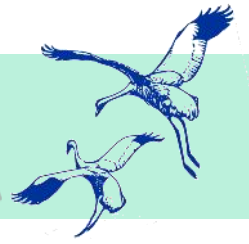


# DWCLA NEWSLETTER



**JANUARY 2023 - Covering Fall 2022**

## October 2022

As the election came on the heels of our October meeting, President Cheryl Owen reviewed the club's many activities over the past year. Along with canvassing, calling, and registering voters we had many well attended functions such as the recent "Walk Against Hate" with a slate of speakers. Our submissions of articles, letters and photos were also well received by the editors of the Palatka Daily News.



## Campaign 2022

Many, many kudos and thanks to members who spent much of the fall writing postcards, knocking on doors, holding signs for candidates, texting voter information and stuffing door hangers with candidate and voter information. It was exhausting work but every new voter registered or information passed along furthers the goals of DWCLA.

**LaToya Anderson Robinson left it all on the field as she ran for Putnam County Commission, District 2.**

## November 2022

Our November meeting featured Richard Segall, state committeeman for the Putnam County DEC and DWCLA member, recapping the midterm races and general trends as we look forward to the 2024 election. Goals he detailed included getting more registered Democrats out to vote, funding a coordinated message, and connecting with younger voters. Everyone was reminded to keep letters coming regarding Medicaid expansion and social security to the media outlets for the upcoming legislative session.



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## December 2022

December not only brought us to reflect on who we are and why we are together but allowed us to celebrate the season. Our group was able to "adopt" children from three families and purchase gifts from their wish lists. Once gifts were purchased by volunteers we gathered for a gift wrap party and to share some holiday cheer. Snacks and beverages provided by members were enjoyed. Sarah Flowers walked away as the winner of the Split The Pot Raffle we had been contributing over the months. Yay Sarah!

Sharing the last meeting of the year with friends while giving to others pretty much sums up the camaraderie of the Democratic Women's Club of the Lake Area.

## DONATE TODAY!

Your recurring donation of even \$5 or \$10 a month will help! In order to work in the community to energize democratic women, WE NEED YOU! Your donation will be used to help our grassroots outreach in the lake area counties. We write post cards, do door to door canvassing, phone bank, and more to reach all voters in our counties. Go Online to the [website](#) or to [Act Blue](#), directly.



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*The last few months of 2022 may not have gone as members of DWCLA hoped, but as always we threw ourselves into the last weeks prior to the Midterm election and managed to inject some fun along the way.*

## **Fall Plant Sale**

Though October was busy with canvassing for candidates, Zoom meetings, texting for Val Demings and voter registration, members still took time to set up at Midway Market for the annual Fall Plant Sale, sponsored by the Garden Club of the Lakes. After a summer of pruning, dividing and repotting we offered a nice selection of herbs, garden and house plants donated for sale. We raised around \$300, which will be used to support state and local Democratic candidates and causes but also charitable projects.



November and the contentious Mid-Term elections came and went. Florida democrats didn't do as well as hoped but we scored some big victories including Democrat Robbi Corea being elected as Mayor of Palatka. Even bigger was candidate Maxwell Frost from Florida's District 10, being elected to the 118th Congress. He is not only the youngest person to ever be elected to Congress but first and hopefully not last member of Gen Z. We can only hope this is the beginning of a transition to newer ideas coming into our government.

On October 23 DWCLA hosted the second annual Walk Against Hate at Heritage Park, in Melrose. We were fortunate to have as our speakers; LaShonda Holloway Esq, Candidate for Florida House District 4, Lucia Valdivia-Sanchez Director of Migrant Services for Northeast Florida; Karen Clay, Chairperson of the Florida Democratic Disabilities Caucus, and Kenneth D Wald from the Jewish Council of Northeast Florida. Everyone who heard them speak walked away inspired by their passion and dedication.



**Merry Melrose Parade:** The week leading up to December 10th we gathered at the home of Linda Osborne (who graciously donated her truck and trailer as well as her yard space) to decorate our float for the Merry Melrose Parade. The parade theme was "A Florida Christmas." Creative minds prevailed and our little float had a "sandy" beach, a palm tree decked with stockings, shells, and beach bums Rissi Cherie and Leslie Skeans parked in deck chairs. Fran Rossano painted a lovely back drop. Add an alligator wearing reindeer antlers and shark balloons with Cheryl Owen and Kate Ellison holding the DWCLA banner in place! The real stars were the parade walkers who were handing out candy. The parade moved so fast they were jogging to keep up! Richard Seagal, Mary McKinney got their steps in for the day!