

FOCUS

Democratic Club of Sarasota

An Informed Member is Our Best Voter



Volume 18, Issue 4

April, 2012

APRIL LUNCHEON PROGRAM

State Rep Rick Kriseman: “Florida Legislative Session Update & 2012 Election Preview”

For four years, the highlight of the year was the recap of the Florida Legislative Session by State Representative and New College Political Science Professor Keith Fitzgerald. Last year, Keith’s shoes were ably filled by State Representative Rick Kriseman of St. Petersburg.

In that session, Kriseman had introduced a bill that would make it possible for Florida voters to recall state officials. The bill was more symbolic than realistic, but it raised Kriseman to hero status with Democrats who were still in shock that Rick Scott was our governor.

We are pleased to welcome Kriseman back in April to provide his valuable insight into what went on in Tallahassee during the 2012 Legislative Session.

We’re all aware that the redistricting initiative, mandated by Florida voters in 2010, has been the focus of legislative efforts the past few months. Kriseman will update us on this important issue, as well as details on the budget, the overall state of Democrats in Tallahassee, and his take on the 2012 elections. He will also elaborate on an effort by the leaders of the Democratic caucuses in the Florida Senate and House of Representatives to develop a set of Guiding Principles to move Florida forward.

With a background in law, Kriseman served as a St. Petersburg City Council member for 6 years. In 2006, he won the Florida House seat in District 53 with more than 60% of the vote. Soon after taking office, he was named the Ranking Democrat on the Committee on Energy and was appointed to both the Environment and Natural Resources Council and the Committee on 21st Century Competitiveness. All three assignments gave Kriseman the opportunity to address issues of great concern to our generation and future generations.

He was reelected without opposition in 2008 and was one of the few Florida Democrats left standing in 2010. He now serves as the Democratic Caucus Policy Chair.

Kriseman will be introduced by his friend and former colleague, our Congressional Candidate, Keith Fitzgerald.

LUNCHEON DETAILS: See back page

NOTE: The luncheon is at the **Laurel Oak Country Club**. Drinks will be available for sale at a bar near the luncheon meeting room.

Last Month: Bill Cotter: “Court will uphold Health Care”

Living in Florida and hearing the Republican PR against the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) can trigger concern that the US Supreme Court might overturn the law. Consequently, March luncheon attendees were relieved when our speaker, Bill Cotter, explained why he is confident the Court will support the law by at least a 6–3 vote.

Cotter’s extensive background in the law, education and Supreme Court issues was evident in his discussion of the Constitutional issues under question in the health care reform legislation and in various states’ Defense of Marriage Acts.

Affordable Care Act

The US Supreme Court is scheduled to hear arguments on ACA on March 26. Despite Republican efforts, most circuit courts in the country have upheld most of the law. Because the case is an appeal of the 11th Circuit Court’s decision, the only part of the law the Supreme Court will examine is the “individual mandate,” the only part struck down by the Atlanta court. Cotter expects a ruling by June.

Cotter reviewed the issues and precedents the Court might consider.

(Continued on page 6)

INSIDE

Contact Information.....	2
President's Column.....	3
Membership.....	4
Join the Letter-Writing Team	4
April Economic Forum.....	5
April Wine, Cheese & Politics.....	5
How to become a Delegate to the National Convention.....	6
April Calendar.....	7
Luncheon Details.....	Back Cover

*Focus Newsletter is a publication of
the Democratic Club of Sarasota
In print since May 1995*

Newsletter Mission Statement

The mission of the newsletter of the Democratic Club of Sarasota (*FOCUS*) is to promote the growth of the Democratic Party in Sarasota County, to inform Club members about Club events and other local events of interest to Democrats, and to address local, state and national issues of interest to Party members.

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Contact President Mary Clupper if you wish to attend the meeting of the executive committee.

What do we include in the newsletter?

Democrats have a lot to say – and the Board encourages club members to say it with articles or letters to the editor for our newsletter!

Unfortunately, there is limited space. Dealing with this dilemma, the Board adopted the following list of policies and procedures:

Articles and letters to the editor from club members will be accepted on a space available basis using the following priorities:

1. Local information of immediate importance to club members
2. Articles or letters from members who have not written recently
3. Articles or letters relating to state issues.
4. Articles or letters relating to national issues.

Due to limited space, articles and letters should be written as concisely as possible (between 100 and 150 words) and once submitted, may be edited. Letters to the editor should contain statements of proposed action by the membership.

Submission Deadline:

Third Saturday of the month for the next issue

Email submissions to Feedback@SarasotaDems.com

Federal Government Contact Information

White House Comment Line 202-456-1111
White House Switchboard 202-456-1414
(WEB) <http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/> FAX: 202-456-2461

Bill Nelson (D) Toll free in Florida: 1-888-671-4091
United States Senator 202-224-5274
716 Hart Senate Office Bldg. FAX: 202-228-2183
Washington, DC 20510 (WEB) <http://billnelson.senate.gov>

Marco Rubio (R) Toll free in Florida: 1-866-630-7106
United States Senator 202-224-3041
B40A Dirksen Senate Office Bldg. FAX: 202-228-5171
Washington, DC 20510 (WEB) <http://rubio.senate.gov>

Vern Buchanan (R) 202-225-5015
United States Representative LOCAL: 941-951-6643
1516 Longworth House Office Bldg. (WEB) <http://buchanan.house.gov>
Washington, DC 20515 DC FAX: 202-226-0828

Congress Switchboard 800-962-3524

U.S. Capitol Switchboard — 24 hours a day
(800) 648-3516 or (800) 839-5276 or (877) 762-8762

State Government Contact Information

Governor Rick Scott (R)
Office of the Governor
The Capitol
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001 (WEB) www.flgov.com

Senate District 21

Mike Bennett, State Senator (R) 941-727-6349
3653 Cortez Road West, Suite 90 850-487-5078
Bradenton, FL 34210 bennett.michael.web@flsenate.gov

Senate District 23

Nancy Detert, State Senator (R) 941-480-3547
417 Commercial Court, Suite D 850-487-5081
Venice, FL 34292 detert.nancy.web@flsenate.gov

House District 55

Darryl Ervin Rouson, State Rep. (D) 941-708-8570
302 Manatee Ave E, Suite 304 850-488-0925
Bradenton, FL 34208-1901 (WEB) www.myfloridahouse.gov

House District 67

Greg Steube, State Rep. (R)
5830 Lakewood Ranch Blvd
Sarasota, FL 34240 850-488-6340
(WEB) www.myfloridahouse.gov

House District 69

Ray Pilon, State Rep. (R) 941-955-8077
1660 Ringling Blvd, Ste 310-311 850-488-7754
Sarasota, FL 34236 (WEB) www.myfloridahouse.gov

House District 70

Doug Holder, State Rep. (R) 941-918-4028
8486 South Tamiami Trail 850-488-1171
Sarasota, FL 34238-2953 (WEB) www.myfloridahouse.gov

House District 71

Ken Roberson, State Rep. (R) 941-613-0914
17825 Murdock Circle 850-488-0060
Port Charlotte, FL 33948 (WEB) www.myfloridahouse.gov

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HQ: 7358 S. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota 941-330-9400
PO Box 5833; Sarasota 34277-5833
(WEB) www.sarasotadems.org headquarters@sarasotadems.org

President's Column

Dear Members and Friends,

The old weather proverb, "March comes in like a lion" certainly applied to Sarasota Democratic politics this year.

On Saturday, March 3rd, Organizing for America (the Obama re-election campaign) opened its Sarasota office on Fruitville Road right next to the Chamber of Commerce. With the paint on the walls barely dry, over 300 volunteers gathered to kick off the opening. It was truly inspiring.

The event was scheduled to start at 2 pm. At 1:45 my Blackberry buzzed with an e-mail message that I happened to look at. It was from the Republican Party of Sarasota County's Chairman, Joe Gruters, letting his fellow Republicans know that "Obama is Moving into Sarasota!" His rousing message referred to us as staunch supporters of Barack Obama and his "liberal agenda" and was a battle cry reminding them that Democrats know the importance of winning Sarasota County. He said, "Victory here means victory in Florida — and winning Florida means winning the White House."

Joe Gruters is a very smart man to recognize this. Our fellow Sarasota Republicans remember what they went up against in 2008 with Organizing for America, and they've seen the progress and motivation of the Sarasota County Democratic Party the last few years. It's personal, and it's a fight that we must win. That was Saturday.

On Sunday night, over 400 Democrats gathered at Michael's On East for the Sarasota County Democratic Party's Annual Kennedy-King Fundraising Dinner. It was a good night to be a Democrat. The speakers were inspiring, and the energy in the room was palpable.

Then, on Tuesday night, a group of over 500 people gathered in support of Planned Parenthood, and heard an uplifting address from their President, Cecile Richards.

I think the message is clear. Even in this "red" county our "liberal agenda" is moving forward. Our efforts are paying off and we must continue our hard work and our collaboration with other progressive organizations.

Because of your membership dues and donations, the Club was able to sponsor eight Florida college students to attend the Kennedy-King Dinner. They have passed on their thanks to you for allowing them to participate in an inspiring evening amongst active Democrats.

We appreciate that they are working hard to promote Democratic ideals on their campuses. Young people are our future, and you will continue to see the Club include students in our events. You will have opportunities to

sponsor students at our upcoming luncheons as new board member, Helen Magill, spearheads our student outreach efforts in local high schools.

The busy political schedule that active Sarasota Democrats have been subjected to so far this election year shows no signs of slowing down. Now that OFA has an office, they are aggressively recruiting volunteers to conduct phone banking and voter registration efforts. The Club is coordinating with them to make sure we have certified Voter Registration volunteers at the many outreach events we are sponsoring.

We will be seeing more Democratic candidates announcing in the next 30–60 days. That means their campaigns will be looking for resources and volunteers.

The Club has educational and social events scheduled for you to attend through August and we will be adding more for September and October. You'll be receiving details on the great speakers we have in store for you as the dates get closer.

And maybe someday soon, the Republicans will figure out who their presidential nominee is. Or maybe we won't find out until August when they convene in Tampa! There's never a dull moment.

Please be sure to renew your membership when you receive your postcard notifications and consider becoming a sustaining member at \$200 a year. The Club has once again surpassed 650 members! We want to continue to grow and reach out to Sarasota County Democrats and we can't do it without you!

Democratically yours,

Mary



Marcia Foote and Dorothy Tiberii

From Your Membership Co-Chairs

Dear Democratic Club Members and Friends,

So far March has been an exciting month for the Democratic Club of Sarasota as we continue to get organized for the upcoming campaign.

The Club continues to organize and sponsor numerous Outreach events throughout the community. The Sarasota County Fair is currently underway and our membership (along with the Sarasota County Democratic Party and OFA (Obama/Organizing for America)) is contributing to staffing the booth for ten days. What a job that has been to get organized! Many thanks to Board Member, Ed Henne for assisting in setting up our booth.

When you look at our Volunteer and Outreach efforts, it is clear that the Democratic Club of Sarasota is making an important contribution in Sarasota County.

This should be a fun, exciting year to get involved in the campaign. We will continue to offer a variety of ways in

which you can become active. Volunteering, participating in events, paying dues and making donations all make it possible for us to fulfill our mission. So does helping us continue to build and grow our organization!

If you have any questions about membership or would like to share the name of a possible member we should approach, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Your Membership Co-Chairs,

JoAnne DeVries — joanne@sarasotadems.com
Georgia Blotzer — georgiablots@yahoo.com

New & Reinstated Club Members and Friends (in February)

- Liz Barber, Audrey Bear, Lois Bennett,
- Johnnie Bohannon, Terry Brackett,
- Nancy Chiswick, Linda Collins, Kathleen Connors,
- Carole Sue Cotler, Susanne Daniels,
- Mary Davidson, Joan Donnelly,
- Christopher Drake, Suzanne Drake, Judith Eidge,
- Mary Eidge, Cynthia Geisler, Tracy Goodman,
- Ute Guenther, Raymond Hackett, Marilee Heider,
- Shirley Hermanson, Beth Hollingsworth,
- Tom Hollingsworth, Jane T. Huerta,
- Rebecca Jacobson, Carole Sue Kaplan,
- Bruce Kelling, Phyllis Koppel, Ann Koppenhaver,
- Nancy Ledding, Bernice Leigh, Ann Z. Leventhal,
- Vivian Livingston, Mary McEnery, Sharon Miller,
- Michelle Nicolette, Ann Noon, Art Patterson,
- Ray Penge, Becky Pomponio, Joseph Pomponio,
- Shakira Refos, Kevin Sanderson, Wayne Schmidt,
- Muriel Shindler, Charlene Snoddy, Ann Tannen,
- Raydel Walston, Elizabeth Wright

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

- I am registered as a Democrat in Florida.
- I am a Democrat but am registered in a state other than Florida, and I would like to become a Friend of the Democratic Club of Sarasota.

Enclosed is a check for \$ _____ for a term of (circle) 1 yr \$20; 3 yrs \$52; 5 yrs \$80; 10 yrs \$150 or Sustaining Member @ \$200 or more per year

_____ Date _____ Signed

Name _____

Address _____

City/Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Referred by _____

- Please contact me about volunteering.

Send to: Democratic Club of Sarasota
Membership Committee
PO Box 51076
Sarasota, FL 34232-0329

Become a Democratic Letter-Writer

Have you ever found yourself yelling, "You idiot!" at a Letter to the Editor in the newspaper?

If so, you should join a team of Democratic letter-writers who set the record straight. Organized by Venice Democrat Brad Hardin, members keep each other informed on issues and follow each others' success in getting published.

Because many newspapers limit individual letter-writers to once a month, a large team of active writers is needed to keep Democratic positions in print.

Contact Brad Hardin at deebradhardin@netzero.net or 408-8401 to join the team.

**April 9 Economic Forum:
“It’s Always the Economy, Stupid”**

Join us at the Golden Apple Dinner Theater as moderator Rob Lorei and a team of experts discuss the current U.S. economy.

Among the panelists are:

- Ayse Somersan: Emeritus Professor of Economics and Dean, University of Wisconsin
- Rick Edmunds: Researcher and writer for the Poynter Institute on business and journalism issues
- Lauren Rudd: CEO/CIO of Savannah Capital Management and co-owner of WSRQ Radio

Rob Lorei is Managing Editor and Moderator of “Florida This Week” on WEDU, and Co-founder and News and Public Affairs Director of WMNF Radio.

Doors open at 6:00 pm when beverages and light bites will be available for purchase before the program. The forum begins at 7:30.

The Golden Apple Dinner Theater is located at 25 North Pineapple Avenue in Downtown Sarasota.

Admission is \$20 for an individual, \$35 for two. Tickets can be purchased at the Golden Apple Dinner Theater or by mailing a check made payable to the SWFCPJ to 5318 Calle Florida Avenue, Sarasota, FL 34242

This event is co-sponsored by the Democratic Club of Sarasota and the South West Florida Coalition for Peace and Justice.



Above: Eileen Brown and Judge Franklin Morton

Right: Marlene Forster and John Clay

**April 26 Wine, Cheese & Politics
Mike Pheneger on Iran**

Mike Pheneger, Colonel US Army (retired), is the President of the American Civil Liberties Union of Florida and our special guest speaker for our April 26th Wine, Cheese & Politics series. Col. Pheneger received rave reviews from our membership when he addressed the Democratic Club of Sarasota in December of 2009 asking the question, “Is There a Right Choice on Afghanistan?”

With 30 years of active duty in the U.S. Army, serving as Director of Intelligence for U.S. Special Operations Command and Deputy Director of Intelligence for U.S. Special Command, Pheneger will share his expert insight into today’s hot topic of Iran and its potential nuclear capability.

Tehran claims its attempts to enrich uranium are purely for peaceful purposes. Israel and the West believe the efforts are to achieve nuclear weapons. The questions are many. Are sanctions effective? Will Israel act? Join us as we turn to Pheneger to apply his years of experience in answering these questions and more.

In his retirement, Pheneger has developed training programs for adult professionals for USF’s Professional and Workforce Development Division. He teaches courses on the Bill of Rights, Constitution, terrorism and geo-politics for lifelong learning programs in Tampa and Sarasota.

The event is at 1350 Main Street, 6th Floor, in Downtown Sarasota beginning at 6:30 p.m. Wine and other beverages will be provided along with light bites.

Please make your reservations by e-mailing rsvp@sarasotadems.com or leaving a message at 404-4678. Attendees who make reservations will be entered into a drawing for a Proud Sarasota Democrat Tote Bag filled with goodies valued at \$50. Cost for members is \$15 and for non-members, \$20. Payment can be prepaid by mailing a check made payable to the DCS to: PO Box 51076, Sarasota, FL 34232 or at the door the night of the event.



Three Step Path to the Democratic National Convention

Serving as a delegate to the Democratic National Convention is a dream of many Democrats — and it is an attainable dream. Each registered Democrat is eligible to run for a seat, but now is the time to act. The following outlines the 3-step process to represent Florida Democrats in Charlotte, NC, in September.

1. Delegate Filing Form due April 27

Download the form from a Party website (e.g., www.sarasotadems.org or www.fladems.com), complete it and return it to your county Democratic Party. Sarasota Democrats can also pick up the form at Sarasota County Democratic Party (SCDP) headquarters and complete and submit it in a single trip. Filing this form enables a registered Democrat to run for a position as a delegate to the Florida Democratic Party (FDP) Convention in Tampa in June.

2. County Democratic Caucus on May 5

Just as the Presidential nominating caucuses in states like Iowa reward candidates who can rally supporters, so will our local caucuses. All Sarasota County registered Democrats are encouraged to come to SCDP headquarters between 10 am and 2 pm to elect delegates to the FDP Convention. We will elect 19 men and 19 women from the list of all who submitted valid Delegate Filing Forms on time. This year, "bullet" voting is permitted, so well-organized candidates who bring many supporters to the caucus to vote only for them have an advantage.

3. FDP Convention in Tampa June 2–3

In Tampa, the 38 delegates from Sarasota County will join with the other delegates from our Congressional District to elect a total of 8 delegates to the Democratic National Convention. The main purpose of the FDP Convention is really to energize active Democrats for the remaining 5-month push toward Election Day 2012. Because Florida is

such an important swing state, it would be reasonable to believe that President Obama will make an appearance.

Please note that attendance at these events is at your own expense. The Democratic Party does not subsidize delegates. At a recent meeting, Sarasota County Democratic Party Chair Rita Ferrandino expressed the hope that local Democrats will focus their energies on electing Democrats to office in 2012, rather than on getting themselves selected as delegates.

Last Month: Future bright for gay marriage

(Continued from page 1)

The majority opinion in the Atlanta court said the individual mandate was "wholly novel" and Congressional over-reaching. The minority opinion's rebuttal cited existing national health care laws such as Medicare and ERISA. On the issue of "cost shifting," the minority pointed out that costs were already being shifted from the indigent and uninsured to the insured.

The Commerce Clause may play a greater role in the deliberations. The Commerce Clause restricts Congress's right to regulate commerce within states. Cotter cited nuances in decisions over the past 20 years that could affect the ACA decision, and he speculated on individual Justices' current positions based on their prior rulings. He expects Justice Scalia to uphold Congress's right to impose the individual mandate and to write the majority opinion.



Defense of Marriage Acts

Cotter explained that these laws in individual states are still being examined in the state courts for compliance with their state constitutions. He projected that it will be several years before they are tested in the US Supreme Court — if ever.

With the passage of time, hostility against gay couples is declining. In the 1986 Bowers decision, the Court ruled that the Constitution does not protect gay couples from prosecution for sexual activity in the privacy of their own homes. The 2003 Lawrence decision overturned Bowers.

Cotter cited the 1967 Loving decision, which ended all race-based legal restrictions on marriage, as a likely precedent for overturning state laws against same-sex marriage.

—Debbie Trice



Keith Kropp and Wayne Rogers

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

This information is presented as a guide only. While we do the best we can to present dates and times with accuracy, event times and venues do change. Please check with the event sponsor to confirm the details surrounding the event. Note: all telephone numbers are 941 Area Code, unless otherwise noted.

To request that your event be listed, email Tom Cook at willardcook@mac.com.

DEMOCRATIC CLUB OF SARASOTA EVENTS

14 Apr (Sat): Democratic Club of Sarasota Luncheon
Florida State House Representative from District 53, Rick Kriseman, will provide an update on the legislative session that ended on March 9th at the luncheon meeting which begins at 11:30 am at Laurel Oak Country Club, 2700 Gary Player Blvd in Sarasota. (If there is a quorum, club elections will also be held.) Cost: \$23 for members; \$25 for non-members and walk-ins. Reservations (due by Apr 11): 379-9233 or reserve@sarasotadems.com

26 Apr (Thu): Wine, Cheese & Politics
Join us for an evening of political discussion about Iran with Mike Pheneger, Colonel US Army (retired), President of the American Civil Liberties Union of Florida. The doors open at 6:00 pm for the 6:30 program. Location: 1350 Main Street, 6th floor lounge, in Downtown Sarasota. Cost: \$15 for members; \$20 for non-members. Parking is available on the street and in the nearby Palm Avenue garage. RSVP: rsvp@sarasotadems.com or 404-4678

CLUB-SPONSORED OUTREACH EVENTS

7 Apr (Sat): Embrace Change Student Concert
Help is needed at this event 5:30–10:00 pm. Contact jd.devries8@gmail.com for info or to volunteer.

9 Apr (Mon): Economic Forum at the Golden Apple
“It’s Always the Economy, Stupid” — Expert panelists with moderator Rob Lorei of WMNF and WEDU will thoroughly cover the topic at this forum at 7:30 pm at the Golden Apple Theater, 25 North Pineapple Ave in Downtown Sarasota. Jointly sponsored by South West Florida Coalition for Peace and Justice and the Democratic Club of Sarasota, the cost is \$20 for an individual or \$35 for a couple. Tickets can be purchased at the Golden Apple or by mailing a check made payable to the SWFCPJ to 5318 Calle Florida Avenue, Sarasota, FL 34242. Info: Augi Schmitz at 586-6839 or JoAnne DeVries at 320-8825

22 Apr (Sun): Earth Day at Oscar Scherer Park
Contact jd.devries8@gmail.com for info or to volunteer for the Democratic Club’s table.

OTHER EVENTS

Sarasota-Manatee Democratic Meetups
Info: visit <http://democrat.meetup.com>

31 Mar (Sat): VADC Annual Spring Luncheon
Kelly Kirschner, President of Unidos Now, will speak at the Venice Area Democratic Club’s annual luncheon at 12:00–2:30 pm at the Jacaranda West Country Club, 1901 Jacaranda Blvd in Venice. Cost: \$25 per person (advance purchase req’d) Info: 493-5087, 492-5965 or ohpiffle@yahoo.com

10 Apr (Tue): Longboat Key Democratic Club
The guest speaker will be Dr. Susan MacManus, distinguished Professor of Political Science at the University of South Florida. The regular luncheon meeting begins at 12:00 noon at the Harbourside Dining Room of the Longboat Key Club and Resort. Mail check for \$23 per person to LBK Democratic Club, PO Box 8025, Longboat Key 34228 for receipt by Apr. 5. Info: Jane Albaum at 362-0520

11 Apr (Wed): Sarasota County Democratic Party (SCDP)
This month’s meeting is at the Waldemere Fire Station, 2070 Waldemere St in Sarasota. Come at 6:30 to socialize prior to the meeting at 7:00–8:30 pm. All Democrats are welcome. Info: 330-9400, info@sarasotadems.org, or www.sarasotadems.org

27 Apr (Fri): Convention Delegate Applications Due
Info: See article on page 6

5 May (Sat): Sarasota County Democratic Caucus
All Sarasota County Democrats may vote to elect convention delegates at 10:00 am – 2:00 pm at Sarasota County Democratic Party HQ, 7358 S. Tamiami Trail in Sarasota. Info: 330-9400



Raymond Hackett and Donald A. Edwards

All Photos this month are by Dick Stammer.



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Mary Mc Enery
Aileen & Bernard Schuman
Joe Ziomek

MEMBERS



RESERVATIONS:

Call: 379-9233

Email: reserve@sarasotadems.com

Email reservations (only) will receive confirmation.
If no reply, please re-send.

MENU CHOICES:

*** No Substitutions ***

- Grilled Tilapia in lemon caper sauce w/basmati rice & vegetable
- Fresh Vegetable Greek Salad

Dessert: Apple Pie

Menu choice NOT guaranteed past noon

DEADLINE:

Wednesday evening, April 11

LATE FEE:

Late cancellations and no-shows will be billed.

Late reservations, if accepted, will be charged \$25.

Walk-ins will be charged \$25, if accommodated.

This Month's Luncheon Meeting

State Representative Rick Kriseman
2012 Legislative Update

Saturday, April 14, 2012

11:30 Social Hour — 12:00 Lunch and Program
(check-in opens at 11:00)

Members: \$23

Non-Members \$25

(Please make out check in advance to DCS and
show last names of everyone included in the check)

Laurel Oak Country Club
2700 Gary Player Blvd., Sarasota
Phone: 378-3608

Travel Directions:

The entrance to Laurel Oaks is on Bee Ridge Road about 2 miles east of I-75 (across from Bent Tree). At the traffic light, turn left onto Gary Player Blvd. and stop at the guard gate. Then continue on Gary Player to the Country Club.