



WNDC NEWS

WOMAN'S NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC CLUB

An historic, educational, political, cultural, and social club where Democrats meet, discuss, and act upon issues of the day.

March 2010

A LETTER FROM THE WNDC PRESIDENT

February is a short month. It has also been a very slow one mainly due to extreme weather conditions. The D.C. area broke all previous seasonal snowfall records. As we dig ourselves out from under mountains of snow and watch the wreckage of trees around us, we give thanks that we got through relatively unscathed. The WNDC clubhouse lost a couple of trees in the terrace area and we might have to sacrifice another before this winter is done. Some of the gutters are showing signs of wear and tear but there were no fresh leaks, the balcony, which stood dangerously close to the leaning limbs of a fragile tree, escaped destruction and we are now preparing for the process of restoration and renewal.

We had to cancel many events and scheduled programs but

Please Note: New luncheon format on Wednesdays and Fridays!

the good news is that February again was a success story. For the fourth straight month we have met our financial obligations and move

into March with a renewed impetus to put into practice new plans that have taken longer to execute than we anticipated. The timing of Asia Society's move to the third floor is still uncertain since the VA has not signed the lease for their present premises – the GSA moves at its own mysterious pace.

We continue in our quest of a sustainable business model that will allow us the opportunity to maintain our presence in the policy and political circles of the nation's capital as well as providing our membership with the intellectual and cultural stimulation they have come to expect. In that spirit we have the following changes coming up in March:

We are discontinuing the Wednesday and Friday buffet luncheons effective March 3. Instead we have an arrangement with a popular caterer who will provide sandwiches, salads and desserts upon request. Please come this Wednesday to sample the new, simpler fare. There are a few regulations that kick in: You have to make reservations with Patricia Fitzgerald so we can order an adequate amount of food. Thus, the days the Bridge Club or the Book Club meet, for scheduled committee meetings and any other day you would like to eat at the clubhouse, please make a reservation. Details will follow and other groups who meet regularly during the day will be sent notices. This move will allow

see **PRESIDENT'S LETTER** page 2

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg Award Reception

May 4, 2010

Members' opportunity to purchase up to two tickets for Champagne Reception expires March 15, 2010.

If you want to attend and haven't registered and bought your tickets, send in your registration form now.

Any questions, contact Virginia Lawton at vnotwal@verizon.net or 202-244-7350. Checks must be mailed with registration form.

ATTENTION WNDC MEMBERS

Please submit your Emergency Contact Information!

In the event of an emergency, the Club needs to know whom to contact on your behalf. Please provide this information and it will be added to your membership file:

Your name
Emergency Contact's name
Relationship
Phone number
Cell number
Email

Submit to Patricia Fitzgerald: pfitzgerald@democraticwoman.org

Celebrate Cherry Blossom Week with the WNDC

The Valentine's Day social event which was cancelled due to inclement weather will be re-scheduled for some time during the first week of April to coincide with Spring and the Cherry Blossom Festival. Please watch for details coming soon in the weekly e-bulletin.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER continued from page 1

us to break even on these days – we have been losing too much money with the current system.

We are very actively pursuing our outreach to college campuses. We hope not only to generate a buzz among young democrats but also to attract much-needed interns as we become leaner (but not meaner!). Huma Malik, our new V.P. Finance, has taken over this task as well. The GWU Business School project devised by students to study and advise us on how to redesign our business model has hit some snags. We hope to resolve those and move on this project as well.

We have had some distressing news over the past few months. A few active and much beloved members passed

***Members, old and new,
are working tirelessly
to ensure WNDC's
continued success.***

away. Joyce I. Miller's service at WNDC was held on Friday Feb 26. Her family, friends and WNDC members paid tribute to a friend and colleague who will be

missed greatly. Dorothy Dillon also left her earthly abode on January 31st after a prolonged illness. Her absence has left a huge gap at the Public Policy Committee meetings and we are planning an event with some of her Public Diplomacy Alumni Association colleagues to pay tribute to her. Details will follow.

We are now moving into our active period. The various committees are gearing up for spring and summer and we are looking forward to growth and renewal. A reminder to members: the institution is as strong as **you** make it. Please keep us in your thoughts, remain active in the life of the club, visit often, knowing that the hard work the officers are putting into this effort of revival and renewal needs your presence. Together we will overcome!

Warmest regards,
Nuchhi Currier

"Life after Copenhagen"

A roundtable discussion on what really happened at the December meetings in Denmark sponsored by the United Nations.

On Friday, February 19, the Environment & Energy Task Force devoted its regular monthly meeting to exploring a question on all our minds: what actually happened at the December 2009 United Nations conference in Copenhagen, and how do its results affect the actions the USA might take in the future? More than thirty people attended the event, sitting at tables in the ballroom, listening to the presenters, and partaking of a delicious buffet lunch. The format was intentionally informal: introductions were kept to a minimum and questions from the floor were made vocally rather than written on cards.

The four panelists were:

Jake Schmidt, International Climate Policy Director, Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC); **Vera Eidelman**, Research Assistant in the International Economics Program at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and Managing Editor of the Endowment's International Economics Bulletin; and **Erin O'Sullivan**, SustainUS youth delegate from the US, and **Jenny Cooper**, John Gardner Public Service Fellow. Both women are now working with the Environmental Defense Fund, but did not represent EDF on the WNDC panel.

Altogether, the event was lively and informative. A full report on their remarks is available on the WNDC's website. Please check the home page.

Alice Day

Chair, Environment & Energy Task Force

The Book Group will meet on Wednesday, March 31 at 10:30 to discuss "The Help" by Kathryn Stockett. Please join us for the discussion, then stay, if you wish, for the Club's delicious Buffet Luncheon. For information about the Book Group, please call Louise Engle at (202)546-1009 or Martha Close at (703) 237-7236.

CALLING ALL MEMBERS

The Nominating Committee is looking for YOUR ideas and recommendations for next year's officers of the WNDC, members of the Board of Governors, and of the Nominating Committee. Signed recommendations from members will be accepted from March 1 to March 29. There will be a Suggestion Box and forms in the club entry hall during this period, or you may mail, fax or e-mail the form (or a letter) to the Chair of the Nominating Committee. For your convenience, a copy of the form is included with this newsletter. A slate of candidates is to be nominated for the following positions:

President

Vice President for Administration

Vice President for Finance

Vice President for Membership

Vice President for Political Affairs

Vice President for Programs

Vice President for Public Relations

Treasurer

Secretary

Assistant Secretary

Board of Governors [4 members]

Nominating Committee Chair

Nominating Committee Vice Chair

Nominating Committee [7 members]

You may recommend any member in good standing, even those officers presently serving in a position. We urge you to participate in this important process by returning your recommendations as soon as possible. Please place your recommendations in the Suggestion Box in the club entry hall by noon on March 29th or return to Elsa Williams, Chair, Nominating Committee, 4427 Westover Place, NW, Washington, DC 20016; fax 202-362-0341; e-mail elsawill2@verizon.net. If you would like to speak with a member of the committee about your suggestions, the members are: Tam O'Neil, Virginia Lawton, Betsy Clark, Kathryn Ray, Anna Fierst, Barbara Stout, Rita Pittillo, and Helen Mitchell.

Upcoming WNDC Events

Tuesday, March 2
Karen DeYoung
LUNCHEON
Keeping Safe in 2010

Karen DeYoung has been at the Washington Post since 1975 and is currently the Senior Diplomatic Correspondent and Associate Editor-in-Chief. Her career has included Bureau Chief in Latin America and in London and many assignments covering global issues. Her expertise is in foreign policy, counterterrorism and Afghanistan Pakistan.

Ms. DeYoung is the recipient of many awards, including the Pulitzer. As a Visiting Scholar at the Carnegie Endowment for Peace from 2003-2006, she wrote *The Life of Colin Powell*. The book has been widely acclaimed. She had some extended interviews with the General, but it is not clear that he really opened up. It is clear, however, that Powell faced a dilemma, he was often kept out of decision-making; he kept his own counsel and played the part of the good soldier.

This is an opportunity to try to find out what we as citizens are up against.

Time: Bar opens at 11:30 a.m. Lunch 12:15 p.m.
Price: Members \$25, Nonmembers \$30.

Thursday, March 9
Mark Plotkin
Tom Sherwood
LUNCHEON
Our Nation's Capitol City



These two reporters are among the most informed on the political scene in Washington.

For many years they have both followed events that are so vital to those of us who live in this area.

Tom Sherwood is the chief political-government affairs reporter for NBC 4. Before this he spent fifteen years covering National and local news for the Washington Post. In his present role he has covered all five mayors, the September 11th terrorist attacks and baseball's return to the region.



Although he has lived here for years and even ran for the City Council, **Mark Plotkin** is a Chicago native (Hyde Park) who still roots for the home team. In his

second home, DC, he has worked to obtain lower utility rates for consumers, is an advocate of self-governance and voting representation in Congress. Mark lobbied hard for our new license plates "Taxation Without Representation."

Time: Bar opens at 11:30 a.m. Lunch 12:15 p.m.
Price: Members \$25, Nonmembers \$30.

March 11, 2010
WETA's Around Town
Panel of Critics—
Moderated by
Robert Aubry Davis
LUNCHEON



WETA's Around Town's circle of critics returns to WNDC in a new spring slot. **Robert Aubry Davis** will again reunite familiar panelists including **Joe Barber, Bill Dunlap, Janis Goodman, Trey Graham, and Jane Horwitz**. Enjoy an hour with the Around Town panelists as they showcase the breadth of the area's spring offerings in film, music, theater, and art. Bring friends and use our speakers' insights to plan your spring calendar from Washington's cornucopia of cultural delights.

Time: Bar opens at 11:30 a.m. Lunch 12:15 p.m.
Price: Members \$25, Nonmembers \$30.

Tuesday, March 16
MORNING EVENT
Women's History in the Making

To commemorate Women's History Month, WNDC and Associates of the American Foreign Service Worldwide (AAFSW), the Foreign Service spouse group, will cosponsor again this year a panel discussion to be held Tuesday, March 16, in the 8th floor Diplomatic Reception Rooms of the Department of State. The title of the 2010 program is Women's History in the Making.

Panelists this year are **Ambassador Capricia Marshall**, chief of protocol at the Department of State; **Rebiya Kadeer**, a human rights activist from the People's Republic of China; **Elizabeth Colton**, from the International Museum of Women, an online museum based in San Francisco; and **Jonetta Rose Barras**, columnist, author, political analyst and host of DC Politics with Jonetta which airs on WPFW (89.3) in Washington, DC.

Refreshments will be served at 10 o'clock and the program begins at 10:15.

Make reservations before March 12 with Patricia Fitzgerald, 202-232-7363, #3003, or pfitzgerald@democraticwoman.org. Cost is \$20. Include date of birth and ID number (driver's license or passport). Make check payable to WNDC.

Thursday, March 18

Celinda Lake

LUNCHEON

Battle Ground: Public Opinion for the 2010 Election



Celinda Lake is one of the Democratic Party's leading political strategists, serving as tactician and senior advisor to the national party committees, dozens of Democratic incumbents, and challengers at all levels of the electoral process. Celinda and her firm are known for cutting-edge research on issues including the economy, health care, the environment and education, including the Democratic National Committee (DNC), the Democratic Governors Association, the White House Project, Emily's List and NARAL. In 2008 she worked as a pollster for Vice President Biden.

Ms. Lake is one of the nation's foremost experts on electing women candidates and on framing issues to women voters. She did groundbreaking research on single women voters in conjunction with Women's Voices/Women Vote. She also worked with Donna Edwards, who defeated long-time incumbent Albert Wynn for his Congressional seat.

Celinda graduated Summa Cum Laude from Smith College and was recently awarded the Distinguished Alumna Medal from the College.

Time: Bar opens at 11:30 a.m. Lunch 12:15 p.m.

Price: Members \$25, Nonmembers \$30

Thursday, April 1

Eleanor Holmes Norton

LUNCHEON

Current Issues Facing D.C. and Congress

Eleanor Holmes Norton is now in her tenth term as the Congresswoman for the District of Columbia. Named by President Jimmy Carter as the first woman to chair the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, she came to Congress as a national figure who had been a civil rights and feminist leader.

Norton's work for full congressional voting representation and for full democracy for the people of the District of Columbia continues her lifelong struggle for universal human rights. Her success in writing bills and getting them enacted has made her one of the most effective legislative leaders in the House. She has the full vote in House committees and serves on the Committee on Homeland Security, the Government Reform Committee and the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

Congresswoman Norton, who taught full time before being elected, continues as a tenured professor of law at Georgetown University, teaching a course there every year. She received her bachelor's degree from Antioch College in Ohio and simultaneously earned her law degree and masters degree in American Studies from Yale.

Time: Bar opens at 11:30 a.m. Lunch 12:15 p.m.

Price: Members \$25, Nonmembers \$30

Thursday, April 8

Anne E. Kornblut

LUNCHEON

What It Will Take for a Woman to Win the Presidency



In a probing new book, "Notes from the Cracked Ceiling," political reporter **Anne E. Kornblut** looks at which strategies and assumptions will need to change if a woman is to be elected to one of America's highest political offices. Drawing on her experiences of covering the Hillary Clinton and Sarah Palin campaigns and interviews with women leaders in both parties, the book is required reading for all concerned with politics in general, and gender politics in particular.

Among other topics, Kornblut looks at how both women candidates were mishandled by their strategists, the series of scathing gender-based attacks aimed at Clinton, and Palin's selection solely by men who had no experience in running women for office.

The book shows that the so-called new era of gender-equal politics has not gone anywhere near as far as commonly thought.

Kornblut has been a reporter in Washington since 1998 and covered the three most recent presidential campaigns. A graduate of Columbia University, she worked for the Boston Globe and the New York Times before joining the Washington Post in 2007. She currently covers the White House for the Post.

Time: Bar opens at 11:30 a.m. Lunch 12:15 p.m.

Price: Members \$25, Nonmembers \$30.

Public Policy Committee

Chair: Shelly Livingston

The Public Policy Committee is made up of the Task Force chairs and a small number of at-large members. All WNDC members are welcome at our meetings. Please contact me or individual chairs if you are interested in joining a Task Force contact Shelly Livingston at sliving7@yahoo.com.

The Public Policy Committee

Chair: Shelly Livingston

Mtg: Tuesday, March 9, 10:30 a.m.

202-232-4437

Education/Children's Issues Task Force

Chair: Barbara Stout

bjrstout@aol.com

No meeting in February

Election Reform Task Force

Chair: Aggie Wolf

703-759-2840

asw@bellatlantic.net

No meeting scheduled

Environment & Energy Task Force

Chair: Alice Day

202-293-4798

at-lhday@verizon.net

Mtg: Friday, March 19, 12 p.m.

The Task Force will meet to discuss ways forward, following up the stimulating February 19th, "Life After Copenhagen" roundtable discussion. We will develop a strategy to do our bit to keep the momentum for action on climate change moving. Join us and share your ideas.

Global Women's Task Force

Co-Chairs: Ellen Overton

202-388-4820

Ruth Nadel 202-362-3789

Human Rights and International Organizations

Chair: Betsy Spiro Clark

202-537-1279

epsclark@rcn.com

Friday, March 19, 12 p.m.

Art Committee

Chair: Suzanne Finney

202-497-9710

suzanne.finney@starpower.net

Archives Committee

Chair: Kathryn Ray

202-244-0770

kcrdlb@gmail.com

Budget

Chair: Kathy Remus

Kathyremus@mac.com

By-Laws Committee

Chair: Shirley Henderson

301-598-9744

shenderson9744@comcast.net

Finance Committee

Chair: Huma Malik

301-983-0895

humameh@gmail.com

House, Garden, and Museum Committee

Chair: Leila Plassey Harrington

lpassey@yahoo.com

House Subcommittee

Chair: Carol Baer Mott

carol.baer.mott@verizon.net

Exhibits Subcommittee

Chair: Jewel Fenzi

Fenzijg@earthlink.net

Garden Subcommittee

Co-Chairs: Ellen Eager 202-363-6066

Gloria Meade 202-966-4614

DC/Metro

Chair: Jewell Fenzi

202-387-4024

fenzijg@verizon.net

Membership Committee

Chair: Anna Fierst

aefierst@yahoo.com

Mtg: Wednesday, March 10

10:30 a.m.

Program Associates Committee

We now have one large program committee. There will no longer be separate Liberal Arts, Legislative and National or International committees. Instead we will all meet together from now on. It is the best way for all of us to have the opportunity to work on and suggest specific programs. Since we have combined, there seems to be more enthusiasm and we are looking forward to more GREAT PROGRAMS. All are welcome.

- Ellie Newman, VP Programs

202-363-9795

elnewman@earthlink.net

Mtg: Wednesday, March 2, 10 a.m.

Social Security

Chair: Sylvia Kassalow

703-354-5654

Public Liaison

Chair: Sharron Caplan

301-493-5249

sccaplan@comcast.net

Public and Media Relations

Chair: Linda Cook

301-340-7227

lfaycook@comcast.net

Executive Committee Meeting

Wed., March 10, 12:45 p.m.

Board of Governors Meeting

Wed., March 17, 12:45 p.m.

Educational Foundation Bd. Mtg

Chair: Elsa Williams

elsawill2@verizon.net

202-362-5330

Mtg: Wed., March 17, 10 a.m.

**WOMAN'S NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC CLUB
MARCH 2010**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	PLEASE NOTE:
<p style="text-align: center;">1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NO FOOD SERVICE</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SPEAKER LUNCHEON Karen DeYoung <i>Keeping Safe in 2010</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">3</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lunch Service 12:15 - 1:30 pm (NEW FORMAT)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NO PROGRAMS SCHEDULED</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">5</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lunch Service 12:15 - 1:30 pm (NEW FORMAT)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Accounting Office Hours</p> <p>Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Parking Garages</p> <p>New Hampshire Ave., directly across from WND C</p> <p>18th St., near Mass. Ave. Between 1727 and 1711 Mass. Ave.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Subway Red Line</p> <p>Dupont Circle, Q St. exit (turn right from the Metro escalator exit, walk 2 blocks east following Q St.)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">8</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NO FOOD SERVICE</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">9</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SPEAKER LUNCHEON Mark Plotkin and Tom Sherwood <i>Our Nation's Capitol City</i> Public Policy Cmte. 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">10</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lunch Service 12:15 - 1:30 pm (NEW FORMAT) Membership Mtg. 10:30 a.m. Exec. Cmte. Mtg. 12:45 p.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">11</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SPEAKER PANEL AND LUNCHEON WETA's Around Town with Robert Aubrey Davis</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">12</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lunch Service 12:15 - 1:30 pm (NEW FORMAT)</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">15</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NO FOOD SERVICE</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">16</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Women's History in the Making at the State Dept., 10 a.m. (Check newsletter and website for details)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">17</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lunch Service 12:15 - 1:30 pm (NEW FORMAT) Ed. Foundation Mtg. 10 a.m. Bd. of Gov. Mtg. 12:45 p.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">18</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SPEAKER LUNCHEON Celinda Lake <i>Battle Ground: Public Opinion for the 2010 Election</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">19</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lunch Service 12:15 - 1:30 pm (NEW FORMAT) Human Rights & Int'l Org. T.F. 12 noon Envi. & Energy T.F. 12 noon</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">22</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NO FOOD SERVICE</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">23</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NO PROGRAMS SCHEDULED</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">24</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lunch Service 12:15 - 1:30 pm (NEW FORMAT)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">25</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Human Rights & Int'l Org Program on Yemen 12 noon</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">26</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lunch Service 12:15 - 1:30 pm (NEW FORMAT)</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">29</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NO FOOD SERVICE</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">30</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NO PROGRAMS SCHEDULED</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">31</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lunch Service 12:15 - 1:30 pm (NEW FORMAT)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SPEAKER LUNCHEON Eleanor Holmes Norton <i>Current Issues Facing DC and Congress</i></p>		

For more information please visit our website at www.democraticwoman.org or email us at info@democraticwoman.org