



- **SAVE THE DATE: Stars and Stripes Gala returns to popular Saratoga venue on August 27.** See insert
- **Shared values of 3 great presidents,** page 2
- **SVARW recommendation on ballot issues,** page 4

Mark your calendar

- **May 18:** SVARW regular meeting, 9:30 to 11 a.m., Three Flames Restaurant, 1547 Meridian Ave., San Jose. Check-in from 9 to 9:30 a.m. Meeting starts at 9:30 a.m. Cost: \$15. Seating is limited. Those who purchase online will have reserved seating.
- **June 15:** SVARW regular meeting, 9:30 to 11 a.m., Three Flames Restaurant, 1547 Meridian Ave., San Jose. Check-in from 9 to 9:30 a.m. Meeting starts at 9:30 a.m. Cost: \$15.
- **July:** No regular meeting this month.
- **Aug. 27:** Stars and Stripes.

2016 Membership

SVARW has several levels of membership. Contact Gail Desmet with questions. Email Gail at membership@svarw.com

New members

SVARW welcomes the following new members for 2016:

Grace Mah
JoAnn and Ken Thomas

Upcoming Events at SVARW

May meeting hosts Israeli terror survivor

Who: David Rubin, former mayor of Shiloh, Israel
When: Wednesday, May 18
Where: Three Flames Restaurant, 1547 Meridian Ave., San Jose
Time: Check-in begins at 9 a.m. Meeting begins at 9:30 a.m.
Cost: \$15 includes full breakfast. Buy tickets online or at the door. Seating is limited for this meeting so online purchase is recommended.
Web site: For more information and to purchase tickets: www.SVARW.com

May meeting

In **May**, we will hear from **David Rubin**, the former mayor of a West Bank settlement, an Israeli who survived being shot by jihadist. He is the founder and president of Shiloh Israel Children's Fund, dedicated to easing the trauma of children who have been victims of terrorist attacks, as well as rebuilding the heartland of Israel. The Fund was established after Rubin and his 3-year-old son were wounded in a terrorist attack while driving home from Jerusalem. He vowed to retaliate — not with hatred or anger, but with compassion — in order to effect positive change for Israel and its people.



David Rubin

In 2007, Rubin published his first book,

“God, Israel, and Shiloh: Returning to the Land,” which tells the story of the human struggles and triumphs of Israel’s complex history, dating back to slavery in Egypt and continuing up to the present.

His second book, published in October 2010, was “The Islamic Tsunami: Israel and America in the Age of Obama,” which boldly exposed the danger to Israel, America and Judeo-Christian civilization posed by the large and growing Islamic fundamentalist movement and its odd collusion with the far secular left.

His most recent book, “Peace for Peace: Israel in the New Middle East,” explains the reasons why efforts to achieve peace in Israel fail. A featured speaker throughout the U.S. and Israel, David Rubin has appeared on national and international radio and television.

June meeting

Speaking at our June 15 meeting will be San Jose Mayor **Sam Liccardo**. As mayor of the Bay Area’s largest city, Liccardo faces challenges ranging from homeless encampments to pension reform for city workers. SVARW members will have a chance to learn how the mayor plans to tackle local issues. Liccardo served on the San Jose City Council before becoming mayor in 2015.



Sam Liccardo

Silicon Valley Association of Republican Women

P.O. Box 3194
Saratoga, CA 95070

Executive Board

Jan Soule, President
Jane Kearney, First Vice-
President
Debra Janssen-Martinez, Second
Vice-President
Sherrill Martinez, Recording
Secretary
Susan Calderon, Corresponding
Secretary
Lisa Seago, Treasurer
Diane Owen, Parliamentarian

The board meets at 9 a.m.,
typically on the last Wednesday
of each month. All members
are welcome to attend board
meetings.

Contact Jan Soule at
President@svarw.com and she
can provide details.

SVARW sunshine

Norine Bacon is SVARW's
official ray of sunshine. When a
member is ill or has lost a loved
one, Norine reaches out to them
with a card and a personal call.
Please don't hesitate to call her if
you know someone in need. Her
number is 408-377-7111.

Contact your officials

Gov. Jerry Brown, State Capitol,
Sacramento, CA 95814; Phone:
916-445-2841; FAX: 916-445-
4633; Email: www.govmail.ca.gov
Assemblyman Rich Gordon, 650-
691-2121
Assemblyman Evan Low, 408-
371-2802
State Sen. Majority Leader Ellen
Corbett, 510-794-3900
State Sen. Jerry Hill, 650-212-
3313
State Sen. Jim Beall, 408-558-
1295

President's message

What I am looking for in our next president

All eyes are turning to California. For the first time in as many elections that I can remember, Republicans in California will have a say in who the party nominates.

As I look back over history, there are many presidents that I admire but three stand out. All three made courageous decisions in office that were not popular with their advisors. They were not worried about being liked; they wanted to do what was right for America.

Abraham Lincoln

Ever since writing a report in fifth grade, I have been a fan of Abe Lincoln. Not too different than today, Lincoln took office when our country was deeply divided. Lincoln became convinced that slavery was wrong when he read in Genesis that man was created in God's image. Joe Wheeler, in his book, "Abraham Lincoln, A Man of Faith and Courage," describes Lincoln on his knees praying about issuing the Emancipation Proclamation in the face of his cabinet that was divided over the issue. We know the rest of the story. Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation and paid for it with his life.

Harry Truman

Yes, he was a Democrat! Thrust into office by the death of Franklin Roosevelt, many felt that this haberdasher from Missouri was out of his element. There are two decisions that Truman made that changed the course of history. It took real courage to authorize the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima. That act certainly saved the lives of many American servicemen, although, of course, Obama wants to apologize for it.

It also took real courage to make the United States the first country to recognize Israel as a nation on May 14, 1948. The State Department and most of his cabinet were vehemently opposed

to Truman's plan to recognize Israel as soon as it declared independence. They wanted Truman to wait and see what would happen, fully expecting the surrounding Arab nations to speedily attack and defeat Israel. Truman made his courageous decision because he learned the scriptures growing up and knew those who blessed Israel would be blessed, and those that cursed Israel would be cursed. Today, Israel is the only democracy in the Middle East and an ally of America.

Ronald Reagan

Reagan is probably our favorite Republican president because he stood on his conservative principles. We recognize him for ending the cold war with his challenge to the USSR, "Mr Gorbachev, tear down that wall." You can see a piece of the Berlin Wall at the Reagan Library in Simi Valley. As Reagan would say...there they go again. The State Department removed that famous line when they reviewed the speech Reagan would give in Berlin. Reagan would not be deterred. His favorite book in the Bible was the prophet Ezekiel and he recognized the USSR as an evil empire. Reagan was correct...the USSR no longer exists... now if our next president would just stand up to Putin!

Although these three great presidents lived in different times in history and faced different challenges, strikingly they had two things in common:

- They were men of faith.
- They made difficult decisions because of their faith.

I can honestly say that I did not start off to write an article about presidents and their faith, but about wanting a president who would be willing to make courageous decisions. Perhaps the two go hand in hand?

— Jan Soule

Young tax counselor shares frustration with politics

By Debra Janssen-Martinez
Second Vice President

In mid-April, I spent a few heart-stopping evenings with TurboTax. Despite careful tax planning, buying a roof-based solar system, and donating to church and charity, I discovered that losing the deductions from our

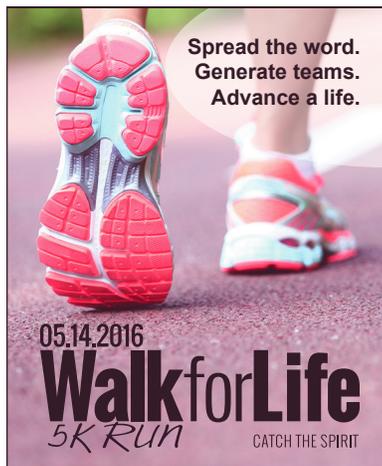
two college-aged sons meant that we're going to have to send a big fat check this year. Savings earmarked for retirement will instead be sent to the IRS and the California Board of Equalization. During my tax preparation, I ended up speaking with a 25-year-old college graduate who not only worked through the numbers with me over the phone but also gave me hope for the next generation.

While we were talking about my taxes I got an earful about his situation. Did I know how much his rent is? Did I know he's paying off loans, driving a beater car an hour to work and not saving anything because he and his wife are getting reamed on sky high taxes and expenses in Los Angeles? He said he'd suffered at school, as a Latino male, when he "came out" as a capitalist and an advocate for efficient government. Too many of his peers, he said, got free rides in school, and will never pay taxes or work in the private

sector. He vehemently distains both political parties, but wants taxes lowered, government waste ended, political correctness snuffed, and laws on immigration, public protest, government corruption and welfare fraud enforced strictly. He doubts he can make any difference and purposely avoids all the political noise of this year's elections.

We didn't get into how he'd vote, but I told him how, in his area of southern California, Republicans are winning a surprising number of nonpartisan races for school boards, government commissions, district attorneys and police chiefs. He was surprised and thought maybe he'd check out his sample ballot for June.

He thanked me for giving him hope that he can make a small difference and may be able to build a better life without leaving California. I thanked him for giving me hope that there may be a future for the next generation of Americans.



... let us run with perseverance
 the race that is set before us...
 – Hebrews 12:1

All proceeds go towards providing free services to women, men, students and families through our four pregnancy medical clinics as well as our life-affirming outreach programs in the Bay Area.

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
 Bellarmine College Prep
 San Jose, CA – May 14, 2016

Register Online Today!
FriendsofRealOptions.net/walk

For more information, visit our
 website or contact us directly.
walk@realoptions.net
 408-229-9836

RealOptions
 Pregnancy Medical Clinics

In case you missed it RealOptions focuses on women's choices

By Joyce Hall
Newsletter editor

Located just steps from San Jose's Planned Parenthood building, RealOptions Pregnancy Medical Clinic educates women facing unplanned or unwanted pregnancies about alternatives to abortion. SVARW members who attended the RealOptions tour on April 20 learned how the organization goes about its work.

Valerie Hill, RealOptions' CEO, explained that the organization helps women understand that "they have time to be educated" about their decision and should not feel rushed to have an abortion. RealOptions provides free pregnancy testing, consultation, ultrasound and prenatal care. A client advocate meets privately with the woman to discuss her options,

including adoption and parenting.

RealOptions' focus is on providing women with sufficient information to make informed choices about their pregnancy. About 1 million abortions take place annually in the United States and RealOptions is doing its part to share alternative avenues for pregnant women.

As part of its outreach, RealOptions sends presenters to local schools to speak with students about HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases, cultural messages about sex, self-respect, practical reasons to wait for sex, love vs. infatuation, risk avoidance life skills, pregnancy and fetal development.

RealOptions relies on financial support from the community to continue its work. To donate, visit RealOptions.net online.

June ballot recommendations

Measure AA would weaken local control; vote 'no'

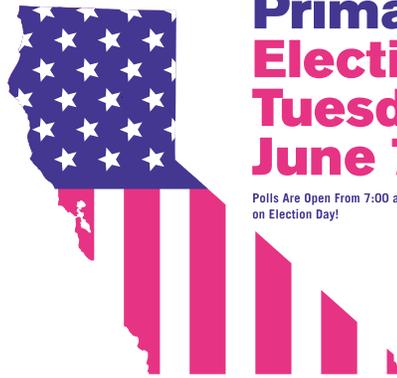
The SVARW board recommends a NO vote on all of the measures and propositions detailed below.

In particular, Measure AA, which appears on the ballots in all nine San Francisco Bay Area counties, would shift control from cities and counties to a regional entity. It adds a parcel tax that would fund undefined habitat restoration around the San Francisco Bay. California already has the Coastal Commission, the state Environmental Protection Agency and other state and federal entities to address these concerns.

Linda Koelling, former Foster City mayor, tells voters to ask themselves "how many governing special authorities does it take to do the same job?"

NO: Proposition 50: Legislative Constitutional Amendment: SCA 17: Amends California Constitution to give legal authority to state legislature to remove others legislators from the legislature. Allows legislators to take on a judicial role which weakens separation of powers among the three branches of government and weakens power of the voters to remove elected representatives from elected office.

NO: Measure AA San Francisco Bay Clean Water, Pollution Prevention and Habitat Restoration Program: \$12 parcel tax, finances growth of regional governance, weakens our County government, consolidates nine Counties into a region, changes our form of government, allows unelected board to amend measure as they may decide,



**California
Presidential
Primary
Election
Tuesday
June 7, 2016**

Polls Are Open From 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Election Day!

'How many governing special authorities does it take to do the same job?'

redirects money to region and away from the county, adds a regional tax burden to our property.

NO: Measure A: County of Santa Clara: Extension of Santa Clara County Park Charter Fund: 1.5 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation of all property. Vague language as to where money is spent, likely includes planned private land acquisition (yours) and funding of priority conservation areas (PCA's: open space, agriculture, wildland/habitat).

NO: Measure B: City of San Jose: Sales tax of 1/4 cent to fund very basic City services. Vague language on use

of funding, includes citizen oversight committee (patronage appointment). Separates voter from specifics of where money goes.

No recommendation:
Measure C: City of San Jose, zoning for Medical Marijuana Collectives

School districts

Most school district measures appear to backfill secured money that has been redirected to other uses and/ or applied to debt service. In the future, may want to identify budgets, reserves, obligations and evaluate possibility of voter reallocation of funds as debt service is reduced.

NO: Measure E: Gilroy Unified School District, bond financing allows for creation of more public debt. Unclear what percentage of total budget this would be or for what use.

NO: Measure G: Moreland School District: \$142 per parcel tax renewal as existing tax is expiring. Does not include percentage of total district budget.

NO: Measure H: Franklin-McKinley School District: funds \$67,400,000 bonds at "legal" rates. Implications of these rates are unknown.

NO: Measure I: Alum Rock Union School District: It seems a number of the bonds from previous bond measures approved by voters have not yet been sold.

NO: Measure J: Lakeside Joint School District: Annual parcel tax of \$820 per parcel for vaguely worded quality education. Percentage of the total budget is unclear.

Ballot measure summary provided by SVARW legislative chair Trish Cypher.



Smartphone users, scan this code

SVARW is trying to keep up with technology. This image is similar to the bar code on a product. Called a QR (quick response) code, the image is scannable by a smart phone or tablet and will take the user directly to our SVARW.com web page. If you don't have a code reader, you can download an app for iPhone or Android.