



NOTABLE MINORITIES WHO CHANGED HISTORY

March 14, 2008

Featuring
Anne Dallas Dudley

“This is a government of , by and for the people, and only the law denies that women are people!”

- An Anne Dallas Dudley Quote

Women’s History Month

March is Women’s History Month and we will be celebrating by featuring inspiring women in this month’s newsletters. This year’s theme is visionary female artists. Here are some examples of paintings by women.



Georgia O’Keefe - Poppies



Frida Kahlo - Self Portrait

March Dates to Remember:

- 1 - St. David’s Day (Welsh)
- 2 - World Day of Prayer
- 3 - The Doll Festival (Japan)
- 4 - Purim (Jewish)
- 8 - International Women’s Day
- 11 - Independence Day (Lithuania)
- 13 - Elephant Day (Thailand)
- 17 - St. Patrick’s Day (Ireland, United States)
- 21 - Naw Ruz (Baha’i, Persia)
- 21 - Good Friday
- 22 - New Year’s Day (India)
- 23 - Easter Sunday
- 25 - Feast of Annunciation (Christian)
- 26 - Mothering Sunday (England)

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Anne Dallas Dudley

Anne Dallas Dudley (1876-1955) Women’s Rights Activist

Anne Dallas Dudley was born to a prominent Nashville family in 1876. She attended Ward Seminary and Price’s College in Nashville. She married Guilford Dudley, one of the founders of the Life and Casualty Insurance Company in Nashville. They lived on a country estate in west Nashville and had two children.

Anne joined a local suffrage association in 1911 and was elected president of the Tennessee Equal Suffrage Association. She served as president until 1917, when she was elected third vice president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA). Most of her friends and peers did not agree with her that women should have the right to vote. Mrs. Dudley worked across the state campaigning, organizing suffrage leagues, and speaking throughout the United States.

During the suffrage movement there was a common stereotype that women’s suffragists were mannish and sought to destroy the traditional family. Anne, of course, embodied none of these traits and proved them false by bringing her children along with her to rallies and had them lead parades with her. She was very feminine and even sat for a photograph with her children where she is reading to them. She used this picture to show that the suffragists were not out to destroy the American family. This photograph became famous and was used in suffragist literature to emphasize the point.

On the national front, Anne addressed congressional committees and spoke to national audiences in favor of the 19th amendment which would grant women the right to vote. In 1920, Dudley attended the Democratic National Convention in San Francisco as the first woman delegate-at-large. By Spring of 1920, 35 of the 36 states needed to ratify the 19th amendment had done so. That August, Tennessee became the last state to ratify the amendment and it was added to the U.S. constitution as the 19th amendment. The states that had ratified the amendment were known as “The Perfect 36.”

After the amendment was passed, Anne helped organize the Woman’s Civic League of Nashville to assist elected officials in a needed “municipal house-cleaning.” This group fought for an end to overlapping city efforts and for public education on health issues. She also fought for women’s right to have birth control available. She served on the Maternal Welfare Organization of Tennessee. The organization brought birth control pioneer Margaret Sanger to Nashville in 1938 to increase public awareness on the subject. Anne died in 1955 and was buried in Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Nashville. She was inducted into the National Women’s Hall of Fame in 1995.

(Source: www.tennesseeencyclopedia.net)

Did You Know?

Tomorrow, March 15, is the Ides of March. In the Roman Calendar, the ides was used for the 15th day of the months of March, May, July and October, and the 13th day of the other 8 months. In modern times, the term Ides of March is best known as the date that Julius Caesar was assassinated in 44BC. Since then the term has come to be used as a metaphor for impending doom.
(Source: www.wikipedia.com)