



# South Brevard Democratic Women's Club

September 2012

President's  
Message

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Politics 2012

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Frankly, I was shocked when Mitt Romney picked Paul Ryan for his running mate, but after the initial shock, I immediately broke into a big grin. The choice of Ryan, who designed the House Republican Budget shows the world just how far right the Republican Party has pushed Romney as a candidate. This makes the choice more clear to Progressives and Independents who were undecided. Some of Ryan's votes are listed in this newsletter making his positions very clear. Ryan's selection as VP candidate can be a major factor for a Democratic win in Florida if we stress his positions on women's issues, student loans, family planning, cancer screenings, Medicare and Social Security. It may well be a factor in many Democrats winning this November.



Patricia Farley Crutcher  
Patricia Farley Crutcher  
President

What about the alternative, which is hard to think about? This election is that important—the one they call the most important in your lifetime election. If Republicans can win an extra four Senate Seats and the Presidency, they will control everything and most likely then name three Supreme Court justices and control the government for another 50 years. They would then have the opportunity to do away with every major Democratic accomplishment since Franklin Roosevelt. We know they are gunning for Social Security, Medicaid, Medicare, health care reform, any government regulation laws, especially those concerning the environment and Wall Street and the War on Women would be won by the ultra-conservative right wing.

We have our job cut out for us.

Have you been busy enough the last couple of months? I hope you can find the time to plan on getting even busier! I know many of you have been working nonstop in campaign activities both for our Democratic candidates and against the Republican opponents. We are down to only a couple of months of work left and we will soon be organizing sign waving activities and hope you can be involved. We intend to be waving for candidates and perhaps a large multi club sign waving on "Women will remember in November," which was made into a large Banner for us.

I want to ask all of our members to keep track and record how many hours you are donating for the election. Please keep your hours and then we will compile how many hours our club donated. I know we do a lot. In the last election some of our members donated hundreds of hours. If we add all our hours together, it will be very impressive and we can use that to our benefit.

Also, please continue to write letters in support of our candidates, especially Bill Nelson and Shannon Roberts, to the newspaper. Every little bit of Democratic talking points help our candidates.

All of the candidates who turned out for our Candidate Forum at the Crowne Plaza really were appreciative of the time and work that had been put into making that event successful by our Democratic women. I hope you attended this event, because it gave our candidates a chance to answer some hard questions and get their policy stands and issues out to the public. They did a wonderful job. The forum has received a great deal of positive feedback and we have been asked by many of the candidates if we would consider doing another before the November election after the primary. It wasn't cheap, but with our entire sister clubs and friends donating it was achieved and a very big success.

The Forum was followed by a trip to Tallahassee for the DWC of FL, Inc for the State Convention where Dr. Maurene McKenna was chosen to be our new state Vice President. There were great speakers at the convention : Florida Rep Michelle Vasilinda; Kathy Groob, famous author on women in politics; Florence Snyder, liberal newspaper lawyer and columnist; Ion Sansho, Leon County Supervisor of Elections, Grace Nelson, wife of Sen Bill Nelson; Senator Nan Rich, candidate for governor and Florida Democratic Party Chair Rod Smith. There were great workshops on Legislative Affairs, Parliamentary Procedure, Lobbying, and "Pink Politics." A new change in rules passed at this convention allowing delegate count for conventions to be 1 delegate for 5 members. (The old was 1 delegate for 10 members.) Next year we will take even more members as delegates!

The Space Coast Progressive Fest is coming up soon and our club will get a table. Hopefully we can sell some of our campaign buttons, and we might even get some new members. It will be fun and good PR in the community

Some people have already asked me if we are going to plan on another Inaugural Ball. If we had one, would you buy any tickets?

Please join us at our next meeting September 8 when we will discuss the amendments on the ballot and we will have sign-up sheets for sign waving. Please bring to the meeting your August newsletter, which includes information about the amendments.

We have added three new members to our club in the last few months.

We all welcome Hazel Buggs, Tammy Skrzypek, and Christine Pembleton, to our club.

I am sad to report the passing of one of our dear members recently-- Pietress Hammond. Peity was always a joy to be near and a wonderful and inspiring person to be around. In our club she strongly supported our democratic activities, and locally she worked tirelessly for the local food banks collecting food items from the community to deliver to the food banks monthly with her own time, money and car labeled "Piety's Pantry." We will all miss her and in her memory I am going to ask you to bring food items to donate at the next club meeting.

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## ERA Update –

Following our August business meeting, our ERA Committee held a brief organizational meeting. Committee members are as follows: Gigi Bender, Terry Sanders, Patty Farley, Jackie Lombardo, Christine Pembleton, Madeline Farley, Cathy Stanton, Shannon Roberts, and, Chair, Milly Krause.

Meetings will be held once a month or as needed. Each member has been asked to research ERA on their own to serve as a learning tool and email this information to Milly ASAP. In addition, Milly is creating a White Paper to present to DWCF Legislative Liaisons and to all involved.

The purpose is to present a clear message to legislators. Talking points will be critical to this message. If you have any information on ERA, such as history, roadblocks, successful strategies, please share it with the committee.

At the recent DWCF State Convention, the legislative liaisons met and it was shared that state legislative committees would be formed following the election. November 20, 2012 is the expected date for these committees to meet. Since ERA didn't even make it out of the committee last year, it is critical that we prepare to hound our legislators



Milly Krause  
Vice President

well before these committees meet. Once the committees are formed and we know who is on the committee, we will need to hound the committee members and others to guarantee moving the ERA out of committee.

Thus, our work is at hand. The next legislative liaison teleconference will be next week and the White Paper will be presented at that time and, surely, there will be some editing. The plan is to begin meeting with our local legislators to create ERA awareness. While we don't know who all our legislators will be on November 20th, we do know some. I'm looking at the week following Labor Day as the starting point to begin meeting with our local legislators.

In addition to the ERA Committee, we will need other members who can visit our legislators in their local offices well before November 20th. The plan would be to have two members speak to legislators at a time. You would be given talking points and tips on how to approach your legislators. If you are able to do this, please let your committee members know. Creating an awareness and need to ratify ERA is a key element to progress.

## Let's Shine!

The following information is from a site on line called "**On the Issues**" where you can enter the name of a member of Congress and get their voting record sorted by subject. A look at Paul Ryan's record is all you need to do to be afraid! This is just a sample of the information there.

### Paul Ryan on Abortion

- Voted YES on banning federal health coverage that includes abortion. (May 2011)
- Voted NO on expanding research to more embryonic stem cell lines. (Jan 2007)
- Voted NO on allowing human embryonic stem cell research. (May 2005)
- Voted YES on restricting interstate transport of minors to get abortions. (Apr 2005)
- Voted YES on making it a crime to harm a fetus during another crime. (Feb 2004)
- Voted YES on banning partial-birth abortion except to save mother's life. (Oct 2003)
- Voted YES on forbidding human cloning for reproduction & medical research. (Feb 2003)
- Voted YES on funding for health providers who don't provide abortion info. (Sep 2002)
- Voted YES on banning Family Planning funding in US aid abroad. (May 2001)
- Voted YES on federal crime to harm fetus while committing other crimes. (Apr 2001)
- Voted YES on banning partial-birth abortions. (Apr 2000)
- Voted YES on barring transporting minors to get an abortion. (Jun 1999)
- Rated 0% by NARAL, indicating a pro-life voting record. (Dec 2003)
- Rated 100% by the NRLC, indicating a pro-life stance. (Dec 2006)
- Prohibit transporting minors across state lines for abortion. (Jan 2008)
- Bar funding for abortion under federal Obamacare plans. (Jul 2010)
- Prohibit federal funding for abortion. (May 2011)
- Congress shall protect life beginning with fertilization. (Jan 2011)
- Prohibit federal funding to groups like Planned Parenthood. (Jan 2011)
- Grant the pre-born equal protection under 14th Amendment. (Jan 2007)

### Paul Ryan on the Budget and Economy

- Road Map for America's Future: cut entitlement spending. (Jul 2009)
- Voted YES on terminating the Home Affordable mortgage Program. (Mar 2011)
- Voted YES on \$192B additional anti-recession stimulus spending. (Jul 2009)
- Voted NO on modifying bankruptcy rules to avoid mortgage foreclosures. (Mar 2009)
- Voted NO on additional \$825 billion for economic recovery package. (Jan 2009)
- Voted NO on monitoring TARP funds to ensure more mortgage relief. (Jan 2009)
- Voted YES on \$15B bailout for GM and Chrysler. (Dec 2008)
- Voted NO on \$60B stimulus package for jobs, infrastructure, & energy. (Sep 2008)
- Voted NO on defining "energy emergency" on federal gas prices. (Jun 2008)
- Voted NO on revitalizing severely distressed public housing. (Jan 2008)

## Horse Patrols for the Republican Convention in Tampa

All of you who are planning to get out in force with your Pink Slip Rick and Mitt signs at the Republican National Convention..... Beware! The police have been training Horse Guards with riot gear for six months. The horses and riders will be used for crowd control. In an interview with the Tampa Bay Times, the leader of the group stressed the riot gear as protection for the horses from gun wielding violent groups who might injure animals with broken bottles and such.

We would have thought the violent gun carriers' who might injure animals were more likely inside the building.....



## Connie Mack refuses to take part in Debate with Bill Nelson

Connie Mack, who enjoys name recognition from not only his father, but grandfather and a baseball stadium is refusing to take part in the traditional Tampa Bay Times Debate on the grounds the Times would not be fair to him.. (Tampa Bay Times was even fair to Rick Scott! )



One has to wonder if Mack is afraid of facing Nelson, and The issue of Medicare, which will probably come up with the Ryan Budget. Mack has also been accused of missing a lot of important votes in the House because of non-attendance. Republican George LeMieux in the primary attacked Mack for many things ,including not living in

Florida, but California and for not paying child support. Nelson has described Mack as "A promoter for Hooters with a history of bar room brawling, altercations and road rage". These descriptions of Mack were detailed earlier this year in the Miami Herald.

A federal court on last Thursday, August 16, gave five Florida counties four extra days of early voting in this fall's elections.

The Republican-controlled Florida legislature last year cut the state's number of early-voting days to 8 from 12. But the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia said the changes won't happen in Collier, Hardee, Hendry, Hillsborough and Monroe counties, which are covered by Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

That section requires election changes to be cleared by federal officials or federal judges. The states covered under Section 5 are mostly in the South and all have a history of discriminating against blacks, American Indians, Asian-Americans, Alaskan Natives or Hispanics.

The three-judge panel said Thursday that the reduction in early voting days in those counties "would make it materially more difficult for some minority voters to cast a ballot." But the 119-page ruling did say there were ways Florida could change its early voting practices that would not adversely impact minority voting rights.



Our NEXT MEETING is on September 8th at 11:30 at Memaws on Eau Gallie Blvd. We will be discussing the **Amendments on the Ballot** and having members sign up for sign waving and legislative work.

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Start planning now for the **SBDWC Oct 6th Ice Cream Social**. Location to be announced.

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The Space Coast Progressive Alliance is having their PROGRESSIVE FEST. And your SBDWC is planning on being there with a table. Exciting plans are shaping up for a community wide event to be held on Sunday, October 21, from 11-5, at the Eau Gallie Civic Center, 1551 Highland Ave, Melbourne 32935. This year's Fest will have an emphasis on Communities in Action. Areas of interest will include free health screenings, the environment, domestic violence awareness, local and organic food production, on site demonstrations, lively exhibits and much more. As always, FEST attendance is free and open to the public.

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### Office Launch Party

Get Ready! On Saturday August 25 from 3:00pm until 6:00 pm there is a campaign office special opening for State House candidate John Alvarez, and Palm Bay City Council candidates Michele Paccione and Bill Rettinger in Palm Bay. Dr. Shannon Roberts candidate for US House of Representatives and Palm Bay Councilman William Capote will make special appearances. Please come out and support them all at this event. Signs and Literature available. Desserts & refreshments will be served. For more info contact us at 321-480-9295

Location: 6525 Babcock Street, Malabar, Florida 32950. Directions given say this is located about 1 mile south of the intersection of Malabar Babcock. Minimum Donation is \$1.

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### On Friday September 14, at 7:00 pm there is a **Dinner & Comedy Show**

Sponsored by The William Capote for Mayor Campaign and in support of The Michele Paccione, Bill Rettinger and John Paul Alvarez's Campaigns.

FEATURING JJ RAMIREZ FROM THE LATIN LEGENDS OF COMEDY & PHILADELPHIA PLOWDEN NBC'S "AMERICA'S GOT TALENT" & NATIONAL TOURING COMEDIAN.

Doors open at 7 pm with ShowTime at 8. Donation is \$25. BYOB. Call Michelle to purchase tickets 480-9295

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***We have a lot of campaign buttons that we need to sell. Please purchase some to give or sell to your family and friends.***

***\$2 per button***



## Scheduled Events



August 25  
Campaign Office  
Opening  
Palm Bay



Next Meeting  
September 8th  
MeMaw's Barbecue  
11:30  
Indian Harbour Beach



Oct 6th  
SBDWC  
Ice Cream Social



Oct 21st  
Progressive Fest  
Eau Gallie  
Civic Center





Convention and Banquet Photos  
 Top: Region VI at the welcome ceremony with President Janet Goen  
 Left: Frances Speegle getting award from DEC Chair Beth McMillan  
 Right: Shannon Roberts with Senator Bill Nelson  
 Below: All of the delegates together getting a Convention Photo



## Super Mule

Mitt Romney has picked Paul Ryan as his running mate. Experts say Ryan can add something vital to this campaign that Mitt Romney lacks: a personality.” –Jay Leno

“Mitt Romney kept his selection of Ryan as his VP nominee secret for more than a week. You know how he was able to keep it secret? He had it hidden next to his tax returns.” –Jay Leno

“We’re learning more and more about the Wisconsin Congressman. Apparently, he’s a huge Green Bay Packers fan. See, that shows you how far the Republicans have progressed - this time, their VP is a cheesehead. Remember, last time it was an airhead. That was totally different.” –Jay Leno

Ever since it was announced Sarah Palin will not be speaking at the Republican Convention, the Romney campaign has been flooded with thousands of texts and emails demanding that she be allowed to speak... all from President Obama.” –Jay Leno

Police in Florida have arrested a man who said he finally achieved his goal of shoplifting in all 50 states. You know what you call someone who steals from all 50 states? A congressman.” –Jay Leno

“Paul Ryan is full of excitement, he’s drawing big crowds. The only thing holding Paul Ryan back now according to political experts is Mitt Romney.” –David Letterman

“Have you seen these guys, Mitt Romney and Paul Ryan? They look like father and son dentists.” –David Letterman

“Paul Ryan likes to hunt and we all know that a vice president who hunts is always a good choice.” –David Letterman

“New Jersey Governor Chris Christie is going to be the keynote speaker at the Republican National Convention, and wherever Chris Christie goes you know what that means. That’s right, unlimited bread sticks.” –David Letterman

“I think Chris Christie is a good choice for the keynote speaker. I mean, is there a better symbol for belt tightening than Chris Christie?” –David Letterman

“Speaking of Paul Ryan, a new poll actually found that 42 percent of Americans do not approve of Mitt Romney’s running mate, which isn’t too bad considering most Americans don’t approve of Paul Ryan’s running mate.” – Jimmy Fallon

“Tell me one area where Paul Ryan and Sarah Palin would disagree? I cannot find one area. So somehow he’s the smartest guy in the party and she’s the stupidest woman on earth, but they agree on everything.” –Bill Maher

How many of you have the Paul Ryan fever? They say that Paul Ryan will humanize Romney. And I thought, hell, an amoeba could humanize Romney.” – David Letterman

“I like the looks of this Paul Ryan, the representative from Wisconsin. He reminds me of who your sister would date in college. He looks like one of those guys who pretends to be a doctor on an infomercial. He reminds me of the guy at Olive Garden who comes over to see how everything was.” –David Letterman

Mitt Romney is claiming he’s going to create 12 million jobs in his first term. But he hasn’t said yet if he’ll create them in China or India.” –Conan O’Brien

# SBDWC Boosters

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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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**VOTE.**  
We can do it again.