1. Mary Jacob Nash Averill (1869-1955) charter member of Frankfort Equal Rights Association formed in 1902 in her home, 206 Washington Street.

2. Rebecca Gordon Averill (1862-1941) charter secretary of Frankfort Equal Rights Assoc., president by 1914. She was KERA Chairman of Church Work in 1917.


4. William Henry Averill (1834-1904) was one of the founding members of the Frankfort Equal Rights Association; early club meetings were held at his home.

5. Eliza Brown Baily (1845-1923) became a member of the Frankfort Equal Rights Association in 1904.

6. Lena Benton (1870-1965) was a corresponding secretary for the Franklin County Equal Rights Association in 1913.

7. Margaret Robertson Duncan Bradley (1846-1923) served as the President of the Lancaster Equal Rights Association. She was also the mother of KERA President Christine Bradley South and wife of Kentucky Governor William O. Bradley.

8. Lizzie Hunt Chinn (1877-1921) was an organizer and speaker for the Kentucky Equal Rights Association in 1916.

9. Emma Guy Cromwell (1865-1952) was a rural schoolteacher who in 1893 began her winning streak of elections as Franklin Co. public school superintendent, nine years before Kentucky women could vote in school elections.

10. Mary Brown Russell Day (1846?-1939) together with her sister Margaret Russell, was a founding member of the Frankfort Equal Rights Association.

11. Margaret Julian Wood Gaines (1829-1919) was a powerful businesswoman in the bourbon industry and a founding member of Frankfort Equal Rights Association.

12. Hallie Herndon (1851-1905) was elected in 1903 to be KERAs first official State Historian; she also served as president of the Frankfort Equal Rights Association.

13. Edwin Porch Morrow (1877-1935) Kentucky's 40th Governor and who only a few days after inauguration signed Kentucky's ratification of the 19th Amendment

14. Katherine Hale [Hail?] Waddle Morrow (1878-1957) served on KERA Republican Suffrage Plank Committee in 1916, and president of Pulaski Co. ERA in 1917, became First Lady when her husband Edwin P. Morrow (nephew of suffragist Margaret Duncan Bradley and cousin of KERA President Christine Bradley South) became governor in 1919.

15. Adele Frances Gaines Murray (1873-1957) member of Franklin County ERA and in 1915 volunteered to help maintain "a permanent suffrage window" in the city.

16. Mary “Mae” Rogers Newman (1878-1923) member of Franklin County ERA and in 1915 volunteered to help maintain "a permanent suffrage window" in the city.

17. Virginia “Jennie” Lee Hazelrigg O’Rear (1863-1944) served as chair of the KERA Republican Suffrage Plank Committee in 1916

18. Lucy Phenton Pattie (1842-1922) was a rural schoolteacher who in 1893 began her winning streak of elections as Franklin Co. public school superintendent, nine years before Kentucky women could vote in school elections.

19. Elizabeth S. Pepper (1871-1942) was corresponding secretary for KERA in 1915, she was an activist in the peace movement also

20. Margaret J. Russell (1844-1923) together with her sister Mary Brown Russell Day, were founding members of the Frankfort Equal Rights Association.

21. Christine Bradley South (1879-1957) daughter of Kentucky's First Lady Margaret Duncan Bradley and cousin of Governor E.P. Morrow, was KERA president from 1916 to 1919.

22. Rose Edwards Sower (1878-1930) member of and corresponding secretary for Franklin County ERA, officer for KERA (literature, ways and means, publicity), and represented KY on NAWSA Publicity Committee in 1916.


24. Charlotte “Lottie” Elizabeth Smith Watson (1852–1925) was a founding member of the Frankfort Equal Rights Association - also mother-in-law of Frank Clay of Richmond, son of state and national suffragist leader Mary Barr Clay.

25. Amelia Katherine Weitzel (1871-1955) was a member of the Franklin County ERA and co-chair of KERA literature committee in 1916.

For more information about Frankfort’s Suffragists visit https://networks.h-net.org

Scan QR Code
In 1838, before women's rights became a national cause, Kentucky led the way in women's suffrage within school districts. Widows with children of school age were given the right to vote in elections for district school trustees. In 1879 Mary Barr Clay attended the National Woman Suffrage Association Convention in St Louis, where she met Susan B. Anthony. Clay invited Anthony to Kentucky and in October 1879 she came to Kentucky visiting and speaking in Owensboro, Bowling Green and Richmond. On January 6, 1920, Governor Edwin P. Morrow signed the Anthony Amendment (the 19th Amendment), making Kentucky the twenty-fourth state to ratify. In 2016 the National Women's History Alliance began an effort to honor suffragists. Only a handful of Frankfort suffragists were recognized prior to 2020, but the seed was planted and an initiative has been developed to recognize these women. Permanent bronze medallions, designed by Sallie Clay Lanham, great granddaughter of Mary Barr Clay, have been placed at the gravesites of 25 Suffragists buried in the Frankfort Cemetery. Initiated by Mary Ann Burch, this project has been brought to reality with support of modern Frankfort women advocates for women’s rights and equality.

Credits:
Dr. Randolph Hollingsworth - research, Frankfort suffragists names and bios
Sallie Clay Lanham - medallion design
Gene Burch - photography and map
Bob Lanham – brochure design
Patty Peaveler - permission from suffragist descendants
Frankfort Tourist Commission - printing

Steering Committee:
Robin Antenucci, Mary Ann Burch, Sylvia Coffey, Sara Elliott, Jodi Lewis, Karen Cotton
McDaniel PhD, Patty Peaveler and Marsha Weinstein

Votes for Women

Suffragists’ Burial Sites by Frankfort Cemetery Sections

Section A
18 - Lucy Phenton Pattie (1842-1922)

Section B
9 - Emma Guy Cromwell (1865-1952)

Section E
25 - Amelia Katherine Weitzel (1871-1955)

Section F
22 - Rose Edwards Sower (1878-1930)

Section G
6 - Lena Benton (1870-1965)
19 - Elizabeth Starling Pepper (1871-1942)

Section I
7 - Margaret Robertson Duncan Bradley (1846-1923)
21 - Christine Duncan Bradley South (1879-1957)

Section L
1 - Mary Jacob Nash Averill (1869-1955)
2 - Rebecca Gordon Averill (1862-1941)
3 - Stella Rose Van Arsdell Averill (1871-1957)
4 - William Henry Averill (1834-1904)
10 - Mary Brown Russell Day (1846-1939)
8 - Lizzie Hunt Chinn (1877-1921)
11 - Margaret Julian Wood Gaines (1829-1919)
20 - Margaret J. Russell (1844-1923)

Section M
12 - Hallie Herndon (1851-1905)

Section N
5 - Eliza Brown Baily (1845-1923)
13 - Edwin Porch Morrow (1877-1935)
14 - Katherine Waddle Morrow (1878-1957)
16 - Mary Rogers Newman (1878-1923)
17 - Virginia Lee Hazelrigg O’Rear (1863-1944)
24 - Charlotte Elizabeth Smith Watson (1852–1925)

Section P
15 - Adele Frances Gaines Murray (1873-1957)
23 - Anne Crutcher Vreeland (1878-1949)