

#### Silicon Valley

#### **Association of Republican Women**

Volume 5, Number 6

June 2011

www.SVARW.com

## Upcoming Events at SVARW

#### MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- June 21—Real Options
   Tour and Lunch
- ◆ August 27— SAVE THE DATE!! Stars & Stripes Gala! See Page 2
- Sept 21—Monthly meeting with Gloria Alicia Chacon; "An Inside Look at the Santa Clara County Civil Grand Jury.
- Sept 22—SAVE THE DATE!! Campaign Workshop See Page 4
- Oct 19—Monthly Meeting with Orlean Koehle, Author and State President of Eagle Forum of California.

## SVARW MONTHLY MEETINGS

La Rinconada Country Club

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



June 15, 2011 — SVARW Monthly Meeting



#### Annual Red, White and Blue Event!!



## "Voter Integrity –Are our California Elections Fair? Is every vote counted...once?"



ur speaker will be attorney **Catharine Baker** who works tirelessly to safeguard our right to free and fair elections. In this informative session, Catharine will share her eight recommendations on how to restore ballot integrity in California. Catharine is a business litigation attorney at Hoge Fenton Jones & Appel in Pleasanton. In 2010, she was pro bono Campaign Counsel and Manager of Special Projects for David Harmer for Congress. In that capacity Catharine oversaw the Harmer campaign's ballot integrity operations for the four counties falling within CD-11. David Harmer's race was so close it was one of the last races in the country to be called, nearly four weeks after the election. Catharine authored two articles for the campaign, entitled "Ballot Integrity: Observations and Concerns" and "Restoring Ballot Integrity." These articles have raised awareness of the weaknesses

in California's election system and serve as a blueprint for much-needed reforms to California's election law.

Catharine received her J.D. from UC Berkeley School of Law (Boalt Hall) and her B.A. from the University of Chicago. Prior to attending law school, she served as Senior Legislative Assistant

to Congressman Sonny Bono in Washington, DC. Catharine is also a former Abraham Lincoln Fellow with the Claremont Institute for Statesmanship and Public Policy in Claremont, California.

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

We look forward to seeing you there!

## Upcoming Events...



September 21st, 2011— "An Inside Look at the SCC Civil Grand Jury"

Gloria Alicia Chacon, Court Manager for the Santa Clara County Civil Grand

Gloria Alicia Chacon, Court Manager for the Santa Clara County Civil Grand Jury will speak about the important work of the Grand Jury and provide information about serving. She will also review past cases heard by the Grand Jury.

"America is Turning into a European-Style Socialist Country—How We Can Stop It"

Our Speaker will be Orlean Koehle, Author and State President of Eagle Forum of
California. She will discuss the current transformation of America and its parallel
to the European Union.

Monthly Meeting, October 19th, 2011





The Silicon Valley Association of Republican Women Presents

### Stars and Stripes Celebration



Dinner and Dancing Under the Stars

**Saturday**, August 27, 2011 — 5:00 - 10:00 P.M.

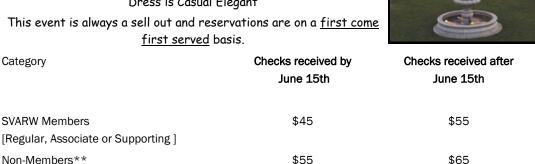
Beautiful Estate of Suzanna Cody and her Husband Rob Hills

18588 Woodbank Way, Saratoga, CA 95070

Live Music, Spectacular Gourmet Dinner with Wine

Fantastic Raffle Prizes!!! Win prizes valued at hundreds of dollars for a the price of a single raffle ticket. Raffle tickets are \$10 each or six for \$50

Dress is Casual Elegant



Come Meet Current Office Holders and **Candidates Running for Office** in 2012

\*\*Non-members may join SVARW today and pay the member rate. Dues are \$25 with this form only and will apply to the remainder of 2011 & 2012. Dues for husband (Supporting Members) are an additional \$5

#### STARS & STRIPES GALA — TICKET ORDER

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO SVARW AND MAIL TO: LISA MARSHIK, 319 BLOSSOM VALLEY DRIVE, LOS GATOS, CA 95032. QUESTIONS? CALL CATHY @ 408-323-8685, LISA@408-358-0828— OR PURCHASE TICKETS ONLINE AT WWW.SVARW.COM

PLEASE EMAIL LISA IF YOU HAVE A SPECIFIC REQUEST FOR SEATING: LMARSHIK@COMCAST.NET

Reserve Tickets For: Name	Member	Non-Member #
	\$45**	\$55**
Reserve Tickets For: Name	\$45**	\$55**
	Gala Tickets	\$
Phone:Cell:		
Address:	Raffle Tickets \$10 e	each \$
	Membership Dues	\$25 \$
CityStateZip	Membership Spous	se \$5 \$
Email:	TOTAL ENCLOS	SED \$

#Non-members may join SVARW today and pay the member rate. Dues are \$25 with this form only and will apply to the remainder of 2011 & 2012. Husband Supporting Member dues are \$5. Members: If your husband/date is not a member, he pays the non-member price.

<sup>\*\*</sup>For orders received after JUNE 15, 2011, Tickets are \$55 for members, \$65 for non-members—NO EXCEPTIONS!

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## Donations for Stars and Stripes Raffle We Need Your Help!

For our Summer Stars and Stripes Social we are once again collecting items for the raffle. Donations may be brought to the June meeting or make arrangements with Lisa Marshik for the items to be dropped off. Among the donations we could use are, baskets, and **NEW items** including wine, gift certificates, Americanism items, theater tickets, new jewelry, non-perishable food and anything else you think you would

like to receive in a basket. This is the business or a friend's business. Exconsultation on interior design, tax even a basket prepared that we can is an inexpensive way to market your

perfect opportunity to promote your amples would be: Gift Certificates for preparation, restaurants, hotels or credit the business for donating. This business!

Lisa Marshik has prepared a fundraisdonations for our raffle. The letter the business can write off the dona-Lisa at (408) 358-0828 or by emaila copy of the letter. er letter that you can use to solicit includes our TAX ID number so that tion as a marketing expense. Contact ing her at <a href="marshik@comcast.net">lmarshik@comcast.net</a> for

Do you have a hidden talent? Maybe you do scrap booking or make sushi. Get creative and offer a gift certificate for your services. Do you have a vacation home you would be willing to offer? Are you crafty—knit an Americana scarf, quilt or jewelry. Last year the popular raffle items included: a Greek dinner for eight, a Hungarian dinner for eight, a shooting lesson at JP Puette's ranch and a week stay in Kauai.

## All proceeds from raffle will support local candidate development projects!







#### Real Options – Tour and Lunch June 21st at 10:30 AM

Real Options/Community Pregnancy Centers (http://www.realoptions.net/) are the pro-life answer to Planned Parenthood. They serve any woman or man with pregnancy-related issues regardless of age, race, creed, or marital status...and they receive NO funding from the government! Real Options offers free pregnancy tests, ultrasounds, prenatal care for the uninsured, baby and maternity clothes, baby furniture and much more.

Valerie Hill, the Executive Director of Real Options and a member of SVARW, has invited SVARW members for a tour of the clinic on Almaden Expressway and she'll even serve lunch! This tour is limited to 20 people and you must RSVP to Norine Bacon at 408-377-7111 or by email <a href="mailto:donandnorinebacon@msn.com">donandnorinebacon@msn.com</a>. Please let Norine know if you want to carpool.

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#### **CREATING WEALTH - DELIVERING COMPASSION**

By Claudette Averill-Liaison to Values Advocacy Council

Besides speaking to us, SVARW, Reverend Charley Self aka Dr. History also spoke at VAC and Liberty Volunteers, drawing a large crowd at each function. His topic was different at each event which was both interesting and informative.

**D**r. History reminded us that we maintained a strong and growing military while we helped Europe and Japan rebuild after WWII. Dr. Self stated that in the beginning of the 1960s, other developed nations spent a small percentage of their budget for military needs while subsidizing their economies and building welfare states. "The USA has tried to have it both ways since Vietnam and our national debt and spiraling deficits arise from this economic pathology". Charley feels that we must alter our strategies while reaffirming proven values.

Charley proposed some principles to secure a better future. I. Reasonable tax rates stimulate investment and risk-taking, thus creating wealth and opportunity. 2. A moral society is obligated to make sure that the needy are cared for, especially when family structures are in disarray. 3. We cannot be a federal welfare and warfare state and balance a budget. Corollary: We need to cut military spending where we can while carrying out effective

strikes against dens of terror. force. 4. There is one set of rules whether one is doing business, or playing soccer. 5. All business the work ethic that offers mutual risk-takers. 6. We must move homes and not mortgage their er pay off. Corollary: It will take rooted in foolish social engineer-reform needs to graduate stubuild new coalitions of business, vice leaders who will discover that ensure personal freedom



We do not need to be an occupying for life and they do not change, leading a church, delivering charity is service. We need a renewal of benefit for all and real rewards for toward helping people own their futures to mortgages they will nevtime to normalize prices that were ing and selfish greed. Education dents debt-free. 7. We need to education, religious and social sersolutions for future generations and social responsibility.

ome action steps that Charley suggested are as follows: We need to see business as a mission, our work as a  $oldsymbol{
m J}$  calling and our relationships as the primary venues that will honor God and bring good to others. We will balance a budget and only pass laws we can fund. For example, now is not the time to change every textbook so that a small group of radicals can impose a social agenda. We will convene new coalitions and actually solve problems, instead of arguing and bureaucratizing life for those in need. We must follow the lead of Mayor Chuck Reed and Pete Constant and look for ways to attract and retain excellent companies who carry social concern in their mission. We will take responsibility for our neighborhood future, building relationships, communication concerns and lending a hand when needed. An example Charley used, that I loved, was when a group of parents spoke to the administration of an Oregon school telling them that they wanted their children to learn to speak and write English, they also wanted them to read literature, and be taught to think. The parents came to the school every day until their wishes were met. We did the same thing a few years ago. A group of parents went to the Los Gatos school board and asked that the day of "silence" be done away with. It was accomplished. We MUST not be afraid to stand up for what we believe in. If your child or grandchild is being taught the Koran, (remember the Bible is not allowed to be taught) and how wonderful Islam is, or how great homosexuality is, form a group of people to visit the principal of their school. We need to create and enforce an immigration policy that is hospitable and legal. We need to stand up to the cartels and corruption.

Charley ended with the fact that all of these principles and action steps are possible, but we must reach a personal and corporate spiritual awakening that moves faith beyond private piety to public good, uniting integrity and intelligence and wanting for all others the liberties we desire for ourselves.

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#### 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

### Legislation

#### **SB48 UPDATE**

Claudette Averill—For Legislation



omosexual activists and the elected officials who support their legislative agenda often characterize conservative concerns about the introduction of sexual orientation into school curricula, such as in "anti-bullying" bills like SB 48, as imaginary and baseless. Just to review, this California measure's text specifically requires social science curriculum in Kindergarten through grade 12 to include the role and contributions of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) persons

in the development of California and the U.S. with particular emphasis on portraying the role of these groups in contemporary society. In addition, no teacher may provide instruction or school sponsor an activity that "promotes a discriminatory bias" on the basis of "sexual orientation." In other words, only positive messages about LGBT issues are allowed.

In her testimony before the Senate Education Committee, Dr. Miriam Grossman, a board-certified child, adolescent and adult psychiatrist, found concerns about this bill anything but baseless. In fact, she had "deep concerns about the consequences to the children of this state should this bill become law," noting that it "ignores the principles of normal childhood development" in dealing with topics such as transgenderism.

Enter a May 12 post by homosexual blogger Daniel Villarreal in which he wrote, "We want educators to teach future generations of children to accept queer sexuality. In fact, our very future depends on it ... I and a lot of other people want to indoctrinate, recruit, teach, and expose children to queer sexuality AND THERE IS NOTHING WRONG WITH THAT" (emphasis his). Cause for concern? You bet. (Read Dr. Janice Shaw Crouse's insights about Villarreal's post in the <a href="ConcernedWomen blog">ConcernedWomen blog</a>.)

Status and action: SB 48 has already passed the California Senate on a party-line vote. As we move to the second half of the year's session, please take time to stand with us against this bill and others. SB 48 has been assigned to the Assembly Education Committee and could be heard as early as June 15. Please write your letter of opposition, and address it to:

The Hon. Julia Brownley, Chairwoman, Assembly Education Committee, State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814. Fax the letter to the committee at: (916) 319-2187. For a sample letter, see Jan's news blasts.

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#### 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 JanssenMartinez

Next Board Meeting Wednesday, June 15th @ 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

San Jose Budget Crisis

A Letter from Councilman Pete Constant—May 27th, 2011



As I'm sure you are all aware, the city is facing a budget deficit for its tenth consecutive year. This year our deficit is estimated to be \$115 million, and the proposed budget contemplates laying off police officers as well as reducing essential city services. My number one priority is to preserve public safety and uphold the quality of life that the residents of San Jose expect.

Yesterday, I released nine common-sense budget proposals to restore public safety and provide funding to prevent the layoff of 97 police officers. These positions would be restored by using existing

funding in the budget and reassigning officers from supervisory and management positions to patrol. I firmly believe that we must reprioritize our existing resources in order to meet the needs of our residents.

My first proposal would save 53 police officers for up to three years by redirecting excess funds in the Mayor and City Council budgets. These funds would allow the city to accept a federal grant that would provide the remaining funding for these officers. It has been the practice of the Mayor and City Council offices to carry over unused funds from one year into the next. This is unlike any other department in the city, and I believe that this practice must be stopped, especially when this funding can be used to restore essential city services. Last year, I voluntarily transferred my unused funds to the General Fund to help alleviate the city's budget deficit and have consistently urged my colleagues to do the same.

I've also proposed to restore more officers through changes in the span of control within the police department, as was recommended in a recent report by the City Auditor. This would modify the management structure of the police department to place more patrol officers on the street. Additionally, I've proposed decreasing funding to Arts and Cultural Development by about 16% in order to fund additional police officers.

My other proposals would: (1) reinstate Code Enforcement positions to prevent Code Enforcement from converting to a system where violators would only be mailed a warning letter rather than receiving a visit from an inspector; (2) decrease funding for the Office of Equality Assurance to reinstate Workers' Compensation Claims Adjusters and restore partial funding for dog waste bags in city parks and along trails; and (3) eliminate all Boards and Commissions not required by the City Charter or other authority.

My proposals have been submitted to the Mayor and circulated to my colleagues on the City Council. The next step in the budget process will be the Mayor's release of his June Budget Message on June 3rd at which point the City Council will deliberate over potential changes to the proposed budget and hear input from the public. I want to hear your thoughts, opinions, and suggestions regarding the budget and my common-sense proposals. I will be relaunching the Save Our Services website at www.SOSsj.com soon, and I strongly encourage everyone to make your voice heard by using this site to contact all of your elected officials. It is important that the Mayor and City Council hear from the residents of San Jose.

You can find the specific details of my proposals on my home page at: http://www.sjdistrict1.com/

#### **New Legislation Form**

Please see the web site for the new Legislation Form.

http://www.svarw.com/legislation.html

If you would like a topic included in SVARW's legislation report, please fill out the form. Questions?

Please contact Barbara Wales <a href="mailto:rdwales@earthlink.net">rdwales@earthlink.net</a>

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## Campaign Workshop set for September 22nd!

Thinking of running for office or assisting in a campaign? Don't miss our upcoming campaign workshop scheduled for September 22, 2011. Our first workshop in March proved to be very popular with Steve Kirshbaum providing an overall picture of what goes into running a campaign. On September 22<sup>nd</sup>, longtime political consultant, Victor Ajlouny will provide insights on running for local office.

Victor has served as a political consultant to Chuck Reed in his successful election and re-election as Mayor of San Jose, as well as, the successful passage of San Jose Measures U and V in 2010. Victor has also served as a consultant in many other local races in Santa Clara County.

Thursday, Sept. 22, 2011 6:00pm – 8:00pm Almaden Community Center, AL Room #4 6445 Camden Avenue, San Jose 95120

Hors d'oeuvres will be served!

Please **RSVP** to **Gail DeSmet** to save your place for this FREE workshop! Send an email to: <u>CandidateDevelopment@SVARW.com</u>

## Outwitting the "Lamestream" Media

In 2010, online publications overtook newspapers in both ad revenue and readers. By the time the ink has dried and the newspaper is on the stands, its news is old already. Fewer people are subscribing to their daily newspaper, and choose, instead, to get their news and information through a variety of online media, including things like Twitter and Facebook and YouTube.

In Sacramento on March 18, Americans for Prosperity sponsored a "Right Online" training session. It was filled with great information on how conservatives can leverage the new media to outwit the "Lamestream" media. Here are a few insights that SVARW members learned at the training:

✓ It is easier than you think to influence the news cycle. This is good news for conservatives who often feel shut out by the mainstream media. Local news organizations have had to cut back staffs dramatically, leaving few reporters to cover a wide territory. Reporters with limited bandwidth will pick up leads from postings on blogs and YouTube, especially about local events.

✓ You don't need much expertise or fancy editing tools to make an impact with YouTube. This video [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ESxvY1tOHTo] that exposed the hypocrisy of Al Gore and his followers, was shot and edited by an executive from Americans for Prosperity who had never created a YouTube video before. He just used a small camcorder and Windows Movie Maker that comes free with Windows.

✓ One blogger truly can have an impact! In 2004, Dan Rather was dethroned after a single blogger with typesetting expertise noted that the documents produced to prove that George Bush "lied" about his National Guard record, could not be authentic because the spacing between the characters could only have been created by a computer, which did not exist in 1973. Other conservative bloggers picked up the story and it grew until the press could not ignore it.

## 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 4 115 Jacksol Drive ,San Jose, CA 95124, (408) 377-2103

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#### 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 \$8,396.98 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 expirations 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.