



## ***Juliet M. Gregory (1896-1990)***

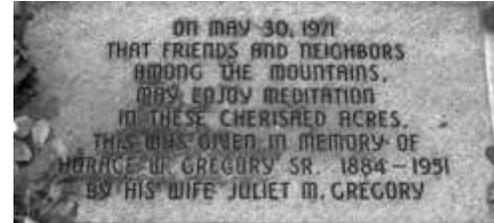
*Missoula's first and only female mayor and very active in the community. While she was mayor, the first park and planning boards were established as well as downtown corner streetlights and parking meters. She went on to serve on the U.S. commission for UNESCO.*

- **1896-Birth.** 1896 in San Francisco, California to Isabella B. and John T. Minson.
- **1919.** Juliet graduated from San Diego State College after obtaining an elementary teaching certificate. She taught school for two years in the San Diego, California area.
- **1921-1925.** She worked as a social worker for the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA).
- **1925-Marriage.** Horace W Gregory on December 10, 1925. Horace was the Director of Highways in Boise, Idaho. They had

two sons.

- **WWI.** Juliet worked as a hostess at many serviceman camps, on naval ships, and military hospitals. She literally 'danced her way through WWI.'
- **1932.** Juliet's husband accepted a job transfer which landed them in Helena, Montana. During those years, Juliet worked as a full-time homemaker.
- **1935.** Following Helena's earthquake of 1935, the Gregory family settled in Missoula, Montana.
- **1947-1949.** Elected as Missoula's 31<sup>st</sup> mayor and received a congratulatory phone call from Jeanette Rankin. Juliet made a notable re-entry into the workforce. After 22 years of work as a homemaker, she ran for Mayor of Missoula when she was unable to convince then Mayor Dwight Mason to start a City-County Planning Board. Unable to find anyone willing to run against him, she became Missoula's first and only woman mayor to date. Her campaign slogan was: "I am Running for Mayor of Missoula on a Firm, Fearless Platform with a Plan". Juliet was known as a 'woman with very strong convictions who wasn't going to just go in there and sit in the Mayor's chair. She was going to get things done.' Her direct nature, as she administered her duties as Mayor, cost her the bid for re-election. Her major accomplishments were many:
  - Installed parking meters
  - Purchased first police motorcycles
  - Trained sanitarians to inspect restaurants, bars, markets, dairies
  - Developed parks and purchased playground equipment
  - Hired recreation director to supervise programs of play and street dances
  - Fired the Fire Chief for false inspection reports
  - Paved Higgins Avenue
  - Established the bid process for City projects
  - Pushed development of the Missoula Cemetery
  - Purchased sorely needed new road equipment
  - Annexed land into the City and imposed a 6% liquor tax revenue source
  - Initiated police training programs
  - Added additional street lighting to downtown
- **1949.** Juliet returned to school at Montana State University in Missoula, Montana. She also returned to teaching elementary school while she worked toward a degree.
- **1952-1955. DACOWITS.** Upon the request of President Dwight Eisenhower, Juliet served on the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services. This Commission was established in 1951. Civilian men and women are appointed to provide advice and recommendations on matters and policies relating to the recruitment and retention, treatment, employment, integration, and well-being of highly qualified professional women in the Armed Forces. The Under Secretary of Defense may act upon this Committee's advice and recommendations.
- **1955.** She received her Bachelor Degree with honors.
- **1962.** Juliet retired from teaching.
- **1964.** Gregory served on the Montana Republican delegation for the 1964 Republican National Convention.

- **Civic Duties.** Juliet's civic commitment is too large to list. Examples are: President of Missoula County Republican Women's Club, Parent Teachers' Association, Daughters of the American Revolution, Business and Professional Women, Missoula Women's Club, League of Women Voters, Red Cross Board – World War II, Episcopal Church and St Hilda's Guild, Montana Education Association, Missoula Teachers Association, Missoula County Board of Museums – she was an originator of the Missoula Museum of Art, and Chairman of the Missoula Cemetery Board of Trustees for ten years.
- **1985.** Mayor John Toole presented Juliet the mayor's award for civic achievement. He stated, "She carried a standard of integrity in her private and public life. She marched into controversial matters with vigor, yet I can remember seeing her in her office gray with fatigue over the frustrations of the job she held. She's always been on the side of people who want to do something progressive."
- **1990-Death.** December 6, 1990 at her home in Missoula, Montana from natural causes.



*Juliet Gregory is not interred in the Missoula Cemetery. It is unknown where she and her husband are buried. On May 30, 1971 Juliet placed a memorial plaque on the cemetery grounds in honor of her late husband.*