

How to celebrate Women's History Month in Wichita

BY AMY GEISZLER-JONES EAGLE CORRESPONDENT

What started as a weeklong celebration, turned into a month.

The national Women's History Month, celebrated in March, got its start in 1980 when President Jimmy Carter designated a Women's History Week in early March. By 1987, Congress passed a resolution to turn that celebration into a month. More than a dozen states by that time had already turned Women's History Week into Women's History Month to commemorate the achievements and experiences of women.

Here are a few ways you can celebrate the month and learn about women's history locally:

SUPPORT WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESSES

Women have owned and run businesses for a long time in Wichita, going back to its trading post days. Today, Wichita has many women-owned and -run businesses. Grab a bite to eat at Tanya's Soup Kitchen, Gaby's Peruvian Restaurant, The Kitchen, The Old Mill Tasty Shop, Doo-Dah Diner, The Monarch, Prost, Two Olives and Bagatelle that are among the many eateries that have women at their helm. For gifts, boutique and clothing merchandise, head to The First Place, started by Helen Galloway in 1973; Best of Times; Lucinda's; Wicked Stitch; Moxie, and K. Lanes, to name a few.

SUPPORT PUBLIC SERVICE

According to 2019 U.S. Census records, females comprise 50.8% of Wichita's population and 50.6% of the Sedgwick County population. When Lacey Cruse was contemplating a run for the Sedgwick County Commission in 2018, she said she was shocked to see how few women have served on the five-member board. At the time, only five women had served, with the first being Betsy Gwin in 1991 and the last being Gwen Welshimer, who left in 2010.

Considering the county's demographics, Cruse is pushing for more gender and racial equality among the representation on board-appointed boards. The makeup and vacancies of those boards can be found at boards.sedgwickcounty.org.

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Member of the Month

By: Cody Stout, Monarch Investment & Management Group

This month we shine a spotlight on a very familiar face to our association. David Geier with Cox Communications is our March Member of the Month. Dave has been with Cox Communications for almost three years and is currently a MDU Account Manager. One of Dave's main focuses is on Quick-Connect communities.

Dave says his favorite event by the AAGW is the Round for Hope Golf Tournament. Cox Communications typically sponsors two golf teams and Cox utilizes those teams to give back to the field technicians in Cox and of course, support the Center of Hope.

Dave's favorite motto is, "Don't tell me the sky's the limit, when there are footprints on the moon." Dave's proudest moment is ending 2020 as a "Top Performer" for Cox Communications. We are proud to have Dave as part of our association and hope that continues for years to come.



Celebrate

LEARN MORE ABOUT LOCAL WOMEN'S HISTORY

The 1970s brought about a variety of changes both nationally and locally. WSU, for example, started offering its first women's studies classes in 1971, and then in 1976, added women's studies as a major. Nancy Landon Kassebaum became Kansas' first woman senator in 1978. (Kathryn O'Loughlin McCarthy from Hays was the first woman from Kansas elected to Congress in 1932, according to the League of Women Voters of Kansas.)

The personal stories of dozens of Wichita women recounting what was happening were compiled in a 2011 book published by Wichita's Watermark Books. "Radiating Like A Stone: Wichita Women and the 1970s Feminist Movement" is organized by topics, with accounts written by several familiar names: Jill Docking, Broadfoot and Wright (two of Wichita's former women mayors), Nola Foulston, Bonnie Bing and more.

The Wichita Public Library has several copies of the book. And one historical tidbit readers might find interesting: Back then, married women needed their husband's signature to get a library card.



NSPF Certified Pool Operator (CPO®) Seminar & Exam

NSPF Certified Pool Operator (CPO®) Two Day Course April 19th & 20th, Offered through the AAGW

Earning the prestigious Certified Pool/Spa Operator® Certification (CPO® Certification) gives you the latest information available for commercial and residential pools and spas. Earn your certification by taking a traditional 2-day classroom course and passing the exam.

A CPO® Certification provides individuals with the basic knowledge, techniques, and skills of pool and spa operations. This training has helped protect millions of swimmers by reducing hazards at aquatic facilities. The NSPF® Certified Pool/Spa Operator® (CPO®) Certification program, the world's leading verifiable pool and spa training credential, is available as a blended training program.

Course instructor, Kevin Tucker, has been working in and around swimming pools for the past 45 years. He started lifeguarding, coaching and teaching swimming lessons, became certified, and has taught everything from infants swimming to scuba instruction. He trained hundreds of instructors, taught aquatic exercise classes, and conducted aquatics classes for people with disabilities.

His education includes a strong science and technical background with a Bachelor's degree from the University of Texas in Austin and graduate work at Kansas State University.

Please keep an eye on email inbox or AAGW website for more details soon, including registration.



We would like to give a welcome to one of our newest members, United Laboratories Inc. Founded in 1964, United Laboratories, Inc is a supplier of maintenance repair and operational (MRO) chemical products and equipment. Since joining the AAGW earlier this year, many people have met our local rep David Roe.

David says by joining the AAGW, he hopes to be able to show our members great products/solutions to issues that arise in the apartment industry. He lives by their company motto that, "Responsible innovation is in our nature." Welcome to the AAGW, United Laboratories, Inc, we are happy to have you!



Chicken N Pickle

UPCOMING

EVENTS

Thursday, March 11th, 11:30 am - 1:00 pm Metro Appliances & More Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, March 17th, 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm Farmers Insurance District Office Suppliers Council Meeting

Thursday, March 18th, 12:30 pm - 4:00 pm The Hudson Venue AAGW Reverse Trade Show

Friday, April 16th, 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm Chicken N Pickle AAGW/NAAPAC Cornhole Tournament

April 19th & 20th, All Day Venue TBD Certified Pool Operator Course

316-941-4700

316-612-8026

Cell:



Nothing Down

jreiter@smartsiding.com

Friday, April 16th, 2021 - 3:00 PM - Chicken N Pickle

Back by popular demand (but in a cooler month) the AAGW Cornhole Tournament provides guests with a fun, yet competitive, afternoon while networking with your AAGW peers playing at Wichita's hot spot, Chicken N Pickle.

All tournament registration fees will be used to support the AAGW's NAAPAC fair share goal. These funds are dedicated to protecting and promoting the multifamily housing industry while also educating Congress about our industry.

From COVID relief to Housing Affordability, making our voice heard is as important as ever. So while you are playing for a championship, you are also being an advocate!

With all proceeds going directly to NAAPAC, registration and payments must come from individuals. **Reserve your team's spot today by emailing admin@myaagw.com!**

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Bringing us closer

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