



A TIMELINE OF THE WOMEN  
WHO CHANGED AMERICA



## January 2024 Her Story ENewsletter Women on Quarters - 2025

The United States mint has announced the women who will be featured in 2025 on the American Women Quarters (the last year of the program). They are Althea Gibson, Juliette Gordon Low, Stacey Park Milbern, Vera Rubin, and Ida B. Wells. Stacey Park Milbern was a Korean American disability rights activist who advocated for disability justice and for disabled people's rights. We will bring more on Milbern, as well as Vera Rubin and Ida B. Wells to your attention in February 2024.



**Althea Gibson**, a renowned athlete in a number of sports, was given a tennis racquet at age thirteen. In 1942, at age 15, she won the first tennis tournament that she entered. Gibson broke the color barrier in tennis by becoming the first African American woman to play and win at Wimbledon and the first African American to win the French and U.S. Open titles. She was voted the 1958 Female Athlete of the Year by the Associated Press. After tennis, she took up golf and became the first African American to compete on the women's professional golf tour. The winner of 11 Grand Slam titles, Gibson has been inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame, the International Tennis Hall of Fame, and the International Women's Sports Hall of Fame.



In 1912, when **Juliette Gordon Low** was in her fifties and looking to do something more with her life, she met Sir Robert Baden-Powell in England. She became convinced that his Boy Scouts organizational model could be made relevant to girls and brought back to the U.S. and her home in Savannah, Georgia. On March 12, 1912, today called Founders Day, she made her famous phone call to a distant relative saying "I've got something for the girls of Savannah, and all of America, and all of the world, and we're going to start it tonight!" The first troop of 18 Girl Scouts formed that night. This has grown to millions of girls around the U.S. and many tens of millions more who today are Girl Scout alums.

Low did not let her deafness, back problems or even cancer get in the way of establishing the Girl Scouts. Girl Scouts was inclusive of girls of all abilities from the beginning. Low also knew that girls would need to develop the skills to serve them in leadership positions and in the professions, even though the founding occurred prior to women having the right to vote in Georgia, and before women entered the work force in large numbers. The premier leadership organization for girls that develops girls of courage, confidence, and character, serves as a lasting legacy to Low, who has been inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame.

We stand on the shoulders of these great women who came before us and who are among the more than 850 women profiled in our book *Her Story: A Timeline of the Women Who Changed America*. Women's accomplishments continue to inspire and encourage us all. Continue to help us tell women's stories!

Charlotte Waisman and Jill Tietjen

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