



Silicon Valley
Association of Republican Women

Volume 6, Number 1

January 2012

www.SVARW.com

Upcoming Events at SVARW

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- ♦ **January 18**—SVARW Town Hall with SCC Supervisor Mike Wasserman
- ♦ **February 15**—Dakin Sloss, President, California Common Sense (CACS)
- ♦ **March 21**—Chet Nagle, Analyst and commentator on foreign affairs
- ♦ **April 18**—Candidate Forum

SVARW MONTHLY MEETINGS

La Rinconada
Country Club

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

January 18, 2012 —SVARW Monthly Meeting

SVARW Town Hall with Mike Wasserman



Don't miss our next *SVARW Town Hall* on Wednesday, January 18 featuring Santa Clara County Supervisor Mike Wasserman. Mike represents District 1, and he will be on hand to discuss current issues facing his district as well as the county as a whole. Elected in November 2010, Mike currently serves on the following Board Policy Committees:

Chair of the Housing, Land Use, Environment and Transportation Committee
Vice Chair of the Public Safety and Justice Committee
Vice Chair of the Legislative Committee

In addition, Mike serves as a member or delegate on various boards and commissions including Association of Bay Area Governments, the County Library District Joint Powers Authority, the Santa Clara Valley Water Commission and the Valley Transportation Authority Policy Advisory Committee.

As with the November 16 Town Hall with California State Senator Sam Blakeslee, the bulk of the meeting will be devoted to addressing questions and concerns from attendees.

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

Upcoming 2012 SVARW Speakers

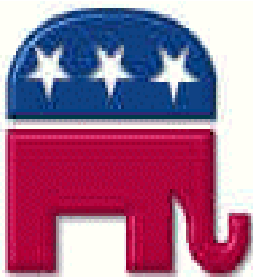
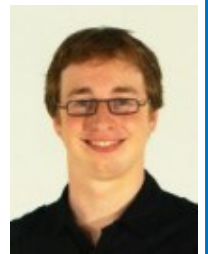
In addition to the SVARW Town Hall with Mike Wasserman on **January 18th**, don't miss our February and March speakers:

February 15, 2012



Dakin Sloss - :President, 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.



MORE UPCOMING EVENTS...

 <p>Chet Nagle</p>	<p>Chet Nagle is an experienced analyst and commentator on foreign affairs, defense and national security matters, the Middle East and Islamic issues. He regularly speaks on radio, and has appeared in television news programs and in documentary productions. Columns by Nagle appear in the 24/7 online newspaper, the <i>Daily Caller</i>, and he is a contributing editor for <i>Family Security Matters</i>. Chet will be speaking to us on national security, defense, the threat of Islam, what a nuclear Iran would mean, the impact of the death of Qaddafi, and the current situation in the Arab world.</p>	<p>March 21, 2012</p>  <p>Time: All 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</p>
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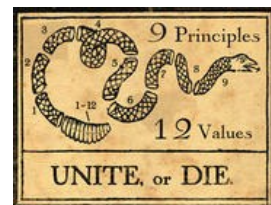
LEARN HOW TO DEFEAT THE DELPHI TECHNIQUE

Liberty Volunteers and **The Silicon Valley 912 Project** present **Mimi Steel**

Mimi will be conducting a training session in defeating the Delphi Technique. This will be essential in helping us at the Santa Clara County visioning session to be held on January 18th, 2012. ABAG and MTC will be using the Delphi Technique - we must be prepared to defeat this technique. Don't know what the Delphi Technique is? Try this article for starters: <http://www.vlrc.org/articles/110.html>



Harry's Hofbrau - Room 1
 390 Saratoga Avenue
 San Jose, CA 95129
January 15, 2:00 PM



Interested in having a say about how the local Republican Party is run in Santa Clara County?

SVARW MEMBERS are encouraged to....

RUN FOR CENTRAL COMMITTEE!!!

Our local Republican Party is run by the Central Committee of the Santa Clara County Republican Party. SVARW is encouraging its members to consider running for a seat on the Central Committee.

Members are elected every two years based on Supervisorial District. The election is June 5, 2012.

Nomination papers can be picked up beginning February 13th. Papers must be filed by 5pm on March 9, 2012.

SVARW is encouraging all members to consider running for the Central Committee of the Santa Clara County Republican Party. (See page 3 for an article regarding the structure of the Republican Party.) SVARW's Candidate Development Committee has invited current Central Committee member, Peter Soule, to be our guest at 8:45 AM on January 18th at La Rinconada Country Club in Los Gatos before the monthly meeting. Peter will spend a few minutes explaining what the Central Committee does and answering your questions. If you are interested in learning more, please come to our January 18th meeting a little early to get the scoop.

What 95% of Republicans Don't Know about the Party The Republican Party at the Local and State Level

By Jan Soule

When you say "Republican Party" most people think of the RNC (Republican National Committee). From my experience people only think of the Republican Party every four years....this is a big mistake! We have lost control of our party because we have let "other people" take care of issues. ***You can have direct impact on the Republican Party at both the County and State level.***

Santa Clara County Republican Party (www.SVGOP.com)

At the local level, your interests are represented by the Santa Clara County Republican Party. You are encouraged to attend the monthly meetings of the local party. They take place on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM at:

Santa Clara County Administration Building
70 West Hedding Street
San Jose, CA
Isaac N. Senter Auditorium

The party is run by the County Committee which is elected every two years during the primary election, and officeholders take office the following January. The members of the county committee elected the Executive Committee consist of the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. Members are elected by county supervisorial district. You likely have voted for these individuals without having an idea of who they are and why you are voting for them. You can take a look at the current committee at this link:

<http://www.svgop.com/about/committee/>

Ideally the local party is responsible for: 1) Recruiting candidates to run for local non-partisan offices like school board and city council 2) Voter registration 3) Recruiting volunteers and 4) Turning out the Republican vote. Doing a good job of turning out the Republican voters is very important....this enables candidates to focus on independents. ***The committee is only as effective as those that serve on the committee!***

California Republican Party (www.cagop.org)

County Committees from the 58 counties in California send delegates to the semi-annual conventions of the California Republican Party. The spring convention takes place in a Northern California city and the fall convention takes place in Southern California. This year, February 24 through 26, the California Republican Convention (CRP) takes place at the Hyatt San Francisco Airport providing the ideal opportunity for Republicans in Santa Clara County to attend the convention. Any registered Republican in California can attend the convention as a guest. After paying the registration fee (it's been about \$60), you can attend workshops and general sessions. Guests have no voting privileges. Delegates, who do cast a vote, are appointed by the county committees and by various Republican organizations. You can also sign up (and pay!!) to attend various dinners and luncheons featuring noted speakers.

If you are interested in attending the convention in February, go to this link for more information. <http://www.cagop.org/index.cfm/convention.htm>. In addition to the informative workshops, there is an exposition area with vendors and representatives of various organizations that you can become familiar with. The convention is a great way to meet statewide candidates, and in a presidential election year there is always the possibility that one of the dinners will feature a key candidate.

Is Removing Barack Obama Enough?

Why Electing Local Conservatives is Critical

By Jan Soule

In the November issue of our newsletter, we suggested that your satisfaction in seeing a change in the White House January 20, 2013 would be short lived when you read on the same day about some outlandish laws passed by our local government. Well....

Happy New Year! Did you remember to bring your reusable bags when you went shopping?

Santa Clara County residents are experiencing tyranny first hand as the environmentalists have pushed local government to take away our right to choose whether to bring home our purchases in reusable or store-provided bags. If you don't bring your bags to the store, YOU PAY for paper or plastic. When you are forced to PAY for something it is a TAX. Note...this is not just for groceries! The San Jose City ordinance bans plastic bags for some 5,000 retailers from Best Buy to Fredericks of Hollywood.

Under the new policy, passed by the San Jose City Council in December 2010 and by the Board of Supervisors in April 2011, only restaurants, nonprofits and social organizations will be able to hand out the bags. The ordinance also mandates that stores charge 10 cents for each bag they provide with that fee going up to 25 cents in 2013.

How Radical Environmentalists Get Their Way

San Jose City Councilman Sam Licardo is a far-left environmentalist who pushed for the San Jose City Council to adopt this ordinance. To prove to the San Jose City Council that the people of San Jose were clamoring for the ban on plastic bags, the city backed a series of "community input" workshops where leaders trained in the "Delphi Technique" **convinced the majority of participants to agree that they did not want to see creeks and streets littered with plastic bags.** This is just like Barack Obama saying that Republicans want dirty water and air! Although SVARW wrote hundreds of letters to the San Jose City Council, the only member of the San Jose City Council that voted against the ban was Pete Constant. If we had more conservatives on the San Jose City Council, this outrageous infringement of our liberty would not have taken place.

Ban on Plastic Spreads Across County

Once San Jose passed the ban, it was easy for the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors to do so in April 2011. Supervisor Mike Wasserman was the only supervisor to vote against the ban. Like dominos, other cities in the county passed or are considering similar ordinances with the Mayor of Sunnyvale sending a letter to Mayor Reed praising him for the leadership shown by San Jose in spearheading the ban.

Environmentalists are gloating that San Jose is the largest city in the USA to ban plastic bags and that the movement will spread across the country. Pete Constant has emphasized that the San Jose City Council drives what happens in Silicon Valley, Silicon Valley drives what happens in California, and California drives what happens in the entire country.

Needless to say...working to elect more conservatives to the San Jose City Council will have far-reaching impact. Whether you live in Los Gatos, Saratoga, Campbell, Cupertino, Morgan Hill or any of the other 15 cities in Santa Clara County...the actions of the San Jose City Council directly impact your life!

Another Example

The San Jose City Council control over Santa Clara County is far-reaching. San Jose controls the San Jose Mineta International Airport. Because the city council will not allow night flights into San Jose, most cargo flights must land in San Francisco. Cargo destined for Silicon Valley then must be put on a truck, increasing the cost of shipping those goods to businesses in Silicon Valley.

The Answer:

This year we must work to elect conservatives to the San Jose City Council and to other local non-partisan offices!!!

Ban on Paper and Plastic Bags Take Action!

We can either quietly accept the tyranny imposed upon us by the San Jose City Council and the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors or we can take action.

While it is clear that in San Jose there is mentation in the surrounding 15 cities identify retailers in cities that have not ping at these retailers. While no one is on a bag, for many of us, retailers in shopping in San Jose.



a ban on plastic and paper bags, the imple- is not clear. One action we can take is to implemented the ban and promote shop- going to go out of their way to save 10 cents Cupertino may be just as convenient as

Please email to info@svarw.com the name and address of retailers outside of San Jose who are still providing bags. For example, is the Macy's at Vallco providing bags? With 300 members we should be able to compile a list that can be published in our next newsletter or posted on our website.

If there is a member of SVARW who would like to be the champion of the project, he or she should contact Jan Nedde.

What is LAFCO ?



Most of the outrageous ordinances and laws imposed upon residents of Santa Clara County are first discussed and promoted through committees, commissions and organizations that are NOT ELECTED by the voters. These organizations, like the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) (which is proposing policy for the nine Bay Area counties), are made up of representatives appointed from the various city and county governments. The average voter has no idea that these organizations are generating policy that will impact their life!

According to its website, "LAFCO is a state mandated local agency set up to oversee the boundaries of cities and special districts. Encouraging orderly boundaries, discouraging urban sprawl, and preserving agricultural and open space lands are the key goals of LAFCO."

See website: <http://www.santaclara.lafco.ca.gov/>

In reality, LAFCO is a hot bed of radical environmentalists who are gleefully pushing their agenda. There are five Commissioners—two from the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors, one from the San Jose City Council, one from the council of any of the other cities and one public member. Currently there are two members with common sense (San Jose City Councilman Pete Constant and Santa Clara County Supervisor Mike Wasserman) but they are out voted by the three environmental extremists. One of the most extreme is Margaret Abe-Koga, the Vice Mayor of Mountain View. Watch this woman...she is planning to run for Santa Clara County Supervisor in District 5!

Working to elect conservatives to local non-partisan offices will give us more of an opportunity to replace left wing radicals with office holders with common sense.

**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

Legislation

By Claudette Averill

RESPECT FOR MARRIAGE ACT

I have good news, for a change!

This week the United States Senate passed the National Defense Authorization Act on a 93-7 vote. The erroneously named "Respect for Marriage Act," which seeks to undermine traditional marriage by repealing the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), was not included as an amendment.

The Defense Authorization Act was the vehicle which liberals used in 2009 to pass the "hate crimes" bill that gave special legal protections to homosexuals who were victims of certain crimes. They did so because they knew the bill would not pass on its own merits. The same is true of the Respect for Marriage Act.

Senators know this bill will not pass on its own merits, because the bill strikes at the heart of our democracy. The bill seeks to force states that have voted to protect the traditional definition of marriage to recognize so-called same-sex "marriages" from other states. Remember, DOMA does not prohibit homosexual marriages, it merely ensures every state has the right to define marriage as it pleases and protects states upholding the traditional definition of marriage from being forced to recognize something they believe is contrary to their state's public interest.

But it is not over. The battle against marriage is a massive effort that is not likely to go away. We must not lose heart! We must continue to speak out and change hearts and minds, so that when they bring this bill up for a vote, we are ready.

I want to thank everyone in SVARW who wrote letters and made phone calls, as you can see, it made a difference.

LOCAL NOTICE

Saratoga Union School District

Notice of Public Hearing

By Jan Soule

On Tuesday, February 7, 2012, at 7:00 PM at the Saratoga Union School District Board Room, the District's Board of Trustees will conduct a public hearing. The school board will consider adopting a resolution proposing to establish a qualified special tax to be submitted for voter approval on May 8, 2012, in an amount not to exceed \$89 per year for 8 years.

If you live in Saratoga you should consider attending this meeting. **Please note the obvious.** Instead of having the vote on this tax measure put on the June 5, 2012, primary election ballot, the school district is going for a special election on May 8th. This will obviously be more costly to tax payers than consolidating it with the primary election. The strategy of the school district is to go for the special election where the turnout will be very small and advocates can focus on getting supporters to vote for the tax. Would not be surprised if homeowners aged 65 and over were exempt from the tax. Seniors tend to vote more often and therefore would vote for a tax that they would not be subject to.

Don't let them get away with it!!



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, January
25th @ 9:30 AM

Sonshine

With our sympathy at the passing of Linda Fletcher's father, Joe.

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

PROPOSED CALIFORNIA FIREFIGHTING FEE

From SVARW member
Mary Johnson

Gov. Jerry Brown has proposed a minimum \$175 firefighting fee on rural homeowners. It would be higher than a \$90 charge approved last month by the state fire board and authorized by the legislature. Brown's plan would charge \$175 on the first structure and \$25 each on additional structures. The plan would also charge for land starting at \$1 per acre for the first 100 acres. Homeowners who live in Fire districts would qualify for a \$25 discount.



The new fee is contained in Assembly Bill X1 7, which requires a

majority vote.

Sen. Ted Gaines, R-Roseville, has filed a referendum to repeal the original bill, while the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association is vowing to sue the state.

IMMIGRATION

BY CAROL JOYAL

Grading the Candidates on Immigration

Numbersusa.com has graded the GOP candidates on their immigration stances. Using what candidates said in debates, and previous votes on immigration issues, the candidates are graded on amnesty views, chain family immigration, requiring employer verification of employees (E-Verify), ending the lottery, securing the border, birthright citizenship, and more. Sadly, most candidates need improvement. The overall scores are:

President Obama	F-	Rick Santorum	D
Rep. Bachman	B-	Jon Huntsman	D-
Mitt Romney	C-	Newt Gingrich	D-
Gov. Perry	D	Rep. Paul	F

Check out www.numbersusa.com to find out more about the candidates and how they were rated. Then contact your favorite candidate to share your immigration opinions.

ATTRITION THROUGH ENFORCEMENT

The idea that amnesty must be given as an alternative to mass deportations is ridiculous. The 1986 Amnesty Act promised the American people that a system of worker verification would be instituted. Twenty-five years later we have an easy to use E-verify system, but most businesses aren't required to use it. Rep. Lamar Smith, (R-TX) worked diligently to move a bill to require its use. The Republican leadership so far is refusing to bring the legislation up for a vote in the House of Representatives. Most visa over-stayers and illegal entrants would leave if they could not find employment. Americans overwhelmingly support this approach. Why are our leaders stalling?



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 \$17,606.92 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 ccsandessq@gmail.com