



WOMAN'S NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC CLUB

From The Right To Vote...The Power To Lead

Newsletter June 2017

President's Letter

"WINTER OF DESPAIR, SPRING OF HOPE"

The WNDC fiscal year 2016-2017 closes this month. It has been tumultuous to say the least. What started as a promise of women's empowerment in a profound way ended with intense disappointment and then an incredible bounce-back. We saw the inauguration of an unpopular president and then the unprecedented success of the Women's March on Washington. That was the beginning of an era of activism and a renewed commitment by progressives to recoup the losses of the past eight years.

A new year dawns in July bringing with it new WNDC leadership and many expectations. Our new members have spoken, and their message is loud and clear. Their priority is political action. They want to create a vigorous Get-Out-the-Vote initiative; harness the disparate forces in DC, Maryland and Virginia; and bring success in down-ballot races in 2017, 2018, and 2020. With this level of continued commitment, we dare to hope for continued future success, both for our institution and our nation.

We are also looking to two major milestones on the horizon—the centennial of suffrage in 2020 and our own 100th anniversary in 2022. It is time to start planning towards these momentous events. At a time when regressive forces are trying to set the clock back, we need to redouble our efforts to keep the agenda of women's rights, minority rights, and those of the economically challenged, in sharp focus. Collaboration with other progressive organizations will be key to our success in the next few years.

This year ends on a hopeful note for us. In addition to almost doubling our membership numbers, we have also succeeded in breaking even financially. The WNDC brand is shining bright as we gain greater prominence as a bulwark of women's civic engagement in our nation's capital. To continue quoting Charles Dickens: "It is the best of times, it is the worst of times".

—Nuchhi Currier



WNDC New Members Summer 2017

Front, 1st row: Carla Washington, Heather McCabe, Megan Bailiff, Shakira Pollard, Katelyn Moga, Mary Ann McLaurin, Natasha McKenzie, MaryEva Candon (VP for Administration)

2nd row: Maria Ross (VP for Membership), Shelby Buettner, MacKenzie Condon, Beth Hadley, Amy Clark

3rd row: Nuchhi Currier, Tim Bloomquist, Lauren Kunze, LaToria Eason Brent, Jaunita Flessas, Sarah Barnett, Britt Lake, Erie Meyer, Megan Smith

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Thursday, June 1, 2017
(Evening)**



WINE & CHEESE HAPPY HOUR

TIME: 5:30—7:00 PM

The Membership Committee invites all members to join us at the Whittemore House for a Wine and Cheese Happy Hour. We especially want to encourage new members to

participate, as it a perfect occasion to network and socialize, and get to know your other club members while enjoying an assortment of cheeses and wines.

Price: \$10 per person. Includes one glass of wine.

Friday, June 2, 2017 (Evening)

CINEMA NIGHT: LADY IN THE VAN



**TIME: 6:00 PM—
Bar opens with
light dinner
7:00 PM— Film
starts**

Alan Bennett's story is based on the true story of Miss Shepherd (played by a magnificent Maggie Smith), a woman of uncertain origins who "temporarily" parked her van in Bennett's London driveway and proceeded to live there for 15 years. What begins as a begrudged favor becomes a relationship that will change both their lives. Filmed on the street and in the house where Bennett and Miss Shepherd lived all those years, "Lady in the Van," directed by the acclaimed Nicolas Hytner reunited with iconic writer Alan Bennett ("The Madness of King George," "The History Boys") brings this rare and touching portrait to the screen.

PRICE: \$25 Members/ \$30 Non-Members; \$10 film only

Tuesday, June 6, 2017 (Morning)

HILLWOOD MUSEUM AND GARDEN TOUR

TIME: Arrive by 10:15 am. Tour of gardens begins at 10:30 and mansion at 11:30. Light lunch at Hillwood Cafe, 12:30 pm (separate purchase)



Hillwood was the magnificent home of Marjorie Merriweather Post (1887-1973). One of the richest women in the world, she inherited the Postum Cereal Company, later expanded into the General Foods Corporation. Owner of many great residences, including Mar-a-Lago in Florida, she bought Hillwood in 1955 and decided that it would become a museum for her collection of Russian imperial art (the most comprehensive outside of Russia) and distinguished 18th-century French decorative art. Encompassing 25 acres of landscaped gardens and natural woodlands, it is the largest privately held residence in DC. A great philanthropist, Mrs. Post was a donor to the WNDC, providing funds in 1966 to restore the main drawing room, which now bears her name and features a beautiful portrait of her.

No public transportation available to the estate. Participants may meet at WNDC at 9:50 am to share cab or car. Free parking is available at Hillwood. (Directions will be sent to all registrants.)

PRICE: Tour only, \$20 Members; \$25 Non-members

Thursday, June 8, 2017 (Evening)

Mark Plotkin, Michael D. Brown, MaryEva Candon: *The Trump Effect: Elections 2016 and 2017*



TIME: 6:00—7:30 PM

Mark Plotkin, U.S. political analyst for the BBC, noted political pundit, and DC statehood proponent extraordinaire, will join U.S. Shadow Senator Mark D. Brown (D-DC) to discuss U.S. politics under the Trump Presidency, hopes for elections in 2017, and the impact on DC voting rights and autonomy efforts. Moderated by MaryEva Candon, DC's Democratic National Committee- woman and WNDC Vice President for Administration, this presentation will provide unique local and national perspectives on a political environment that seems unprecedented.

PRICE: \$20 Members/ \$25 Non-Members (includes hors d'oeuvres). \$10 Lecture only. Cash Bar.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, June 13, 2017 (Evening)

THE SCIENCE OF EXERCISE AND THE CEREMONY OF COFFEE — AN EXPERIENTIAL EVENING

With Steve Shafarman and Kenfe Bellay

TIME: 6:00—8:00 PM



Experience is the essence of this evening event — linking the flow of energy from two very different

sources. First Steve Shafarman, also an author on the political economy of guaranteed income, will present a guided demonstration of the body balance and relaxation techniques of *FlexAware* and its posture improvement and back pain relief based on ancient and modern methods. The evening then ends gently with the ancient wisdom of the Ethiopian coffee ceremony, led by Ethiopian-born Kenfe Bellay, owner and manager of Sidamo Ethiopian Coffee and Tea in Washington DC and also near Columbia, Maryland. Bellay will host the ceremony showing how the special coffees of Ethiopia (where coffee was first discovered) can add zest as well as finesse to your coffee experience. Participants will both taste the coffee and learn *FlexAware*.

PRICE: \$20 Members/\$25 Non-Members

Wednesday, June 21, 2017 (Morning)

WNDC ANNUAL MEETING AND LUNCHEON

TIME: 10:30 AM Members Only Meeting; 12:30 PM Lunch served (guests are allowed)

Please gather to meet our new Board members and thank the outgoing officers and Board. This year's officers have worked hard to bring us great programs, solid WNDC and PPC publications, and other contributions too numerous to name. We want to hear from all our members as we plan for the future. A special luncheon will follow the meeting

PRICE: This event is free, but registration is required. Lunch: \$25 Members, \$30 Guests.

Thursday, June 22, 2017 (Evening)

DINNER & DANCE AT THE WNDC

TIME: 7:00 —11:00 PM

The evening will honor Ward 2 DC Councilman Jack Evans and will feature cocktails, dinner and dancing to the world renowned Motown Band, "Right On".



A native of Pennsylvania and an honors graduate from the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School with a law degree from the University of Pittsburgh Law School, Evans was elected to the DC Council in 1991 and has represented Ward 2 ever since. He has been reelected seven times with overwhelming majorities. Currently Chair of the Council's Committee on Finance and Revenue, he is also Chairman of the Board of Metro. He is a presidential elector and a six-time delegate to the Democratic National Convention. He co-chaired the DC presidential campaigns of Bill and Hillary Clinton and Howard Dean. He's a past treasurer of the DC Democratic Party.

The flamboyantly costumed ten-piece "Right On" Band is called The World's Greatest Show Band. They have played Motown, Disco and 70's Funk dance music all over the world for dignitaries and heads of state. "Right On" is the only band in America to have played for four U.S. presidential inaugurations.



Tuesday, June 27, 2017 (Evening)

RICHARD O'BRIEN: THE MOST INFLUENTIAL WOMEN WORLD LEADERS YOU HAVE NEVER HEARD OF

TIME: 5:30—8:30 PM

Meet the 107 women who have led nations. Join us for Richard O'Brien's discussion of his newly released book *Women Presidents and Prime*

Ministers. Ground breakers all, these amazing women come from diverse backgrounds and overcame daunting odds to lead their nations. Many were jailed, tortured, or attacked. When they served, what did they do? And how do we increase their numbers?

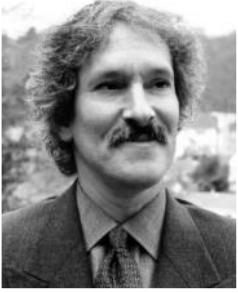
O'Brien is a human rights activist and educator. He administered Georgetown's Foreign Policy Immersion Program, and is on the S-C.A.R Advisory Board at George Mason University. As a human rights expert, he has presented in Congress, the U.S. Department of State, U.S. AID, the United Nations and on national TV and radio, and has taught in this field at the University of South Florida. O'Brien has been a leader in the Democratic Party for decade in Florida. He is a graduate of Georgetown University, American University and Culver Military Academy.

The book will be available for purchase and signing.

PRICE: \$20 Members; \$25 Non-members. \$20 Students with valid ID.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, June 29, 2017 (Lunch)



**ORI Z. SOLTES: GOD AND THE GOALPOSTS:
A BRIEF HISTORY OF SPORTS, RELIGION, POLITICS, WAR AND ART**

Georgetown Professor Ori Z. Soltes, noted for deep scholarship and entertaining talk, presents a page-turning, eclectic mix of contemporary (and historic) sports—from the gridiron to the basketball court and the Olympics track—that blends with rich detail the fascinating history of art and religion, war, and politics. Georgetown's Director for Jewish Life Rabbi Rachel Gartner hails the book as a "triumphant example of the kind of intellectually thrilling and paradigm-shifting scholarship for which Dr. Soltes is so beloved!"

From heroes in the Old Testament to today's competitive athletes like Tim Tebow (first in football, now in baseball), Soltes delivers his trademark, often funny, always insightful narrative that underscores the frequent bloody narrative when the sometimes violent worlds of sports, politics, religion, and war collide, often in scripture, often in art. From the sports locker-room to the campaign finish-line — and decisions to go to war, Soltes scores.

The book will be available for purchase and signing.

PRICE: \$25 Members; \$30 Non-members (includes lunch); \$10 Lecture only

CLUB NEWS—EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Make an Impact at the WNDC Annual Meeting

The Educational Foundation is seeking to support the women of the N Street Village and asks that you help us with this project. N Street Village is a transitional housing residence that serves more than 2000 low-income and homeless D. C. women each year. The Village works to empower the women by offering a broad spectrum of services including housing and advocacy. This is done in an atmosphere of dignity and respect so the women can gain a quality of life, achieve stability and make strides in housing, income, employment, mental health, physical health and addiction recovery.



N Street Village is in dire need of the items we take for granted for everyday life. The most desired items are: bath towels and washcloths; full-size body wash, soap and lotion; feminine hygiene pads (no tampons) and Depends (adult incontinence underwear). The EF is asking that you help us in 1 of 2 ways:

1. Purchase and bring your donations to the Annual Meeting on June 21, OR,
2. Bring a check for EF designated for N St Village. The EF will compile these donations and write one check to N St. Village.

This is one tiny step in offsetting the draconian measures being taken by the current administration against the poor and those in need. Help us help them. Thank you.

—Anne Martin, Educational Foundation President



FLOC—For the Love of Children

EF has been a partner with For Love of Children (FLOC) for a number of years. The WNDC has been a supportive partner to EF for this endeavor. Students, volunteers and tutors meet at Whittemore House once a week during the school year. Since 1965, FLOC has served more than 10,000 children. Again, this year, **EF and WNDC will host the end of school year Gala on June 16. See for yourself the glee on the faces of both parents and children. Join us on June 16, we need and want our WNDC member to celebrate with FLOC and the EF. This is a no cost event. E-mail your RSVP to Pat Fitzgerald.**

For Love of Children

DNC UPDATE



DNC Update

After teaming up with Senator Bernie Sanders to “take the Democratic message to the people where they are,” DNC Chair Tom Perez is moving forcefully on three fronts:

DNC Transition: The 2017 DNC Transition Advisory Committee, which began meeting in April, comprises 36 members including at least 7 non-winning candidates for various DNC offices—a good sign that Chair Perez and Deputy Chair Keith Ellison recognize value of including these talented DNC candidates in leadership.

The Transition Committee is charged with 1) building a Party that reaches into and represents every corner of America; 2) expanding and strengthening partnerships, identifying outreach opportunities, and bolstering grassroots organizing; and 3) communicating effectively across all channels and spectrums.

Each committee member will join one of four working groups to: 1) build lasting coalitions with progressive groups and other Democratic allies; 2) organize and win in red and rural states; 3) strengthen state parties and create new entry ways; and 4) reach out and mobilize core Democratic constituencies. (For more information, visit www.democrats.org)

Unity Reform Commission: The Unity Reform Commission, which first met in DC on May 5-6, was created at the 2016 Democratic National Convention at the urging of predominantly Bernie delegates with grave concerns about transparency issues regarding caucuses (rather than primaries) and delegates not pledged to any presidential candidate (the so-called “super delegates”). The 21 person Commission comprises 9 Hillary appointees, 7 Bernie appointees, and 3 appointed by the DNC Chair. The Commission is conducting a review of the nominating process over the course of 2017. It will submit its report of recommendations to the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee by January 1, 2018. The Commission’s recommendations will concentrate on the following areas:

- Increasing participation in the presidential nominating process
- Empowering the Party and its candidates to be more competitive in all regions
- Involving new and unaffiliated voters
- Revising delegate selection rules on unpledged delegates
- Supporting redistricting efforts
- Broadening the base of the party at the grassroots level
- Expanding the DNC’s donor base.

The Commission will hold at least three more meetings in other regions during 2017. (To learn more about the Unity Reform Commission and how to participate, visit www.democrats.org/unity-commission.)

Nationwide Resistance Summer Program: The DNC and State Democratic Parties will partner with state parties and external allies on local organizing efforts designed to bolster state parties and win elections up-and-down the ticket. The mission of Resistance Summer is to educate, organize, and mobilize grassroots energy from Democrats in all 57 states, territories, and Democrats Abroad to help build the Party’s base of political power and resist Trump’s attacks on hardworking families. Under this competitive matching grant program, the DNC will approve and fund programs that will be executed by state parties.

On Saturday, June 3, State Parties and allied groups will hold events across the country to kick off Resistance Summer, and WNDC will be involved. (To learn more and to participate, visit www.democrats.org or doyler@dnc.org).

If You Want to Get Involved: If you are interested in being part of the 2020 presidential nominating and election process, **stay in touch with your State Democratic Party RIGHT NOW!!!** It is through the state democratic parties that potential activists, candidates, and delegates **learn the rules** in time to take part effectively. A major problem for many involved in Bernie’s candidacy was that his followers did not know Democratic Party processes for delegate selection and nor did he—mainly because most of them had never been involved in the Democratic Party process before. So **DON’T LET THAT HAPPEN TO YOU!!!!**

—MaryEva Candon, Esq., WNDC Vice President for Administration and DC Democratic National Committeewoman, elected citywide in 2014 to a four-year term, writes a monthly column for the WNDC newsletter.

Calendar – June 2017

MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI
			1 Program Committee Meeting 10:00 AM Wine & Cheese Happy Hour 5:30 PM	2 Luncheon Available with Reservation Cinema Night 6:00 PM
5	6 Public Policy Committee Meeting 10:30 AM Hillwood Tour 6:00 PM	7 Luncheon Available with Reservation	8 The Trump Effect 6:00 PM	9 Luncheon Available with Reservation
12 EF Board Meeting 10:30 AM	13 The Science of Exercise and the Ceremony of Coffee 6:00 PM	14 Membership Committee Meeting 9:00 AM Executive Committee Meeting 10:30 AM Luncheon Available with Reservation	15	16 VAMA Meeting 10:30 AM Luncheon Available with Reservation FLOC Gala 5:00 PM
19	20 Global Women Task Force Meeting 11:30 AM	21 WNDC Annual Meeting & Luncheon 10:30 AM	22 Dinner & Dance 7:00 PM	23 Luncheon Available with Reservation
26 EF Board Meeting 10:30 AM Drue Kataoka 5:30 PM	27 Social & Economic Justice Task Force Meeting 2:30 AM Richard O'Brien 5:30 PM	28 Luncheon Available with Reservation	29 Ori Z. Soltes Luncheon	30

Luncheons available Wednesday and Friday. **Cost: \$20 (buffet) or \$25 (plated)**. Reserve 24 hours ahead at (202) 232-7363 ext. 3003
Cancellation policy: Credit is given if cancellations are made at least two business days in advance.

WNDC Officers, Committees, Meetings

WNDC Officers 2016-2017

President	Nuchhi Currier
Vice Presidents:	
Administration	MaryEva Candon
Communications	Elizabeth Joyce
Public Policy	Karen Pataky
Programs	David Hoffman
Membership	Maria R. Ross
Visual Arts & Museum Affairs	Nuzhat Sultan
Public Liaison	Gail Gottlieb
Treasurer	Miae Song
Secretary	Judy Hubbard

Educational Foundation Board 2016-2017

EF President	D. Anne Martin dannemar83@gmail.com
Michael Beidler	Michael@troutdesign.com
Betsy Clark	epsclark@rcn.com
Nuchhi Currier	Ex officio
Patricia Leslie	patricialeighleslie@yahoo.com
Dianne Lorenz	dianne.lorenz@verizon.net
Rosalyn Overstreet Gonzalez	rovergonz@gmail.com
Nuzhat Sultan	nuzhatsultan@gmail.com

WNDC Committees Chairpersons

Arts & Museum	Nuzhat Sultan artswndc@gmail.com
By-Laws	Susan Rao susanraorealtor@gmail.com
Communications	Elizabeth Joyce lafleurjoyce@gmail.com
Program Planning	David Hoffman djhoffmanscreen@aol.com
Membership	Maria R. Ross mrosaross@aol.com

June Meetings

Thursday 10:00 AM	June 1 Program Committee
Tuesday 10:30 AM	June 6 Public Policy Committee
Monday 10:00 AM	June 12 Educational Foundation Board
Wednesday 9:00 AM	June 14 Membership Committee
Wednesday 10:30 AM	June 14 Executive Committee
Friday 10:30 AM	June 16 Visual Arts and Museum Affairs Committee
Tuesday 11:30 AM	June 20 Global Women Task Force
Wednesday 10:30 AM	June 21 Annual Meeting
Monday 10:00 AM	June 26 Educational Foundation Board
Tuesday 2:30 PM	June 27 Social & Economic Task Force

Public Policy and Political Action

Vice President	Karen Pataky kjpataky@comcast.net
Public Policy Task Forces	Chairperson
DC Statehood	MaryEva Candon candon@candonlaw.com
Education/Children's Issues	Dianna Washington diannaw331@aol.com
Earth & Environment	Jean Stewart jean.stewart@rcn.com
Faith & Values	Kristin Cabral Cabral@KristinCabral.com
Global Women	Veena Trehan veena0323@yahoo.com
GOTV Campaign Committee	Naomi Naierman nnaierman22@gmail.com
Gun Policy	Gail Gottlieb mgailgottlieb@gmail.com
Health Care	Karen Pataky kjpataky@comcast.net
Social & Economic Justice	Veena Trehan veena0323@yahoo.com
Voting Rights/Election Reform	Gail Gottlieb mgailgottlieb@gmail.com

The Perfect Gift!

BLUE CANAL by Evelyn "Toni" Linowitz, 1995
Print, Signed and Numbered

This beautiful Venice scene makes the perfect gift for your graduate, bride and groom, or your friend!

Get your signed and numbered print today by contacting the Visual Arts Assistant Ina Descartes idescartes@democraticwoman.org. Proceeds benefit the Preservation of the Historic Whittemore House. Priced at \$100.



July Newsletter Deadline: June 15

We gladly post late submissions on the website, but we cannot print any items submitted after the deadline. Please request a template if interested in submitting an event or article via idescartes@democraticwoman.org.

Luncheon Schedule

11:30 AM Bar Opens
12:15 PM Lunch Served
1:00 PM Presentation
1:45 PM Q&A

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

ON THE RADAR

Wednesday, July 12, 2017 (Lunch)

Lauren Straus: "Her Hat was in the Ring:
Bella Abzug and her life in the Political Trenches"

Tuesday, July 25, 2017 (Evening)

Nationals vs. Milwaukee Brewers group outing. Gametime: 7:05 PM, Baseline seats in Sec. 136



**Woman's National Democratic Club
1526 New Hampshire Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20036**

