

ASEA IN ACTION

City & Borough of Sitka Chapter



March Is Women's History Month

Women's History Month had its origins as a national celebration in 1981 when Congress passed Pub. L. 97-28, which authorized and requested the President to proclaim the week beginning March 7, 1982 as "Women's History Week." Throughout the next five years, Congress continued to pass joint resolutions designating a week in March as "Women History Week." In 1987 after being petitioned by the National Women's History Project, Congress passed Pub. L. 100-9, which designated the month of March 1987 as "Women's History Month." Between 1988 and 1994, Congress passed additional resolutions requesting and authorizing the President to proclaim March of each year as Women's History Month. Since 1995, Presidents Clinton, Bush and Obama have issued a series of annual proclamations designating the month of March as "Women's History Month."

(From the Law Library of Congress' guide to the legislative history of Women's History Month.)

March 3rd marks 101 years since 5,000 women marched up Pennsylvania Avenue demanding the right to vote. Their National Procession, staged the day before Woodrow Wilson's presidential inauguration, was the first civil rights parade to use the nation's capital as a backdrop.

The National Women's History Project announced that their theme for 2014 is "Celebrating Women of Character, Courage and Commitment."

The 12 women honorees this year are:

Chipeta (1843-1924) - *Indian Rights Advocate & Diplomat*

Ann Julia Haywood Cooper (1858 -1964) *Africa American Educator & Author*

Agatha Tiegel Hanson (1873 -1959) *Educator, Author, & Advocate for the Deaf Community*

Katharine Ryan Gibbs (1963 -1934) *Women's Employment Pioneer*

Frances Oldham Kelsey (1914-Present) *Pharmacologist & Public Health Activist*

Roxcy O'Neal Bolton (1926-Present) *20th Century Women's Rights Pioneer*

Arden Eversmeyer (1931-Present) *The Old Lesbian Oral History Project Founder*

Carmen Delgado Votaw (1935 - Present) *International Women's Rights Activist*

Ann Lewis (1937-Present) *Women's Rights Organizer and Women's History Advocate*

Jaida Im (1937-Present) *Advocate for Survivors Of Human Trafficking*

Tammy Duckworth (1968-Present) *Member of Congress and Iraq War Veteran*

Lisa Taylor (1974-Present) *Civil Rights Attorney*

In March of 2011, President Obama's administration released a comprehensive federal report, "*Women in America: Indicators of Social and Economic Well-Being*," showing women's status in the U.S. in 2011 and how it had changed over time. This was the first report since the one produced by the Commission on the Status of Women in 1963. In 2013, President Obama stated in his proclamation, "That legacy of change is all around us. Women are nearly half of our Nation's workforce and more than half of our college graduates. But even now, many women feel the weight of discrimination on their shoulders. They face a pay gap at work, or higher premiums for health insurance or inadequate options for family leave. These issues affect all of us, and failing to address them holds our country back."

Women of today are living the legacy of the women's rights movement that started with seven generations of women before us. There have been many accomplishments over those years. Large numbers of women are now members of the trades, they are in businesses of every kind and in every profession. They are clergy, journalist, elected congressional representatives both at the state level and at the national level, airline pilots, even serving in combat in the military. Women have worked hard and changed thousands of federal, state, county and local laws that helped women gain equality, break down barriers and elevate legal and social status roles.

For more information on the History of the Women's Rights Movement, The National Women's History Project and their 12 honorees this year go to www.nwhp.org

15th Biennial Convention

Important Dates

March 12: *Delegate Education Training*

March 13 - 14: *Parliamentary Training / Convention Committee Work Sessions*

March 15 - 16: *15th Biennial Convention - Business Session*

Other Important Dates

May 13 - 14, 2014: Kenai - Business Session of ASEA Executive Board

September 1- 3, 2014: Labor Day Parade, Picnic & Business Session of ASEA Executive Board in Fairbanks

BEWARE of "Phishing Email"

It has been brought to the attention of ASEA Headquarters that in the last several days, there have been emails sent to members from a group soliciting life insurance. This is in no way connected to ASEA.

On occasion these are legitimate offers from bona-fide insurance companies. HOWEVER, you should also keep in mind that there are many cases where these items are just "Phishing" or gathering your personal information. On occasion these bogus emails will leave behind a virus that can destroy your computer.

In an effort to protect your personal information, your identity and/or your employer's information, be careful when opening email. Be cautious when filling out forms that request personal information. If it's from an unknown source just delete it. If it is on a work computer, report it to your IT person.