

NIKE NEW YORK STATE women, INC.

NIKE

The official publication of
New York State Women, Inc.

VOL. 66 ■ ISSUE 3 ■ MARCH 2017

Our Mission

To build powerful women
personally, professionally,
and politically.

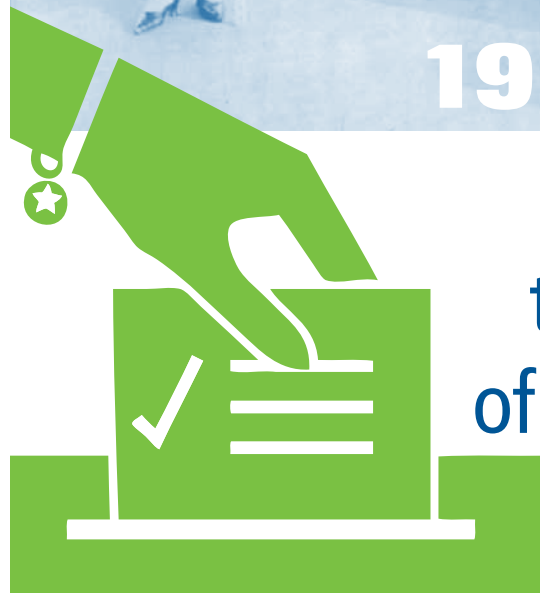
Our Vision

To make a difference
in the lives of
working women.



1917-2017

Celebrating the Centennial of NYS Women's Right to Vote



Dated Material — Deliver Promptly

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NYS Women, Inc. The State of the State



Changes Through the Years

by Theresa Fazzolari
NYS Women, Inc. President, 2016/2017

Time to reflect and time to move on!

ONE HUNDRED AGO – in 1917– New York State women’s suffrage was adopted and it helped change the course of history. The 19th Constitutional Amendment was finally ratified, on August 18, 1920, which guaranteed all women, throughout the U.S., the right to vote.

As we celebrate Women’s History Month in March, it seems appropriate that the movie, “Hidden Figures” is playing in theaters. In the film, which takes place starting in 1961, we see the plight and discrimination of three brilliant African-American women mathematicians who worked for NASA. The movie chronicles the story of how – in real life – these women bravely overcame racist and gender-based obstacles, rose up the ladder, and inspired generations to dream big!

As members of New York State Women, Inc. it is pertinent to have our voices heard and to help one another. Our mission is: “To build powerful women personally,

professionally and politically.”

One way in which our mission is accomplished is through the various workshops we give at our board meetings. I urge you to definitely plan on attending the spring board meeting on Saturday, April 22, 2017 at Griffiss Institute in Rome, NY. We’ll present the workshop, “Navigating the NYS Women, Inc. Website 101” which will help you become a pro at using our website and accessing the wealth of information at your fingertips.

At the annual conference, June 2nd – 4th, 2017 in Binghamton, NY, we’re presenting a workshop promoting successful programs and events of chapters and regions. Seriously think about submitting an outline which reflects on the success of your chapter’s programs and events and will help other chapters and regions to hold similar activities to move on! (For details, see page 19.)

Hoping to see everyone at the spring board meeting and our June conference!!

Feature: Personal Development

How NYS Women, Inc. captivated my attention.

by Ala Ladd

WHAT ATTRACTED YOU TO BECOME A MEMBER of NYS Women, Inc.? For me, it was a hot and sunny summer day at the New York State Fair where I was blessed to witness “other-oriented” performance in action. What is other-oriented? According to dictionary.com, the word “other” can have various meanings and is described as: *different in nature or kind, different or distinct, or even additional or further.* Being other-oriented is not being self-focused, but thinking outside of oneself. This different, distinct, and kind demeanor is what I witnessed that sunlit day at Women’s Day at the Fair.

At an outdoor pavilion, with tables set up one after another, were three women who stood out among all the organizations. They were not only smiling, but also genuine and kind. They seemed interested in who I was and excited that I was relocating from Syracuse to Binghamton in the near future.

It was a further pleasure to meet Binghamton’s then-president, Chris Lindstrom; this made me instantly exu-

berant to connect with this unique group. These ladies stood out because they were authentic, friendly in nature, and went the extra mile to get to know *me* as a person. Their other-oriented behavior was different and distinct from the numerous organizations represented that day.

As a Life Balance and Wellness Communicator who teaches the importance of living a balanced life mentally, physically, and spiritually, it was the spiritual element of connectedness that I witnessed that day which captivated my attention. This relational component is one effective way to build membership whether “wo-manning” a booth at the New York State Fair or attending a monthly meeting.

Ala Ladd is the president of the Greater Binghamton Chapter. She is a life balance & wellness communicator and keynote speaker who offers seminars, workshops, and one-on-one coaching. Her message for women is “Live a life of significance... A life that really matters.” She helps women through midlife’s transitions and changes.

Calendar of Events

2017

20th of each month: *Communicator* deadline

February

1 NIKE deadline

April

22 Spring Board Meeting
Griffiss Institute
725 Daedalian Drive, Rome, NY

June

2-4 Annual Conference
Holiday Inn Binghamton
2-8 Hawley Street, Binghamton, NY

NEW YORK STATE
women, INC.

Our Mission

To build powerful women personally, professionally, and politically.

Our Vision

To make a difference in the lives of working women.

Cover image: Library of Congress

Title: *Suffragettes - U.S.: Audre Osborne and Mrs. James S. Stevens, with several others in background, [ca.1917].*
<https://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/ggbain/item/2001704303/>

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Title: *WOMAN SUFFRAGE 1917.*
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From the Editor

“If I have seen further,
it is by standing on the
shoulders of giants.”

- ISAAC NEWTON, 1676



“If women want any rights more than they’s got, why
don’t they just take them, and not be talking about it.”

-Sojourner Truth, former slave, abolitionist,
and advocate of woman suffrage

“STANDING ON THE SHOULDERS OF GIANTS.”

These words from Sir Isaac Newton express the meaning behind this March issue of *NIKE*, which is dedicated to the centennial of New York State women gaining the vote in 1917. March is indeed a momentous month for women:

International Women’s Day – March 8 – is a global day celebrating the achievements of women. It also marks a call to action for accelerating gender parity. International Women’s Day has been observed since the early 1900s – a time of great expansion and turbulence in the industrialized world that saw booming population growth and the rise of radical ideologies.

In the U.S. we celebrate Women’s History Month; since 1987, when Congress declared March as National Women’s History Month, we have honored the extraordinary achievements of American women.

It’s fitting to celebrate these past female agitators – we would not be where we are today without the advocacy and efforts of women before us: Susan B. Anthony, Rochester NY native; former slave, Sojourner Truth; Ida B. Wells, who founded the Chicago-based Alpha Suffrage Club for Black women; Elizabeth Piper Ensley, who fought for – and won – full suffrage for women of all races in Colorado in 1893, among many women. Some of the fiercest advocates for woman suffrage and women’s rights were from New York State, home of the first Women’s Rights Convention in Seneca Falls in 1848.

We’re highlighting numerous women in this issue of *NIKE*. Beginning on page 14, you’ll find a timeline of national woman suffrage, 1848-1920, with special emphasis on the contributions of New York State women. We’re also reprinting JoAnne Krolak’s “Women of the Empire State” columns that describe suffrage efforts of NYS women (starts on page 6).

Moving to present day, Sue Mager, past state president, gave us permission to reprint her editorial originally published in *The Buffalo News* on March 6, 2017. And BNC member Joanne Sundell writes movingly about her experience at the Women’s March in Seneca Falls on January 21st in her opinion piece, “Why I Marched.”

Yes, 100 years ago women in New York State gained the vote. In a little-known event – also in 1917 – the suffragette Silent Sentinels who picketed Wilson’s White House were arrested, thrown into Occoquan Workhouse in Virginia, and in November of that year, beaten, with the hunger strikers among them forcibly fed.

It was only after the abuse of these women became public knowledge that Woodrow Wilson called for approval of the suffrage amendment in a speech to the Senate in September 1918, which finally led to the 1920 ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment.

Women’s voices. Women’s actions. Women’s advocacy. We saw it in 1917 and in 2017 it continues. Let’s celebrate the strength and power of women.

-Katharine Smith

Why I Marched.

by Joanne Sundell, Buffalo Niagara Chapter

[Editor's note: The WNY Women's Foundation provided the bus that Joanne Sundell took to Seneca Falls. It's a non-profit based in Buffalo, NY that works to remove barriers and provide opportunities for women and girls to become self-sufficient. Joanne and sister-BNC member, Sue Mager, had decided, independently of each other, to attend the March and discovered each other on the way to the event.]



Pictured foreground, 2nd from left: BNC member, Sue Mager at Seneca Falls, NY.

[Dear Editor:

I am submitting a timely letter, which is a close reprint of a letter that I submitted that was published by the Buffalo News back in 1995 (copy that I saved is attached for verification).

I feel that given the current political environment, my sentiments back in 1995 remain just as timely 22 years later. You may contact me via email or phone (leave voice mail and I will return your call promptly).

So starts Sue Mager's letter to the editor of The Buffalo News, which was published on March 6, 2017. Her current letter is printed below along with her original 1995 editorial.]

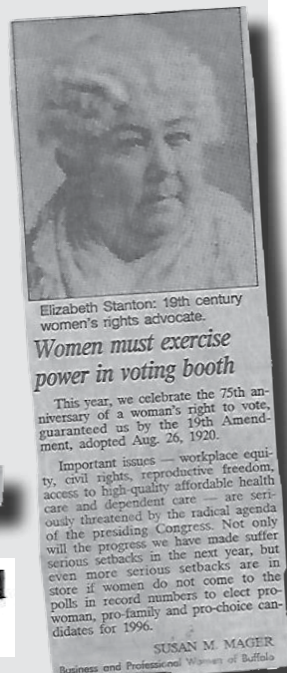
This year – 2017 – marks 100 years since New York State signed woman's suffrage into law. Notable because it occurred three years before the U.S. passed the 19th Amendment, adopted August 26, 1920. This March we celebrate these historical victories as part of Women's History Month commemorations held annually nationwide and here in Western New York.

Important issues – workplace equity, civil rights, reproductive freedom, access to high-quality affordable health care and dependent care are seriously threatened under the current administration and the presiding Congress. Not only will the progress we have made suffer serious setbacks in the next year, but even more setbacks are in store if women (and men) do not come to the polls in record numbers to elect pro-woman, pro-family and pro-choice candidates for 2018.

Susan Mager
Buffalo Niagara Chapter
New York State Women, Inc.

The Buffalo News/Sunday, October 29, 1995

Has the message changed since 1920 or 1995 ?



ON JANUARY 21st, I JOINED WOMEN organized by the WNY Women's Foundation on a bus bound for the Women's March in historic Seneca Falls, birthplace of the American Women's Rights movement.

I needed to go to Seneca Falls – I'd always felt a little ashamed that as a history professor, I'd never been there. I wanted to channel the energy of the suffragettes Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, and Alice Paul. Seneca Falls or bust!

At 7:00 AM, I boarded the limo bus with electric blue lights on the chrome ceiling and smooth pleather seats, meant to transport tipsy party-goers to weddings and stag parties, rather than citizens exercising their right to assemble peacefully.

After we got on the Thruway, our leader asked us why we were marching. Each in turn, seated around the U-shaped benches of the party bus spoke. Many were giving a voice to their daughters and granddaughters who couldn't come, others were on their own kind of crusade to send a message to policymakers. When it was my turn, I told this group of strangers/sisters that this was my therapy to help me deal with the uncertainty of the future of women's rights, not to mention environmental protection and the future of affordable health care. This was to be my pilgrimage to the place where the struggle began and is still ongoing.

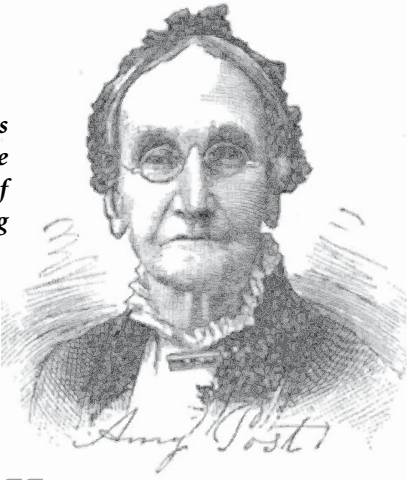
In what seemed like no time, we arrived

Continued on page 17

Column: Empire Builders

Over the years our NIKE columnist, JoAnne Krolak, has written thousands of words commemorating and honoring the New York State women who helped build the Empire State. Many of these women were on the frontline of woman suffrage and in this issue of NIKE, celebrating the centennial of NYS women gaining the vote, we're reprinting JoAnne's biographies of "New York State women who advocated for suffrage."

Amy Kirby Post



NYS women who advocated for suffrage.

by JoAnne Krolak
-originally printed March 2012

Amy Kirby Post was born in Jericho, NY, in 1802. When Amy was in her 20s, she moved to Scipio, New York, to live with her sister, Hannah, and brother-in-law, Isaac. Amy's sister died in 1827 and Amy married her brother-in-law the following year. In 1836, Amy and her husband moved from Scipio to Rochester, where Amy became active in the anti-slavery movement.

The Post home became a station on the Underground Railroad. Many nights, Amy and Isaac would house ten to twenty escaped slaves in their home. Amy also opened the home to anti-slavery lecturers, such as William Lloyd Garrison, William Nell, Abbey Kelley and Frederick Douglass. In 1842, Amy Post helped found the Western New York Anti-Slavery Society and helped raise money for the abolitionist cause.

Amy and Isaac Post had attended meetings of the Rochester Society of Friends (the Quakers). In 1845, they stopped attending meetings and left the Genesee Yearly Meeting of the Quakers. In those days, many Quaker ministers and elders disapproved of the methods used by some anti-slavery reformers and censured congregation members who agreed with

The Underground Railroad in Rochester

by Mrs. Amy Post

(excerpted from William F. Peck's 1884 Semi-Centennial History of Rochester)

"A history of Rochester would hardly be complete without some reference to the wonderful "Underground railroad," which was kept in active operation as long as slavery of the Negro race continued. The secrecy of its construction, its marvelous origin, the great number of passengers, the amount of freight transported thereon, can never be told. All its work was done in the dark. Although it had its depots, stations, passenger agents and conductors in every state in the Union, daylight never shone upon it. Its stations had no electric lights, and the passengers no guide aside from that blessed light in the heavens known as the North Star. . .

. . . Many other stories of narrow escapes might be written; one must suffice. One Saturday night, after all our household were asleep, there came a tiny tap at the door, and the door was opened to fifteen tired and hungry men and women who were escaping from the land of slavery. They seemed to know that Canada, their home of rest, was near, and they were impatient, but the opportunity to cross the lake compelled their waiting until Monday early in the morning. . . The husband of the eldest woman was a slave, while his wife, and mother of the children, was a free woman, but both sons and daughters had married slaves, so that they were all in danger of being sold or separated. . . . She said the South had "all gone mad after the money," and she had a great deal of trouble to keep them from being stolen away and sold into slavery. For a long time she had not dared to sleep without some white witness in the house . . . No colored person's testimony could be allowed in court, to prove that they were free people, which reduced her to this necessity. She said she owned quite a large farm, and having three grown-up sons to help her carry it on, she had several horses, cows and pigs to sell, but the white folk would not buy them of her. If she could have sold them for what they were worth she said they should have had enough to come all the way on the railroad; "but" she said, "I don't care now; they may have them all, I am going where I can work for more, and I have got all my children, and my husband, too, thank the Lord." The welcome Monday morning came, and after a hearty breakfast, and a lunch for dinner, they left the house, with all the stillness and quietness possible, and we soon saw them on board a Canada steamer, which was already lying at the dock; with them on board, it immediately shoved out into the middle of the stream, hoisted the British flag, and we knew that all was safe; we breathed more freely, but when we saw them standing on deck with uncovered heads, shouting their good-byes, thanks and ejaculations, we could not restrain our tears of thankfulness for their happy escape, mixed with deep shame that our own boasted land of liberty offered no shelter of safety for them.

It is safe to estimate the number of those who found their way to Canada through Rochester, as averaging about one hundred fifty per year, and thus the work went bravely on, with varying success, till the issue between freedom and slavery had to be fairly met by the American people. . ."

these methods. Amy said that Quaker ministers and elders had no right to judge the actions that individual members took in matters of conscience.

In addition to her work for the abolitionist cause, Amy Post worked on behalf of the women's rights movement. In 1848, she attended the Women's Rights Convention in Seneca Falls, where she participated in debates and signed the Declaration of Sentiments. While Amy Post was at the Seneca Falls Convention, she joined with other participants who felt another such meeting should be held in Rochester, and not only that – this next meeting should be presided over by a woman. The "Adjourned Convention," which took place on August 2, 1848, was presided over by Abigail Bush and it was called to order by Amy Post.

Two weeks after this meeting, Amy Post joined forces with Sarah Owen and two seamstresses who had attended the meeting to form the Working Women's Protective Association. This union focused its activities on forcing employers to pay women their agreed-upon wages. It also served as a resource for job training and offered a legal defense and employment center. As Amy Post herself said, "women were entitled... equally with men to the products of their labor or its equivalent." The WWPU became a model for like-minded groups across the United States and Europe. In the first twenty seven years of its organization, the WWPU had taken over 10,000 employment applications and collected more than \$41,000 to assist 12,000 women.

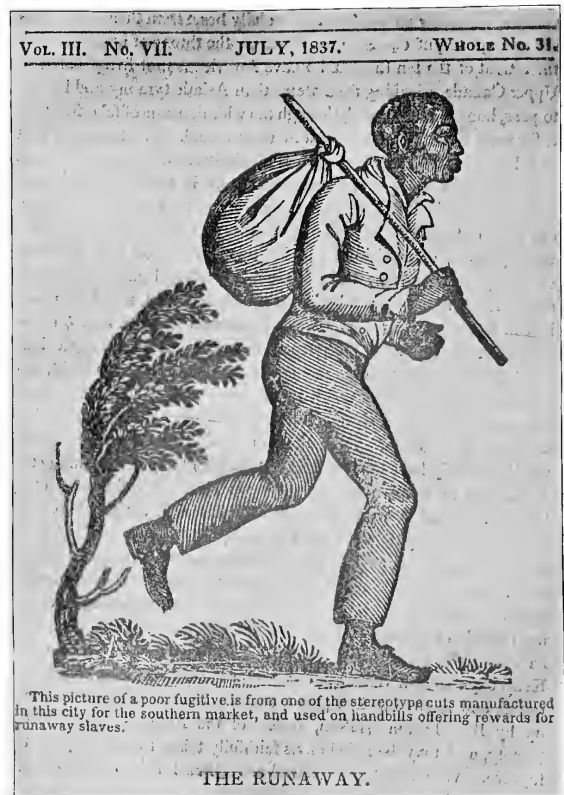
After the Civil War, Amy Post joined the Equal Rights Association and the National Woman Suffrage Association. In 1872, Amy Post joined Susan B. Anthony in her attempt to vote in the national election. Although Amy was prevented from actually voting, she did succeed in registering. A second attempt at voting in 1873 was likewise unsuccessful.

In 1878, the National Woman Suffrage Association met in Rochester to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Seneca Falls Convention. Amy Post attended this convention as one of the delegates from Monroe County. In 1888, when she was in her middle 80s, Amy Post was still active in the women's suffrage cause and attended the International Council of Women in Washington, D.C. This meeting was promoted as the largest women's rights convention held up until that time.

Amy Kirby Post actively supported the causes she and husband Isaac (who had passed away in 1872) had championed until the end of her life. The end came on January 29, 1889, less than one year after she had attended the International Council of Women meeting. Her funeral was held at the Unitarian Society in Rochester, and she was buried alongside Isaac in Mt. Hope Cemetery.

"The time for compromise was passed. The South appealed to the sword and was answered with equal firmness and bravery by the North, but it was not until many a fair field was drenched with blood that this government was willing to concede to the colored people their rights. And now, in looking back through the vista of years to this long and terrible struggle between freedom and slavery, we would raise an enduring monument to those noble souls who risked all that life held dear in defending the downtrodden and helpless against a giant wrong, and, as they look across the dark valley to the bright land beyond, their greatest glory will be that they helped to break the fetters that bound the bodies and souls of their fellowmen."

Excerpted from William F. Peck's 1884 Semi-Centennial History of Rochester



(Slightly enlarged from *The Anti-Slavery Record*, published in New York City by the American Anti-Slavery Society.)

For more of JoAnne Krolak's excellent stories of NYS women who advocated for suffrage, turn the page.

Antoinette Brown

NYS women who advocated for suffrage.

by JoAnne Krolak

-originally printed September 2014

ANTOINETTE BROWN WAS BORN to Joseph and Abby Morse Brown in Henrietta, NY, on May 20, 1825. She started school when she was about three years old and entered the Monroe County Academy when she was thirteen. Two years later, she graduated from the Academy and began a career as a teacher. In 1846, Antoinette decided that she wanted to attend college.

Antoinette had saved some money from her earnings and together with financial help from her father, was able to attend Oberlin College in Ohio, where she entered the non-degree program “Ladies Literary Course.” Then she applied to enter the school’s theology program. Antoinette wanted to become a minister.

Antoinette Brown had been brought up in the Congregationalist tradition. Her grandmother taught her about God’s mercy. Her mother encouraged Antoinette to become a missionary. Her father was deeply involved in the revival movements taking place in New York at that time. When she was just nine years old, Antoinette joined the Congregational Church and would sometimes speak at the services, where people commented on her eloquence and religious fervor. Oberlin College initially resisted Antoinette’s efforts to enroll in the theological program, and when she completed her studies in 1850, refused to award her a degree. The Congregational Church refused to grant her a license to preach and turned down her request for ordination.

With no license to preach, Antoinette took to the lecture circuit for the reform movements of the day. She gave temperance speeches in Ohio and attended the first National Women’s Rights Convention. Antoinette also wrote for Frederick Douglass’ paper, *The North Star*.

Finally, in 1851, the Congregational Church granted Antoinette a license to preach. She found a church in South Butler in Wayne County, NY, that would hire her and in 1852, the Congregational Church relented and Antoinette was ordained. At the time, Antoinette was considered the first woman to be ordained to the min-



istry. Her stay at the church in South Butler would be short-lived, however, and she left about one year later over theological differences with the Congregational denomination (years later, Antoinette would adopt the Unitarian faith). Antoinette then resumed touring the lecture circuits for women’s rights, temperance and abolition. She also wrote articles for the *New York Tribune* on her experiences doing volunteer work in the slums and prisons of New York City.

In 1856, Antoinette married Samuel Blackwell, a real estate dealer and hardware salesman. Samuel was the brother of Elizabeth Blackwell, the first woman to receive a degree from an American medical school. He was also the brother of Henry Blackwell, who had married Antoinette’s college

We fully believed, so soon as we saw that woman’s suffrage was right, every one would soon see the same thing, and that in a year or two, at farthest, it would be granted.

friend, Lucy Stone, the year before. Antoinette and Samuel would go on to have seven children (two of whom died in infancy). Samuel supported Antoinette in her desire to continue lecturing and would help care for their children when she was out on the circuit. To better balance her family responsibilities with her efforts on behalf of the women’s rights movement at this time, Antoinette turned to writing books and

Continued on page 23

Source citation: Julia Griffiths, ed., *Autographs For Freedom* (Auburn: Alden, Beardsley & Co., 1854), 41.
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Matilda Joslyn Gage

NYS women who advocated for suffrage.

by JoAnne Krolak, originally printed September 2009

MATILDA JOSLYN GAGE WAS BORN IN CICERO, NY, in 1826. Her parents were abolitionists and their home was a stop on the Underground Railroad. In 1845, Matilda married Henry Gage and moved with him to Fayetteville. The Gage home became another stop on the Underground Railroad.

In 1850 the Fugitive Slave Law was passed, which made persons who aided runaway slaves liable for a fine and imprisonment. Matilda was a young wife with four children. Nevertheless, she signed a petition stating that she would face the six month prison term and the \$1,000 fine rather than obey this law.

Matilda credited her upbringing in the abolitionist movement and her home being a stop on the Underground Railroad for her initial attraction to the women's suffrage movement. So when she read an account of a women's rights convention to be held in Syracuse in 1852, she knew she must attend.

Matilda Joslyn Gage was not on the agenda to speak and her name was not known to those in attendance at the Syracuse convention. Introduced to the assembly by Lucretia Mott, Matilda gave a speech on the status of women in history, how past precedents were used to keep women of the day in a subservient position, and she drew a parallel between the status of women in the United States and the institution of slavery. She urged the women in her hearing to "use the precedents of the past to inform their present and shape their future..." Lucretia Mott was so impressed with Matilda's speech that she arranged to have it published with the other documents of the convention. Thus was Matilda Joslyn Gage launched into her life's work in the cause of women's rights.

In the years that followed the convention, Matilda wrote articles, gave speeches, and held various posts in organizations advocating women's rights. In 1869, she was among the group that organized the National Woman Suffrage Association (NWSA) and served on its advisory council. When Susan B. Anthony was arrested in Rochester for trying to vote in the 1872 election, Matilda Joslyn Gage traveled to New York to speak on the topic "the United States on trial, not Susan B. Anthony."

In 1875, Matilda appeared before Congress to testify on behalf of a suffrage bill. The bill did not pass, and she circulated a protest at the 1876 NWSA convention that



Gage's gravestone sums up her life: "There is a word sweeter than Mother, Home, or Heaven; that word is Liberty."

said women should not participate in the nation's Centennial because the nation was controlled by men and not a true democracy. When police were sent to close down the convention on the grounds of illegal assembly, Matilda refused to adjourn the convention and said

that she would continue the gathering from jail if she were arrested. She did, however, turn over her leadership post in NWSA to Elizabeth Cady Stanton later that year on the grounds that it was important to have the nation's best known suffragist represent NWSA during the Centennial.

In 1878, Matilda embarked on a three-year term as editor of NWSA's newspaper, the National Citizen and Ballot Box. Her articles covered such wide-ranging topics as prostitution, Native Americans, the treatment of women in prison, and the role of Christianity in the oppression of women. She also worked with Elizabeth Cady Stanton on *The Women's Bible* and with Stanton and Susan B. Anthony on *The History of Woman Suffrage*.

Two years later, Matilda Joslyn Gage and NWSA gained women the right to vote and run for office in New York State school elections. Matilda held organizing meetings in her home and was among the first women to vote in the Fayetteville school election, where an all-woman slate was elected. (Unfortunately, in 1893, Matilda lost a court challenge to the constitutionality of the law which allowed women's suffrage in school elections).

During the 1880s, the relationship between Matilda Joslyn Gage, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony unraveled. Anthony believed that NWSA needed broad-based support to accomplish the goal of women's suffrage, and she pursued alliances with the American Women's Suffrage Association (AWSA) and the Women's Christian Temperance Union. At the 1889 NWSA convention, she engineered a merger of the organization with the more conservative AWSA. Stanton stayed on as president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA), as the new organization was called.

Matilda left to form the National Woman's Liberal Union, and spent the remaining years of her life estranged from former suffrage friends and allies. She died in Chicago in 1898, while on a visit to her daughter's family.

Mary Stafford Anthony

NYS women who advocated for suffrage.

by JoAnne Krolak

-originally printed June 2015

MARY STAFFORD ANTHONY WAS born in 1827 in Battenville, NY, to Daniel and Lucy Read Anthony. She was the youngest of the Anthony family's children. As a girl, Mary lived on the family farm and, with her sister Susan, followed the Quaker tradition of hard work, help for the needy and education for both boys and girls.

When she was 17, Mary became a teacher in Fort Edward, NY, earning a salary of \$1.50 per week. She boarded with families in the district. One year later, the Anthony family moved to a farm in Gates, NY, where Mary would help with chores and housework. When Mary turned 27, she returned to teaching and would be employed in Rochester area schools until her retirement.

In 1860, Mary took a job as acting principal in a Rochester school. Being unwilling to work at the job at a lesser rate of pay, she demanded a salary equivalent to that paid a man in the same position. Mary received it. In 1868, Mary became principal of Ward School No. 2 in Rochester, where she remained until her retirement in 1883.

Mary's father, Daniel Read, had died in 1862. For a time, Mary and her mother, Lucy, lived on North Street. Later they moved to a house on Madison Street. Lucy had been an invalid since 1870, and Mary was her caregiver, in addition to providing financial support, a responsibility she would fulfill until Lucy's death in 1880.

In addition to her teaching duties and caregiving responsibilities, Mary participated in several Rochester organizations. Starting in 1873, Mary was active in the Women's Christian Temperance Union. In 1885, Mary organized the first meeting of the Women's Political Club (she served as organization president from 1892 until 1903). During her time with the Women's Political Club, Mary and the Club would organize a drive to get the City of Rochester to include a women's suffrage clause in its new charter. In 1893, she became the corresponding secretary for the New York State Woman Suffrage



Active in women's suffrage, Mary Stafford Anthony, left, is shown with her famous sister, Susan B. Anthony.

Association. In 1901, Mary became a Life member of National American Woman Suffrage Association. She also ran a woman suffrage campaign out of the family's home. Some might say that for Mary, the cause was personal. She owned a home and paid taxes, but was not allowed to vote for the people who levied the taxes. Every year without fail, she would write "under protest" on her tax payments.

During the period when Mary kept the house at Madison Street, Susan B. Anthony settled in Rochester. Susan made the Madison Street home her home, and lived there between trips on behalf of the women's suffrage cause. Mary would shop for Susan, run her errands, and help pack Susan's bags for her many trips on behalf of women's suffrage. Mary was also able to assist her sister financially. It was Mary who

contributed money to help keep Susan's newspaper, the "Revolution," afloat. She also donated money toward Susan's efforts to open the University of Rochester to women students. Mary had intended to leave \$2,000 to the University in her will, if the school became co-educational. However, Susan told Mary "give it now... don't wait, or the girls may never be admitted."

In 1899, and again in 1904, Mary traveled to Europe to attend meetings of the International Council of Women. In 1905, she accompanied Susan to Portland, Oregon, where the sisters attended the National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA) convention. In 1906, the sisters would travel to Baltimore, Maryland, to attend another NAWSA convention. This convention was held little more than a month before Susan's death. After Susan's death, Mary traveled with the Rev. Anna Howard Shaw back to Portland to work on the Oregon women's suffrage campaign. The campaign would prove unsuccessful and Mary returned to Rochester, where she would die of leukemia on February 5, 1907. Mary was buried next to Susan in Rochester's Mount Hope Cemetery.

Kate Stoneman

NYS women who advocated for suffrage.

by JoAnne Krolak

-originally printed December 2008

KATE STONEMAN, THE FIRST WOMAN LAWYER IN New York State, was born in Busti, NY, in 1841. She was the fifth of eight children. Both her parents had been teachers, and maintained a small library in their home. The library included a large law book which Kate read again and again. In the mid-1860s, Kate decided to make teaching her profession and traveled across the state to the Normal School in Albany, which was the only state school in New York available to train teachers for the public schools. While Kate was a student at the Normal School, she worked as a copyist for Joel Tiffany, state reporter for the New York Court of Appeals. Once again, she was immersed in reading law books.

Upon graduation, Kate taught for one term in Glens Falls, but later returned to the Normal School, where she taught penmanship, geography, drawing and school law. Kate spent 40 years at the Normal School, rising to the rank of vice principal. She also served as the school's first female president of the Alumni Association.

Shortly after starting her teaching career, Kate also began to take an interest in women's suffrage. In 1880, Kate and a group of friends formed the Woman's Suffrage Society of Albany. The group successfully lobbied the state legislature to pass legislation that would allow women in small towns to participate in school elections and become members of school boards.

In 1882, Kate became a clerk for the attorney W. W. Frothingham. Kate's study of the law began in earnest when Frothingham opened his law library to her. She taught at the Normal School during the day, and at night, over weekends and during the summer read the law. Three years later, Kate became the first woman to pass the New York State Bar examination. Kate applied for admission to the Bar in 1886, but her application was denied. Kate Stoneman was told that the state's "Code of Civil Procedure prescribed that only 'male citizens' were eligible to practice law."

The story does not end here. Assemblyman John Platt had introduced a bill which would remove the gender qualification from the Code. The bill had been stuck in the Judiciary Committee, but when Kate's application for



admission to the Bar was denied, Kate and her friends went to work to get the bill out of committee. Time was short – the legislature was nearing the end of its term. So, Kate and her committee walked the bill through the Senate and the Assembly and

saw, in a matter of days, the removal of sex and race as qualifications for admission to practice law in New York State. Kate then called on Governor David Hill and watched as he signed the bill into law. Armed with the signed copy of the legislation, she reapplied for admission to the New York Bar and was accepted. Kate Stoneman was now New York's first woman lawyer. In 1896, Kate Stoneman opened yet another door for women in New York State when she enrolled in Albany Law School. Kate received her law degree two years later – the only woman in the Law School's class of 1898.

Kate Stoneman continued in her teaching career during her practice of law. She also continued her work in the women's suffrage movement. Every year she would participate in the State Suffrage Association's efforts to secure the vote for women in New York. In 1918, Kate Stoneman acted as a poll watcher during Albany city elections and looked on as women cast their first ballots.

Kate Stoneman died in 1925, and is buried in the Albany Rural Cemetery. In 1994, Albany Law School started "Kate Stoneman Day," in her honor. The day is marked by the announcement of the "Kate Stoneman Award" winners. These awards are given to lawyers who demonstrate a commitment to change and expanding opportunities for women.

Rhoda Fox Graves

NYS women who advocated for suffrage.

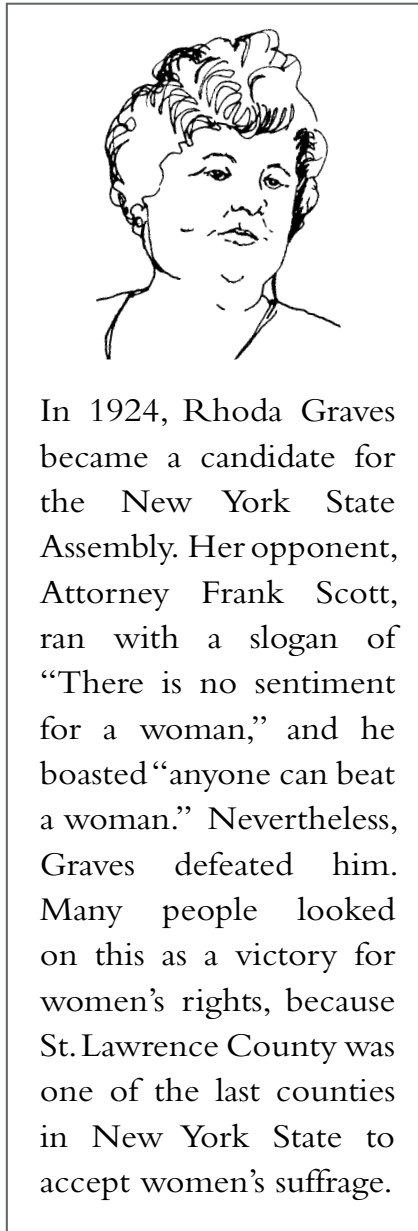
by JoAnne Krolak
-originally printed May 2011

RHODA FOX GRAVES WAS BORN on July 2, 1877, to Leander and Rhoda Austin in Fowler, NY. Rhoda's mother died in childbirth and her father placed the infant Rhoda with some friends – Lafayette and Rhoda Fox. Two years later, the Foxes formally adopted Rhoda Austin and she became Rhoda Fox. Rhoda grew up on the Fox family farm in Fowler and attended schools in Fowler and Gouverneur. After graduation, Rhoda Fox became a teacher in Gouverneur, and in 1905, married Perle Atwell Graves, with whom she had two sons.

Rhoda Graves had been involved in the women's suffrage movement, and when the 19th Amendment was passed, took an active part in the politics of St. Lawrence County. From 1920 to 1935, she was vice-president of the St. Lawrence County Republican Committee – the first woman to hold this office. During this time, she organized the county's 32 towns, 113 election districts and the city of Ogdensburg. Each district would have a woman representative and each town would have a woman chair.

In 1924, Rhoda Graves became a candidate for the New York State Assembly. Her opponent, Attorney Frank Scott, ran with a slogan of "There is no sentiment for a woman," and he boasted "anyone can beat a woman." Nevertheless, Graves defeated him. Many people looked on this as a victory for women's rights, because St. Lawrence County was one of the last counties in New York State to accept women's suffrage.

On her first day in the Assembly, Rhoda Graves introduced a bill to allow children under age 18, who were living in rural areas, to operate motor vehicles. One year after her election, Graves was appointed chair of the



In 1924, Rhoda Graves became a candidate for the New York State Assembly. Her opponent, Attorney Frank Scott, ran with a slogan of "There is no sentiment for a woman," and he boasted "anyone can beat a woman." Nevertheless, Graves defeated him. Many people looked on this as a victory for women's rights, because St. Lawrence County was one of the last counties in New York State to accept women's suffrage.

Assembly Public Institutions Committee. During this time, she also sponsored legislation to finance school buildings and create teaching scholarships. Graves worked as an advocate for women's rights, including the right to serve on a jury. Other legislative projects included creation of a State Publicity Bureau, a state highway snow clearance provision, and measures to benefit dairy farmers and the St. Lawrence Seaway. She also incurred the wrath of Republican Party leaders by voting for Governor Smith's water power bill, whereby the State would develop water power for sale directly to communities and private companies.

Eight years after her election to the State Assembly, Rhoda Graves became a candidate for the State Senate. The Republican Party backed the incumbent, Senator Warren Thayer of Chateaugay. Despite opposition by the party organization, Graves carried St. Lawrence County and might have won the election, but for the loss of Ogdensburg. Two years later, Rhoda Graves tried running for the Senate again. She was considered the "clean" candidate, and the Republican Chairman, Harry Inram, called on party members to support her candidacy and reject inroads by Tammany Hall politicians into St. Lawrence County. This time,

Rhoda Graves was successful, which made her the first woman elected to the State Senate.

Rhoda Graves would go on to serve 14 years in the New York State Senate. While there, she was chair of the Senate Standing Committee on Agriculture, a post she held for 10 years. She also served on several other committees, such as Conservation, Public Education, Highways & Parkways,

Continued on page 23

Why I Marched.

Continued from page 5

in Seneca Falls. Dark fog was replaced by bright sunshine and I went alone into the crowd of women, men, and children that filled the greenspace between the historic buildings that served those women who first gathering in 1848 to present the Declaration of Sentiments.

I was overwhelmed by the unity and strength of our numbers, I sobbed and was embraced by a stranger/sister. "That's why we're here," she said. I listened to the thoughts of insightful speakers, poets, and musicians. A strong Native American message of the natural rights of women and of nature was particularly striking.

The actual march was surprisingly quiet and thoughtful. The mood was solemn. The group of 6,000 or so, carrying posters, banners, and signs, wound around the streets of a the pretty little town. Marchers spilled into and around the old church where dozens of speakers shared and inspired.

Being on my own allowed me to come and go through the venue without a plan. I took my time in the museum reading about the early movement and looking at whale bone corsets. I walked by the water and listened to music. I was quiet.

The ride back on our giant party bus was lighter – there was wine and cheese and chocolate! My boots were muddy and it was good to sit down. A stranger/sister asked if I felt better. I did. I do. I'm prepared to work for public interest groups that will be participants in policy making. So many were represented at this march and others including the WNY Women's Foundation, the American Association of University Women, and our own New York State Women, Inc.

Women's Activism: Then and Now



"We shall some day be heeded, and everybody will think it was always so, just exactly as many young people think all the privileges, all the freedom, all the enjoyments which woman now possesses always were hers.

They have no idea of how every single inch of ground that she stands upon today has been gained by the hard work of some little handful of women of the past." - Susan B. Anthony



Clockwise from top left: Suffragettes with banners; Suffragettes leaving City Hall, NYC on October 28, 1908; Suffragettes on way to Boston. Below: signs and pins from the Women's March, January 21, 2017.



Women's political activism is nothing new: female advocates were in the forefront of the abolitionist movement; a woman's right to own property or gain an education; child labor laws; equal pay issues; and woman suffrage.

Now in 2017, women are rising up to make their voices heard on diverse topics ranging from equal pay wages to LGBTQ issues, from problems impacting those with disabilities and women of color to

domestic violence and sexual harassment. As Susan B. Anthony said at her trial in 1874 on the charge of illegal voting, *"And I shall earnestly and persistently continue to urge all women to the practical recognition of the old revolutionary maxim, that "Resistance to tyranny is obedience to God."*

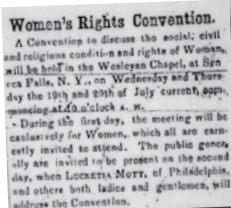
WOMAN SUFFRAGE TIMELINE 1848-1920

1848

Seneca Falls, NY is the location for the first Women's Rights Convention. Elizabeth Cady Stanton writes "The Declaration of Sentiments" creating the agenda of women's activism for decades to come.



New York State played a pivotal role in the fight for woman suffrage. Above: scene from first Women's Rights Convention, Seneca Falls. Below: Elizabeth Cady Stanton.



1849

First state constitution in California extends property rights to women.

Sources: Woman Suffrage Timeline (1840-1920): nwhm.org/education-resources/history/woman-suffrage-timeline; Night of Terror: wikipedia.org; African American Women and Suffrage: nwhm.org/online-exhibits/rightsforwomen/AfricanAmericanwomen.html; Women's Rights Movement in the U.S.: infoplease.com/spot/womenstimeline1.html; Women's Accomplishments in 1887: <http://www.accessible-archives.com/2014/03/record-women-in-1887/>; BPW/USA: <http://bpw-foundation.org/about/history-2/>. Images: Library of Congress, <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/>.



Abolitionist Frederick Douglass was born a slave around 1818 in Maryland. A famous intellectual of the time, he advised presidents and lectured on causes ranging from women's rights to Irish home rule.

1850

Worcester, MA. First National Women's Rights Convention with more than 1,000 participants. Frederick Douglass, Paulina Wright Davis, Abby Kelley Foster, William Lloyd Garrison, Lucy Stone, Sojourner Truth in attendance. Strong alliance formed with the Abolitionist Movement.

1851

Worcester, MA. Site of second National Women's Rights Convention.



Former slave, Sojourner Truth, above, abolitionist and advocate of woman suffrage, made her famous speech, "Ain't I A Woman," at a convention Akron, OH (1851). Black women suffragists from this period include Margaretta Forten, Harriet Forten Purvis, and Mary Ann Shadd Cary.

And ain't I a woman? Look at me! Look at my arm! I have ploughed and planted, and gathered into barns, and no man could head me! And ain't I a woman? I could work as much and eat as much as a man - when I could get it - and bear the lash as well! And ain't I a woman? I have borne thirteen children, and seen most all sold off to slavery, and when I cried out with my mother's grief, none but Jesus heard me! And ain't I a woman?



Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Susan B. Anthony, right (circa between 1880 and 1902)

1866

Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony form American Equal Rights Association, dedicated to suffrage for all regardless of gender or race.

1868

Many early suffrage supporters, including Anthony, remained single because in the mid-1800s, married women could not own property in their own rights or make legal contracts on their own behalf.

The American Equal Rights Association wrecked by disagreements over the Fourteenth Amendment and the question of whether to support the proposed Fifteenth Amendment which would enfranchise Black American males while avoiding the question of woman suffrage entirely.

Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony found the National Woman Suffrage Association (NWSA), a more radical institution, to achieve the vote through a Constitutional amendment as well as push for other woman's rights issues. NWSA was based in New York

Lucy Stone, Henry Blackwell, Julia Ward Howe and other more conservative activists form the American Woman Suffrage Association (AWSA) to work for woman suffrage through amending individual state constitutions.

Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution is ratified in July. "Citizens" and "voters" are defined exclusively as male.

1917-2017 CENTENNIAL OF NYS WOMAN SUFFRAGE

1870

Fifteenth Amendment gives Black men the right to vote, but without reference to sex as a protected category. NWSA refused to work for its ratification; instead members advocate for a Sixteenth Amendment of universal suffrage. Frederick Douglass broke with Stanton and Anthony over the position of NWSA.

"Well I have been & gone & done it!! – positively voted... so we are in for a fine agitation in Rochester..."

-Susan B. Anthony to Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Nov 5th 1872



1872



Susan B. Anthony casts her ballot for Ulysses S. Grant in the presidential election. Police come to her home and arrest her in the front parlor; she's brought to trial in Rochester, NY. Sojourner Truth appears at a polling booth in Battle Creek, MI, demanding a ballot to vote and is turned away.

Abigail Scott Duniway convinces Oregon lawmakers to pass laws granting married women's rights such as starting and operating her own business, controlling the money she earns, and the right to protect her property if her husband leaves.

1874

Woman's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU) is founded by Annie Wittenmyer. With Frances Willard at its head (1876), the WCTU became an important proponent in the fight for woman suffrage. As a result, one of the strongest opponents to women's enfranchisement was the liquor lobby, which feared women might use their vote to prohibit the sale of liquor.



1876



Susan B. Anthony and Matilda Joslyn Gage disrupt the official Centennial program at Independence Hall in Philadelphia, present "Declaration of Rights for Women" to the Vice President.

1878

Woman Suffrage Amendment proposed in U.S. Congress. When the 19th Amendment passes 42 years later, it will be worded exactly the same as 1878 Amendment: "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

1887

First vote on woman suffrage taken in the Senate and is defeated.

Women's Accomplishments 1887

First U.S. Women's National Tennis Championship: Ellen Hansell beats Laura Knight (6-1, 6-0).

First woman mayor in U.S., is Mrs. Susanna M. Salter, Argonia, KS.

A gift of \$10,000 toward a new library building by Mrs. Thomas H. Powers and her daughter, Mrs. Mary P. Harris, has been accepted by the University of Pennsylvania.

The Woman's Tribune, Nebraska, edited by Mrs. Clara Colby, a daughter of Mrs. Duniway, of Oregon, will hereafter be issued weekly.

The women of New York have been granted more patents than women in any other state. The women of Massachusetts, Ohio, Indiana and Wisconsin, rank next in order.

Mrs. Bessie White Hagar, Louisville, KY, has compelled the State Board of Pharmacy to grant her a certificate to dispense medicines as a chemist. Although she had a pharmacist's diploma, the Board refused to examine her, but have now been compelled to do so by the courts.

Source: 1887 list of notable women published in Godey's Lady's Book.

<http://www.accessible-archives.com/2014/03/record-women-in-1887/>

Continued on page 16

WOMAN SUFFRAGE TIMELINE 1848-1920



Suffrage House, Washington, D.C.

1890

NWSA and AWSA merge and National American Woman Suffrage Association formed with Stanton as president. Movement focuses efforts on securing suffrage at the state level.

Wyoming is admitted to the Union with a state constitution granting woman suffrage.

American Federation of Labor declares support for woman suffrage.

1893

Colorado adopts woman suffrage. Instrumental in this effort was African American, Elizabeth Piper Ensey, who fought for full suffrage for women of all races.

1894

600,000 signatures presented to NYS Constitutional Convention in failed effort to bring woman suffrage amendment to voters.



Women's Club of Buffalo, NY; newspaper clipping for a symposium on votes for women.



1896

In the 1880s and 1890s, Black women, like their white counterparts, formed woman's clubs; many included suffrage as one plank in a broader platform. In 1896, some clubs affiliated to form National Association of Colored Women (NACW), with Mary Church Terrell as president. The National Baptist Woman's Convention, another focal point of Black women's organizational power, also consistently supported woman suffrage.



Utah joins the Union with full suffrage for women.

Idaho adopts woman suffrage.

1898

Among Black women who were staunch suffragists was Anna Julia Cooper. Her speech at the World's Congress of Representative Women in Chicago in May 1898; described with emotion the plight of African American women in slavery and their progress through education since:



"We take our stand on the solidarity of humanity, the oneness of life, and the unnaturalness and injustice of all special favoritisms, whether of sex, race, country, or condition. If one link of the chain be broken, the chain is broken."

1903

Mary Dreier, Rheta Childe Dorr, Leonora O'Reilly form Women's Trade Union League of NY, an organization of middle- and working-class women dedicated to unionization for working women and women's suffrage.

1906

Susan B. Anthony dies in Rochester, NY. In a Washington D.C. speech a few days earlier, Anthony had spoken of those who had worked with her for women's rights: "There have been others also just as true and devoted to the cause – I wish I could name every one – but with such women consecrating their lives, failure is impossible!"



1910

Washington State adopts woman suffrage.

Women's Political Union holds first suffrage parade in NYC.

1911

National Association Opposed to Woman Suffrage organized. Led by Mrs. Arthur Dodge, members include wealthy, influential women, some Catholic clergymen, distillers and brewers, urban political machines, Southern congressmen, and corporate capitalists.

California suffrage campaign succeeds by small margin.

1917-2017 CENTENNIAL OF NYS WOMAN SUFFRAGE

1912



Woman suffrage supported for the first time at national level by a major political party – Theodore Roosevelt’s Bull Moose Party.



20,000 suffrage supporters join NYC suffrage parade.

Oregon, Kansas, Arizona adopt woman suffrage.

1913

Alice Paul and Lucy Burns organize Congressional Union, later known as the National Women’s Party (1916), borrowing strategies from the radical Women’s Social and Political Union in England.

Black women founded clubs that worked exclusively for woman’s suffrage, such as the Alpha Suffrage Club of Chicago, founded by Ida B. Wells in 1913.



1914

Nevada, Montana adopt woman suffrage.

1915

40,000 march in NYC suffrage parade. Many women dress in white.

October 2015 speech from Buffalo, NY activist Mary B. Talbert, president, National Association of Colored Women (1919-20). It focused on the “clear powers of observation and judgment” Black women had gained. Talbert felt that these powers were “necessary to the building of an ideal country.”



1916

Jeanette Rankin of Montana is first woman elected to House of Representatives. Woodrow Wilson says the Democratic Party platform will support suffrage.



Jeanette Rankin, born on the Montana frontier in 1880, lived to speak out on national television in the 1970s. She advocated for woman suffrage in the 1910s. All her life she worked for peace and social justice. She lost her seat in Congress twice for voting against war, first in 1917, then 1941. In 1968, age 87, she marched at the head of the Jeannette Rankin Peace Parade with 5,000 women protesting the Vietnam War.

1917

New York State women gain suffrage.



Silent Sentinels from the National Woman’s Party picketing the White House; Wilson (center).

National Woman’s Party picket in front of White House: known as the Silent Sentinels, their banners denounced President Woodrow Wilson. The unrelenting suffragists, began protesting in January when he took office and in June, arrests of the National Woman’s Party picketers begin on charges of obstructing sidewalk traffic. Subsequent picketers sentenced up to six months in jail. “Night of Terror” occurs November 14, 1917 at the Occoquan Workhouse in Virginia. A group of 33 Silent Sentinels were brutally tortured and beaten by workhouse guards. During her seven-month sentence, Alice Paul, the picketers’ leader, and others went on a hunger strike to protest conditions and were force-fed. Finally, the government unconditionally releases the picketers in response to public outcry and an inability to stop National Woman’s Party picketers’ hunger strike.

1918

Representative Jeanette Rankin opens debate on a suffrage amendment in the House. The amendment passes but fails to win the required two thirds majority in the Senate.

Michigan, South Dakota, and Oklahoma adopt woman suffrage.

It was only after the abuse of the suffragists became public knowledge that Woodrow Wilson calls for approval of the suffrage amendment in a speech to the Senate, September 1918.

1919

Senate finally passes Nineteenth Amendment on June 4th and ratification process begins.

On July 15, in St. Louis MS, the precursor to NYS Women, Inc. – the National Federation of Business and Professional Women’s Clubs (later known as BPW/USA) founded; a national organization for solidarity and advocacy for working women throughout the nation.

August 26, 1920

Three quarters of state legislatures ratify the Nineteenth Amendment. American women win full voting rights.



NIKE All Stars

The 2016-2017 *NIKE* All Star Campaign is in full swing and thank you to our loyal supporters who have already sent their listings in.

Members will have an opportunity to contribute at our annual conference, and chapters, regions and friends of NYS Women, Inc. can send contributions anytime to the *NIKE* Business Manager. Information on contributing can be found on our website.

Publication July 15th/Sept. issue Oct. 15th/Dec. issue
Deadlines: Feb. 1st/March issue March 15th/May issue

Rates: Platinum Patrons: \$75 and over
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Make check payable to:
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DEADLINE FOR THE MAY 2017 ISSUE IS MARCH 15, 2017. When emailing your submission type *NIKE* in the subject line, and send to the attention of Katharine Smith, *NIKE* editor at PR@NYSWomeninc.org. Previously published material must be accompanied by a letter from the publisher giving permission to republish and the credit line required to be included with the article.

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Chapter & Region News

Buffalo Niagara Chapter – Region 8

- submitted by Katharine Smith

The Buffalo Niagara Chapter's March 1st meeting celebrated the centennial of NYS women's right to vote with a conversation about women's advocacy – then – and now. Our panel, moderated by Dr. Pauline Hoffmann, past chapter president, connected contemporary concerns – civil rights, gender diversity, equality, and civic engagement – to the legacy of woman suffrage. It was held at the Twentieth Century Club in Buffalo, considered to be one of the oldest and most historic private women's clubs in the U.S., founded in 1894.

On March 2nd, the chapter sponsored a reception at Hotel Lafayette in Buffalo, NY which celebrated the kick-off of Women's History Month. (The Lafayette was an appropriate venue: it was designed in 1904 by Louise Blanchard Bethune, the first female member of the American Institute of Architects.) BNC serves on the WNY Women's Action Coalition (WAC) steering committee, hosted through the Erie County Commission on the Status of Women. Just prior to the reception, BNC members attended the WAC program honoring local female trailblazers.

Chadwick Bay – Region 8

- submitted by Connie Wojcinski

Chadwick Bay is presenting a program celebrating the Centennial of Women's Right to Vote (1917 – 2017) with Sue Mager, NYS Women, Inc. past state president and member of the Buffalo Niagara Chapter. Sue will give a powerful presentation about the women who fought for this right. This event is open to the public and NYS Women, Inc. members and guests are invited. Light refreshments will be available.

Please RSVP to Connie Wojcinski, 716-672-9588 or nyswChadwickBay@gmail.com.

The program will be held on Tuesday, March 21, 2017

at 7:00 PM at the Dunkirk Moose Club, #89, 296 Lake Shore Dr. W., Dunkirk, NY 14048.

Chadwick Bay Chapter will celebrate its 75th anniversary on Tuesday, June 20, 2017 at the Shorewood Country Club. All our sister NYS Women, Inc. chapters and members are invited to this gala event! (Lake Erie sunsets are beautiful this time of the year and we would love to share one with you.) Cash bar will start at 6:00 PM followed by dinner at 7:00 PM. Tentative dinner entrees include vegetarian, beef and/or chicken. Reservations required; contact Donnie Hover at 716-673-1045.

Staten Island – Region 2

- submitted by Rosemarie Dressler, PR chair

Members of the Staten Island Chapter gathered during the 2016 holiday season to help Santa provide much needed gifts for the children who reside in the Good Counsel Home for Unwed Mothers.

The Home is a safe haven that offers assistance for those struggling to make ends meet. Since 1985 they've helped more than 7,000 pregnant mothers in dire need by offering maternity care before and after birth, helping with budgeting and finding a job, providing daycare for the baby while mom works, classes on parenting, nutrition and social skills, and a lot of love and encouragement throughout their stay.



Pictured, left to right: Santa's helpers, Rosemarie Dressler, Diane Hague, Carol Belmonte, Diane Seridge, Elaine Croteau, and Christine Olivieri Donahue, president.

Opportunities for chapters to shine at June conference!

Chapter History Competition

This year, to celebrate President Theresa's theme of "Honoring the Members and the Chapters," chapters are invited to enter the Chapter History Award competition.

Criteria: a.) "LOCAL CHAPTER HISTORY" must appear on the cover and in the subject line of the email; b.) Subsequent pages shall include the following REQUIRED information/format (number of members as of March 31 of the current year; charter date; local chapter's historian contact information; as well as suggested

information for inclusion in the history: copy of charter; list of local chapter's presidents; local, region and state functions; NIKE articles, members who accepted leadership positions at local, region and state level; awards, programming, fundraising; and celebrations.

Deadline: May 1, 2017. Send your entry to History Chair, Neale Steiniger at nsteiniger@si.rr.com or 124 Gateway Drive, Staten Island, NY 10304. Questions? Email or call 718-816-0093.

YOUR chapter can be featured in conference workshop!

Want to be part of a workshop at the June 2017 conference? Help us showcase the special events and programs held by chapters and regions! Share what your chapter or region does. Send a brief outline of your event, to Neale Steiniger at nsteiniger@si.rr.com by the deadline, May 1, 2017. Information should include: chapter or region, contact name and email, special event or program, description, what made it successful, and tips on how others can do it.

NYS Women, Inc. Board Meeting

April Board Meeting • Rome, NY

Griffiss Institute • 725 Daedalian Drive, Rome, NY 13441

April Board Meeting

DATE: April 22, 2017
 LOCATION: Griffiss Institute, Rome NY

WHO SHOULD ATTEND Executive committee, members of the board of directors and all members of New York State Women, Inc.

SCHEDULE: RD/ARD meeting and a board of directors meeting (all board members in good standing will be eligible to vote at this session – all members are encouraged to attend this session but will not vote). Brunch will be offered.

We're also presenting "Navigating the NYS Women, Inc. Website 101" which will help you become a pro at using our website and accessing the wealth of information at your fingertips.

The agenda will be posted on <http://nyswomeninc.org/AprilBoardMeeting> and in future issues of the *Communicator*.

Registration forms are to the right or online at <http://nyswomeninc.org/AprilBoardMeeting>.

NYS Women, Inc.

OUR MISSION:

To build powerful women personally, professionally, and politically.

OUR VISION:

To make a difference in the lives of working women.

MEETING Registration

Registration Deadline: March 24, 2017

To Register: Online registration preferred, nyswomeninc.org/AprilRegistration
 When registering online either pay by credit card or mail a check

Or send completed form, with check payable to NYS Women, Inc. and note in Memo: 4/22/17 board meeting.
 Send to: Linda Provo, Registration Chair
 346 Park Street, Tupper Lake, NY 12986 (Phone 518-359-2671)
 Email nyspsp0708@yahoo.com

Check if looking for roommate

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

CHAPTER _____ REGION _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL _____

Dietary Requirements: (check all that apply) Allergic to _____

Diabetic Gluten free Vegetarian Other _____

Registration Fees for All Attendees

Advance Registration **\$25** due by March 24, 2017 \$ _____

Late Registration **\$35** if received after March 24, 2017

On Site Registration **\$50** upon arrival

Saturday Br-Lunch \$25 \$ _____

(Brunch includes giambotta - frittata with broccoli, potatoes and mozzarella cheese; stuffed French toast; chicken n' waffles; grilled ham, green salad, turkey wraps, vegetable lasagna, fruit platter & cookies)

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Name Tag Information: (Check all that apply)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> State Officer | <input type="checkbox"/> Region Director # _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> State Parliamentarian | <input type="checkbox"/> Assistant Region Director # _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Immediate Past State President | <input type="checkbox"/> Past State President |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Standing Committee Chair | <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter President |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Standing Committee Vice Chair | <input type="checkbox"/> Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Special/Sub Committee Chair | <input type="checkbox"/> First Timer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Special/Sub Committee Vice Chair | <input type="checkbox"/> Guest |

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New York State Grace LeGendre Endowment Fund



Thirty years ago members of the former Business and Professional Women's Clubs of New York saw the need to provide support for women's education. Fast forward to today, and New York State Women, Inc. continues this tradition of support for women.

In March 1987 the New York Grace LeGendre Endowment Fund (GLEF) was officially created as a tax-exempt organization with the goal of providing a permanent funding source to support women pursuing their advance graduate degrees at New York State colleges and universities.

Celebrating 30th anniversary with \$30 from 300 donors.

To celebrate GLEF's 30th anniversary our goal is to raise \$30 from 300 donors by March 24, 2017. Your help is needed to help us support women as they pursue higher education, and organizations that sponsor educational and research programs.

Please be one of our 300 donors and tell all your friends and colleagues! As the cost of education grows higher each year it becomes more important to have endowment and scholarship programs such as GLEF.

Mail your check, payable to NY Grace LeGendre Endowment Fund, Inc. to GLEF, Inc., 124 Gateway Dr., Staten Island, NY 10304-4441

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Chapter and Region (if applicable) _____

Please designate:

Donation to Special Grants Fund

Donation to Endowment Fund
 (complete below)

My gift is made in honor of _____

In memory of _____

Send notification to _____

\$ _____ Participant gift (any amount)

\$ _____ Benefactor gift (\$1000 or more)



In the last 30 years ...

over \$385,000

147 women

53 New York State colleges and universities

over 95 masters degrees

over 52 doctoral degrees



The numbers don't lie . . . YOU CAN make a difference!

YOUR tax deductible gift can make a difference! The NY Grace LeGendre Endowment Fund awards fellowships to women enrolled for graduate degrees at colleges and universities across New York State. Let's continue this very special program. These young women will be grateful for your compassion as well as your financial support.

Send YOUR tax deductible gift today to: Neale Steiniger, NY GLEF Fundraising Chair, 124 Gateway Dr., Staten Island, NY 10304-4441. Please make your check payable to NY GLEF and let us know if this donation is in honor of, or in memory of, someone special to you.

Antoinette Brown

Continued from page 8

articles. As she said in several speeches, “women should not be forced to choose between family life and the work they might do beyond the family.”

Her views sometimes put her at odds with other leaders of the women’s rights movement. When Antoinette embarked on the lecture circuit with Susan B. Anthony, the two women had a disagreement over Antoinette’s childbearing. At the 1860 tenth National Women’s Rights Convention in New York City, she took a position against divorce, which disagreed with Elizabeth Cady Stanton’s stand on liberalizing divorce laws. Then in 1869, Antoinette and her sister-in-law, Lucy Stone (with whom she co-founded the American Women’s Suffrage Association) broke with Susan B. Anthony’s National Women’s Suffrage Association over NWSA’s opposition to the passage of the 14th Amendment. There were even those who, for a variety of reasons, felt that women should not be ministers. To this, Antoinette replied “...Women are needed in the pulpit as imperatively and for the same reason that they are needed in the world – because they are women. Women have become – or when the ingrained habit of unconscious imitation has been superseded, they will become – indispensable to the religious evolution of the human race.”

Antoinette resumed touring on the lecture circuit in the 1870s when Samuel’s business failed. She wrote articles supporting women’s suffrage, which were published in the *Woman’s Journal*. After Samuel died in 1901, Antoinette helped found the All Souls Unitarian Church in Elizabeth, NJ, in 1903, and would serve as its pastor emeritus from 1908 until her death in 1921. In the 1920 presidential election, Antoinette, who was the last surviving delegate from the 1850 National Women’s Rights Convention, cast her ballot for Warren G. Harding.

Rhoda Fox Graves

Continued from page 12

and Labor & Industry. Graves even became the first woman to preside over a session of the State Senate.

Rhoda Graves retired from the State Senate in 1948. She was succeeded in office by her son Paul, who served in the State Senate until 1953, when he was appointed to the New York State Supreme Court. Rhoda Graves was a Republican all her life, but maintained her first duty was to represent her constituents. “Naturally, I am interested in anything affecting women and children, but I never forget that I also represent the men of my district,” she once said. Rhoda Graves passed away in Florida in 1950, and was buried in Riverside Cemetery in Gouverneur.

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Children ages 3 to 6 can learn to eat healthy.

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HYPERTENSION**

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- **NIKE** is distributed in communities and to decision makers and leaders throughout New York State.

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women, INC.

Our Mission

To build powerful women personally, professionally, and politically.

Our Vision

To make a difference in the lives of working women.

Sponsorship Levels

■ \$3,000 Sponsorship

Full-page back cover ad in 4 issues of **NIKE** (valued at \$2,000)

Feature article in 4 issues of **NIKE**

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One banner ad on NYS Women, Inc. website

Sponsor logo on NYS Women, Inc. monthly newsletter to members

Vendor table at a NYS Women, Inc. conference

Two free memberships to NYS Women, Inc.

■ \$1,500 Sponsorship

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Vendor table at a NYS Women, Inc. conference

For more information:

Sue Mager, *NIKE* Business Manager

NIKEmgr@nyswomeninc.org