

## QUILTS: Event highlighted women's suffrage movement

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sign up.”

Cobb and other guild members yearned to have a special exhibit on the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment date of August 18.

Ed and Kathi Beacham, owners of Beacham Clock Co. in Sisters, were happy to be of assistance and 14 quilts will be displayed beginning Saturday, August 15.

“A lot of research went into each one. And it was a lot of education,” Cobb explained. “When I was in high school and college there wasn’t any information on women’s history. I was really shocked to learn certain things.”

Cobb will have two quilts on display: “Equality” and “Liberty.”

She noted, “What an interesting journey it was learning this history that we didn’t know anything about. It was really fascinating, depressing, enlightening, and a little frightening.”

Catherine Anderson, a member of Mount Bachelor Quilters Guild, is honored to be a part of the exhibit. Around the border of her quilt “Equality” is written, “If not now when?”

Anderson told *The Nugget*, “I am not new to the women’s movement. I was part of one of many groups that worked on passage of the ERA.”

“The crowd of women in the middle of my quilt depicts all women but if you look carefully there is associate Justice Ruth Ginsburg, Michelle Obama, Elizabeth Warren, Hilary Clinton, and Gloria Steinem. The ribbons in the center are the suffragists colors. They are twisted together to show past, present, future.”

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A member of EOCQ, Modern Quilt Guild and Studio Art Quilters Association (SAQA), Cece Montgomery’s Quilt “The Real Story of Women’s Suffrage” is a picture quilt of many of the early women who fought for the right to vote in national elections.

“I am an old woman’s libber and have a passion for women’s rights,” she said. “When I heard about this

exhibit, I wanted to be a part of it as I already had an idea what kind of quilt I would make.”

All the quilts displayed in Beacham Clock Co. are 45 by 45 inches in celebration of the 45th SOQS. The quilts all have the colors purple, white, and gold. (The Congressional Union/National Women’s Party used gold as “the torch that guides our purpose, pure, and unswerving,” white reflects “quality and purpose” and purple denotes “loyalty.”)

Viewers can vote on the quilts for “People’s Choice” that Saturday, the following Monday (the shop is closed Sunday and Wednesday) and on the morning of Tuesday, August 18. The hours are 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The quilts will be removed at 4 p.m. on Saturday, August 22.

At noon, on August 18, the doors to Beacham’s will be open so those inside and out may hear the clocks all chiming in unison. Around 12:15 p.m., Cobb and other guild members will usher those interested to join them at the back of Beacham’s Clock Co. on the lawn where chairs will be placed six feet apart for an audience of 20. An award will be presented to the “People’s Choice.”

Carol Loesche of The League of Women Voters of Deschutes County, will speak at the event. Arlene Burns, the third term Mayor of Mosier and the Democrat

candidate for District 59 State House seat will make an appearance.

The exhibit will be COVID-19 rules and regulations compliant during the event: no more the 10 people in the building, including the three to four who work there, at any one time. Masks mandatory and six-foot physical distancing at all times. If the rules become stricter between now and then, Cobb will have to delay the event to a later date.

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— Susan Cobb

Cobb said, “I would like to thank Ed and Kathi Beacham for showing the quilts in their establishment and for the use of their back lawn for the event. I would also like to thank Jean Wells-Keenan and Valori Wells for the use of chairs from Stchin’ Post for the event.”

The Black Butte Ranch Lodge will be hosting a month-long special exhibit in November. There will be 15 Women’s Suffrage quilts on display.

## Women struggled for the right to vote

By Jodi Schneider  
Correspondent

The 19th amendment guarantees all American women the right to vote. Achieving this milestone required a long and difficult struggle.

The women’s suffrage movement is filled with extraordinary, dramatic, inspiring, complex, and too-little-known stories.

Prior to 1776, women had the right to vote in several of the 13 colonies in what would become the United States, but by 1807 every state constitution denied even limited suffrage.

While women had discussed equality and the right to vote since the founding of the nation, the suffrage movement began in 1848 at the Seneca Falls convention held in July, in Seneca Falls, New York. The meeting was not the first in support of women’s rights, but suffragists viewed it as the meeting that launched a national movement and cause.

Suffrage supporters organized, petitioned, and picketed to win the right to vote. They worked to educate the public and lawmakers about the legitimate right of women to vote. Under the leadership of Susan B. Anthony,

Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott, Sojourner Truth, Ida B. Wells, and other women’s rights pioneers, suffragists circulated petitions and lobbied Congress to pass a constitutional amendment to enfranchise women.

One hundred and forty-three years after the nation declared its independence The U.S. House of Representatives finally approved the Susan B. Anthony Amendment, which guaranteed women the right to vote, on May 21, 1919. The U.S. Senate followed two weeks later, and the 19th Amendment went to the states, where it was ratified by three-quarters of the then-48 states to be added to the Constitution. By a vote of 50-47, Tennessee became the last state needed to ratify the 19th Amendment on August 18, 1920.

The following Saturday, at noon, church bells were rung across the land as the United States became the 26th country in the world to give women the right to vote. The 19th amendment was certified by the U.S. Secretary of State on August 26.

Today, more than 68 million women vote in elections because of the courageous suffragists who never gave up the fight for equality.

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