

Early conference registration is just \$40 through June 15th, which includes our Friday night Welcome Reception hosted by the Hillsborough County LGBTQ Democratic Caucus, as well as breakfast, lunch and refreshments throughout the day Saturday. Regular registration will be \$45 from July 16th through July 18th and late registration will be \$50 on the 19th and 20th of July.

We will have early tickets for the Leadership Dinner for \$80 through June 15th. The regular price for dinner tickets from June 16th through July 18th will be \$90 and the late ticket price will be \$100 on the 19th and 20th. The registration and ticket sales should be available tomorrow. PLEASE make sure you register and buy your tickets early to save money.

Peter is coordinating the local host committee to organize, goody bags, volunteers, and local ad sales and sponsorships. That committee is also meeting weekly. Michael and Shawn are arranging sponsorships and support from candidates, elected officials, businesses and organizations from outside the Tampa Bay area. We have already received sponsorship commitments from Congressman Darren Soto (thanks to Elizabeth McCarthy) and the FDP (thanks to Stephen Gaskill).

Respectfully,
Terry Fleming - Chair

Region 1 Report

Stonewall Democrats of Duval County - Submitted by Avery Garner

The Duval chapter continues to meet regularly and is preparing to finalize a chapter recertification package. Additionally, the Caucus plans to be engaged during local Pride events scheduled for August and October.

Capital Equality Democratic Caucus – Submitted by Andy Janecek

Earlier this month, Capital Equality hosted Steve Been and Kathy McGuire as our special guests at a “Pizza and Politics” social in Tallahassee. Steve and Kathy informed the membership of the Leon County Democratic Executive Committee’s (LCDEC) efforts to engage in voter registration and mobilization initiatives. Caucus members provided feedback and were invited to participate in future events hosted by the LCDEC. This meeting provided an opportunity for Caucus members to become more engaged in voter registration. Additionally, the Caucus is working on scheduling a VAN/VoteBuilder training session for members with access.

Capital Equality was a red-level sponsor of Tallahassee PRIDEFEST, April 20-27, 2019. The chapter is preparing for the annual election of officers scheduled for June, 2019, and is finalizing a recertification package.

Okaloosa County Chapter Development Interest Meeting Update

EDUCATE  **ADVOCATE**  **SUPPORT**  **ELECT**

Chartered by the Florida Democratic Party

Tracey Tapp, Chair of the Okaloosa County Democratic Executive Committee, reached out in late April to me, Andy Janecek, Regional 1 Director, and Keith Hardy, Florida Democratic Party Community Engagement Director for the Panhandle Region, regarding setting up a meeting with those interested in possibly establishing a chapter the Okaloosa County. The meeting, which was hosted by Tracey Tapp, was held on Friday May 10. There were 11 interested individuals who participated, one via video. In addition, Keith was there in person and I participated by phone.

I was impressed by the way the meeting was run and the professional experience of the attendees. They also asked very good questions. There was a good mix of males and females among the group. They have decided to move forward slowly with a goal to submit the certification paperwork by the August deadline. One person has been assigned to work with me on those documents. I had offered to share our most recent recertification packet. Members of the exploratory group will be joining the Emerald Coast Chapter to register voters and promote vote by mail on Pensacola Beach during the annual LGBTQ Memorial Day Weekend on Pensacola Beach.

Escambia County LGBTQA Democratic Caucus – Submitted by Jeff Nall

The chapter has several initiative in the works. On Sunday, May 26, members will be joining with a group of folks from Okaloosa County to register voters and promote vote by mail on Pensacola Beach during the annual LGBTQ Memorial Day Weekend celebrations on Pensacola Beach. On Saturday, June 15 from 11 a.m. until 6 p.m., the chapter will have a table to recruit chapter members, register voters and promote vote by mail at Pensacola Prides annual Festival in the Park, which will be held in downtown Pensacola. In addition, the chapter is planning Democratic presidential candidate debate watch parties on June 26 and 27. The chapter continues to struggle with meeting attendance and paid membership, but hopefully these efforts will help with visibility and generate support.

Respectfully,
Andy Janecek – Regional Director
Jeff Nall – Alt Regional Director

Region 2 Report

Stonewall Democratic Caucus of Alachua County - Carol Gordon, President

Stonewall Democrats of Alachua County is currently planning to start a Facebook account in order to be more of a presence in our community as well as with the Facebook community.

SDAC recently tabled at the 40th Annual 5th Avenue Arts Festival in Gainesville with local and state LGBTQ information. Seven new people signed up to be members.

EDUCATE  **ADVOCATE**  **SUPPORT**  **ELECT**

Chartered by the Florida Democratic Party

SDAC will be hosting a fundraiser on June 21st. All local Democratic elected officials have been invited.

A conversion therapy ban ordinance is set for hearing before the Alachua County Commission on May 28th. We expect many LGBTQA supporters to attend.

The Pride Community Center of North Central Florida (PCCNCF) has been participating on Facebook in Acts of Love and Kindness honoring Pulse victims and will have a gathering on June 12th.

PCCNCF will be celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Stonewall riots on June 29th at the Pride Center.

Equality Caucus of Citrus County - Chuck Higgins, President

The Democratic Equality Caucus of Citrus County sponsors Citrus Pride! This year it's on June 29th at the Crystal River Mall, noon - 4pm.

That means May and June are completely taken up by Pride planning and organizing activities. It's a special feat to pull off Pride in a red county!

Respectfully,
Chuck Higgins – Regional Director

Region 3 Report

Rainbow Ridge LGBTQA Democratic Caucus of Polk County:

The Rainbow Ridge LGBTQA Democratic Caucus of Polk County hosted a potluck dinner meeting on April 16 at the Polk County Democratic Party headquarters in Lakeland. The featured guest speaker was Andrew Learned, candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives for CD 15.

Agenda items included the upcoming Polk Pride 2019 event schedule and the role the caucus will be playing throughout the week of June 8 thru June 15. During the 'PRIDE in the Park' festival in Downtown Lakeland's Munn Park, the caucus will be running three booths to: 1. Register voters and promote VBM; 2. Gather signatures for petitions; 3. Provide a space for our equality-minded Democratic candidates to meet and greet festival goers.

Another area of discussion at the meeting was the ongoing effort to secure all-inclusive HROs for municipalities within Polk County.

Three individuals became caucus members at the meeting!

EDUCATE  **ADVOCATE**  **SUPPORT**  **ELECT**

Chartered by the Florida Democratic Party

Osceola County LGBTQA Democratic Caucus:

The Osceola LGBTQA Democratic Caucus convened for their April 30 General Membership Meeting at 'The Center' in Downtown Kissimmee. The featured guest speakers were Florida LGBTQA Democratic Caucus President Stephen Gaskill and Florida LGBTQA Democratic Caucus Legislative Affairs Director Elizabeth McCarthy.

Agenda Items included their upcoming July prayer brunch commemorating the 50th anniversary of Stonewall, recruiting members to participate in Congressman Soto's quarterly LGBTQ CD 9 Roundtable Meetings, completing the application for their Caucus Recertification and organizing to oppose the construction of a toll highway through the environmentally sensitive area of Split Oak.

The gathering garnered 4 new members for the Osceola Caucus!

Respectfully,
David Jones – Regional Director

Region 4 Report

Hillsborough County LGBTQA Democratic Caucus

Our guest speaker for the May membership meeting was Senator Janet Cruz, she provided the 2019 legislative update. Democrats need to pick up at least another 3 Senate seats in the 2020 cycle to be able to have 20 of the 40 Senate seats. Republicans will continue to raise money to hold or flip seats in the Florida house and senate.

The Caucus continues to support Kelly Smith in her quest to win the House District 38 special election on June 18, 2019.

The Caucus is diligently working on planning the summer conference and welcoming our friends from around the state.

Visit our Facebook page for updates on news and events.

Lee County LGBTQA Democratic Caucus - Submitted by Shawn Williams

We are very excited to have one of our members and former board member as the Chairwoman of the Lee County DEC. Congratulations to Gabrielle Spuckes, 2019-2021, Lee County Democratic Party Chairwoman. The Lee County Chapter has participated in several action and tabling events since our last report:

Trans Day of Visibility at Florida Gulf Coast University (3/19/19);

EDUCATE  **ADVOCATE**  **SUPPORT**  **ELECT**

Chartered by the Florida Democratic Party

Cape Coral Inaugural Pride Parade and Tabling with Lee County DEC (4/6/19). There was a wonderful turnout of about 1,500 people. It was a great day of visibility for Democrats and the Caucus;

2 DEC Precinct Trainings (3/31/19 and 5/19/19) with over 70 precinct volunteers (5 Caucus members) trained to organize in their neighborhoods;

On 5/15, I attended the Lee County Black Caucus Meeting. The two Caucuses agreed to do more events together to promote diversity, inclusion and equality for all.

On 5/18, a small group of us attended the "Bringing Voices Together," education summit in Orlando Florida presented by the Coalition for Florida's Public Schools for which Equality Florida, League of Women Voters and NAACP were involved.

Many members are planning to attend the June 1, 2019 Naples Pride event. This would be a great opportunity for the Florida LGBTQA Caucus to Table and cultivate interest from LGBT residents. The Collier County Democrats have a booth that we could share. I would be happy to include a sign-up sheet for volunteers to help with tabling at our next general meeting if we are interested.

Our next general meeting is 5/28/19 at the Fort Myers Fire Station, 2033 Jackson St, Fort Myers, FL 33901

Stonewall Democratic Caucus of Sarasota County – Submitted by Joe Agostine Jr

The ***Stonewall Democratic Caucus of Sarasota County*** held general membership meetings in both April and May. April meeting was dedicated to planning for Sarasota's Harvey Milk Festival. SDCSC sponsored a table at the Festival and invited the newly-formed Sarasota Veterans Caucus and the Manasota Young Democrats to share table space with us as part of our outreach efforts. In addition, we invited the Voter Registration/Vote By Mail Coordinators from the Sarasota DEC to join us as part of our services. The Festival was well-attended. In other activities, our Legislative/Campaign Committee Chair led a round-table discussion to determine what our priorities will be as we move toward the 2020 election cycle. A full report on the round-table will be made available at a later date. The highlight of our May meeting was a discussion/presentation on "Medicare For All." Finally, we are planning a social event in June to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Stonewall Inn Riots in NYC, essentially the beginning of the LGBTQ+ civil rights movement.

Manatee LGBTQA Democratic Caucus

May 4th & 9th-12th Harvey Milk Festival Manatee LGBTQA Dems participated in several events in run across bridge (3V) and at music fest as volunteers for HMF (4V).

May 8th Progressive Caucus 7:00pm Dem Headquarters Multiple new members joined, including for MAHC Cruise. (6V)

May 11th Rainmakers 2019 Scholarship Awards Dinner HS Grad; Univ. Grad; & Study Abroad Awards was again **sold-out (140 max)** at least one LGBTQIA youth received scholarship. (3V)

EDUCATE  **ADVOCATE**  **SUPPORT**  **ELECT**

Chartered by the Florida Democratic Party

May 15th Manatee LGBTA DEMS Caucus— 16 attended at Dem Headquarters, including signing up 5 new members. Beyond on our standard reports; Anthony did extensive presentation on our planned changes to our By-Laws. Minor changes will be voted upon in June, where more discussions will be had on other changes, which will be voted on in July. Discussed Recertification Status. Our efforts REQUIRE TEAM work. Also we must try to keep **our input “OBJECTIVE”**; input that is **“SUBJECTIVE” has questionable value.**

May 17th CP&RF Radio Interviews--- Radio interviews were: **Stephen Gaskill** President Florida LGBTQ+ Caucus, on plans for State; **Leslie Harrell** from Manatee DEC on plans for pre 4th celebration on 6/29; **Nathan Bruemmer** Exec. Dir. ALSO Youth and LGBTQIA Lecturer, on TRANS & Intersex issues. NOTE: We are expanding to **NOLA**, also have been requested to assist 4 other LGBTQIA Organizations radio programs, more info soon. We will be at **the huge Miami Book Fair** in Nov. We will **do 5 Shows, in June.**

May 18th Eurovision Finals Watch Party Fundraiser; for Dems & MAHC at Private Beach home. 42 paying guest gathered for lunch at afternoon & evening party to watch **live from Host City: Tel Aviv.** At least this year’s winner was a little less controversial than last. (ie. Eurovision Billed as the world’s largest annual LGBTQIA+ event). We had two limos this year (rainbow LEDs flashing) for “After Party” in SRQ, St. Pete; & Ybor ; if any of you were in clubs and saw the limos, that is where they were coming from.) We **had 7V present from Manasota**; with others from St. Pete, Tampa, Orlando, Miami, LA, San Fran, NYC, Boston, Las Vegas, Montreal, Toronto, Seattle, etc. Host has agreed to do again in 2020.

May 27th MAHC Work Day--- bring your muscles; helping & earning , see Steve/Ron/Clint **for pre-screening** (note: we have many of these work days with multiple groups & NGOs)

May 28nd DEC Meeting-- 6:00 pm in DEM Headquarters . JOIN our march to 2020 & do recurring monthly donation \$20.20.

May 28th PFLAG Meeting -- 6:00 pm at ALSO Youth in Sarasota.

June 7th to 9th Leadership Blue Orlando at Disney’s Yacht & Beach Club (gala tickets \$180 to \$270) register online at State Website

June 29th Manatee Democratic Party Picnic 11am to 2pm Pride park, join and meet many of our community in this outreach event. More details to follow.

Aug. 13th -19th Disney Gay Days at Walt Disney World – LGBTQIA Carpools from Region-4 to Orlando, see Steve for info (3rd year we have participated)

Respectfully,
Ercilia Albistu & Steve Ryan - Directors
Mary Ann Shea – Alternate Regional Directors

Region 5 Report

EDUCATE  ADVOCATE  SUPPORT  ELECT

Chartered by the Florida Democratic Party

At the April 16th meeting of the Rusty Gordon Chapter our guest speaker was Meredith Ockman.

Meredith is a longtime activist for LGBTQ and Women's Rights issues. She has worked for (and with)

Planned Parenthood, and N.O.W. for many years, and is looked up to as a community leader. Her take on recent events involving Women's Rights was both chilling and enlightening.

We also accepted several new memberships at the meeting.

Our next meeting (Tuesday May 21st) has been promoted as:

"Conversations with a Legendary Pioneer LGBT Rights" with Special Guest Speaker, Ruthie Berman.

Many of you met Ruthie at last years conference in West Palm Beach (I introduced her. Thanks, Terry F., for that honor!)

Hopefully, Ruthie will talk on many topics:

Her almost 60 year friendship & later relationship with (the late) Connie Kurtz;

Coming-Out-Of-The-Closet in 1988 on "The Phil Donahue Show";

The Lawsuit against NYC Board of Education for Domestic Partner Health Benefits (they won their case in 1994);

(which prompted the 1988 Donahue episode);

and anything else she wants to talk about in her special unfiltered and unvarnished manner.

(Yes, "Ruthie Can Swear Like A Sailor" - WHICH IS WHY WE LOVE HER.)

###

I have forwarded the Chapter Officers the latest communications I've received from SPACE COAST PRIDE.

We all look forward to "A Road-Trip Up The Coast" this September.

###

Tuesday May, 21st; 12:00 Noon - I just attended a Planned Parenthood Rally at West Palm Beach City Hall (Plaza)

Many Speakers, including:

Lillian Tamayo / South Florida Planned Parenthood CEO;

Felicia Goldstein / Leg. Aide to U.S. Rep. Lois Frankel - FL-21 (Endorsed by The Caucus);

State Senator Lori Berman - FI Sen. Dist. 31 (Endorsed by The Caucus)

In attendance were:

Chapter member Jim Bonfiglio, Former Mayor of Ocean Ridge / 2018 FI- 89 Candidate (Endorsed by The Caucus - but defeated);

West Palm Beach Dist. #2 Commissioner Cory Neering (Also V.P. of Education - Planned Parenthood);

Members of other Democratic Clubs & Caucuses in the County.

EDUCATE  **ADVOCATE**  **SUPPORT**  **ELECT**

Chartered by the Florida Democratic Party

Well as summer approaches, I believe we are spared any future visits by POTUS (a-k-a "Russian Agent Orange").

Should that change and we will be ready to greet him with our usual: "The Bronx Cheer". (My apologies to anyone from The Bronx.)

Respectfully,

Beth McMillen & Wayne Whitson – Regional Directors

Davy Whims & Nicholas Coppola – Alt Regional Directors

Region 6 Report

The Dolphin Democrats are actively reaching out to the Broward County community to increase the membership, and volunteers numbers. Our membership goal is to increase the membership, and actively engage with current and new members to build a strong coalition ready to fight in 2020

- We are currently 220 paid members and our meetings attendance is anywhere from 50-70 people at each membership meeting

- In late April we hosted a Political Trivia night, and it was a complete success not only for member engagement, but for fundraising.

- At our May Membership Meeting we endorsed Mr. Khurram Wahid for Commissioner of Coral Springs - Seat 2. This seat was vacated by the Dan Daily who got elected in March as FL State Representative - District 97. The special election will be held on June 18, 2019

- We have been hosting monthly Membership Mixers at bars in the Wilton Manors area. These mixers are becoming the perfect setting for members to connect in a non-formal environment. They have been a huge success for member recruitment and current member engagement. These mixers have been sponsored by local business owners, so they come at a very little to no cost to us.

- At our June 12 membership meeting, our local State Representatives will be providing a legislative update. We will follow that by a celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Stonewall Riots.

- The Dolphin Democrats will be marching at the Wilton Manors Stonewall Pride. Saturday, June 15, 2019. We will also have a booth at this event. The festival is from 3:00pm - 11:00pm. The parade is from 4:00pm-6:00pm

Respectfully,

Kerry Ann Parsons & Michael Albetta – Regional Directors

Alfredo Olvera – Alt Regional Director

EDUCATE  ADVOCATE  SUPPORT  ELECT

Chartered by the Florida Democratic Party