



WOMAN'S NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC CLUB

From The Right To Vote...The Power To Lead
www.democraticwoman.org

April 2016

A Letter from the WNDC President

Dear Members:

We finished our March programs with a thought-provoking book on the subject of Secretary Clinton, and we shall start off April with a scholarly overview of America's political dynasties. Learning about politics and the characters that shape our national parties is always welcome, but so is participatory democracy.

To that end, the Public Policy and Political Action Committee is forging ahead with an action plan for the upcoming national campaign. The WNDC's Campaign Committee has had several meetings already with the last one led by two dynamic women from the Democratic National Committee. Please stay tuned, and see inside the newsletter for more details on this outreach effort. If David Brooks can proclaim in the New York Times that it's "a wonderful moment to be a conservative," then the same statement holds true for liberals, though obviously, the roller coaster ride has followed a different path.

Please note that there is still time to sign up for Thursday evening's "Broadway Comes to the Whittemore House." This should be a rollicking way to celebrate the coming of Spring. For a longer break from the "rigors" of electioneering, please consider a specially-tailored Club trip to England for September. (See below at right.)

On April 8th, at a special lunch in the Pub, we are also honoring the 90th birthday of a past President of the Club, Rosemary Monagan. Please join us.

—Anna Fierst

Save the Date!

Celebrate Mother's Day at the historic
Whittemore House



Sunday, May 8, 2016
TIME: 11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
EVENT TYPE: Brunch



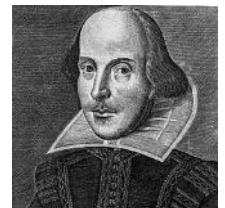
Making Mother's Day plans? Join us at the WNDC on **Sunday, May 8th** for a special brunch to toast the exceptional women in our lives! Bring your mother, sister, daughter, best friend, or mentor to enjoy a brunch buffet and mimosas, and to network with some of Washington's leading women (and men).

Price: Adults – \$45 with advanced registration, \$50 at the door/ Kids (5-12) – \$15

For this event, the membership initiation fee is waived for individuals who submit completed membership applications.

September trip to Stratford-upon-Avon for 400th Anniversary Celebration of William Shakespeare

The Club is organizing, with the vital help of the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, a small group tour of Stratford, the recent archeological discovery of New Place (the bard's home as an adult and where he died) and surrounding areas.



This idea was sparked by the Feb. 23rd luncheon talk given by Diana Owen who is the Executive Director of the Trust. We don't have pricing yet but we do have a sample itinerary described on page 4 & 5. If interested, please contact Pat Fitzgerald within the next couple of weeks. September is one of the best times to go as there are fewer visitors, and the weather is still favorable.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, April 7, 2016

Stephen Hess

America's Political Dynasties



Join longtime presidential historian **Stephen Hess** in a discussion of his latest book, *America's Political Dynasties*. The book offers an encyclopedic tour of families that have loomed large over America's political history, such as the Adamsses, Lodges, Tafts, Roosevelts, Kennedys, Bushes and Clintons.

Mr. Hess is a senior fellow emeritus in Governance Studies at the Brookings Institution. He served on the White House staff during the Eisenhower and Nixon presidencies and as advisor to Presidents Ford and Carter. Mr. Hess also was a distinguished research professor of media and public affairs at George Washington University. His numerous books are now translated into 30 languages.

This book will be available for purchase and signing.

Friday, April 8, 2016 (Luncheon)

Birthday Luncheon for Rosemary Monagan



Please join current and former Club members plus guests to celebrate the 90th birthday of our past President, Rosemary Monagan!

We will gather on a **Friday** for a plated lunch with our guest of honor. Make your reservations with Pat Fitzgerald now for this very special event.

Rosemary was president of the Woman's National Democratic Club from 2001 – 2002.

Tuesday, April 12, 2016 (Evening)

Panel Discussion

Gun Policy: Progress is Possible

Time: 6:00pm - 7:30pm



With a culture of violence degrading our nation, gun safety advocates mourn the victims and feel frustration at the stranglehold the gun lobby has on our body politic. But what can be done?

Join **Matthew Bennett** of Third Way, **Jonathan Lowy** of the Brady Campaign, and **Robyn Thomas** of the Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence as they delve beyond the high-pitched rhetoric and shocking headlines to explore the historical and political context of gun policy, the roles that state and local governments can play in the face of federal inaction, and innovative litigation approaches to hold institutions and manufacturers accountable.

Appetizer buffet and cash bar open at 5:30 pm
\$17 for members, \$22 for non-members

Tuesday, April 19, 2016 (Luncheon)

Clyde Prestowitz
Japan Restored



Clyde Prestowitz, who is the founder and head of the Economic Strategy Institute, is well-known for an earlier best-selling book, "Trading Places" that analyzed Japan as a rising economic postwar power. His new book, "Japan Restored," looks at the increasing limitations of Japan to support a stable Asian-Pacific balance of power and suggests how the country will reestablish its regional dominance and economic prominence.

A businessman and policy professional, Mr. Prestowitz served as a counselor to Secretary of Commerce, Malcolm Baldrige in the Reagan Administration. He writes regularly for leading publications, including the New York Times, the Washington Post, Fortune, and Foreign Policy.

This book will be available for purchase and signing.

Thursday, April 21, 2016 (Luncheon)

Octagon House Tour

Time: Meet at WNDC at 10:15 am (share cab) or at Octagon House at 10:55am.



Constructed in 1801 for John Tayloe III and his wife Ann Ogle Tayloe, the Octagon House was designed by the first architect of the Capitol, William Thornton. The house was an important social center in Washington's early years. When the British burned the White House in 1814, President Madison and his family lived in the Octagon for six months as the city rebuilt. It was here that President Madison signed the Treaty of Ghent in February 1815, formally ending the War of 1812 between Great Britain and the United States. The American Institute of Architects purchased the building in 1902 and has restored it to its early appearance. The museum currently offers exhibits on outstanding architects and the progress of historic preservation in the United States.

(Tour limited to 20 participants.)

Price: Tour \$25 members, \$30 non-members

Thursday, April 28, 2016 (Luncheon)

Marvin Kalb

Imperial Gamble: Putin, Ukraine, and the New Cold War



Award-winning journalist **Marvin Kalb** comes to the club to discuss his latest book, *Imperial Gamble: Putin, Ukraine, and the New Cold War*.

Mr. Kalb is presently senior advisor to the Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting and a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution. In his long and distinguished career with CBS and NBC, he served as Moscow correspondent, chief diplomatic correspondent, and moderator of Meet the Press.

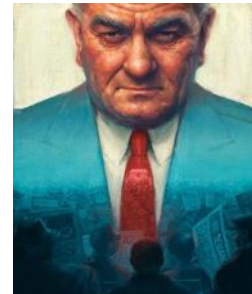
In *Imperial Gamble*, Mr. Kalb examines how Putin reached the conclusion that opposition in Ukraine constituted an existential threat to Russia by taking a critical look at the recent political history of post-Soviet Russia. The book also journeys deep into Russian and Ukrainian history to explain what keeps the two countries together and yet, at the same time, drives them apart.

This book will be available for purchase and signing.

Wednesday, May 4, 2016

Arena Stage: All the Way

Time: 7:30 pm



Join WNDC members and guests at Arena Stage for specially priced tickets to this 2014 Tony Award-winning drama about President Lyndon B. Johnson and his masterful deal making. He could massage a victory with one hand and twist your arm with the other. But brokering a deal is like playing with dynamite. With the country still reeling from President Kennedy's assassination, and a rising tide of bitterness over Civil Rights, it took more than politicking to hold America together — it took red, white and blue-blooded leadership. Go all the way with LBJ, Martin Luther King, J. Edgar Hoover and more in this "beautifully-built dramatic piece" (Variety) where the line between compromise and compromising your principles is as sharp as a knife.

Price: \$50 Members and \$60 Non-members

Thursday, May 5, 2016 (Luncheon)

High Stakes for State

Democracy (Panel Discussion)



There's much more to American policy and politics than the White House, Congress, and the Supreme Court. State governments--often conceived of as "laboratories of democracy"--play a crucial role. Yet there are troubling signs that democracy in the states faces serious challenges, as our panelists will discuss.

Michele Jawando, of the Center for American Progress, will tackle structural issues like ballot access, the strength of representation in state government, and political influence.

Susan Liss, of Justice at Stake, will discuss the dangerous movement to undermine the independence of state judicial systems.

Carolyn Fiddler, of the Democratic Legislative Campaign Committee, will survey some of the activity -- the hopeful and horrendous -- coming from state governments and underscore why state governments matter. Join us as we explore the salient issues in state-level democracy and consider a blueprint for reform.

2016 Campaign Committee Update and Next Steps

The WNDC 2016 Campaign Committee is now well underway. Many new members joined the committee in the past month. (There's no fixed upper limit – all members are welcomed to join at any time.) Meetings are held over lunch on the first Wednesday of each month (light lunch provided for \$15 or you can bring your own brown bag lunch.) **Next meeting will be on Wed., April 6, 12-1:30 pm.**



The 2016 Campaign Committee is reaching out to WNDC members all over the country with the goal of helping to elect Democrats up and down the ballot. The Committee is also sponsoring a number of members-only events at the Club. The first was held on March 18, with representatives from the Democratic National Committee explaining the delegate selection process for the Democratic National Convention, to be held July 25-28, 2016 in Philadelphia. If you would like a summary of the presentation and copy of the Power Point, contact WNDC Membership and Communications Coordinator Loretta Neumann, NeumannL@democraticwoman.org

The next special event will be a DNC-sponsored conference call and/or webinar, **“State of the 2016 Races” on Friday, April 22, at 2 pm** (Eastern time). All members, near and far, can participate, ask questions and share information on House and Senate elections. The call-in phone number and access information will be sent to all WNDC members in mid-April.

Woman’s National Democratic Club’s Tailored Tour to Stratford-upon-Avon, September 2016 — Sample Itinerary

Day 1

Arrival in Stratford-upon-Avon and check in to your hotel, VIP tour of this medieval market town, and a private after-hours tour of **Shakespeare’s Birthplace**.

Day 2

Opening lecture, special interest talk(s), a private archive display, lunch in the **Shakespeare Birthplace Café**, a walk to **Anne Hathaway’s Cottage and Gardens** with homemade shortbread and tea, and an evening performance by the **Royal Shakespeare Company**.

Day 3

Group post-show discussion on previous evening’s performance at the Royal Shakespeare Company, **Question and Answer session**, Pre-performance talk using materials from the Archives, Lunch and free time in Stratford-upon-Avon, special interest talk, private guided tour of **Shakespeare’s New Place and the Great Garden**, Visit the historic National Trust property, **Charlecote Park**, followed by an evening performance by the **Royal Shakespeare Company**.

Day 4

Day trip to notable locations in the area: this can include **Kenilworth Castle, Blenheim Palace, Compton Verney Art Gallery, Leicester Cathedral and the King Richard III Visitor Centre, or Warwick Castle**

Day 5

Group post-show discussion on previous evening’s performance at the Royal Shakespeare Company, **Question and Answer session**, lunch and free time in town, special interest talk in the afternoon, and pre-performance talk on Shakespeare’s intended audience, afterhours private tour of **Hall’s Croft and dinner at Hall’s Croft Café**, and an evening performance by the **Royal Shakespeare Company**.

Day 6

Behind the scenes tour of the **Royal Shakespeare Company’s Theatre and Swan Theatre**, lunch in the RSC rooftop restaurant, depart Stratford-upon-Avon, and visit **Hampton Court Palace** on the way back to London.

“The Hunting Ground”: The Searing, Continuing Reality of Unsafe Colleges

On February 26, the Woman’s National Democratic Club hosted a screening and panel discussion of “The Hunting Ground,” Amy Ziering’s and Kirby Dirck’s acclaimed documentary on campus rape. Just two days later at the Oscars, Vice President Joe Biden introduced Lady Gaga before she sang the film’s powerful anthem, “Til It Happens to You.” Fifty-two survivors—including two of our originally scheduled panelists—Annie Clark and Andrea Pino—joined Gaga on stage, bringing the guests to a standing ovation and to tears.

The film documents the culture of violence and the lack of accountability on college campuses that leads to an estimated 1 in 5 women being sexually assaulted. The narrative centers around Pino and Clark, who pioneered the use of Title IX to hold colleges accountable for ensuring non-discriminatory, safe campuses. It also includes moving interviews with survivors, parents, campus officials, activists and the police who deliver a damning indictment of higher education.

Several Campus officials interviewed admitted that university profit is the main reason for hiding the incidence of campus rape because the information might damage these institutions’ reputations and future enrollments. And millions in profit from college and university sports are the primary reason campus athletes so often escape prosecution or even negative consequences for their crimes.

After the screening, four extraordinarily panelists answered questions about the film and how to prevent sexual violence on campus. Here are some highlights:

Laura Dunn, Executive Director of SurvJustice (survjustice.org) and a nationally recognized victim-turned-victims’ rights attorney, stressed the inevitability of college drinking and the importance of not blaming the rape phenomenon on alcohol. Dunn, like all panelists, was also asked how, in a utopian world, to prevent campus rape. Her answer was revealing: any college that failed a sexual assault victim should be shut down. Her organization, now overwhelmed and turning away survivors requesting legal help, would welcome donations.

Josh Bronson, Assistant Director of the Office of Civil Rights and Sexual Misconduct and the lead special investigator at the University of Maryland, emphasized the importance of engaging males to end the epidemic of sexual assault.

Caren Sempel, an attorney who focuses on interpersonal violence education and services at George Mason University and trains nationwide, echoed Dunn on the issue of alcohol. The mother of four children, she reviewed the list of threats from alcohol to her girls and boys. But she also asked why her girls should face the additional risk of sexual assault.

Sempel also cited the heavy responsibility (beyond the stress associated with response) that is placed on college sexual assault staff. Twenty-four-hour hotlines must be staffed all year—even if by unpaid college students. She talked about the importance of extra care and support for those who are on the front lines of the battle to make colleges safe and responsive to victims.

Amanda Nguyen, a Harvard-educated astronaut-in-training, is the founder of Rise (risenow.us), which advocates for a comprehensive bill of rights for sexual assault survivors, at both the federal and state levels. As a rape survivor and activist, she understands that some states may not provide for free rape kits or their maintenance. On film night, she had just returned from advocating in Oregon for “**Melissa’s Law**,” which could help prevent crimes like the rape and murder of fourteen-year Melissa Bittler by a serial rapist. Rape kits from two previous victims of Melissa’s killer had been remained untested for four years. The law would require law enforcement to institute consistent practices for collecting and handling sexual assault kits, to test and track the evidence, and to keep victims informed of how the evidence is being used. Studies showing most rapes are committed by serial rapists make this issue particularly pressing. Her nonprofit would also welcome donations.

All in all, another productive, intense and wonderful night at the Woman’s National Democratic Club.

Veena Trehan, Chair, Social and Economic Justice Task Force, Public Policy Committee

MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI
03/28	03/29 “	03/30	03/31	1 Luncheon Available with reservation
4	5	6 Luncheon Available with reservation	7 Program Meeting 10:30a SPEAKER LUNCHEON Steve Hess	8 BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON Rosemary Monagan
11	12 PPC Meeting 10:30a SPEAKER (Evening) Gun Violence Panel 6:00p - 8:00p	13 Luncheon Available with reservation Executive Committee Meeting 12:45p	14	15 Luncheon Available with reservation
18 EF Board Meeting 10:00a	19 SPEAKER LUNCHEON Clyde Prestowitz Global Women Task Force Meeting 11:30a	20 Luncheon Available with reservation Board of Governors Meeting 12:45p Art Installation	21 Octagon House Tour	22 Arts Committee Meeting 10:30a
25	26 Social & Economic Justice Task Force Meeting 2:30p	27	28 SPEAKER LUNCHEON Marvin Kalb	29

Luncheons available Wednesday and Friday Cost: \$20.00. Reserve 24 hours ahead at (202)232-7363 ext. 3003
Cancellation policy: Credit will be given if cancellations are made by 12:00 noon at least two business days in advance.

WNDC Officers, Committees, Meetings

WNDC Officers 2015-2016

President	Anna Fierst
Vice Presidents:	
Administration	Gail Gottlieb
Communications	Elizabeth Joyce
Public Policy	Karen Pataky
Programs	Mimi Hassanein
	Linda Kandel
Membership	Suzanne Forsyth
Public Liaison	Joy Holland
Treasurer	Miae Song
Secretary	Barbara Zelenko
Assistant Secretary	Patricia Leslie
Visual Arts & Museum Affairs	Nuzhat Sultan

Educational Foundation Board 2016-2017

Jean Rogers, President	rogersm@cox.net
Anne Martin, Vice President	dannemar83@gmail.com
Dianne Lorenz, Financial Secretary	dianne.lorenz@verizon.net
Pat Bitondo, Secretary	PBitondo@aol.com
Michael Beidler, Michael@troutdesign.com	
Nuzhat Sultan, nuzhatsultan@gmail.com	
Patricia Leslie, patricialeighleslie@yahoo.com	
Farhana Shah, farhanasha@yahoo.com	

April Meetings:

Tuesday 10:30 a.m.	April 7 Program Committee
Tuesday 10:30 a.m.	April 12 Public Policy Committee
Wednesday 12:45 p.m.	April 13 Executive Committee
Monday 10:00 a.m.	April 18 Educational Foundation
Tuesday 11:30 a.m.	April 19 Global Women Task Force
Wednesday 12:45 p.m.	April 20 Board of Governors
Friday 10:30 a.m.	April 22 Arts Committee
Tuesday 2:30 p.m.	April 26 Social and Economic Justice Task Force

WNDC Committees

Arts & Museum
By-Laws
Membership
Program Planning

Chairperson

Nuzhat Sultan artswndc@gmail.com
Susan Rao susanraorealtor@gmail.com
Suzanne Forsyth suzanneforsyth@aol.com
Mimi Hassanein mimicatzoo@yahoo.com
Linda Kandel ldkand@gmail.com

Public Policy and Political Action

Vice President	Karen Pataky kjpataky@comcast.net
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The Committee for Public Policy and Political Action is composed of task force chairpersons and at-large members. All WNDC members are welcome at PPC meetings. If you wish to join a task force, please contact Karen Pataky or the Task Force Chair.

<i>Public Policy Task Forces</i>	<i>Chairperson</i>
DC Statehood	MaryEva Candon candon@candonlaw.com
Education/Children's Issues	Maria Ross mrosaross@aol.com
Voting Rights/Election Reform	Gail Gottlieb mggottlieb@gmail.com
Earth and Environment	Jean Stewart jean.stewart@rcn.com
Faith & Values	Kristin Cabral Cabral@KristinCabral.com
Global Women	Veena Trehan veena0323@yahoo.com
Health Care	Karen Pataky kjpataky@comcast.net
Social and Economic Justice	Veena Trehan veena0323@yahoo.com
Gun Policy	Gail Gottlieb mggottlieb@gmail.com

Luncheon Schedule

11:30 A.M. Bar Opens
12:15 P.M. Lunch Served

1:00 P.M. Presentation
1:45 P.M. Q+A

Pricing:

Members \$25/Non-Members \$30/ \$10 Lecture Only

May Newsletter Deadline: Wednesday, April 20

To allow time for production of the newsletter (editing, layout, and proofreading), all submissions to the newsletter are due on the 3rd Wednesday of every month.



Woman's National Democratic Club
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Washington, DC 20036

