A Fond Farewell from President McKenna

Hello Persisters!

The next DWCF Newsletter will be generated this fall, after I leave office. Good luck to all candidates running for all offices. Thank you for stepping up to support the future of DWCF! This past quarter, DWCF had a remarkable and unforgettable rally celebrating Democratic Women’s Month of May, chaired by Monica Readus. Thank you for your wonderful leadership, Monica! Thank you for all those who attended. The energetic speakers were cheered on with enthusiasm that only DWCF members can bring. The march was represented by all of DWCF’s nine regions across Florida. The DWCF vendors had a fun and fruitful day. Another memorable DWCF event!!

I am grateful for all the teamwork and exemplary leadership shown by the DWCF Officers, appointed Chairs and Region Chairs during my tenure. I have had the opportunity to meet many local club members and leaders during these past four years. I am grateful for the many friends I have made. During my tenure, we have started approximately 20 clubs or more (which averages out to 5 new clubs per year). We have doubled our membership numbers across this great state. We are now the largest recognized Caucus of the Florida Democratic Party. DWCF is now stronger in its activism and electioneering efforts.

Milly Krause, Legislative Chair from Brevard County and the Legislative Liaisons across the state have served to make DWCF’s efforts. There has been so much that the leaders of the DWCF have accomplished during the last 4 years. We have moved into the 21st century stronger than ever. I am both amazed and grateful. Please view DWCF.org to learn more about what the Democratic Women’s Club of Florida is doing and volunteer. This club is your club and we are all very proud of every single member.

Thank you all for your support of my administration. It has been a great honor to lead such an unforgettable organization of dynamic members!! After September 9, 2017, I will continue to serve DWCF as Immediate Past President and also serve as Democratic National Committee Representative for the National Federation of Democratic Women. See you at the exciting DWCF Annual Convention in Sarasota from September 7-10!

I will always remain Democratically yours,

Dr. Maureen McKenna
President, Democratic Women’s Club of Florida.

Please LIKE our Facebook Page “Democratic Women’s Club of Florida, Inc.” to stay abreast of our clubs’ actions and future events!

Terrie Rizzo, Florida Democratic Party’s DCCA Chair, at the DCCA Reception at FDP’s annual Leadership Blue on June 16, 2017 with DWCF President Maureen McKenna.
Monica Readus, DWC of West Orange County President and DWCF Board Member was honored with a well-deserved award for coordinating the 1st Annual DWCF Rally and March celebrating Democratic Women’s Month of May on May 20, 2017.
Democratic Women’s Club of Florida members remember the victims, survivors and family members of the PULSE tragedy. We will never forget.

One Year ago in Orlando a tragedy happened at a local gay night club Pulse. Killing 49 and injuring 53 excluding the killer. One of the most horrific killings thus far for the gay community nationwide. The feelings are still raw for so many to date. The city fell silent remembering the 49 with vigils and viewing on June 12 2017. Buddy Dyer and Teresa Jacobs Mayors of city and county came together in solidarity with the draping of Section 93 Sea to Sea Rainbow flag on the Orange County Admin building. With Mark Ebenhoch, Commissioner Patty Shehan along with myself and many others, reading the names of those lost. Tribunes were held at the amphitheater at Lake Eola. During the day Pulse had close to 750k throughout the day visiting and paying the respects.

On June 9 I went to Washington DC with several others to meet Congressman Darran Soto (D) Orlando/Osceola/Polk. Given a private tour of the Capital. We were able to create a little history. We were able to drape the Sea to Sea Section 93 Rainbow flag over the inauguration patio wall, unveil in the Capital among the many statues of history and a final picture on the steps of the Capital. First time in history.

Attended the Transgender Equality Association Rally in DC meeting the young lady who came up with the colors of the Transgender Flag and Rafi Guspan (LGBTA Liaison to Obama)

One Sunday Section 93 of the Sea to Sea flag was first in line for the Washington DC March. No one dared to walk in front of it, because of the respect it held to the LGBT community. Following us in the march were a sea of thousands, as it went past the White House, the Capital and the monuments of our forefathers before us.

I personally want to thank the Women of the DWC statewide who have supported the LGBT community. Together we can make a difference!

Elizabeth McCarthy, President
Democratic Women’s Club of Greater Orlando
The Democratic Women’s Club of Volusia County has been buzzing with activity during the 2nd Quarter! These include: The Climate March, Healthcare March, Tax March, The Women’s Rally and our Annual Picnic. We have collected hundreds of petitions to restore felons’ voter rights, and are consistently registering voters and helping to support our local candidates.

Meet The Candidates

Danielle Neetz for Second Vice President of the Democratic Women’s Club of Florida

I am confident that I possess all the qualifications needed to meet the demands of this position. With excellent computer skills and knowledge of most Microsoft applications, I am always willing to learn new things and love to work with other people for the good of the Club.

My Participation with Democratic Women’s Club

LONG-SERVING: I became a member of the DWC of Florida upon our local Club being Charter in 2003. At that time I was elected as 2nd Vice President, and became 1st Vice President when our President resigned, and we all moved up. During those 9 years I worked with the President, Vera Krukemeier getting guest speakers for our meetings and other projects as needed. We worked together to create our Annual Picnic that is still going strong today.

FAITHFUL: I have attended almost all the NFDW conventions, except for San Juan, (when to France for my Dad's funeral), Kansas City, (had my surgery), and New York. During one of the convention in 2006 DWC of FL President Sarah Brown appointed me as Environmental Committee Chair. I remained as Chair until 2010, at which time President Janet Goen appointed me as Archive Chair. I was Chair until 2014, which was passed on to Cory Lumpkin. I have only missed three DWC of Florida Convention since 2003. Once was due to our son’s health, and I wanted to be with him during those hard days. The other two were due to my own health.

PRODUCTIVE: In 2012 I was elected Region IV Chair, but had to resign in 2013 from all responsibilities due to a health condition which required me to have complete rest. After the medical staff gave me the green light to return, I again became active in the DWC. I was elected as the President of our local Club in 2016, and I currently hold this position. During my term, our Club has grown from 23 members to more than 90 members. We have a very active and dynamic group. We worked very hard to take two full buses to Washington D.C. for the Women’s March, and members helped find sponsors for 10% of our riders. As a rebuilt Club, we had 10 members attend the Convention in Tampa. In March, for the first time we had 8 members attend “Tally Day”, and we turned around and worked to participate in the Climate March on April 29, 2017 in Washington.

My Participation with the Democratic Executive Committee of Volusia County

PROGRESSIVE: I became active with the DEC in 2003. I was precinct committeewoman for my precinct and was elected as Secretary to the DEC. In 2006 I was appointed Campaign Chair for Volusia. In 2013, I was re-elected as Secretary and appointed as Membership Chair. This year I was appointed as Co-Chair of the Ways & Means committee to work on our Annual Fundraising Gala.

Over the years my pet project for the DEC has been the Port Orange Family Day Festival in March and October. As a resident of Port Orange, I work with the City to make sure that we are present at these very popular festivals. We set up booths for voter registrations, petitions, and club information.

I am asking for your vote based on my long-serving, faithful, productive, and progressive record as a PROUD DEMOCRAT.

Danielle Neetz
Democratic Women’s Club of Alachua County was Very Busy During the 2nd Quarter

April:
Sheryl Eddie re-assumed duties as president. Attended the DWCF Board Meeting/and Regional Meeting; preparing to be only club in the new region 4 and looking at how to build clubs in Bradford, Columbia, Union, Baker, Suwannee, Hamilton and Gilchrist Counties. Leadership/General meeting on April 6th and April 17th we wrapped up details from Women’s History Month Fundraiser, began planning the 2018 invent and hosted a new member orientation on April 23rd

May:
May 13th DWC Women’s Sister Event Committee speaker on immigration Democratic. Women’s Month Proclamation read at Gainesville City Commission Meeting on 5/4 Alachua County Proclamation presented May 23rd May 19th & 20th Attending DWCF PerSister’s Rally Democratic for Women’s Month. At May’s general meeting, Celebrated Democratic Women’s Month with Cake and Social.

June:
Alachua President Sheryl Eddie and Intern Teirra McClendon attending along with a contingency from Florida, the National Federation of Democratic Women’s Convention in Atlanta Community Outreach-provide and served “Democracy Dinner” at local shelter St. Francis House. We served over 8 small children, two pregnant women and 20 other adults. Held our 2nd New Member Orientation on June 25th
My formal qualifications to run for the Office of President of the Democratic Women’s Club of Florida include holding the offices of Vice President of DWCF, local club President for two terms, Region Chair for two terms, Labor Chair and 2015 Convention Chair. Before that I served as Vice President and as Secretary of our local South Brevard Democratic Women’s Club. While Secretary, our club was recognized for the Newsletter which I developed. With this background I gained necessary experience to understand the goals, principles, and workings of our organization.

Patty Farley

My formal qualifications to run for the Office of President of the Democratic Women’s Club of Florida include holding the offices of Vice President of DWCF, local club President for two terms, Region Chair for two terms, Labor Chair and 2015 Convention Chair. Before that I served as Vice President and as Secretary of our local South Brevard Democratic Women’s Club. While Secretary, our club was recognized for the Newsletter which I developed. With this background I gained necessary experience to understand the goals, principles, and workings of our organization.

Other previous positions contributing to my experience include being the Credentials Chair for the Brevard Democratic Executive Committee; the AFL-CIO liaison for Brevard Federation of Teachers and the Grassroots Community Partner for the Space Coast AFL-CIO. I have been a Classroom teacher for Florida Public schools for 31 years where for the last 18 years I have coordinated approximately 1500 community service hours of work each year as the volunteer sponsor of the High School Key Club. I also serve as Church Librarian and teacher for my local church. I have a long history of serving my community and believe serving as an officer in the Democratic Women’s Club of Florida will allow me to continue to serve my fellow citizens.
Sandra McClinton’s Candidacy for President of the Democratic Women's Club of Florida, Inc.

I am excited about running for President of the DWCF, Inc. I feel that I am qualified to perform all the duties of the Chief Executive Officer as defined in our organization’s bylaws.

I served as Region VII Chair of the DWCF for two years. As Region Chair, I organized regional council meetings and learned how to charter new clubs.

I am currently serving as the DWCF Second Vice President and Chair of the Membership Committee. In these positions, I have maintained an accurate membership list, assisted region chairs and President in starting a number of new clubs, wrote a how-to handbook on starting new clubs, and kept Constant Contact updated with our membership list.

My former affiliate jobs as the Chairwoman of the Lee County Democratic Party and President of the Cape Coral Club have given me the experience of being a Chief Executive Officer. Our DEC was awarded the Golden Gavel Award by the Florida Democratic Party while I was chair.

I was elected as delegate to the Democratic National Convention in 2012 and 2016.

If elected as President, I will serve the DWCF with all my heart and capacity.
Democratic Women’s Club of Miami-Dade

Democratic Women’s Club of Miami-Dade Chapter (DWC-MDC) would like to invite members for their continuing support and friends to join so DEC-MDC will continue to make an impact of the democratic process to elect democrats to serve local cities, state and country. DWC-MDC supports all outstanding democratic candidates, democrats across the State of Florida to be closer in turning Florida blue. DWC-MDC hosts monthly Meeting on the second Saturdays of each Month at Village Hall of El Portal – 500 NE 87 Street, El Portal, FL 33138.


Democratic Women’s Club of Miami-Dade Chapter (DWC-MDC) held the Townhall Forum “Bridging the Gap” on Education. The Forum was chaired by Tanya James - Vice President, and coordinated with Sandra McDowell. Among 20 attendees, three guests joined to become members and 1 renew her membership. Panel speakers were the Honorable Fred Seraphin – County Court Judge of Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Florida, The Honorable Dr. Steve Gallon III – School Board Member – District 1 of Miami-Dade Public School Board, and Dr. Emmanuel Lalande – Vice President for Student Affairs of Florida Memorial University. The Panelists shared their experience and knowledge in the areas of their expertise and their discussion are very informative on the following areas:

- What is the legacy that we are leaving for our youth and young adults?
- Are we, as leaders, taking the initiative to provide mentorship in a proactive and engaging manner?
- How will we leave a lasting impact and a footprint that can be measurable and sustainable?

Panelists provide examples of what they are doing as teacher and leader in our community. The Panelists show best practices and principles that can be useful tool kit that may be implemented after leaving this forum.

Panel Speakers

Attendees

The Honorable Kristen Rosen Gonzalez
Commissioner, City of Miami Beach

Marie Flore Lindor Latourne, Ph.D.

Panel Speakers with the Honorable speakers

Democratic Women’s Club of Miami-Dade Officers and Members with the Honorable speakers

L: Winnie Tang 0 President, Miami Beach Commissioner Kristen Rosen Gonzalez, Tanya James – Vice President, Dr. Steve Gallon III, The Honorable Judge Seraphin, Dorothy Jackson – Treasurer, Dr. Emmanuel Lalande, Shahida Shakir, Sandra Bryant – Secretary, Donna LeVasseur, Sandra McDowell, Fayola Delica

5/20/17: DWCF PerSisters Rally at Lake Eola Park, Orlando

3 officers and 1 member of DWC-MDC attended the DWCF PerSisters Rally. They are Tanya James - Vice President, Dorothy Jackson - Treasurer, Sandra Bryant – Secretary, and Susan McDowell - member.
By Milly Krause, DWCF Legislative Chair for Florida Issues (millyERA@gmail.com)

Now that the 2017 Florida Legislative Session is over, it’s time to prepare for the 2018 Florida Legislative Session, which begins 2 months earlier than this year’s session. Mark your calendars; the 2018 session begins at noon on January 8th. The annual 60-day Session is scheduled to end on March 9th.

Within your clubs, focus on the issues most important to you. Know the issues most important to you and your club. Then, plan to visit your legislators over the summer to speak with them about your issues and, more importantly, ask them to sponsor and support legislation. Work to do this with a team spirit, working together, rather than representing opposition.

Each club should have representation at the Annual Local Legislative Delegation Meetings in which you can openly and publicly present your issues as an individual or as a representative for your local DWCF Club or both, to your local legislators.

For those who don’t have a full understanding of the purpose and their part in the Annual Local Legislative Delegation Meetings, please join us for a workshop on Local Advocacy at the Sept. 8th Annual DWCF Convention in Sarasota to learn more and to also share your experiences. We will have a mock local legislative delegation meeting presented by the DWCF Legislative Liaisons (LL’s).

All legislative liaisons/DWCF members are asked, at this time, to call a member of their local legislative delegation and find out when their local legislative delegation meeting will be held this year. Since I’ve been attending these annual local legislative delegation meetings each year, I was recently notified that my local Brevard Legislative Delegation Meeting will be held on Friday, September 21st. I was quite surprised it was this early. Thus, LL’s please, get ahead of the bus, and, call your local delegation members and find out when yours will be since September is rapidly approaching and your delegation meeting might be in August and you don’t want to miss it. Once you find out when it is, please let me know so I can create a list.

Each year before the legislative session officially begins, committee weeks are held. It is at these meetings that issues are discussed and legislative is drafted so it’s vital to speak to your legislators before the committee meetings. The 2017-2018 Committee Week Dates Follow as legislators head back to Tallahassee in mid-September to kick-off the 2018 Florida Legislative Session:

--Week 1 – September 12th (right after our DWCF Convention)
--Week 2 – October 9th
--Week 3 – October 23rd
--Week 4 – November 6th
--Week 5 – November 13th
--Week 6 – December 4th

Also, on Saturday, September 9th at the Sarasota Convention, I will hold my final face-to-face Legislative Liaison Meeting as DWCF’s Legislative Chair. I hope all our legislative liaisons will attend to share their experiences and discuss their roles. Those of you who would like to consider being LL’s in the future should also attend as we will discuss our roles. I love meeting everyone in person after having talked on our monthly LL Teleconferences.

Remember to do at least one legislative activity at each meeting. It could be a simple postcard campaign, setting appointments to meet legislators, making phone calls and setting up committees to take legislative action, etc.

Here’s an idea for your August Event – What is your club planning for Women’s Equality Day this year? Each year on August 26th, we commemorate women’s vote officially becoming part of the US constitution. This day marks one turning point in the history of the struggle for equal treatment of women and women’s rights. I encourage each of your clubs to hold a local rally or some type of celebratory event to show the continued need for equality and activism. It is now 94 years since Alice Paul first introduced the original ERA to the U.S. Congress. New life and action has been focused on the ERA Ratification with news from Nevada. On March 21, 2017, 35 years after the deadline and 45 years after it was passed by the U.S. Congress, Nevada has ratified the Equal Rights Amendment, leaving just two states to ratify it. Sadly, Florida is one of these states. Woman and Males who support our ERA/DWCF Platform need to run for office. Nevada had increased their legislature to 40% women, which is a huge factor in equality and activism. It is now 94 years since Alice Paul first introduced the original ERA to the U.S. Congress. New life and action has been focused on the ERA Ratification with news from Nevada. On March 21, 2017, 35 years after the deadline and 45 years after it was passed by the U.S. Congress, Nevada has ratified the Equal Rights Amendment, leaving just two states to ratify it. Sadly, Florida is one of these states. Woman and Males who support our ERA/DWCF Platform need to run for office. Nevada had increased their legislature to 40% women, which is a huge factor in Nevada’s ERA Ratification.

What can you do to promote our DWCF Platform and move it forward? With your clubs, focus on your targeted issues. Visit legislators and request legislators to sponsor bills. Write Letters to the Editor and respond to others with Online Comments. Ask your local councils and counties to pass Local Ordinances & Resolutions that relate to targeted DWCF Issues. Work to collect signatures on voting and fracking petitions/pledges, etc. Read and share emails. Post information on Social Media. Take ACTION when asked by making phone Calls to Legislators and others. Work to move bills out of committee that receive no action year after year, such as the ERA. Meanwhile, contact your legislators often and make your voices heard. The following are links to your legislators’ websites and phone numbers to keep handy. Use the following links to contact your local legislative delegation members as well. Become familiar with these websites by taking virtual tours.

During the legislative session, sign-up to track bills. Contact information follows:

Florida Senate – http://flsenate.gov/
Governor Rick Scott – 850-488-7146 or 850-717-9249
Website – http://www.flgov.com/

---U.S. Senator Marco Rubio – DC – 202-224-3041
Orlando – 407-254-2573

---U.S. Senator Bill Nelson –DC – 202-224-5274
Orlando – 407-872-7161

To Contact President Donald Trump –
http://www.wikihow.com/Contact-the-President-of-the-United-States/By_Email_sub

Attend Tally Days to learn more about legislation and how our legislative system works. DWCF’s 2018 Tally Days will be held from Feb. 4th to Feb. 6th at a New Venue, the Residence Inn Marriott, Residence Inn Tallahassee Universities at the Capitol. SAVE THE DATE!!! USE YOUR VOICES TO SHOUT OUT – PRODUC-TIVE CHANGE IS NEEDED

At their monthly meeting in June, the Democratic Women’s Club of Okaloosa County recognized members of our community as recipients of the “Lighting The Way” Award. The award recognizes those Democrats in Okaloosa County who are leaders in a variety of areas, supporting democratic ideals and “lighting the way” for others. Winners, pictured above, l-r, are Michelle Anchors, partner of Keefe Anchors & Gordon Law; Debra McDaniel, Executive Director of Opportunity Place, Inc.; Statia McNeese, community activist and Niceville resident; Jill Lewis Dags, Chair of the Democratic Black Caucus of Okaloosa and a member of the state DBC; Lee Bobo, former Ft Walton Beach City Council member and local activist and Melissa Thrush, two-term member of the Okaloosa School Board.

We truly regret to have to announce the passing of Louvenia Sailor, President of the Democratic Women’s Club of Gadsden County.

DWCF is very saddened by this news and extends heartfelt condolences to Louvenia’s family.

If you would like to send a card of condolence, please address it to:
The Family of Louvenia Sailor
135 Drew Ellis Lane
Quincy, FL 32351
Crime Prevention Vital for All!

The June 26th meeting of the DWC of Upper Pinellas focused on crime prevention for all of us. The featured speaker was Brian McNeel of the Crime Prevention Task Force. His topics included online safety, identity protection, personal protection while out and about, auto theft, hotel/motel safety, the things we do that make us vulnerable and how not to be a victim. With all the work that Democratic women do with the public, this was an eye-opening and thought-provoking presentation. We can do all that we do and be safe while we’re at it!

The good news is that the Crime Prevention Task Force is reaching out to groups all over the state. Contact numbers are 352-777-2162 and 813-446-0750. If your club hasn’t had this presentation recently, we recommend it highly!

In addition to this presentation, we met Ryan Torrens, candidate for Florida Attorney General. He’s also willing to come to other clubs throughout the state to meet us and discuss his campaign (ryanforattorneygeneral.com).

The Club members also took action by sending cards and letters and making phone calls to Marco Rubio to vote against the proposed ACA replacement legislation.

DWCUP MEMBERSHIP TEA:

DEMOCRATIC WOMEN SPRING INTO ACTION!

On April 30, 2017, the eve of Democratic Women’s Month, the DWC of Upper Pinellas held a membership tea with honored guest, Grace Nelson. The theme was “Democratic Women Spring Into Action” as these days call for us to be stronger and more dedicated than ever.

Members Carrie Wadlinger and Sherry Kinder hosted the event in their stunning Palm Harbor home. All of the goodies were homemade by Club members and displayed beautifully for all to enjoy. Over 40 members and guests partook in finger sandwiches, scones, fruit tartlets, chocolate dipped pretzels and so much more.

Grace Nelson, the articulate wife of our Senator Bill Nelson, was the Keynote speaker delivering a message of hope and optimism for Florida’s future. DWCF 1st VP Patricia Farley spoke as well about the achievements and future of the DWCF. Several local elected officials were introduced and enjoyed the festivities as well. The day was memorable for all and served as a successful fundraiser for the DWCUP.
I, Betty Gissendanner, seek the state office of Chair of Chairs and present the following 200 word statement of candidacy:

I am presently serving my second term as Chair of Region VII and first term as Chair of Chairs. In both positions, I was elected without opposition where I have served with honor and with great accomplishments.

I have aided the formation of new clubs by assisting in acquiring Tax Identification Numbers (TIN) for banking purposes. I have assisted clubs having difficulties with opening, changing and maintaining banking relationships.

I have assisted the State Second Vice President in establishing four new clubs two of which are in my Region. I have traveled with the State President to engage communities where DWC did not exist.

I have served with diligence on the Budget Committee to promote purposeful planning and principled spending using acceptable financial guidelines.

I have assisted Region Chairs to address delicate and complicated matters within their regions and have likewise made myself accessible to assist Club Presidents within my own region. Our Region is one of hard workers and excellent camaraderie among our now six clubs.

I seek the state office of Chair of Chairs to continue developing leaders at all levels. I especially want to mentor and further develop the role of Region Chair within the organization.

Mary Lou Woods For Position of Chairs of Chairs

Past Employment:
Special Ed. Teacher for 30 years
Union Board for 15 years
Involved in negotiation of contracts
for Teachers, Secretaries and Custodians

DWCF:
President of DWC of St. Johns County four years
Region III Chair 4 years
Started a new club, reorganized one and save another
Attended Quarterly meetings as President
Legislative Liaison for St. Johns County
Diversity Committee Member
Affirmative Action Committee Chair
Tally Days Committee, Persisters Rally Committee Member
Attended all DWCF Conventions and Tally Days since 2011.
Attended two NFDW Conventions
Attended two Leadership Blue Events

Vision as Chair of Chairs:
For each region to build upon experiences and share information
Joint activities and social interaction
To support Region Chairs- be accessible by traveling and phone calls
Increase membership

Positive:
Bring forth a varied background due to my many positions
Strongly support all of the DWCF objectives and special committees
Support the candidates “Four Legged Blue Bench” including the DWC Political Committee-PAC as 100% of the funds go to support candidates.

Join Our Elite Team!
We need more people to agree to make some phone calls when we are starting a new club or revitalizing a club. This is a vital job to help our organization continue to grow. You will be provided a calling list, script, and info about the club meeting. We start calling about 10 days before club meeting. If you can occasionally do at least 2 or 3 hours of calling per club, please contact State Membership Chair, Sandra McClinton, (239-471-7704 or sandra.mcclinton@comcast.net).
More than 20 Escambia DWC members participated in an anti-trump Rally and “March for Truth” protest in Pensacola on June 4, 2017. EDWC was one of the sponsors of the event and shared a table with the local democratic party.

Dianne Krumel,
Club President Escambia DWC

Hi All,
Reesa is urging us to get our recipes in – see below!

**Her deadline is August 1.** Any kind of recipe is good!

**THE PALM BEACH COUNTY DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S CLUB is**
Compiling a cookbook to help us cope in the coming months and we need your help....

Please send your favorite recipe to be included in our important cookbook “COMFORT FOOD RECIPES” for surviving the time of Trump.

⇒ Any recipe is fine including drinks
⇒ Any format is good
⇒ Send as an attachment, PDF, picture - anything to make it easy
⇒ Please add a “helpful hint” for surviving Trump if you have one
⇒ Include your name, city or town
⇒ Tell us your club, group, or Democratic affiliation –or not
⇒ PLEASE SEND RECIPES OR QUESTIONS ASAP TO: levyreesa@gmail.com

Hopefully the cookbook will be printed and ready for sale in November. Great for Holiday gifts-$15.00 per book (reserve now if you like).

Democratic Women’s Club of Marion County has been very busy this Spring. We’ve been involved with marches, phone banking for candidates and working with Indivisibles. We created Dem Chicks as a fund-raiser and sold embroidered socks. We ran a March for Healthcare. We had a very successful luncheon, with our keynote speaker being Dr. Diana Greene, Superintendent of Manatee County.

Remember His Name: Mr. Philando Castile.

He was a school cafeteria supervisor who not only memorized names of the 500 children he served, he remembered all of his students’ allergies.
Preserving Our History

DWCF collects historical state and local club documents and photographs. Items collected are donated to the University of Central Florida library archives where they are studied by students of women’s history as well as the political history of Florida. DWCF archival materials are located in Special Collections Manuscripts, under Political Papers.

Visitors of the UCF John C. Hitt Library, 12701 Pegasus Drive, Orlando, FL 32186 may view the archives which are located on the 5th Floor, Special Collections area of the Hitt library. The Hitt Library Special Collections area is open to the public from 9 AM—1 PM, Monday through Friday, when the University is open. The Special Collections phone number is 407.823.2562. It is recommended that you call prior to visiting the archives to facilitate the items being available for you to view.

Local DWCF Clubs are encouraged to donate their club’s historical documents, photos, and scrapbooks to the DWCF Archives by contacting the DWCF Archivist, Cora Lumpkin by phone at 863.385.7447 or via email at ccblessings@aol.com.

Barbara DeVane at DWC Bay County 5-18-17. Our luncheon speaker gave an update on Florida’s 2017 Legislative Session. Barbara DeVane focuses on Organizing and Lobbying. She is currently the President of the Florida Chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW). In addition to her duties as President, she is the official lobbyist for NOW. Other affiliations include:
Member: Capital City Democratic Women’s Club 
Vice President---N.W. Florida Federation of Labor AFL--CIO 
Delegate to Big Bend Central Labor Chapter 
VP Florida Education Association (FEA) - Retired Leon Co. Chapter 
Lifetime member of the NAACP

Earth Day in the Park 4-22-17. Earth Day Festival in McKenzie Park There were three adjacent Democratic booths shared by DWCBC, the DEC, the Veteran’s Caucus, and College Democrats. President Candice Burgess spoke to people about fracking in Florida. Volunteers provided information about the Democratic Women’s Club, voter information, registration, vote by mail.

Remember this date. That is the date on which 33 Senate seats, all 145 seats in the House of Representatives, and 14 Governorships will be up for re-election.

July Quarterly Board Meeting

Barbara DeVane focuses on Organizing and Lobbying. She is currently the President of the Florida Chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW). In addition to her duties as President, she is the official lobbyist for NOW. Other affiliations include:
Member: Capital City Democratic Women’s Club 
Vice President---N.W. Florida Federation of Labor AFL--CIO 
Delegate to Big Bend Central Labor Chapter 
VP Florida Education Association (FEA) - Retired Leon Co. Chapter 
Lifetime member of the NAACP

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The National Federation of Democratic Women (NFDW) stands in solidarity and opposition of the Senate healthcare bill disclosed to the public by Senate Leader Mitch McConnell last week. In a back room, behind closed doors, 13 Republican men created a bill that is disastrous to the American people, and especially so to women and our most vulnerable citizens. According to the recent report of the bipartisan Congressional Budget Office, under the proposed bill:

✓ 22 million more Americans would be uninsured, including 15 million by next year alone

✓ $772 billion would be cut from Medicaid, leaving those most in need, including seniors, newborns, the disabled, single parents, and those at or below poverty, without healthcare

✓ Much of the cuts to Medicaid funding would be given to top earners in the form of tax breaks. Let that sink in. Those who are the most vulnerable would lose benefits so that the rich can become richer.

✓ Planned Parenthood would be defunded for a year. Many communities find Planned Parenthood to be the only women’s healthcare provider available. If closed, hundreds of thousands of women will no longer have access to routine checkups, mammograms, vaccines, counseling, cancer screenings, and birth control.

✓ Rural healthcare will be devastated due to the loss of Medicaid funding. Hospitals and nursing facilities in these areas will suffer greatly.

✓ The cost of premiums will rise 20%-30% over the next two (2) years and thereafter, if premiums decrease, it will be at the expense of reduced services and higher deductibles.

✓ Basic healthcare needs such as preventive care, cancer screenings, maternity care, birth control, will no longer be guaranteed services.

✓ Pre-existing conditions will not be protected, potentially making healthcare unaffordable to those who frankly need it most. Premium costs for those with pre-existing conditions can be up to five (5) times their current premium.

Groups and associations representing pediatricians, cancer specialists, heart doctors and family physicians have all weighed in and universally agree; the Senate offering will make things worse, not better. The NFDW firmly believes that affordable healthcare is a right for all Americans and we hereby urge the United States Senate to vote against the Better Care Reconciliation Act and to further reach across the aisle to work in a bipartisan manner to improve the Affordable Care Act which has positively affected the lives of millions.

Susanna L. French
Susanna L. French, President
National Federation of Democratic Women
On May 27, 2017, at our Club meeting, we celebrated Democratic Women’s Month in Palm Bay. We invited two dynamic speakers: Patricia Farley, First Vice President of DWCF and the new and exciting DEC Chair, Stacey Patel of Democratic Executive Committee (DEC) of Brevard Democrats. Also in celebration of Democratic Women’s Month, we joined the other Democratic Women’s Clubs in the State of Florida to Rally at Lake Eola Park in Orlando, Florida. Thanks to Linda McLachlan, Mary Pryor, Irma Jonas, Adie Lake, Henry Suttles, for joining me in representing the Palm Bay Democratic Club. We had a wonderful time, enjoyed the speakers, and the Banner March around the Lake (Photo on Page 2). Also included are pictures of Deputy Chief James Rogers, Palm Bay Police Department with an excellent presentation on Crime Prevention in Palm Bay, in our June Monthly Meeting. Then on June 17 we had our annual fundraising event, Club Picnic with members, family and friends.

Your Political Committee (www.DWCFPC.com) has been busy this year and is planning a wonderful RECEPTION at the 2017 Convention and 2018 Tally Days!

First, though, a special Thank You to our donors who have contributed since last year’s 2016 Convention:

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<td>Milly Kraus</td>
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If you and/or your Club wants to contribute to the PC - and we hope everyone does! - send you checks, payable to DWCF PC to the attention of Francine Garcia, Treasurer, 15346 Ponce DeLeon Lane, Clermont FL 34714.

We have also funded three (3) campaigns so far this year: Sheryl Eddie, Gainesville City Commission; David Areola, Gainesville City Commission; and, Anne Huffman, Haines City Commission. David and Anne both won their races!!

Funding of candidates requires money! YOU can be a Supporter for just $25 and get this beautiful Supporter pin (magnetic back) The pin is 1-1/2” diagonally in size and can be yours by sending a check to Francine Garcia.

Let’s send the Republican clowns in Tallahassee and D.C. packing with a Meet-n-Greet Reception at Convention!
The PC Reception will be held on Thursday, September 7th from 8-11 PM (immediately following the Opening Reception) in the Ringling Room of the Hyatt Regency Sarasota. More details to come, but there will be food, a cash bar, candidates, elected VIPs and music!! Plan NOW to attend!!
Recently, a Democratic leader indicated that when they walk into a Women’s Caucus, there are all older women and this looks bad for the growth of Democrats.

I feel that comment reeked of misogyny.

Well, I have a response.

A reporter asked Nancy Pelosi a few years back why she doesn’t step aside to let younger women lead. After many women in the audience groaned, she indicated that in the course of a woman’s life, she works and cares for children. As she gets older, she has more time to focus on politics, or a second career, if she so chooses. The question was clearly sexist. DWCF has been sustained, in part, because of the stages of our member’s lives, both as women, and as men.

The misogynistic comment to which I am responding inferred that women over 40 years old should be quiet and are symbolic of a dying club or party. We all know that the backbone of the Democratic Party, at the Federal level down to the local level, is kept alive by women over 40. So, not only was that comment attempting to marginalize our work but can be perceived as lacking in familiarity of the day to day workings of Democrats.

DWCF has been around since 1956, we are not dying but instead, continuing to grow. Women who have the time and/or the passion for political engagement can always find a home in the Democratic Women’s Club of Florida. We provide outreach to encourage women to do so. Our club and our platform will never die.

Finally, the most recent NFDW elections yielded 3 younger officers to the Executive Board. NFDW had attendees of all ages.

So, when a person makes a comment about the age of the members of DWCF, please remember my above responses in order to educate them. If that person is already a member, then ask the member….what are THEY doing to grow and sustain political engagement of members? Ask them to work with their Membership Chair and Board to strategize and implement recruitment efforts. It is their club. Ours is a wonderful club which is has proven and will continue to prove to be a home for many Democratic women and men.

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