

AUGUST 18, 1920... WOMEN WIN THE VOTE

August 2020

The VOTER

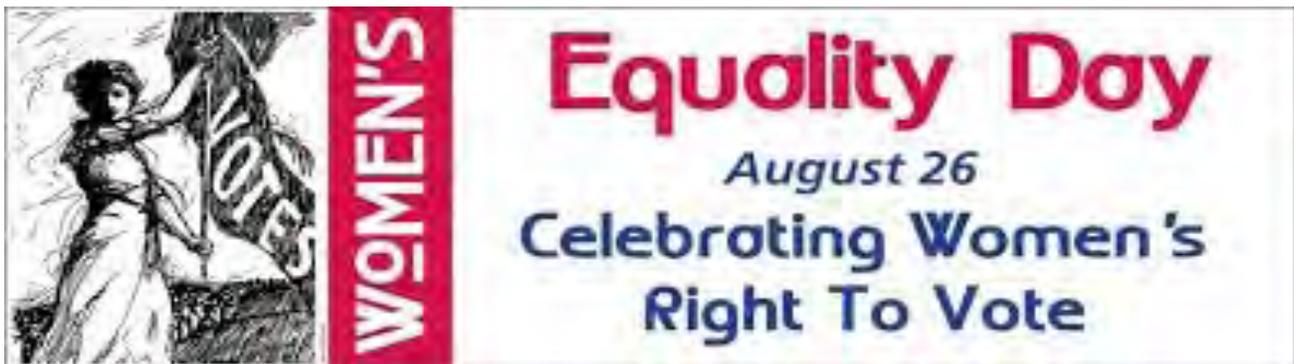
Vol. 85 No. 8

**THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF CENTRAL NEW MEXICO
2501 San Pedro Dr. NE, Suite 216 Albuquerque, NM 87110-4158**

**19th Amendment
to the Constitution
of
the United States**

**The right of citizens of the United States to vote
shall not be denied or abridged by the United
States or any State because of sex.**

On this occasion of the 100th anniversary of women securing the right to vote in the United States, the League of Women Voters of Central New Mexico proudly dedicates this issue to all of the women and men who fought for over 70 years to achieve women's suffrage...a right which women today should never take for granted... a right which we should recognize took many more years to be equally available to women of color... and a right which even today is being suppressed in many States. As we re-dedicate ourselves to righting those wrongs, let us celebrate this milestone during this 100th anniversary month.



SEE PAGE 12 FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE AUGUST 13, 2020 ZOOM UNIT MEETING FEATURING PRESENTATIONS ABOUT THE FIGHT FOR WOMEN SUFFRAGE BY MEREDITH MACHEN AND JEANNE LOGSDON.

A SUFFRAGE TIMELINE

from the New Mexico perspective

- 1848** First Women's Rights Convention held in Seneca Falls, NY passes resolution calling for full voting rights for women. Elizabeth Cady Stanton authors the Declaration of Sentiments.
- 1868** The 14th amendment ratified, using "male" in the Constitution, thereby denying women the right to vote.
- 1869** National Woman Suffrage Association works state by state to get women the vote. Women in Wyoming Territory gain full suffrage.
- 1878** Woman Suffrage Amendment is first introduced into Congress, later called the Susan B. Anthony Amendment and the 19th Amendment.
- 1893** Albuquerque Suffrage Club forms to work for women's suffrage in NM Terr.
- 1899** Carrie Chapman Catt, NAWSA President, organizes suffragists in Santa Fe.
- 1910** NM Fed. of Woman's Clubs established in Las Cruces by Laura E. Frenger.
- 1910** NM Constitution required for statehood is ratified. A provision that grants some women the right to vote in school elections contains a caveat that their vote can be revoked if communities disagree. Legislature rejects full suffrage for women.
- 1912** NM become a State. Only men can vote, not Native Americans or women.
- 1913-1920** Suffrage marches and rallies are conducted in major cities, including Albuquerque, Las Vegas, Las Cruces, Portales, Roswell, Santa Fe, and Silver City.
- 1916** Jeanette Rankin elected US Representative for Montana, becoming first woman to serve in Congress.
- 1916** National Woman's Party formed at the Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage Convention in Chicago. Splits from NAWSA, because it calls out anti-suffrage officials and candidates. Takes more radical approaches to gain the vote.
- 1916** Senator Andrieus A. Jones elected to Congress from NM replacing Senator Thomas Catron who opposed suffrage. Sen. Jones takes over as Chair of the Woman Suffrage Committee from Catron and champions the 19th amendment.
- 1917** CU/NWP establishes NM chapter. Nina Otero Warren becomes a leader.
- 1917-1918** Suffragists are arrested and imprisoned for picketing the White House and the capitol area. Hunger strikes/force feeding in jail brings national attention.
- 1919** Catt persuades President Wilson to support woman's suffrage, using women's contributions to WWI as rationale. 41 years after introduced in Congress NAWSA helps Sen. Jones get the 19th amendment and passed on the Senate floor.
- 1919-1920** State legislatures are lobbied to ratify the federal suffrage amendment. NM approves ratification on February 21, 1920, 32nd of 36 states necessary. Tennessee, the last state needed to ratify, does so on August 18, 1920.
- August 26, 1920** This is the day that the amendment was officially certified by Secretary of State Bainbridge Colby. In 1971 it was officially declared Women's Equality Day.



From left to right the figures represent: Elizabeth Cady Stanton (1815-1902), president of the National Woman Suffrage Association from 1869 to 1893; author of the woman's bill of rights, which she read at the Seneca Falls, New York, convention in 1848; first to demand the vote for women. Susan B. Anthony (1820-1906), abolitionist, temperance advocate, and later president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, who joined with Stanton in 1851 to promote woman suffrage; proposed the constitutional amendment passed many years after her death. Lucretia Mott (1793-1880), Quaker reformer and preacher, who worked for abolition, peace, and equality for women in jobs and education; organizer of the 1848 Seneca Falls, New York, convention, which launched the women's rights movement. (From the website of the Architect of the Capitol which fails to mention the following: the fourth uncarved pillar behind the women is meant to represent all the women who might continue fighting for women's rights. Its rough, unfinished look was meant to suggest that the fight for feminism was also unfinished., the latter point being made by Lorraine Boissoneault in the May 2017 issue of the Smithsonian Magazine from whose work the information for this article is taken.

THIS PORTRAIT MONUMENT OF KEY WOMEN SUFFRAGISTS NOW RESTS IN THE ROTUNDA OF THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL.....but it took an interesting route to return to its proper place of honor.

The monument, sculpted by Adelaide Johnson, was presented to the U.S. Capitol as a gift from the women of the United States by the National Woman's Party and was accepted on behalf of Congress by the Joint Committee on the Library on February 10, 1921. The unveiling ceremony was held in the Capitol Rotunda on February 15, 1921, the 101st anniversary of the birth of Susan B. Anthony, and was attended by representatives of over 70 women's organizations. On that day in 1921, with their statue gleaming and a gilt inscription proclaiming, **"Woman first denied a soul, then called mindless, now arisen, declaring herself an entity to be reckoned,"** it seemed as if the suffragists' work was being honored and recognized. Until the very next day, when the statue was moved to the "Crypt," a location "originally intended for Washington's remains, though it never housed them," said Joan Wages, the president and CEO of the National Women's History Museum in 2017. "At the time it was a service closet, with brooms and mops and the suffrage statue," she said.

Congress also ordered the inscription be scraped off.

On multiple occasions, Congress refused to approve bills that would have brought the statue back into the light. After three such unsuccessful attempts, the Crypt was cleaned up and opened to the public in 1963. Visitors would see the women's sculpture as well as other statues and a replica of the Magna Carta. But the statue still didn't have a plaque. Visitors wouldn't have seen any description of the sculptor who made it—a woman named Adelaide Johnson who was commissioned by the National Woman's Party and accepted a contract that barely covered the cost of materials—or who it portrayed. "[Congress] consistently had the same objections. It was ugly, it weighed too much, it was too big. It was mockingly called 'The Women in the Bathtub,'" Wages says. Upon the 75th anniversary of the 19th amendment in 1995, wom-

en's groups, with the bipartisan support of female members of Congress, renewed the effort to bring the statue out of storage. Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney, a Democrat from New York, even began circulating a newsletter poking fun at the various excuses being used to prevent it from being moved, which included such tongue-in-cheek reasons as "We can't move it because the next thing you know, they'll want us to pass the [Equal Rights Amendment]" and "They don't have a 'get out of the basement free' card." In a separate incident, Congresswoman Patricia Schroeder responded to aesthetic criticisms that the statue was ugly, "Have you looked at Abraham Lincoln lately?" Wages says.

Thankfully, in accordance with House Concurrent Resolution 216, which was passed by the Congress in September 1996, the sculpture was relocated to the Rotunda in May 1997.

The gilt inscription is still not re-placed on the statue.

CELEBRATING WOMAN SUFFRAGE IS A FAMILY AFFAIR.....



Lifetime League member Vivian Skadron celebrating the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage with her granddaughters, Hanna, Ellie, and Leah

Belmont-Paul Women's Equality National Monument Junior Suffragists



The house served not only as a headquarters for the massive political effort to obtain equality, but also as a second home for the hardworking women of the organization. In 1929, the National Woman's Party (NWP), with financial support of suffragist Alva Belmont, purchased the house to establish a Washington base of operations. Alice Paul founded the NWP in 1916 as a lobbying organization to promote women's suffrage. It is now a National Park Service property. The NPS established a Junior Suffragist program to teach youngsters about the park and the courageous women who fought for their rights to participate in civic life. It encourages them to continue this legacy by returning to their communities, ready to get engaged and make positive changes. At one time it was called the "Alva Belmont House" in honor of Alva Belmont, NWP President from 1920-1933 and its primary benefactor. Belmont donated thousands of dollars to the women's equality movement and gave the NWP the ability to purchase the new headquarters.

1. What does suffrage mean?

- To endure pain
- The right to vote
- To inflict pain onto someone else
- None of the above

2. Who were the two leaders of the national suffrage organizations in their final years?

- Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton
- Harriot Stanton Blatch and Alice Stone Blackwell
- Anna Howard Shaw and Matilda Joslyn Gage
- Alice Paul and Carrie Chapman Catt

3. Which suffrage advocate's home can you now visit?

- Alice Paul
- Harriet Tubman
- Elizabeth Cady Stanton
- Matilda Joslyn Gage
- All of the above

4. Many suffragists first worked to abolish slavery. Which famous abolitionist spoke at the Seneca Falls Convention?

- Sojourner Truth
- Frederick Douglass
- John Brown
- Harriet Beecher Stowe

5. Under which president did the 19th Amendment become law?

- Woodrow Wilson
- William H. Taft
- Calvin Coolidge
- Warren G. Harding

Suffrage Quiz for Kids

6. What percentage of states need to ratify an amendment to the U.S. Constitution before it comes law?

- 1/4
- 2/4
- 3/4
- 4/4

7. In what year did the 19th Amendment become law?

- 1918
- 1919
- 1920
- 1921

8. The Declaration of Sentiments was modeled after what important historical document?

- Bill of Rights
- The Federalist Papers
- Declaration of Independence
- Articles of Confederation

9. The 19th Amendment gave ALL women the right to vote.

- True
- False

10. The United States was the first country to enfranchise women.

- True
- False

[See answers in September Voter]

SUFFRAGE IN SPANISH: HISPANIC WOMEN AND THE FIGHT FOR THE 19TH AMENDMENT IN NEW MEXICO

By Cathleen D. Cahill*

At three o'clock on an October afternoon in 1915, the suffragists of Santa Fe, New Mexico, took to the streets of the capital city to make "a public act of faith in the cause of woman suffrage." One hundred and fifty women joined the parade, Anglos (the term New Mexicans used to refer to whites) and Hispanics (which referred to the Spanish-speaking citizens of the state). Some marched; others rode in gaily decorated automobiles. Mrs. Trinidad Cabeza de Baca, whose family owned one of the first autos in the city, lent hers to the cause. She was joined by a number of other Hispanic women, including Dolores "Lola" Armijo, Mrs. James Chavez, Aurora Lucero, Anita (Mrs. Secundino) Romero, Arabella (Mrs. Cleofas) Romero and her daughter, Marie.[1]

These women were all members of powerful Hispanic families in the state; many of their fathers and husbands were well-connected politicians. Most spoke Spanish as well as English. Some of them described themselves as housewives, others were professionals. Lola Armijo was the first female member of the state government, having been appointed as state librarian in 1912. Though the governor tried to replace her with a man, arguing that under the state constitution women could not be elected to office, a court upheld her appointment.

Although she was not reported as present at the parade that day, Adelina "Nina" Otero-Warren, the first female superintendent of schools in Santa Fe, was also a well-known Hispanic suffragist in the state.

The story of these New Mexicans reminds us of the diversity of suffrage activism in the United States. Their advocacy for the vote grew out of their insistence that Spanish-Americans, as they called themselves, were equal citizens. At a moment when the land rights, religion, and language of Hispanics were under attack, they asserted that the suffrage movement needed to include them and their concerns. Spanish-speakers constituted more than half of the population of the state and held political power as voters. Their position as economically secure and politically connected Hispanic women made them a force to be reckoned with. White suffragists therefore listened to them and incorporated their ideas, offering a model of cooperation for today's multicultural society (though it is vital to note that Native American women in New Mexico were not included in this cooperation; more on this will be explored below, as well as in my forthcoming article in this series, "Indigenous Women in the Suffrage Movement").

The suffrage marchers in Santa Fe deliberately took up space as they traced the political geography of New Mexico's capital city. They began just off the plaza in the center of town, bounded by the old Palace of the Governors, the former site of Spanish and then Mexican power. They then marched south, circling the state capital building before heading back towards the center of town, across the plaza and north around the federal building. Hundreds of people turned out to watch them make their statement in support of women's voting rights.[2]

The suffrage marchers in Santa Fe deliberately took up space as they traced the political geography of New Mexico's capital city. They began just off the plaza in the center of town, bounded by the old Palace of the Governors, the former site of Spanish and then Mexican power. They then marched south, circling the state capital building before heading back towards the center of town, across the plaza and north around the federal building. Hundreds of people turned out to watch them make their statement in support of women's voting rights.[2]



New Mexican Suffragists in 1915 (National Woman's Party)

[Article continued on next page]

*Cathleen D. Cahill is an associate professor of history at Penn State University. She is a social historian who explores the everyday experiences of ordinary people, primarily women. She focuses on women's working and political lives, asking how identities such as race, nationality, class, and age have shaped them. She is also interested in the connections generated by women's movements for work, play, and politics, and how mapping those movements reveal women in surprising and unexpected places. She is the author of *Federal Fathers and Mothers: A Social History of the United States Indian Service, 1869–1932* (University of North Carolina Press, 2011), won the Labriola Center American Indian National Book Award and was a finalist for the David J. Weber and Bill Clements Book Prize. Her most recent book, *Recasting the Vote: How Women of Color Transformed the Suffrage Movement* (University of North Carolina Press, Fall 2020) follows the lead of feminist scholars of color calling for alternative "genealogies of feminism." It is a collective biography of six suffragists--Yankton Dakota Sioux author and activist Gertrude Bonnin (Zitkala-Ša); Wisconsin Oneida writer Laura Cornelius Kellogg; Turtle Mountain Chippewa and French lawyer Marie Bottineau Baldwin; African American poet and clubwoman Carrie Williams Clifford; Mabel Ping-Hua Lee, the first Chinese woman in the United States to earn her PhD; and New Mexican Hispana politician and writer Nina Otero-Warren--both before and after the ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment. She also serves on the advisory committee for the national Votes for Women Trail and is the steering committee chair of the Coalition for Western Women's History.



Nina Otero Warren

The parade coincided with a visit from Mrs. Ella St. Clair Thompson, an organizer from the National Woman's Party (NWP, known until 1916 as the Congressional Union). The NWP had been founded by Alice Paul and focused on securing an amendment that prohibited voting discrimination based on sex. Unlike women in the rest of the American West, suffragists in New Mexico focused on a national amendment, rather than a state law. Although they had fought for full suffrage to be included in the constitution when New Mexico became a state in 1912, they had been unsuccessful. Also, in order to protect the Spanish language provisions and religious freedoms for Catholics written into the document, the members of the constitutional convention had deliberately made the constitution extremely hard to amend. Any changes required the votes of two-thirds of the legislators, followed by three-fourths voter approval in each county. While the men of the convention had included women's voting rights in school elections in the constitu-



Ella St. Clair Thompson

tion, women could not vote in other elections.

The NWP organizers who came to New Mexico recognized the importance of working with Spanish-speaking women, whose communities held a great deal of political power. They listened to leaders like Aurora Lucero, daughter of the first secretary of state and a well-known author and advocate of bilingualism, and educator Nina Otero-Warren, who told them that the suffrage campaign also needed to address Spanish-speaking women. They insisted that the campaign include bilingual publications and speeches, often helping with the translations. As Lucero once stated, "I speak for the Spanish American women who, while conservative, want the best possible laws where their home life is the question at issue." Indeed, like many Anglo women, Hispanic suffragists argued that the Spanish-speaking women of the state wanted the vote to advocate for policies that would help women and children, including education, health, and welfare policies. They also insisted on the value of the Spanish language at a time when many Anglos wanted to do away with it because they believed it was "un-American." It was precisely those ethnocentric attitudes that had resulted in Hispanic politicians insisting that language and religious rights be protected in the state constitution. Hispanic suffragists were proud advocates of their language and culture. They also knew that without their help, suffrage could not be successful in their state.

The 1915 Santa Fe suffrage parade is a good example of American women's cooperation across ethnic lines. They concluded the march at the house of U.S. Senator Thomas Catron (R-NM), a notorious anti-suffragist. They had designated four women – two Anglos and two Hispanic women, the latter Aurora Lucero and Arabella Romero – to give speeches formally asking the Senator to support the federal amendment when he returned to Washington. He declined and lectured the women at great length on why they were wrong to demand the vote. Nevertheless, their cause gained great visibility in the capital and in the press coverage.[3]

The next year, New Mexican women formed an official state branch of the NWP and elected Nina Otero-Warren as state vice-chair. When the first chair stepped down, Otero-Warren took her place at Alice Paul's request. Otero-Warren was politically well-connected and respected throughout the state for her educational work. Her father had been an influential local leader before he had been murdered by Anglo squatters on his land grant. Her stepfather's later political appointment brought her family to live in Santa Fe where her maternal uncle was a major politician who had played a key role during the state constitutional convention. She used those connections in her fight for suffrage and also played a key role in ensuring that the state legislature ratified the 19th Amendment in February 1920. Although it had seemed like certain victory, there was a last-minute difficulty with wavering legislators. Otero-Warren fiercely lobbied, using her new position as chair of the GOP state women's committee to caucus with legislators and discipline their votes.

It is important to note that the 19th Amendment enfranchised both Anglo and Hispanic women in New Mexico, but not the Native women of the state. Native women and men were citizens of their own Indigenous nations, but the United States considered most Native people the legal wards of the federal government and therefore not U.S. citizens. Moreover, even after the Indian Citizenship Act of 1924, which made all Native people U.S. citizens, New Mexican courts ruled that Indians living on reservation land remained under guardianship and were thus ineligible to vote. This did not change until 1948 when a Miguel Trujillo, Jr., of Isleta Pueblo, a veteran of World War II, sued for his right to vote and won. [Article continued on next page]

[1] *Census of 1910 lists Cleofas, Arabella, and Marie as residents of Las Vegas, but Cleofas was the superintendent of the state Penitentiary in Santa Fe. Year: 1910; Census Place: Las Vegas Ward 3, San Miguel, New Mexico; Roll: T624_917; Page: 5B; Enumeration District: 0197; FHL microfilm: 1374930. A newspaper article suggests Arabella and Anita Romero were sisters-in-law. See "Appointments by Governor," *Albuquerque Morning Journal*, March 2, 1917.*

[2] "150 Santa Fe Suffragists in Demonstration at Home of U.S. Senator Catron," *Santa Fe New Mexican*, October 21, 1915.

[3] *Ibid.*

After ratification of the 19th Amendment, the Democrat and Republican parties in New Mexico appealed to newly enfranchised female voters by nominating women to run for office. Otero-Warren's experience as a suffrage campaigner and her family's strong political connections prompted the Republican party to nominate her as their Congressional candidate in 1922. Her campaign made national headlines, beginning when she beat the male incumbent in the primary, though she narrowly lost in the main election. That same year the Democrats also nominated two women, one Anglo and one Hispanic, for state office. Their candidate for secretary of state, Soledad Chávez de Chacón, won, becoming the first woman in the nation to win election for that office.

The experience of New Mexican Hispanic women was unusual. The demographics of New Mexico gave Spanish-speakers a political advantage they did not have in other states. The result has been that New Mexico has a long tradition of electing Hispanic women, including the first two Hispanic women governors: Republican Susana Martinez (2011-2019) and Democrat Michelle Lujan Grisham (Incumbent). In contrast, Mexican-Americans in Texas did not have the same political clout. Moreover, most of them were poor sharecroppers who were disenfranchised by Jim Crow laws, like the poll tax as well as extra-legal threats of violence.

New Mexico's Hispanic women's advocacy of suffrage and their work with the National Woman's Party reminds us that Spanish was also a language of suffrage. Armed with economic security and the political clout of long-established Spanish-speaking families, New Mexico's Hispanic women represented a formidable political force. Without New Mexico as one of the thirty-six states that ratified the Amendment, it may well not have passed. And the state's vote to ratify would not have happened without the support of the Hispanic community or the advocacy work of Hispanic suffragists.



Soledad Chavez de Chacon

EDITOR'S NOTE: This article appeared on the Women's Vote Centennial Commission's website, womensvote.org. Below is a Bibliography that was printed with the article that will be of interest to all of our members who want to do further reading about this rich history.

Bibliography

- Andrés Jr., Benny. "Chacón, Soledad Chávez (1890-1936)." In *Latinas in the United States: A Historical Encyclopedia* edited by Vicki L. Ruiz and Virginia Sánchez Korrol. 143-144. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2006.
- Crandall, Maurice S., *These People Have Always Been a Republic: Indigenous Electorates in the US-Mexico Borderlands, 1598-1912*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2019.
- Francis-Fallon, Benjamin. *The Rise of the Latino Vote: A History* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2019)
- Hellwege, Julia Marin and Christine Marie Sierra. "Advantages and Disadvantages for Latina Officeholders: The Case of New Mexico." In *Latinas in American Politics: Changing and Embracing Political Tradition*. Sharon A. Navarro, Samantha L. Hernandez and Leslie A. Navarro, eds. (Lanham, Maryland: Lexington Press, 2016)
- Jensen, Joan M. "'Disenfranchisement is a Disgrace': Women and Politics in New Mexico, 1900- 1940." *New Mexico Historical Review* 56, no. 1 (January 1, 1981): 5-35.
- Lozano, Rosina, *An American Language: A History of Spanish in the United States* University of California Press, 2018
- Orozco, Cynthia E. *No Mexicans, Women, or Dogs Allowed: The Rise of the Mexican American Civil Rights Movement* Austin: University of Texas Press, 2009.
- Whaley, Charlotte. *Nina Otero-Warren of Santa Fe*. Santa Fe: Sunstone Press, 2007.

The Suffragist, Vol. 1 No. 4, published on December 6, 1913, describes the symbolism of the colors. "Purple is the color of loyalty, constancy to purpose, unswerving steadfastness to a cause. White, the emblem of purity, symbolizes the quality of our purpose; and gold, the color of light and life, is as the torch that guides our purpose, pure and unswerving." Simplified, the tri-colors signified loyalty, purity, and life.

Every great dream begins with a dreamer. Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world." - Harriet Tubman

Known as the "Moses of her people," Harriet Tubman was enslaved, escaped, and helped others gain their freedom as a "conductor" of the Underground Railroad. Tubman also served as a scout, spy, guerilla soldier, and nurse for the Union Army during the Civil War. She is considered the first African American woman to serve in the military. After the war, Tubman raised funds to aid freedmen, joined Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony in their quest for women's suffrage

HARRIET TUBMAN



ROUTE OF ENVOYS SENT FROM EAST BY THE CONGRESSIONAL UNION FOR WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE, TO APPEAL TO THE VOTING WOMEN OF THE WEST

MISS ALICE PAUL, NATIONAL CHAIRMAN, CONGRESSIONAL UNION FOR WOMAN SUFFRAGE

CALL TO WOMEN VOTERS TO ASSEMBLE IN CHICAGO JUNE 5, 6, AND 7 TO LAUNCH A NATIONAL WOMAN'S PARTY



Jeanette Rankin, first woman elected to U.S. House of Representatives, 1916 from Montana

Women's Voting Rights

- August 26, 1920 – 19th Amendment ratified when U.S. Secretary of State Bainbridge Colby certified approval of Tennessee state legislature
- Carrie Chapman Catt: "The vote is the emblem of your equality, women of America, the guarantee of your liberty . . . Women have suffered agony of soul which you can never comprehend, that you and your daughters might inherit political freedom. That vote has been costly. Prize it! . . . Progress is calling to you to make no pause. Act!"
- 27 million women enfranchised in 1920
- More women than men have voted in every general election in U.S. since 1964

cleaned by AdBlock for Youtube



WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE COMES TO NEW MEXICO, 1893-1920

By Jeanne M. Logsdon

The first efforts to organize support for women's suffrage in New Mexico occurred in 1893, 1895, and 1896 when representatives from the National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA) visited the Territory to speak on suffrage and encourage the formation of local suffrage clubs. Several clubs were formed, and a convention was held in Albuquerque in April 1896 at which the Territorial Suffrage Association was created. New Mexico's delegate to Congress, Harvey B. Fergusson, made a speech at NAWSA's national convention in 1898. In 1899 Carrie Chapman Catt, who chaired NAWSA's organization committee at that time, came to Santa Fe to present an hour-long lecture on suffrage to about 40 people. A month later, the Territorial Suffrage Association was reorganized with Catherine P. Wallace elected as president. Twenty-five members joined the association.

The women's club movement, beginning in the late 1800s, catalyzed support for women's suffrage throughout the US. According to research by Joan Jensen, nine women's clubs were formed in the NM Territory in the late 1890s and first decade of the 1900s, composed of several hundred, mostly Anglo women who had migrated from the East and Midwest. Each club initially focused on local civic improvements, social welfare, and cultural activities. They tended to avoid political controversies. However, when the Territory began to develop a constitution in order to become a State, some club women were active in promoting full suffrage. Many Western States already allowed women to vote by 1910. However, the final version of the Constitution only permitted women to vote in local school board elections.

Many women's club members were dissatisfied with such limited voting rights and decided to become more politically involved. Las Cruces club member Laura E. Frenger led the move to call for a convention to create a state federation of women's clubs in 1910. The New Mexico Federation of Women's Clubs was formed in 1911. Julia Brown Asplund from Santa Fe volunteered to serve as recording secretary and then was elected as president of the federation for two terms, 1914-15 and 1915-16. The federation reaffirmed its support for suffrage in a unanimous vote at its 1914 state convention and worked vigorously in support for the next six years.

As president of the NM Federation of Women's Clubs, Julia helped to organize the automobile parade of more than 150 women to US Senator Thomas Catron's home in October 1915. Catron was opposed to women's suffrage, and the parade was a strategy to demonstrate the breadth of support for it. Julia gave a short speech to the Senator about "The Superiority of the Susan B. Anthony Amendment" to grant suffrage to all women in the U.S. Constitution, rather than rely on state-by-state efforts to extend the vote to women. Several months

later, in February 1916, Julia was instrumental in organizing the New Mexico chapter of the Congressional Union (CU) for Woman Suffrage, the organization formed by Alice Paul to work for the federal amendment. Mrs. Joshua Reynolds from Albuquerque became chairman of the group, and later stepped down to be replaced by Nina Otero-Warren. Julia served as one of CU's vice chairmen along with other prominent suffragists from around the state.

U.S. entry into the First World War in 1917 shifted the activities of all women's clubs from suffrage and domestic issues to helping with the war effort. Women's wartime contributions were widely praised so that, when the war ended in November 1918, support for woman's suffrage expanded substantially. Both New Mexico political parties became more committed to suffrage in their platforms and rhetoric.



Mrs. LOUISE H. FRENKER
Las Cruces, New Mexico
Member of Women's Improvement Society, President of the New Mexico Federation of Women's Clubs 1911

Laura Frenger



Julia Brown Asplund

Continued on next page.....

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE COMES TO NEW MEXICO, 1893-1920, continued from previous page

The 19th Amendment was passed by the U.S. Congress in 1919 and sent to the states for ratification. Three-quarters of the 48 states had to pass the amendment before it could be adopted into the Constitution. New Mexico was thought likely to adopt the Amendment, but could not be taken for granted. Carrie Chapman Catt once again visited New Mexico in early December 1919 to meet with supporters in Albuquerque. "Mrs. Catt spoke at a large luncheon held in the Y.M.C.A. building, which many of the Judges, newspaper representatives and other prominent men and women attended...Mrs. Catt's appeal was carried from one end of the State to the other through the public press and created an atmosphere of hope. This was changed to rejoicing as word came that Governor Octaviano A. Larrazolo would call a special session of the Legislature for the ratification" (Stanton, et al.). New Mexico became the 32nd state to ratify in February 1920.

Selected sources:

"150 Santa Fe Suffragists in Demonstration at Home of U.S. Senator Catron." *Santa Fe New Mexican*, October 21, 1915, 5.

Anthony, Susan B. & Harper, Ida Husted. "New Mexico." Chapter 75, *The History of Woman Suffrage, 1883-1900*, 835-838.

Jensen, Joan. "'Disfranchisement Is a Disgrace': Women and Politics in New Mexico, 1900-1940." *New Mexico Historical Review*, vol. 56(1): 5-35. 1981.

Stanton, Elizabeth Cady, Anthony, Susan B., Gage, Matilda Joslyn, & Harper, Ida Husted. "New Mexico." Chapter 30, *History of Woman Suffrage: 1900-1920*, 439-442.

SOME OF THE FOUNDING MOTHERS OF THE AMERICAN WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT.....



Lucretia Mott



Elizabeth Cady Stanton

Cady Stanton organized the 1848 First Woman's Rights Convention with Marth Coffin Wright, Mary Ann M'Clintock, Lucretia Mott and Jane Hunt. She co-authored the [Declaration of Sentiments](#) issued by the convention that introduced the demand for votes for women into the debate. Her good mind and ready wit, both well-trained by her prominent and wealthy family, opened doors of reform that her father, Daniel Cady would rather she left shut. She studied at Troy Female Seminary and learned the importance of the law in regulating women through her father's law books and interactions with him and his young male law students.

Nothing seemed to stop Stanton. In the 1870s she traveled across the United States giving speeches. In "Our Girls" her most frequent speech, she urged girls to get an education that would develop them as persons and provide an income if needed; both her daughters completed college.

In November, 1899, Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, chairman of the national organization committee, and Miss Mary G. Hay, secretary, spent one day in Santa Fé with George H. and Mrs. Catherine P. Wallace. Mr. Wallace was secretary of the Territory, and in their home, the historic old Palacio, forty people gathered to hear Mrs. Chapman Catt lecture. She made an hour's address, after which there was an interesting discussion. As a result, a meeting was called for December 19, and the Territorial association was reorganized with the following officers: President, Mrs. Wallace; vice-president, Mrs. Hadley; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Esther B. Thomas; recording secretary, Mrs. Anna Van Schick; treasurer, Miss Mary Morrison; member national executive committee, Mrs. Ellen J. Palen. Several vice-presidents were named and twenty-five members enrolled.*

**From the History of Woman Suffrage, edited by Susan B. Anthony and Ida Husted Harper, 1902, Chapter LV, New Mexico*



Pictured: Far left, Ida Husted Harper; immediate left, Carrie Chapman Catt; below left, Mary Garrett Hay; below right, Susan B. Anthony.



In 1896, Ida Husted Harper joined the National American Woman Suffrage Association. The next year, Susan B. Anthony asked Harper to come to New York to write her official biography, and Harper moved to Anthony's home in Rochester, New York. Harper also co-edited and collaborated with Anthony on volume four of the six-volume "History of Woman Suffrage" and authored volumes five and six after Anthony's death. During this time, Harper traveled extensively with Anthony, delivering lectures in support of women's rights and writing columns on women's issues for newspapers across the country.

PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND THE **AUGUST 13, 2020** ZOOM UNIT MEETING (12 noon) featuring League Leaders **Meredith Machen** and **Jeanne Logsdon** who will speak to us about their research on the history of the women suffrage movement. Details will come to you shortly via the LWVCNMTopics list.



Dr. Meredith Machen is past-president of the League of Women Voters of New Mexico and current chair of its Education, Immigration, and History Committees. Her career as an educator spanned 38 years. She taught and administered programs for 25 years and served as assistant vice president at Santa Fe Community College. Meredith is active with a number of non-profits that help individuals address educational and socio-economic challenges and gender and ethnic disparities. She founded Literacy Volunteers of Santa Fe in 1984.



From left to right: Hannah Burling, LWVNM President; Lorene Mills, Report from Santa Fe moderator; and Meredith Machen.

Dr. Jeanne Logsdon retired from the Anderson School of Management at the University of New Mexico in 2011 where she taught courses on corporate social responsibility, business ethics, and ecology and management. She has conducted research and published many articles on how companies can take better care of their stakeholders, which include employees, customers, and local communities in addition to their shareholders. She has been a League member since

2015 and has chaired the LWVCNM Centennial Committee as well as worked on many other League projects.

Cody Hartley, Director of the Georgia O’Keeffe Museum, has announced that the re-naming of the Nina Otero-Warren’s homestead has been approved by Historic Santa Fe in time for the centennial of the women’s vote! The Otero-Bergere House (now the Georgia O’Keeffe Research Center), 135 Grant Ave, Santa Fe, NM, is a national landmark! Nina Otero-Warren is the only New Mexican and only Hispanic included among the most famous women in the suffrage movement, which took 72 years of highly organized activism. Familiar names include Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, Alice Paul, and Carrie Chapman Catt, founder of the League of Women Voters. Nina is certainly the most famous member of the League of Women Voters of New Mexico and among the most famous of the League of Women Voters of the United States, which is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year.



EDITOR NOTE: Please see <https://www.nps.gov/articles/20-suffragists-to-know-for-2020.htm> and <https://monumentalwomen.org/suffrage-movement/>

OUR EXCITING NEW OFFICE AT 2501 San Pedro NE, Suite 216. We will have an Open House celebration as soon as the pandemic allows! In the meantime, please enjoy these pictures of your League's office space.



Great thanks to Linda Adcox-Kimmel who is serving as Office Manager and to all the volunteers who helped make the move a reality. And it is not too early to contact Linda to volunteer to staff the office during the November 3 election. Her email is Kimmellinda9@gmail.com

IMPORTANT NOTICE: YOU ARE MISSING OUT ON GREAT INFORMATION IF YOU ARE NOT SUBSCRIBED TO lwvcnmTopics@mailman.swcp.com . IF YOU HAVE BEEN USING THE OLD LWVCNM TOPICS ADDRESS, PLEASE DELETE THAT FROM YOUR ADDRESS BOOK. WE ARE NO LONGER USING THAT TO COMMUNICATE WITH OR AMONG MEMBERS.

NEW MEMBERS.....

(505) 410-6820



JoAnne Wagner
7709 Roberts NE
Albuquerque, NM 87109-5250
beagle@swcp.com
(505) 238-7919

Rita G. Siegel
5411 Royal Dr NE
Albuquerque, NM 87111-1632
ritasiegel@comcast.net
(505) 822-1071

Jane McGuire
525 Solar Rd NW
Albuquerque, NM 87107-5741
jmcguire@unm.edu
(505) 220-5667

Elizabeth Carlson
1931 Rio Grande Blvd NW
Albuquerque, NM 87104-2523
carlsonbetsy@icloud.com
(505) 238-2609

Adaline Blount
1352 Rio Grande Rd SW
Los Lunas, NM 87031-8633
Adablnt2@gmail.com

LWVUS PRESIDENT.....Deborah Turner, MD, JD, serves as the 20th president of the League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS) and chair of the Board of Trustees of the League of Women Voters Education Fund (LWVEF). She was elected board president at the 54th National Convention of the League of Women Voters in June of 2020 and will serve in this position until June 2022. Dr. Turner joined Des Moines Metropolitan League in 2010 and became president in 2011 when the League was at risk of disbanding. She served in that role until 2015 helping revitalize membership and focus the board leadership. At the same time, she also served on the LWV Iowa board as the state vice president from 2011 to 2015, becoming co-president in 2015. In her dual roles with state and local Leagues, Deborah has provided leadership to strengthen relationships between local leagues and the state Board. Turner was elected to the League’s national board of directors in 2016 where she served on the Finance committee, Governance Committee, and chaired the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee. As chair of the DEI Committee, Deborah and her colleagues focused on organizational culture changes to the League’s mission work, emphasizing not only racial equity but also intergenerational dynamics, socioeconomic differences, gender identity, and interpersonal engagement. Dr. Turner received her BS from Iowa State University and her MD from University of Iowa where she completed her Residency in OB-Gyn. She completed her fellowship in Gynecologic Oncology at MD Anderson Cancer Institute in Houston Texas. She practiced gynecologic oncology for 35 years, enhancing university programs at the University of Nebraska, University of Iowa, and the Medical College of Wisconsin teaching residents and students. She also served the private sector bringing her specialty to Genesis Medical Center in Davenport, IA, Mercy Cancer Center in Mason City, IA, and Mercy Medical Center in Des Moines. In July 2015 she left active practice to become Vice President of International Programs Medical Programs of The Outreach Program. She participated in twelve medical missions to Tanzania since 2011 and worked with Singida’s Medical Center, Outreach’s Children’s Feeding Centers, and Rotary International. She received her JD from Drake University in 2007. She has served as Associate Medical Director of Planned Parenthood of North Central States since 2016. Turner was inducted into the Iowa Women’s Hall of Fame in 2013 and received the Gertrude Rush Award from the National Bar Association in 2015. She was awarded the Louise Noun Visionary Women of the year award from Young Womens Resource Center Des Moines in 2018. Her most treasured award is a certificate from the Schwartz Center for Compassionate Care. She lives in Nebraska and has two grown children – a son and a niece.



IN MEMORIAM...."The right to vote is precious. It is almost sacred. It is the most powerful non-violent tool we have in a democracy." —
Representative John Lewis (1940-2020)



THE VOTER

Published monthly

The League of Women Voters
of Central New Mexico
2315 San Pedro dr. NE, Suite F-6
Albuquerque, NM 87110-4158
(505) 884-8441
www.lwvcnm.org

Co-Presidents:

Karen Douglas
Karen Wentworth

1st Vice President:

Mary G. Wilson

2nd Vice President:

Andrea Targhetta

3rd Vice President:

Trish Lopez

4th Vice President:

Eugenia Polevitzky

Treasurer:

Denise Blood

Secretary:

Carol Tucker Trelease

Membership:

Donna Rigano

Voter Services:

Mary Ellen Smith

Directors:

Ashley Benning

Jan Strand

Jennifer Black

Judy Binder

Lani Desaulniers

Kathy Economy

Linda Adcox-Kimmel

Technology:

Cheryl Haaker

The VOTER Editor:

Mary G. Wilson

LEAGUE CALENDAR

Watch the Voter for details about League events as we hold meetings online in order to social distance and avoid CoVid 19. The Deadline for the monthly Voter remains the 15th of each month. Articles and pictures are welcome.

At the June meeting of the LWVCNM Board of Directors (held via Zoom), the Board decided that, despite CoVid 19 restrictions, it was important for our members to hear about important public policy issues as we would normally do during unit and luncheon meetings. Therefore, until we can once again hold the in-person monthly meetings that we all enjoy so much, we will be offering online educational opportunities for our members each month. This will likely result in our ability to offer a wider variety of local and national speakers. The next one is being planned for August 13. **SEE PAGE 10 FOR DETAILS.**

AND A WORD TO OUR NON-TECHY MEMBERS: Do not be concerned that you do not “do online stuff.” We are working on ways to make these available to you too! This may be through pairing you with a “buddy.” It may be that several members can view the sessions in the conference room at our new office building. Or if you just need a little help using Zoom or whatever meeting software we use, several of our Board members, our Webmaster, or other volunteers may be sent to help you. And summaries of the presentations will appear in the Voter issued after the date of the speaker. I am sure other ways “to make this happen” and keep us all safe will evolve as we proceed. **Contact Karen Wentworth at kwentworth17@comcast.net if you need help.**

ANNUAL MEETING— The Board decided to target an annual meeting for a convenient date in October to be decided as soon as we know when in-person gatherings can occur.

Like so many other State and Local events, the big banquet to celebrate the centennial of women suffrage originally planned for August will be postponed until some time in 2021.

OFFICE HOURS

Closed until further notice.



2501 San Pedro Dr. NE, Suite 216
Albuquerque, NM 87110-4158

The League of Women Voters of Central New Mexico, a tax exempt 501 (c) (3) organization is a nonpartisan political organization which encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues and influences public policy by education and advocacy.

APPLICATION FOR LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____ PHONE: _____

Mail above information to LWVCNM, 2501 San Pedro Dr. NE, Suite 216, Albuquerque, NM 87110-4158 along with annual dues as follows:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------|
| First member of household | \$60 |
| Each additional member of household | \$30 |
| Student member (proof required) | \$1 |