## The Center of the Rebellion

# From the

Greetings!

Even though January, February, and March are the parks slowest months in terms of visitation, the park continued to offer many new great programs in honor of Black History and Women's History Months.

In February, the park offered "Harriet Tubman's Civil Wars" and "Seneca Falls Links to African-American Legacies."

In March, the park had three new programs and offerings. In honor of International Women's Day, the park offered a program and launched a new exhibit on Saint Marianne Cope and the contributions she made at Kalaupapa National Historical Park. The park also hosted a Women in Leadership program that same day called, "Women's Rights - is it rocket science?" where Judith Pipher, an astrophysicist who was inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame, had a conversation with Elizabeth Cady Stanton on the role of women and science. Later in the month the park hosted a Harriet Tubman Living History Presentation called "The Love in That Cabin."

Even though staff was busy offering events to the public, the park nonetheless continued to increase its outreach into schools, universities, and the community.

In addition to great and creative interpretive programs that serve our visitors, the park is also proud to be doing preserva-

Continued on page 2

## Park Celebrates Superintendent | International Women's Day

To celebrate International Women's Day, a new exhibit opened on March 8 about local religious figure and human rights supporter Saint Marianne Cope.

Marianne Cope was a member of the Sisters of Saint Francis in Syracuse, NY, who with six other nuns, went to Hawaii in 1883 to tend to the needs of patients suffering from Hansen's disease. In time, Mother Marianne became an effective administrator of their hospitals, drawing on her experience at St. Joseph's Hospital in Syracuse, NY and St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Utica, NY. She spent the rest of her life on the island of Molokai in isolation with her patients, and died there in 1918. In October, 2012, Mother Marianne Cope was elevated to Sainthood by Pope Benedict XVI.



The exhibit's developer Ranger David Malone gave a presentation on Saint Marianne. The program included guest speaker, Henry Law, the first superintendent of Kalaupapa NHP, which preserves the settlement of Kalaupapa on Molokai.

### Tubman's Life the Focus of March Program

Living Historian, Carolyn Evans, had the crowd on the edge of their seats as she portrayed Harriet Tubman in two performances, March 22 and 23.

Evans as Tubman, started the program by peddling her wares and then transitioned seamlessly from storytelling to singing, running, laughing, and crying. Evans charmed the audience with her engaging, lively, and dramatic portrayal. The program included a description of Tubman's friendship with Seneca Falls Convention Organizer, Martha Coffin Wright, and their work for woman's suffrage.



## From the Superintendent

(Continued from page 1)

tion work on the Elizabeth Cady Stanton House. The French doors are repainted and reinstalled! Come by and see! The porch and the columns are also receiving much needed treatment and we are hoping by mid-spring that the work will be done so the front of the home will be free of construction. Thanks for your understanding for the visual obstructions that exist during this process, we apologize for the way it looks, but we are proud that the work we are doing will allow the Stanton House to be appreciated for generations to come.

As the days grow longer and the temperature rises, we will soon be welcoming aboard our summer staff which allows the park to offer even more programs like walking tours in Seneca Falls and tours of the M'Clintock House in Waterloo.

We are proud of our winter programs AND we are really excited for spring and summer seasons when we can welcome local and international visitors and share with them the important history that happened right here at Women's Rights National Historical Park.

Sincerely, Tammy Duchesne, Superintendent

#### Volunteer News



Maggie Hansen joined the staff in February and is working in the Visitor Center with the I and E Team. "The park is an extremely pleasant and interesting place. I highly recommend visiting or volunteering," said Maggie. Welcome Aboard!

# Separate but Equal... Anniversary Dialogue May 17

Separate but Equal... Brown v. Board of Education Anniversary Dialogue to be held on May 17th at 7:00 PM in the Guntzel Theater.

The program will be a reflection of the U.S. Supreme Court's 1954 landmark decision in Brown v. Board of Education with James Michael Valenti J.D., L.L.M., Esq., an Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice at Finger Lakes Community College. The public is invited to attend. Admission is free.

The landmark court decision of Brown v. Board of Education is commemorated today by Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site in Topeka, KS.



Information about the historic site is available at www.nps.gov/brvb.

Friends of Women's Rights National Historical Park will host a reception following the program. Contact Jeff Teeter for more information. at 315.568.0024 or jeff\_teeter@nps.gov.

## Cultural Resources Happenings



Park Historian Anne M. Derousie earned a Ph.D. degree in U.S. History from Binghamton University in December 2012. Dr. Derousie has worked at Women's Rights NHP since 2001. Congratulations!



Described in 1832 as "the splendid Anchusa Capensis, with its azure blossoms," Blue Angel is a member of borage family. Its roots give a red dye while leaves and flowers were used for treating cuts and bruises as well as in cough remedies. Park staff planted it and other heritage flowers last summer. It is now in bloom in time for Spring.



This cast iron pot was found on the Hunt grounds and were common on farms in the 1800s. The pot measures 30 inches in diameter and is 18 inches deep. Pots were used to boil water for washing clothes and for butchering of hogs. While we don't know the date of this pot or if the Hunt family used it, we do know that in August of 1850 there were 30 swine on the farm and in December of 1853 one of the Hunt children reported, "we killed fifteen Hogs today Father has sold several of them."



Found in the peak of the Hunt House attic was this tar pot, no doubt used to patch small leaks in the roof. This container probably dates from around 1900.

## 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.



Elizabeth Cady Stanton with her daughter Harriot in 1856.



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

#### Women's Rights National Historical Park

Superintendent Tammy Ann Duchesne tammy\_duchesne@nps.gov

#### **Mailing Address**

136 Fall Street Seneca Falls, NY 13148

#### Web Site

www.nps.gov/wori twitter http://twitter.com/#1/WomensRightsNPS facebook http://www.facebook.com/womensrightsnps

#### Park Headquarters

315.568.2991 Fax 315.568.2141

#### Park E-mail

WORI\_Information\_desk@nps.gov

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



Construction at the Elizabeth Cady Stanton House continued this season with touch-up work to the wood graining on the interior doors, trim, and mouldings. Sophie Elkin of Geneva, NY painted historically accurate "wood grain" on the new French doors that were installed in the back parlor of the Stanton House. For more restoration photos go to next page.





## Facebook "Fans" Adding Up

Under the direction of Volunteer-In-Parks Stephanie Freese, the park's Facebook page is getting noticed.

Over 1300 Facebook fans or followers are keeping up to date with the latest information and inspirational news.

Thanks Stephanie, we couldn't have done it without you!

"Like" the park's
Facebook page and
become one of our followers.
Go to:

www.facebook.com/womensrightsnps.

FIRST CONVENTION FOR WOMAN'S RIGHTS WAS HELD ON THIS CORNER 1848

Park staff are assisting Stephanie with photos of the notable, interesting, and sometimes overlooked corners. Photos like the one above of the 1932 sign, asked followers to "like" the Facebook post if they have had or want to get a photo with this local landmark. Trivia questions are being posted to give followers a chance to test their knowledge of women's rights.



Women's Rights National Historical Park 136 Fall Street Seneca Falls, NY 13148

The Center of the Rebellion is a quarterly publication of Women's Rights National Historical Park.

#### Editor

Jamie Wolfe

#### Contributors

Anne Derousie Tammy Ann Duchesne Guy Hock, Jr. David Malone Vivien Rose John Stoudt Jeff Teeter Jamie Wolfe

#### **NPS Photographers**

Tammy Ann Duchesne Anne Derousie John Stoudt Jamie Wolfe

#### Comments? Write to:

Jamie Wolfe at jamie\_wolfe@nps.gov or Women's Rights NHP 136 Fall Street Seneca Falls, NY 13148

## Maintenance is Our Foundation

Park Safety Officer, Ben Secor III, sends out a reminder to visitors and staff to take care when walking on paved sidewalks, parking lots, foot paths, and in historic buildings. Please watch your step, be safe!



Maintenance Workers John Teachout (left) and Dylan Williams (right) install a temporary set of stairs to be used as an emergency exit while the front porch of the Stanton House is blocked by construction. Tours enter through the back entrance.



Work continues on the front porch of the Elizabeth Cady Stanton House. The pillars are being repaired as shown above with views before (left) and after (right) restoration.