



# The Center of the Rebellion

## From the Superintendent

Wow! What a summer! It was a wonderful last few months here at Women's Rights NHP!

In mid July, the park participated in a paddling reconnaissance trip to evaluate how we might contribute to developing a Finger Lakes Water Trail. This trail would allow visitors to use kayaks and human powered craft to visit the Wesleyan Chapel, Visitor Center, and historic homes along the Cayuga-Seneca Canal in a healthy, environmentally friendly manner.

From July 19-22nd, the park was the center of the Convention Days celebrations and opened the Chapel (with its great new pews!) to over 700 people for the weekend's numerous events including the reading of the Declaration of Sentiments, a "conversation" between Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Matilda Joselyn Gage, a play, musical performances, "head readings" from phrenologists, and lace making demonstrations.

Our Call to Action "ARTS AFIRE!" initiatives were also incredibly successful, fun, and inspiring. Carol Flueckiger, offered three cyanotype workshops where participants used sunlight and quotes and text reproduced from the park's historical documents to literally develop their thoughts and ideas. Bev Lombardo and Tom Hussey taught landscape painting to ARTS AFIRE! participants using the Stanton House and landscape as their inspiration. Each of these creative events

Continued on page 2



Women's Rights National Historical Park welcomed artist Carol Flueckiger (standing, right) over the Convention Days weekend in July. Flueckiger hosted three workshops and assisted participants in her technique of being inspired by history and artifacts to create art. The audience enjoyed the newly installed pews in the Wesleyan Chapel. See page 4 for more on the pews.

## Thank You Facebook Fans



And a huge thanks goes out to Volunteer Stephanie Freese, too. We couldn't have done it without you. We are please to report that our park facebook fan numbers have been steadily increasing, beyond our expectations. Stephanie did a great

job by reporting out to our audience across the globe over the Convention Days weekend events. Go to our page at <http://www.facebook.com/womensrights-nps#!/womensrightsnps>. Thumbs Up! See photo of Stephanie on page 6.

From the  
Superintendent  
(Continued from page 1)

culminated in a month long exhibit at the park's Visitor Center and photos were posted on the parks website and Facebook page.

In August, the park hosted a very moving Naturalization ceremony and a passionate and engaging public meeting about the future steps for the Votes for Women History Trail. Sincere thanks to all who dedicated their time and ideas to help us with the Trail's development.

While summer may be done, our enthusiasm, energy, and desire to engage is still going strong. This fall and winter we look forward to offering our Second Annual Winter Film Fest which will feature movies about women's rights, civil rights, as well as films about the various National Park Service parks. This fall and winter will also be very exciting as the Interpretation and Education division will begin partnering efforts with local schools and universities. This partnership will help the park find new ways to make our exhibits, products, and programs more relative, engaging, and meaningful, while introducing students to their local National Park.

While we are sad to see our busiest season come to an end, a new door of opportunity is opening as we look forward to really bolstering our education division and its services and offerings. While I look forward to reporting out in the next issue, you can keep abreast of our events and offerings by visiting our website [www.nps.gov/wori](http://www.nps.gov/wori) and our Facebook page- <http://www.facebook.com/womensrightsnps>. We hope to reach 1000 likes on our Facebook page by our next newsletter issue in January!

Hope to see you soon!  
Sincerely,  
Tammy Ann Duchesne

# HPHP Committee Has a Busy First Year

Healthy People Healthy Parks committee worked to provide and develop opportunities for the public to discover park resources and get out and move. The first year's labors include:

- a calorie counting walking tour map
- a presentation to the Seneca Falls Business Community about Designing a Safe and Healthy New York tool for assessing traffic and building business
- a community vegetable garden plot featuring favorite foods of organizers of the 1848 First Woman's Rights Convention with produce going to the local food pantry
- participation in a kayak reconnaissance of the Cayuga-Seneca

Canal to discover options for human powered water transport between park sites

- a park booth at Celebrate the Lake in Ithaca, the first annual festival bringing together advocates of human-powered water recreation
- sunflower planter boxes at the visitor center front doors, in honor of Elizabeth Cady Stanton's pen name

Founding Members, Andrea DeKoter, transferred to a new park in March, and Meghan Barbay left the park in September. The new committee will be looking for ideas and new members to help the public discover park resources and get out and move! Please let us know your thoughts at 315-568-2991 ext. 5000 or [vivien\\_rose@nps.gov](mailto:vivien_rose@nps.gov).



HPHP Committee members Vivien Rose and Bill Reilly met up with others to paddle the Cayuga - Seneca Canal in July. First-hand knowledge will help guide the entire planning team toward a successful collaboration to use and help others use the waterway for recreation and historical exploration while promoting a healthy outdoor experience.

# Park Staff Meets with Canal Corporation

In September the Canal Corporation was in town to inspect locks on the Cayuga - Seneca Canal. Local business owners, the media, and dignitaries were also on board.

Chief of Cultural Resources Vivien Rose met the group at Cayuga -Seneca Canal

Locks Nos. 2 and 3 in Seneca Falls. She gave a brief program about the connection between women's rights and industrial history of Seneca Falls, Waterloo, and the Canal. Rose expressed the park's willingness and interest in developing a human-powered water transport system between park sites.



The tug pictured above gave the Canal Corporation and their guests an up-close view of Van Cleef Lake, along the Cayuga - Seneca Canal in Seneca Falls. On the right, Chief of Cultural Resources Vivien Rose met with Canal Corporation Director Brian Stratton (left) and Beth Sciumeca, Erie Canalway National Heritage Cooridor Director.

## Hunt Family Papers Leave Central New York Again

The Hunt Family Papers, a collection of approximately 1300 business documents, family letters, and receipts dating from the mid 1830s to 1856, were acquired by Women's Rights NHP in 2009. The family collection provides an intimate look at the activities of Richard P. Hunt and his interactions with his family and community. Since 2010, the Hunt Family Papers have been traveling to receive archival care. In 2010 they went to Massachusetts to be organized and prepared for public use. Last year in Harper's Ferry, West Virginia, they received specialized conservation treatment for long-term stability from NPS experts.

This month they are going to Massachusetts again, this time to a preservation firm called Chicago Albumen Works in

Housatonic. There they will be digitized into master files which will be retained for archival purposes and into copy files which will allow the public to conduct research in the collection without touching the fragile paper originals. We'll let you know when they are ready for their debut!



The Hunt Family Papers include receipts for household goods, furniture, and carpeting. The receipt above is for a stove purchased in New York, NY in May of 1841.

## Don't Look, You Won't Find Her



Park Guide Meghan Barbay has left the park to focus on her dream of being a classroom teacher. We appreciate all the hard work she did for the visitors, other teachers, and as a member of the HPHP Committee. Good luck Meghan!

# Maintenance Division Makes Repairs and Continues to Go Green

Over the summer season, the Maintenance Division was able to accomplish several projects along with the regular housekeeping of park facilities and sprucing up the park outdoor spaces.

At the Elizabeth Cady Stanton House construction repairs on the back parlor's French doors continue. The two sets of wooden doors flanking the back wall of the east parlor led out to an exterior porch or deck when Stanton and her family occupied the 32 Washington Street home. Stanton referred to the porch as her "piazza." She used the porch as an extension of her home and there she served her guests lemonade on hot summer evenings.

The original doors have been replaced with new ones of the exact dimensions. The newly built doors are in place, but work still continues with the finish carpentry work to the opening, threshold, casing, trim, and exterior siding.

Earlier in the summer the Maintenance Division helped the park "go green." The Park staff purchased several old pews to be "recycled" and used for seating in the Wesleyan Chapel. Years ago a park neighbor had rescued the pews from the First Congregational Church on State Street and disassembled them into pieces for efficient storage in his garage. Thankfully, when he knew it was time for them to go, he contacted the park staff before putting a for sale advertisement in the local newspaper. He wanted the pews to go to a good home, be put to good use, and to be appreciated for their historical craftsmanship by their new owners. The park was the perfect home. The maintenance division reassembled eight of these 18 foot black walnut pews using the original square nails, cast iron railings and end arms. The pews were installed in the Wesleyan Chapel in July.



Left to right: Shawn Grube, Guy Hock Jr., Bill Reilly, Dylan Williams, and John Teachout. Ben Secor III was not present for the photo.



Left: Park Staff prepare new set of French doors for the Stanton House back parlor. Right: Park Staff assemble pews for use in the Wesleyan Chapel.

This fall the Maintenance Division continues to focus on park safety. They will inspect the fire extinguishers, decommission all the summer lawn care equipment with the exception of the leaf blowers, and pull out the snow blowers, shovels, salters, and snow plows to prepare for the weather ahead.

Check your own home and car fire extinguishers at least once a month. The hoses should be free from cracks and the body free of scratches or abrasions. Be sure the gauge is in the "green" zone and the ring and handle are intact. Replace as necessary.



# Convention Days 2012 Revisited

The staff at Women's Rights National Historical Park hosted a series of events to commemorate the 164th Anniversary of the First Women's Rights Convention. A total of 726 people attended twelve events from July 19 - 22, 2012.

These special events provided a varied array of opportunities for park visitors. Artist Carol Flueckiger presented two talks and led three cyanotype art workshops as a part of Women's Rights NHP's ongoing ARTS AFIRE! programs. Melinda Grube read the Declaration of Sentiments and portrayed Elizabeth Cady Stanton in two different programs. Pamela L. Poulin portrayed Matilda Joselyn Gage in two different living history programs.



The Women's Rights National Historical Park Visitor Center served as the venue for phrenology and lacemaking demonstrations. Paul and Mary Kuhn provided interpretive talks on the pseudo-science of phrenology, and they invited visitors to "have their heads examined" in phrenology demonstrations. Bonnie Breed presented lace making demonstrations and she provided visitors with interpretive introductions to lace making in the 19th century.



The Hutchinson Family Revival, a recreated group of family singers, returned to Women's Rights National Historical Park. They performed abolitionist, temperance, and women's rights songs in the Wesleyan Chapel.

Women's Rights NHP Volunteer Social Media Coordinator Stephanie Freese wrote live-blog updates during the Anniversary events.

Clockwise from the top left: Melinda Grube and Pamela P. Poulin, ARTS AFIRE! Exhibit Opening, Phrenologist Mary Kuhn, lining up to sign the Declaration of Sentiments, and the Hutchinson Family Revival.

See page 6 for more July Convention Days (164th Anniversary) photos.



# Park Hosts Naturalization Ceremony in August

Women's Rights National Historical Park hosted a naturalization ceremony on Friday, August 17, 2012, in the Wesleyan Chapel. Twenty-four candidates stated the oath of citizenship and were presented certificates by the U. S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. The twenty-four candidates came from sixteen countries in the world, including Cote D'Ivoire, Cuba, Canada, Togo, Turkey, the Dominican Republic, Guinea, Brazil, Germany, Vietnam, Greece, the Philippines, Venezuela, Mexico, Italy, and the People's Republic of China. The new citizens ranged in age from a woman in her early 20s to a man in his late 80s.

The Honorable Marian W. Payson of the U. S. District Court of the Western District of New York administered the oath of citizenship in the naturalization ceremony.

Superintendent Tammy Duchesne of Women's Rights National Historical Park, Seneca County Manager Mitch Rowe, the Honorable Marian W. Payson, and Immigration Services Officer Jack



**Left: Honorable Marian W. Payson addresses the audience before the new citizens rise and take the oath of citizenship. Congratulations!**

Phetteplace of the U. S. Citizenship and Immigration Services presented brief remarks during the ceremony.

Several organizations participated in the naturalization ceremony, including the

American Legion Auxiliary, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Children of the American Revolution, the League of Women Voters of Geneva, New York, and U. S. Department of State, Buffalo Passport Agency.

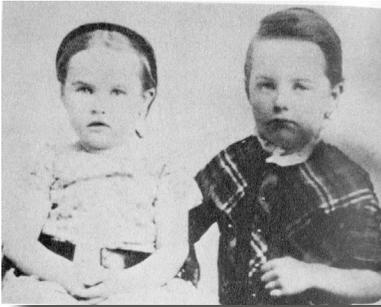
## More July Photos



Clockwise from top left: Carol Flueckiger, Superintendent Tammy Duchesne with Melinda Grube as Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Volunteer Stephanie Freese with Grube, Chief of Interpretation and Education Ami Ghazala signing her first Declaration of Sentiments, Lace maker Bonnie Breed with Park Ranger John Stoudt.

## Why *The Center of the Rebellion*?

Elizabeth Cady Stanton lived at 32 Washington Street, Seneca Falls for 15 years with her husband and growing family. She wrote many letters to friends and family inviting them to her home, which she called “the center of the rebellion.” With our newsletter, we invite you, also, to Seneca Falls.



The first two of the four Stanton children born in Seneca Falls were Theodore Weld Stanton on right (1851) and Margaret Livingston Stanton (1852). Caring for her small children was one reason she chose to avoid traveling and invited reformers to her home.



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

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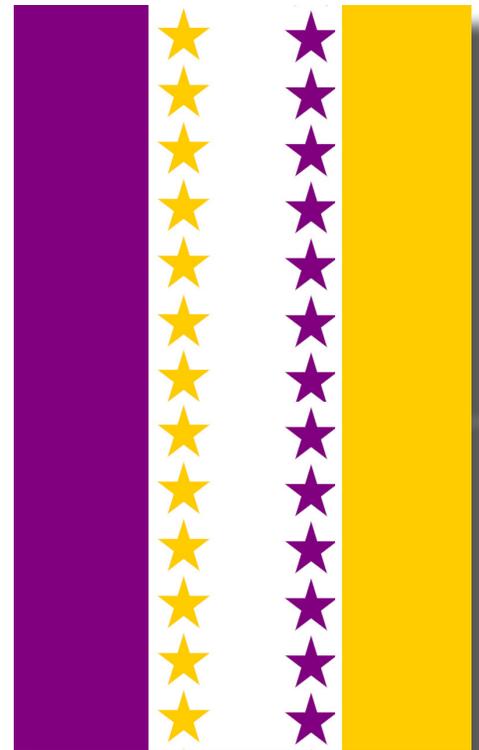
The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

# Two Meetings Kick Off Planning for Votes For Women History Trail

The 2009 Park Omnibus Bill authorized Women’s Rights National Historical Park to administer a Votes for Women History Trail Route that would link properties in New York State that are historically and thematically associated with the struggle for women’s suffrage in the United States.

On Tuesday, July 24, Women’s Rights National Historical Park hosted a public meeting in the park’s Visitor Center and on Wednesday, August 22, in the Wesleyan Chapel. These public meetings offered interested individuals, organization leaders, and stakeholders the opportunity to provide input for the foundation for the “Votes for Women History Trail Route.” These public meetings were open for everyone to attend.

A total of 93 people attended these two public meetings. The park thanks all who provided their comments and suggestions at these meetings. The park looks forward to working to make the trail a reality.



The Suffrage Flag from the National Woman’s Party was completed with 36 stars.

To learn more about the Trail visit [www.parkplanning.nps.gov/votesforwomen](http://www.parkplanning.nps.gov/votesforwomen).

## Happy Birthday, Elizabeth Cady Stanton!

“I never forget that we are sowing winter wheat, which the coming spring will see sprout, and other hands than ours will reap and enjoy.”



November 12, 1815 - October 26, 1902



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Women's Rights National Historical Park  
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## ARTS AFIRE! Events This Summer Help Visitors Connect



Left: Marie Watkins with her own postcard to the past "causes declare power," from the July ARTS AFIRE! workshop.

Right: Rose Spinelli uses the Elizabeth Cady Stanton House as inspiration for a watercolor painting during the August "En Plein Air" ARTS AFIRE! workshop.