

Silicon Valley Association of Republican Women

Volume 7, Number 7 September 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

Sept. 18: SVARW monthly meeting.

Oct. 16: SVARW monthly meeting.

SVARW monthly brunch meetings

When: 9 to 11 a.m., third Wednesday of the month Check-in begins at 9 a.m.; meeting begins promptly at 9:30 a.m.

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

Join the conversation at https://www.facebook.com/groups/102157146491047/or search Facebook for Silicon Valley Association of Republican Women.

Newsletter Editor Joyce Swanson-Hall jswanhall@yahoo.com 408-564-6726

Upcoming Events at SVARW

Karen England to evaluate current state legislation affecting families

Don't miss our Sept. 18 monthly meeting with speaker Karen England, Executive Director of the Capitol Resource Institute. CRI works to educate and strengthen families by influencing public policy coming out of Sacramento.

Ms. England will review current state legislation and also provide the latest details on the recent tidal wave of anti-

family assaults in California. These assaults range from the expansion of abortion to allowing boys who identify as girls into girls' restrooms and locker rooms in K-12 public schools. Unfortunately, the entire nation is impacted by the poor public policies implemented here in the Golden State.

— Provided by Allison Spiller

Get involved: Be a chairperson for SVARW

Political Appointments and Voter Registration Committee needs you

By Gail DeSmet SVARW Candidate Liaison

A new committee — Political
Appointements and Voter Registration
— will research and highligh current
openings on various city and county
boards, commissions or the grand jury, plus
encourage voter registration. Many political
appointments have certain prerequisites
regarding experience, and openings vary
throughout the county. This committee
takes the time to sort and post openings in
the newsletter. Voter registration will be
encouraged by using our newsletter and
SVARW events.

Political appointments to the various boards are made by local office holders upon receiving an application from a qualified person.

Several of our SVARW members,

including Peter Soule, Diane Owen, and Lisa Marshik, are currently serving political appointments. Why is serving an appointment important for Republicans? Many times, this is the first step toward running for office. Serving in one of these posts offers potential candidates a great deal of public policy insight, increasing his/her electability. Even for those not interested in holding elected office, a board or commission membership offers conservatives a voice in local issues.

This committee will encourage voter participation while helping build a farm team of candidates. Any SVARW member, or associate member, interested in chairing or helping with this committee should mention their interest to an SVARW board member, whose names are printed on the front page of the SVARW roster. Many friendly members will help you get started on a committee.

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President's message

Stars and Stripes Gala sweet success for SVARW

This year's Stars and Stripes Gala was successful in many ways. Besides our regular members, many people who are unable to attend our monthly daytime meetings came out for the Saturday evening celebration of our freedoms and liberty. The beautiful venue of the Susanna Cody/Ron Hills home, the delicious catering by Justin's and lovely music of the Sons of Jubal enhanced our chance to party with informed and involved fellow patriots.

It was also a great opportunity for candidates and elected office holders to mingle with our membership as well as kindred spirits affiliated with the SVGOP, various grass roots movements, such as the Tea Party Patriots, and issue oriented groups such as the Fair Tax, Real Options and Women's Leadership Forum of the NRA. This year's Gala was an unqualified success on all accounts.

The gala's success is due 100 percent to the talents and efforts of SVARW's board and members. Most particularly, Lisa Seago, our treasurer, graciously stepped up to organize and successfully carry out tasks ranging from selecting the caterers, menu, decorations, music, wine, venue and event program, to budget-planning and volunteer recruitment. Jan Soule deftly handled the very important event communications, sponsor and music coordination. Jane and Joe Kearney gracefully managed valet parking. Martha Snodgrass and Jane Kearney made our "Heads and Tails" iPad raffle a financial success, besides being hilariously entertaining! Congrats and thank you all. Grateful kudos to Allison Spiller, Gail DeSmet, Maria Fischer, Marian Cosgrove, Deborah Kerwin-Peck, Sherrill Martinez, John Spiller, Peter Soule, Joyce Swanson, Joe Torre, and all our other members who helped in so many ways to make our gala great.

Speeches by newly announced candidates, such as



Gubernatorial candidate Tim Donnelly mingles with Stars and Stripes guests on Aug. 24.

gubernatorial hopeful Tim Donnelly, and state assembly candidates Mike Hunsweck and Catherine Baker generated plenty of enthusiasm at the event. Current Santa Clara County Supervisor Mike Wasserman, who we've supported for many years and hope to see resoundingly re-elected, was warmly received by the attendees. Current San Jose City Councilmember Pete Constant has announced a run for mayor, and he received enthusiastic applause for his rally to continue his fight for fiscal sanity in San Jose. We also applauded Campbell Planning Commission Chairman Phil Reynolds, San Jose city council candidate Van Le, and Campbell Union School District board members Julie Constant and Mike Snyder.

This year was the first time for us to host sponsors, connecting all those groups and interests through our shared support of free market capitalism and issue advocacy. I'd like to personally acknowledge our sponsors: Linda Lester, of Lester Properties; Valarie Hill of Real Options Pregnancy Clinics; Dr. Kenneth Smith of Californians for the Fair Tax; Rita Piziali of Roden and Fields Dermatology; Hilary Martin of The Family Wealth Consulting Group; Dr. Jayne Hoffman of Dr. Jayne Dentistry; and Bruce Barton of Parkworth Wealth Management.

— Debra Janssen-Martinez SVARW president

Does someone need 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

SVARW 2013 Executive Board

Debra Janssen-Martinez, President

Allison Spiller, First Vice-President

Second Vice-President, vacant

Sherill Martinez, Recording Secretary

Kirsten Williams, Corresponding Secretary Lisa Seago, Treasurer

Diane Owen, Parliamentarian

Next Board Meeting

9:30 a.m., Sept. 25. Location to be announced. Members are always welcome.

Eight candidates welcomed at Stars and Stripes

By Jan Soule SVARW Online Communications

Guests attending our Aug. 24 Stars and Stripes Gala had an opportunity to meet and hear from candidates planning to run for office in 2014. Among the candidates were:

- California Assemblyman Tim Donnelly who is running for Governor of California to replace Jerry Brown. Donnelly, who organized the largest Minuteman organization in California, was featured with Sean Hannity as they surveyed the porous border between California and Mexico. Donnelly was elected to the Assembly in 2010 with a grassroots campaign and then re-elected in 2012 despite being outspent by both the Democrats and Republicans opposed to his conservative stance. www.electTimDonnelly.com
- Catharine Baker, an attorney from the East Bay, is running for California Assembly in a winnable district (16). SVARW has had the privilege of having Baker as a speaker on her pro bono work to try and ensure election integrity. www.BakerforAssembly.com
- Michael Hunsweck is running for California Assembly in Santa Clara County (District 28). Hunsweck did a great job in introducing himself to the guests. www.hunsweck.



Van Le

com

- Santa Clara County Supervisor Mike Wasserman is running for re-election in 2014. See more at his website, <u>www.</u> mikewasserman.com
- San Jose City Councilman Pete Constant will be running for mayor of San Jose to replace Chuck Reed, who is termed out.
- Eastside Union High School District board member Van Le is running for San Jose City Council District 7.
- Campbell Union School
 Distric board member Julie
 Constant, running for re-election.
- Alex Kent, who is running for Burlingame City Council.
 While candidates were limited

to about two minutes at Stars and Stripes, our Candidate Forum in April will give candidates the opportunity to tell us more about their issues and give members the opportunity to ask questions.

Get involved

Plastic bag ban challenged

Both Campbell and Los Gatos have jumped on the "bag ban" bandwagon by voting to implement a ban on plastic bags starting next January in Campbell and February in Los Gatos. However, the "Stop the Bag Ban" citizens' group (founded here in the Silicon Valley) has launched a petition to qualify an initiative for the Campbell ballot that would repeal the ban. They must get 2,000 signatures by early December in order to qualify the repeal initiative for the next ballot. For more information, to download the petition, or if you are interested in joining the Stop the Bag Ban group, please go to www.stopthebagban.com or contact Don Williams at stopthebagban@gmail.com

They may also be launching a petition to get it on the ballot in Los Gatos as well. If successful, Campbell and Los Gatos would be the first cities in California who would actually get the chance to vote on these plastic bag bans. Polls indicate that a majority of people are against banning plastic bags, but you would never know that by the way city council after city council votes nearly unanimously to implement bag bans. And it is evident that the plastic bag ban has set the stage for additional "selective" bans. San Jose passed a measure Aug. 27 to prohibit the use of polystyrene (styrofoam) food containers, commonly used for take-out.

Bathroom bill petition now online

A petition to place the recently enacted California School Bathroom Bill, AB 1266, up to the people for vote is now available for download online. A link to the referendum petition can be found on Pacific Justice Institute's special website, GenderInsanity.com

In order for the referendum to be successful, supporters will need to acquire at least 500,000 signatures from citizens across the state by early November. If successful, the Bathroom Bill will then be placed on hold before it goes up for vote in the next State general election in November 2014.

Brad Dacus, President of Pacific Justice Institute (PJI), said, "The passage of this bill is nothing less than irresponsible behavior by State lawmakers. To jeopardize the safety and privacy of young children all for the fear of offending the forceful LGBT lobby is disturbing." He continued, "We're happy that parents and citizens now have the recourse to challenge this law and make sure all students are protected."

PJI also encourages parents to download from <u>PJI.org</u> the *Notice of Reasonable Expectation of Privacy* to give to their public school administrators. This notice helps protect students from not just privacy concerns that the Bathroom Bill and similar school policies bring, but also issues from the Common Core standards.

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Update on Plan Bay Area, tax reform; how to help

Fair Tax champion Ken Smith heads Legislation Committee

By Kenneth E. Smith, M.D. SVARW Legislation Chair

For those of you who don't know me, I am a retired obstetrician-gynecologist who practiced for 30 years, most of my career being on Cape Cod in Massachusetts. I ended my career practicing office gynecology on Hilton Head Island, S.C. before moving out here to assist in caring for my elderly mother who recently passed away at 100 years of age. I became more and more frustrated with what I saw happening to our country during the recent presidential election cycle and have since then become a delegate to the California GOP convention, attending my first convention in early March, was named an alternate member of the Santa Clara County GOP central committee, and am a volunteer district director for the Fair Tax. I was selected to represent California in a national grassroots meeting for Americans for Fair Taxation in Houston, Texas on Sept. 6-8.

It has been my pleasure to serve as your legislative chair for the past couple of months and I greatly appreciate the warm welcome I have received from the board and membership of SVARW. Needless to say, there has been a lot going on in Washington and Sacramento, and it's been challenging to try to keep up. Fortunately I have received some guidance and assistance from Deborah Kerwin-Peck (a former legislative chair), Debra Janssen-Martinez, and Jan Soule as well as many others.

Unfortunately the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) and Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) combined committee voted in favor of Plan Bay Area on July 18 despite the opposition pushed by a bipartisan coalition led by Chris Pareja who unsuccessfully ran for Congress in District 15 last year. Many of our members participated in this opposition movement and attended the final meeting of that organization in Oakland on July 18. The funding for this bureaucratic nightmare is SB-1 (Sustainable Communities Investment Authority) that passed the Senate earlier this year by a wide margin. It was referred to the Assembly Committee on Local Governments that also voted to support it. It will likely be passed by the Assembly and signed into law by Gov. Brown. Thanks to all of you who made phone calls to the assemblymembers on that committee. Please don't get discouraged by the supermajority of Democrats in our state capitol and their socialist agenda. We will ultimately be victorious as we begin to elect more commonsense Republicans into more and more offices across the Bay and around the state.

I was delighted to have the opportunity to meet Steve Forbes, former Republican presidential candidate, at the Aug. 7 Conservative Forum, where he gave an invigorating speech and responded encouragingly to multiple great questions from a very supportive audience.

I also had the good fortune to meet Sen. Tim Scott (R-SC), the only African-American in the Senate, in August at the Hayward Hills home of one of our recent speakers, Kevin



Ken Smith

McGary, chairman of the Frederick Douglas Foundation of California. Scott is a supporter of the Fair Tax in the U.S. Senate and was a cosponsor of the House bill while he was a congressman as well.

Representative Dave Camp (R-MI), chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, and Sen. Max Baucus (D-MT), chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, are promising major tax reform as they have traveled to various locations around the country. As stated by Steve Forbes, "We can't tinker with this tax-code monstrosity or try to reform it around the edges. The only thing we can do with this hideous beast is to kill it, drive a stake through its heart, bury it, and hope that it never rises again to terrorize the American people."

The best-studied and most comprehensive tax reform bill in Congress, the Fair Tax, can achieve such tax reform. Please contact your congressional representative and senators to support the Fair Tax (HR-25 and S-122). Call all members of the House Ways and Means Committee to ask for their support in committee and to bring the bill to the House floor for a vote. You can use a script such as the following, since you will be reaching a staff member: "Hello, this is (your name). I would like to leave a message for Representative (his or her name), asking (him/her), as a member of the Ways and Means Committee, to support HR-25, the Fair Tax Act of 2013, and to vote to move it to the floor of the House for full debate and a vote. Thank you."

Here is the list of House Ways and Means Committee members, by state and district. Their D.C. office phone number is listed first, followed by a fax number, if available.

Tim Griffin, Arkansas 2, (202) 225-2506; (202) 225-5903 fax

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Glass-Steagal Act restoration also needs your support

Continued from page 4

Devin Nunes, California 24, (202) 225-2523; (202) 225-3404 fax

Linda Sanchez, California 38, (202) 225-6676; (202) 226-1012 fax

Mike Thompson, California 5, (202) 225-3311; (202) 225-4335 fax

Xavier Becerra, California 24, (202) 225-6235; (202) 225-2202 fax

John B. Larson, Connecticut 1, (202) 225-2265; (202) 225-1031 fax

Vern Buchanan, Florida 16, (202) 225-5015; (202) 226-0828 fax

John Lewis, Georgia 5, (202) 225-3801; (202) 225-0351 fax

Tom Price, Georgia 6, (202) 225-4501; (202) 225-4656 fax

Aaron Schock, Illinois 18, (202) 225-6201; (202) 225-9249 fax

Danny Davis, Illinois 7, (202) 225-5006; (202) 225-5641 fax

Peter Roskam, Illinois 6, (202) 225-4561; (202) 225-1166 fax

Todd Young, Indiana 9, (202) 225-5315; (202) 226-6866 fax

Lynn Jenkins, Kansas 2, (202) 225-6601; (202) 225-7986 fax

Charles W. Boustany, Jr., Louisiana 3, (202) 225-2031; (202) 225-5724 fax

Richard E. Neal, Massachusetts 1, (202) 225-5601; (202) 225-8112 fax

Dave Camp, Michigan 4, (202) 225-3561; (202) 225-9679 fax

Sander Levin, Michigan 9, (888) 810-3880; (202) 226-1033 fax

Erik Paulsen, Minnesota 3, (202) 225-2871; (202) 225-6351 fax

Adrian Smith, Nebraska 3, (202) 225-8901; (202) 225-5893 fax

Bill Pascrell Jr., New Jersey 9, (202) 225-5751; (202) 225-5782 fax

Charles B. Rangel, New York 13, (202) 225-4365; (202) 225-0816 fax

Joseph Crowley, New York 24, (202) 225-3965

Tom Reed, New York 23, (202) 225-3161; (202) 226-6599 fax

Patrick J. Tiberi, Ohio 12, (202) 225-5355; (202) 226-4523 fax

Jim Renacci, Ohio 16, (202) 225-3876; (202) 225-3059 fax

Earl Blumenauer, Oregon 3, (202) 225-4811; (202) 225-8941 fax

Allyson Schwartz, Pennsylvania 13, (202) 225-6111; (202) 226-0611 fax

Jim Gerlach, Pennsylvania 6, (202) 225-4315; (202) 225-8440 fax

Mike Kelly, Pennsylvanie 3, (202) 225-5406; (202) 225-3103 fax

Diane Black, Tennessee 6, (202) 225-4231; (202) 225-6887 fax

Kenny Marchant, Texas 24, (202) 225-6605; (202) 225-0074 fax

Kevin Brady, Texas 8, (202) 225-4901; (202) 225-5524 fax

Lloyd Doggett, Texas 35, (202) 225-4865 **Sam Johnson,** Texas 3, (202) 225-4201

Dave Reichert, Washington 8, (202) 225-7761; (202) 225-4282 fax

Jim McDermott, Washington 7, (202) 225-3106; (202) 225-6197 fax

Paul Ryan, Wisconsin 1, (202) 225-3031; (202) 225-3393 fax

Ron Kind, Wisconsin 3, (202) 225-5506; (202) 225-5739 fax

Although this seems onerous, I completed the calls in less than an hour and your calls really can make a difference. Please ask your family and friends to get involved as well.

Glass-Steagall Act needs your support

Another very vital piece of federal legislation in front of Congress right now is the restoration of the Glass-Steagall Act of 1933. This legislation (separating commercial banks from riskier investment banks) was repealed in 1999 under the Clinton administration and its restoration is necessary to save us from a very uncertain financial future. The recent debacle in Detroit is the first of many such potential disasters unless Glass-Steagall is restored. Contact your representative and your senators to support Glass-Steagall (HR-129, S-985, S-1282).

The Fair Tax and restoration of Glass-Steagall have a lot in common. Naysayers state that neither will ever happen because of the political cronyism of our legislators and the power of the lobbyists in Washington and in our state capitals. We, the people, just like our founding fathers, need to stand up and fight for our liberty and freedom for our children, our grandchildren, and ourselves.

Lastly, take the time to read Mark Levin's new book, "The Liberty Amendments," and go to the following link to listen to the messages from Brent Morehouse on how we can save our country in support of what Mark Levin suggests in his book.

http://www.blogtalkradio.com/fairtax4ca/2013/08/22/important-updates-from-author-brent-morehouse

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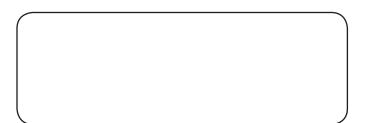
Silicon Valley Association of Republican Women

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SVARW Candidate Endorsement Policy

By Gail DeSmet SVARW Candidate Liaison

If you or someone you know is planning to run for office in November, please review our Candidate Endorsement Policy below. SVARW is an independent organization that is able to endorse candidates in the primary and general elections. Our goal is to recommend qualified candidates, which may include the endorsement of a non-Republican. SVARW considers for endorsement candidates running for non-partisan seats and on occasion will consider endorsing an exceptional conservative running in a partisan race.

Candidates running for non-partisan seats must complete the appropriate endorsement application found at www.svarw.com and email the completed form to SVARW's Candidate Liaison Chairwoman Gail DeSmet at candidaterelations@svarw.com no later than 45 days prior to the election. A lack of endorsement does not mean that SVARW members will not vote for the candidate, but rather that the candidate does not meet the criteria for SVARW endorsement.

In order for a candidate to be considered for endorsement he/she must meet the following criteria:

• The candidate must adhere to the conservative principles that SVARW supports as stated in our motto, "SVARW is an independent organization committed to supporting and defending the principles of our Founding

Fathers as written in the Constitution of the United States of America."

- The candidate would benefit from SVARW's endorsement.
- The candidate can provide an outline of their strategy to win the election.

Benefits of Endorsement

- SVARW will allow the candidates to use the SVARW name in their campaign literature.
- SVARW will advertise candidate events in the SVARW newsletter, e-Alerts and Conservative Calendar.
- Endorsed candidates may attend SVARW meetings and events to solicit volunteers and supporters
- An SVARW member can serve as an advocate for the candidate to lead fundraising and volunteer efforts.

We encourage candidates to seek endorsement as soon as they qualify for the ballot. All applications will be reviewed and qualified candidates will be invited to be interviewed by members of the SVARW Board of Directors. The Board will vote on the endorsement recommendations at our monthly board meetings. Candidates will receive letters of endorsement after the vote by the Board. Endorsements will appear in the SVARW newsletter and website.