

### Women's Suffrage Organizations

Clara Roberts was obviously a civic leader as the first woman in Tucson to register to vote in 1913. She was probably a member of the Equal Franchise Club (aka Equal Suffrage Club) and the Arizona Equal Suffrage Association. She led the voter registration efforts of Collegiate Club of Tucson and was active in the Tucson's Woman's Club. Later she successfully ran for school committee office in 1917 and led the League of Women Voters. Her mother Mariah Wakefield Fish may have been an early member since she was a founding member of the Woman's Temperance Association (Woman's Christian Temperance Union) in Tucson with Josephine Brawley Hughes who led the Territorial Suffrage Association in 1890.

Because of these women registered following Roberts, they are possible Equal Franchise Club or Pima Equal Suffrage League members (shown with their ages in parentheses and those **confirmed members in bold**):

Opal Whitmore [38], May Ashworth Fish [35], Maud W. Bush, Emma I. Schoonmaker (48), Minnie B. Hardy (43), Loraine McMillen (42), Ellen G. Bisbee (76), **Abbie O. Haskin**(47), **Dr. Rosa Boido** (43), Eliza W. Franklin (42), **Dr. Clara M. Schell** (40), Annie M. Lester (40), Francis G. Gooding (60)

The variety of suffrage organization names is confusing and more research is needed to find specific records and newspaper articles related to Pima County. The women above were also founders and leaders of other organizations.

### The Liquor Lobby

Because of the efforts of the WTCU, the prohibition movement was one of the main arguments against women the right to vote. Six women (Bertram, Boyd, Cunningham, Heimbach, Lincoln, Roberts) were spouses of saloon keepers and alcoholic beverage businessmen. Did their husbands get them to register to support their livelihood? Or would the women think for themselves?

The fears proved valid as Arizona prohibition passed in the 1914 election, a precursor to US Prohibition in 1919. New Year's Eve 1914 was last public drinking in AZ as prohibition took effect 1 Jan 1915. (Carmony, Neil B. Whiskey, Six-Guns and Red-Light Ladies: George Hand's Saloon Diary, Tucson 1875-1878. High-Lonesome Books, 1994.)

Did any prostitutes register to vote in 1913?

The women living in Tucson's "red-light district" of Maiden Lane and Gay Alley are listed in the 1910 Census as "vagrants" with at least some of them listed as working for a "House of Ill Fame". There were no name matches in the 1913 data, but it would be interesting to investigate the 1914 registrations since prohibition would be a major vote.

Confirmed Members of Women's Organizations

Many of the registrants belonged to both the **Collegiate Club** and **Woman's Club** in Tucson. Confirmation of membership has been found to date as noted on the data base that 24 were members of the Collegiate Club and 44 were members of the Woman's Club. More research is needed to find other women's organizations. Educators and the students at the University of Arizona were also very interested in suffrage. The Business and Professional Woman's Club had great influence in Phoenix, but was not yet organized in Tucson (Dr. Clara Schell was a founding member).

Husband's Social Circles

Many of the registrants were spouses of city and county official and lawyers. Matilda Pusch's husband George was a delegate to 1910 AZ Constitutional Convention and Adeline Hereford's husband Frank represented Pima County at 1891 Constitutional Convention.