



Silicon Valley
Association of Republican Women

Volume 3, Number 2

February 2009

www.SVARW.com

Upcoming Events at SVARW

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- ♦ **February 18th** — Avoid Identity Theft: Deter, Detect and Defend
- ♦ **March 11th** — Lobby Day in Sacramento — See Page 7
- ♦ **March 18th** — Homeland Security, the roll of Ham Radio Operators

SVARW MONTHLY MEETINGS

La Rinconada Country Club

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

Cost: \$13 includes
Continental Breakfast



February 18th, 2009 —SVARW Meeting

You can't afford to miss our February meeting on identity theft!

It's easy to be a victim of identity theft! If you shopped at Lundari's in Los Gatos last year and used an ATM card, there's a chance that someone has your account number and PIN.

Detective Mann, of the Los Gatos Police Department will tell us about problems locally and have tips on prevention. We will also have packets of information available and a chance to ask her questions.



LOCATION

La Rinconada Country Club

Check In — 9:00 AM —Continental Breakfast

9:30 AM — Meeting called to order

11:00 AM — Meeting

Adjourned

14595 Clearview Drive -Los Gatos, CA 95032

March 18, 2009 — SVARW Meeting

Emergency Preparedness in Santa Clara County and the Roll of Ham Operators

Living in California, we always face the threat of a major earthquake. Now with Barak Obama in the Whitehouse, the threat of a terrorist attack on our shores goes way up!! We in Santa Clara County need to be prepared for disasters we hope never happen. Don't miss our March 18th meeting where we'll learn about the role of Ham Operators in times of local disaster.

Guest Speaker: William Dale, local ARRL Section Manager & Section Emergency Communications Coordinator.





Officers for 2009

President
Carol Joyal

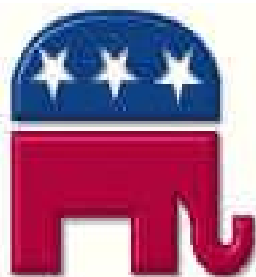
First Vice President
Cathy Davis

Second Vice President
Linda Chavez

Recording Secretary
Betty Kunz

Corresponding Secretary
Gail DeSmet

Treasurer
Helen Gaetano



Welcome New SVARW Members!!

We had quite a turn out for our first meeting of the year on January 14th with Dr. History. First time attendees were free. As a result of that meeting, we are welcoming several new members:

Norma Coe (Thomas)
Saratoga

Susan Dias (James)
Aptos

Sally Tham
Santa Clara

Mollie Pardo
Campbell

Yvonne Blockie (Ray)
Los Gatos

Board of Directors for 2009

Position	Member
President	Carol Joyal
First Vice President	Cathy Davis
Second Vice President	Linda Chavez
Recording Secretary	Betty Kunz
Corresponding Secretary	Gail DeSmet
Treasurer	Helen Gaetano
Parliamentarian	Diane Owen
Past President	Jan Soule
Member Communication	Pam Bohomme
Republican Affairs	Laurette Blasig
Legislation	Barbara Wales
Newsletter	Jan Soule
Public Relations	Vacant
Membership	Kyra Hubis
Ways and Means	Marian Cosgrove
Member at Large	Lisa Marshik
Member at Large	To be Named
Member at Large	Maria Fisher

Our Members are Getting Involved Locally

Diane Owen Appointed to San Jose Commission

Diane Owen, SVARW’s Parliamentarian, was appointed to the San Jose City Council Salary Setting Commission in January. Diane completed an application on the www.sanjoseca.gov website to apply for one of the four openings. She was interviewed by members of the San Jose Civil Service Commission and unanimously appointed.

The Salary Commission meets January through April in odd-numbered years to recommend a salary for the Mayor and City Council members. The City Council can either adopt the recommendation or choose a lesser amount, but they cannot choose a higher salary than recommended by the commission.

As is the case in filling many commission seats, there were more seats available than qualified applicants. ***Republicans...you have a good chance of being appoint to a commission if you apply!***

Check your city/town’s website for a list of commission vacancies!! We need more people with conservative values involved with local government.

Way to go...Diane!!

Meeting with San Jose Vice Mayor, Judy Chirco

On Thursday, January 29th, SVARW members Carol Joyal (President and former teacher and school librarian), Norine Bacon (a pediatric nurse for 30 years whose husband served on the Sunnyvale Police force and dealt with abused children), Jan Soule (Past President and one time teacher in Cambrian Park) and supporting member Peter Soule participated in a 30-minute meeting at San Jose City Hall with Vice Mayor Chirco and her Chief of Staff. All residents of San Jose City Council District 9, the four SVARW members, voiced their support for the upcoming vote to place pornography filters on the San Jose Library computers to protect children. The filters block images not text.

Vice Mayor Chirco listened to our points of views, asked questions and accepted the stack of letters signed by other San Jose District 9 residents supporting the pornography filters. When pressed about how she would vote, Ms Chirco stated that she does not make up her mind until just before the vote happens. Now that a relationship is established, the four members have plans to follow up with the Vice Mayor as the vote approaches.

Bag Tax Meetings

The San Jose City Council held a series of meetings for people to provide input on the plan to put a 25-cent tax on each single use paper and plastic bag. Several members of SVARW attended those meetings and voiced their opposition.

Many thanks to new member Sally Tham for attending and also Fred Vela, husband of member Ginny Vela.

If more of us show up to these local meetings, we can make a definite impact!

Submitted by...Jan Soule

Let Us Know!!

If you apply for a commission, attend a meeting in local government, meet with a local official, participate in a neighborhood association, etc. please send an email with details to jansoule@svarw.com so we can include the details in our next newsletter.



**Phone Numbers
Local Assemblyman**

Ira Ruskin
(650) 691-2121

Jim Beall
(408) 282-8920

Local State Senators
Abel Maldonado
(408) 277-9461

Liz Figueroa
(510) 413-5960

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

Legislation

Legislation, Barbara Wales Chairman

Thank you to Jan Soule for her excellent report at the January Meeting and Linda Chavez for her enthusiastic talk on how local government works as well as Committee Members Claudette Averill, Mary Johnson, J.P. Puete, and Jan Soule who contributed this month.

President Carol Joyal sent letters on behalf SVARW opposing the Bag Tax (see below) to San Jose Mayor Chuck Reed and Los Gatos Mayor Mike Wasserman.

Pornography Filters in Libraries LOCAL ISSUE WHICH WE CAN INFLUENCE!!!

This is a San Jose issue which influences everyone in the valley. Please see the January Newsletter for the details. The vote on this is planned for February 24 at the San Jose City Council Meeting at 7:00 in the Council Chambers.

PLEASE: 1. Attend the meeting.

2. Flood the Mayor and City Council with letters, emails and Faxes asking them to support the installation of filters.

Mail: San Jose City Hall
200 East Santa Clara St.
San Jose, CA 95113

FAX: (408) 292-6731

Email: Chuck Reed

mayormail@sanjoseca.gov – Fax: 408-292-6422

Pete Constant

district 1@sanjoseca.gov – Fax: 408-292-6448

Ash Kaira

ash.kaire@sanjoseca.gov – Fax: 408-292-6451

Sam Liccardo

district3@sanjoseca.gov – Fax: 408-292-6456

Kasen Chu

district4@sanjoseca.gov – Fax: 408-292-6459

Nora Campos

district5@sanjoseca.gov – Fax: 408-292-6462

Pierluigi Oliverio district6@sanjoseca.gov – Fax: 408-292-6465

Madison Nguyen district7@sanjoseca.gov – Fax: 408-292-6468

Rose Herrera

district8@sanjoseca.gov – Fax: 408-292-6469

Judy Chirco

district9@sanjoseca.gov – Fax: 408-292-6471

Nancy Pyle

district10@sanjoseca.gov – Fax: 408-292-6478

New 25-cent TAX on Plastic and Paper Bags in Stores LOCAL ISSUE WHICH WE CAN INFLUENCE!!!!

Cities in Santa Clara County are considering adding a new 25-cent tax on paper and plastic bags.

Reasons to Oppose: 1. This tax hits everyone, but especially the poorest in our communities who are already hit hard by this economy. 2. A tax on bags violates state law which states cities must follow the State recycling plan and not charge a tax. 3. This is a new TAX which is not voted on by the people. 4. There is no evidence that eliminating these bags will help the environment more than the current recycling programs.

PLEASE: Write, email, FAX, call your city council and ask them NOT to add this new tax.

Legislation Continued..... 25 Cent tax on EACH paper and plastic bag!

Contacts:

San Jose (EVERYONE should contact them –we all shop in San Jose at times)

See the contacts under Pornography filters.

Los Gatos

Mail: 110 East Main Street

Los Gatos, CA 95030

Email: Mayor Mike Wasserman

mwasserman@losgatosca.gov

Vice Mayor Diane McNutt

dmcnutt@losgatosca.gov

Steve Rice

srice@losgatosca.gov

Joe Pirzynski

jpirzynski@losgatosca.gov

Barbara Spector

bspector@losgatosca.gov

Saratoga

Write: 13777 Fruitvale

Saratoga, CA 95070

Email: Mayor Chuck Page

cpage@saratoga.ca.us

phone: (408) 252-9334

Vice Mayor Kathleen King

kk2king@saratoga.ca.us

phone: (408) 605-5251

FAX: (408) 867-7586

Jill Hunter

jhunter@saratoga.ca.us

phone: (408) 741-1213

Howard Miller

hmillier@saratoga.ca.us

phone: (408) 741-5642

Susie Nagpal

snagpal@saratoga.ca.us

phone: (408) 209-1627

FEDERAL ISSUES

The President is making decisions daily which lead us towards socialism, restrict our rights and are contrary to Republican principles. In many cases we will not be able to stop them, but we should let them know what we think. It may cause the President and Congress to think twice in the future. Whenever you see one of these issues, please contact your representatives and the President.

Two Current Items on Which You May Wish to Express Your View:

1. Oppose Rham Emmanuel's appointment as Chief of Staff. This is a question of integrity. Oppose the President's decision to fund abortions in foreign counties.

Contact:

The President: Comment Phone:

(202) 456-1111

FAX:

(202) 456-2461

Mail: 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D. C. 20500

Senator Dianne Feinstein 331 Hart Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510

Phone: (202) 224-3841

FAX (202) 228-3954

Senator Barbara Boxer 112 Hart Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D. C. 20510

Phone: (202) 224-3553

FAX (202) 224-0454

Congressman Mike Honda

1713 Longworth HOB, Washington, D.C. 20515

Phone (202) 225-2631

(408) 558-8085

FAX (202) 225-2699

(408) 558-8086

Have an issue you didn't see here? Want to help with legislation? Please contact Barbara Wales

(408) 379-0727 or rdwales@earthlink.net



California Constitution Prop 8

Attorney General Jerry Brown said he would place Prop. 8 in the California Constitution as the voters instructed. However, he is now working to stop it. This violates his Constitutional duty as Attorney General. The issue is currently in the courts.

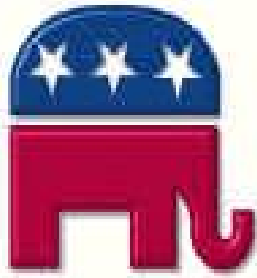
PLEASE: Randy Thomasson has asked that we send letters to the court. Go to

www.savecalifornia.com

and click on "Save Prop. 8" in the left column.

This will take you to access to a wonderful pre-written letter to send. If you do not have access to the internet but would like to send a letter, they will be available at the February Meeting, or contact Barbara Wales at (408) 379-0727 and we will get you as many copies as you wish.





IMMIGRATION

By Carol Joyal

E-Verify Included on Stimulus Bill

The House of Representatives included two measures to reauthorize E-Verify and require that jobs created by the bill require employers to use the system. E-Verify is reliable, free, and easy to use system for checking to see if a worker is legally entitled to work in the country.. Many employers are already using this program. We hope the Senate will approve E-Verify.

President Obama is siding with the Chamber of Commerce and has postponed the implementation of previous requirements. He wants to put off the renewal, risking the end of this program. It is possible he wants to include E-Verify in new amnesty legislation to sugar coat it.. So much for protecting our jobs, Mr. President! Amnesty would be a jobs program for those here illegally.

Call President Barack Obama and demand that no new jobs go to those who are in the country illegally.

Write: The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Proposition 13: A Look Back

Contributed by Mary Johnson

On June 6, 1978, nearly two-thirds of California's voters passed Prop. 13, reducing property taxes by about 57%.

Prior to Prop. 13, property taxes were out of control. The tax rate throughout Calif. averaged almost 3% of market value, and there were not limits on increases either for the tax rate or property value assessments. Some properties were reassessed 50% to 100% higher in just one year and their owners' tax bills jumped correspondingly.

Elderly people were among the hardest hit. Many had paid off their mortgages yet faced losing their homes because they couldn't afford skyrocketing property taxes. Prop. 13 not only prevented people from being taxes out of their homes, it gave taxpayers a measure of certainty about their taxes for the very first time, becoming predictable, manageable and fair.

Under the tax-cut measure, the property tax rate was established at a uniform 1% throughout the state, property tax valuation was set at the 1976 assessed value, and property tax increases were limited to no more than 2% a year as long as the property was not sold.

Once sold, the property was reassessed at 1% of the new market value with the same 2% yearly cap placed on the new assessment. New buyers were thereafter always aware of what the taxes will be and always knew the maximum amount property taxes can increase each year for as long as they own the property. Prop. 13 is fair to existing and new property owners because it bases tax liability on acquisition values not on a mercurial real-estate market.

Prop.13 also requires that all state tax rate increases be approved by a two-thirds vote of the legislature and that local taxes be approved by a vote of the people. State and local governments have much more money today than before Prop. 13 passed, even considering inflation and population growth.

Source: Excerpts from HJTA publication

Save the Date!

Wednesday
March 11, 2009

Lobby Day in Sacramento With Capitol Resource Institute

CRI is excited to announce their first Lobby Day for 2009: Wednesday, March 11. Lawmakers are already introducing many anti-family bills so it's more important than ever to come to Sacramento and express your beliefs directly to legislators. Lobby Day is your opportunity to receive training from CRI's experienced staff and then meet with lawmakers.

Cost for the event is \$10, and scholarships are available. To reserve your spot at this very popular event, email LaTanya Wright: ltgwright@gmail.com. You can also call LaTanya at 916-498-1940 x10 to register.



www.capitolresource.org

Attention SVARW Members

If you are interested in attending this Lobby Day In Sacramento, contact Jan Soule at 408-705-2156 or email: jansoule@svarw.com. The plan is to form car pools and drive up together. You must contact CRI and register. In addition to the \$10 CRI fee, you should plan on driving or contributing toward gas and parking (\$10-\$20) and covering your meals.

Plan on departing very early in the morning. We don't have an agenda for the day yet but as more details become available, we'll be able to establish a departure time and an estimated time when we will return home.



Silicon Valley Association of Republican Women

P.O Box 3194
Saratoga, CA 95070

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SVARW Book Fair

Have a pile of books lying around
that you have already read?

Looking for something new to
read?

SVARW has the perfect answer!
Bring your books to the February meeting and give them to Marian
Cosgrove.

We'll have a book sale at our March 18th meeting to raise money

