

DWCLA NEWSLETTER



July, 2025, Covering April –June 2025

Resistance 2025

Rallies and Rebellions in 2025

By Rissi Cherie

This year didn't begin as Democrats hoped-- the inauguration of Trump & Vance shattered all dreams of preserving democracy from the implementation of Project 2025. Instead, we have faced the nightmare with determined people-power activism.

Democrats are building grassroots coalitions on social media and on the streets--coalitions that have gone national, such as Indivisible and 50501 - fifty protests, fifty states, one movement. The first 50501 protests were a decentralized rapid response to the anti-democratic and illegal actions of the Trump administration and its plutocratic allies.

On social media, Facebook pages that were for Harris and Walz were relabeled as local groups for democracy. The page administered by local activist Julie Thaler, Gainesville Women for Democracy, is now 2.2 thousand strong! They have organized protests on the streets of Gainesville and Alachua, and joined the protests in Palatka. Our sister club, Putnam County FL DWC, is the driving force for the many protests in front of the County Courthouse in Palatka.

They organized rallies for Josh Weil's campaigning for Congress, Hands Off (all the services Trumpets and Doge Muskrats want to do away with), pop-up protests in support of the migrant workers in South Putnam, for county citizens who rely on SNAP and Medicaid, and for Vets on D-Day. The big protest on June 14th, Flag Day, was the NO KINGS! rally, which was the same day as DJT's birthday military parade in DC. Military parades are for victory in war, not a felon's



birthday! The parade was hugely expensive and absolutely disgusting. The protests in the streets were huge. There will be more.

A great number of my friends, acquaintances, people I don't know, and I have and continue to be street protesters. We, mostly women, though more men are beginning to join us, stand in the

(continued next page)

Page 1

DWCLA NEWSLETTER



Rallies and Rebellions in 2025-Cont.

heat and auto exhaust, endure rude shouts, thumbs down, and the finger, plus harassment by paid Republican instigators. We are persistent. We believe in the United States as a democratic country. Like the Ukrainians we refuse to give in to oligarchs and fascism. As Illinois governor J. R. Pritzker said, "We must be everywhere - all at once!"

If you are interested in becoming more connected and joining the rallies and rebellions, information is available in the following links to websites:

[Gainesville Women for Democracy](#)

[Badass Feminists Gainesville](#)

[Indivisible Gainesville](#)

[Indivisible of North Central FL](#)

CLUB EVENTS

Wine and Cheese Meet and Greet Event

Our annual DWCLA Membership Wine and Cheese Meet and Greet Event was conducted on April 26, 2025. The purpose of the Event was to invite, welcome and celebrate potential new members to our club. We invited Democratic voters from Putnam, Clay and Bradford Counties to come and join us. Our DWCLA Leadership introduced and defined "WHO" we are and "WHAT" we do in our Community. We focused on our offer of support, perseverance, and camaraderie in these politically challenging times. Our endeavors were successful given that we recruited several new members to our Organization. Additionally, we utilized this lovely opportunity to celebrate and express our appreciation to our existing members. Great food and spirits were shared and a grand time was had by ALL!



Robin Frazer



Sarah Flowers

**Fun fact: the
Boston Tea Party
was a protest
against a tariff.**

DWCLA NEWSLETTER

Democratic Women's Club
of the
Lakes Area
Alachua - Bradford - Clay - Putnam

CLUB EVENTS (Cont.)

Annual Plant Sale

Spring sprang into action with the Club's participation in an annual plant sale on April 5, at the Faith Presbyterian Church in Keystone Heights. Club members provided plants, pots, and even some artwork to support fundraising activity. While the plant sale was a bit earlier this year, sales went well and the funds raised exceeded those of last year. A special spring bouquet to Fran Rossano for Chairing the Plant Sale Committee and all of our members who donated items to support this year's sale.



New this Year: An Equality for All Roundtable

In recognition of Pride month, Juneteenth, and the fact that so many people are worried for their safety and concerned for democracy, we held our first Equality for All Roundtable on June 14. DWCLA members, as well as members of the public came to discuss issues and solutions for immigrants, persons of color, lesbians, people in same sex marriages, people with health concerns, religious concerns, and elders. Local and area leaders were there, including Phillip Miner and Joshua Florence.



Event Opening by Rissi Cherie

(continued next page)

Page 3

CLUB EVENTS (Cont.)

Equality for All Roundtable (cont.)

Phillip Miner joined us from Jacksonville. He is the current Co-Chair of the DEI committee for the Democratic Women's Club of Florida (DWCF) and the Chair of our Region V of the DWCF. Throughout his work life and retirement, he has had extensive experience in leadership in the areas of minority rights. He was the keynote speaker and led the People of Color table.

Josh Florence is an EMT studying to become a hospital administrator, and led the Health Issues table, along with our members Nicole Wagner, an occupational therapist, and Fran Rossano, a retired nurse.

Lucia Sanchez was to lead the Immigrant Issues table, such a crucial subject these days, but she had a family emergency which kept her from participating. One of our members, Linda Osborne, filled in for her.

The people at each table discussed their issues, and tried to offer solutions, with a scribe to report back to the whole group.

The Health Issues table reported first. So many of our seemingly difficult issues have such a simple solution: Medicare for All, or Single Payer Health Insurance. Currently, insurance is intentionally confusing and patients are not well-informed, because it is just too complex. Insurance companies control what health care you can receive. Because there are no case managers sitting in on appointments, every patient needs to bring their own advocate. When vaccine scheduling becomes optional, insurance companies will no longer cover them.

There is a shortage of medical professionals, and a serious lack of hospitals in the whole



area from Gainesville to Orlando. Medicaid expansion could have kept rural hospitals open. Med schools of all types need to expand, yet student loan programs are being dismantled by the Trump administration.

Hospitals and other institutions struggle to prevent the spread of contagion. This is a direct result of outsourcing laundry and housekeeping services to the lowest bidder. Previously, these jobs were strictly supervised by the hospital's sterilization department.



(continued next page)

Page 4

DWCLA NEWSLETTER

Democratic Women's Club
of the
Lakes Area
Alachua - Bradford - Clay - Putnam

CLUB EVENTS (Cont.) Equality for All Roundtable-cont.

As Democrats we advocate for a simplified health care system that covers everyone, while the current administration intends to cut Medicaid, which will be devastating, and does nothing to secure Medicare.

The People of Color table had a great discussion, with a few solutions. Phillip Miner made the point that things really have gotten better during his lifetime, but so many of the gains are threatened under Trump. The solution? Everyone – VOTE!

The racial prejudice and cultural limitations remaining can perhaps be addressed by creating discussion and social groups of black and white people equally.

To expand the employment of black professionals, networking is essential. When there is a job opening, find a person of color who would be great there, and encourage them to apply.

Connect with young people and tell them about Martin Luther King, Jr., Mahatma Gandhi, and all the non-violent leaders who were so effective.



Some of our presenters/Group leaders- Left to right-Josh Florence, Kate Ellison, Phillip Miner, Rissi Cherie



The Religious Issues table was led by Marilyn Eisenberg, and reported by Cindy Watkins. The table welcomed people from Earth centered, Mennonite, and Muslim people, plus a protestant backslider, a current Presbyterian minister, and an artist with Quaker affiliation. There are real differences between cultures, and they need not be turned into stereotypes. Unfortunately, stereotypes are still perpetuated, especially the anti-Israeli anger over the war, false perceptions of the US Jewish population, and historical ignorance where Muslims are concerned. Our elected leaders need to consider what laws and regulations can work well for people of all religions, not just the dominant religion. They suggested stepping out of who you are, to see how others live. If you feel afraid, find the things you have in common with other groups or with your neighbors. At this table there was some laughter, some common agreement, some new understandings.

At the **Same Sex Marriage table** led by Sammi Johnson and Sierra Wilkes, women
(continued next page)

CLUB EVENTS (Cont.) Equality for All Roundtable (cont.)



shared coming out stories, each one different, but all involving being bullied for being different. Same sex marriage is not widely accepted, especially in the workplace. When you are facing the threat of discrimination at work, you feel forced to hide, and then you are afraid of being discovered. There are accepting workplaces, if you search them out, as Sammi and Sierra both had to do.

There were many, many same sex marriages performed in the days between Trump's election and when he took office. In Florida the laws and regulations around marriage, employment, and housing vary from county to county and city to city. Sometimes the people at this table felt they were waging an uphill battle and were discouraged with the current political climate. However, they know each of the rights we do have began with a struggle. The arduous climb is worth it.

There was also a **Lesbian table**, led by Corky. If you haven't heard of the [Johns Committee](#), look it up. Lesbians are also parents, elders, members of minority groups, etc. Women's

issues are lesbian issues. The contributions by lesbians to western culture are not told, even within the alphabet soup of organizations – lesbians are discounted and erased.

Second wave feminism emerged from the University of Florida through the wide circulation of the [Florida Papers](#), brought to NYC by the authors. Now, lesbians ask that their organizations, built up in the last 50 years, not be erased.

As females, individuals and lesbian couples earn less than men all their lives, often living in poverty when they retire. If they don't have children, they often end up going it alone as they age.

Democrats need to be good allies – stopping the book bans, and the banning of lesbian organizations, especially in high school and college. Protect the rights that have been gained so far, don't let them be terminated by the MAGA crowd.



(continued next page)

DWCLA NEWSLETTER

Democratic Women's Club
of the
Lakes Area
Alachua - Bradford - Clay - Putnam

CLUB EVENTS (Cont.)

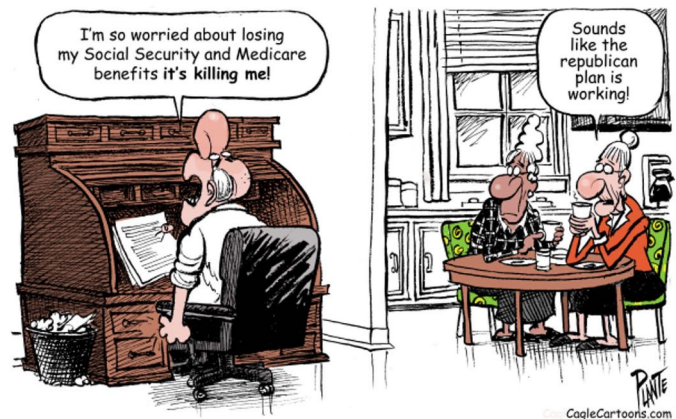
Equality for All Roundtable-cont.

Finally, the **Elder table** led by Mary Savage, reported on the challenges and solutions they identified. There are many threats to the longevity of Social Security, from DOGE cuts to the declining workforce population currently paying into the system. Hospitals are closing and affordable housing is almost non-existent. The main solution is in the voting booth. Elect leaders who will protect and stabilize Social Security, and address the healthcare issues covered by that table. Hold politicians accountable!

Get help with the complex medical and financial institutions we face by finding an advocate. Many elders face isolation, and need to cultivate relationships through church, neighborhoods, and incorporating young people within your circle.



Kate Ellison



As the afternoon came to an end, people left feeling heard and supported. It had been a place where hearts could be open; new understandings and new bonds could be shared. Many thanks to Rissi Cherie for organizing and leading this new and innovative experience!



DWCLA NEWSLETTER

Democratic Women's Club
of the
Lakes Area
Alachua - Bradford - Clay - Putnam

CLUB EVENTS (Cont.)



By Kate Ellison

March

Gainesville Women for Democracy

Julie Thaler and Pam Smith co-chair Gainesville Women for Democracy, which grew out of Gainesville Women for Harris. It is shocking that we need an organization and a campaign for Democracy, but we do. Pam is in charge of actions and events and Julie does coalition building and voter rights. They started as soon as Harris declared her candidacy, with sign-waving every Saturday, and Debate Watch parties. They also scheduled canvassing as often as possible, talking to people where they live. Now, they coordinate with the 50501 movement and other local activists.

They have some advice for us:

We need to continue canvassing; there is no time to rest! Canvassing has been proven to be the most effective way to get out the vote. Stay positive and be FOR something, not just against what is wrong. Find what you love to do, and do that.

Pam Smith became active in movements such as Women's Liberation and the Gainesville Women's Health Center in 1973, Black Power, Native American Rights, and the Anti-Nuclear Power campaign. She was part of the Women's Peace March in December 1983, walking from Gainesville to Key West.

Speaker's Corner



Pam Smith (Left) and Julie Thaler

Julie Thaler became politically active in 2016 when Hillary Clinton was running against Trump. In 2017-18 she organized teams in Alachua and Putnam Co.'s, called "Yes to Second Chances" to get Amendment 4 (the restoration of voting rights for returning citizens) on the ballot. She chairs the ACLC Criminal Justice Reform committee, leads the Restoration of Voting Rights for the Gainesville LWV with a focus on rural communities, and she's a member of the Alachua Co. NAACP.

(continued next page)

Page 8

DWCLA NEWSLETTER

Democratic Women's Club
of the
Lakes Area
Alachua - Bradford - Clay - Putnam

CLUB EVENTS (Cont.)

Speaker's Corner (Cont.)



April: Getting Organized!

In our April meeting we were hands-on planning the committees that still needed chairs. The Campaign Committee met, and found co-chairs Marc Frazer and Katherine Rothgeb. The team decided to get started with a phone bank to promote Vote-by-Mail. Robin Frazer and Loretta Chandler will co-chair the Tally Days/Convention committee. We still do not have a chair for the Fundraising committee although a list of possible fundraising opportunities was generated.

May: DWCF Convention Report

Five of our members went to the DWCF convention in Orlando, reporting back at our May meeting. Kate Ellison, Loretta Chandler, Robin and Marc Frazer, and Kerry Lundeen covered the business meeting, workshops, Speakers, Persisters Rally, and the Gala. Our full reports were emailed to all members with the May Minutes.

The biggest surprise was when **Harry Dunn** walked into the room. He was a police officer and survivor of the Jan. 6 attack, who happened to be in Orlando. The crowd treated him like a rock star, but he was down-to-earth and generous of his time, speaking and hanging out afterwards.

The most fun was the **Persisters Rally**, where we experienced the energy this organization brings out. We had a FABULOUS Hostess in Roxy Harvey who kept us entertained and engaged. In between eating and drinking and dancing and



DWCF Convention Attendees- Left to Right- Loretta Chandler, Kate Ellison, Kerry Lundeen, Robin Frazer, Mark Frazer

door prizes, we heard from many speakers – Representative Michelle Rayner, Representative Angie Dixon, Minority Leader Christine Hunschofsky, and Judy Mount, Vice Chair of the Florida Democratic Party. Candidate Josh Weil appeared as a surprise guest. He praised DWCF by declaring “It’s the place where work actually gets done,” and promised us – he is going to run again!

Loretta and Kerry attended the **Gala Dinner** on Saturday night. There was an awards ceremony for outstanding service to state and local clubs. Our Region V Chair, Phillip Miner received an

(continued next page)

Page 9

CLUB EVENTS- (Cont.)

May: DWCF Convention Report- (Cont.)

award along with Jessica Ransome, Roxy Harvey, Margaret Suttles and more.

The keynote speaker was **Theresa King**, the President of the Florida Building and Construction Trades. King was a very impressive woman who gave an inspiring talk about women doing "men's work" and succeeding beyond all expectations. She became the first female president of her union in 2016.

Robin speaks for us all when she says: It was an honor to attend the DWCF State Convention as a delegate for the DWCLA. I highly recommend this experience to everyone! It was a jam-packed weekend with little or no down time and considering we spent most of our time sitting, it was exhausting! We are all grateful to our Club for sending us to the Convention.

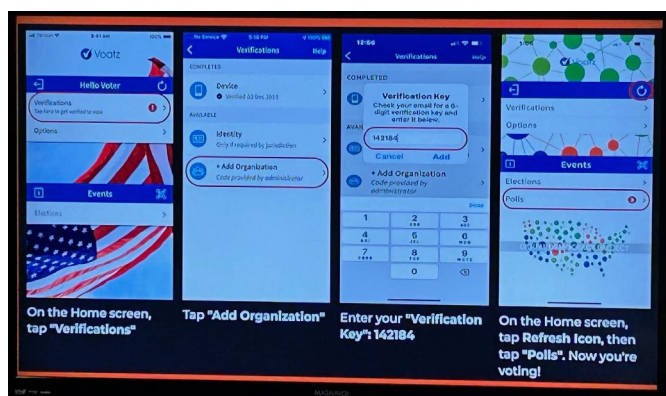
June: Digital Democracy

Sadie Holzmeyer is the Florida Director for the Digital Democracy Project, which is a nonprofit organization that is signing up Floridians to participate in instant polling on a mobile application (VOATZ) about statewide legislative issues. They have national polls as well. Sadie presented the features of the VOATZ application at our meeting along with the future plans for the Digital Democracy Project. You can view the Digital Democracy Project Website at:

<https://digitaldemocracyproject.org/>.



Sadie Holzmeyer at our June meeting

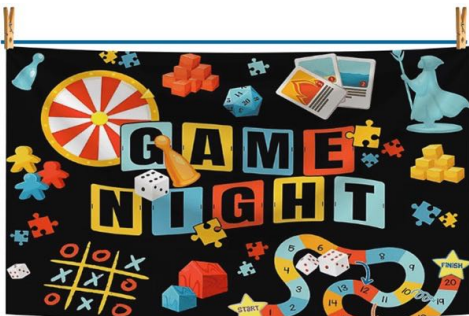


DWCLA NEWSLETTER

Democratic Women's Club
of the
Lakes Area
Alachua - Bradford - Clay - Putnam

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS-

Game Night! In addition to the regular games, this July we are having a GUESS THE BABY contest. Members will submit their baby pictures to Sharon Deitz and she will make a numbered poster of the pictures. We also need a current picture of you so that contestants can relate the face with the name. The contestants in the game will fill out an entry which will have the current picture on it with their guess as to which pictures belong to which members. You don't have to participate in the game to submit pictures (or even be present that night). But you do have to be present if you want to play the game. We need as many members to send pictures as possible so that the game is challenging. That's why we are asking for pictures even if you are not coming to Game Night. We especially need the men to contribute pictures. It's too easy if we only have a few pictures of our male members.



~ **JULY 24, 7-8:30~**

Fun-raiser-Fundraiser

No Business, just fun. Invite your friends and bring your games! Refreshments potluck style. Send Sharon your baby picture (and a current one) for 'Name that Baby'!

Games ~ Snacks ~ Wine ~ Conversation

Meetings held at Melrose Center, 307 SR 26

The Democratic Women's Club of the Lakes Area

Instagram: [DWCLA](#) [www.dwc-la.org](#)

Facebook: [@DWCLA](#) or [Facebook.com/groups/dwcla/](#)

DWCLA ♥ PO Box 802 ♥ Melrose, FL 32666 ♥ 352-235-4161

August Speaker- Remembering Conservation

For our August meeting we will be getting a reminder of our roots in conservation policy as the Executive Director of the Florida Springs Council, Ryan Smart gives a presentation on efforts to preserve/maintain water quality. With all of the important issues bombarding us, it is important to remember that we still have ongoing battles in basic local issues that directly affect us.



August 28, 2025

7 pm (doors open at 6:30)

**Ryan
Smart**



Ryan Smart is the Executive Director of the Florida Springs Council, and advocates for our springs and water quality in Tallahassee.

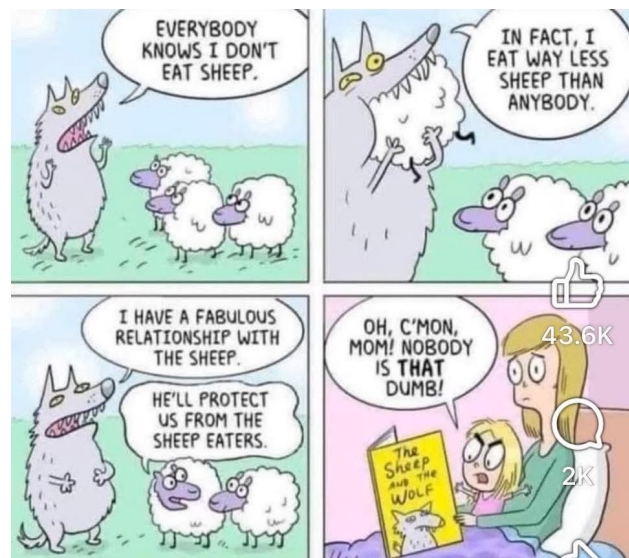
Meetings held at Melrose Center, 307 SR 26

The Democratic Women's Club of the Lakes Area

Facebook: [@DWCLA](#) or [Facebook.com/groups/dwcla/](#)

Instagram: [DWCLA](#) [www.dwc-la.org](#)

DWCLA ♥ PO Box 802 ♥ Melrose, FL 32666 ♥ 352-235-4161



(continued next page)

Page 11

DWCLA NEWSLETTER

Democratic Women's Club
of the
Lakes Area
Alachua - Bradford - Clay - Putnam

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS- Cont.

September Dance! This is our annual fundraiser, and it has a great reputation for being loads of fun as well! We need all members to sell tickets, for yourself and all your friends. Get a batch of tickets from Robin Frazer, who is in charge of the Dance this year. Or maybe you have a friend who doesn't join the Club or come to dances, but would be able to make a donation to support Democratic efforts.

**Lakes Area Annual
Community DANCE**

September 20, 7 PM

Tickets \$25 per person
Info: robin.frazer@yahoo.com
A portion of the proceeds will go to support area families and kids at Christmas ~

Keystone Heights Woman's Club
6747 Woman's Club Drive, Keystone Heights 32656

Light Refreshments One Free Drink with Ticket

RAFTUS BROWN & THE MELROSE HORNS



Also coming in September, **OUR 10th ANNIVERSARY!** There will be cake and champagne, ice cream, and special guests! Dr. Yvette Spano, DWCF's 2nd VP for membership, will celebrate with us. Shout out to Mary Lou Woods, who was instrumental in establishing our unique, multi-county Club.



Dr. Yvette Spano

Editorial Opinion

Letter to the Editor on Alligator Alcatraz

by Marc Frazer

Note: This is a letter submitted by our Club member Marc Frazer to the Bradford County Telegraph and to the Independent Alligator. For those interested in more local concerns, stay in touch with your local DWCLA for news about picketing the new detention facility at Camp Blanding.

Dear Editor,

The estimated annual cost to operate the "Alligator Alcatraz" migrant detention facility in the Everglades is \$450 million, with Florida initially funding the costs and seeking reimbursement from FEMA. Now, DeSantis is proposing opening another immigrant detention center at Camp Blanding, near Starke. How much more will this facility cost the taxpayers? According to the libertarian CATO Institute, undocumented immigrants commit

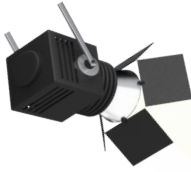
crimes at half the rate of American citizens, pay more in taxes than they receive in benefits, and do work no American will do (like the dozens of migrants I've observed picking watermelons near my home recently). As we enter the hurricane season, who is going to repair all the flooded houses and damaged roofs? Who is going to harvest the crops? Trump is planning to phase out FEMA, so forget about any disaster relief (or migrant detention center funding) from them! Tearing these essential workers away from their families and imprisoning them represents a remarkable level of stupidity and cruelty on a state and federal level.

Sincerely,

Marc Frazer

Brooker, FL 32622





MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Scott Alexander! Come On Down!



By Rissi Cherie

When I asked Scott about his family, he replied, unabashedly, "Sue Reale is my sweetie pie, my honey bunch. Our fur babies are Chipper, the dog, and Butter, the cat. My daughter, Valentina, lives in Berlin, Germany and she rocks!"

Definitely a cosmopolitan man, Scott was born in Richmond, Indiana. He has lived in Xenia and Dayton, Ohio; San Francisco, Berkeley, and Oakland, California; New York City; Berlin and Frankfurt, Germany. After life and work in all those cities, his comment is "WTF - Melrose, Florida!?"

Check out his work history! Can you imagine Scott as a farmhand? We can bet he was a cool bartender, though. A variety of other jobs developed his skill set. Carpenter is one of those jobs and I happen to know he recently built an art studio for himself. He's been a market research interviewer, college professor, artist's assistant, digital artist, Internet entrepreneur, designer, programmer, IT manager, and electronic publisher. "Whew, I'm retired now," said Scott.

Asked why did you join DWCLA? "To stop Trump from being re-elected president. It worked the first time, damn it!"

Here's Scott about his hobbies. "Despite all those stinking jobs I had over the years, at heart I am an artist and musician. I make video art and pictures. I play guitar and synthesizers. You could say I'm an electronic artist if anyone ever cared enough to ask you." Scott's work is on display at Acupuncture & Herbs in beautiful downtown Melrose.



With apologies to Stephen Colbert, we asked him what's the best sandwich? "A Rueben! If you are in New York City I recommend the Rueben at Katz's Deli at Houston Street at the corner of Ludlow Street."

Scott's answers to more questions give us a little more insight into the man, but I want to go deeper, so I added more questions and await his answers. What is one thing you own that you really should throw out? "My winter clothes from Berlin. Do I really still need a pair of snow boots here in Florida?" Do you like to keep things that make you remember good times or are you a

(continued next page)

Page 14

DWCLA NEWSLETTER

Democratic Women's Club
of the
Lakes Area
Alachua - Bradford - Clay - Putnam

Cont. - Member Spotlight Scott Alexander



Spotted om the Doom Scroll (2025)

hoarder? The scariest animal? "Homo sapiens!"

Do you prefer apples or oranges? "Oranges. I wish the greening disease hadn't killed the tree in our backyard."

What's your favorite smell? "Fresh baked bread." That is a great smell. Do you bake bread? Do you cook? "I'm a pretty good cook. I prepare 99% of the dinners at our house. My favorite dish is Pozole Verde which is a Mexican chicken-based soup made with hominy, onions, garlic, cilantro, tomatillos and poblano and jalapeno peppers. The soup is green which is off putting to some people. Sue likes my chicken korma and Chinese restaurant style stir-fry dishes."

Describe the rest of your life in 5 words: "Cybernetic, copasetic, quixotic, ingenuous, codger."

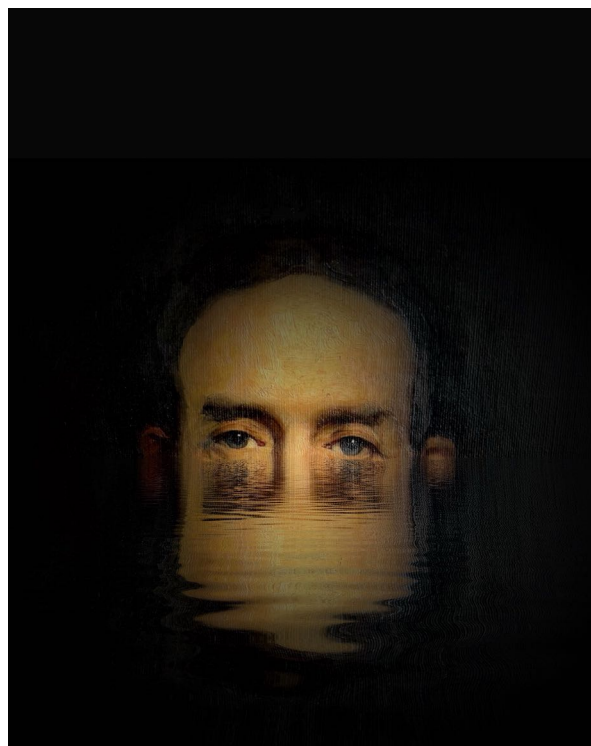
One thing Scott didn't mention is that he is the webmaster for our website, dwc-la.org and we all appreciate him doing that for DWCLA.

And that, folks, is a peek into Scott's life. Be sure to check out these links to some of Scott's work:

<https://www.youtube.com/@scottealexander59>

<https://music.apple.com/us/artist/scott-alexander/1793963596>

<https://open.spotify.com/artist/4oGhjt0Fs9rjGnVrW0SUvI>



Immersion (2025)



Book Reviews



Idella Parker: From Reddick to Cross Creek

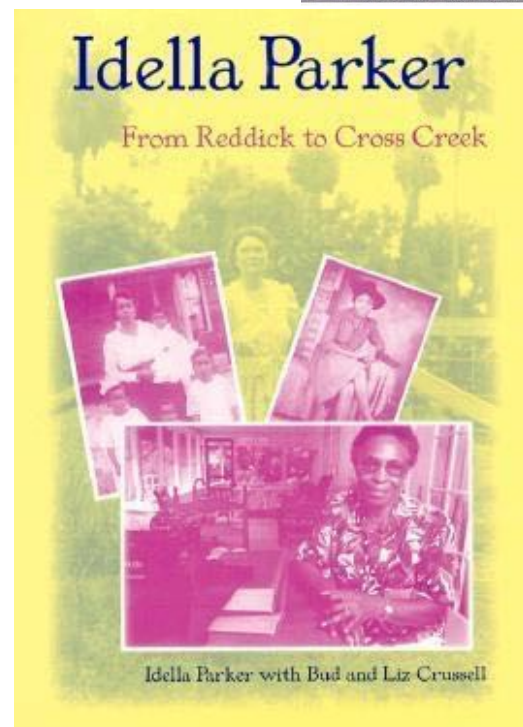
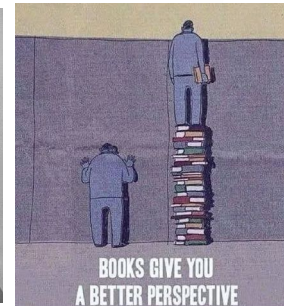
By Idella Parker with Bud and Liz Crussell

Book Review by Sandy Stephenson

Whether you are a native Floridian or not, *Idella Parker: From Reddick to Cross Creek*, will transport you back in time to "Old Florida". Idella was the housekeeper and cook for Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings and her first book, *Idella: Marjorie Rawlings' Perfect Maid* detailed her ten years from 1940 to 1950 with Rawlings. This memoir, however, tells two intertwining stories.

Her relationship with the often moody Rawlings is interesting in that Rawlings was generous and treated her like family some time but would not, for example, allow her to eat in the same room with her. Far more interesting is Idella's portrayal of a woman of color with limited prospects growing up segregated in the south. Her descriptions of her hometown, Reddick, with the railroads, lime factory, and homes is hard to imagine in the Reddick of today.

The role of the black community in educating their children, encouraging responsibility and helping neighbors gave children like Idella options other than agricultural work. Idella and her siblings became teachers and other professionals. Idella followed many career paths becoming a professional chef, a hairdresser owning her own shop, and a well known public speaker. She lived to 101!



The highlight of the book were pictures she included. In addition to Rawlings' Cross Creek home and scenes from Reddick were pictures of Rawlings' Crescent Beach house, (still there), and her husband's St. Augustine house, (also still there).

Overall, an insightful, easy read of Idella and Marjorie's relationship and a step back in time to Old Florida.

DWCLA NEWSLETTER

Democratic Women's Club
of the
Lakes Area



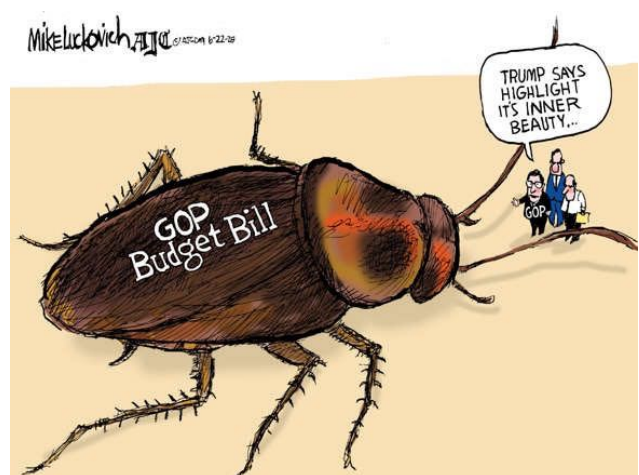
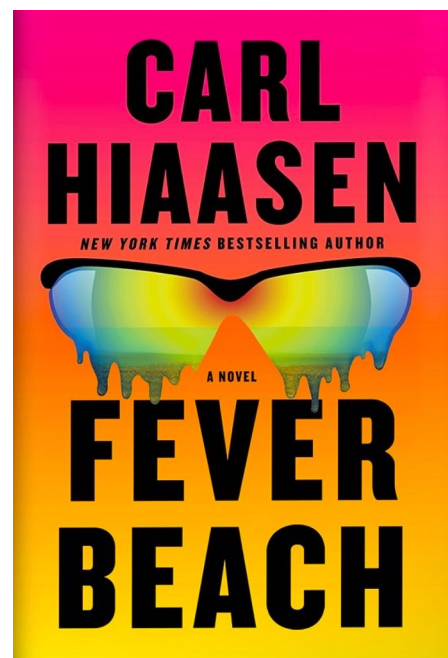
Alachua - Bradford - Clay - Putnam

Fever Beach

By Carl Hiaasen

Book Review by Scott Alexander

If the news has you down and you are in need of a little comic relief this summer, then you might want to check out Carl Hiaasen's latest book called *Fever Beach*. This time around, he takes on Florida politics in all of its present-day absurdities. The plot really doesn't matter, but it revolves around a right-wing (so called) patriot's group called the Strokerz for Liberty who are determined to take back America from migrants, Jews, and people of color. A sexually-perverted Panhandle Congressman is involved in a scheme to funnel money from elderly philanthropists determined to give away their fortune. They agree to give millions to a Habitat for Humanity type organization based on building houses with child labour. Yes, there is much more to the plot but the pleasure of this book lays in laughing along with Hiaasen's often biting humor. It's one of those books where you will find yourself chuckling out loud from time to time as you read it, and Lord knows we sure need a little comic relief right now.



DWCLA NEWSLETTER

Democratic Women's Club
of the
Lakes Area
Alachua - Bradford - Clay - Putnam

The Last Laugh



DONATE TODAY

Your recurring donation of even \$5 or \$10 a month will help! In order to work in the community to energize democratic women, WE NEED YOU! Your donation will be used to help our grassroots outreach in the lake area counties. We write post cards, do door to door canvassing, phone bank, and more to reach voters in our counties. Go Online to the website or to [Act Blue](#), directly.



Page 18