

North Country Legislative Representatives

Elizabeth O’C Little (45th Senatorial District) Albany Office: Room 903, Legislative Office Bldg, Albany, NY 12247; 455-2811; Fax 426-6873. Plattsburgh Office: Government Center, Suite 100, 137 Margaret St., Plattsburgh, NY 12901; 561-2430 email: little@senate.state.ny.us
Janet Duprey (114th Assembly District) Albany Office: LOB 937, Albany, NY 12248; 455-5943. District Office: 202 U.S. Oval, Plattsburgh, NY 12901; 562-1986 email: dupreyj@assembly.state.ny.us
Teresa Sayward (113th Assembly District) Phone 455-5565; Fax 455-5710 email: saywart@assembly.state.ny.us


W
A
S
H
I
N
G
T
O
N

Sen. Kirsten E. Gillibrand
531 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Tel: 202-224-4451 Fax: 202-228-0282
Web: <http://gillibrand.senate.gov>

Governor David A. Paterson
Executive Chambers
State Capitol
Albany, NY 12224
518-474-8390 <http://161.11.121.121.govemail>

Sen. Charles Schumer
313 Hart Office Bldg.,
Washington, DC 20510
Tel: 202-224-6542 Fax: 202-228-3027
Email:http://schumer.senate.gov/new_website/contact.cfm
Web: <http://schumer.senate.gov>

Rep. Bill Owens (23rd Congressional District)
Room 2366, Rayburn House Building,
Washington, DC 20515-3223 (Plattsburgh 563-1406)
Tel: 202-225-4611 Fax: 202-226-0621
Web: <http://owens.house.gov>

 **Does the Current State of Politics Get You Angry?**
Don’t Just Explode!
Join the League of Women Voters
and Do Something About It!!

Join an organization that makes an impact in the community, the state and the nation.
Nonpartisan: We do not support candidates, elected officials or political parties.

Membership Information: call Myra Decker 643-2742 or send:

Name _____
Address _____

Telephone No. (home) _____ (work) _____ Email: _____

Membership Dues: _____ \$50.00 Individual
(Check desired level) _____ \$70.00 Family

Make **check** out to: **Plattsburgh Area League of Women Voters**
Mail to: Myra Decker, 7 Woodland Hills, Morrisonville, NY 12962

THE INFORMER



League of Women Voters
of the Plattsburgh Area

September 2010 No. 1

7 Woodland Hills
Morrisonville, New York 12962

- Inside:
1. LWV Diversity Statement/Voter Service News/Aug. Board Meeting/Board Minutes Available/Update on Madeleine Robinson/Baked Goods Needed
 2. FFF Sept. 3rd/Battle of Plattsburgh Marchers Needed/Calendar
 3. State League News
 4. League News
 5. Quiz on Women’s Suffrage History
 8. Navigating LWV.org website update
 9. Labor Day-September 6th/Constitution Day Sept. 17th
 10. Women in History-Alice Paul
 11. North Country Legislative Representatives/ Membership Form

Visit Plattsburgh LWV Web Site at www.plattsburgh.ny.lwvnet.org

Hard Copy of Informer

To all members and the public: If you wish to receive the League Newsletter, "The Informer" by mail, please submit \$5.00 to cover cost of postage and printing for 10 issues. Make check payable to **League of Women Voters, Plattsburgh Area** and send it to **Myra Decker, 7 Woodland Hill, Morrisonville, NY 12962.**

LWV Plattsburgh Area Diversity Statement

"The League of Women Voters of the Plattsburgh Area is committed to diversity and pluralism. There shall be no barriers to participation in any League activity on the basis of age, gender, race, disability, sexual orientation, ethnicity, national origin, religion, creed, economic status or political affiliation."

Voter Service News

Mountain Lake Public Broadcast System (MLPBS) and the League of Women Voters will sponsor candidate debates for the 114th Assembly and 23rd Congressional Districts after the primary election. *If you wish to be involved, contact **Betsy Metz at 561-6106 or tlmetz@westelcom.com***



League Board Meeting Minutes are Available

If you wish to receive the board minutes of the Plattsburgh Area League of Women Voters, please contact **Myra Decker at 643-2742 or mystdek7@northnet.org**



Steps to access the Informer:

Log on to www.plattsburgh.ny.lwvnet.org. Click on "The Informer" either on the side bar or main part of the page. Click on <http://www.lwvny-bulletins.org/Capital%20Region/Plattsburgh.htm> The next page enables you to click on the latest or past editions of the newsletter. It will ask to either open it up or save it to a disk. You can then print it if you desire. You will get a larger print if you use legal size paper.

LWV Board Meetings Open to Members

The LWV Board will meet on **August 30th** at 10 am at the Farmer's Cafe on Boynton Ave. All board meetings are open to members.

Madeleine Robinson Update

Madeleine Robinson, a long time member of the Plattsburgh Area LWV has moved to California due to health issues. She can be reached at madkee@att.net or written to at this address:



Madeleine Robinson
%Stone
4645 Beechnut Way
Sacramento, CA 95823

Get Your Favorite Dessert Recipes Out!



Bakers Needed for Voter Registration/Bake Sale at Clinton Community College on **Oct. 8th.** More details on baked goods guidelines in Oct. Informer

Women in History

Alice Stokes Paul (Jan. 11, 1885-July 9, 1977)



was raised as a Quaker, attended Swarthmore College, and worked at the New York College Settlement while attending the New York School of Social Work. Alice Paul left for England in 1906 to work in the settlement house movement there for three years. She studied at university in England, and returned to get her Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania (1912).

National Woman's Party: Alice Paul was chair of a major committee (congressional) of the National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA) within a year, in her mid-twenties, but a year later (1913) Alice Paul and others withdrew from the NAWSA to form the Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage. This organization evolved into the National Woman's Party in 1917, and Alice Paul's leadership was key to this organization's founding and future.

Alice Paul and Militancy: In England, Alice Paul had taken part in more radical protests for woman suffrage, including participating in the hunger strikes. She brought back this sense of militancy, and back in the U.S. she organized protests and rallies and ended up imprisoned three times.

(The last time Alice Paul was arrested she was tried and sentenced to 7 months in prison. In response to her hunger strike, prison doctors put Alice Paul in a psychiatric ward. They threatened to transfer her to an insane asylum. Still, she refused to eat. Afraid that she might die, doctors force fed her. Three times a day for three weeks, they forced a tube down her throat and poured liquids into her stomach. Despite the pain and illness the force feeding caused, Paul refused to end the hunger strike--or her fight for the vote. After 5 weeks in prison, Alice Paul was set free. Newspaper stories angered many Americans and created more support than ever for the suffrage amendment.)

NWP versus NAWSA: Alice Paul and the National Woman's Party emphasized working for a federal constitutional amendment for suffrage. Their position was at odds with the position of the NAWSA, headed by Carrie Chapman Catt, which was to work state-by-state as well as at the federal level.

NWP and NAWSA Synergy: Despite the often strong acrimony between the National Woman's Party and the National American Woman Suffrage Association, it's probably fair to say (in retrospect) that the two groups' tactics complemented each other: the NAWSA's taking more deliberate action to win suffrage in elections meant that more politicians at the federal level had a stake in keeping women voters happy, and the NWP's militant stands kept the issue at the forefront of the political world.

Equal Rights Amendment (ERA): After the 1920 victory for the federal amendment, Paul became involved in the struggle to introduce and pass an Equal Rights Amendment (ERA). The Equal Rights Amendment was finally passed in Congress in 1970 and sent to the states to ratify. However, the number of states necessary never ratified within the specified time limit and the Amendment failed.

Alice Paul and Peace: Paul also was active in the Peace movement, stating at the outbreak of World War II that if women had helped to end World War I, the second war would not have been necessary.

Alice Paul Dies in 1977: Alice Paul died in 1977 in New Jersey at the age of 92, after the heated battle for the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) brought her once more to the forefront of the American political scene.

From: About.com: Women's History and http://pbskids.org/wayback/civilrights/features_suffrage.html

continued from p. 8 "Ten Tips"

Members section is used for material that is generally intended for League members only. You may be asked enter your personal email address and password (as previously entered into the LWVUS database) to access this material. This is also the website section where you can subscribe to League email discussion lists. and finally...

- 10. **Still have questions or feedback for us?** The **Contact Us** link at the top of most webpages can be used for both questions and corrections or suggestions for improving the website, as well as other subjects.

LABOR DAY SEPTEMBER 6TH

The first Labor Day in the United States was celebrated on September 5, 1882 in New York City in the aftermath of the deaths of a number of workers at the hands of the US military and US Marshals during the 1894 Pullman Strike, President Grover Cleveland put reconciliation with Labor as a top political priority. Fearing further conflict, legislation making Labor Day a national holiday was rushed through Congress unanimously and signed into law a mere six days after the end of the strike.

The form for the celebration of Labor Day was outlined in the first proposal of the holiday: A street parade to exhibit to the public "the strength and esprit corps of the trade and labor organizations," followed by a festival for the workers and their families. This became the pattern for Labor Day celebrations. Speeches by prominent men and women were introduced later, as more emphasis was placed upon the economic and civil significance of the holiday. Still later, by a resolution of the American Federation of Labor convention of 1909, the Sunday preceding Labor Day was adopted as Labor Sunday and dedicated to the spiritual and educational aspects of the labor movement. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Labor_Day

Constitution Day-September 17th



Constitution Day commemorates the formation and signing of the U.S. Constitution by thirty-nine brave men on September 17, 1787, recognizing all who, by coming of age or by

naturalization, have become citizens.

- 1939: Newspaper magnate William Randolph Hearst advocated a day to celebrate U.S. Citizenship.
- 1940: Congress created I Am an American Day to be celebrated on the third Sunday in May.
- 1952: President Truman moved the holiday to the date of the signing of the U.S. Constitution, September 17th, and changed the name to Citizenship Day.
- 1955: The Daughters of the American Revolution began lobbying in 1955, through Senator William F. Knowland of California, for a memorial week dedicated to the U.S. Constitution.
- 1956: President Eisenhower proclaimed the first Constitution Week, from September 17th to September 23rd.
- December 2004: Senator Robert Byrd attached a provision to the Consolidated Appropriations, 2005 (Pub. L. 108-447). This provision changed the name of Citizenship Day to Constitution Day and mandated that all school districts receiving federal funding must instruct students on the U.S. Constitution on September 17th, or the following week if September 17th falls on a weekend or holiday.

The Informer

League of Women Voters
of the Plattsburgh Area



September 2010

President

Myra Decker 643-2742
mystdek7@northnet.org

Stasia Arcarese 561-1745

"Informer" Editor
larry.arcarese@verizon.net

Join the Parade



All League members are invited to participate in the **Battle of Plattsburgh Parade on September 11, 2010**. The theme this year is "Volunteers in History." Contact **Myra Decker at 643-2742 or mystdek7@northnet.org before Aug. 30th** to join the League marchers and let the public know what we are about.

League of Women Voters
First Friday Forum

SEPTEMBER 3, 2010

12 noon

Butcher Block Restaurant

Speaker: Kristina Parker- Wingler,
manager of the Battle of Plattsburgh
Museum

**Topic: Improvements to the Battle of
Plattsburgh Museum**

Kristina will be talking about the recent \$6,000 capital project, the incorporation of War of 1812 Museum and the Allan S. Everest Interpretive Center into the main museum building. (This will be an excellent opportunity to learn how our local history is being preserved and perpetuated, just in time for the Battle of Plattsburgh commemoration the following week!)

**RSVP by Sep. 2nd to: Carole Cao-Ba
563-3903 or TZIVIA12@aol.com**

Cost: \$12.00 (no checks please)

2010 Calendar



| | |
|--------------------|--|
| August 30, 2010 | Board Meeting-Farmer's Cafe @ 10 am |
| September 3, 2010 | FFF-12 noon |
| September 6, 2010 | Labor Day |
| September 11, 2010 | Battle of Plattsburgh Parade |
| September 17, 2010 | Constitution Day |
| October 1, 2010 | FFF-12 noon |
| October 8, 2010 | Last Day to register to vote in the General Election |
| October 8, 2010 | Voter Registration at CCC |
| November 2, 2010 | Election Day |
| November 4, 2010 | FFF-12 noon |
| December 2, 2010 | FFF-12noon |

SAVE THE DATES
United Nations Event
 Nov. 9 – NYC

2011 Students Inside Albany
 April 10-13 – Albany

2011 State Convention
 May 20-22 - Albany

United Nations Event

The state League is pleased to offer the United Nations Event this year. It will be held on Tuesday, November 9 in New York City. Although the UN building is under renovations, we continue to offer the tours of the UN, lunch and a briefing by UN affiliate agencies. The topic this year will be women and microfinancing. Watch from more details in September.

Fall 2010 Debates

The New York City LWV requested and received permission from LWVNYS to co-sponsor a debate with WABC for the Democratic primary candidates for Attorney General. It was aired on July 18th. You can view it at <http://abclocal.go.com/wabc/story?section=news/politics&id=7561181>.

2010 LWVNYS Council

The 2010 proposed budget was adopted by the local Leagues through the Council Kit. The Leagues also approved the proposed concurrence on Marriage Equality, but with the approval of the concurrence at the National Convention on this issue, NYS will not need to adopt its own position (see Convention summary). The local Leagues also provided numerous Directions to the Board which can be found in the July SBR on the website.

Students Inside Albany Conference

The 2011 *Students Inside Albany* Conference will be held on April 10-13 in Albany. More information will be available soon but start thinking about ways to select a student from your League to join this conference on leadership and lobbying.

Redistricting Reform

Redistricting reform is the crucial reform effort on the immediate horizon in NYS. Every League has an important role to play in this effort. By raising public awareness of the need for reform and the consequences of not acting in time for post - 2010 census redistricting, local Leagues can help put our state on the right path for the future. We need to stop legislators from choosing their voters, not the other way around.

Toward that end, we have asked each local League to organize a community forum on the issue of redistricting this fall. The state League will provide all the materials and information for the meeting. If you are interested in this topic, tell your local League President and help develop this forum in your area. Look for more information on this issue on our website.

Local Consolidation Study

The state League board approved the results from the statewide study on local consolidation and shared services at the July meeting. Check out the full position on the League’s website

The League of Women Voters of New York State (League) supports the efficient and effective operation of government. Consolidation of governmental units and the sharing of major governmental services may be a way of promoting the efficient and effective operation of government. In achieving this goal, the League supports a cooperative and transparent process, in which citizens have sufficient and timely information with which to make informed decisions about proposed actions, and well-defined channels for citizen input and review.

1919 Society

Don’t forget to include the state League in your will - and join the 1919 Society. If you already have included the League in your will, just let us know and we’ll add you to the members of the Society. We will not ask for either proof of the bequest or its amount - we just want to honor your future support. As a member, your name will be engraved on a plaque in the state League office, listed in the *State Voter*, and on the website.

Ten Tips for Searching and Navigating the LWV.org Website Updated

The most effective way to search the LWV.org website is to use Google rather than the search feature on the website.

Ten Tips for Searching and Navigating the LWV.org Website

1. **Try using Google instead.** The Google search engine has many people supporting and honing its abilities, so it does a much better job than the search function of the LWV website. If you use “site:lww.org” (with no spaces) as one of your search parameters, then Google will search only the LWV.org webpages. Additional tips for using the Google search engine can be found on Google’s website (<http://www.google.com/support/websearch/bin/answer.py?hl=en&answer=136861>).
2. **Choose your keywords carefully.** Whether you use Google or the League website’s search function, more specific words are better than general words. For example, a specific term like “audit” is better than a general term such as “report”.
3. **Use phrases instead of separate words.** Separate search words will find webpages that contain at least one instance of each word anywhere in the page and in any order, which could be a long list of pages. A phrase enclosed in double quote marks will find pages that contain that exact phrase. You can also search for phrases combined with single words.
4. **Use the Advanced Search option for more refined searches.** Just under the Search field on most LWV.org pages is a link to the Advanced Search page. On

this page, you can limit your search to certain subjects and time periods. (This subject search depends on webpages having been “tagged” with those subjects when they were posted to the LWV.org website.)

5. **The Search Results page lists results by date or relevance.** The LWV.org default search results list is sorted by a percent relevance score, which is just a measure of how many times your keywords matched the words in the result pages. Sometimes sorting by date gives a better chance of finding a result you are looking for.
6. **Watch the date published in the Search Results.** This date is when the page was posted or updated on the LWV.org website, not when the document was written.
7. **Be aware of the “breadcrumbs”** near the top of many LWV.org webpages. For example, a page on “Election Administration” has “**Home** → **Take Action** → Election Administration” just below the page header. “**Home**” and “**Take Action**” are active links that return you directly to those pages in the website’s hierarchy.
8. **Be aware of the layout of webpages.** Most LWV.org webpages have the same layout with a header at the top with the logo, links to major website sections and the Search field. The left column has links to sections of the website that are related to the current webpage. The right column has links to the most popular topics within the topic of the webpage you are looking at.
9. **Look for League internal material in the For Members section.** The **For**

continued from p. 6 “Quiz”

7: The Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage is identified mostly with which woman suffrage activist?

- a. Alice Paul
- b. Carrie Chapman Catt
- c. Elizabeth Blackwell
- d. Jeannette Rankin

8: In 1869, two major woman suffrage organizations were founded, which merged in 1890. Which of these women became the first president of the merged organization?

- a. Elizabeth Cady Stanton
- b. Florence Nightingale
- c. Alice Stone Blackwell
- d. Carrie Chapman Catt

9: Who was the first woman elected to the United States Senate?

- a. Hattie Wyatt Caraway (1931)
- b. Shirley Chisholm (1918)
- c. Rebecca Latimer Felton (1822)
- d. Jeannette Rankin (1917)

10: The first national political party to adopt a woman suffrage plank was the:

- a. Progressive Party
- b. Democratic Party
- c. Know-Nothing Party
- d. Socialist Party

11: The Congressional Union scheduled a suffrage parade for the day when the new President would arrive in town for his inauguration the next day. This President was:

- a. Theodore Roosevelt
- b. Franklin D. Roosevelt
- c. Abraham Lincoln
- d. Woodrow Wilson

12: The American Constitution was amended to grant full woman suffrage in all the states of the United States when it was ratified in:

- a. 1905
- b. 1912
- c. 1920
- d. 1968

13: The 36th and deciding state to ratify the woman suffrage amendment did so by only one vote. This state was:

- a. Tennessee
- b. Illinois
- c. Georgia
- d. Michigan

14: How many women who attended the first Woman Rights Convention cast their votes after the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment?

- a. None
- b. One
- c. Three
- d. Fifteen

15: Who was president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association when the Nineteenth Amendment passed?

- a. Anna Howard Shaw
- b. Elizabeth Cady Stanton
- c. Alice Paul
- d. Carrie Chapman Catt

16: Where did Alice Paul get experience in more militant women’s suffrage activism, leading to her strategy?

- a. Wyoming’s campaign for women’s rights
- b. the anti-lynching campaign in the South
- c. England’s suffrage movement
- d. suffrage parades organized by NAWSA

17: Of the following suffrage activists, who was married with children?

- a. Susan B. Anthony
- b. Elizabeth Cady Stanton
- c. Carrie Chapman Catt
- d. Alice Paul

18: This Methodist minister served for more than ten years as the president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association:

- a. Antoinette Brown Blackwell
- b. Annie Wittenmyer
- c. Anna Howard Shaw
- d. Agatha Sloane

Answers: 1 b; 2 c; 3 a; 4 d; 5 b; 6 d; 7 a; 8 a; 9 a; 10 a; 11 d; 12 c; 13 a; 14 b; 15 d; 16 c; 17 b; 18 c

continued from p. 3 “State News”

LWVUS National Convention

Much has been written about the wonderful speakers and the ambitious program that was in large part moved forward by New York State delegates at the national Convention. The delegates adopted **two new studies – one on the role of the federal government in education and the other on privatization of governmental functions.** Many thanks to **Tomkins County League member Kay Wagner**, who spearheaded the successful resolution to expand the LWVUS’ global warming legislative priority to encompass mineral extraction, **Tompkins County League member Rebecca Elgie**, who put forward the successful Medicare for All resolution, **Saratoga County League member Lori Dawson**, who was instrumental in both the National Popular Vote and Marriage Equality concurrences. While states are not required to actively support nationally adopted concurrences, they cannot act in opposition to them. At its July meeting, the LWVNYS board determined to act in accordance with the national concurrence. For more information about the Convention, see the League’s website (national or state).

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NEW YORK STATE

62 Grand Street
Albany, NY 12207-1403
(518) 465-4162
Fax (518) 465-0812
Web Address: www.lwvny.org
E-mail: lwvny@lwvny.org

League News

Special Book Offer and Article from 2010 Convention Banquet Speaker Robert Cooney, Jr.

In celebration of the League’s 90th anniversary, author Robert Cooney has provided an article, based on the presentation he made at the League’s biennial Convention in Atlanta, about the roots of the League in the woman suffrage movement. The article is an easy way to re-familiarize ourselves

with the heritage of our historic organization and the brave women who fought for and won the right to vote. Also, for a limited time, Mr. Cooney and American Graphic Press are making available to members and friends of the League autographed copies of his award-winning, richly illustrated history, *Winning the Vote: The Triumph of the American Woman Suffrage Movement* (no charge for shipping). [More information and the article are accessible here.](#)

For a limited time he would be happy to autograph copies for League members if orders are sent directly to me. The 495-page oversize book contains nearly 1,000 photographs and illustrations and sells for \$85. I have also been authorized to offer free shipping (usually \$12.50) to League members until September 1.

This is a unique and wonderful book that covers the origins of the League as well as a crucial and exciting chapter in American history. It’s perfect for any lover of American democracy, and certainly for any League member, office, or local library.

Questions about Health Care Reform?

On July 1, the Department of Health and Human Services launched HealthCare.gov, a website designed to provide consumers with information on both public and private health care options. Visitors can review options tailored to individual circumstances and location, get answers to questions about implementation of the Affordable Care Act, and find quality rankings for local health care providers and preventive services.

LWVUS Facebook Page Exceeds 6,000 Fans

Thanks to all our supporters on Facebook! With more than 6,000 “Likes,” we’re on track to reach our goal of 9,000 followers for our 90th anniversary. Make sure to [suggest the page to your friends](#) by clicking on the link under our logo. <http://www.facebook.com/leagueofwomenvoters>

continued from p. 4 “League News”

88 Days Until Election Day 2010

November 2nd will be here before we know it. Make sure you’re ready to vote! Log on to VOTE411.org to register to vote and encourage your friends and family to do the same. Over the next few months, check back in frequently as new voter guides and candidate information are added daily.

Work on DISCLOSE Act Will Continue This Fall

The DISCLOSE Act was blocked in the Senate this week, but the League will continue to put pressure on the Senate to do the right thing after recess. See President [MacNamara’s statement](#) and a recent [League email](#) on the setback. The League will continue to target Senator Brown of Massachusetts, and Senators Snowe and Collins of Maine. The latter two are past supporters of transparency and co-sponsors of the 2003 Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act. All three could turn the tide on the much-needed legislation. Check out the [extensive media coverage of LWVUS’ work on DISCLOSE](#), including two op-eds in [Maine](#) and [Massachusetts](#).

Women’s Equality Day - August 26

August 26 of each year is designated in the United States as Women’s Equality Day. Instituted by Rep. Bella Abzug and first established in 1971, the date commemorates the passage of the 19th Amendment, the Woman Suffrage Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which gave U.S. women full voting rights in 1920.

Women’s Suffrage-basic terminology

Women’s suffrage” refers to the right of women to vote and to hold public office. The “women’s suffrage movement” (or “woman suffrage movement”) includes all the organized activities of reformers to change laws that kept women from

voting or to add laws and constitutional amendments to guarantee women the right to vote.

[Suffragette](#) - is this the correct term to use for those who worked to win the vote for women?

[Woman or Women?](#) - which term, “women’s suffrage” or “woman suffrage” is the correct one for the movement and its goal?

Definition: Suffragette is a term sometimes used for a woman active in the woman suffrage movement. A London newspaper first used the term suffragette. British women in the suffrage movement adopted the term for themselves, though earlier the term they used was “suffragist.” In America, the activists working for women’s voting preferred the term “suffragist” or “suffrage worker.” “Suffragette” was considered a disparaging term in America, much as “women’s lib” (short for “women’s liberation”) was considered a disparaging and belittling term in the 1960s and 1970s.

“Suffragette” in America also carried more of a radical or militant connotation that many American woman suffrage activists did not want to be associated with, at least until [Alice Paul](#) and [Harriot Stanton Blatch](#) began to bring some of the British militancy to the America struggle.

“**Woman**” was meant, in the 18th and 19th centuries, to be a term parallel to the philosophical, political and ethical use of the term “man.” Just as “man” is often used to personify and stand for all men in general (and often meant to be inclusive of women as well), so “woman” was used to personify and stand for all women in general. But there’s another subtlety in the difference between the terms. By personifying men or all people as “man” and women as “woman,” substituting the singular for the plural, the authors also implied a sense of individuality, of individual rights and responsibilities. Many of those who used

continued on p. 6

continued from p. 5 definition “Woman” these terms were also associated with the philosophical and political defense of individual liberty over traditional authority.

At the same time, use of “woman” implied a common bond or collectivity of all of that sex, just as “man” in “rights of man” managed to imply both individual rights and a collectivity of all men or, if one reads it inclusively, human beings.

Historian Nancy Cott says this of the use of “woman” rather than “women”: “Nineteenth-century women’s consistent usage of the singular *woman* symbolized, in a word, the unity of the female sex. It proposed that all women have one cause, one movement.” (in *The Grounding of Modern Feminism*. Thus, “woman suffrage” was the term most used in the 19th century by those who worked to achieve the rights of women to vote. “Women’s suffrage” was the term used by many of the opponents. In the early 20th century, as the concept of individual rights became more accepted and less radical, the terms became more interchangeable, even by the reformers themselves.

The definitions and following quiz from <http://womenshistory.about.com>

How Knowledgeable are You about Women’s Suffrage History?

Answers on p. 8

- 1: The first woman’s rights convention in America was held in:
 - a. Boston, MA
 - b. Seneca Falls, NY
 - c. Cheyenne, WY
 - d. Jamestown, VA



- 2: In 1868, Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton began publishing a newspaper. The slogan on the masthead said:
 - a. “Failure is impossible.”
 - b. “A man of quality is not threatened by a woman of equality.”
 - c. “Men, their rights, and nothing more; women, their rights, and nothing less.”
 - d. “Women are in chains, and their servitude is all the more debasing because they do not realize it.”

- 3: The name of this newspaper published by Anthony and Stanton was:
 - a. The Revolution
 - b. The Lily
 - c. Ms. Magazine
 - d. Woman’s Journal

- 4: In the late 1860s, after the end of the Civil War, Susan B. Anthony:
 - a. opposed the Fourteenth Amendment because it did away with provisions counting slaves as three fifths of a person
 - b. supported the Fourteenth Amendment because it would provide the justification for women to vote
 - c. supported the Fourteenth Amendment because it allowed women to submit petitions to their representatives
 - d. opposed the Fourteenth Amendment because it limited the right of voting to male citizens

- 5: In 1873, Susan B. Anthony went on trial, charged with:
 - a. protesting in front of the White House
 - b. voting in a presidential election
 - c. founding an illegal organization
 - d. preventing men from voting

- 6: In 1913, which state became the first state east of the Mississippi to give women the right to vote, when it granted suffrage to women in most elections?
 - a. Massachusetts
 - b. Virginia
 - c. New York
 - d. Illinois