



# KFRW ELECTIONS NEWSLETTER



Issue: July 15, 2014

## WOMEN: MAJOR PLAYERS IN INDEPENDENCE

We just finished celebrating the birthday of our nation's Independence. People enjoyed parades, fireworks, picnics, baseball games, and other events. We live in such a privileged time that most people probably aren't really even thinking about those who fought in the revolution for this independence. We always hear about the *men* who fought for our freedom in the Revolutionary War, but have you ever heard about the *women* who risked their lives and contributed to our freedom?

Known as the "Heroine of the Battle of Cowpens", **Catherine (Kate) Barry** volunteered as a scout for the American forces. Familiar with every trail and shortcut around her plantation in South Carolina and being an excellent horsewoman, Kate was crucial in warning the militia of the approaching British. The Battle of Cowpens took place on January 17, 1781. Before the battle, Kate was instrumental in rounding up militia, including her husband Captain Andrew Barry, to support General Daniel Morgan and his troops. Thanks to the bravery of women like Catherine Barry, the Battle of Cowpens was a decisive victory by Continental army forces in the Southern campaign of the American Revolutionary War.

**Sybil Ludington** has been celebrated as the female Paul Revere because of her ride through Putnam and Dutchess Counties to warn the militia that British troops were burning Danbury, Connecticut. On April 25, 1777, a 2000 man British force, commanded by General Tryon landed at Fairfield, Connecticut, near the mouth of the Saugatuck River, arriving with twenty transports and six warships. They moved eight miles inland and camped at Weston. The next day the force moved North into Danbury. Sybil Ludington, who had just turned 16, was very familiar with the area, and left to sound the alert. Sybil left for her now-famous ride at approximately 9 PM into the rainy night, traveling 40 miles from her home in what is now the town of Kent, south to Mahopac, and north to Stormville, before returning home near dawn the next day. Sybil not only had to avoid British soldiers in the area, but also British loyalists, and "Skinners", who were outlaws with no allegiance to either side in the War. Some accounts indicate that a church bell was rung in Carmel after she gave the alarm.

One night with their men out looking for British soldiers, **Prudence Wright** gathered the women of Groton, Massachusetts. They would defend the bridge leading into town. Putting on their husbands clothes, they looked a sight. They armed themselves with whatever they could get their hands on, some using pitchforks. They hid in the reeds until a British officer came by, given away by his horse's hooves on the bridge. The women removed the secret messages he was carrying, passing them on to the local Patriot Committee of Safety. Back home, the women laughed at the surprise of the British officer when he found out that he had been had by women.

The stories can go on and on and just as the women of the 1770's-80's played a vital role in our history, so do the women of today. The National Federation of Republican Women work to preserve those freedoms that Margaret Corbin, Esther Reed, Nancy Ward, Besty Ross, Mercy Otis Warren, Elizabeth Zane, Deborah Sampson and the many others sacrificed for.

We carry on in the tradition, probably not on such a life threatening scale, but through the work we do with educating our communities, working with candidates, becoming candidates and legislators, donating money and many other ways.

They say history repeats itself and even hundreds of years later we are fighting for our freedom from a leader who thinks he is a king and ignores our laws, unbearable tax burdens that undermine our ability to provide for our families, intrusion threatening both our freedom of speech and religion, and many other issues which I don't have time to list. Now, more than ever, we must fight for our freedom and not ignore what's going on right before our eyes. We can never become lax in our fight for freedom. We must stay forever vigilant.

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Chairman  
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Sources:  
History of Massachusetts  
All Things Liberty  
[Score.rims.k12.ca.us/women](http://Score.rims.k12.ca.us/women).  
American Revolution . History Central



At our June board meeting, we were told that polls show people want to hear stories not statistics. On the front page, I gave you a story, but I just can't resist statistics. I think they are important when trying to make major decisions on different issues so here are my statistics this month:

#### SUPPORTING WOMEN CANDIDATES:

Currently we have 19 women serving in the U.S. Senate (out of 100 members) — 19%

4 Republicans—15 Democrats

Currently we have 84 women serving in the U.S. Congress (out of 435 members)—19%

19 Republicans—65 Democrats

Currently we have 6 women serving in the State Senate (out of 38 members)—16%

4 Republicans—2 Democrats

Currently we have 19 women serving in the State Senate (out of 100 members) —19%

9 Republicans—10 Democrats

We are better on the state level as far as having a better representation of Republican women in the legislature (out of the total of women serving), but in general, we need to get more women in office to address issues that only women can appropriately address. Specifically, we need to work hard at the national level because, as you can see from the above statistics, Republican women are way outnumbered by Democrat women on the national level.

There were 41 women candidates in the Kentucky Primaries

(numbers taken from U.S. Senate Race, U.S. Congress race, State legislative offices and State/District judges)

Currently, we have 159 women running for office in the general elections but as shown below Democrats again outnumber Republicans (numbers taken from same categories as above)

1 woman running for U.S. Senate (Dem)

1 woman running for U.S. Congress (Dem)

4 women running for state senate (2 Dem. & 2 Rep.)

31 women running for state house (14 Rep. & 23 Dem)

Of these 22 are Incumbents

In nonpartisan races we have 122 women running for office

3 women for Justice Supreme Court

7 women for Judge of Court of Appeals

112 running for Circuit Court/Family Court



We are always talking about recruiting more female candidates and supporting our female candidates, but are we really working toward this? It seems the Democrats are.

It is important to have women in office, because we bring a different thought process to the table. Women think about issues differently than men. We are more multi-task oriented, discussion oriented, we look at the bigger picture, we are better at integrating analysis and intuitive thinking. Men are more focused on a single task and getting it done right away and better at spatial skills (reasoning & coming to conclusions) All of these attributes can work well together in making decisions in a legislative environment.

So let's work to recruit more (Republican) women to run for office and to help those already committed to running, to WIN. We've all heard it said, *"if you want something done, ask a woman"*.

Sources: [lrc.ky.gov](http://lrc.ky.gov); [scientificamerican.com](http://scientificamerican.com); [psychologytoday.com](http://psychologytoday.com); [Discovery.com](http://Discovery.com)

#### Websites for your use:

Kentucky Republican Party      [rpk.org](http://rpk.org)

Kentucky Legislative Leadership      [www.lrc.ky.gov](http://www.lrc.ky.gov)

Candidate Filings      [apps.sos.ky.gov/elections/candidate filings/statewide](http://apps.sos.ky.gov/elections/candidate%20filings/statewide)

\*\* You can also find other links on the KFRW website.

#### ELECTION CALENDAR

**Oct. 6th:** Last day to register to vote in general election

**Oct. 17th—Nov. 3rd:** Voter may make application to vote absentee in clerks office.

**Nov. 4th**  
General Election