Maureen's Message

By Dr. Maureen McKenna

Since our wonderful convention in St. Petersburg last September, our members have worked hard to get Democrats elected up and down the ballot. I am so proud to be leading an organization with such passionate and hard-working women. The seats that were secured for Democrats were won, in large part, because of the Democratic Women in Florida.

Since the convention and the election, DWCF’s new clubs and membership has grown to over 2500. Four new clubs were to be chartered at the Board meeting in February 2017. There are many more in the pipeline. I have been happy to help with starting the new clubs with our 2nd Vice President Sandra McClinton. Thank you Patty Farley for helping with this effort as well.

A large part of my time is spent nurturing current clubs and Region Chairs in order make sure all are receiving timely mentoring in order to succeed:

- In December I attended a Holiday Party at East Polk Ridge and enjoyed breaking bread with members at an exceptionally lovely venue in Lake Alfred call Lavender and Lace Tea Room. I also participated in a very well attended Holiday Party in my own county, Highlands County. Thank you Karen Welzel, President of the DWC of East Polk Ridge and Millie Grime, President of Democratic Women’s Club of Highlands County.
- In January I continued to serve as a conduit of information for those attending the Marches on January 21, 2017. According to reports, there were millions upon millions of women and men in DC and beyond, who marched on this historic day. While DWCF has been laser-focused on Legislative Advocacy for years, the marches further galvanized citizens behind our cause. We will be continuing our fight as guided by the Federal Legislative Chair for DWCF, Sharon Hayes and the Florida Legislative Chair for DWCF; Milly Krause. Watch your email box, ask your local club Legislative Liaison what you can do to help.
- We had a very well-attended Town Hall Teleconference on Monday evening, January 30th with our Legislative Chairs and Legislators speaking to us.
- DWCF continues to work our four-legged blue bench of 1) Candidate endorsements via our Campaign Screening Committee 2) Political Committee donations to candidates 3) Candidate Training 4) Grassroots Campaign Committee
- I attended the Florida Democratic Party Reorganizational Meeting on January 14, 2017 in Orlando. Congratulations to Stephen Bittel; FDP Chair, from Miami and Judy Mount; FDP 1st Chair from Tallahassee area in winning the election.
- I continue to serve as the Editor of the Communicator Newsletter for the National Federation of Democratic Women. I also continue to serve as a representative on the Democratic National Committee for the National Federation of Democratic Women. The DNC is having their reorganizational meeting on February 23-26, 2017 in Atlanta, Georgia.

As the “Mango Mussolini’s” administration moves forward with their agenda of malice, we all must be sure we are doing our part to “Educate and Activate in order to Advocate.” Be sure each club meeting includes a Legislative action updates. Be sure each meeting includes presentation by lobbyists, legislators and organizations who can educate and share how best to take action.

As the architect, so-to-speak, of DWCF’s first statewide Tally Days, I am imploring all members to consider participating in Tally Days this year from March 12-14, 2017 coordinated by Cynthia Schwartz Ebben. Please go to DWCF.org and click on Tally Days to register as soon as possible. We need to see Florida Women in Blue hitting the Florida Capitol during this historic year. I am hoping for the best Tally Days turn out to date. You matter in our efforts. Please join us.

Gloria Steinem said we need to focus on State Legislators. We need to track a legislator throughout session to monitor how she/he votes. We need to make calls in order to give kudos on a vote that supports our platform as well as express our disappointment when their vote does not support our platform.

Also, as Gloria Steinem is quick to remind us ..., women are no longer the minority sex. We are the majority. We need to make sure our voices of social and environmental justice are clearly and consistently heard. And, we NEED to run for office.

Our new Grassroots Campaign Chair, Meri Forte-Namuj, from the DWC of Central Pinellas, is well on her way to begin implementing strategic actions for Democrats to win elections during the mid-term. You will be hearing from her in the coming weeks and months.

Please mark your calendar and plan on activities celebrating Democratic Women’s Month in May. This is a time when clubs hold recruitment events and fundraisers to help their members go to the annual Convention, which will be held at the Sarasota Hyatt from September 7-10, 2017. As part of the Region 7/8 Convention Planning Committee, I am excited to see the workshops and speakers will be of interest and substance to our politically engaged DWCF members. Mark your calendars.

Please visit DWCF.org for more information about our organization. Also, please LIKE our Facebook Page “Democratic Women’s Club of Florida, Inc.” to stay abreast of our clubs’ actions and future events!

Thank you all for all you have done, are doing and plan on doing to make sure our DWCF Values are a reality in the state of Florida.

See you at Tally Days!
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
(Year End - 2016)

I want to shout out a special thanks to all who attended the DWC of Palm Bay Annual Christmas Party on Saturday evening, December 17th! As always, on behalf of the Executive Board Members, thank you! I am so appreciative of your continued support. The fellowship was very good, the food was excellent, the music was very entertaining, and many gifts were given out as door prizes. Thanks to our special guest singer and performer, Raul Cabanillas.

The following persons were awarded Certificates of Appreciation for the year 2016:

Mayor William Capote (Left) was awarded a plaque in appreciation for his outstanding dedication and service to the DWC of Palm Bay. We were so honored to have Mr. Capote come to our meetings and share the State of Palm Bay with us on a quarterly basis. He has been re-elected Mayor of the City of Palm Bay, Florida.

A Certificate of Appreciation was presented to Anita Capote (Right), First Vice President, to say thanks for her outstanding dedication and service, above and beyond the call of duty. Also, thank you Anita, for the delicious meal you prepared from Anita’s Catering.

Keith Elliott (Left) was awarded a Certificate in Recognition of Service for his outstanding support to the Club, for supporting the 2016 Candidates and assisting the FDP Organizers during the 2016 Election Process.

George Williams was also recognized for his continued support and dedication to the DWC and was presented a gift certificate for fine dining at one of the local restaurants. George has always been a leader in membership.

May you have a blessed and prosperous Holiday Season.
Margaret Suttles, President
Democratic Women’s Club of Palm Bay

50 members of the Highlands Democratic Women’s Club enjoyed a holiday luncheon on Dec. 17th. Roxie McMillon (left) and Pat Henderson chaired a very successful Soup, Salad, and Bingo Luncheon at the Highlands County Democratic Women’s Club in October. Members chose from seven different kinds of soup while winning prizes in Bingo.
As your VP I have been working for the Democratic Party, our democratic values and for our organization as most of you have this last quarter. From Sept thru early November I spent most of my time working on the election. With many other members I prepared food, furnished a campaign office, and spent countless hours making phone calls and trying to get people to register to vote.

I made appearances at events for Hillary, Tim Kaine, and local candidates. I represented DWCF and presented checks to our several candidates at club meetings and I recorded my first robo call for a candidate.

I tabled at several events for the DWCF, including a gay pride festival, a Martin L King Festival, local events and union conferences.

I organized a collection which resulted in 80 cases of food to be donated to a local food shelter run by the Grace Allen AME church during the Holidays.

I gave away approximately 250 paperback children’s books to promote reading.

I organized tables at a Hispanic gala, an NAACP banquet, and a DEM Executive Committee Luncheon.

In November I filled in for Maureen, and with Susie Johnson, oversaw the organizational meeting of the new DWCF of St. Lucie County, which is being chartered today with 78 members!

In January, while Maureen was at the state organizational meeting for FDP, I again filled in for her at the organizational meeting of the new DWC of East Broward Club.

Just like most of you I have experienced a lot of high points and more than desired low points in the last year…but we will rise from this.

The Democratic Party nominated the first woman as a candidate for President of the US from either Major party. We were so strong it took the intervention of the Russia to defeat her.

As your VP one of my main responsibilities is the Strategic Plan. This is a short review of some of our 2016 Strategic Plan accomplishments and at our April meeting we will go over this in more detail:

In terms of membership Goals 1 and 2

We currently have 45 clubs and 2,527 members. Last year at this time we had 1973 members. We have grown a thousand members since 2010, when we reported 1,574 members. We unfortunately de-chartered 5 clubs last year, but added several more, on which Sandra McClinton will report.

One of our main goals was keeping members informed and educated on issues and increasing their participation in our activities which is Goal 3.

The DWCF celebrated our 60th anniversary at the 2017 convention.

We educated our members as we gave seminars on numerous subjects, arranged speakers from our speaker’s bureau, held Tally days and our Legislative Liaisons keep us up to date. Milly Krause, Susan Smith and Cynthia Schwartz have kept the members of the DWCF among the most politically informed citizens in Florida…from native American Miccosukee Indian issues to Sea level rise, our members have the opportunity for learning and they are constantly engaged.

For Goal #4 All of our clubs now have their own EIN numbers.

In Turning Florida Blue, Goal #5

I know how hard you worked. I know many or most of you were leads for the Democratic Party in your local communities.

I know what that means in terms of dedication and hours because I have done it too. While we have had may disappointments……. But let us take pride in our political bench.

Let us……

Take pride in our candidate training sessions organized by Candidate and Training Committee chaired by Dianne Williams Cox that were given in all areas of the state. Training sessions in places like Palm Beach, Tallahassee, Gainesville, and Vero Beach with instructors such as Jay Parmley and Kevin Winchell went far in improving the quality of Democratic candidates on the ballot.

Take pride in the 50 candidates that Karen Welzel’s Campaign and Screening Committee endorsed.

Take pride in the work our grassroots committee did in organizing over 10,000 robo calls for our candidates.

Certainly take pride in Nancy Hurlbert’s work with the Political Committee in which our organization distributed $11,300 total; $200 each to 25 “local” candidates and $350 each to 19 state candidates (FL House/Senate) in the last election cycle.

I remember a time---maybe 15 years ago—someone said in a FDP meeting that the DWCF was just a bunch of cookie bakers and insulted a whole group of us…. well NO MORE. Now within the FDP they KNOW WE LEAD THE WAY!

In Regards to our club visibility:

I am honored and humbled as I also follow a great many of your activities on FB and share your accomplishments with others on our FB sites.

Our state FB page was reached by 48, 148 individuals in the first 28 days of January. Most of our clubs and Regions have their own pages, too, which multiplies the reach of the DWCF. Make sure as many of your members as possible like our pages and follow our activities.

Our FB Page and website were instrumental in helping to organize the Women’s Marches for Florida. We partnered with other organizations in the state in promoting this endeavor, but we were told we were too political to be speakers on the agenda, so we learned from doing.

Our honoring of veterans at our convention brought us recognition from many groups and individuals throughout the state.

We had 32 members go to the DEM national Convention!! What a feat!! Proof that we are informed and involved and Visible!!

We have experienced highs and lows.

We confronted head-on issues with the Confederate flag here in Marion, and ended with a new club in this county.

We have experienced heartbreak with the Orlando Massacre and Fort Lauderdale shootings, but watched as our communities came together with compassion.

We have watched the beginning effects of Trump’s election with fear, anger, and amazement.

We will persevere.

We have a lot to do.

We have miles to go before we sleep and we will not go gentle into that sleep.

We will RESIST!
Meeting and knowing Bill and Renee McCullough was one of the bright spots of the 2016 election campaign. Early on, Renee and Bill came to most of the meetings of the various democratic clubs and caucuses in order to get his name out and gather support. Bill’s quiet but passionate progressive stands made him a favorite to many. Bill would often pop into the Northwest Democratic Headquarters in DeLand to bring signs or just chat for a few minutes. He knew most of us by name and made everyone feel comfortable.

The McCulloughs were the most beautiful couple at the galas and conventions: her in a beautiful blue gown and him in tux and matching blue cummerbund. Bill and Renee always brought style and grace wherever they went. At one of our bigger parties, the McCulloughs showed up with the whole family including their new grandbaby. As introductions were made and pictures were taken, all of us relished in such a beautiful, wonderful family. We understood that Bill was going to run again and had already started up campaign plans. They were so young, so brilliant, such an inspiration to all of us.

Losing Bill, Renee, and Ryan has been so devastating to all of us as democrats. But for all of us that knew them personally, there is a sad hole in our hearts. One of Bill’s last quotes was “never give up…just keep swinging”.

Bill, Renee, and their eldest son, Ryan died in a fatal car accident on January 22, 2017. Click the link for the full story.
By Milly Krause, DWCF Legislative Chair for Florida Issues (millyERA@gmail.com)

Florida’s 2017 Legislative Session runs its 60-day session from March 7th to May 5th. Members have been fired up more than usual after Trump’s Presidential win and the Women’s March. Members want to take ACTION.

To respond to Trump-Era Threats, I am thrilled to report that President McKenna has responded in a big way. It was always my position to focus on Florida Legislative Issues, which has always been a fragile balance with federal issues since issues do collide. In an effort to support DWCF’s need to target federal issues, President McKenna has appointed Sharon Hayes, Indian River DWC, to be our Legislative Chair for Federal Issues.

The first task Sharon and I worked on is an ACTION Plan. Our plan was shared during the January 30th Town Hall Meeting. The four components of the plan are:

--LL Actions
--Member Actions
--Club Actions
--Community Actions

Each member should have received a copy of the plan in your email via either your President and/or your LL. Please note that, within the Club Actions Component of the plan, each club is being asked to focus on one of our top five issues and develop a plan to move that issue forward. Each club is also being asked to set aside time at your meetings to work on an action activity, such as a postcard writing campaign, petition signing, phone calls, etc.

Concerns were raised that Senator Bill Nelson seemed like he might be supportive of Senator Sessions as U.S. Attorney General. I wrote a letter to Senator Nelson, which was shared with members and signed by President McKenna and myself. All members were asked to call and write Senator Nelson to urge him to vote against Sessions. I’m happy to report Senator Nelson did just that and voted against Sessions citing concerns about voter suppression.

In an effort to be more focused and productive, the DWCF LL’s and I voted on 5 Legislative Priorities for the 2017 Florida Legislative Session.

Our 5 Priority Issues follow:

1. Environment (Fracking, Sea Level Rising, Solar, Water Purity, Off-Shore Drilling, Pollution, Climate & DEP Standards)
2. Gun Control
3. Healthcare for All (Medicaid-Medicare-ACA)
4. ERA
5. Two Items (TIE) — Education and Reproductive Healthcare Rights

Note, to support our ERA Issue, there will be an Equal Pay for Equal Work Rally during Tally Days as part of our annual press conference. It will be held on Tuesday, March 14th at noon. Look for these bills on your bill list. See flyer following this article.

Periodically, you will receive our updated target-ed Bill List. The LL’s will forward members the Bills DWCF is targeting for 2017 listed under the Top Priority Issues. In reviewing these bills, you will notice that the Ban Fracking Bill is a Bipartisan bill. This is hopeful but we need to keep the pressure on. Please make sure all members sign the Pledge to support a Florida constitutional amendment to Ban Fracking, which was shared with Presidents and LL’s.

Tally Days – Tally Days are March 12th to March 14th. Just a reminder, the names of all club members attending should be on one Club Registration Form and sent in by February 19th. I resent all Tally Days Forms this week but they can also be found on www.DWCF.org – our website. If you haven’t, please do a virtual visit.

The Next LL Teleconference will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 21st at 8 p.m. EST.

Please be on that call to represent your club. If you can’t be on the call, please make sure you have a substitute.

During the upcoming Legislative Session, make sure you are tracking the bills that concern you and DWCF. If you want to learn about how to track, we will be discussing it during our Feb. 21st LL Teleconference.

Contact your legislators often and make your voices heard. The following are links to your legislators’ websites and phone numbers to keep handy.

Senate - http://flsenate.gov/

Governor Rick Scott – 850-488-7146 or 850-717-9249
Senator Marco Rubio – 202-224-3041
Senator Bill Nelson – 202-224-5274

Democratic Women’s Club of SE Hillsborough

The members of the Democratic Women’s Club of SE Hillsborough were delighted to add six new members at our January 5th meeting—a great start for 2017! Our new members include Dianne Stahl, Jennifer Moore, Elaine Walsh, Jackie Gavrian, Brenda Osborne, and Renee Wolfgam.

Also on January 5th Susan Smith, President of the Democratic Progressive Caucus and DWCF member, spoke to our members and guests about proposed gun control legislation in Florida and nationally. The facts and figures Ms. Smith provided were quite compelling, especially since our club chose gun control as one of our top five legislative issues due to the introduction in the Florida legislature of laws such as SB1428 that, if passed, would allow “open carry” of guns in schools, airports, and government buildings.

On Saturday, January 21, 15 of our club members and 15 like-minded guests rented a bus to take part in the Women’s March in St. Petersburg. The Tampa Bay Times reported that over 20,000 people participated in the march, the largest number in the city’s history. I can’t begin to describe how positive, invigorating, and hopeful we felt after participating in just one of the worldwide marches held that day. This strengthens our commitment to protecting and promoting Democratic values! One of our members, Dana Antigua, became our “star” participant as she was stopped multiple times along the parade route by onlookers—and fellow marchers—asking if they could photograph her with her sign that seemed to articulate what everyone felt.

Democratic Women’s Club of SE Hillsborough and guests waiting to board bus to the January 21st Women’s March in St. Petersburg, Florida: 30 of the 20,000+ participants!
The Democratic Women’s Club of East Polk Ridge has had a very busy final quarter of 2016.

In October, we had Candidate for Public Defender for 10th Judicial Court, Tonya Stewart, who is also a Club member, speak to our membership. We gave a report on our 2016 DWCF Convention. On Oct. 22, we had a canvassing event with HD 41 Candidate Bob Doyel, who is also a club member. (see photo #1) We asked for volunteers to help on election day, assembling walk-packets for candidates, phone banking and canvassing, and poll watchers, drivers, and precinct workers. Everyone was involved.

In November, we discussed alternating our meetings with a weekday luncheon and a Saturday morning breakfast, to allow those still working to attend. President Welzel talked about the Women’s March on Washington and asked if members would like to attend that. The discussion evolved to holding local marches. A committee was formed and Dec. 13, 2016 was picked for a Women’s Rally in Winter Haven. Speakers were lined up, media requests and press releases were distributed, and social media was heavily utilized to publish the event. The event was declared a huge success, with over 100 people in attendance on a mid-week evening. We signed up four new members from that event in Winter Haven alone. (See photos #2,3,4,5) The committee also decided to hold a second Women’s March in Lakeland on January 8, 2017, to reach an even larger audience. The March on Lakeland saw about 300 people come out to Lake Mirror Park for a candlelight vigil on what was probably the coldest night in a long time. It was a very special evening, with great media coverage, incredible speakers talking about women’s rights, the economy, housing education, LGBTQ issues, healthcare, social security, environment…all the issues that are important to women. And the closing walk with candles around the beautiful Lake Mirror couldn’t have been more moving. We had over 35 people indicate that they are interested in a Democratic Women’s Club in the Lakeland area, and are working with DWCF President McKenna to make that happen.

In December, we celebrated the holidays with a special luncheon at Lavender & Lace Tea Room in Lake Alfred. DWCF President Maureen McKenna joined us for this special occasion. We were asked to help with a “Kicks and Sox” collection for kids at Snively Elementary in Winter Haven, and our members were very generous, bringing some of each (shoes and socks) for the kids. (see photo #6).

We are moving full speed ahead into 2017, because there is so much to stand up for. We will not sit back and be idle. See you at Tally Days!
The DWC of Manatee held its yearly Holiday luncheon at IMG Country Club on December 13, 2016 with 40 members in attendance. We were entertained by two of our Booker High School of Manatee youngster. We also did our yearly collection of items for Healthy Start and Bethesda Veterans group. Above, President, Mary Duda handed the gavel over to Patty Benson the new President.

The Gathering

Healthy start yearly holiday gifts donated by the women and men of the club.

Brian Heavrin delivering silent Santa gifts donated by Carol Graves

Rachel Young led our marchers holding our group sign high.
We participate in the annual MLK March in Panama City which was held on 1-14-17 this year. It consists of a four mile walk followed by speeches and singing.

On the MLK Holiday, we attend the annual festival in the park, downtown Panama City. For the last several years, we have given free school supplies in backpacks to children.

On 1-21-17 We had a Sister March and Rally for the Women’s March on Washington. For Panama City, it was a great success! Coverage by both TV stations and the newspaper. A very diverse crowd with lots of good signs.

DWC Palm Beach County Gets Published!

Sessions Falls Short of Top Cop Standard
-Palm Beach Post 1.11.17

Thomas Carney’s Point of View letter, “Sessions deserves basic courtesy, fair hearing” (Thursday), supporting Sen. Jeff Sessions, the nominee for U.S. attorney general, is misleading.

As U.S. attorney general in Mobile, Ala., in 1981, Sessions did prosecute the men who lynched 20-year-old Michael Donald. However, it was the Southern Poverty Law Center, not Sessions, that bankrupted the United Klans of America by suing for their entire assets on behalf of the family. In a statement in November, SPLC Director Richard Cohen acknowledged Sessions’ help with the civil suit.

“But,” Cohen warned, “we cannot support his nomination to be the country’s next attorney general. Senator Sessions … has associated with anti-immigrant groups we consider to be deeply racist, including the Federation for American Immigration Reform and the Center for Security Policy. If our country is to move forward, we must put all forms of racism behind us.”

Sessions supports the rollback of the landmark federal Voting Rights Act. He opposes the restoration of voting rights to ex-felons. In the 1980s, Sessions selectively enforced voting laws in Alabama by race and threatened activists who assisted illiterate voters with jail.

Sessions voted against the Matthew Shepard Hate Crimes Act. He voted against the Violence Against Women Act reauthorization because it included gay, lesbian and immigrant victims.

These are not just comments, they are actions. America should hold its attorney general to the highest standard.

H. JOAN WAITKEVICZ, WEST PALM BEACH
The Democratic Women’s Club of Alachua County was extremely busy:

Many were asked to participate in the GOTV event with Senator Tim Kaine. Members participated in the Pride Festival and dinner. Several members participated in the NAACP Banquet.

Cynthia Chestnut and Carrie Parker at Pride Dinner

4’s event “Empowerment Sunday”

President Clinton’s Visit

Linda and Charles Williams at the Lawton Chiles Gala

November:
Many of our members worked tirelessly for the campaigns. We canvassed, provided food, called, handed out slate cards at precincts etc. We took a week to mourn and now are back up for the fight. November meeting is to plan our Society/Sponsor Thank-You event as well as activities for 2017. At our November Executive Board Meeting Sheryl Eddie asked for a Leave of Absence while she conducted her campaign. The Board decided to honor this request and elected Linda Williams as the new President.

Activities with Senator Nelson and Rod Smith

December: The Chalmers hosted an amazing Recognition and Thank You event on December 2 for Donors and Society Members. It was well attended.

December 19th meeting:
Congratulations were offered to Cynthia Chestnut for being elected to a four year term as Chair of the Alachua County Democratic Party.

Committees were established in November and reports were given by each Chair or Co-Chair: Treasurer’s Report was given by Cynthia Chestnut, Membership Report presented by Rosalie Bandyopadhyay, Women’s March Sister Event report offered by Marcia Storch, Diversity Education presented by Victoria Gibey, March Fund Raiser for Women’s History Month given by Cynthia Chestnut, Legislative Committee presented by Paula Stahmer, Voter Education Committee report offered by Joan Lindgren.

A new Membership Initiative, “Each One Bring One,” has been put into action. Regular Member Dues are $20.00 and Student Dues are $10.00

In January, a new member coordinated a forum as a sister event on Saturday January 21st. It was standing room only!
Region 8  
DWC of St. Lucie County

Patty Farley; DWCF 1st VP, Susan Stutz and Paula Albright of DWC of St. Lucie County, President Pro Tem of St. Lucie County Barbara Cook, DWCF President; Maureen McKenna, Region 8 Chair; Susie Johnson, DWCF 2nd VP; Sandra McClinton

Region 6  
DWC of Seminole County

Patty Farley, DWCF 1st VP, Sharon Lynn; DWC of Seminole County, Marian Williams; President Pro Tem, DWC of Seminole County, Maureen McKenna; President of DWCF, Claudette Pelletier; Region VI Chair, Sandra McClinton; DWCF 2nd VP

Region 7  
DWC of Marco

Seated: President Pro Tem; Jane Washburn, DWCF Chair of Chairs; Betty Gissendanner, DWCF President; Maureen McKenna and DWCF 2nd VP; Sandra McClinton

Region 9  
DWC of East Broward County

Vivian Dixon Shim of DWC of Miami Dade, 1st VP DWCF; Patty Farley, Region IX Chair Mishell Warner, Arlen Dominek from DWC of East Broward, President Pro Tem Stephanie Massengill from DWC of East Broward, DWCF President Maureen McKenna, DWCF 2nd VP; Sandra McClinton
MAR. 12-14 - TALLY DAYS
This is one of the most important events sponsored by the DWCF. Members from all over the state converge in Tallahassee while the state legislature is in session. During these very exciting, educational, and inspiring three days, we speak to representatives and senators, visit the capital to watch the action occurring in the chambers, listen to experts on women’s issues, and hold our own press conference! It also presents a great opportunity to meet some of the most dedicated and powerful democratic women in our state. Visit www.DWCF.org for more details.

MAY 20 - STATEWIDE RALLY!
Democratic Women’s Club of Florida
Lake Eola, Orlando 10 AM-NOON Speakers Galore!
Celebrating Democratic Women’s Month
Mark your calendars! PERSIST TOGETHER! Thank you! Dr. Maureen McKenna, President

DWC PRESIDENTS –
The 2017 DWCF Convention Chair, Mary Duda, and Vice-Chair, Susie Johnson, plus several members of the Convention Planning Committee would like to come to one of your DWC meetings between now and through June to tell your members why they should attend the September 7-10 Convention in hopes that many of your members will decide to come to enjoy listening to knowledgeable speakers, gain new skills, and find out more about what the DWCF does. We can answer any questions they have about the Convention. Email either Mary at mcmduda@aol.com or Susie at sjohnson4808@comcast.net with possible dates for them to visit.

Nancy Hurlbert, Chair of the DWCF PC (Political Committee) is available to speak to your Club on the benefits of your Political Committee. Nancy has been PC Chair for 3 years and during the 2016 Election cycle, helped facilitate distributing $11,300 to local and state candidates. Find out how your Club can participate and insure we elected a “bench” of Democrats! Nancy lives in central Florida (Leesburg), and has a furry one to take care of, so only travel which does not require an overnight stay can be considered. Contact Nancy at nthurlbert@aol.com or 352-483-4962 (H) 954-254-1000 (C)