



DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S CLUB

Of Upper Pinellas



"Fun Day"

Important Numbers:

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727-204-0973

DWCUP Website
DWCUP.org

DWCF, Inc.
DWCF.org

FL Demo Party
Fladems.com

PCDEC
Pinellasdemocrats.com



DWCUP, Monday, July 17, 11:30-1:30

Join the fun at Island Way Tours Community Center 223 Island Way, Clearwater Beach.
(Right off Memorial Causeway).

Bring a dish – salads, entrees, appetizers, bathing suits optional. Special Guests: Joanne Lentino, Pinellas School Board; Mary Freeman, Cuba Today.

President's Message:

by Donna Dennis

Happy Summer! The state and federal legislatures are currently in recess, so we're hoping for a break from the damage they've been doing. The U.S. Senate health care bill has stalled and our so-called President is now going back on his word for the umpteenth time to say "Repeal Obamacare" and replace at a later date. Whenever we think that man has reached a new low, he finds a way to go even lower. What an embarrassment to our nation! Even worse, the damage he is doing may take decades to overcome.

We will soldier on, however. And in fact, our next gathering is for fun and fund-raising. The Sundae Funday is Monday, July 17th starting at 11:30 am in the Community Center of Island Way Towers. We'll have an auction of some cool items to raise money for our Club, and we'll raise money to feed the hungry kids of Pinellas County by making donations for the sundae bar. We'll have some informative and entertaining updates from Joanne Lentino and Mary Freeman as well. And you're welcome to hang out at the pool and hot tub even after the potluck ends at 1:30. I've been gathering various ice creams, sauces, sprinkles, M & Ms, nuts, etc. so you can each make the ice cream creation of your dreams. I'll also be providing adult beverages in addition to water and iced tea. It's going to be a hoot and a half at least!

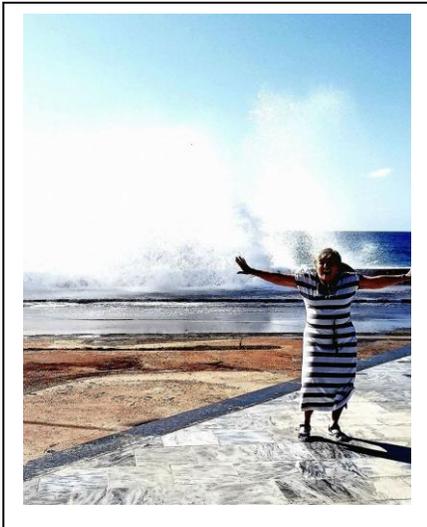
Our esteemed 1st VP Mary Lou Ambrose will chair the August meeting as I will be in the Canadian Maritime Provinces at the end of August. She has an excellent speaker lined up and we'll meet back at the Clearwater Main Library, tho' in the Conference Room, not meeting rooms A/B.

PS. We have a member who lives near Walsingham and Seminole and needs a ride on the 17th. If you can give her a ride, call Raemona at 727-585-5141. Thank you!

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.

Mary and Shelby Freeman Cuba Today



Dear Editor

Time is elapsing and before we know it, our current government leaders will be making a decision that will affect millions of lives. We have become ever so more aware of the question "Is healthcare an American right or is it a privilege?" It concerns me that millions of individuals will either be excluded from coverage or will be given unattainable premium requirements. Why is the Senate secretly developing the AHCA without input from citizens, women or even their Democratic colleagues across the aisle?

My first impression is Medicaid will not affect me. However, I have had friends being placed in nursing homes, going through their insurance and Medicare coverage only to be met with the necessity of relying on Medicaid to cover their remaining days in a skilled care facility. Children with long term disabilities often require medicaid resources to assist with child care as the years continue.

I could not wait to 'come of age' to get on medicare where pre-existing conditions did not affect how I was to be cared for. My monthly insurance premium was \$1,700 per month and I could not apply to other insurance carriers because of my past history requiring heart medications. Medicare has made my life more manageable cost wise. Wouldn't it be more beneficial to all Americans if we could find a way to spread medicare to all?

When it comes to tax breaks, are lower income folks thinking those tax breaks will really reach them? I think not, unless you are the very wealthy who will no longer be required to help defray expenses for those who do not have millions in their pockets.

Women will be made to carry a higher price for being 'female', such as no coverage for contraception, maybe needing to be placed in a high-risk pool if they have pre-existing conditions. Will previous c-sections be listed as pre-existing? When Planned Parenthood is no longer available, where will women without insurance find medical care?

For years, we have heard the clarion call to repeal and replace Obamacare. What exactly are the specific goals for the dramatic change? When the ACA was initiated, the intent was to provide as much coverage as possible to as many people as possible. Now, it seems the intent is to give millions of dollars back to the very wealthy, remove care that may be expensive for the insurers and alter tax credits for older age groups.

It isn't too late for each person to express their concern for the changes that are about to be made that may affect the individual, the family member or the friend. Many voices can make a difference. I ask our Senators: "Please, make our existing ACA better, do not start over. Consider the American individual and how the proposed AHCA policies will affect him/her."

(This letter got published in at least 3 local newspapers near Highlands, NC
Marleen Salo)



DWCF Regions VII & VIII are proud to be the sponsors of the 61st Annual Convention on September 7-10, 2017. The convention theme is “**Determined, Diligent, Dynamic...Women Who Dare**” in honor of the outstanding women of the past and present; the women who you know of through history and through today’s media. Plus, the women like you who do what they can to make our country a better place for everyone to live. And to **RESIST** what they cannot change.

We think you will be pleased with our convention hotel, the lovely **Hyatt Regency Sarasota**, where every room has a view of the Gulf and has recently been redesigned. We want to show you some of the beauty of Sarasota which was selected this year as the best tourist city in Florida. We can take you on tours to **Selby Botanical Gardens** with its famous orchid room and the **Ringling Compound** where John Ringling lived and has both an Art Museum and a Circus Museum.

Thursday evening after you register, we invite you to join us for our **Reception by the hotel pool** where you can hang out with your friends and fellow DWCF members from our 50+ DWCs. **Friday AM** our Business meeting will begin bright & early with roll call and interesting reports. We’ll stop for lunch and special speakers and then have interactive workshops in the afternoon. Members often get a little dressed up for our dinner with inspiring presenters. We’ll have the second half of our business meeting **Saturday morning**, followed by DWCF Elections, another great lunch and a panel discussion that you’ll want to hear.

Then we’ll have a lively **Live Auction** and the end of our **Silent Auction** before going our different ways to meetings and workshops. Later we’ll have a little music, line up for the **Banner Parade**, and have our **Banquet Dinner** in which our new officers will be sworn in, awards will be given and our special guest speaker will put the perfect cap on the evening. You don’t want to miss it!

Please look at the following forms for more information. If you have any questions, email either **Convention Chair Mary Duda** at mcmduda@aol.com or **Convention Vice-Chair Susie Johnson** at sjohnson4808@comcast.net. We want to make this convention special for You!

CONTACT DONNA DENNIS IMMEDIATELY IF YOU WISH TO GO!



Ryan Torrens, Candidate Florida Attorney General with Karen Mullins.

President Dennis



Brian McNeel,
Guest Speaker.
"Crime
Prevention Task
Force"



MaryAnn Stickels, 2nd VP and Kathy Murray, Treasurer, greeting members and guests.

June Meeting

June 26, 2017

Legislative Update

by Carrie Wadlinger

For the second time, our persistent resistance has stopped the GOP from a vote on terrible Health Care Policy. We must continue to be steadfast in our efforts to get Medicare for all.

Our families, friends and yes, our enemies, who stand to lose their health care will face dangerous decisions that no one in the most powerful country in the world should have to make.

Please contact your Senators and Representatives to let them know you want healthcare for all Americans.

Senator Marco Rubio
202 – 224 – 3041
407 – 254 – 2573

Senator Bill Nelson
202 – 224 – 5274
813 – 225 – 7040

Rep. Gus Bilirakis
202 – 225 – 5755
727 – 940 – 5860

Rep. Charlie Crist
202 – 225 – 5961
727 – 318 – 6770

CONGRATULATIONS TONI VAN PELT!

On her victory as the new President of National NOW.

Toni just won the election in Orlando at the National NOW Convention 2017. She lives in Seminole and has done numerous local presentations recently on the issue of Florida's Constitutional Revision including to our Club.

We offer our continued support to her in any way as she continues the fight for equality and full civil rights to all.

Thank you to everyone who traveled the roads during the rain storms to cast their ballots. This is how we win!



AUGUST MEETING
August 28, 2017
Clearwater Main Library
Conference Room
11:30-1:30

