



- **How to make sure your absentee vote counts**, page 2
- **SVARW recommendations on propositions**, page 3
- **Time to renew membership for 2017**, page 4

SAVE THE DATE!

Christmas Luncheon

Wednesday, Dec. 7

Watch the newsletter and www.SVARW.com for details on time and place. See page 2 for details on location.

Mark your calendar

- **Oct. 19:** 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
- **Nov. 16:** 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

Membership:

Contact Gail Desmet with membership questions. Email Gail at membership@svarw.com.

Upcoming Events at SVARW

A taxpayer's view of November ballot

Time: 9 a.m. check-in; program called to order at 9:30 a.m.

Date: Wednesday, Oct. 19

Place: Three Flames Restaurant, 1547 Meridian Ave, San Jose, CA 95125

Cost: \$15 includes breakfast; free to Reagan, Patriot Gold and Sponsor members

Purchase tickets online: SVARW.com

17 California State Propositions? 32 Local Measures in Santa Clara County?

What should a taxpayer consider?

Pete Constant, former two-term San Jose City Councilman and long time friend of SVARW, returns to Silicon Valley to give us a prospective on how we as taxpayers should view the amazing number of propositions and local measures on the November ballot.

Although Pete has moved to Roseville with his wife Julie and their five children, he remains active on the board of the Silicon Valley Taxpayer's Association and is a Senior Fellow with the Pension Reform Project at the Reason Foundation.

As a San Jose police officer, Pete was severely injured on duty while taking down an illegal alien during undercover work in drug enforcement. Through much hard work, Pete was elected to the San Jose City Council in 2006 and sworn in January 2007. As the only Republican on the 10-member city council, Pete worked with Mayor Chuck Reed to place Measure B on the ballot to at last bring pension reform to San Jose. Sadly, Mayor Sam Liccardo and the current members of the city council have walked back these reforms, putting Measure F on the November ballot. Pete is working hard to defeat this measure.

Come and gain clarity on this vast sea of propositions and measures!

Election of officers for 2017

Oct. 19 is the Annual Meeting for SVARW.

Article VII, Section 1 of the SVARW Bylaws designates the General meeting held in October to be the Annual Meeting of our Association for the purpose of nominating Executive Officers for 2017. All **Active** members of SVARW are encouraged to attend and participate in the voting. Although men are welcome to join SVARW as **Associate** members, our Bylaws do not grant them the privilege of voting in this election.

Per SVARW Bylaws, a nominating committee was formed in January 2016 to recruit a slate of candidates to be presented to the membership for nomination. That nominating committee includes:

- Susan Calderon
- Mary Doering
- Jane Kearney
- Trish Cypher (Chairman)
- Diane Owen (Non-voting)

We sincerely thank our nominating committee for their efforts!

The slate of Executive Officers nominated for 2017 are:

- President: Jan Soule
- 1st Vice-president: Rosa Brown
- 2nd Vice-president: Debra Janssen-Martinez
- Recording secretary: Sherrill Martinez
- Corresponding Secretary: Susan Calderon
- Treasurer: Lisa Seago

Active members will have the opportunity to nominate additional candidates for the above positions.

Our Parliamentarian, Diane Owen, will preside over the nomination.

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

Be a savvy voter this November

By Jan Soule
SVARW President

Most of us have been voting for
*M*any years. Many have been
living in our same homes for almost as
long. While these are all good things,
it may mean that your signature on the
voter registration card signed those
many years ago may not resemble your
signature today. (Ah? Did I include my
middle name? My maiden name as a
middle name?)

The local Republican Party has
pushed for years to get all of us to vote
by mail-in (absentee) ballot. Let's face
it, it is a lot more convenient to mark
your ballot at home, sign the envelope
and drop it into the mail. You are more
likely to vote.

I certainly had voted absentee for
years until I realized that in a very close
election the will of conservatives could
be thwarted by this convenience. Many
close local elections can be decided
by less than 100 votes. And we can all
remember the Presidential Election of
2000 where a few "hanging chads" in
Florida spelled the difference between

Al Gore and George Bush!

Why is absentee voting a problem?

When the absentee ballots come in, the
employees at the registrar of voter's
office validate the authenticity of the
ballot by checking the signature on
the outside of the envelope with the
signature on the voter registration
card you signed many years ago. Your
registration card clearly identifies you
as a Republican. The employees making
judgments regarding the validity of
the signatures on the envelopes are all
members of SEIU, Service Employees
International Union. In a close election,
it is very easy to hold a ballot submitted
by a Republican to a much higher
standard than that of a Democrat.

The solution! Although time-
consuming you can thwart this abuse by
SEIU. Bring your *unopened* Absentee
ballot to your local polling location.
Hand it to the poll worker and request
to vote in person. You will be asked to
sign the book by your name and then
handed a ballot to complete. *You* put the
completed ballot into the ballot box...
anonymously!

Christmas luncheon set for Dec. 7

You're invited
to join other
SVARW members
to celebrate the
holidays at our
annual Christmas
luncheon, scheduled
for 10 a.m. to 1
p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 7.

This year we will be
enjoying the wonderful
food at A Bellagio Italian
Restaurant, 33 South Central Ave., Campbell. The cost is \$40 per person.

The holiday luncheon is when we install officers for 2017 as well as designate a
local charity for support.

Watch the newsletter and SVARW.com for more details and to purchase your
tickets.



General election

SVARW urges ‘no’ vote on most propositions

Along with one of the most tumultuous election years for candidates from school board to the White House, an unprecedented number of complex and often confusing Statewide and local Ballot Measures will confront us at the polls on Nov. 8. With billions of dollars at stake in tax revenues, proposed laws added to an assortment of local candidates for critical offices such as San Jose City Council, too many are tempted to stay home, or just vote for president, senator or their local officials. Don’t relinquish your precious vote; it’s our best protection against government overreach and confiscatory taxes. Be encouraged that Republicans have a fighting chance this year on the local levels of government. Don’t make their jobs harder by allowing taxes and crazy laws come into effect because we stayed home or voted without being fully informed. Caution, several, such as Proposition 52, advertise support by Republicans, but we recommend against them for a variety of reasons ranging from loss of local control to deceptive ballot language.

Come to our Oct. 19 meeting with former San Jose City Councilman Pete Constant to get researched information you can use on Nov. 8 to cast a thoughtful and informed vote.

Statewide Ballot Measures

NO	Propositions 51, 52, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 67
YES	Propositions 53, 54, 66
NO OPINION	Proposition 60

Countywide Ballot Measures

NO	Measures A, B, F
NO OPINION	Individual city measures

District attorney shares data on crime, incarceration rates

Putting more people in prison for longer terms doesn’t necessarily equal a drop in crime. What does help is smarter and better policing, says Jeff Rosen, Santa Clara County District Attorney, who spoke to the SVARW general meeting on Sept. 21.

Rosen said he has examined historical crime rates looking for trends. In particular, he compared Canada to the United States. The crime rates paralleled each other, rising and falling in sync through the decades. Since the 1990s the United States has vastly increased the rate of incarceration and experienced a decrease in the crime rate. But those two events are not necessarily related, Rosen said. Canada’s crime also decreased but the incarceration rate didn’t change.

From 1925 to 1975, the U.S. incarcerated about 100 people per 100,000 people. That number is now 700 per 100,000, unmatched by any other country that provides such statistics, Rosen said. Stiffer sentencing laws, including “three strikes” laws that impose mandatory sentences, have driven up the prison populations.

The challenge for San Jose right now is the drop in the number of police officers on the force. Just six years ago the city had more than 1,200 officers. Today there are about 800. Rosen said that just the presence of an officer in a high crime area drops the crime rate to zero while that officer is present.

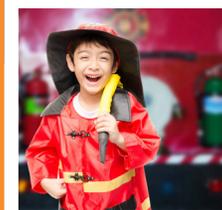
—Joyce Hall



Celebrate the exponential impact of lives saved each year. The next generation depends on our decisions today.

fall fundraiser
OCTOBER 20TH

COMPUTER HISTORY MUSEUM
MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA
DOORS OPEN AT 6PM



35th Anniversary

For details, email valerie@realoptions.net or visit our website.

www.FriendsofRealOptions.net/ignite
REGISTER FOR FREE TICKETS ONLINE!



Support our SVARW sponsor, Real Options, at their annual fall fundraiser (see above) on Oct. 20 at the Computer History Museum.

How to renew SVARW membership for 2017

Membership in SVARW runs for the calendar year and 2016 memberships expire Dec. 31. Men are invited to join SVARW as Associate members. We are encouraging young conservatives to join SVARW at a special low-cost membership level. In addition to our regular basic membership, premium memberships are available for 2017 to support the organization.

Also available for 2017 is a SPONSOR level which will provide a business or organization with visibility to the 500-plus conservatives on our email list, website visitors and in our newsletter.

You can renew membership online at SVARW.com or by sending your check with the form at right to SVARW, P.O. Box 3194, Saratoga, CA 95070. Renewals also will be accepted at the next regular meeting on Oct. 19.

SVARW's QR code

Use your smart phone's bar code scanner on the image below to **SVARW.com**, to RSVP for events or order tickets.



Membership Application

Membership in SVARW is for a calendar year ending on Dec. 31.

*Regular Membership for Women
Associate Membership for Men*

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Cell _____

Email _____

Please add a spouse member.

Name _____

Please send my newsletter by:

_____ Email _____ Snail Mail

_____ I would like to receive email updates.

I agree to abide by the SVARW By-Laws. I understand that the SVARW Roster is for SVARW member use, projects & events only – cannot be sold or distributed. I understand that membership in SVARW is subject to approval.

Signature _____

Date _____

Please attach a check for your dues and mail to: SVARW, P.O. Box 3194 Saratoga, CA 95070 OR apply online at www.svarw.com

Membership Levels

Regular or Associate: \$30

Spouse: \$10

Includes electronic and/or printed Newsletter, Email Alerts and Membership Roster.

Reagan Premium: \$150

Regular or Associate and spouse

Includes electronic and/or printed Newsletter, Email Alerts, Membership Roster, AND \$15 admittance charge to all regular SVARW monthly meetings is waived for both member and spouse.

(Christmas Luncheon and Patriot Parties NOT included)

Patriot Gold: \$250

Regular or Associate and spouse

Includes electronic and/or printed Newsletter, Email Alerts, Membership Roster, \$15 admittance charge to all regular SVARW monthly meetings is waived for both member and spouse, **AND** admittance charge to Patriot Parties is waived.

(Christmas Luncheon NOT included)

Sponsor Platinum: \$500

Regular or Associate and spouse

Includes electronic and/or printed Newsletter, Email Alerts, Membership Roster, **AND** admittance charges to all SVARW monthly meetings, Christmas Luncheon, Patriot Parties and Stars and Stripes gala are waived for both member and spouse.

Young Guns: \$10

Young Conservatives under 25 years old

Includes Electronic Newsletter only. Questions?

Contact: Gail DeSmet
membership@svarw.com
(408) 997-2482