Biggers
Mrs. Clarence Henley
Margaret Rees
Katherine Pierce
Julia Woodworth
Peter Hanraty
Ruth A. Gay
Mary Crangle
Frances Woods
http://ojs.library.okstate.edu/osu/
index.php/0KPolitics/article/viewFile/1048/945

#### Oregon

#### Defeated 1884, 1900, 1906, 1908, 1910 ★ Passed 1912 Ratified January 13, 1920

Abigail Scott Duniway Viola Coe Esther Pohl Lovejoy Hattie Redmond Mary Thompson Martha A. Dalton Elizabeth Craig Annice Jeffreys Ada Cornish Hertsche Luema G. Johnson Clara Waldo Emma Buckman Charlotte M. Cartwright Sara A. Evans Lizzy Weeks www.oregonencyclopedia.org/articles/ woman\_suffrage\_in\_oregon/#. WRS4euTrviM

#### Pennsylvania

#### Defeated 1915 Ratified June 24, 1919

Anna Dickinson
Caroline Katzenstein
Dora Lewis
Gertrude Bustill Mossell
Hannah J. Patterson
Harriet Purvis, Jr.
Jennie Bradley Roessing
Julian Kennedy
Lucy K. Miller
Lavinia Lloyd Dock
Rachel Foster Avery



Oklahoma City suffragists prepare for a Labor Day parade in 1910.

Continued on page 14

# THE COUNTDOWN HAS BEGUN . . .



# August 26, 2020 is the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Women Winning the Vote. To recognize and celebrate this historic event, we need to begin today! How to Get Involved

# 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Women Winning the Vote!

The great achievement of the 20<sup>th</sup> century - the emancipation and empowerment of women - calls for recognition at the national level. Recognizing the 100th Anniversary of women in the United States winning the right to vote provides a great opportunity to unite our country with patriotic and historical celebrations in every community, state, and in the nation. These grand events would honor the 72-year, non-partisan campaign while recognizing the extraordinary work of three generations of Americans who worked to ensure women's inclusion in our democracy. This celebration recognizing the campaign for women winning the vote is a central part of our national heritage. This quintessential event is an American Event.

#### **Start Now!**

Recruit your friends and family to join you. Begin by making plans for August 26<sup>th</sup> this year and build on it for next year to ensure that by 2020 you have built enthusiasm for an extraordinary event.

#### **Organize a Community Coalition**

Contact women's groups, educational organization, equity organizations, community libraries, local historical society, and museum. Start with something small and build on the event's success.



#### **Engage Your Elected Officials**

 Contact your state superintendent of schools and ask what the schools will be doing to celebrate the history and success of the Women's Suffrage Movement.

- 2. **Contact your Secretary of State** and ask what your state is doing to celebrate half of the population winning the right to vote.
- 3. Contact your local representatives' offices. Ask them to meet with you to discuss plans for celebrating the Women's Suffrage Centennial.



#### **Proclamations: An Important Beginning**

Engage your local, state, and national representatives and ask that they begin with a Proclamation for Women's Equality Day, 2018. This is an easy win and one that can be duplicated each year. (Visit www.nwhp. org Women's History All Year section.) You can use this as a guide for future years.

#### **Lobby For Support**

- Make phone calls, visit, or write letters to local, state and Congressional representatives.
- Write letters to the editor of your local paper and include information of on your local suffragists whenever possible.
- Contact local, state, and congressional representatives on social media.

#### **NOW.org Toolkit**

If you are seeking resources to engage your elected officials check out the "Raise Your Voice Toolkit." Although designed for lobbying for the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA), the NOW resources can be used for a variety of issues including the ERA and an Equality Day holiday.

Go to **www.NOW.org** https://now.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/Constituent-Engagement-Guide-4.pdf

#### **Social Media**

**Share your story** - "Why is it important to celebrate the Women's Suffrage Centennial?" #suffragecentennial #votesforwomen100years #womensequalityday

### **Host a Gathering**

Gather your historical enthusiasts and lovers of women's history to celebrate the accomplishments of women. Whether you host a tea, a luncheon, or a film, there are endless possibilities for collaboration and fun. For more ideas visit:

https://suffragistmemorial.wordpress.com/2015/08/16/how-to-host-a-suffragist-memorial-party/

### Hold a Commemorative Tea

#### The History

On July 9, 1848 five advocates for women's rights met for tea in Waterloo, New York. From their afternoon discussion these women - Lucretia Mott, Martha Wright, Mary Ann McClintock, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Jane Hunt - would move to action and plan the

Seneca Falls Convention of 1848; the first convention for women's rights in the United States. What was once a way for women to gather among friends, meeting for tea became an act of rebellion as women



used this time to educate themselves on the cause of suffrage and organize to take action to acquire the vote. Throughout the campaign, women would meet in their homes, tea rooms, and other public spaces to join forces.

#### **Commemorative Tea Ideas**

- Ask women to dress in suffrage colors (purple, gold, and white).
- Serve tea, sandwiches & sweets.
- Goodie Bags could include *How Women Won the Vote Volume 2* or other Women's Rights Information.
- Post your Tea on social media to inspire and connect with other celebrations around the country.
- Name tables after famous locations or suffragists.
- Create biography cards on women suffragists.
- Invite male supporters.