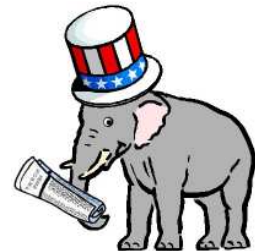




NORWF NEWS

Northwest Orange Republican Women, Federated



"Women Making A Difference"

March 2011

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



March winds are blowing and so are the winds of change in Wisconsin, Ohio and other places. Unions are flexing their muscle and finding that it is not working to their advantage. Wisconsin Democratic legislators are learning that running away was probably not such a good idea and that there may be no way to really save face.

Florida legislature opened on March 7 and will work on an aggressive agenda for the 60 days that they are in session. Seven NORWF members were in Tallahassee for the FFRW Annual Meeting and for the opening session. I have filed a report elsewhere in this newsletter. We will keep you posted on various bills as they work their way through.

Dave Bitner, the new chairman of the RPOF, will be our NORWF speaker in April. The chairman is a personal friend of our member, Mac McGuffin, and we are looking forward to hearing him talk to us.

This month, Matthew Falconer, who many of you remember from his bid for Orange County mayor in 2010, will speak to us at our March 17 meeting.

It's about time to start putting our Candidate Talk Time on our meeting agenda again. We have already been approached by a potential candidate, so look for campaign materials to appear and candidates to start coming to our meetings. How about you? Have you explored the possibility of being a candidate?

If you have not yet renewed your membership, please do it right now! Danielle will gladly add you to the membership book for this year and we will keep you on the email lists so that you will know all the goings-on.

Please remember that we will not meet in June and July this year.

Have you ever thought, "I can do that!"? Well, think about doing something in and for NORWF. Think about running for office here in our club. Our nominating committee will be elected in August and will report in October, so feel free to attend any board meeting to see what we do. This is YOUR club and I would hope each and every one of you would want to be a part of the leadership team.

I look forward to seeing you at all our meetings this year and preparing for 2012, a year that we hope will also become even more historic than 2010!

Blessings to all,

Linda

Linda Laurendeau

President

LLaurenda@aol.com|407.889.9792

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY

**Renew Your
Membership
Today!**

Executive Committee

President—Linda Laurendeau
407-889-9792, llaurenda@aol.com

1st Vice Pres. — Mary Smothers
407-889-4009, mfsmothers@embarqmail.com

2nd Vice Pres. — Danielle Hilson
407-814-1405, philson@cfl.rr.com

Secretary — Michelle Decker
407-814-0423, makdecker@yahoo.com

Corresponding Secy. — Vina Springer
407-886-3371, springsever@cfl.rr.com

Treasurer—Joyce Hayward
407-884-7889, joycehywrd@yahoo.com

Asst. Treasurer —Joyce Brocker
407-889-5305, jbro34@earthlink.net

Past Pres./1st Director—Patty Redlich
407-886-8460, pattysells@aol.com

It's the Bylaw..

A member of NORWF may not contribute to, endorse or otherwise support any candidate who is not a member of the Republican Party regardless of whether it is a partisan race or non-partisan race. Our bylaws, local, state and national, prohibit such activity and is grounds for dismissal from membership.

What you do in the voting booth is your business but you MUST NOT exhibit public support for a non Republican candidate!

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY



General Meeting Information

When: Third Thursday of each month
Where: Errol Estate Country Club, 1355 Errol Parkway, Apopka
Time: 11 a.m. to ~1 p.m.
Cost: \$17 for lunch & dessert
LUNCHEON POLICY: Reservations are required if you wish to attend our monthly meetings, whether you are eating lunch or not. Please RSVP to Mary Smothers at 407-889-4009. The cost is \$17 per person for lunch. We will have a table set up in the back of the room for those of you who wish to attend the meeting but will not be having lunch. . If you are unable to attend, please cancel (by phone) within 24 hours notice or you will be billed for lunch. Thank you for understanding.

NORWF GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY, Mar. 17, 2011

Errol Estate CC, 1355 Errol Pkwy, Apopka

RESERVE NOW AT WWW.NORWF.ORG OR
CALL MARY SMOTHERS AT 407.889.4009

Matthew Falconer Speaks on “Smart Cap” – Protecting Florida’s Economy

The program for the March 17, 2011 meeting will be speaker Matthew Falconer on the subject of “Smart Cap and Protecting Florida’s Economy”.

Smart Cap will place a limit on state and local government revenue and spending; require governments to operate like a business with budgets and priorities; require voter approval for sports arenas; all of which Mr. Falconer believes will ensure economic prosperity for the next generation in Florida.

Con. Adams’ Staff in Apopka

Staff of Congresswoman Sandy Adams, House District 24, is now holding office hours in Apopka each Wednesday from 1 to 5 p.m. to provide constituent services and assistance with federal agencies. Staff will be available at the office of Rep. Bryan Nelson, 409 S. Park Ave, Apopka, each week.

Con. Adams’ website is adams.house.gov, where you can find out about legislation, sign up for her newsletter and more.

Membership Corner

NORWF DUES ARE DUE

Please remit your renewal or new membership dues as soon as possible and please consider becoming a premium member. Options are:

Platinum Eagle
\$200 plus

Gold Eagle
\$100 - \$199

Silver Eagle
\$51 - 99

Bronze Eagle
\$31 - 50

Active Member
\$30

Associate Member
(Active Member of another Federated club)
\$20

Male Associate Member
\$20

Student Member
\$5

Please mail your check to NORWF, PO Box 56,
Apopka, FL 32704-0056

For those of you who want a hard copy of the newsletter mailed to you please add \$5.00.

***Reminder!** The membership drive is a contest for anyone who can sign up the most new members and it ends March 30th. The prize will be a \$50 gift certificate to the restaurant of your choice. This is our biennial convention year and we are granted delegates based on how many active members we have by the end of March. We want to be one of the most influential clubs by sending the most delegates to vote on all important state business, including electing new state officers.

You can pay at the February meeting or you can mail a check to: NORWF, P O Box 56, Apopka, FL 32704.

Congratulations to Jan McCall who won the drawing last month for two Disney tickets. The drawing was open to those active members who had paid their membership dues early.

Calendar of Events

Mar. 17—NORWF, 11 a.m., Errol Estate CC

Apr 7—NORWF Board, 10 a.m., Errol Estate CC

Apr 21—NORWF, 11 a.m., Errol Estate CC

Apr 30-31—Apopka Art & Foliage Festival

May 5—NORWF Board, 10 a.m., Errol Estate CC

May 19—NORWF, 11 a.m., Errol Estate CC

**Because this is not an election year there will be no regular meetings during June and July.*

DO YOU HAVE A FAMILY MEMBER OR FRIEND WHO IS SERVING IN OUR ARMED FORCES?

The board of directors would like to invite you to give us the name or names of any family member or friend that is serving so that we may send packages from “home” each month. Our soldier, Patrick Durr, that you have heard so much about and who we have received those wonderful “thank you” gifts has come back home for a few months. He brought the Christmas tree we sent last year back home and will take it to his new post in Afghanistan in July. Our other soldier, Kristopher Azevedo, will also be home soon for some R&R. His unit is 40 soldiers from Volusia County on the Afghanistan – Pakistan border, providing border security.

Please contact Linda at 407.889.9792 and let us know who else you would like us to send our packages to.

THE ADOPT-A-SOLDIER COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU

The Adopt-A-Soldier Committee has an opening for someone who would like to work to procure items to send to our armed forces. The committee collects items brought to each meeting, and uses donated funds to purchase additional items if necessary, and to get those items in the mail. Please contact Linda at 407.889.9792 if you would like to become part of this very important committee.

EDITORIAL

Guest Columnist: : Barbara Zakszewski

Well, lots happening this month. The Florida State Legislature begins its annual 60 day session, with MANY items on the docket. Legislators MUST address the expected \$3.7 billion dollar budget shortfall in order to balance the budget. Governor Scott has proposed a budget filled with cuts to sacred cow programs like education and Medicaid/social services. Let's not forget the reason for this budget shortfall. Last year, the Federal government was handing out federal stimulus money to the states like Paris Hilton on Rodeo Drive.

Florida eagerly used the money to plug last year's shortfall without asking the question, "what do we do next year?". Well, next year is here and the fight begins in earnest. This will be battle of wills pitting conservative Gov Scott, against a republican but maybe not as conservative Legislature. What will stay, what will get cut?

There will also be a slew of bills to track over the next 60 days – bills dealing with revenue/spending caps, red-light cameras, septic tanks, immigration, insurance and everyone's favorite, government unions (benefits, pay, pensions, etc.). Will Florida become the next Wisconsin, with Unions members, Organizing for America and Jesse Jackson taking over our State capital. This will be a most interesting 60 days.

If you wish to track any bill, there are several ways to do that. Easiest is to go on www.leg.state.fl.us. From that home page you can go into either the Florida Senate or Florida House websites and follow the links to track any bills, from committee hearings to floor votes to analysis of each bill. Be sure to log on at least once, you will be glad you did.

And right in our own town of Apopka, our Commissioners have given the go-ahead for the expenditure of aprox \$350,000 - \$400,000 initial set up costs for a business incubator, in partnership with the UCF business incubator program.

Continued next column

NOTE: *This column will be included in the newsletter monthly as long as there are articles submitted for publication. Any of our members are free to submit an opinion piece expressing their views and passion concerning any issue and we encourage them to do so. However, the appearance of an Op Ed piece does not necessarily reflect the views of NORWF or its members. NORWF reserves the right to refuse publication of content deemed offensive.*

After that there would be expected additional expenditures of approx \$100,000/year, again paid for by the city. The money for the initial start up will be coming from Community Redevelopment Agency funds, as if that will make us feel better about this expenditure. While the UCF incubator program has had some success in its other sites, these were during economic times that were more conducive to business development. By their own admission, the city will not see a direct payback of this money, but instead will reap the benefits in terms of taxes, estimated at \$5.25 return for every \$1.00 spent.

Once a location has been established, UCF then screens applicants and the process begins. Any business that enters an incubator program can expect to spend about 2-1/2-3 years in the program.. There is NO guarantee that once a business graduated from the program, that they will stay in the city.. Is this a wise investment of city funds? Should the city, and for that matter, UCF, another government entity, be in the business of picking winners and losers? I will explore this topic in more detail next month.

As always, we must stay forever vigilant and watchful over ALL units of government. No matter which fund or unit of government is paying for whatever program, if it is a GOVERNMENT program, it is coming from OUR wallets.. That translates into less money for US to spend to grow the economy, instead we are growing government!!

COMMITTEEMEN & COMMITTEE WOMEN NEEDED

**District 2 is looking for more committeeman and women to join the Orange County Republican Executive Committee..if anyone is interested, please call me for details! Now is the time to start preparing for 2012!! We meet once a month on the 4th Thursday downtown at the Mark St. Senior Center.... 7:00 PM...please come join us!
We can carpool...**

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Report on the FFRW Spring Conference

By Linda Laurendeau

The drive up on Saturday, March 5, was an easy one. The weather was grand and seven NORWF active members registered for the event. The meeting was opened on Sunday afternoon by FFRW President, Cindy Graves. We had a presentation by Joanne Corby from the Melbourne club on membership goals. Next, we listened to Stafford Jones on "To PAC or not to PAC." Dan Norby gave a presentation on campaign finance law and Mike Hightower talked about fundraising. After a break and change of venue we gathered for dinner, listened to Governor Rick Scott talk about his vision of Florida's future and after dinner enjoyed video remarks by Senator Marco Rubio. Thus ended day one.

On Monday, Adam Hasner talked about the Federal Balanced Budget Amendment and his wife, Jillian, talked about the future of women in national elections. I missed the campaign seminar because I had a chance to meet with Clerk of the House, Bob Ward, about procedures and the role his office fulfills for the Florida House of Representatives. After lunch, Kim Carroll gave an informative talk on the use of social media and how it can help our clubs. We also heard wonderful and inspiring talks by RNC Secretary Sharon Day, Congressman Vern Buchanan, Lt. Governor Jennifer Carroll, CFO Jeff Atwater, Agriculture Commissioner Adam Putnam and Senate President Mike Haridopolos. Florida GOP Chairman, Dave Bitner, stopped by as well and gave us some encouraging words. We finished the day with the Legislative Gala at the Governor's Club where we were able to mingle and talk one-on-one with most of our speakers from the past two days and representatives and senators from all over the state.

We were off to the Capitol after breakfast on Tuesday morning and visited with Bryan Nelson before the opening ceremonies of the opening session, which was very moving. We had lunch with Bryan and Debbie Nelson, then had a short tour of the Capitol before leaving.

The theme, "Shattering the Glass Ceiling," was well met. It was an awesome three days of networking, meeting new friends, renewing old acquaintances and a packed fast-paced agenda. We even picked up one NORWF associate member. Your president was named parliamentarian for the upcoming FFRW convention in Orlando. Details are just starting to become available, so stay tuned for more information on that. You will also be receiving information on legislation that the FFRW will be backing so you can be educated and then educate others. I would certainly hope that each member will consider attending the future meetings and conventions of FFRW. You will be exhausted at the end, but you will certainly be well-informed and energized.



Gov Rick Scott speaking



Rita Boucher and Linda
with Rep Bryan Nelson



Opening ceremonies - you can see Rep. Bryan
Nelson and Con. Dan Webster



Linda Laurendeau and
Lt Gov Jennifer Carroll



Chamber ready for opening session

Scholarship



Below is the information and eligibility requirements for the annual NORWF Scholarship. If you know of any eligible student, any age, who would benefit from this financial assistance please encourage that person to apply.

The award will be presented at the NORWF General Meeting in May.

ALICE BETH MINER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION 2011

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION: April 15,2011

AMOUNT OF AWARD: \$1000.00

ELIGIBILITY

- 1) Graduating high school senior, full time undergraduate or graduate college student.
- 2) Proof of being registered or pre-registered Republican in Orange County, Florida.
- 3) Be accepted to or attending an accredited college.
- 4) Have demonstrated leadership on campus, place of worship or in the community.
- 5) Have participated in the campaign process, either as a candidate (in an organization at school or in the community) or by helping with a campaign.

**This is not a need based scholarship **

REQUIREMENTS:

- 1) Current transcript
- 2) Essay (1 to 2 pages, double spaced) entitled "My Political Experiences and the Role I See Women Playing in Politics in the Future"
- 3) Two letters of recommendation; showing community leadership and involvement, documenting involvement in a campaign (either your own or for an elected official or on-campus election)
- 4) Your voter registration number or copy of your voter registration card

PLEASE MAIL COMPLETED APPLICATION TO:

NORWF C/O Debbie Nelson

1157 Oakpoint Circle

Apopka, FL 32712

****Go to the next page for the application**



Alice Beth Miner Memorial Scholarship Application

Name _____ **Date of Birth** _____

Mailing Address _____

Email _____ **Phone** _____

College accepted to/attending _____

Scholastic/Career ambition _____

Awards you have received _____

Leadership roles _____

Employment _____

****Checklist****

____ **Current transcript**

____ **Essay**

____ **Two letters of recommendation**

____ **Copy of voter registration card or voter registration number**

____ **List of awards and scholarships you have received**

I affirm that everything I have stated is factual.

Signature _____ **Date** _____

Newsletter Published by Carolyn Booth

Renew Your Membership Today!

N.O.R.W.F

P.O. Box 56

Apopka, FL 32704

NORWF is a Member of the National Federation of Republican Women (NFRW) & the Florida Federation of Republican Women (FFRW)

National Fed. of Republican Women
Sue Lynch, President | www.nfrw.org

Florida Fed. of Republican Women
Cindy Graves, FFRW President
cindygraves@gmail.com

District 5 Representative
Mariann Lansing | mlans1221@aol.com

NORWF Meeting Schedule

Executive Committee meets at 10 a.m. on the first Thursday of each month at *Errol Estate Country Club, 1355 Errol Parkway in Apopka..*

General Membership Meetings are at 11 a.m. on the third Thursday of each month at Errol Estate Country Club, 1355 Errol Parkway in Apopka. There is a business meeting & program each month. Cost for lunch is \$17.

Disclaimer: We apologize for any errors or omissions in this publication. It is not intentional.