



DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S CLUB

Of Upper Pinellas



Important Numbers:

- **President**
Donna Dennis
727-447-7380
- **1st Vice President**
Mary Freeman
727-415-6629
- **2nd Vice President**
MaryAnn Stickels
727-724-0234
- **Corresponding Secretary**
Diane Lebedeff
727-252-3266
- **Recording Secretary**
Open
- **Treasurer**
Shelby Freeman
727-742-5661
- **Regional Representative**
Sherry Kinder
704-240-0370
- **Legislative Liaison**
Carrie Wadlinger
704/240-0371
- **Parliamentarian**
OPEN
Sergeant-At-Arms
Jasmina Forcan
727-692-3472
Media Chair/Historian
OPEN
Financial Review Chair
Roberta Farr
336-549-2737
DWCUP Website
DWCUP.org

DWCF, Inc.
DWCF.org

FL Demo Party
Fladems.com

PCDEC
Pinellasdemocrats.com

2018

DWCUP "FUN DAY"

Monday, May 21st

Chihuly Collection

720 Central Ave, St. Petersburg

10:00 AM – Noon

Followed by Lunch at Banyan Café.

Carpooling is highly recommended—

Meet at the bus stop at Clearwater Mall

At 9:15 am.

RSVP to Donna by May 17th



President's Message

by Donna Dennis

First of all, Meri Forte-Namuj of the Climate Reality Project gave us an incredible presentation at our last meeting. It was overwhelming to learn some of the frightening facts that are part of climate change. One thing that stuck with me was the rapidly increasing destruction of Florida's limestone base. As the ocean warms, it becomes more acidic and eats away at that base. In the meantime, weather extremes are becoming more severe and we're seeing more hurricanes and inland flooding. This destroys the land from above, so we're losing it from top and bottom at the same time. We will ask Meri to come again soon to enlighten us further!

Second, our Candidate Forum on April 25th was informative and very well received. It is very clear to all of us that we have terrific local Democratic candidates and with enough work and funding, we can be an important element in the coming **Blue Wave!** In fact, as our primary goal this year is to elect Democrats in Florida, we'll host another Candidate Forum at our July meeting. We already have tentative commitments from several exciting candidate for you to meet!

Next, we're taking a break from our regular meeting schedule for our Annual Fun Day. This year, we're going to see the Chihuly Collection in St Petersburg on Monday May 21st. For those who wish to carpool, we'll meet at the Clearwater Mall next to Pier One at the bus stop. Park on the side at 9:15 am and we'll leave promptly at 9:30 am. For those who wish to go on their own, meet us at Chihuly at 10 am. On the backside of the Chihuly Collection at 720 Central Ave. is the Publix Parking Structure, and parking on levels 3 & 4 is free! After touring the Chihuly, we can also explore the Morean Art Center across the street, have lunch in the Banyan Café there, watch glass blowing exhibitions, shop and enjoy the atmosphere of a happening St Pete. Please call or email me by May 17th if you want to go with us. To get the rate of \$16.25, I need a group reservation. You can pay me there and then I'll get all of our tickets at one time.

Finally, our dear friends and the backbone of Pinellas Democrats, Janet & Gerald Goen, are moving to Ft Myers this month to live near their daughter. We cannot let them go without gathering to reminisce and say our good-byes. As you'll see from the flyer in this newsletter, I'm hosting a Farewell Reception for them on Friday, May 18th in the Community Center of Island Way Towers, 223 Island Way, Clearwater 33767. I'm asking folks to RSVP and bring a dish to share. It will be fun and nostalgic!

Bring in those unused **hotel toiletries** you have collected and we will deliver them to the women at the Haven by RCS. Remember that all toiletries must be **unopened** to be accepted.

DWCUP dues are \$20.00 for the year. You will be removed from our membership list if not paid by June 1.

PLATINUM – 3yrs. - \$50

SILVER – 6yrs - \$100

Gold – Forever Member - \$200

Checks, preferably, payable to:
“DWCUP”

Send to: Shelby Freeman

960 Starkey Rd. #1404 Largo, FL 33771



Janet and Gerald Goen attended their last DWCUP Meeting on April 23. They are moving to Ft Myers to be near their daughter. They will be sorely missed as they have been involved in the Democratic Party here in Pinellas for 2 decades. Janet has served as President and State President. Gerald has been President of the Greater Tarpon Club for 20 years. Hopefully they will visit Pinellas as often as possible.



The DWCUP Candidate Forum, April 25th at the Palm Harbor Library, with Bernie Fensterwald, Candidate for Florida State Senate, District 16; Pat Gerard, Incumbent Pinellas County Commissioner; Heather Stahl, Candidate for FL House District 64; Carl Zimmermann, Candidate for Pinellas County School Board; Robert Tager, Candidate for U.S. Congress, District 12, and Donna Dennis, DWCUP President.

Women's Empowerment Forum

Life After the #MeToo Movement



May 10, 2018

Largo High School auditorium
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Presented by:



Wanted Club Secretary

We are still looking to fill this position. Carrie Wadlinger has been serving in the interim but with 100 members we should have someone willing to step up.

Call or email Donna Dennis:

727-447-7380

dennis33@hotmail.com

Press Release: 2nd Annual PerSisters Rally Still PerSisting--Louder than Ever!

This Week! Deland, Florida- On May 5th, 2018, the Democratic Women's Club of Florida is hosting their 2nd Annual statewide PerSisters Rally at Earl Brown Park in Deland. The success of last year's inaugural Rally at Lake Eola will be surpassed! Dynamic speakers--Florida State and US Senators and Representatives, Florida Democratic Party and Democratic National Committee notables, candidates from all over the state, and local officials will be in attendance.

We are honored to have the future leaders of our state and country joining us. Speakers also include young activists Casey Sherman and Christine Yared, survivors Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School tragedy, and Time Magazine's Avenger, Anna Eskamani, candidate for Fl. District House 47, will lead our banner parade around the park.

The PerSisters Rally is a full day starting at 9:30 am and wrapping up at 4:00 pm, incorporating music, dance and various forms of entertainment in a picnic setting. This is a free event celebrating Democratic Women's Month and the achievements of more than 3500 active Democratic Women's Club of Florida members. The last two hours include a barbecue for \$12.

The PerSisters Rally was forged to recognize and celebrate Democratic Women in the month of May, Democratic Women's Month. On May 24, 1940, Eleanor Roosevelt invited women from the Democratic National Committee Women's Division to the White House to meet President Roosevelt and tour the White House. As word got out, more than 4000 attended. To celebrate this successful occasion, Eleanor successfully spearheaded a proclamation declaring May 24th as Democratic Women's Day. Years later, The National Federation of Democratic Women and The Democratic Women's Club of Florida moved to recognize the full month of May as Democratic Women's Month.

We will persist, as Sen. Elizabeth Warren did and as all the women before her persisted. We will not stop until Florida, as the 38th and final state, passes the Equal Right's Amendment to be ratified in the Constitution. (Recently, Illinois became the 37th State.) The Democratic Women's Club of Florida has fought every year in Tallahassee for ratification, but the Florida House continues to refuse to bring ERA to the floor for a vote.

Sunday morning, May 6th, Candidate and Candidate Management Training will take place at The Sanborn Center. These impactful training sessions are open to all Democrats considering running, or working on campaigns.

This will be a great occasion for us to share and fire up the troops and help make the **BLUE WAVE** a reality this November! Join us!

The History of Mother's Day

Quiz: Mother's Day began

A. In 1858, when Ann Jarvis, a young Appalachian homemaker, organized "Mother's Work Days" to improve the sanitation and avert deaths from disease-bearing insects and seepage of polluted water.

B. In 1872, when Boston poet, pacifist and women's suffragist Julia Ward Howe established a special day for mothers –and for peace– not long after the bloody Franco-Prussian War.

C. In 1905, when Ann Jarvis died, her daughter, Anna, decided to memorialize her mother's lifelong activism, and began a campaign that culminated in 1914 when Congress passed a Mother's Day resolution.

The correct answer: *All of the above.*

Each woman and all of these events have contributed to the present occasion now celebrated on the second Sunday in May.

The cause of world peace was the impetus for Julia Ward Howe's establishment, over a century ago, of a special day for mothers. Following unsuccessful efforts to pull together an international pacifist conference after the Franco-Prussian War, Howe began to think of a global appeal to women.

"While the war was still in progress," she wrote, she keenly felt the "cruel and unnecessary character of the contest." She believed, as any woman might, that it could have been settled without bloodshed. And, she wondered, "Why do not the mothers of mankind interfere in these matters to prevent the waste of that human life of which they alone bear and know the cost?" Howe's version of Mother's Day, which served as an occasion for advocating peace, was held successfully in Boston and elsewhere for several years, but eventually lost popularity and disappeared from public notice in the years preceding World War I.

For Ann Jarvis, also known as "Mother Jarvis," community improvement by mothers was only a beginning. Throughout the Civil War she organized women's brigades, asking her workers to do all they could without regard for which side their men had chosen. And, in 1868, she took the initiative to heal the bitter rifts between her Confederate and Union neighbors.

The younger Anna Jarvis was only twelve years old in 1878, when she listened to her mother teach a Sunday school lesson on mothers in the Bible. "I hope and pray that someone, sometime, will found a memorial mother's day," the senior Jarvis said. "There are many days for men, but none for mothers."

Following her mother's death, Anna Jarvis embarked on a remarkable campaign. She poured out a constant stream of letters to men of prominence — President William Taft and former President Theodore Roosevelt among them — and enlisted considerable help from Philadelphia merchant John Wannamaker.

By May of 1907, a Mother's Day service had been arranged on the second Sunday in May at the Methodist Church in Grafton, West Virginia, where Mother Jarvis had taught. That same day a special service was held at the Wannamaker Auditorium in Philadelphia, which could seat no more than a third of the 15,000 people who showed up.

The custom spread to churches in 45 states and in Puerto Rico, Hawaii, Mexico and Canada. The Governor of West Virginia proclaimed Mother's Day in 1912; Pennsylvania's governor in 1913 did the same. The following year saw the Congressional Resolution, which was promptly signed by President Woodrow Wilson.

Mother's Day has endured. It serves now, as it originally did, to recognize the contributions of women. Mother's Day, like the job of "mothering," is varied and diverse. Perhaps that's only appropriate for a day honoring the multiple ways women find to nurture their families, and the ways in which so many have nurtured their communities, their countries, and the larger world.

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR A
FAREWELL RECEPTION FOR
JANET AND GERALD GOEN**



Friday, May 18, 2018—7 pm

**ISLAND WAY TOWERS COMMUNITY CENTER
223 ISLAND WAY, CLEARWATER, FL 33767**

POTLUCK AND BYOB! Set-ups provided.

RSVP Donna Dennis, 727-447-7380

Donnis33@hotmail.com

***Let's celebrate our years of friendship and all that
the Goens have done for Pinellas County!***

Legislative Liaison Report, May 2018

Carrie Wadlinger

At our last DWCUP meeting we talked about many things that are on the radar for this coming election cycle. The most important thing we can do is help get our Democratic candidates elected. One thing we agreed on, not everyone has an answer when asked: "Well why should I vote for your candidate?" What do we answer? We begin by saying why we are a DEMOCRAT and therein lies the answer. So why are you a Democrat? We will begin asking you directly at our next meeting and also ask that you send suggestions to Donna Dennis at donnis33@hotmail.com or Carrie Wadlinger at carriew1945@gmail.com.

Several women asked me to repeat the Democratic "IF YOU BELIEVE" AND "AND IF YOU THINK..."

If You Believe...

Public education should be free and PUBLIC. **You might be a Democrat.**

In affordable healthcare for ALL citizens. **You might be a Democrat.**

In a living wage & EQUAL pay for equal work. **You might be a Democrat.**

Climate change is an URGENT threat. **You might be a Democrat.**

AND IF YOU THINK...

Corporations & the wealthy should pay their FAIR SHARE in taxes, **You might be a Democrat.**

There should be SENSIBLE action on gun violence, **You might be a Democrat.**

We should all be treated equally under the law no matter WHO we love,

THEN You might be a Democrat.

For me one of the reasons I am a Democrat is because Democrats stand up and speak up for Social Injustice.

Words of Inspiration for April 2018

This past weekend, we celebrated Earth Day.

Today, let us recollect one of America's most important and surprisingly unsung environmental leaders – Lady Bird Johnson, a Democratic First Lady whose project to Beautify America was a true environmental success.

Lady Bird possessed a remarkable perspective, a practical yet sweeping view of the natural world. As she said: “Though the word beautification makes the concept sound ... cosmetic, it involves much more: clean water, clean air, clean roadsides, safe waste disposal and preservation of valued old landmarks as well as great parks and wilderness areas. To me ... beautification means our total concern for the physical and human quality” of our environment.

As for her motivation, Lady Bird had deep feelings for our land and its future, which we can hear in her words: “My heart found its home long ago in the beauty, mystery, order and disorder of the flowering earth. I want future generations to be able to savor what I had all my life.”

Earth Day is an excellent time to recall the contributions of Lady Bird Johnson and be inspired to defend the health and beauty of Mother Earth and to preserve both for all who follow.

**Diane Lebedeff, author
DWCUP Corresponding Secretary**



Next Meeting
June 25, 2018
Clearwater
Countryside
Library
2642 Sabal Springs Dr.
(just off 580 &
Countryside Blvd.
33761)
Commissioner
Janet Long

