



Over 3,000,000 new private sector jobs
Smaller Government and fewer government employees
Over \$2 Trillion in deficit reduction
Health Care Reform
Wall Street Reform
Saved the US auto industry
All “bailout money” repaid with interest
Three new trade agreements
Repealed “don’t ask, don’t tell”
Killed Bin Laden
Rescued American hostages
Toppled Gadhafi without an American casualty
Unified the world against Iran
Has the Arab League watching Syria
No tax dollars spend on BP cleanup
More deportations per year than Bush
Fewer regulations than Bush
Supports states’ rights on medical marijuana
Ended the war in Iraq
Reduced military spending by \$500 Billion
Increased veterans’ benefits every year
Save the world from global financial collapse
Hired more border patrol agents than Bush
Quit smoking

WHAT DID YOU DO IN THE LAST THREE YEARS?

The South Shore Democratic Club



*Photo from Florida Voter Suppression Rally,
Tampa, Jan 27, 2012*

Feb 7, 2012

**South Shore Regional Library
15816 Beth Shields Way
Ruskin, FL 33573**

*Refreshments 6:30 PM, Program 7:00 PM
All Democrats and Like-Minded Persons Welcome*

Announcements

Next South Shore Democratic Club Meeting. Thursday, March 8, Speaker: Samantha Bowden Topic: The Occupy Movement. Refreshments 1:00mPM, meeting 1:30 PM.

Apr Club Meeting - Thur., Apr 12th. Refreshments 1:00PM, meeting 1:30 PM. Speaker to be Announced.

Mar 1 & Apr 5 – Board Meeting, 1:30PM. American Momentum Bank, Sun Center Center. Open to all members.

2012 Dues – Now being accepted. Dues are \$15.00 per person per year.

Membership Applications – Available at the sign-in desk and on our web site.

Vote By Mail House Parties – We are looking for volunteers to hold small house parties (between now and late summer) to which you invite your Democratic neighbors and tell them about voting law changes. We will provide the names of Democrats on your street, forms, a speaker, and party planning assistance. Please help us spread the word and get to know your neighbors better! Contact Jean Becker at 813-633-2615 or jbeckerwrites@tampabay.rr.com

To sign up for our newsletter, send an email to ssdemclub@earthlink.net with subject *newsletter subscribe*.

Visit our **REVISED** website for events, news, and info <http://www.southshoredemocraticclub.org>

Also, visit our website to watch video of your state Legislature in session. See the right side of any web page on our site.

US Unemployment Fell to a 3-yr low with 243,000 jobs added in January, 2012. Exceeds expectations by about 80,000 jobs.

Program

Welcome	Robert Price
Pledge of Allegiance	All
Greet Your Neighbor	All
Treasurer's Report	George Stokes
Announcements	Robert Price
Speaker Introduction	Robert Price
Speaker	Rev. Charles McKenzie
50/50 Drawing	Robert Price

Our Purpose: To stimulate active interest in political and governmental affairs; to strengthen and to further the ideals and principles of the Democratic Party; to promote participation among Democrats to support and help elect the duly selected nominees of the Democratic Party; and to foster good fellowship among Democrats.

Engage With the 2012 Florida Legislative Session

Our 'friends' in Tallahassee are in session. There are several things you can do!

Senate and House Web Sites:

<http://www.flsenate.gov/>

<http://www.myfloridahouse.gov/>

Both pages have menu items that permit tracking of bills and committees. Both pages link to all members. Also both sites link to video broadcasts of Legislature sessions.

South Shore Reps:

Senate:

Sen. Rhonda Storms, Dist 10: (850) 487-5072

Email: storms.ronda.web@flsenate.gov

House:

Rep. Darryl Rouson, Dist 55: (850) 488-0925

Email: darryl.rouson@myfloridahouse.gov

Rep. Rachel Burgin, Dist 56: (850) 488-9910

Email: rachel.burgin@myfloridahouse.gov

Rep. Seth McKeel, Dist 63: (850) 488-9890

Email: seth.mckeel@myfloridahouse.gov

Rep. Greg Stube, Dist 67: (850) 488-6341

Email: greg.stube@myfloridahouse.gov

GENERAL TIPS FOR CONTACTING REPS:

- Tell your representative what effect you think a particular bill, if it becomes law, will have on you, your children, business, or community. Be concise, but specific.
- Be polite. Your communication will be more effective if you are reasonable in your approach.

- Suggest a course of action and offer assistance. Don't make promises or threats.

WRITING EFFECTIVE LETTERS AND EMAILS:

- Retrieve USPS mailing address from the lawmakers web page
- Type or print legibly. Sign your name neatly and provide your address or email address so they can respond to your letter.
- Keep letters and e-mails brief and to cover only one issue per letter. Never write more than one page.
- Identify your issue or opinion at the beginning of the letter, don't bury your main point.
- Try not to use form letters or send mass emails.

CALLING OR VISITING YOUR REP:

- Plan your call or visit carefully. Keep to the point and discuss only one issue.
- When visiting, make an appointment if possible.
- Prepare a one-page fact sheet concerning your issue to give to your representative. This will help him or her better retain what you present.



Democratic Candidates and Campaigns Pertinent to South Shore (So Far)

[Kevin Beckner](#), candidate for re-election for Hillsborough County Commissioner District 6 County-wide.

[Kathy Castor](#), candidate for re-election to the US House of Representatives (former District 11).

[Craig Lattimer](#), candidate for Hillsborough County Supervisor of Elections.



Rev. Charles McKenzie

The Rev Charles McKenzie has served as a public school teacher, spent over 15 years as a minister in the Tampa Bay area, and is a civil rights activist.

As an activist, he often acts as a spokesman for disenfranchised groups. He's marched with the Coalition of Immokalee Workers for better wages, rallied with peace activists in front of congressional offices and lobbied in Washington D.C. for more educational funding.

Rev McKenzie is the state coordinator for the Rainbow-PUSH Coalition, has served on the board of the ACLU's Florida chapter, and is active in the Pinellas County Democrat Party.

The Board of this club is very pleased to host this well-known leader and eloquent speaker.

Health Care Reform Benefits Timeline

Some Completed Changes:

Small business eligible for tax credits to offset cost; Crackdown on health care fraud returned \$2.8B to Medicare Fund; States eligible to cover more through Medicaid; Expanded coverage for early retirees; HealthCare.gov goes live, puts comparative insurance info online; Preventative care covered; Children with pre-existing conditions **MUST** be covered; Ins. companies held accountable for unreasonable rate hikes; Investment in prevention and public health programs to keep Americans healthy; Began closing senior's drug hole; Free preventive care for seniors; Reform of Medicare Advantage programs.

Coming Changes:

Full closure of senior's drug hole; Paperwork and administrative cost reduction; Linking payment to quality; Improvement in preventative coverage for all; Increase in Medicaid to primary care physicians; Additional funding for CHIP; Establishment of insurance exchanges; Prohibit insurers from dropping persons participating in clinical trials; Elimination of annual limits on insurance coverage.

The South Shore Democratic Club meets monthly, September through June at the South Shore Regional Library. *Unless we are having a quarterly evening meeting*, we meet on the second Thursday of the month. Refreshments at 1PM, Meeting at 1:30 PM.