

A Women's History Program
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Editor's Note: This program was presented in Area VIII. It was presented as a fashion show with participants wearing period clothing. As each character was announced, a part of each of these songs was played.

Character:	Song:
Lucy	Alley Oop
Martha Washington	Money (from Caberet)
Clara Barton	Theme from Mash
Laura Ingalls Wilder	Theme from Little House on the Prairie
Juliette Gordon Low	Make New Friends
Annie Webb Blanton	DKG song (piano version)
Eleanor Roosevelt	Happy Days Are Here Again
Rosie the Riveter	Rosie the Riveter
Betty Crocker	Hey Good Lookin'
Jackie Onassis	Camelot
Sandra Day O'Conner	Theme from Law and Order
Members of DKG	DKG Song

(When presenting this program the chapter rewrote a surprise ending and honored one of their members on her 20th year as a member.)

Welcome to fashionable ladies through the ages.

This program is dedicated to Aina Abrahamson and June Cameron. Both of them were adamant that our topics be educational as well as interesting so we now present a fashion show with a historic twist.

We begin with the beginning, which a composer once said, "it is a very good place to start". Our first fashionable lady is our first lady—we present LUCY AUSTRALOPITHECUS. We met Lucy in 1974 but we believe she was born 3.2 million years ago and we are using our great skills to determine her dress as we only have several hundred pieces of bone to go on. Lucy is known as DINKNESS in her Ethiopian homeland. "The wondrous one"—Lucy.

OOPS. Maybe 3 million years is too long ago when there was probably only one fashion.

FAR AWAY PLACES AND STRANGE SOUNDING NAMES? Let's jump to the place where intelligence and creativity are truly appreciated. Long Life will come soon enough.

(MARTHA WASHINGTON)

Let's jump to Great Britain beginning its colonial empire. Our English lady was born in 1731. She was the daughter of a Virginia planter, married at 18 to Daniel Parke Custis, 20 years her senior and widowed at 25 with 2 surviving children of 4. She was left rich with control of her own fortune for life including properties, slaves, and her children's inheritances. She ran 5 plantations but married a good-looking younger man who worked as a surveyor. He got caught up in the French and Indian War and the American Revolution where she became known for providing supplies and voluntarily living at Valley Forge during the winter of 1777-1778. When her husband became President of the United States she skipped the inauguration because she was opposed to his plans. Known as the "Mother of Her Country" she never had children with the "Father of His Country". Our fashionable lady is MARTHA DANDRIDGE CUSTIS WASHINGTON. I present Lady Washington.

(CLARA BARTON)

We move to 19th Century, America. We see women living a restricted Puritanical life, yet American women were considered to be the most liberated females on the planet. Our fashionable lady is proof of that. She was born in Oxford, Massachusetts on Christmas Day, 1821. She became a teacher, worked in the U.S. Patent Office, and as an independent nurse. Now older women in this audience were told you could grow up to be a teacher, secretary, or nurse and she apparently did all three except her nursing was in the Civil War where she became the "Angel of the Battlefield" at Fredericksburg, Virginia, and Antietam. After the war she worked with the International Red Cross during the Franco-Prussian War and in 1881 started the American Red Cross serving as its first president—always working for free.

Our lady is CLARA BARTON

(LAURA INGALLS WILDER)

Born in 1867, died in 1957—my math says our next lady lived 90 years from right after the Civil War to right after the Montgomery Bus Boycott. She became a famous writer but it wasn't for Civil Rights. Moving from Wisconsin to Walnut Grove, Minnesota to Dakota Territory, she told us about being a pioneer girl in a little house in the big woods, on the prairie and on the banks of Plum Creek and Silver Lake. Thanks to the wonders of television Thousand Oaks substituted for those places for millions of fans watching her grow up—LAURA INGALLS WILDER.

(JULIETTE GORDON LOW)

Want to get your picture on a stamp? Of course, first you have to die. Our next fashionable lady got her stamp in 1948. It only took an act of Congress and Presidential approval and Bess Truman influenced her husband to do it. Born in Savannah, Georgia she was not the typical Southern lady. She married in 1886, was childless, and was widowed while waiting for a divorce decree.

In 1911 she met Sir Robert Baden-Powell at a party. He inspired her to return to Savannah and create the American Girl Guides. Did you recognize Baden-Powell creator of Boy Scouts? Juliette Low created the Girl Scouts with a troop of 18 girls. Today girls celebrate October 31, Low's birthday as "Founder's Day." Low set up headquarters in Washington, DC and created the first Girl Scout handbook, titled "HOW GIRLS CAN HELP THEIR COUNTRY". By 1915, over 5000 Girl Scouts were registered and the national council met for the first time. Headquarters then moved to New York City. Today we recognized our fashionable lady Juliette Gordon Low.

(ANNIE WEBB BLANTON)

While Ms. Wilder spanned 90 years, her books are the early 20th century and our next lady is 1929 for all of us. She wasn't lean and tall but she was a Texan through and through. Born in Houston in 1870, she became a teacher in a rural school. Moving to Austin, she taught at both the elementary and secondary level. She graduated from the University of Texas in 1899 going on to teach at North Texas State Normal College and being active in the Texas State Teachers Association.

As a suffragist she got the vote in 1918 and became the first woman in Texas elected to statewide office as the State Superintendent of Schools in July 1918. She wrote several books related to education but for us she founded Delta Kappa Gamma Society in 1929. Our fashionable lady—our founder ANNIE WEBB BLANTON.

(ELEANOR ROOSEVELT)

Lady number six was born in 1884 and died in 1962 but epitomized the 1930's Great Depression. She was a wealthy girl educated by a tutor, a convent school in Italy, and Allenwood Girl's Academy in Wimbledon Common, London, England. Brilliant, rich, talented—she was told she was ugly and good only for marriage. Her cousin agreed to marry her and they had 6 children. But she proved her worth as she was America's First Lady from 1933 to 1945 being FDR's legs during the Depression and the Second World War. Later she joined the United Nations helping draft the Universal Declaration of Human Rights—the fabulous ELEANOR ROOSEVELT.

(ROSIE AND BETTY)

Two of our fashionable ladies did more to influence us in the 1940's and 1950's than anybody else, yet neither of them ever lived. The earlier one was born in 1942 and the later one came about in 1921. Some historians and sociologists claim they were a government plot at mind control. Both were due to a shortage of men. In 1942 the men were off to war and the women needed to work in the factories, as if they hadn't already been working. Nearly 19 million women held jobs during World War II. Then the men came home and took back the jobs and females were supposed to stay home and be homemakers and mothers.

Welcome ROSIE THE RIVETER from a song by that name and BETTY CROCKER created by a home economist as an icon for General Mills.

(JACQUELINE KENNEDY ONASSIS)

By the 1960's with television our ladies become real. Our First Ladies become more desirable candidates than their political spouses and our next woman set the fashion. Born in 1920 in Southampton, New York, she was described as a darling child pretty, clever, artistic and full of the devil. She was a writer, photographer, publisher and the wife of Jack. She transformed the White House into a museum of American history and culture and those of us old enough remember watching her on television on February 14, 1962, taking on a tour of the restored White House. A record 56 million viewers were there along with JACQUELINE KENNEDY ONASSIS.

(SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR)

Happily our next lady is still living. Born in 1930 in El Paso, Texas, we all think of her as an Arizonan. She grew up on the Lazy B cattle ranch but headed off to Stanford getting a degree in economics and law. She was a civilian lawyer in Frankfurt, Germany, and back home becoming an Arizona assistant attorney general. She became a judge in the Maricopa County Superior Court when Ronald Reagan nominated her to be a Supreme Court Justice in 1981. Our first lady of the U.S. Supreme Court is Sandra Day O'Connor.

(FINAL LADY)

Now we reach the 21st century and the most fashionable lady of today is tall yet short. She may be old or young and her hair ranges from blonde to red to brown, black or gray. She is in our audience today. If your first name begins with the initial A—or B or all the way through Z please stand and be recognized as our fashionable lady—the ladies of DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL