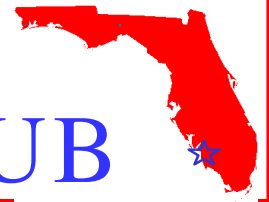


Charlotte County REPUBLICAN CLUB



CHARTERED BY THE FLORIDA STATE REPUBLICAN PARTY

VOL. 17 NO. 1

Editor: John Hitzel

January 2012

Dinner Menu—January 9, 2012

Soup du Jour

Choice of

Beef Medallions Diane

or

Chicken a la King

or

Herb Crusted Tilapia

or

Chef's choice Vegetarian Platter

with

Chef's choice of starch and vegetables

CHYC rolls and butter

Coffee, tea or iced tea (non-flavored)

To order call: Peg Thompson (941) 391-6610

or, to reserve on line click below:

<http://www.ccfrc.org/monthlyMeeting/>

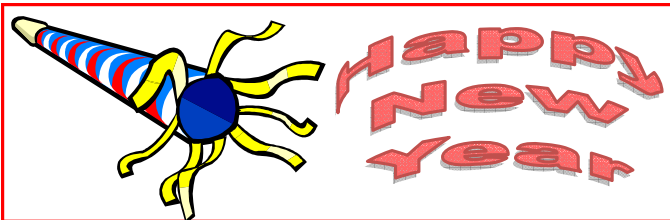
Location: The Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club
4400 Lister St., Port Charlotte

Time: 5:00 Social Hour 6:00 Business Meeting
6:15 Dinner 6:45 Program

Policy: Reservations and cancellations must be received by 12:00 pm on the Friday preceding the meeting. Late cancellations will be charged to Member. Please observe the deadline. We are unable to accommodate late reservations or cancellations.

Dinner is \$25.00 per member and \$30.00 per guest.

Invoices will be issued for payment for all no shows.



January 9, 2012 Meeting features Kris Ann Hall on Bill of Rights vs. DC Agenda.

Kris Anne Hall is a Constitutional attorney and former state prosecutor, **fired after teaching the Constitution to TEA Party groups** - she would not sacrifice liberty for a paycheck. She is a disabled veteran of the US Army, a Russian linguist, a mother, a pastor's wife and a patriot. She now travels the country and teaches the Constitution and the history that gave us our founding documents. Awarded the Freedom Fighter award by Americans for Prosperity, and the Certificate of Achievement from the Sons of the Revolution for her defense of Constitutional principles,

Manuel Noriega Returns To Panama
Robert R. McMillan

It has been 22 years since the United States forces took Manuel Noriega out of power in Panama. He had been a ruthless dictator from 1983 to 1989. At the same time, it can truly be said that he was a "good cop" who went "bad". Let me explain.

During the "Cold War" he was on our side in terms of dealing with Castro in Cuba and even in support of the Contras in Nicaragua. But, he went bad through corruption and drug deals.

In 1989, after he was taken out by U.S. forces, Noriega was brought to the United States and tried for drug deals in a Florida Federal Court. He was found guilty and sentenced to jail for his crimes.

Then, while still in jail, Noriega was tried in France by a French Court and found guilty. That was in 1999. His drug deals in France found his bank accounts with over \$3 million, and he owned three high end apartments in Paris.

On the completion of his jail term in the United

(Continued on page 3)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to 2012, I hope all members had a Happy New Year. This will be a big year for the Charlotte County Republican Club and the Republican Party. Mission number one, we have an election to win at all levels.

As of this writing, the Iowa primaries are still in the future and the press is giving full coverage to the Republican Hopefuls. The payroll tax extension fix left the Republican House as lame as that famous duck. The left wing press is going full bore exploiting the Republican candidate's infighting to their detriment.

Once the primaries play out and a candidate or candidates become the front-runners, we must concentrate on the present occupant of the White House. We cannot wait until post convention July to expose the failure of this Presidency. We must become knowledgeable of the issues now. Attendance at CCRC meetings, becoming aware of the failures of this administration, exposing a left wing ideology, if not corrected, will leave our country like Greece. The 2012 Election may well be the most critical test for our Country's survival since the beginning of our Republic.

Each CCRC member must take an active role as never before. We must support the REC and their get out the vote efforts. We must become ambassadors for the Republican viewpoint at every available opportunity.

Jim Brown, President

Editorial

New Year Resolution

Wow! I sure did do it with the December issue. Did you get four pages? Did you get eight pages? Did you order Petite Fillet Mignon? Did you order Roast Prime Rib? Did your guest pay less than you paid? Did you vote on 2011 or 2012 officers, budget and calendar? That is enough of the typos and errors listing although there were more in the issue. I offer sincere apologies to the members, officers and committee chairpersons who had to deal with the fiasco.

Guess what my number two resolution is for 2012? Number one is making sure we have a Republican President come November 2012. Number two is no more screw ups that are under my control. Although this job is a demanding chore, it is also a unique opportunity to keep club members informed and to provide timely information for decision making. Many of you have been so kind to compliment the expanded newsletter that is the electronic version which allows four more pages for material.

OK, enough of that! Let's get back to work on resolution number one; a Republican government in 2012.

John Hitzel



Dues are due!

Members may pay on line with a credit card or PayPal by going to the CCRC website <http://charlottecountyrepublicanclub.com/> and clicking on "click here". Please put your name in the new member field. Members may mail a check to CCRC, PO Box 512332 Punta Gorda, FL 33951-2332 or bring a check to any CCRC event.

Volunteer—Republican National Convention

7500 volunteers are needed for the Republican convention in Tampa next August. Go on line to [2012Tampa.com/get-involved](http://2012tampa.com/get-involved) to register or click here to register <http://2012tampa.com/get-involved/>

CCRC Calendar 2012

Jan	9	Dinner meeting. CHYC 5:00 PM
Jan	23	Mixer—5:00 PM Wyvern—Constitutional Officers
Feb	13	Dinner meeting. CHYC 5:00 PM
Feb	27	Mixer—5:00 PM Wyvern
Mar	12	Dinner meeting. CHYC 5:00 PM



Web sites: CCRC
charlottecountyrepublicanclub.org
 CCREC—ccflgop.com

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States, he wanted to return to Panama. That was denied because the French wanted to retry him on his charges where he had already been convicted in absentia. In April of 2010, he was sent from the United States to France.

After a trial in France, he was sentenced, in July of 2010, to serve seven years for money laundering and had to pay a fine of \$2.9 million to France.

But, the story of Manuel Noriega was not over. He still wanted to return to Panama even though he had been convicted there, in absentia, of two murders. After a long legal process in France and with the approval of the United States, he was extradited on December 11, 2011 to Panama.

Before getting into the details about his return to Panama, there is one footnote about correspondence I had with him, after his conviction in the United States.

After reviewing the transcripts of Noriega's conviction in the United States, I could not help but question Noriega about his attorney's allegations that Manual Noriega's money was not from drug deals. The attorney stated in court that the money came from Japanese real estate interests wanting greater influence over the Panama Canal. If you remember, back in the late 1980s Japan's economy was booming. In fact, Japanese real estate interests owned Rockefeller Center in the heart of Manhattan.

I wrote to Noriega in prison and asked him about his lawyer's allegations. A few weeks after I wrote, a handwritten letter came to me from Noriega. Interestingly, he dodged the question, saying he did not understand what I had asked. But, what I asked was very clear.

Now, back to December 11, 2011, when Noriega was sent back to Panama and placed in jail. His imprisonment will be appealed since he is over 70 years of age, and based on Panama law, he probably has the right to serve his term as a prisoner in his home.

Overall, his reception in Panama was quite calm. Clearly the days of Noriega, as an irritant in Panama, are over. Hopefully this means that Panama will continue its current twenty two years of democracy and an enlarged Panama Canal.

Bob McMillan is a member of the CCRC and past Chairman of the Panama Canal Commission. For more information click below or go to: <http://bobmcmillan.net>.

Prince of fools

Some people have the vocabulary to sum up things in a way that you can easily understand them. This quote was translated into English from an article appearing in the Czech Republic as published in the Prager Zeitung of 28 April 2010.

"The danger to America is not Barack Obama but a citizenry capable of entrusting a man like him with the Presidency. It will be far easier to limit and undo the follies of an Obama presidency than to restore the necessary common sense and good judgment to a depraved electorate willing to have such a man for their president. The problem is much deeper and far more serious than Mr. Obama, who is a mere symptom of what ails America. Blaming the prince of the fools should not blind anyone to the vast confederacy of fools that made him their prince. The Republic can survive a Barack Obama, who is, after all, merely a fool. It is less likely to survive a multitude of fools such as those who made him their president."

Editor's note: Similar messages have been around cyberspace for some time attributed to various persons. The important message has not changed. A Republican victory is required for survival.

John Hitzel 

Charlotte County Republican Club 2010 Organization

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President	Jim Brown	637-8690	JBrown4087@aol.com
1st Vice President	Gene Murtha	637-4629	Genemurtha@comcast.net
2nd Vice President	Barry Jollett	575-7617	barryjollett@comcast.net
Treasurer	Tommy White	628-9037	tqwhite1@comcast.net
Recording Secy.	Jennifer Loche	764-8339	jenericloches@yahoo.com
Corresponding Secy.	Robert Reichert	639-4162	007bob@centurylink.net
Past President	Bill Folchi	505-8557	Billfolchi@comcast.net

Standing Committee Chairs

Newsletter	John Hitzel	743-4286	JohnJack@comcast.net
Hospitality	Sylvia Orr	627-0904	
Telephone Res.	Peg Thompson	391-6610	Pegsu@comcast.net

Committee Chairs

Membership	Barry Jollett	575-7617	barryjollett@comcast.net
Public Relations	Jacqueline Green	255-3757	CCRCP@comcast.net
Legislative	Michael Metyk	613-1919	DrMetyk@comcast.net
Chaplain	Gen. Rufus Lazzell	637-7467	AirborneRufus@comcast.net
Parliamentarian	Frank Mazur	(802) 373-1074	FrankMazur@comcast.net

CCRC on Facebook.

Click on the link below to open the page. Social media is a way to reach more people with the Republican message. If you already "like" our page, suggest that your friends do too!

<http://www.facebook.com/CharlotteCountyRepublicanClub>

Letter to the Knoxville News

It is correct and true, and on the newspaper's website. The author, Thomas Sowell, is black, and a highly respected writer. He is also a professor at Stanford, and an African American.

The current Occupy Wall Street movement is the best illustration to date of what President Barack Obama's America looks like. It is an America where the lawless, unaccomplished, ignorant and incompetent rule. It is an America where those who have sacrificed nothing pillage and destroy the lives of those who have sacrificed greatly.

It is an America where history is rewritten to honor dictators, murderers and thieves. It is an America where violence, racism, hatred, class warfare and murder are all promoted as acceptable means of overturning the American civil society.

It is an America where humans have been degraded to the level of animals: defecating in public, having sex in public, devoid of basic hygiene. It is an America where the basic tenets of a civil society, including faith, family, a free press and individual rights, have been rejected. It is an America where our founding documents have been shredded and, with them, every person's guaranteed liberties.

It is an America where, ultimately, great suffering will come to the American people, but the rulers like Obama, Michelle Obama, Harry Reid, Nancy Pelosi, Barney Frank, Chris Dodd, Joe Biden, Jesse Jackson, Louis Farrakhan, liberal college professors, union bosses and other loyal liberal/ Communist Party members will live in opulent splendor.

It is the America that Obama and the Democratic Party have created with the willing assistance of the American media, Hollywood, unions, universities, the Communist Party of America, the Black Panthers and numerous anti-American foreign entities.

Barack Obama has brought more destruction upon this country in four years than any other event in the history of our nation, but it is just the beginning of what he and his comrades are capable of.

The Occupy Wall Street movement is just another step in their plan for the annihilation of America.

"Socialism, in general, has a record of failure so blatant that only an intellectual could ignore or evade it."

Thomas Sowell



From the Internet

The ANT AND THE GRASSHOPPER

This one is a little different

Two Different Versions ...

Two Different Morals

OLDE VERSION

The ant works hard in the withering heat all summer long, building his house and laying up supplies for the winter. The grasshopper thinks the ant is a fool and laughs and dances and plays the summer away. Come winter, the ant is warm and well fed. The grasshopper has no food or shelter, so he dies out in the cold.

MORAL OF THE OLD STORY:

Be responsible for yourself!

MODERN VERSION

The ant works hard in the withering heat and the rain all summer long, building his house and laying up supplies for the winter. The grasshopper thinks the ant is a fool and laughs and dances and plays the summer away. Come winter, the shivering grasshopper calls a press conference and demands to know why the ant should be allowed to be warm and well fed while he is cold and starving.

CBS, NBC, PBS, CNN, and ABC show up to provide pictures of the shivering grasshopper next to a video of the ant in his comfortable home with a table filled with food. America is stunned by the sharp contrast. How can this be, that in a country of such wealth, this poor grasshopper is allowed to suffer so?

Kermit the Frog appears on Oprah with the grasshopper and everybody cries when they sing, 'It's Not Easy Being Green...'

ACORN stages a demonstration in front of the ant's house where the news stations film the SEIU group singing, We shall overcome.

Then Rev. Jeremiah Wright has the group kneel down to pray for the grasshopper's sake, while he

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

damns the ants.

President Obama condemns the ant and blames President Bush 43, President Bush 41, President Reagan, Christopher Columbus, and the Pope for the grasshopper's plight.

Nancy Pelosi & Harry Reid exclaim in an interview with Larry King that the ant has gotten rich off the back of the grasshopper, and both call for an immediate tax hike on the ant to make him pay his fair share.

Finally, the EEOC drafts the Economic Equity & Anti-Grasshopper Act retroactive to the beginning of the summer. The ant is fined for failing to hire a proportionate number of green bugs and, having nothing left to pay his retroactive taxes, his home is confiscated by the Government Green Czar and given to the grasshopper.

The story ends as we see the grasshopper and his free-loading friends finishing up the last bits of the ant's food while the government house he is in, which, as you recall, just happens to be the ant's old house, crumbles around them because the n grasshopper doesn't maintain it.

The ant has disappeared in the snow, never to be seen again. The grasshopper is found dead in a drug related incident, and the house, now abandoned, is taken over by a gang of spiders who terrorize the ramshackle, once prosperous and peaceful, neighborhood.

The entire Nation collapses bringing the rest of the free world with it.

MORAL OF THE STORY: Be careful how you vote in 2012.

(Editor's note) The moral of the story could be the President's Message on page 2. This story is pure satire but delivers a message of political reality. We, the CCRC and other Charlotte County Republican organizations, are the backbone of the GOP in the County. It is up to us to insure the strongest Republican turnout in the Primaries and General Elections ever in Charlotte County. "let's Roll".



More from the Internet—must be true!

This took place in Charlotte, North Carolina .

A lawyer purchased a box of very rare and expensive cigars, then insured them against, among other things, fire.

Within a month, having smoked his entire stockpile of these great cigars, the lawyer filed a claim against the insurance company.

In his claim, the lawyer stated the cigars were lost in a series of " small fires."

The insurance company refused to pay, citing the obvious reason, that the man had consumed the cigars in the normal fashion. The lawyer sued - and WON! (Stay with me.)

Delivering the ruling, the judge agreed with the insurance company that the claim was frivolous. The judge stated nevertheless, that the lawyer held a policy from the company, in which it had warranted that the cigars were insurable and also guaranteed that it would insure them against fire, without defining what is considered to be unacceptable 'fire' and was obligated to pay the claim. Rather than endure lengthy and costly appeal process, the insurance company accepted the ruling and paid \$15,000 to the lawyer for his loss of the cigars that perished in the 'fires'.

NOW FOR THE BEST PART...

After the lawyer cashed the check, the insurance company had him arrested on 24 counts of ARSON!!! With his own insurance claim and testimony from the previous case being used against him, the lawyer was convicted of intentionally burning his insured property and was sentenced to 24 months in jail and a \$24,000 fine.

This true story won First Place in last year's Criminal Lawyers Award contest.

ONLY IN AMERICA ...



If you're not familiar with the work of Steven Wright, he's the famous erudite scientist who once said:

"I woke up one morning, and all of my stuff had been stolen and replaced by exact duplicates."

His mind sees things differently than most of us do. . .

Here are some of his gems:

- 1 - I'd kill for a Nobel Peace Prize.
- 2 - Borrow money from pessimists -- they don't expect it back.
- 3 - Half the people you know are below average.
- 4 - 99% of lawyers give the rest a bad name.
- 5 - 82.7% of all statistics are made up on the spot.
- 6 - A conscience is what hurts when all your other parts feel so good.
- 7 - A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.
- 8 - If you want the rainbow, you got to put up with the rain.
- 9 - All those who believe in psycho kinesis, raise my hand.
- 10 - The early bird may get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese.
- 11 - I almost had a psychic girlfriend, But she left me before we met.
- 12 - OK, so what's the speed of dark?
- 13 - How do you tell when you're out of invisible ink?
- 14 - If everything seems to be going well, you have obviously overlooked something.
- 15 - Depression is merely anger without enthusiasm.
- 16 - When everything is coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.
- 17 - Ambition is a poor excuse for not having enough sense to be lazy.
- 18 - Hard work pays off in the future; laziness pays off now.
- 19 - I intend to live forever.... So far, so good.
- 20 - If Barbie is so popular, why do you have to buy her friends?
- 21 - Eagles may soar, but weasels don't get sucked into jet engines.
- 22 - What happens if you get scared half to death twice?



23 - My mechanic told me, "I couldn't repair your brakes, so I made your horn louder."

24 - Why do psychics have to ask you for your name.

25 - If at first you don't succeed, destroy all evidence that you tried.

26 - A conclusion is the place where you got tired of thinking.

27 - Experience is something you don't get until just after you need it.

28 - The hardness of the butter is proportional to the softness of the bread.

29 - To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism; to steal from many is research.

30 - The problem with the gene pool is that there is no lifeguard.

31 - The sooner you fall behind, the more time you'll have to catch up.

32 - The colder the x-ray table, the more of your body is required to be on it.

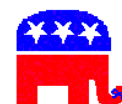
33 - Everyone has a photographic memory; some just don't have film.

34 - If at first you don't succeed, skydiving is not for you.

And the all-time favorite -

35 - If your car could travel at the speed of light, would your headlights work?

Thank member Sam Castronovo for this mind bending contribution!



IRS update: IRS notice 2012-1 provides the optional standard mileage rates for tax years starting January 1, 2012 and after. They are as follows:

- Business: 55.5 cents
- Medical/Moving: 23 cents
- Charitable: 14 cents

The 2011 rates used when you calculate your deductions are:

- Business: Jan 1—Jun 30 51 cents
- Business: Jul 1—Dec 31 55.5 cents
- Medical: Jan 1—Jun 30 19 cents
- Medical: Jul 1—Dec 31 23.5 cents
- Charity: Jan 1—Dec 31 14 cents





The Quote of the Decade:

“The fact that we are here today to debate raising America's debt limit is a sign of leadership failure. It is a sign that the US Government cannot pay its own bills. It is a sign that we now depend on ongoing financial assistance from foreign countries to finance our Government's reckless fiscal policies.

Increasing America's debt weakens us domestically and internationally. Leadership means that, 'the buck stops here.' Instead, Washington is shifting the burden of bad choices today onto the backs of our children and grandchildren. America has a debt problem and a failure of leadership.

Americans deserve better.”

~ **Senator Barack H. Obama, March 2006**

(We sure do deserve better)

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