



## Upcoming Events at SVARW

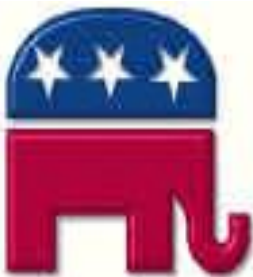
### MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- ♦ **February 15**—Dakin Sloss, President, California Common Sense (CACS)
- ♦ **February 22**—New Members Tea
- ♦ **March 21**—SVARW Town Hall with SJ Councilman Pete Constant
- ♦ **April 18**—Candidate Forum—Local Candidates
- ♦ **May 12**—Liberty Celebration with Arizona Sheriff Richard Mack

### SVARW MONTHLY MEETINGS

La Rinconada  
Country Club

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



February 15, 2012 —SVARW Monthly Meeting

### Government Transparency Find Out How Your Tax Dollars Are Spent



Dakin Sloss is President of California Common Sense (CACS), a Stanford-based nonprofit using Silicon Valley technologies to open government finances to the public, engage citizens in data-driven discourse, and catalyze a grassroots movement for better governance. In Sept. CACS released an interactive SF data transparency portal that helps SF citizens explore, analyze, and visualize city government data to see how their money is spent. Earlier this summer, CACS



launched California's first-ever interactive data transparency portal. Dakin will update us on CACS and how the portals are being utilized.

**Time:** Monthly meetings start at 9:30 with check-in at 9:00 a.m.

**Location:** La Rinconada Country Club  
14595 Clearview Drive, Los Gatos

**Cost:** \$13.00 includes continental breakfast

**We hope to see YOU there!**

March 21, 2012

### SVARW Town Hall with San Jose Councilmember Pete Constant



Pete represents Council District 1, the region of West San José bordering Santa Clara, Saratoga, Cupertino and Campbell. He will be speaking to us on the latest issues facing the City of San Jose with particular emphasis on the status of pension reform. Re-elected in June 2010, Pete first took office in January 2007 and has since focused on public safety, economic development, open government, and regional land planning. Pete is currently appointed to the Rules and Open Government and Public Safety, Finance, and Strategic Support Committees for the City of San José. Prior to serving as a San José Councilmember, Pete served for 14 years as a San José Police Officer. This Town Hall is a great way to learn about the current issues facing San Jose. Even if you don't reside in San Jose, the issues are important because what happens in San Jose usually affects most communities in Silicon Valley.

Make sure you bring your questions for Pete!

# MORE UPCOMING EVENTS

April 18, 2012

## Candidate Forum

Candidates running for local and state offices will briefly present why they are running and then take questions from the floor. This is an excellent opportunity to get to know the candidates and have your questions answered.

**Time:** Monthly meetings start at 9:30 am with check-in at 9:00 am

**Location:** La Rinconada Country Club, 14595 Clearview Drive, Los Gatos

**Cost:** \$13.00 includes continental breakfast

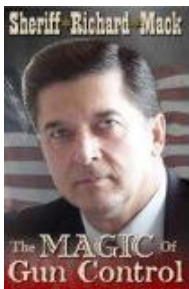
## May 12, 2012 - Liberty Celebration

We are thrilled to have Sheriff Richard Mack as our speaker.

Richard Mack is a powerful and experienced speaker, and a strong advocate of states' rights and individual freedoms. He has been a tireless crusader for the Bill of Rights, working for various groups including Gun Owners of America, the Libertarian Party, the Second Amendment Foundation, presidential candidates Pat Buchanan and Ron Paul, and many others to further individual rights. He has been the guest speaker at numerous events nationally and has worked hard for the rights of Americans everywhere. Please see the flyer on page 7 for more information. The Sheriff will have his newest book "The Magic of Gun Control" for sale at the event.



From [www.sheriffmack.com/index.php/books-by-richard-mack](http://www.sheriffmack.com/index.php/books-by-richard-mack),



*"It has become an epidemic in America: The knee-jerk reaction to every instance of violence or mayhem is a cry for more gun control. This is an issue that is rarely split along party lines; underneath it all, it is and always has been THE FREEDOM LOVERS vs THE POWER SEEKERS. This book will examine the constitutional, historical, and foundational basis of gun control and those leaders who have embraced it. It expresses a practical view of gun ownership and emphasizes the laws and views of those who first wrote the Bill of Rights, which guarantees the right of all law-abiding Americans to keep and bear arms."*

## Honoring American Gold Star Mothers

In addition to Sheriff Mack's keynote, we are pleased to be honoring American Gold Star Mothers at the Liberty Celebration. Karen Meredith, Northern California Chapter President, will be on hand to accept an award and give a short address.

American Gold Star Mothers is an organization of mothers whose sons or daughters served and died that this world might be a better place in which to live.

[www.sjcagoldstarmoms.org](http://www.sjcagoldstarmoms.org)



# New Member Tea

All new members and members who are interested in getting more involved are invited to join us on Wednesday, February 22, 2012 at 2 PM.

The event will be held at the lovely home of Maria Fischer.

Her address is 105 Kathy Court in Los Gatos. 395-0335

This event is not only fun, with lots of goodies to eat, but a great way to learn more about SVARW, meet our officers and learn about the many opportunities to get more involved.

We do hope you will be able to join us. Please call Claudette Averill at 268-5534 or e-mail [claudieave@sbcglobal.net](mailto:claudieave@sbcglobal.net) to let us know if you plan to attend.



## 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 hand out at conservative gatherings.

# SVARW and YOU!

## A Message from Our President



Greetings SVARW Members!

This is a very active organization under normal times, but SVARW will be especially busy during this critical election year, working hard to get local conservative candidates elected, and supporting state and national candidates as we can. We need help to carry out the activities that we have planned—the Liberty Celebration in May, Patriot Parties, Stars and Stripes and other events as they come on the horizon. Right now we need two people who will volunteer to be greeters at our meetings. You would welcome people when they arrive, hand them an agenda and direct them to the check in table. Also, we need someone with enthusiasm who would be responsible for visiting each of the tables before our meeting starts to sell raffle tickets for our Freedom Basket. We always need people to help with set up and clean up when we hold events like Stars and Stripes, Liberty Celebration and Patriot Parties.

Please consider volunteering on one of the following committees:

**Campaign Events/ Liberty Celebration** (Set up and clean up)—*Martha Snodgrass*

**Candidate Development** (Support of candidates, arrange candidate workshops)—*Gail DeSmet*

**Grassroots Development** (Working to develop an active volunteer corps that will assist with events related to getting candidates elected. This includes such things such as meet and greets, precinct walking, phone banking, poll watching, poll electioneering, etc., all of which make a difference in a local election.)—*Cathy Davis*

**Legislation** (Preparing position letters for members to sign, and providing legislative alerts.)—*Deborah Kerwin-Peck*

**Membership** (Checking in guests during monthly meetings)—*Lisa Marshik*

**Member Communications** (Calling members to remind them of events)—*Sherrill Martinez*

**Member Outreach** (Includes Patriot Parties and New Member Teas)—*Claudette Averill*

**Online Communications** (Publicizing events by mass direct communications and updating the website. We need someone who is willing to update our Facebook page and volunteers to visit other conservative events and hand out sign up cards for The Conservative Calendar.)—*Jan Soule*

**Stars and Stripes** (Set up and clean up)—*Lisa Marshik*

**Ways and Means** (Freedom Basket promotion at monthly meetings)—*Marian Cosgrove*

Any volunteer organization needs the contributions of members to succeed. If you have any questions about just what the above committees do, or how you would be able to best put your talents to work for SVARW, please contact me, and I will put you in touch with the appropriate committee chair.

Janet Nedde, President SVARW  
408 354-7613 or nedde@earthlink.net



# Legislation

By Claudette Averill



## Phone Numbers Local Assemblymen

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 CALIFORNIA 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)

## One Win for Marriage in California

This is a step in the right direction. We won a battle, but the war is not over yet.

The case, *Perry v. Brown*, is really about the constitutionality of Proposition 8, California's constitutional marriage amendment defining marriage as the union between one man and one woman. Californians voted in 2008 to protect the traditional definition of marriage. Having lost at the ballot box, gay rights activists took the battle to court to challenge the constitutionality of this measure. The political elite in the state decided to betray their own constituents and actively oppose the voters in court. California's own attorney general not only refused to defend the validity of Proposition 8, he actually argued in the state's brief that the measure was unconstitutional.

Gay rights activists thought they had devised a great scheme. They thought that there was no one to defend the law, but the official supporters of Prop 8 intervened in the case to defend the voters and make the case for the constitutionality of the measure.

The gay rights activists objected to the intervention in court. They depend on the "vision" of activist judges who can see the need to do this because "it is the right thing to do," regardless of what the law says.

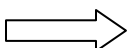
What the political elite want is to hold a *de facto* veto power over voters. Thankfully, the California Supreme Court did not agree: "Neither the Governor, the Attorney General, nor any other executive or legislative official has the authority to veto or invalidate an initiative measure that has been approved by the voters."

The California Supreme Court quickly pointed out that the question is not about marriage at all. It is about "the purpose and integrity of the initiative process itself." It is about whether we are to be governed by "we the people," or by the political elite; as the same-sex "marriage" advocates seem to want.

The court explains that a case like this one is the worst possible example of the abuse of power that same-sex marriage proponents seek:

Thus, in an instance - like that identified in the question submitted by the Ninth Circuit - in which the public officials have totally declined to defend the initiative's validity at all, we conclude that, in light of the nature and purpose of the initiative process ... it would clearly constitute an abuse of discretion for a court to deny the official proponents of an initiative the opportunity to participate as formal parties in the proceeding ... in order to assert the people's and hence the state's interest in the validity of the measure and to appeal a judgment invalidating the measure.

Continued top of next page





## Officers for 2012

President  
**Jan Nedde**

First Vice President  
**Allison Spiller**

Second Vice President  
**Cathy Davis**

Recording Secretary  
**Debra Janssen-Martinez**

Corresponding Secretary  
**Kirsten Williams**

Treasurer  
**Lisa Seago**

Next Board Meeting  
Wednesday, February  
29th @ 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 to let her know.

408-377-7111

This is a great ruling for supporters of traditional marriage, not only because they get a chance to defend Proposition 8 in this case, but because it also exposes the tyranny of the same-sex "marriage" crowd.

If we are to continue to have a government "of the people, by the people, and for the people," their efforts must be stopped. We hope the Ninth Circuit can see that and do the right thing, legally and morally.

## UN Agenda 21

### What is Agenda 21?

Agenda 21 is an action plan of the United Nations (UN) related to sustainable development and was an outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 1992. It is a comprehensive blueprint of action to be taken globally, nationally and locally by organizations of the UN, governments, and major groups in every area in which humans directly affect the environment. ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Agenda\\_21](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Agenda_21))



Seems benign, why should I be concerned?

In a nutshell, the plan calls for governments to take control of all land use and not leave any of the decision making in the hands of private property owners. It is assumed that people are not good stewards of their land and the government will do a better job if they are in control. Individual rights in general are to give way to the needs of communities as determined by the governing body. U.N. Agenda 21 cites the affluence of Americans as being a major problem which needs to be corrected. (<http://www.democratsagainstunagenda21.com/index.html>)

But that's the UN, how does that affect me locally?

Have you heard of ICLEI? It stands for International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives. It was created as a non-governmental spin-off by the United Nations to implement Agenda 21 locally. It is a lobbying and policy group that is designed to influence and change local governmental policies related to all aspects of human life. (<http://www.democratsagainstunagenda21.com/iclei-when-they-say-local-they-mean-it.html>)

How do I find out if my town is a member?

<http://www.icleiusa.org/about-iclei/members/member-list>

What can I do?

To start, the best thing you can do is to read more and open your eyes to the workings of your town. Many excellent ideas, videos, resource lists and printable flyers are at the following website:

<http://www.democratsagainstunagenda21.com/what-can-i-do.html>

Check it out and look for more about Agenda 21/ICLEI in future newsletters.



# Annual Liberty Celebration

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Featuring... **Arizona's**

## Sheriff Richard Mack

Sheriff Richard Mack along with seven other county sheriffs sued the Clinton Administration over the constitutionality of the **Brady Gun Control Bill**. Their victory in *Printz/Mack vs USA* was a victory for States' Rights and the 10th Amendment.



### Sheriff Richard Mack

Sheriff Richard Mack will have signed copies of his books for sale

Our speaker for the Liberty Celebration is Sheriff Richard Mack, the Arizona Sheriff who dared to bring a suit against the Clinton Administration.

During his tenure as Sheriff for Graham County Arizona, federal officers informed the sheriffs of the state that they would be required to enforce the so-called "Brady Bill" and run background checks at their expense under the law. In 1994, Mack and six other sheriffs from across the country challenged the constitutionality of the Brady Bill, and ultimately fought it all the way to the United States Supreme Court where they won a monumental decision for freedom.

On June 27, 1997, the Supreme Court ruled in *Printz/Mack vs. USA* that the Brady Bill was unconstitutional, thus restoring the 10th Amendment:

"The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution...are reserved to the States respectively or to the people."

Today, Sheriff Mack is a tireless crusader for the Bill of Rights.

***Plus...Honoring the American Gold Star Mothers of Northern California***

**Saturday, May 12th**

Doors Open: 9:00 AM

Social & Refreshments: 9:30 AM

Program: 10:00 AM

Los Gatos Elks, 105 Newell Ave., Los Gatos

Purchase tickets online at [www.svarw.com](http://www.svarw.com)

or complete this form

**Tickets are only \$25**

**Reservations – First Come, First Served**

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Address:\_\_\_\_\_

City\_\_\_\_\_ Zip\_\_\_\_\_

Number of tickets @ \$25 per ticket = \$\_\_\_\_\_

If you are purchasing more than one ticket on this form, please provide the name of the additional guests:

\_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to **SVARW** and mail to Lisa Marshik, 319 Blossom Valley Drive, Los Gatos, CA 95032.

# Silicon Valley Association of Republican Women

P.O Box 3194  
Saratoga, CA 95070



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## 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 \$19,805.69 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 a military 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 [ccsandesq@gmail.com](mailto:ccsandesq@gmail.com)