

Historical Nonfiction



Women of the Ocean State: 25 Rhode Island Women You Should Know

By Linda Crotta Brennan and Others
Illustrated by Lisa Greenleaf

RL 5.5 – ages 9 and up
Interest level: grades 5 and above
(136 pages)

Rhode Island's women have given this small state a huge historical footprint. Accomplishments in business, activism, sports, and the arts make the Ocean State a model for women's achievements.

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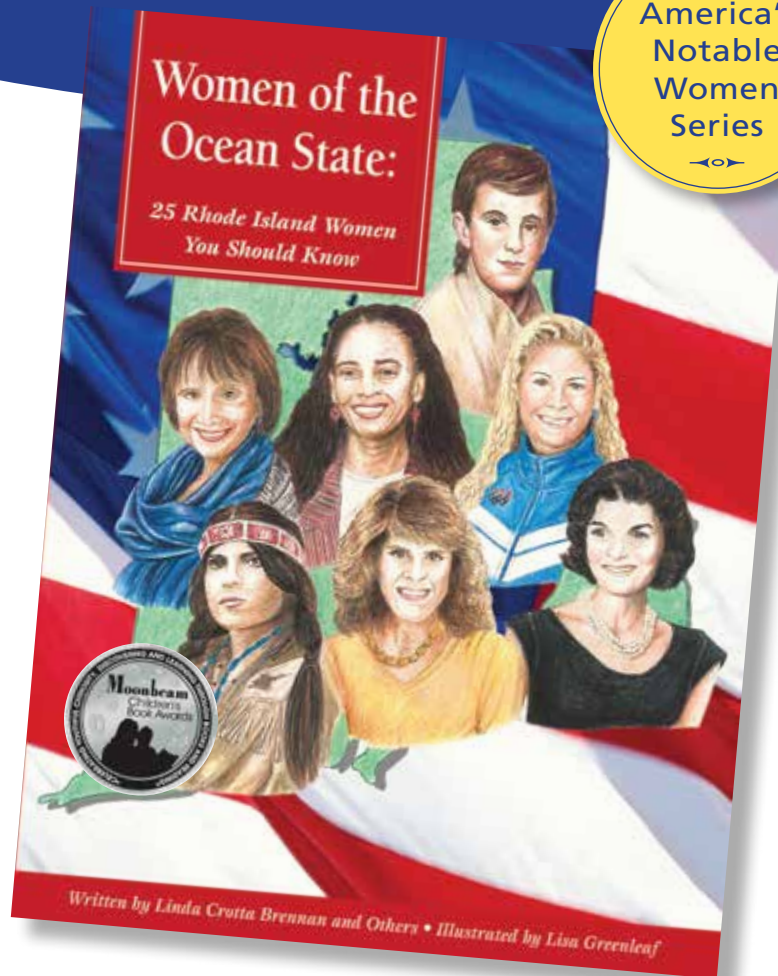
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America's
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Featuring 25 Rhode Island Women

Anne Hutchinson: Co-founder of Rhode Island, Religious Activist

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Prudence Crandall: Fighter for Equal Rights to Education

Frances Harriet Whipple Green McDougall: Writer for Those in Need

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Sarah Elizabeth Doyle: Champion for Women's Education

Ida Lewis: Lighthouse Keeper, American Heroine

Annie Smith Peck: Mountain Climber

Alva Vanderbilt Belmont: Socialite and Suffragette

Matilda Sissieretta Joyner Jones: Opera Singer

Nancy Elizabeth Prophet: African-American Sculptor

Princess Red Wing: Speaker for Her Tribe

Janet Moreau Stone: Olympic Gold Medal Runner

Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis: First Lady of the United States

Ruth Buzzi: Actor and Comedian

Jennifer Murray: Record Breaking Helicopter Pilot

Joyce Jillson: Actress, Author, Astrologer

Claudine Schneider: Congresswoman and Environmental Leader

O. Rogerie Thompson: A Judge for Changing Times

Martha McSally: Warrior Pilot

Jill Craybas: Tennis Star, Olympic Athlete

Elizabeth Beisel: Olympic Swimmer

Tidbits from the Women of the Ocean State: Rhode Island



Ann Hutchinson helped to make Rhode Island the seat of religious freedom in the New World.



Ann Smith Franklin was the first woman to be elected into the Journalism Hall of Fame at the University of Rhode Island.



Elleanor Eldridge, an African American businesswoman, wrote two books that sold so well she was able to pay off all her debts. At her death, she was one of the wealthiest women in Providence, RI.



Elizabeth Buffam Chace, a Quaker and abolitionist, opened her home to the Underground Railroad and helped slaves escape to freedom in Canada.



Ida Lewis, lighthouse keeper, is said to have saved at least 18 lives during her career. The first rescue occurred when Ida was just sixteen years old.

Annie Smith Peck became the first person to climb Mount Huascarán in Peru. She is the only woman to be the first to climb a major world peak.



Alva Vanderbilt Belmont, a wealthy Gilded Age socialite, was a talented building designer and was elected to membership in the American Institute of Architects.



Matilda S. Joyner Jones sang all over the world during the 1800s. At one time she toured across America in a \$30,000 private railroad car.



Nancy Elizabeth Prophet sculpted in many different materials including marble, wood, bronze, alabaster, and granite.



Mary Ella Glasko, Princess Red Wing, opened the Tomaquag Indian Memorial Museum with her friend, Eva Butler. The museum focused on the Narragansett Native American culture.

Janet Moreau Stone, 1952 Olympic gold medal runner, returned to the Olympics in 2008 to serve as an interfaith chaplain.



Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis wrote a newspaper column called *Campaign Wife* when her husband, John, ran for president.



Jennifer Murray earned her first spot in the *Guinness Book of World Records* when she flew a helicopter around the world east to west.



Congresswoman Claudine Schneider fought for laws that protected the environment.



Martha McSally became one of the first seven women to attend fighter pilot school and the first woman to command a fighter squadron.