



Silicon Valley

Association of Republican Women

Volume 7, Number 2
February 2013

www.svarw.com

We conservatives have a choice...

We can crawl under a rock and hide, or we can fight for liberty and freedom.

What will you do?

Mark your calendar

- February 20: SVARW Monthly Meeting
- March 20: SVARW Monthly Meeting

SVARW monthly brunch meetings

When: 9 to 11 a.m.,
third Wednesday of the month

Where: La Rinconada
Country Club, 14595
Clearview Drive,
Los Gatos, CA 95032

Cost: \$15, buy online at
www.SVARW.com, mail
a check to Lisa Marshik,
319 Blossom Valley
Drive, Los Gatos, 95032
or pay at the door.

SVARW is on Facebook.

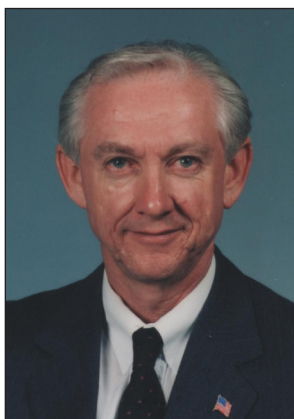
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for Silicon Valley
Association of
Republican Women.



Upcoming Events at SVARW

Long-time Reagan consultant to share insights for first time

Please join us Wednesday, February 20 to hear Tom Lorentzen, a Reagan Administration insider, who will give us a behind-the-scenes account of what it was like to serve in the Reagan administration as well as very interesting insights of the President himself. Lorentzen is one of the few persons living who “was there before the beginning” with Reagan, starting in late 1964 in forming the second organization to urge Reagan to run for Governor.



Here is what you will hear from Mr. Tom Lorentzen Lorentzen:

- History is mystery, according to Lorentzen, and he is one of the few remaining persons who was with Ronald Reagan before the beginning of campaigns for both the governorship of California and the presidency. He also served in President Reagan’s administration and as senior consultant to the Reagan Foundation and Library in 1998.

- Lorentzen will be speaking for the first time on unusual insights about he developed about Reagan. Former Nevada Senator Paul Laxalt, Reagan’s closest friend and chairman of his presidential campaigns, has said that he learned more from Lorentzen about Reagan than anyone he has known.

- The title of the talk by Lorentzen is “Understanding Reagan,” which has never been presented before in a public format. It reveals Reagan as uniquely insightful about the prevailing historical forces of the 20th century and how those views were developed by Reagan and used for decision-making purposes.

Effects of Obamacare

March 20 speakers will be Sylvia Oliverrez of BeWell Insurance Solutions and Pam Hedblad, CPA Principal at Abbott,



Kick those winter blues at Patriot Party on February 23

Join with other SVARW members on Saturday, February 23 for our first Patriot Party of the new year. Enjoy food, drink, and best of all, the company of other conservatives.

The party begins at 7 p.m. and will be held at the home of Faith Ham, 15404 Willow Drive, Los Gatos, 95032.

Cost is \$10 and you may send your check to Lisa Marshik, 319 Blossom Valley Drive, Los Gatos, CA, 95032, or pay at the door.

There’s no better way to beat those winter blues by sharing an evening with other members of the SVARW.

For details, call Lisa at 408-348-5238 or email lmarshek@comcast.net

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2013 Officers
President
Cathy Davis

First Vice President
Allison Spiller

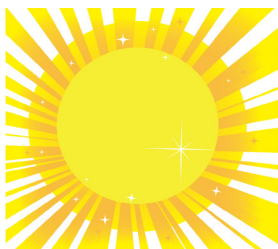
Second Vice President
Debra Janssen-Martinez

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Kirsten Williams

Treasurer
Lisa Seago

Next Board Meeting
Wednesday, February
27 at 9:30 a.m.



Sunshine

Norine Bacon 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 to let her know:
408-377-7111

President's message

Find local avenues for conservative action

By Cathy Davis
SVARW President



Cathy Davis

Happy New Year, Everyone! First all, I would like to thank all of the members for electing me president of this wonderful organization. It is an honor and a bunch of fun!

I am sure you are with me when I say, "Good Riddance to 2012!"

Even though we are all distraught over the election of President Obama to another term and the annihilation of the Republican Party in California this past year, it is no time to stay home and suck our thumbs. We need to scrape the defeat of the election off the soles of our shoes and keep moving forward, learning from our mistakes and staying focused.

One of the best ways we can help our fellow conservatives and the cause is to get involved directly with the government and the county Republican Party. Therefore, I ask that we all work towards getting ourselves appointed to city and county commissions, boards and committees. We all know that these groups are where the real influencing takes place.

I am proud that two of our members, Lisa Marshik and Gail DeSmet, were elected to the Santa Clara County Republican Party (aka The Central Committee) last June. These two ladies have taken up the challenge to get involved in the process of governance and have represented the conservative message very well.

Here is a list of websites you can go to in order to find out about how to get involved:
City of San Jose Boards and Commissions <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/index.aspx?NID=328>

Santa Clara County Boards and Commissions:

<http://www.sccgov.org/sites/bos/bnc/bnc-listing/Pages/default.aspx>

You can also sign up for the Santa Clara County Government 101 Academy. This is a 10-week course that gives residents a first hand look at county programs and services. Applications are available on the County's website: www.sccgov.org/sccgov101app
For more information or to obtain an application, contact the Office of Public Affairs at SCCPublicAffairs@ceo.sccgov.org or call 408-299-5151. Lisa Marshik participated last year and said it is definitely worth doing because you learn so much about how the County actually operates.

Well, these are just a few of my suggestions and I hope that we all decide to take action this year and help rebuild. Have a great month and I expect to see all of you at our functions and out in the community working for the conservative cause!

Upcoming events at SVARW in March and April

Continued from page 1

Stringham & Lynch. Sylvia and Pam will be speaking about what the passage of Obamacare will mean for us here in California — i.e. the ways in which health insurance will change, how the exchanges will work, etc. This will be a very interesting and informative presentation you can't afford to miss. See the article on page

3 for a preview of their talk.

April 17 will be the return to SVARW of theologian and KSFO's "Dr. History" Charlie Self, who always draws a large crowd to our meeting. See the March newsletter for more about this provocative and popular speaker.

— *The Upcoming Events column is provided monthly by Allison Spiller.*

February issue: Health care

Health care reform is here to stay; costs rising

Sylvia Oliverrez and Pam Hedblad will be the guest speakers at the March 20 meeting of SVARW. They will be speaking about the effects of Obamacare in California.

**By Sylvia Oliverrez
SVARW member**

Prior to writing this article, I have been presenting seminars on the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) or as other's in the government and media like to call it The Affordable Care Act (ACA), and yet others have nicknamed it Obamacare. (I sarcastically like to call it "Obummer-care.")

I have presented these seminars as a good will effort to educate those who wanted the facts on PPACA. I felt the public needed to know what this legislation was all about. I knew there was no way this Pandora's Box and its ramifications would come to pass without economic sacrifice by all. And even before the legislation was signed into law, I could foresee what a fiasco and invasion of our constitutional rights this law would become. The unfortunate part is that my grassroots effort was over-shadowed by the media's often Pollyanna representation of the law.

I tend to be a straight shooter and I don't like convoluted explanations or regulations.

Unfortunately this is what the American people can expect with PPACA, which began with more than 2,000 pages and is expected to be more than 200,000 pages by the time it is completed.

As a Health Insurance Specialist and Agent in the Bay Area for more than 20 years I know and have seen firsthand how healthcare costs have been rising uncontrollably. I also agreed that something had to be done about the escalating costs of healthcare; but how President Obama and our elected Officials have gone about developing and implementing this law, makes no common sense to me and many of us in the insurance industry.

There are some aspects of PPACA that many may consider positive changes in the law, such as:

- Coverage for annual physical and labs
- Cancer mandates and exceptions
- Contraception mandate
- Infertility treatment
- Clinical trials coverage
- Colorectal cancer screenings
- Dependent coverage to age 26
- Mental health benefits



Sylvia Oliverrez

• Autism

However, with all of these mandates (California alone has 48 specific mandates) Obamacare still does nothing to address costs. One thing this law does do is increase costs to the insurance companies, providers, hospitals, medical facilities and independent doctors; not to mention the increased costs to the business owners and American taxpayers.

Which frankly makes me wonder why they called it the "Affordable" Care Act in the first place.

These mandates have placed additional burdens on businesses and citizens that are already struggling to keep afloat in a challenging economy. Why did our legislators not have the foresight to see the ramifications to businesses and the economy?

If "past outcomes are a good indicator of future outcomes," then the Massachusetts exchanges, which the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is using as its model, has not been the panacea the government and people of Massachusetts hoped for. Yes, in Massachusetts nearly everyone has some form of health insurance. But can anyone in Massachusetts with private insurance today, and who also had private insurance seven years ago — before passage of the health care law — attest to being better off when it comes to their personal cost and coverage for healthcare?

The truth is the quality of the care has been deteriorating and getting more expensive. What's worse is that these additional costs are increasingly shifting to the consumer through higher deductibles, out of pocket maximums, decreased coinsurance levels, higher copays, and greater premium sharing.

In addition, PPACA specifically states that rating ratios can be no more than a 1:3 ratio. This, in brief, means that insurance carriers can not charge the eldest person in their rating pool more than three times the least expensive rate. Thus, mathematically (numbers rarely lie) the younger population's rates will have to increase, and in many cases these increases are three to four times higher than their current premiums.

In Massachusetts, where they have been struggling



Pam Hedblad

Continued on page 4

February issue: Health care

What you need to know about health care reform

Continued from page 3

with a budget deficit in the hundreds of millions, insurance companies, hospitals, and other care givers are required to offset the difference by increasing costs on those who are privately insured.

The CBO (Congressional Budget Office) itself has had a hard time estimating the costs of Obamacare.

The cost of Obamacare can be very confusing (to say the least) as estimates range from \$1.7 billion to a net savings of \$143 billion over the next decade. And then there is President Obama's initial claim that the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) would cost \$940 billion. However, after additional reviews of the bill and the costs vs. estimated revenues (which to date do not include accurate forecasts of future costs) the CBO updated its Obamacare cost estimate to \$1.76 trillion. This is three times more than the original estimate of \$940 billion. Keep in mind, the most expensive provisions don't take effect until 2014, when mandatory health insurance coverage and subsidies kick in. The biggest cost is expanding Medicaid (or MediCal in California) and the Children's Health Insurance Program to include more low-income people.

So, if the CBO said the costs of Obamacare were anywhere from \$940 billion to \$1.76 trillion, then how could it say it reduced the budget deficit by \$143 billion?

That's because the ACA legislation also passed new taxes and budget reductions in other areas. Here's just a brief summary of the new taxes imposed by Obamacare, which are estimated to bring an estimated additional \$567 billion in Revenue:

- Hospital insurance tax — \$212 billion
- Non-compliance tax — \$64 billion
- Cadillac health care insurance tax — \$32 billion
- Medical device and insurers tax — \$107 billion
- Raising the medical deduction limit to 10 percent — \$104 billion

In addition, there were five areas where cost savings of

an estimated \$477 billion are to be implemented:

- Reduce prescription subsidies to wealthy — \$87 billion
- Reduce hospital DSH (disproportional share/indigent care) payments — \$37 billion
- Reduce Medicare payments — \$197 billion
- Reduce Medicare Advantage payments — \$135 billion



Will Obamacare legislation grow from 2,000 pages to 200,000? Sylvia Oliverez says it will.

However, even with all of these revenues and cost reductions, and other excise taxes not mentioned here, the CBO has once again changed its estimates from \$940 billion in savings to \$104 billion.

Many economists, healthcare experts, underwriters and agents in the insurance industry continue to differ, even today, with these estimates. Until attention is placed on controlling the costs of care, premiums will continue to rise. It's a simple equation to understand, as utilization of care goes up, so do costs. And we all know that once those who don't have insurance begin to use the medical systems, hospitals and emergency rooms, costs are bound to sky rocket.

So, now you can see why so many in the insurance industry, who understand risk rating and the purpose of insurance, have such a skeptical view of the PPACA legislation. Even though I agree that something

had to be done about escalating medical premiums, targeting insurance companies as the culprits was and is not the solution. If you truly look at the purpose we purchase insurance, it is because these companies can negotiate rates that are often much lower than what a hospital or medical facility would charge you on a fee-for-service basis. Next time you receive an Explanation of Benefits, look at the column where it states what the services would have cost you if you didn't have insurance. This will give you an "eye opener" to what your services truly cost.

In conclusion, the only way to reduce sky-rocketing premiums is to address the costs, and this I believe is one Pandora's box the government doesn't want to (and very well should not) open.

In case you missed it

Professor looks behind gender gap numbers in 2012 election

San Jose City College professor Padma Manian presented SVARW members with a wealth of data about how women voted in the 2012 presidential election. We are printing an edited version of her talk here. Read her complete text on SVARW.com

By Padma Manian
SVARW guest speaker

I, like all of you, was terribly disappointed with the 2012 election. Michael Barone, the knowledgeable political observer had suggested a Romney landslide. Charles Krauthammer and Karl Rove were cautiously optimistic. Romney had done so well in the first debate and many of the polls were encouraging. A large number of people were showing up for the Romney rallies. Remember the crowds we saw on TV? So what happened? Joe Trippi, the Democratic Party commentator on Fox explained it. He had predicted an easy Obama victory saying that the people who turned out to vote would be like those who did in 2008 not like those who turned out in 2010 when the Republicans did very well. He was right. Blacks turned out heavily. In certain precincts in Detroit and Cleveland virtually every eligible voter cast a ballot and 100 percent of them went to Obama. Young people of all races also came out to vote in high numbers and voted Obama though not in as high numbers as in 2008. Obama also ran a dishonest ad campaign in swing states depicting Romney as an uncaring plutocrat who when he ran Bain Capital was responsible for destroying the lives of workers in companies acquired by Bain Capital. They went so far as to claim he was responsible for the cancer death of the wife of one of the workers. Of course most voters were not affected by these ads. However some white low-information voters did buy the message and stayed home rather than vote for Romney. This was crucial in close-fought states like Ohio. Obama was able to raise tremendous amounts of money as an incumbent and as a darling of Hollywood. With the money his campaign could run an efficient Get-Out-The-Vote operation and spend millions in advertising. After four years of a failed presidency, Obama supporters were not as enthusiastic about voting for "Hope and Change" as they were in 2008. In 2012, it was the Republicans who were enthusiastic about getting a change. Still the Obama campaign with its huge war chest and efficient organization got the voters to come out.

But with all that Obama's campaign did, if only men voted, Romney would have won comfortably with 52 percent of the vote. Unfortunately, women preferred Obama, 55 percent vs. 44 percent and comprised 53 percent of the electorate.



Padma Manian

The percentage of women who voted for Romney was 8 percent less than men who voted for him. This is the gender gap. This has been touted as the largest gender gap in history. In 2008, McCain got 48 percent of the male vote and 43 percent of the female vote for a gender gap of only 5 percent. But it is not that women loved Obama more

in 2012 than they did in 2008. The percentage of women who voted for the Republican ticket increased 1 percent from 2008 to 2012. But the percentage of men preferring the Republican ticket went up by 4 percent from 2008 to 2012. This increased the gender gap by 3 percent.

The voting gender gap first appeared in 1980 and has been with us ever since. A smaller percentage of women than men have voted for the Republicans. A majority of women voted for the Republicans only in the elections of 1980, 1984 and 1988 for Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush. Even then, more men than women voted for Reagan and Bush I. Since 1992, a majority of women have always voted for the Democrat.

So what has caused the gender gap? A big factor is the rise in the number of women born to single mothers. In the 1940s, only 2 percent of white children and 14 percent of black children were born to unmarried mothers. In 2008, (Census Report-Heritage website) 41 percent of all children were born to single mothers, 29 percent of white children, 53 percent of Hispanic children, and 72 percent of black children. Most of those single-parent families will receive assistance from the government. As Mona Charen of the National Review said, "single mothers want the state to be their husband and father to their children." Naturally, single mothers vote overwhelmingly for Democrats, the party of government.

I have many such young women in the classes that I teach in SJCC. They come there in an attempt to improve their lives and also because CalWORKS requires them to take courses in order to receive benefits. A young mother of 3 wanted an extension on one of her assignments. She sent me an email with four attachments. One was an order from a landlord-tenant arbitration council requiring her landlord to disinfect her apartment. The second was a doctor's report on her sick baby. The third document was a notice of repossession of her car and the fourth document was

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In case you missed it: What's behind the gender gap?

Continued from page 5

a restraining order on her ex-boyfriend, the father of her youngest child. Needless to say, I gave her the requested extension. But I fear she and her three, and any subsequent children, will be life-long Democrats.

Now, in addition to the gender gap, there is a marriage gap. Fifty-three percent of married women voted for Romney as against only 31 percent of single women. This is a gap of 22 percent!

However, even among married people, there is a gender gap. Sixty-two percent of married men voted Republican compared to 53 percent of married women, for a gender gap of 9 percent. So the question then is, what makes some married women vote Democratic rather than Republican? For married women, as opposed to single mothers, the reason to vote Democratic is not to ensure getting benefits from the government but there must be an attraction to the ideology of the Democratic Party (anti-war, feminism influence, environmentalism, pro-choice).

I would suggest that many women have imbibed the feminist notion that women need to be liberated by fundamentally transforming society and that such women, both married and single, vote Democrat. Their existence, along with existence of single mothers explains the gender gap. Nineteenth and early 20th century women's rights activists wanted to change laws that prevented women from owning property, voting and holding political offices. These laws have been changed. But modern feminists say this is not sufficient. According to them and other Progressives, society is structurally sexist and racist and needs to be fundamentally transformed to make it just. Since the 1960s, and 1970s, colleges have been teaching such theories and ideas. Women now comprise 57 percent of college students and typically major more in humanities and social sciences where their minds are marinated in progressive ideas. Men major more in the sciences, engineering, and business and are less affected.

It took the feminist and progressive ideas of the '60s and '70s about 10 years, to work their way through the colleges and the media to create the gender gap in the 1980 presidential election. The explosion in the rate of single motherhood also happened after the loosening of the sexual mores by the progressive ideas of the sexual revolution and was made economically possible by the welfare programs of President Johnson's Great Society.

Well aware of the importance of the feminist women's vote, the Obama campaign charged that there was a Republican "war on women." Of course this was nonsense. There is instead a "War on Conservative Women" by the Democrats and their allies in the news media and entertainment industry.

Unfortunately the idea that Republicans were insensitive to women's issues was given credence by three incidents,

Look to history for feminism's roots

During her talk, Prof. Manian provided extensive background on the roots of feminist philosophy. Following are three books that were pivotal:

- "The Origin of the Family, Private Property, and the State," by Freidrich Engels, was published in 1884. Engles incorporated Karl Marx's ideas and argued that a socialist revolution would abolish private property and the institution of bourgeois marriage.
- In "The Second Sex," published in 1949, French author Simone de Beauvoir wrote that men oppress women when they seek to perpetuate the family and keep inheritance intact.
- Betty Friedan's "The Feminine Mystique" (1963) argued that women's traditional roles as wives and mothers were ultimately unsatisfying.

magnified by the pro-Obama media:

- The first was the testimony of Sandra Fluke, that students at Georgetown University including herself had to pay thousands of dollars that they could not afford because the Catholic university refused to include contraceptive coverage in the student health plan. Investigators found that Target and Walmart just a couple of miles from the university sold a month's supply of contraceptive pills for \$9.
- Todd Akin, the Republican candidate for Senate from Missouri, made the ill-informed statement that in cases of "legitimate rape," the female body had ways to prevent conception. Again the Democrats and their media allies highlighted this to draw unfavorable attention to all Republicans.
- Richard Murdoch, the Republican candidate for Senate from Indiana was running against a pro-life Democrat but got into trouble with his statement that it was God's will when rapes resulted in conception. Akin and Murdoch lost in states carried by Romney.

The Left has a great advantage in getting its ideas to the people. It controls the news media, the entertainment industry, and the educational establishment. Using these, it succeeds in convincing low-information voters that it was "cool" to vote for Obama.

The Right needs to compete in all these areas. Andrew Klavan of City Journal suggests that we need more news outlets than Fox. Glenn Reynolds has suggested that money spent on a Right-oriented women's magazine would be a good investment. Home schooling or private schools will provide children higher quality education and allow them to escape indoctrination in the public schools. Klavan, on the day after the election, concluded his essay as follows: "The demography of the country is changing, but demography is not destiny. Ideas are. We must retake the culture and begin speaking truth to a new America."

Get involved

Where do county taxes go? Find out in GOV 101

Applications are now available for the Santa Clara County GOV 101 Academy, a 10-week program to provide a comprehensive overview of county government, its role and responsibilities, as well as the program and services offered by the County.

"It is quite heartening to see how many people are truly interested in learning about our county government," said Ken Yeager, president of the County of Santa Clara Board of Supervisors. "The programs and services provided by the county affect the lives of everyone, but often they go unnoticed."

The Academy will hold its first session March 12. Applications will be accepted until February 15. The 35 seats will be distributed across the

county. Seven will be available in each of the five Supervisorial Districts. Most sessions will occur on Tuesday evenings from 6 to 9 p.m. One half-day session will take place on a Saturday. The graduation ceremony is planned for the Board of Supervisors meeting at 11:30 a.m. on May 21.

The goals of the program are to: Raise public awareness of county roles and services; promote engagement and understanding of the county; encourage participation in advisory commissions and volunteer opportunities; and contribute to creating a more informed public.

"I would encourage those interested to submit their applications early, since last year there were more candidates than spaces available," said

County Executive Jeffrey V. Smith. "We received excellent feedback from Academy participants about the interactive curriculum and the opportunities to visit several facilities to see first-hand how their tax dollars are spent."

Applications are available on the County's website: www.sccgov.org/sccgov101app

For general information about the 2013 program go to www.sccgov.org/sccgov101

There is a \$30 materials fee, which can be waived in cases of financial hardship. For more information or to obtain an application, contact the Office of Public Affairs at SCCPublicAffairs@ceo.sccgov.org or call 408-299-5151.

Contact your elected officials

California Governor Jerry Brown
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: 916-445-2841
FAX (most effective):
916-445-4633
Email: www.govmail.ca.gov

Assemblyman Rich Gordon
650-691-2121

Assemblyman Jim Beall
408-282-8920

State Senator
Maj. Ldr. Ellen Corbett
510-794-3900

State Senator
S. Joseph Simitian
408-299-5050

State Senator
Elaine Alquist
408-286-8318

Issue to watch: gun control

NRA opposes 'universal' background checks

The following has been excerpted, with permission, from the National Rifle Association's Institute for Legislative Action web site. To see full article online, go to <http://www.nraila.org/news-issues/articles/2013/2/anti-gunners-trinity.aspx?s=&st=&ps=>

While banning guns and magazines is being promoted by the anti-gunners, the criminalization of private firearm transfers is the centerpiece of their anti-Second Amendment efforts. This is part of a strategy to chip away at our Second Amendment rights under the guise of being "reasonable."

While we don't know the final form this legislation will take, these checks no doubt would require background checks for firearm transfers between lifelong friends, and maybe even between family members. It would also be a step toward national gun registration. "Universal"

background checks are background checks on EVERY transfer, sale, purchase, trade, gift, rental, and loan of a firearm between any and all individuals.

It is already a federal felony to be engaged in the business of buying and selling firearms without having a federal dealer's license. It is already a crime for a federally licensed dealer to sell a gun without doing a background check.

NRA does not support "universal" background checks and will continue to oppose, "universal" background checks and registration schemes. We do believe that records of those who are prohibited by law from purchasing firearms (including those whose mental health history puts them in this category) ought to be included in the federal instant check system.

Please continue to contact your U.S. Senators and tell them to oppose "universal" background checks.

Silicon Valley Association of Republican Women

P.O. Box 3194
Saratoga, CA 95070



OUR MISSION

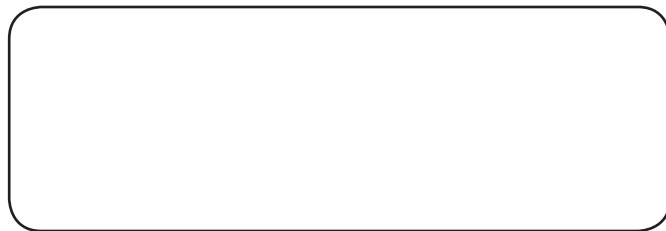
SVARW is an independent, conservative organization committed to supporting and defending the principles of our Founding Fathers as written in the Constitution of the United States of America, whose mission it is to elect qualified, conservatives to Santa Clara County non-partisan offices, and to educate and motivate our members to support conservative principles.

Comments about the newsletter?

Contact newsletter editor
Joyce Hall at jswanhall@yahoo.com
or call 775-848-7370.

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SVARW Membership form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Cell phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Please add my husband _____ as a supporting member.

I am a registered Republican and agree to abide by SVARW bylaws. I understand that the SVARW Roster is for SVARW member use only and only for SVARW projects and events. I understand that membership in SVARW is subject to approval.

_____ (signature)

Date: _____

Annual Membership Dues: \$25 per year. Add \$5 for husband supporting member. Make check payable to SVARW and mail to: SVARW, P.O. Box 3194, Saratoga, CA 95070.