

# Charlotte County REPUBLICAN CLUB



CHARTERED BY THE FLORIDA STATE REPUBLICAN PARTY

VOL. 14, NO. 6

Editor: Craig Williams

June, 2009

## Reservations & Menu

**Date:** Monday, June 8, 2009  
**Time:** 5:00 Social Hour  
6:00 Meeting & Dinner

**Location:** *Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club  
4400 Lister Street, Port Charlotte*

### For Reservations:

Please phone Ruth Bahner at 639-9450, or email at [ruthbahner1@comcast.net](mailto:ruthbahner1@comcast.net). Reservation deadline is noon, **Friday, June 5, 2009**. Late reservations may be accommodated but the menu may be limited. Dinner cost is **\$25** per person. *Cancellations must be received before noon, June 5, to avoid charge to member.*

### Menu

*Hot Rolls & Butter  
Wedge Salad with  
Iceberg, Chopped Bacon & Blue Cheese Crumbles*

### Entrée Selections:

*CHYC Signature Wood Fired Top Sirloin*

or

*Chicken Oscar with  
Asparagus, Hollandaise & Crabmeat*

or

*Poached Basa with Thai Apricot Sauce (not spicy)*

or

*Vegetarian Plate (Chef's Choice)*

*Served with*

*Chef's Choice of Vegetable and Starch*

### Dessert

*Chef's Choice*

and

*Coffee, Tea, Ice Tea (non-flavored)*

## June 8th CCRC Meeting Florida State Legislative Update

*With*

**Nancy Detert**  
Senator  
District 23  
Majority Whip



Committee Memberships Include:

- Education Pre-K—12, Chair
- Policy and Steering Committee on Social Responsibility
- Children, Families, and Elder Affairs
- Commerce
- Education Pre-K—12 Appropriations
- Environmental Preservation and Conservation
- Florida Legislative Committee on Intergovernmental Relations

*and*

**Ken Roberson**  
State Representative  
District 71



Committee Memberships Include:

- Elder & Family Services Policy Committee
- Governmental Affairs Policy Committee
- Human Services Appropriations Committee
- Insurance, Business & Financial Affairs Policy Committee

Bring your questions, comments, and suggestions.

## President's Message

Thanks to everyone who attended the April meeting, it was great. The second Table Topics, conducted by Bill Weller provided good information on the changing demographics of the Republican Party. We have posted some of the slides on the web site.

The information presented by Dr. Steven West cast a frightening image of what the administration is trying to do to the healthcare industry. Dr. West made a great presentation and attracted several members of the medical profession to the meeting.

We are reminded every day of the consequences of "staying home". In the 2008 election, we had our presidential candidate chosen for us by the liberal media and naturally they chose a candidate that would be more consistent with their agenda. This gave them an insurance policy on the presidency and gave the country the choice between a left leaning conservative and far left leaning socialist. The country chose the socialist because conservative Republicans "stayed home". We are now reminded that a less than ideal Republican in the White House is preferable to the alternative.

### Goings On:

**Fall Membership Mixer** The date will be October 2, 2009 at the Beach Complex. This will be a major drive to boost membership for the 2010 campaigns.

**Elephant Scramble** The date is set for October 10, 2009 at St Andrews in Punta Gorda Isles. Details, next month.

**Cruise** The Cruise schedule has been changed to February 28, 2010 to avoid conflicts with club meeting dates. Sharon Oliphant will be at our June meeting and will present information about the cruise. Sharon is a member and works for AAA. She organized the last cruise, which was highly successful. The 2010 Cruise will be on one of the most advanced ships afloat.

**Fashion show** The date is set for March 3 at the Charlotte Harbor Yacht club.

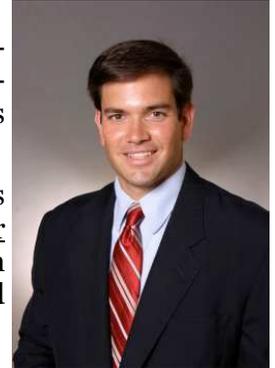
**Bill Folchi**  
President

## July 13th CCRC Meeting Marco Rubio - Candidate for US Senate

Here is your chance to meet one of the Republican candidates for the U.S. Senate race in 2010.

Mr. Rubio has had a distinguished career serving in Florida's House of Representatives and in local government.

He may be best known for his book 1000 Innovative Ideas for Florida's Future; a compilation of citizens' suggestions gathered through "Idearaisers" functions.



Mr. Rubio promotes a conservative, smaller government approach to legislating. He also led the way in passing historic energy legislation based on market incentives rather than big government mandates.

A Florida native, Marco Rubio received his B.S. from University of Florida in 1993 and his J.D. Cum Laude from the University of Miami in 1996.

## CCRC Calendar

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| June 8  | CCRC Meeting, Legislative Report:<br>Ken Roberson & Nancy Detert   |
| July 13 | CCRC Meeting, Marco Rubio<br>Senate Candidate  |
| Aug 17  | CCRC Meeting, Legislative Report:<br>Mike Bennet & Paige Kreegel<br>Date Change, Third Monday instead of<br>Second Monday. |
| Oct 2   | Membership Mixer   |
| Oct 10  | Elephant Scramble  |

## New Members This Month...

Marianne Cleary

Howard Dobson

**Welcome Aboard!**

## Playing Fair

Whenever a political party wants to do something that gives it an advantage against the other party, the most critical step in the process is to give the idea a good sounding name. The name most frequently selected, is one which includes the word *Fair*.

Most Fair programs are only fair to the group doing the promoting. **Fair Districts Florida** is promoting a cause with potentially devastating effects. Their objective is to take the redistricting process away from the legislature and create mathematically compact districts. Their reasoning is, with about 4.3 million Democrats and 3.9 million Republicans in Florida, if they could somehow cause them to all to be uniformly distributed over the 25 congressional districts, the Democrats could win more seats.

In order to do this Fair District Florida is promoting an amendment to the state constitution and they're conducting a campaign to collect 677,000 valid signatures by February 1, 2010 to get the measure on the ballot.

You will see their representatives working in front of Post Offices. These people should be challenged and made to explain what's *Fair* about what they are doing.

**Do not sign anything they give you - no matter how *fair* their argument sounds.**

They are organized and their objective is to disenfranchise Republicans.

Bill Folchi

## "Gitmo" and Water Boarding

By: Robert R. McMillan

We've not heard the last about detainees at Guantanamo nor the methods used, after the 9/11 attacks to get intelligence from them. President Obama has weighed in on both issues. As a result, the stories will not go away.

The President stated, "Guantanamo prison" will be closed no later than one year from now." But, where will these prisoners go? Some of the ones already released, have gone back to fighting with the Taliban and against us in Afghanistan. Even Democrats in Congress are protesting sending detainees to prisons in their states. And it is also said that some of the detainees will be free – either in their native country or, as in the case of Chinese prisoners, released in the United States. Stay tuned, because this will continue to play out.

Next, President Obama has ordered that harsh interrogation methods to cease. Water boarding is considered a "harsh" method for obtaining information from suspected terrorists, and is why there has been so much chatter about this issue. At the same time, the President says that the United States will be safer? And Speaker Nancy Pelosi does not have much of a memory?

The concern I have is that Congressional leaders were briefed about all of the actions. None of them spoke up. Now, it has become a political issue having nothing to do with the safety of Americans. One other dimension of this matter is to have released the information gained from the harsh questioning. There appears from some leaks that significant information was obtained – information which enabled law enforcement officials to head off other attacks. How about releasing the results?

In one area, the Constitution calls for the government to guarantee "due process." At the same time the Constitution requires the government to "ensure domestic tranquility." The challenge again is preserving that balance in the face of terrorists who have no regard for human lives, including their own.

Interestingly, had due process been applied to the terrorists involved in the 9/11 attacks, most of them would have been expelled from the country. They wouldn't have been able to get a driver's license in most States. Several had "student visas" but were not enrolled in any school!

We are a naïve country. We tend to be forgiving, and look the other way. Wouldn't it be great to work together by preserving the Constitution while protecting the lives of Americans through strict enforcement of existing laws.

Perhaps I am too emotional about these issues. But, I will never forget the destruction of the World Trade Center; an action planned by Gitmo detainee Khalid Sheikh Mohammed. I used to attend a monthly board meeting, entering the World Trade Center about the same time as the planes were flown into the Twin Towers. I wonder, if a poll were taken of friends and family members of those murdered in the attacks, how they would feel about closing Gitmo and water boarding.

### Charlotte County Republican Club 2009 Organization

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