

DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S CLUB

Of Upper Pinellas

Important Numbers:

- **President**
Donna Dennis
727-447-7380
- **1st Vice President**
Mary Lou Ambrose
727-433-4045
- **2nd Vice President**
MaryAnn Stickels
727-724-0234
- **Corresponding Secretary**
Evelyn Jamilosa
727-4522-5596
- **Recording Secretary**
Diane Lebedeff
727-252-3266
- **Treasurer**
Kathy Murray
727-442-1672
- **Region V Rep.**
Janet Goen
727-937-8590
- **Legislative Liaison**
Carrie Wadlinger
704/240-0371
- **Financial Review Chair**
Shelby Freeman
727-581-4630
- **Parliamentarian**
Gerald Goen
727-937-8590
- **Sergeant-At-Arms**
Jasmina Forcan
727-692-3472
- **Media Chair/Historian**
Michelle Mazuros
727-204-0973

DWCUP Website
DWCUP.org

DWCF, Inc.
DWCF.org

FL Demo Party
Fladems.com

PCDEC
Pinellasdemocrats.com

NEXT MEETING
September 25, 2017
Clearwater Main Library
100 N. Osceola Ave.
Clearwater
11:30-1:30 pm

OUR SPEAKER THIS MONTH IS
CHELSEA MANDRIGUES
ON REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT!



Chelsea Mandrigues is the Refugee AmeriCorps Member Coordinator at Gulf Coast Jewish Family and Community Services in Clearwater, FL. She assists the refugee resettlement agency in building capacity around enhanced employment, cultural orientations and by developing a mentor program that focuses on education, and community engagement. Chelsea also builds capacity for the GCJFCS Refugee Speaker's Bureau for refugees willing to share their journey, and assists with the co-development of the agency's refugee women's craft micro enterprise. Chelsea received her Bachelors from the University of South Florida in International Studies, concentrating on political science and Latin American and Caribbean affairs. Her passion is to serve the global community in empowerment post trauma.

IN ADDITION, BRING YOUR VOTER'S REGISTRATION CARD! WE'RE GOING TO REVIEW YOUR VARIOUS DISTRICTS AND LEGISLATORS!

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

by Donna Dennis

What extraordinary times we're living in! We've become accustomed to hearing bad news out of Washington and Tallahassee on a daily basis, but now that seems secondary to the natural disasters we're coping with. Our DWCF State Convention in Sarasota last weekend was canceled. I applaud our state organization for taking action early and expeditiously. I left my beloved Clearwater Beach from Thursday to Tuesday as I live in a Level A Zone and had a mandatory evacuation.

As we hunker down in place, with friends and family, in hotels and motels, in shelters—hopefully not stuck on the road without gas—we next consider the coming recovery from whatever happens. Will FEMA be funded adequately? Will insurance companies be allowed to shortchange their customers or help them rebuild their homes and businesses? Natural disasters are also political issues. Is enough being done to protect our water supply from contamination? Has too much development along the beaches overtaxed our infrastructure? Will our environment recover from the destruction Irma brings? There are so many ramifications of such a disaster as we're living through right now.

A big thank you to Mary Lou Ambrose, 1st Vice-President, and Carrie Wadlinger, Legislative Liaison, and the rest of the board who handled the August meeting in my absence. I heard the speaker was excellent and the political action well received. I am so grateful to be part of such a terrific team!

Speaking of the home team, we'll be accepting nominations for Club officers at our next meeting through November. The election will be held at our November meeting, which is early due to Thanksgiving. That date is November 20th. Please mark your calendars now

Bring in those unused hotel toiletries you have collected and we will deliver them to the women at the Haven by RCS

**DWCUP dues are \$20.00 for the year.
PLATINUM – 3yrs. - \$50
SILVER – 6yrs - \$100
Gold – Forever Member - \$200
Checks, preferably, payable to: “DWCUP”
Send to Kathy Murray, 1011 Woodside Ave.
Clearwater, Florida 33756.**

Hi Everyone!

Bit by bit we're picking up, regaining power and internet service, restocking our supplies, and getting back to a semblance of normality.

Here are some of the dates that have been set for the rest of the year:

Sept 9/25--11:30 am--General Meeting, Clearwater Main Library

Oct 10/23--11:30 am--General Meeting

Nov 11/20--11:30 am--General Meeting and ELECTION!

Dec 12/04--11:30 am--Holiday Luncheon, Royal Palms of Largo, Drawings and Installation of Officers

Please add these dates to your calendar!

Pinellas County Legislative Delegation

For Upcoming 2018 Legislative Session

The First Public Hearing for the 2018 Legislative Session, sponsored by Rep. Chris Latvala, will be held on Monday, September 25, 2017 from 9:00 am to 12 Noon. The location is St Petersburg College, Clearwater Campus Arts Auditorium, 2465 Drew St., Clearwater, FL 33765 near the back of the campus.

Rep Latvala (R-Clearwater) is the Chair of the Pinellas County Legislative Delegation. This meeting will include the introduction of proposed local bills, presentations focusing on economic development and upcoming legislative priorities, as well as time to hear from local organizations and agencies.

This is an excellent opportunity for any of us to speak about the issues we want our State Legislature to consider in the upcoming session. This could include women's health issues, reproductive rights, the ERA, funding Planned Parenthood, the Violence Against Women Act, immigration, LGBTQ rights and all the stated legislative goals of the DWCF.

To obtain a SPEAKER REQUEST FORM (required to speak on any issues at this meeting), contact Rep. Latvala's district office at 727-724-3000 or by email at Sue.Berfield@myfloridahouse.gov. Submit the form to that office.

Thanks to West Pinellas NOW for the notice of this meeting.

Nominating Committee Report

By Carrie Wadlinger, Chair

The nominating committee is composed of one Chair, Carrie Wadlinger, selected by the Board of Directors, and two additional members, Janet Goen and Sherry Kinder. The elected officers of the DWCU shall be President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer and Regional Representative. Our Club By-Laws state that the officers shall be elected by ballot every other year in odd numbered years in the month of November. The newly elected officers shall assume their official duties in January and shall serve for a term of two years. A person shall not be eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office.

The nominating committee will nominate one eligible person for each office and will be presented at the November meeting at which time additional nominations may be made from the floor.

At this time, I encourage anyone interested in serving in any of these offices to please contact one of the committee members as follows:

Carrie Wadlinger
704-240-0371

Janet Goen
727-946-2644

Sherry Kinder
704-240-0370

Carriew1945@gmail.com

Anyone needing more information on what each office involves should contact Carrie Wadlinger at the above information. We encourage you to get involved we need your ideas, talent and time. Please do not hesitate to step up.

**Pinellas County Legislative Delegation For upcoming 2018 Legislative Session
Representative Chris Latvala Announces First Public Hearing
September 25, 2017 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm**

St Petersburg College, Clearwater Campus Arts Auditorium

2465 Drew St, Clearwater 33765 Representative Chris Latvala (R-Clearwater), Chair of the Pinellas County Legislative Delegation, announces the first regular public hearing for the upcoming 2018 Legislative Session. This meeting will be on September 25th from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM at St. Petersburg College, Clearwater Campus, at the Arts Auditorium. The auditorium is located at 2465 Drew Street, Clearwater, FL 33765, near the back of the campus. This meeting will include introduction of proposed local bills, presentations focusing on economic development and upcoming legislative priorities, as well as time to hear from local organizations and agencies. To obtain a Speaker Request Form (required to speak on any issues at the meeting), please contact Representative Latvala's district office at 727-724-3000 or by email at Sue.Berfield@myfloridahouse.gov.

You can also obtain a form by visiting the Delegation's website at www.pinellascounty.org/delegation, and remitting it to Representative Latvala's office at the email listed above.



Dear DWCF Members,

Hurricane Irma has hit our DWCF family very hard. We are all recovering from the devastation in the hurricane aftermath.

As you know, we canceled the annual DWCF Convention in Sarasota due to Hurricane Irma. The 2017 Convention Committee worked over many months with diligence and sacrifice to provide a substantive annual convention for DWCF members. We are forever grateful for their efforts.

DWCF is having a one-day conference for all DWCF members to attend. It will be held at a Hall in Orlando. We will meet to vote on necessary issues and have elections of new Officers and Region Chairs for our upcoming 13 regions. We will also give out DWCF awards at Lunch. We will provide a Region Training Workshop and install new officers as part of the schedule that day.

More information will be forthcoming about delegates, election process and general schedule for that day but for your information and to mark your calendar:

What: Annual DWCF Business Meeting and Conference

When: Saturday, November 4, 2017

**Where: Frontline Outreach Center
3000 C.R. Smith Street
Orlando, FL 32805**

Times:

Registration will begin at 7:15 AM

Doors will close for business meeting at 8:15 AM you must be in your seat by 8:15 am, there will be no grace period or any exceptions.

The day is scheduled to end at 4:30 PM.

Vendor Tables:

The only vendor table will be the DWCF Ways and Means Committee table. All proceeds from the sale of the items from the DWCF Ways and Means table will go directly to DWCF. The Ways and Means Committee will NOT be selling items "for" anyone else other than DWCF. No other merchandise should be sold by anyone at the conference. This will be strictly enforced.

Club Gift Drawing Donation:

Each Club is asked to bring a gift basket worth at least \$25 for the gift drawing. You can drop your gift basket off with Dianne Krumel, Ways and Means Chair. If any member wants to donate an individual drawing gift, you are encouraged to do so.

Registration Cost: One Day Full Registration Cost-Registration cost will be geared only to cover the cost of the hall and lunch, making registration \$25 per person.

Registration forms are forthcoming but the deadline for receipt of completed registration form by Carol King, DWCF Treasurer, is a firm deadline of October 20th, no exceptions.

There will no discounts for those not staying the full day.

There will be no refunds on any registration cancellations, regardless of reason.

There will be no registration or substitute attendees allowed at the door. This will be strictly enforced.

One registration fee is good only for one registrant (no splitting of fee between two people staying ½ day each)

Bring your own morning beverage and water. Lunch will be provided and will include a soda. More information on lunch menu will be forthcoming but it will be including a vegetarian option.

Hotels: For those who wish to stay in a hotel on Friday or Saturday night, a hotel list will be provided in forthcoming emails.

We understand that this date may not be the ideal for some members due to scheduling conflicts. We are sorry about any inconvenience this date or location causes. We tried to make the date of one-day conference before the Holidays started and the NFDW South Region Convention on November 18. We have tried to find a hall big enough to hold 250+ attendees in central Florida to make the commute easier.

Our one-day conference will be jam-packed and exciting. Please come to welcome in new Region Chairs and DWCF Officers, participate in a wonderful awards luncheon and hear about DWCF's upcoming 2017 and 2018 activities.

Thank you!
Dr. Maureen McKenna
President, Democratic Women's Club of Florida

Words of Inspiration: After Hurricane Irma

We are all grateful that Hurricane Irma touched our community, our families and ourselves so lightly. We are all grateful that we had the strength to prepare and to protect our own.

As strong women,

we can and should echo Hillary Clinton's remark that:

"I have a lot of stamina and I have a lot of resilience."

Having come out on the other side of the storm, we must regroup and renew our efforts to build a better society. Brooke Shields pointed out the way forward surprisingly well:

"Someone said adversity builds character, but someone else said adversity reveals character. I'm pleasantly surprised with my resilience. I persevere, and not just blindly. I take the best, get rid of the rest, and move on, realizing that you can make a choice to take the good."

September 2017: general membership meeting



Next Meeting
October 23, 2017
11:30-1:30 pm
100 N. Osceola
Clearwater Library

