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PCDEC

Pinellasdemocrats.com

Next Meeting: Monday, January 28, 2019

Clearwater Main Library
100 N. Osceola Ave.
Clearwater
11:30-1:30 pm



Guest Speaker
Deborah Clark

Pinellas County Supervisor of Elections

Deborah Clark joined the Elections office in 1978 and served as Deputy Administrator from 1982 through June 2000. In June 2000, Governor Jeb Bush appointed Deborah Clark Supervisor of Election so complete the unexpired term of Dorothy Ruggles.

She was elected to a four-year term in 2000 and re-elected in 2004, 2012 and 2016.

She is committed to conducting fair, accurate and secure elections for Pinellas County.

Deborah received her official designation as a Certified Elections and Registration Administrator (CERA) from The Election Center in 2005. She was among the first 300 elections officials nationwide to achieve this status. She is very active in the Florida State Association of Supervisors of Elections (FSASE) and currently serves on its Board of Directors and as Vice Chair of the Administrative Rules Committee. She has also served in the following positions: Get Out the Vote Committee Chair; Canvassing Board Committee Co-Chair; Scholarship Committee Co-Chair; Training/Education Committee Chair; Canvassing Board Committee Co-Chair; an member of the Legislative Committee, Budget Committee, Vision Committee, Bylaws and Rules Committee, Communications and Publications Committee, Rules Development Committee, Reapportionment Committee and Reapportionment Ad Hoc Committee.

President's Message:

Donna Dennis

Happy New Year everyone! I hope the start of this year finds you feeling renewed and ready to take on the challenges that face us. As I write this, Tallahassee is awash in preparations for a new governor. He wasn't our choice, but we hope he is an improvement over the previous holder of that office. At least DeSantis says he will prioritize Florida's environmental needs; let's hold his feet to the fire if he doesn't.

And then tonight, the bloviator-in-chief will attempt to frighten us all into clamoring for his needless, waster-of-money border construction. Ugh. He says "There's no bend here," pointing at himself. How very helpful that is to resolving the government shutdown!?!

Our work, therefore, continues unabated. We will stand up for the environment, the oppressed and minimized members of our population, civil rights, women's rights—our entire list of priorities. I emailed a list of upcoming activities happening in the next month and all are worthy applications of our activism.

And our meeting this month will be exceptional. We all have questions about Florida's election practices, and we're honored to have **Deborah Clark, Pinellas County Supervisor of Elections**, as our guest speaker. I know we'll have a lively discussion! Plus it'll be good to get together again and get caught up on all that's been happening since last year.

I'd also ask that you keep Janet Goen, our former club and state president, in your thoughts and prayers. She has been very ill and is in and out of the hospital down in Ft Myers. She's one of our SHEroes!

Our state organization is meeting in Ocala this weekend. We'll have more information to share on our goals, plans and activities for this year and will share them with you at our next meeting. See you on the 28th!

DWCUP Words of Inspiration December, 2018

Winter is upon us with its series of holidays: Thanksgiving just behind us, with the days to come filled by Chanukah, Ramadan, Winter Solstice, Christmas, New Year's, and other year end celebrations. Hectic or merry, everyone celebrates some holiday, even if in different ways (paraphrased, Elaine Bernstein Partnow, www.Feminist.com)

And, as Democratic women, on the political front, we celebrate a remarkable season in which women and their allies had great success as they sought entry into the corridors of power. We ask that they advance long-ignored issues such as the ERA, wage equality, access to quality education and affordable healthcare – all issues so important to women and families, men included – and that they bring “courage for the present, hope for the future ... [and] a fervent wish that every path may lead to peace” (Agnes M. Pharo). We will fight for more leaders who seek to lift up all citizens, recognizing that “every soul is to be cherished, ... every flower is to bloom” (Alice Walker). Please join us in this effort.

And finally, for all our members and guests:

"This is [our] wish for you: peace of mind, prosperity through the year, happiness that multiplies, health for you and yours, fun around every corner, energy to chase your dreams, joy to fill your holidays!" (D. M. Dellinger)

Happy Holidays!

Diane Lebedeff
DWCUP Corresponding Secretary

OTHER LOCAL DEMOCRATIC CLUBS:

Largo/Mid-Pinellas Democratic Club, Monday, January 21, 2019, 7:15-8:45 pm
Acropol Restaurant, 1170 Starkey Rd., Largo
Speaker: Bruce Nisson, Inequality

North Pinellas County Democratic Club, Tuesday, January 15, 2019, 6-8 pm
Foundation for Scottish Arts, 1134 Douglas Ave., Dunedin

Pinellas County Democratic Executive Committee (PCDEC)
Thursday, January 24, 2019, 7 pm
Marriott Hotel, 12600 Roosevelt Blvd N., St Petersburg

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 Shelby Freeman, 960
Starkey Rd. #1404 Largo,
Florida 33771



Sad news from California. One of our favorite feminist has passed away!

Mary Stanley, a longtime proponent for women in politics, died in Fresno on Nov. 3, just a few days short of a historic election that saw over 100 women elected to the House of Representatives. She was 91.

She never held office, but she helped countless women politicians get their start

In an autobiography for [Veteran Feminists of America](#), Mary Stanley summarized her vision for the future: “One day we will have a woman president and there will be as many women in Congress as men. Until that time our work goes on. And, as long as I have the energy I will be doing as much as I can to make it happen.” Stanley died in Fresno on Nov. 3, just a few days short of a historic election that saw over 100 women elected to the House of Representatives. She was 91. Stanley spent her life working to get dozens of female candidates elected. She pushed, prodded and fundraised for women who would become political all-stars at a time when it was almost unheard of for a woman to seek office.

“Mary deeply understood that nothing is more wholesome than the increased leadership and participation of women in politics, and she committed her full life and spirit to bringing more women into the halls of power,” Rep. Nancy Pelosi said in a statement. “She helped elect countless powerful women to the U.S. Congress, forever changing the face of our institution.”

She got her first taste for advocacy in 1971 when she joined the [National Women’s Political Caucus](#) and led the Mothers March of the 1971 Fresno County March of Dimes, which collected funds for polio victims. She sought office once for herself on the Fresno County Board of Supervisors, but found that she was most effective as a political fundraiser and coach.

Backing Karen Humphrey Before there were political action committees, there was Stanley, following female candidates to conventions with stacks of T-shirts and buttons to raise money for their campaigns. She wrote one of the first checks to Karen Humphrey’s campaign for Fresno City Council, and donated her extra spending money to other promising up-and-comers like Pelosi and Donna Brazile.

Humphrey said that she had intended to enter the political world as a behind-the-scenes staffer or an aide to an elected official until Stanley convinced her to run for office herself. In 1988, she was elected Fresno’s first woman mayor.

Stanley’s tireless work for women eventually earned her a spot on the [California Commission on the Status of Women](#), which she referred to as the best part of her long life. She was the only businesswoman and only Central Valley appointee on the commission.

Stanley’s determination to see women in the highest offices led to rifts with her beloved Republican party twice: first, when she resigned from the state executive committee over Ronald Reagan’s opposition to the Equal Rights Amendment and second, when Stanley publicly endorsed Walter Mondale and Geraldine Ferraro in 1984.

Stanley felt for years that she didn’t have to choose between being a feminist and being a Republican. She had supported women candidates regardless of their party preference, Humphrey said, and didn’t leave the party so much as it left her. She stepped down from her post on the GOP State Central Committee in 1984.

“After 20 years, I can no longer serve as a leader in a party that has turned its back on its history, its tradition and its women,” she said. “This... is my symbol of courage and demonstrates that Republican women will not be threatened or intimidated or silenced.”

Dear DWCF members:

As we approach the end of 2018 and the beginning of a New Year I wanted to thank you for all your hard work during the last elections. I know how hard you worked because I followed your clubs and activities on social media. I attended many of your events and worked side by side with many of you.

Your work is valued and appreciated.

As Democrats, Bill Nelson's and Andrew Gillum's losses were heartbreaking. We certainly did not get the results we wanted in Florida, but we did make some gains...

With all their money—I read that Bill Nelson put in over 300 thousand of his own money as opposed to Scott putting in over 60 million of his.

- We took the elections to recounts for Nelson, Gillum, Fried—and others....
- WE won Nikki's Fried 's seat as Commissioner of Agriculture—
- Voter suppression has been a real problem, but with the passage of Amendment 4 Florida Democrats have a new opportunity to grow our base and expand voting rights to more than a million Floridians.
- Florida Democrats flipped three of the states' largest county governments from Red to Blue—Miami-Dade, Hillsborough and Orange.
- Florida Democrats replaced two Republicans in Congress by wins of Debbie Powell in South Florida's 26th district and Donna Shalala in district 27 in the Miami-Dade area.
- 1 in 3 Democratic voters who cast their ballots in 2018 had never voted in a midterm election
- Florida flipped 8 seats in the Florida Legislature.

Thank you, sincerely. We are the non-paid volunteers who are the heart of this Party and we will get ready for 2020.

Important Events in the Near Future

Tally Days

I do hope you will plan on attending our Tally Days event. We responded to your requests for less expensive lodging and we did our best to accommodate you.

Tally Days this year will be held at the Days Inn and Suites/ Tallahassee Conference Center, 2900 N. Monroe Street, Tallahassee, FL 32303

Rooms are blocked from March 9th through March 12,

Planned activities for Sunday 10th evening, Monday the 11th and Tuesday 12th

Fee is \$85 plus tax for single or double occupancy per day

Our guestrooms will be held under group block name Democratic Women's Club of Florida with code DWCF. Reservations within this block will be accepted until February 16, 2019.

National Federation of Democratic Women will be holding their **Women in Blue Lobby Day** in Washington DC. The new date is Wednesday March 27, 2019. We will be at the same hotel, Capitol Skyline Hotel. If you can make it to DC that day please let us know. We would love to have a large group representing Florida.

Thank you,

Patty Farley

President

Democratic Women's Club of Florida

Roe v Wade Anniversary Visibility Event

Tuesday, January 22, 2019 at 12 PM – 1 PM

277 Central Ave, St Petersburg, FL 33701-3325, United States

Join Pinellas National Organization for Women's annual sign-waving to mark the anniversary of the 1973 Roe v Wade decision. We gather at the corner of Central Avenue and 3rd Street. Bring signs, if you can. Otherwise, extras will be on hand while supplies last. Keep abortion legal!

Land and Sea Cleanup

Sunday, January 13, 2019 at 1 PM – 4 PM

Seaside Seabird Sanctuary, 18328 Gulf Blvd, Indian Shores, Florida 33785

Join the Seaside Seabird Sanctuary and Owl's Nest Sanctuary for Wildlife to collect trash and other litter from our respective areas. This clean-up is inspired by all of the injured birds & other wildlife affected by human litter such as fishing line and plastics! Some supplies on hand, but we recommend bringing gloves, trash bags, sunscreen/sunglasses/hats & water.

Awake Pinellas 2019 Manifesto Conference

Sunday, January 13, 2019 at 2 PM – 6 PM

Allendale UMC - St. Petersburg, 3803 Haines Rd N, Saint Petersburg, Florida 33703

To move forward, you need to know where you stand. Awake Pinellas, whose mission is to organize the progressive community in Pinellas into a unified grassroots force dedicated to promoting and protecting leftist humanist values in Pinellas and Greater Florida, will be taking a fresh look at its values and goals. If you tremble with indignation at injustice to your fellow human, you are invited. Refreshments will be provided.

Resilience for Activists Workshop

Sunday, January 20, 2019 at 1 PM – 4 PM

Unitarian Universalists St. Pete, 100 Mirror Lake Dr N, Saint Petersburg, Florida 33701

In 21st century Western culture, leaders are rewarded for their drive, decisiveness, productivity, and long work hours. Especially in the social justice arena, burnout is rampant. What would it look like for activists to cultivate the inner life, to step off the treadmill, to take time apart for personal reflection, in order to be more resilient? What would leadership arising from a core of contemplative grounding and compassion look like? Find out by joining this experiential workshop, in which participants' own experiences will serve as the basis for reflection and discernment. Stories of resilient activists and principles of resilient activism will complement personal reflection. Facilitated by [Shalem Institute](#) Executive Director, [Margaret Benefiel](#).

Free Admission on International Holocaust Remembrance Day

Sunday, January 27, 2019 at 10 AM – 4 PM

Florida Holocaust Museum, 55 5th St S, Saint Petersburg, Florida 33701

The Florida Holocaust Museum invites the community to visit the Museum FREE of charge from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 27, 2019 in observance of International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

Organizing 101

Sunday, February 17, 2019 at 2 PM – 4 PM

Unitarian Universalists of Clearwater, 2470 Nursery Rd, Clearwater, Florida 33764

Calling all activists in the Tampa Bay area! Come learn about how to make your campaign more effective through different strategies and tactics. Experienced organizers from Food & Water Watch and the Fight for 15 will be leading the training and answering any questions that you may have. The training is non-cause specific, so can be applied to any cause that you may be working on

WANTED:

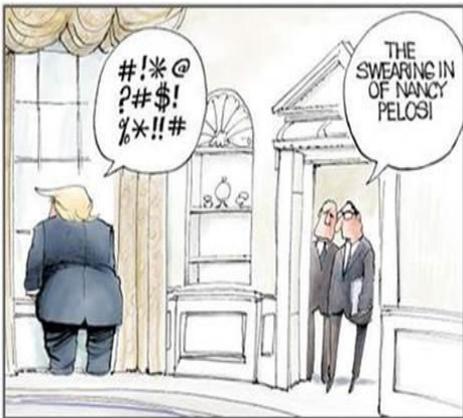
Recording Secretary

The Recording Secretary shall record the Minutes of all meetings of the Club and the Board of Directors. She or he shall keep records of all Standing Rules and amendments to the bylaws adopted for the Club. She shall perform such other duties as may be assigned to her or him.

Please contact any Board Member if you are interested.



“Build that wall, build that wall”



Why I Am A Democrat

Women's Suffrage Amendment * Social Security *
 Minimum Wage Law * 40-hour work week *
 Overtime Pay * Conservation Corps * Works
 Progress Administration * Workers Compensation
 Act * National Labor Relations Act * Unemployment
 Compensation Act * Clayton Anti-Trust Act * Cultural
 Extension Service * Soil Conservation Service * Rural
 Electrification Act * Federal Housing Administration *
 Federal Deposit Insurance Corp * Securities Exchange
 Act * GI Bill of Rights * Marshall Plan * NATO *
 Pell Grants * School Lunch Program * Occupational
 Safety & Health Act * Operation Head Start * Peace
 Corps * VISTA * AmeriCorps * Civil Rights Act of
 1964 * Voting Rights Act of 1965 * Medicare *
 Medicaid * Equal Pay Act * Older Americans Act *
 Guaranteed Student Loans * Freedom of Information
 Act * Corporation for Public Broadcasting * PBS *
 NPR * National Science Foundation * Apollo Moon
 Program * National Endowments for the Arts and the
 Humanities * Clean Air Act * Clean Water Act *
 Food Stamps * WIC * Centers for Disease Control &
 Prevention * Motor Voter Act * Family & Medical
 Leave Act * Balanced Federal Budget



Ruth Bader Ginsburg back working the Supreme Court 72 hours after lung cancer surgery

Charlie Crist

Today, January 8, 2019, thanks to the passage of Amendment 4, Florida is home to second chances again. Beginning today, former felons, except those convicted of murder or sexual offenses will be eligible to register to vote — something we've all worked hard to achieve.

If you, or someone you know, is newly eligible, here is the information you need. Please forward this to your friends and family.

- [Find a location to register to vote](#)
- [Find out more about eligibility requirements](#)
- Call 877-MY-VOTE-0

Soon-to-be voters who want to be 100 percent certain that they have completed the full terms of their sentence can use the following resources:

For parole, call the Office of the Commission Clerk (850) 488-1293.
For probation, contact your probation officer.

For outstanding fines, check with both your probation officer and the Clerk of the Court's office for the county in which you were convicted.

And thank you for supporting Amendment 4.

God Bless,

Charlie



Next Meeting
February 25, 2019
11:30-1:30 pm
100 N. Osceola
Clearwater Library.
Speaker: Renee
Flowers

