



National Collaborative for Women's History Sites

2017-18 Annual Report

Treasurer's Report - Lucienne Beard

The NCWHS completes the fiscal year with a surplus due to careful stewardship of our income, which is derived from membership dues, donations, and overhead on mission-related projects (i.e. National Historic Landmark applications managed through a Cooperative Agreement with the National Park Service). Our expenses include routine but crucial items such as insurance, licenses, IT support and database management, and postage.

The business of the Collaborative was made possible with the gratis time and effort of the Evanston History Center and Frances Willard House Museum staff and NCWHS board members until late spring, when Ella Wagner and Lauren Harris joined as part time staff to support NCWHS operations.

In fiscal year 2018, NCWHS created the Amy Dykeman Fellowship with donations made in memory of Amy Dykeman, a librarian at the University of North Carolina and lifetime supporter of women's history. This year our Dykeman Fellow was Ella Wagner, a Loyola University Chicago graduate student, and her work was in support of the National Votes for Women Trail.

Thank you to Peg Strobel who, as Assistant Treasurer for the past year, has kept a careful eye on the NPS Cooperative Agreement accounts. Thank you to those of you who joined for the first time or renewed your membership in NCWHS. A hearty thank you to those who donated to the annual appeal as well. Your support is critical to the organization's success.

NCWHS Committees:

The National Votes for Women Trail (NVWT): Nancy Brown, Chair. The NVWT is collecting sites from all over our country to allow us to tell the untold story of suffrage for all women, of all ethnicities, that extends well past the passage of the 19th amendment. We currently have 36 State Coordinators and over 800 sites on our database, which continues to grow at a rapid pace. Our partner, The William G. Pomeroy Foundation, is complementing our efforts with the donation of 250 historic roadside markers nationally, which will designate sites on the Trail and send visitors to our website.

We have just launched a GoFundMe campaign for \$15,000 to fund the first half of the design a website that makes the sites on our database easy to search for educators, researchers, and heritage tourists. Our

website designer is well-qualified, and has also designed The National Women's Hall of Fame website. We will continue to look for the remaining \$18,000 to complete the task. We will be publicizing the NVWT via FaceBook, Twitter, and at the National Trust for Historic Preservation Conference in San Francisco, as well as the 24th American Trails International Trails Symposium and Trails Institute in Syracuse NY in 2019.

Membership and Development: NCWHS membership stands at 91 active members. We appreciate everyone who has joined or renewed their membership. The annual appeal, which took place in December 2017, generated \$865 in donations. Thank you to everyone who gave and please consider making a gift this year.

National Historic Landmarks (NHL) Committee: Committee members - Jo Goodwin, Barb Howe, and Peg Strobel.

The NCWHS collaborative agreement with the National Park Service (CA P15AC30330) ended March 31, 2018. We continue to complete the work of our NPS Task Agreement (TA P12AC12827) which includes two nominations.

The Klagetoh Chapter House on the Navajo Reservation in Klagetoh, Arizona, is nearest completion. It recognizes Annie Dodge Wauneka (1910-1997). She was a major leader in improving public health among the Navajo and the first woman member of the Navajo Tribal Council. Tom and Laurie Simmons of Front Range Research Associates, Inc., are preparing this nomination and are scheduled to submit the final nomination no later than December 31, 2018.

In September 2016, the Task Agreement was amended with Modification 4. This added another NHL application for the home of Mary Baker Eddy at 8 Broad Street in Lynn, Massachusetts. Eddy (1821-1910) was the founder of the Church of Christ, a Scientist and the founder of the Christian Science Monitor. The Longyear Museum is the sponsoring agency and the NCWHS is the fiscal agent. In December 2017, the deadline for submission was extended by Modification 6 to December 31, 2018. The application has been revised following comments by the NPS and the service will send it to external readers.

Nominating Committee: Committee members - Lucienne Beard, Sehliia Mota Casper, Antonia Castaneda

2018 Board Survey: Nominations Committee conducted a Board Survey, to which everyone responded. The results reflect the areas in which we need representation, and where we should focus our recruitment of board membership:

- Racial, ethnic and social diversity: African American, Asian American, Native American, and LGBTQ
- Geographic Diversity. Need West Coast representation
- Skills Set: Fundraising experience
- Other: Experience and/or present involvement with a historic site

2018 Recruitment of New Board Members: Board members nominated, and we successfully recruited and elected two new colleagues to the Board:

- Barbara Lau

- Judith Wellman
- Linda Heidenreich, will begin her first term in the spring of 2019

Nomination and Election of Officers for 2018-2019 We nominated, and at the August meeting, elected the following slate of officers for a one year term, ending ending September 30, 2019.

- Marsha Weinstein President
- Judy Wellman Vice President
- Joanne Goodwin Secretary
- Lucy Beard Treasurer
- Lori Osborne Vice President for Operations

Re-Election of Board Members Whose First, Second, or Third Year Term Expires at End of Fiscal Year 2018:

- Lucy Beard
- Antonia Castaneda
- Joanne Goodwin
- Marsha Weinstein
- Lynn Weiner

Online Communications: We have 1,550 followers on Twitter and 1,130 people follow us on Facebook. We hope you have found NCWHS online if you use these social media outlets—and please share our posts with your friends and colleagues. In addition, we love posting news from members: let us know via contact@ncwhs.org if you've got brief news you'd like us to post. The committee also manages our website www.ncwhs.org.

Research and Interpretation Committee: Heather Huyck and Nancy Hewitt, Co-Chairs

RIC currently includes members from the Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island, Harriet Tubman NHP, USS Constitution/Boston NHP, President Lincoln's Cottage, Keweenaw (MI) Heritage Center, two at-large public historians with extensive knowledge of historic sites, as well as university- based members from Roosevelt University (retired), Rutgers University (retired), St. Mary's College, Texas (retired), and UMass-Amherst. RIC has once again submitted proposals for and participated in national conferences. These included Heather Huyck in the session, "Arming Citizens: Public Historians and Civic Engagement" at the 2018 Organization of American Historians conference in Sacramento.

A RIC-proposed round table on "Inclusions and Exclusions: The Struggle for Women's Votes," has been accepted for the 2019 OAH, which will be moderated by Nancy Hewitt. Participants include scholars of American Indian, African-American, Latina/Hispanic, and Asian American women as well as a curator of the Smithsonian exhibit on women's suffrage. In the process of developing this session, RIC members discussed how the various historic sites linked to Board members could contribute to the centenary of the Nineteenth Amendment, which elicited lively exchanges about several sites. Diana Pardue, for example, talked about how the citizenship exhibits and timeline at Ellis Island provided a basis for exploring women's suffrage at her site. We plan to incorporate ideas from this discussion into RIC proposals for the

June 2020 Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, which will be held at Johns Hopkins University. Proposals are usually due 18 months before the conference, and we are already in touch with the Berks co-presidents about sessions that incorporate public history and historic sites. These proposals will include at least one session on women's suffrage, and we have spoken with Board member Judy Wellman about working with us on this session.

Much of RIC's time this year has been spent developing a Tool Kit to aid historic landmarks, homes and parks in recognizing and interpreting the role of girls, women and gender at their sites. We have spent several meetings discussing the issues involved in producing such a TK and how to make it useful for the broadest number of sites. Questions from NCWHS Board Members—thanks Jo—have been helpful in guiding some of our discussions. Most recently, the realization that the stock of *Women's History: Sites and Resources* is low led us to consider incorporating the TK into an updated and revised edition of that book. We hope to finalize an outline/TOC for this project this fall and will then send it on to the Board for discussion and suggestions.

Partnerships:

- National Park Service (NPS) - We completed work with NPS through our Cooperative Agreement, including working on three women's history-related National Historic Landmark nominations (more details in NHL committee report above).
- National Trust for Historic Preservation - We continued working with the Trust on their National Treasures program, identifying women's history-focused properties for protection.
- American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) - NCWHS is partnering with the Women's History Affinity Group (WHAG) of AASLH. The advisory committee for WHAG is co-chaired by Rebecca Price and former NCWHS board member Page Harrington. At the AASLH 2018 conference in Kansas City, MO, NCWHS Vice President Lori Osborne was part of a WHAG presentation to highlight the Votes for Women Trail and the Pomeroy Marker Project.

NCWHS Officers and Board:

Marsha Weinstein, President; Judy Wellman, Vice President; Lori Osborne, Vice President for Operations; Lucy Beard, Treasurer; Joanne Goodwin, Secretary. Nancy Berlage, Nancy Brown, Sehila Mota Casper, Antonia Castaneda, Barbara Lau, Camesha Scruggs, Lynn Weiner.