



# The Little White Paper

The Monthly Newsletter of the Golden Valley Historical Society  
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## **MAY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING TO LOOK BACK 100 YEARS TO THE TIMES WHEN WOMEN DID NOT HAVE THE RIGHT TO VOTE IN ELECTIONS:**

Gillian Rosenquist, at the Thursday, May 9th, GVHS general membership meeting will speak about the late women's suffrage movement in Minnesota and its transformation in 1919 into the Minnesota chapter of the League of Women Voters with a focus on notable women leaders of the time, including the first women elected to the Minnesota House of Representatives. The Minnesota Legislature ratified what would become the 19th amendment enshrining a women's right to vote in September, 1919. This is a joint meeting of the Golden Valley League of Women Voters. The League was founded February 14, 1920. It was a merger of the National Council of Women Voters and the National American Women Suffrage Association approximately 6 months before the 19th amendment gave the women the right to vote. Its

purpose was to help newly franchised women exercise their responsibilities as voters. Only women could join the League until 1973, when the Charter was amended to include men members.

The LWV operates at the local, state and national level. It is non-partisan and does not support or oppose candidates. It studies and supports policy positions. Gillian Rosenquist currently serves on the Golden Valley City Council. She's a member and past president of the League of Women Voters Golden Valley and belongs to the Golden Valley Historical Society. She has a B.A. from the University of Washington-Seattle and a J.D. degree from William Mitchell College of Law. She and her husband moved to Golden Valley in 2002 and have 3 sons.

The meeting will be held at the Golden Valley Historical Society's historic church, located



GILLIAN ROSENQUIST

at 6731 Golden Valley Road, Golden Valley, Mn 55427, at 7:00 p.m. It is open and free to the public. Refreshments will be served following the program. (This program was scheduled for April 11th but was postponed due to the blizzard.)

## **LETTER TO THE EDITOR:**

April 10, 2019

Dear Don, Thank you for the opportunity to visit the Golden Valley Historical Society Museum. Golden Valley Library staff came away with more information

about our community and appreciation for civic minded people like you, who have long supported our progressive city. From the simple church to the very instructive exhibits, we were

impressed! Thanks again, especially in answering all the librarian's questions!

Sincerely yours, Mary H. Steinbicker, on behalf of the Golden Valley Library staff.

## **SOME WOMEN WERE MORE THAN JUST HOMEMAKERS IN THE OLDEN DAYS!**

The world learned about the inventions of men of the times like Ben Franklin, Henry Ford, Alexander Graham Bell, and others, but here is a list of women inventors and the inventions they created:

Margaret A. Wilcox – the car heater in 1893; Also invented a combined clothes and dishwasher; Elizabeth Magie designed a popular board game, Landlord's Game in 1904;

Anna Connelly invented the fire escape in 1887;

Beasley invented the Life Raft in 1882;

Dr. Maria Telkes invented solar heating for residential housing in 1947;

Letitia Geer invented the medical syringe which could be operated with only one hand in 1899; Florence Parpart invented the electric refrigerator in 1914; (She also invented an improved street cleaning machine in addition to the refrigerator.)

Nancy Johnson invented the ice cream maker in 1843. (Her patented design is still used today.)

Ada Lovelace is essentially the first computer programmer due to her work with Charles Babbage at the University of London in 1842; Josephine Cochrane invented the Dishwasher in 1887. She even marketed her machine to hotel owners and even opened her own factory without the help of a man! Hedy Lamarr, a world -famous film star, invented a secret communications system during WW II for radio controlling torpedoes. This technology also paved the way for everything from Wi-Fi to GPS;

Marie Van Brittan Brown invented CCTV because of the slow response of police officers in 1969 to help ensure their own security. This invention influenced modern CCTV systems used for home security and police work today; Margaret Knight invented a machine that makes square bottomed paper bags in 1871. She almost didn't get credit when Charles Anan tried to steal her work claiming that it wasn't possible for a woman to create this brilliant invention. (Margaret

also invented a safety device for cotton mills when she was 12. That invention is still being used today.

Alice Parker's invention in 1919 of a gas- powered central heater, although was never manufactured, her idea was the first that allowed for using natural gas to heat a home, inspiring the central heating systems used today;

Stephanie Kwolek invented the life-saving material that is 5 times stronger than steel and used to make bulletproof vests in 1965;

Dr. Grace Murray Hopper was a computer scientist that invented COBOL which is the first user-friendly business computer software system in the 1940's. She was also a rear admiral in the U. S. navy and the first person to use the term "bug" in reference to a glitch in a computer system when she literally found a bug (moth) causing problems with her computer!

### **WHO KNOWS ABOUT THE LUTEFISK PROCESSING PLANT IN GV?**

High on the wall of the GV museum is a large photo of a scene in a lutefisk processing plant. Visitors frequently ask, "Where is that plant located in GV?" Museum staff research found that in 1978, the Lyon Food Products of Golden Valley was located at 2301 Nevada Ave. N, Golden Valley. Who has some first hand knowledge about this company? Please contact Don Anderson and share your information. Thanks.

### **NEW GVHS MEMBERS SO FAR IN 2019:**

Liz Andress & Steve Solbrack; Stephanie Lindorff; Teresa & Timothy Martin; Michael Nelson; Eugene Osbeck; Clarice Ottoson; Dean & Julie Penk; and Karen Sloey. Membership applications are available at the Society's museum which is open to the public on Thursdays and Saturdays from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Special group tours can be arranged for other days and times by contacting Secretary

Don Anderson. 763-588-8578 or email: [maryanddon3030@aol.com](mailto:maryanddon3030@aol.com), who can send membership applications also.

