



Silicon Valley  
**Association of Republican Women**

Volume 5, Number 4

April 2011

[www.SVARW.com](http://www.SVARW.com)

## Upcoming Events at SVARW

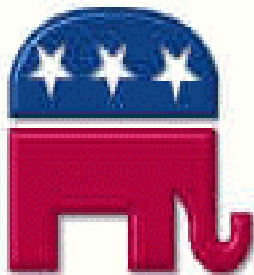
### MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- ♦ **April 20**—Monthly meeting with Don Gage, President of the Santa Clara Valley Water District.
- ♦ **May 7**—Patriot Party Save the Date!
- ♦ **May 18** — Monthly meeting with Dr. Charlie Self—"Dr. History", The Threat of Radical Islam in America Today.
- ♦ **June 15** — Monthly meeting with Catharine B. Baker, Esq. — Voter Integrity Wear Your Red, White and Blue

### SVARW MONTHLY MEETINGS

La Rinconada  
Country Club

9:00 AM to 11:00 AM  
14595 Clearview Drive  
Los Gatos, CA 95032



### April 20, 2011 —SVARW Monthly Meeting

#### *"What's up with the Santa Clara Valley Water District?"*



#### **Don Gage, President of the Santa Clara Valley Water District Board of Directors**

After serving two terms as a Santa Clara County Supervisor, Mr. Gage was elected last November to the water board and immediately elected by his peers to serve as president.

*If you think your water rates are too high, come and find about the source of the problem!!*

Don Gage is always a very insightful speaker and we can count on him to give us the inside scoop. In particular, Gage will discuss budgets and fiscal accountability, the goal of a clean, safe, and high quality water supply, and the issues of chromium 6, perchlorate, nitrates, and water conservation.

We hope to see you there!

Meeting Information: La Rinconada Country Club,  
14595 Clearview Dr. Los Gatos, CA 95032,  
Check in: 9:00 AM — Program Begins: 9:30 AM  
Cost: \$13 includes Continental Breakfast

### ...and on **May 18, 2011**— SVARW's Monthly Meeting

#### *"The Threat of Radical Islam in America Today"*

**Charlie Self**, Also known as "Dr. History" on the Brian Sussman show, Dr. Self will discuss the threat of radical Islam today in America.

Dr. Self is a well-known coach, consultant, minister, professor, thought-leader and author – as well as Middle East expert. He will review the threat of radical Islam to America and discuss the effect of the recent Middle East unrest. He will also provide his assessment of the Obama administration's handling of the Middle East situation.



# Liberty Celebration 2011: A Tribute to Patriotism

By Allison Spiller

**SVARW'**s March 26 Liberty Celebration was an event to remember! From keynote Brian Sussman to the City on the Hill-sponsored Patriotism Contest for Youth to the New Voter Registration ceremony and flag salute by the Boy Scouts, this sold-out event was very successful!

An annual event, the Liberty Celebration honors freedom, the Constitution, and the liberties that we, as Americans, hold so dear.

At this year's event at the Elk's Lodge in Los Gatos, SVARW President Cathy Davis kicked things off by welcoming everyone and introducing the speakers. After the pledge, Samantha Marshik (daughter of SVARW member and Liberty Celebration co-chair Lisa Marshik) led Boy Scout Troop 318 in the color guard procession and flag salute. The Rev. Dr. John Avery Palmer gave the invocation, and SVARW supporting member Tom Rigler led the audience in "God Bless America."

The program then continued with First Vice President Martha Snodgrass introducing the VIP members including Mike Wasserman, Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors, Paulo Sibaja, Director of Communications & Legislation, Capitol Resource Institute, and Brian Sussman, KSFO Radio Host and author of *Climategate*. Board Member Jane Sholem conducted the New Voter Registration ceremony honoring two new voters: *Hunter Davis and Tyler Marshik*

Next, past SVARW president Jan Soule introduced Paul Sigaja of City on the Hill as well as the public officials Steve Rice (Los Gatos Vice Mayor), Pete Constant (San Jose City Councilman) and Marilyn Librers (Morgan Hill City Councilwoman) who were on hand to congratulate the winners. Mr. Sigaja then awarded certificates and savings bonds to the elementary school winners, and scholarships to attend *City on the Hill's* model legislative program to the winners in the 14 years old and above category. Teen winners included *James Wales, Joseph Wales, Joey Gadd, Tyler Marshik* and *Grand Prize Winner Kayla Higuera*. These winners also received letters from various dignitaries including President George Bush, former First Lady Laura Bush, former Governor Sarah Palin, Florida Governor Rick Scott, Vice President of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General James E. Cartwright, Congresswoman Sandy Adams, State Senator David Simmons, Chief of Staff of the United States Air Force General Norman A. Schwartz, San Jose City Councilmember Pete Constant, Los Gatos Vice Mayor Steve Rice, and Santa Clara Republican Central Committee Members Peter Soule, Lisa Marshik and Gail DeSmet.

After a short break, the event keynote speaker, Brian Sussman, gave a great presentation touching on many interesting topics including global warming, the state of politics in California, how the current administration is addressing US energy policy and a "behind the scenes" look at hosting a radio show. After a brief Q&A session, Cathy Davis concluded the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. The Liberty Celebration will be held again in 2012, and as it will be a presidential election year, the event should prove extremely interesting and informative.



**Brian Sussman**  
was FIRED UP at the SVARW Liberty Celebration!!



**Thank you** to everyone who donated to next year's contest through the envelopes and through buying raffle tickets. Anyone who would like to donate to City on the Hill, a 501 (C) 3 charity may send a check made out to **City on the Hill** to:

SVARW c/o Barbara Wales,  
101 Casa Grande,  
Los Gatos, CA 95032

# SVARW Spring Training Workshop

By Debra Janssen & Gail DeSmet



Steve Kirschbaum

Veteran campaign strategist, Steve Kirschbaum treated members of SVARW and several potential candidates to BootCampaigns, his campaign strategy boot camp. The three hour overview of how effective campaigns are planned and executed was designed to give potential candidates, and those interested in helping in campaigns, tested tools to increase the Conservative presence in elected offices.

Attendees got an overview of successful campaigns, and learned how to draw the right people to perform the all important support functions of management, financing, communications, and volunteer involvement. His dissection of how and why the Whitman and Fiorina campaigns failed was particularly instructive. The presentation was a synopsis of a much longer and more detailed seminar. It was designed to encourage serious campaigners to become involved and energized.

"Campaigns for November 2012 statewide elections need to start the day after the previous election" said Kirschbaum, as he outlined a three stage lifecycle to put in place a solid, winning structure Conservatives should use in elections at all levels. Kirschbaum laid out a number of carefully crafted steps candidates and their supporters need to implement before committing to run for office. He followed up with an outline of specific milestones to a winning strategy.

"I will be working with SVARW to do additional in depth Election Lifecycle Training seminars that cover monthly and quarterly strategies do specific aspects of political strategy, messaging and media, said Kirshbaum."



If you're motivated to make a difference and get involved at any level, or to sign up for future, more in depth seminars, please Contact Gail DeSmet:

[CandidateDevelopment@SVARW.com](mailto:CandidateDevelopment@SVARW.com)



Scott Kirkland

## "The Koran Revealed" Lecture

Want to learn more about the Koran? Peter Friedman will detail more about the history of the Koran over the last 1400 years. The date is Sunday, April 10th. The presentation is from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Harry's Hofbrau, 390 Saratoga Avenue, San Jose (near Stevens Creek Blvd.). Invite your friends to join you.

## Welcome New Member Maryann Woolsey!

Maryann joined SVARW at February's meeting in order to be connected with like-minded, values-oriented people like herself, who are not naive about our country's woes, but can't think of a place on earth they'd rather live. She was introduced to the group by her friend Claudette Averill. Maryann is most concerned with health care, immigration and diminishing parental rights issues.

She is a second-generation native Californian, has two grown daughters and five grandchildren. Maryann lives in San Jose with her husband Allen and grandson Cesar. She is retired from a career in human resources management and career management consulting (the latter which she still dabbles in.) Maryann also works at being physically active, enjoys spending time with family and friends, studying the Bible and learning about real estate investing.





## Officers for 2011

President  
**Cathy Davis**

First Vice President  
**Martha Snodgrass**

Second Vice President  
**Allison Spiller**

Recording Secretary  
**Jan Nedde**

Corresponding Secretary  
**Lisa Seago**

Treasurer  
**Debra Janssen-Martinez**

Next Board Meeting  
Wednesday, April 27th  
@ 9:30 AM

## Sunshine

Norine needs to know if a member is ill or has lost a loved one. We care about our members and would like to follow up with a call and a card. Please call Norine Bacon and let her know who needs a special call or card.  
408-377-7111

# Support Our Military

## Overseas Coupon Program

Send your coupons to soldiers overseas! This program serves military families by assisting us to forward "manufacturer's coupons" to overseas military bases. **To date, we have sent \$2,414.60 in coupons to the U.S. Navy base in Gaeta, Italy.**

These bundles of coupons are placed on tables, at the PX and Commissary, or handed out for use by military members and families on base. This helps the family save valuable dollars and stretch their budget. Please follow these four easy steps:

1. Clip your "manufacturer's coupons" with expiration dates that are **no more than one month** past their expiration date.
2. Please sort your coupons into "food" and "non-food" bundles and place them into Ziploc baggies.
3. **Tally** the dollar total for each bundle and mark on each baggie with a felt tipped pen.
4. Bring them to the next SVARW meeting and give them to Christina Sand.

Christina will add up all the tallies and send the coupons overseas.

Remember: the magic words are "manufacturer's coupon". Do **not** send restaurant coupons, assistance vouchers, food stamps, or any other assistance items, which generally have a personal name on them or are issued for a specific person to use. Do **not** send store coupons, which are only good at the store named, and cannot be used on a military base overseas.

Any questions? Contact Christina Sand.

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**Support Our Troops in Iraq** Thank you to everyone who has been so generous with donations for the boxes and money for mailing the boxes.

From Ann Gadd: "Anthony has been overwhelmed with SVARW's generosity, and is suddenly everyone's "best friend" on base.

They had 8 mortar attacks yesterday, Anthony said after the alarm sounded they had 3 seconds before impact. He was walking from work to housing when it happened, and just dove on the ground. I guess that's the safest thing to do outside, because when they explode, shrapnel goes everywhere. The closest one to him was about 1,000 feet away."

Bring donations for the Care Packages to the SVARW General Meeting: Notes and letters to Anthony and the others serving, Energy Bars and high protein snacks, Beef Jerky and Slim Jims, instant coffee, tea and cocoa, packs of gum, t-shirts, socks and underwear, sunscreen and hand or body lotion, music DVDs and music CDs, travel-size games and small toys, crossword puzzles, word searches and comic books, boot liners/insoles, small first aid kits, and monetary donations to help with the mailing costs.

***Anything we send lets the troops know that we appreciate that they are there risking their lives so that we are free back home.***



**Phone Numbers**  
**Local Assemblyman**

Rich Gordon  
(650) 691-2121

Jim Beall  
(408) 282-8920

**Local State Senators**  
Sam Blakeslee  
(916) 651-4015

Maj. Ldr. Ellen Corbett  
(510) 794-3900

S. Joseph Simitian  
(650) 688-6384

Elaine Alquist  
(408) 286-8318

**CONTACT  
INFORMATION  
FOR  
GOVERNOR**

State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA  
95814

Phone:  
916-445-2841

**FAX is most  
effective:**  
916-445-4633

[www.govmail.ca.gov](http://www.govmail.ca.gov)

# Legislation

Barbara Wales —Legislation Chairman

Is there a local, state, or federal issue you want SVARW to know about? Well, here's your chance! We are launching a **Legislation Form** that will help you help us keep abreast of the many issues that arise affecting our daily lives. Remember, this is YOUR CLUB TOO and...

**We Want to Hear From YOU!**

## LEGISLATION

Bill # or description (Examples: HR1223, AB555 or if no bill #, "plastic bag tax")

\_\_\_\_\_  
Federal/state/if county or city, which one

\_\_\_\_\_  
Brief Description of the Bill

\_\_\_\_\_  
Why should SVARW members be involved?

\_\_\_\_\_  
What should members do if they want to take action (call, write, email, FAX)? Please list who they should contact and the contact information.

Sample wording for letters/emails/faxes; sample script for phone calls;

Critical Dates, if any. Should we consider this for an email alert? \_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_ no

\_\_\_\_ I would like to see SVARW members send letters on this subject at the next General Meeting.  
Sample letter(s) are attached.

\_\_\_\_ I would like to see SVARW write a letter on behalf of the membership. Draft attached.

Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Critical Dates To be considered for:

General Meeting	Sunday before the General Meeting (3rd Wed.)
Board Meeting	Sunday before the Board Meeting (last Wed.)
Newsletter	Last Wed. of the Month

If there is a critical issue which occurs outside of these times, please submit it to be considered for an email alert or other action.

Please submit to Barbara Wales [rdwales@earthlink.net](mailto:rdwales@earthlink.net)

Need help or have a question, please contact Barbara Wales, [rdwales@earthlink.net](mailto:rdwales@earthlink.net)

## Immigration Report—by Carol Joyal

### COST OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION TO CALIFORNIANS

A review of the latest census indicates state taxpayers are paying over \$10.5 billion each year to provide services to illegal aliens. These services include medical care, education, and incarceration. Only \$1.6 billion of taxes are paid by these illegal entrants. The full report is available on [www.fairus.org](http://www.fairus.org).

We rarely are told that A big reason for our state fiscal disaster is the cost of illegal immigration. Not addressing this problem is not responsible. Tell your state representative that you want a refund for the approximately \$1,183 in taxes your family is paying to support illegal immigration this year.

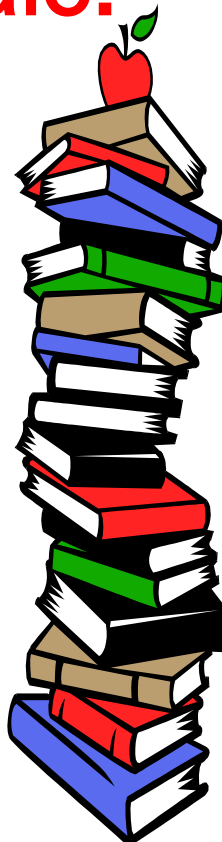


## Giant Book Sale!

Do you have some great books you have read to donate to our sale? Bring them to our next monthly meeting, on April 20th. We will collect and prepare them for the Sale. Any subject is acceptable.

Our ladies love the cookbooks and travel books. Call Marian Cosgrove at 408-410-4490 if you need your books to be picked up at your home!

The book sale is scheduled for the May 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.



### 65 or Over??

### Claim Your Exemption to School Parcel Taxes!!

Many school districts try to get parcel taxes approved by voters by excluding Seniors. While provisions vary by district, generally, seniors need to apply to prevent this from being added to their property tax bills.

SVARW has individuals who have volunteered to check on each district and let everyone know how to apply for the exemptions in each district. Generally, the contact is the School District Office. Watch this column for information on the parcel taxes in your district.

Call the school district office to find out what identification you need to bring with you to apply. You will have to request this exemption each year.

**For Campbell Union High School District** the parcel tax is \$85 and the contact is Campbell Union High School District, Parcel Tax Exemption, 3235 Union Ave., San Jose, CA 95124. For information, call (408) 371-0960. (Only one owner of the home needs to be a senior to qualify.)

For Cambrian School District the parcel tax is \$79. To file for an exemption go to the school district office at 4115 Jackson Drive, San Jose, CA 95124, (408) 377-2103

### NRA

"The NRA Women's Leadership Forum unites women of influence to defend Second Amendment freedoms and help secure the future of the NRA through philanthropic leadership."

Join us for the 2011 NRA Annual Meeting and Exhibits April 28 - May 3 in Pittsburgh, PA

For more info: [www.nraam.org](http://www.nraam.org).

## Update on The Conservative Calendar

[www.TheConservativeCalendar.com](http://www.TheConservativeCalendar.com)

By Jan Soule

*"Insanity is doing the same thing over and over and expecting a different result"*

*~Albert Einstein*

For years conservatives in California have done the same things over and over to change the political climate of the state...and guess what...we are worse off in 2011 than we have ever been before! The conservative landslide the swept across the country in November 2011, stopped at the Nevada border.

The Silicon Valley Association of Republican Women in partnership with Red State New Media took a bold step to stop the insanity and move our county and state in a different direction by investing in building The Conservative Calendar ([www.TheConservativeCalendar.com](http://www.TheConservativeCalendar.com)) to network the conservative organizations. Conceived in January, approved by the SVARW board on January 26<sup>th</sup> and launched in record time on March 14<sup>th</sup>, The Conservative Calendar includes sixteen partners as of April 1<sup>st</sup>. A weekly email lets fellow conservatives know about upcoming events.



### Your help is needed!!

The more conservatives that join The Conservative Calendar email list the quicker the goal of networking conservatives will be achieved. Here's how you can help:

Send an email to your friends and family and ask them to:

- ◆ Join [www.TheConservativeCalendar.com](http://www.TheConservativeCalendar.com) to find conservative organizations and events in their area.

Make a post to your Facebook page to invite your friends to Join The Conservative Calendar and include the link: [www.TheConservativeCalendar.com](http://www.TheConservativeCalendar.com)

- ◆ Add an invitation to join The Conservative Calendar to your email signature.
- ◆ Pick up post cards at the next SVARW meeting that you can handout at conservative gatherings.



## Silicon Valley Association of Republican Women

P.O Box 3194  
Saratoga, CA 95070



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## Coming in June...



Catharine Baker is Of Counsel at Hoge Fenton, where she is a member of the Litigation Practice Group. Many of Catharine's clients have been businesses and individuals facing litigation that threatened their financial survival. Her clients have appreciated her ability to pursue successful litigation strategies that are cost-effective.

She has clerked for a Reagan judicial appointee in California. Prior to attending law school, she was the Senior Legislative Aide to Rep. Sonny Bono.

Catharine is active in a variety of community and professional organizations. She is a member of the Board of Directors of the Diablo Regional Arts Association (Leshner Center for the Arts) in Walnut Creek, California. She is also a member of the Alameda County Republican Central Committee, the National Republican Lawyers Association, and the Federalist Society. She works tirelessly to safeguard our right to free and fair elections. She will be sharing her eight recommendations with us.