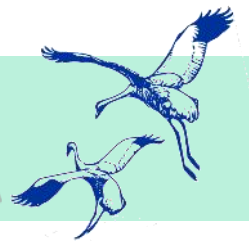


DWCLA NEWSLETTER



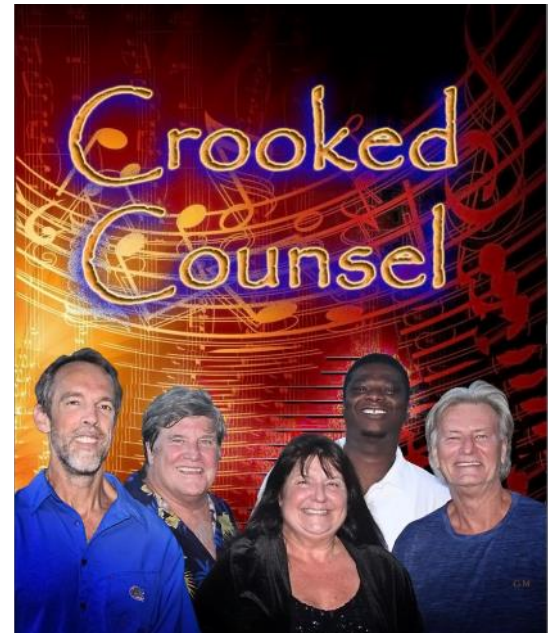
September 2023 - Covering June-September 2023

A Very Active Fall!

Come out and DANCE on September 30

This year the Annual Lakes Area Community Dance will be held at the Keystone Women's Club. With more room for dancing, a stage for the band, a kitchen and convenient bathrooms, more people will be able to participate. The popular rock-n-roll band, Crooked Counsel, will keep everyone moving. Wine, beer, and sodas will be available for a donation, plus free snacks.

Join in and dance for our cause! The address is 6747 Women's Club Drive, a couple of blocks uphill from Hwy 21 in Keystone Heights. This is our big fund- and fun-raiser, so please don't miss it! For tickets or information, text 352-240-5181.



October 22: Stand up to Hate in the Heart of Melrose

If there is only one topic all politicians, parties and people should agree upon it is **Hate and discrimination are never acceptable!**

This is not a new or WOKE concept but the very basis of our Constitution and our culture, which says, "Love Thy Neighbor As Thyself." But this seemingly simple idea has been hijacked and used to discriminate marginalized communities across the country.

NOT HERE! Join DWCLA on October 22 at 2:00pm in Melrose at Heritage Park to **Walk Against Hate**. Speakers will include representatives from Stonewall Democrats, the Jewish Council of Central Florida, the Non Profit Center of NE Florida (anti-racism), and Indy Moran from the Hispanic Community.



Bring a chair, bring a sign and bring your voice! Help us let the Lakes Area know we will not stand for discrimination or harassment of anyone due to race, religion, abilities or sex. Contact (352) 235-4161 for Information.

Elections! Elections! (DWCLA Club Elections)

Would you like to serve your club by becoming an officer, or know someone to recommend? Do you wonder what these jobs entail? Here is the primer on how our DWCLA runs so smoothly.

General Responsibilities of All Officers: All Officers perform the duties prescribed by Robert's Rules of Order, the Democratic Women's Club of the Lakes Area Bylaws and the State bylaws. Other duties may be assigned by the President/Board of Directors from time to

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DWCLA NEWSLETTER

Danielle Hawk is Recruiting Candidates Across FL

By Kate Ellison

It was a year ago in August, 2022, and Danielle Hawk just won her primary to become the Democratic nominee running against Kat Cammack for US House District 3, our district. Nikki Fried lost her primary to Charlie Crist in the governor's race.

The next day, Nikki called Danielle and asked, "How can I help?" Nikki called up all the candidates who won their primaries with similar offers. She rode with Danielle to campaign stops, asked questions and shared knowledge. Ours is a nearly impossible district to win, but we have strong and loyal voters and we must offer a candidate for our voters in all districts.

That's why in 2023, Danielle Hawk is speaking all over the state in her new capacity as the Campaign Chair of the Florida Democratic Party (FDP). She has 150 candidates already stepping up to run in 2024.

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Pictured (L. to R.) Sharon Deitz, Rissi Cherie, Cheryl Owen, Danielle Hawk, Leslie Skeans, Kate Ellison, Loretta Chandler, and Linda Osborne.



Susan Eisen, Michael and Terry Wells, Kerry Lundeen, and Kate Ellison.



Carleen Brock, Celina Rohman, Cheryl Owen, Leslie Skeans

The July Meeting was Game Night!

If you missed our July meeting you missed a great time! Game Night was a big success and everyone agrees we need to do it again.

Dominoes, Monopoly (featuring Bob's Burgers cartoon characters) and Trivial Pursuit were played and everyone was a winner.

Watch our website and calendar for our next night of fun.



Rissi Cherie, George Dietz, Sharon Dietz, and Loretta Chandler.

DWCLA NEWSLETTER



ROBIN FRAIZER

Robin joined DWCLA a little over a year ago after being invited by her friend Sara Zipperer. She felt it would be a good way to become a better informed voter. Since joining Robin has become an active member helping with many events and is now General Secretary of DWCLA and sits on the Board.

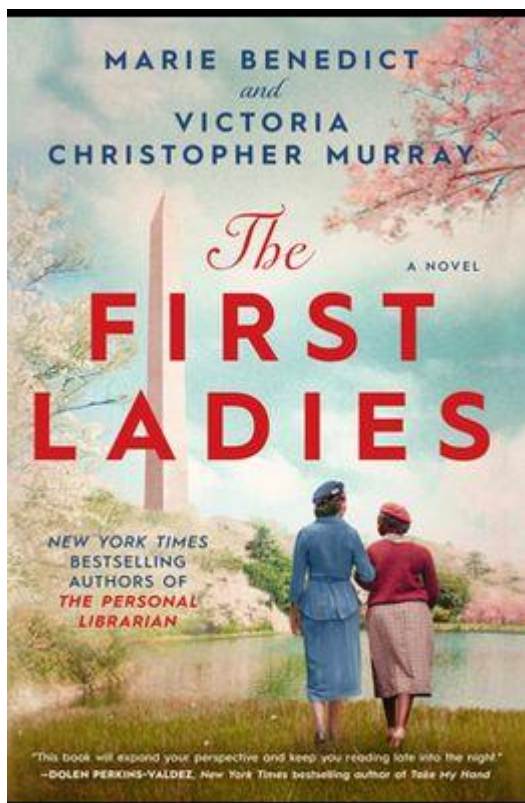
Robin was born in Champaign, Illinois to young parents. Her first home was a tiny trailer where, as a baby, she slept in a drawer! Her father was in the Air Force at Chanute AFB and through the Air Force Robin's father earned his GED and received training that led to his career as an Air Traffic Controller for the FAA. That career took her family to 9 homes in 5 states 2 countries and 7 different schools. She learned to adapt and make friends quickly (as is evident in our group). Robin's family ended up in Gainesville FL where she attended Santa Fe College, then the University of Florida.

She met her husband Marc shortly after high school and they married while still in college. Marc is an Occupational Therapist at Tachachale, a residential community for people with Developmental Disabilities. Robin graduated with her BS in Special Education. Robin ded-

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Robin Frazier



Recommended Reading: The First Ladies

By Sandy Stephenson

The First Ladies by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray is historical fiction at its best. No fluffy romantic story here! This is the story of the friendship/partnership of Eleanor Roosevelt and Mary McLeod Bethune. Thoroughly researched through records and accounts, the authors include their notes and the story of their friendship writing the book in the index.

The story begins in late 1929 and continues through the 40's. Written in dual points of view, we see how each woman processed what the other one experienced. Starting with one of their first meetings at a New York hotel when Eleanor had to insist that the manager serve them. They continued their public interactions to try to normalize integration.

While most of us know of Eleanor's contributions as First Lady, Mary McLeod Bethune's accomplishments are less known. Floridians know her as one of the founders of Bethune-Cookman University. She founded the National Council of Negro Women and worked with government officials and

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DWCLA NEWSLETTER

Robin Frazier *Continued from page 3*

cated herself to teaching students with Specific Learning Disabilities, Emotional Behavior Disorders, Intellectual Disabilities and students on the Autism Spectrum. After 35 years teaching in 3 different area schools, she retired but began substituting exclusively in classrooms serving children with disabilities. Following in the family's footsteps Robin and Marc's daughter Stephanie is a Physical Therapist and their son Eric works as chief of security at Tacachale. Their other "family member" is a lively dog named Molly who refuses to be ignored.

Outside of DWCLA and substitute teaching Robin and her husband are members and managers of the Square Dance Club, The Grand Squares. She manages money and weekly communications while Marc works at the club's caller!

Her other hobbies include reading psychological thrillers and pursuing her craft of choice; Diamond Art. Her happy place is anywhere near or in the water – swimming, floating or kayaking.



Apropos of our group of determined Democrats, Robin's Diamond Art painting says, "She believed she could. . ."

"Unfortunately, the Republican Party is taking their cues directly from Ron DeSantis, whose mission is to divide us and to keep people down. So, fellow Democrats, we have a lot of work to do. But most importantly, we stand united, fighting against the tyranny, the fascism that comes from this administration."

—Nikki Fried, addressing Florida House Democrats
Florida Democratic Party Chair

Danielle Hawk

Continued from page 2

The State Legislature is her highest priority, and we have the opportunity in HD 118 (Miami-Dade, December 2023) and HD 35 (Ocala and Orange County, January 2024) to flip these seats. Re-enrolling voters for Vote-by-Mail is crucial for these special elections which have historically low turn-out. There are phone banks available that we can access and help out.

"We have to compete everywhere if we want to win the presidency in 2024," she said,

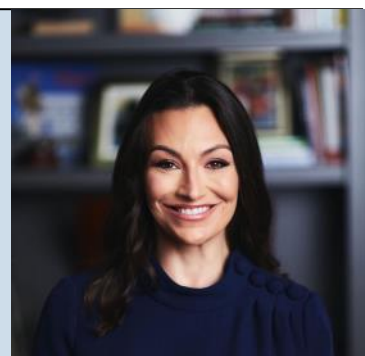


and she heads a statewide committee ready to support thousands of candidates up and down the ballot. This committee is charged with recruitment and then empowerment, through investing in resources like the Candidate Tool Kit, which provides teaching and guidance for free to state and local candidates.

Danielle says that this is a new day for the FDP, after some bruising defeats in the last election. The Party has to rebuild trust with candidates, committees, caucuses, and voters.

During the Q & A period that followed her speech, someone asked about bringing in young people. especially since she herself is under 30. Danielle said giving young people a place that is just for them will help. The FDP has a Youth Council, and we could create our own youth council or advisory board locally. Perhaps we could organize ourselves to offer an internship.

DWCLA members gave her rousing applause, and a line formed to speak with her personally after the speech. She left us feeling inspired and challenged to step up and bring in the changes we want to see around us.



DWCLA NEWSLETTER

The First Ladies

Continued from page 3

private donors for years to promote Black owned businesses and public works to improve African American neighborhoods. Her public stance against White Supremacists' protests and her work in education is what drew Eleanor's attention to her.

Mary, a Lincoln Republican, and Eleanor, a Democrat, worked together to try to get an Anti-Lynching Act through Congress.

Mary made Eleanor aware of the high number of lynchings even in the North at this time. Unfortunately, FDR would not



Mary McLeod Bethune and Eleanor Roosevelt

handle this "hot potato" while trying to get his New Deal passed. (The Anti-Lynching Bill finally passed in 2022.)

However, Mary did get a "seat at the table" in the creation of FDR's New Deal. She wanted to include "whatever steps necessary or private funding to make sure Negro youths receive the same educational and employment opportunities as all children." It makes one realize the fight for civil rights began well before the 60's and sadly continues still.

As an aside, this book showed me a different view of Sara Roosevelt, FDR's mother and her relationship with Eleanor.

If you enjoy well-told historical fiction and stories of real life difference makers, this book is for you!

Elections! (DWCLA Club Elections)

Continued from page 1

time as necessary. The DWCLA Bylaws have more detailed descriptions of specific offices.

President – presides at all meetings of the club and Board of Directors and signs all contracts of the club. She/he appoints the chairs of committees and coordinates the work of the officers and committees. She/he is automatically a member of all committees except the nominating committee.

First Vice President - acts as an aide to the President and performs her/his duties in her absence or inability to act. She/he chairs the Program Committee, which provides a speaker for

our monthly meetings and other club programs and activities.

Second Vice President - acts as an aide to the President and fills in for the President or First VP if they are absent or otherwise unable to act. She/He chairs the Membership Committee, which recruits new members, organizes a phone tree, and oversees publicity.

Recording Secretary – records the minutes of the Club, the Membership, and the Board of Directors meetings and sends the President a copy after all meetings. She/He keeps records of all standing rules and amendments to the bylaws.

Corresponding Secretary - assists the President with all correspondence.

Treasurer - has custody of all the funds of the club and will be responsible for all deposits and authorized disbursements of club funds and maintaining itemized accounts of all transactions. She/he prepares a status report for each club and Board of Directors meetings, maintains a current list of all paid members and ensures State and regional dues are paid.



What is WOKE? "alert to racial prejudice and discrimination."

What is Anti-WOKE?

COMA: Conservative Only Material Accepted

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DWCLA NEWSLETTER

Elections *Continued from page 5*

The following positions are not elected, but you are welcome to volunteer.

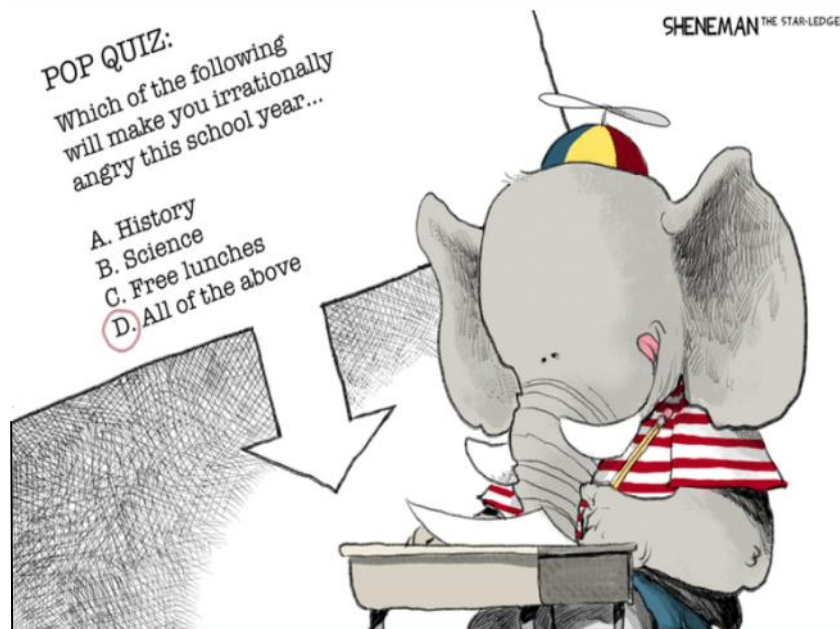
Media Coordinator – is responsible for publications and announcements in print and electronic media within the geographic area of Club activities. Chairs the Media Committee.

Region Council Representative – attends all Region meetings and makes reports to the club.

Legislative Liaison- participates in State legislative calls/meetings and makes reports to the club.

Parliamentarian - advises the President, other officers, committees, and members on Parliamentary procedures upon request.

Immediate Past President - serves as an advisor to the President and to the Board of Directors and serves as Chair of the Grievance Committee.



Patty Farley in Melrose

Our June meeting was deja vu for some members as Patty Farley updated our group on the continuing battle to pass the Equal Rights Amendment. It is still blocked by the Republicans. Many of us have been doing this since the 70's but the good fight continues on.

Patty is a former president of the Democratic Women's Club of Florida, two presidents ago. Now she is devoting her energy to getting the ERA finally passed, since it was first introduced in Congress in December 1923.

To join in and push legislature to act now, please visit <https://www.sign4era.org/>. Their purpose is to build massive nationwide pressure on Members of Congress, candidates, the Presidency and, in fact elected officials at all levels to cease treating women as second-class citizens by granting them equality in the U.S. Constitution.

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 voters in our counties. Go Online to the website or to [Act Blue](#), directly.

