



# South Brevard Democratic Women's Club

November 2012

★  
President's  
Message

★  
ERA Update

★  
Politics 2012

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Super Mule

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SBDWC  
Boosters

Women need to listen to Romney!

Romney has promised to repeal the Affordable Care Act which says that domestic violence can no longer be classified as a preexisting condition; that insurance companies can no longer enforce lifetime caps; and that insurance companies are required to cover women's mammograms, Pap smears and contraception coverage.



Patricia Farley Crutcher  
President

- Romney has promised to end Planned Parenthood which is one of the largest providers of women's health care preventive care services.
- Romney supports the Blunt Amendment which would restrict access to birth control and other essential health care services by granting the employer the right to deny coverage.
- Romney has said he wants to repeal Roe v. Wade and, if elected, will have the opportunity to probably appoint as many as three Supreme Court justices who can.
- Romney wants to privatize Social Security and end Medicare as we know it, eliminating guaranteed benefits and turn Medicare into a voucher program.
- Romney still will not even say he supports the Lilly Ledbetter Act, but we know his VP choice Ryan voted again it.



**Women need to listen very carefully to Romney—and then they need to vote to reelect President Obama!**

In the last few months we have had nine new members join our organization. We are very lucky to add these dynamic women and men to the SBDWC and we welcome you with open arms. Hazel Buggs and Tammy Skrzypek joined last June. Christine Pemberton joined at the August meeting. Kimberly Durjan, Charles Speegle, Carolyn Yankow, and Julie Ann Johnson joined in September, and Peggy Lushine and Raphael Lombardo joined at the Ice Cream Social. Mary Calese joined just this week! All of these individuals have been working very hard in the election and we are very proud to have you as members. WELCOME!

November 20th is the approximate start date to begin flooding our legislators with our requests to move the ERA bill out of committee. Once we know who the committee members and other targeted persons are, I will email each of you asking to request the ERA be moved out of committee. While I will email you, those who aren't on email will receive a phone call. This is just an alert to be ready for action at that time. Since it is also the Thanksgiving Week, we may have to wait until Thanksgiving is over to begin our campaign. Just be ready.



Milly Krause  
Vice President

A few of the legislative liaisons who were at the DWCF State Convention in August were asked to create “white papers” on a few targeted issues. These papers have been shared with all the legislative liaisons and club presidents in the state. We want to get the word out and we want action. The following is the one I created. If you have resources you think we should share or information to add, please let me know. I'm using the following email for ERA. It's millyERA@gmail.com .ERA Florida Ratification

Message – To become a constitutional amendment, ERA must be ratified by ¾ of the states. Florida's ratification would provide 1 of the 3 votes required.

ERA simply states: “Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.” Our constitution doesn't precisely grant equal rights for men and women. Attempts to apply the 14th amendment have been criticized by Supreme Court Justices as being too vague and have only been applied since 1971 for sex discrimination.

In 1848, the first formal Women's Right Convention was held in Seneca Falls, NY.

In 1923 Suffragette Alice Paul wrote and introduced the first ERA to Congress.

Ninety-two years ago, Women were granted the Right to Vote via the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution but this doesn't prevent sex discrimination. Only the right to vote is guaranteed.

Each year on August 26th, Women's Equality Day is held to both commemorate and celebrate Women's Right to Vote as well as to signify the need to continue moving forward towards full equality.

ERA was again introduced to Congress in 1972 during the 2nd wave for women's rights. ERA passed both houses of Congress, but failed to gain ¾ states ratification before its June 30, 1982 deadline. Three states are still needed to ratify of the 15 states that didn't ratify it.

Opposition to the ERA has been based on religious, moral, political, business and anti-feminist beliefs, etc. Inequality in regard to employment, reproductive rights, insurance, social security, education, violence against women, etc., still exists.

Laws, such as the Lily Ledbetter Pay Act & the Affordable Care Act help but they are laws, not a constitutional amendment. The current War on Women illustrates how easily laws can reverse the progress made by women over the years. We must move forward, not backwards.

While ERA bills been introduced year after year to the Florida legislators, the 2012 is an example of what has happened. The bills haven't made it out of their subcommittees. The chair didn't place it on the agenda and it died on 3/10/12.

To move forward with ERA ratification, when the bills are introduced to the house and senate, they must make it out of committee as a start. A productive strategy would be to target the subcommittee chairs and members. November 20, 2012 is the expected date for these committees to form and meet. As DWCF members, we can start lobbying our legislators ASAP and make phone calls, send emails, use social media, marches, postcard campaigns and educa-

tion, etc. The methods are countless but we need to start by targeting these committees. It is hoped that all DWCF Clubs and associates will participate & work towards ratification.

Use a respectful but authoritative approach when talking to others. In doing so, we can create a unified, productive message. Ask questions and listen. Find out how we can all help each other move ERA Forward towards Both Florida and U.S. Ratification.

ERA Resources

WEBSITES -

<http://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2012/180> - ERA Senate Text –tracking

<http://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2012/8003> - ERA House Text – tracking

<http://www.flsenate.gov/> - Florida Senate information

<http://www.leg.state.fl.us/Committees/index.cfm?Chamber=Senate> – Senate Committees

<http://www.myfloridahouse.gov/> - Florida House of Representatives Information

<http://www.myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Committees/committees.aspx> - House Committees

<http://www.americasdebate.com/forums/index.php?showtopic=14752> - Roadblocks to ERA

<http://www.nwhp.org/resourcecenter/equalityday.php> Women's Equality Day explained

<http://ratifyeraflorida.net/> - ERA resources –excellent materials

<http://www.4era.org/press.html> - shows what states have done regarding ERA thru 2009

<http://www.flnow.org/era.html> - Florida NOW - history of ERA

<http://www.united4equality.com/>

[www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) – Check the DWCF site – active discussions

DVDs

Iron Jawed Angels – available in the library or via commercial rental (Netflix, etc.) This film follows political activists, Alice Paul and Lucy Burns, as they use peaceful and effective strategies, tactics, and dialogues to revolutionize the American feminist movement to grant women the right to vote. Synopsis - [http://iron-jawed-angels.com/synopsis\\_2.htm](http://iron-jawed-angels.com/synopsis_2.htm)

Miss Representation – available in the library or via commercial rental (Netflix, etc.) This film explores the underrepresentation of women in positions of power and influence in America, and challenges the media's limited portrayal of what it means to be a powerful woman. Synopsis - <http://community.feministing.com/2011/02/14/miss-representation-a-film-review/>

“The Equal Rights Amendment: Unfinished Business for the Constitution” is a 17-minute educational documentary that premiered in July 1998 in Seneca Falls, NY, as part of the celebration of the 150th anniversary of the 1848 Woman's Rights Convention. To order - <http://www.equalrightsamendment.org/dvd.htm>

Books

A History of the American Suffragist Movement by Doris Weatherford (Sep 5, 2006)

Women in American Politics: History and Milestones by Doris Weatherford (Jan 20, 2012)

Power Point –

[http://www.cbsnews.com/2300-201\\_162-10013519.html](http://www.cbsnews.com/2300-201_162-10013519.html) - Women at Work 1940's

**It has been a hard fought and busy campaign season** and I know how hard the members have worked for our Democratic candidates and I am very proud of our SBDWC. Please continue and don't stop until 7:00 pm on Election Day.

This month alone we have been sign waving, phone banking, canvassing, attending debates, fundraisers, Ice Cream Social's, Tabling at the Progressive Fest, attending Women for Obama events, and I'm sure lots more.

Take a few hours off to attend our business meeting on November 3rd at Memaw's and then our Election Night Party at the HurriKane Cafe, where we can all sit down and breathe and watch the election returns. Don't expect for things to get real quiet, though, because next we are going to get prepared to do major lobbying on the Florida Legislature.



Halloween just might be a recession-proof holiday.

Americans are projected to spend a record \$8 billion on costumes, decorations and candy this year—averaging out at about \$80 per person, according to the National Retail Federation.

So why not spend it on items made in the USA? Look for Halloween candy still made in the United States. Check the package on each item you purchase to make sure it was manufactured in the USA, because some items will be outsourced and others made here on the same product.



SBDWC members were everywhere at the SCPA Fest in Eau Gallie.

Karen and Cy were manning a table for the Beachside Democrats. Seeta Begui and Hazel Buggs each had their own table.



**SBDWC LOVES Brevard NOW.....** WE have seven members in this photo: Millie, Peggy, Laura, Vicki, Cathy, Terry, and Denise. Pat and Michelle have promised to join, too. We love you all for all you do..especially Take Back the Night!



Above: Our Table at the Fest with Jackie, Madeline, Milly, Kelly, Patty, and GiGi.



Left: Hazel at work getting votes.

Below: Frances working the DEC table and Madeline checking it out.



Right: Patty and Madeline with Gov. Jennifer Granholm at a Women for Obama Meeting in Orlando.



Top Left : Madeline wins the Grand Prize! Linda, Madeline, Jodi and Cathy

Top Right: Shannon and Jonathan at Shannon's table!

Right: Frances taking a break and visiting the SBDWC table



WE send our best wishes to all our Democratic candidates in the election, and especially to Shannon, Hazel and Michelle!

Please join us for our Election Night Watch Party Tuesday night at the HurriKane Cafe.



## Super Mule

The questions last night came from undecided voters, and what a group they were. Basically these were the people who still cash checks at the supermarket.” –Jimmy Kimmel

“On the subject of equal pay for women, he said that when he was filing cabinet positions as governor of Massachusetts, he went out of his way to make sure he hired women. He said he had ‘binders full of women, which is a little creepy. Binders full of women is something they’d find in a serial killer’s basement at the end of Law & Order SVU.” –Jimmy Kimmel

“Romney’s policy toward women is clear: we have to alphabetize them.” –Jimmy Kimmel

After Paul Ryan stopped by for a photo op at a soup kitchen, the head of the charity said Ryan did nothing. In other words, that man is ready to be vice president.” –Conan O’Brien

“Ross Perot has endorsed Mitt Romney. This could help Romney get the vote of people you forgot were still alive.” –Conan O’Brien

“The Obama campaign is releasing a new ad showing Americans whose financial situation has improved over the past four years. Unfortunately, the only person who appears in the ad is Mitt Romney.” –Conan O’Brien

“Polling across the country shows the presidential race is now neck and neck. It’s an even tie between not Barack Obama and not Mitt Romney.” –Conan O’Brien

“Mitt Romney on Tuesday once again tried to distance himself from his infamous 47 percent comments, saying, ‘the words that came out were not what I meant.’ And if that sounds like a good excuse to you, try it on your girlfriend.” –Seth Meyers

“In an interview Wednesday Mitt Romney, who had previously stated he would not introduce legislation limiting abortion, vowed that he would still be a ‘pro-life president.’ Which makes sense because Romney defines ‘life’ as anybody making over 250,000 dollars a year.” –Seth Meyers

Isn’t it amazing? All Moderate Mitt had to do was change his long-held views on everything that he’s ever said. Now he believes whatever you believe, and the polls show we like that. Forget integrity. Forget courage. What we want is a president who is 100 percent our bitch.” –Bill Maher

“One example: Mitt Romney was against gay rights, then he was for them, now he’s against them again. Or as it’s known in political circles, the Andersen Cooper 360.” –Bill Maher

Chris Christie was in Ohio stumping for Mitt Romney. It was felt as far north as Canada.” –David Letterman  
We haven’t seen Paul Ryan talk much. He’s a very serious guy. Paul Ryan seems like the guy you see at the bank who really hates standing in line.” –Jimmy Kimmel

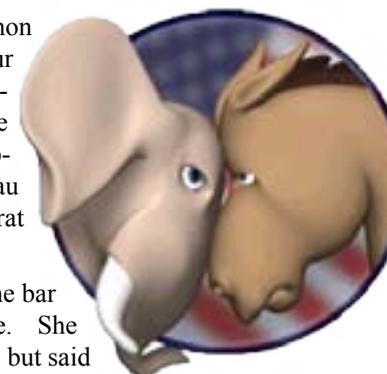
“Paul Ryan looks like the guy who guards the keg at a frat party.” –Jimmy Kimmel

“Paul Ryan’s handling committee says he just has to do one thing. All he has to do is not look like a beady-eyed little weasel.” –David Letterman

Our NEXT MEETING, which is one of our required regular business meetings, will be Saturday November 3 at 11:30 at McMaw’s. Vice President Milly Krause will review some of the legislative topics that the DWC will be pushing in this next legislative session. If the weather is acceptable, we will sign wave after the meeting.

We are planning our very own “Election Night Victory Party”, Tuesday, November 6, at “The HurriKane Cafe” in 254 Eau Gallie Blvd. in Indian Harbour Beach.

This party is not only for our members Shannon Roberts and Hazel Buggs, but also for any of our Democratic candidates that we have been working so very hard to get elected. “The HurriKane Cafe” is located in the Publix and Bealls shopping center on the corner of St. Patrick and Eau Gallie. The cafe is owned by a female Democrat who said she would be glad to have us there.



We can order what we want from the menu or the bar and it will not cost us any extra fees to be there. She normally does not stay open later in the evening, but said she would stay as long as we wanted. There are four TV’s for watching the election results. Please plan on joining us. We will begin gathering there when the polls close at 7:00. Several of us have eaten there and the food is great, too!

There is a Ladies Luncheon to support Domestic Violence Awareness in our community. The proceeds from the luncheon will go to support Serene Harbor, the Women’s Center and “Viewpoints with Seeta and Friends” on WMEL 1300 AM.

When: On Sunday December 9th , 12-3:30,

Where: Tortoise Island Clubhouse 727 Loggerhead Island Drive, Satellite Beach

Cost: \$25 includes lunch and beverage ( Curry Chicken, ziti, rice, salad, and more)

Your check is your reservation. Send check to Seeta Media , 802 Loggerhead Island Drive, Satellite Beach, Florida 32937

### Buttons For Sale As Fund Raiser



### Scheduled Events



**Next Meeting  
November 3rd  
at 11:30 at McMaw’s**



**Sign Waving  
Sign up  
for  
Different  
Locations**



**“Election Night  
Victory Party”, Tues-  
day, Nov. 6, at “The  
HurriKane Cafe” at  
254 Eau Gallie Blvd.  
in Indian Harbour  
Beach.**



Ladies Luncheon to  
support Domestic  
Violence Awareness  
Sunday December 9th,  
12-3:30

Tortoise Island Club-  
house 727 Loggerhead  
Island Drive, Satellite  
Beach





# SBDWC Boosters

Janie Holman  
Geraldine Kapushy  
Cathy Stanton  
Madeline Farley  
Alan Jotkoff  
Pat Jotkoff  
Laura Fausone  
Joe Pishgar  
Eileen Manning  
Bea Gillespie  
Maggie Gula  
Leonia Francis  
Artney Turner  
Jackolyn Lombardo  
Vicki Impoco  
Jane Feldman  
[www.hodadpix.com](http://www.hodadpix.com)  
Bessie Barnes  
Terry Sanders  
Milly Krause



Our sincere Thoughts and Prayers are extended to all the US troops stationed in Afghanistan, around the world and also to their families everywhere.

We pray for the safe return of the troops, a speedy end to the war and the wisdom of our leaders to guide us in this conflict.



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Don't assume anything.  
**VOTE.**  
We can do it again.