



SAVE THE DATE: Stars and Stripes Gala returns to popular Saratoga venue on August 27. See insert

Mark your calendar

- **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

What's this odd image?

This is a QR code. Use a bar code scanner on your smart phone to open **SVARW.com**. Once there, you can order tickets for Stars and Stripes or monthly meetings and see what else SVARW members are doing.



Upcoming Events at SVARW

San Jose mayor ignites furor over Trump

Who: Sam Liccardo, mayor of San Jose

When: Wednesday, June 15

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 may be limited at this meeting so online purchase is recommended.

Web site: For more information and to purchase tickets: www.SVARW.com

June meeting

San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo, scheduled to be the SVARW speaker on June 15, recently made national news with his critical comments about Donald Trump's campaign for president.

Liccardo was widely lambasted by conservative commentators for remarks that blamed the candidate for the violence Trump supporters endured after leaving a rally at the San Jose Convention Center on June 2.

"At some point Donald Trump needs to take responsibility for the irresponsible behavior of his campaign," Liccardo told the Associated Press.

The mayor's comments ignited a firestorm of criticism on talk radio and by conservative commentators on television. Even some SVARW members are calling on leadership to dis-invite the mayor to the June 15 meeting.

SVARW president Jan Soule responded to

the calls for the group to dis-invite Liccardo by saying that it will be his opportunity to answer for those comments. She said he will be given a chance to retract his statement that appeared to blame the victims of the violence instead of the perpetrators.

To make the best use of the mayor's limited time, there will be a question and answer session, but questions will need to be submitted in writing. If possible submit questions by email to newsletter editor Joyce Hall at jswanhall@yahoo.com by Monday, June 13. Also, cards will be available at the meeting to submit additional questions.

STARS AND STRIPES CELEBRATION

Don't miss out on the summer's most anticipated event, SVARW's Stars and Stripes Celebration, scheduled for the evening of Saturday, Aug. 27. This year, Stars and Stripes returns to the elegant Saratoga venue used in previous years.

Tickets for SVARW members are now available at \$49 through June 15. After that date the price goes up to \$60 a person.

Because this is an election year, Stars and Stripes guests can expect to meet and mingle with several candidates running on the November general election ballot. This is a great opportunity to meet candidates and, elected officials, as well as enjoy the companionship of other conservatives.

See the insert in this newsletter for details on pricing and a form for purchasing your ticket.

As usual, SVARW can use help with the event, so if you love a good party, contact Jan Soule at president@svarw.com to sign up and make this a memorable evening.



Sam Liccardo

Silicon Valley Association of Republican Women

P.O. Box 3194
Saratoga, CA 95070

Executive Board

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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-
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State Sen. Jerry Hill, 650-212-
3313

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1295

President's message

A letter to Senator Ted Cruz about Sharia

How often do we hear from really
great speakers at SVARW and
then go home without taking action?
Probably most of the time. Although I
had met David Rubin last November,
I was still moved by what he shared
on May 15. I did not want to just savor
what I learned at the meeting but to put
it into action. Below is the letter I wrote
to Senator Ted Cruz. I hope that others
will draft their own letters to legislators.

May 31, 2016

The Honorable Ted Cruz
United States Senate
404 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-4306

Dear Senator Cruz:

*First of all, thank you for running
for the Republican nomination for
President. I recognize that it required
a great deal of personal sacrifice for
you and your family. My husband
and I were proud to serve as Santa
Clara County (CA) co-chairs for your
campaign and are willing to do so
again in four years.*

*The purpose of this letter is to
encourage you to introduce legislation
in the US Congress to prohibit Sharia
Law in the United States.*

*This is not a new or novel idea. States
have attempted to prohibit Sharia Law
in the past but have been blocked by
well-funded Muslim groups. It is hardly
worth sending brave American soldiers
to engage ISIS in the Middle East, if we
are not determined to keep our freedom
at home.*

*The impetus for drafting this letter
today was a plea from an Israeli, who*

*14 years ago was a victim of terrorism
in Israel. David Rubin, the former
mayor of Shiloh, Israel, in the West
Bank, addressed the Silicon Valley
Association of Republican Women on
May 15. He stated that in Texas alone,
there are more than 50 Islamic charter
schools. If Sharia Law is prohibited in
America, these centers of radicalization
could be closed.*

*When boosters of political
correctness on both sides of the aisle
tell you why this subject cannot be
taken up in Congress, remind them of
others who have stood up for principles
because the truth was on their side.
Harry Truman pushed forward to
recognize Israel as a country on the day
they declared independence because he
had learned that those that bless Israel
will be blessed. Ronald Reagan boldly
told Gorbachev to tear down the Berlin
Wall because, as a fan of the Prophet
Ezekiel, he recognized the USSR as the
evil empire.*

*While President Obama has declared
that we are no longer a Christian nation
and many today are trying to write God
out of America's history, we need to
point to the Mayflower Compact. The
Pilgrims set up a civil government "for
the Glory of God, and advancements
of the Christian faith" before ever
stepping off the ship in 1620. America
is the only nation in the world where
the people formed a covenant with God
because they loved Him. The truth is on
our side!*

*Thank you for considering this
recommendation.*

*Respectively,
Jan Soule*

Want to be a newsletter sponsor?

Contact newsletter editor Joyce Swanson-Hall at
jswanhall@yahoo.com to find out how to be a sponsor of SVARW and have
your ad appear in the newsletter.

Remembering Uncle John's sacrifice in World War II

**By Debra Janssen-Martinez
Second Vice President**

My father's uncle was a prisoner of war on the Bataan Death March where Allied prisoners were used as slaves to build railways through impenetrable jungles. Thousands died of starvation, disease, torture or execution by a brutal Japanese army. I met the soft-spoken Uncle John only once, as he died in his 40s, never fully recovering from years of starvation, malaria and abuse he endured at the hands of his brutal captors. I mostly remember him in pictures with my grandmother and his other siblings as a very tall, handsome football and track star of tiny Lawrence Kansas High school. He was his family's hope to enjoy a better life than they'd managed from subsistence farming.

The soldiers who return from any war have sacrificed in incomprehensible ways. Their family's lives are forever altered. We can never repay the debt we owe them for our freedoms and the prosperity

we take for granted. When we witness our president or other leaders misuse our military, or weaken their effectiveness, we must never write it off as just politics as usual. The hard truth is that if Hillary Clinton is elected president, she will continue the destructive policies of Obama. She will continue to allow Islamic terrorism to run rampant in the Middle East, while hamstringing our military. China and Russia are totalitarian and aggressive regimes she's demonstrated she's incapable of dealing with. Recall Benghazi, unchecked Chinese adventurism, and Russian media joking about her "reset button" summit. She will continue to bankrupt us through bloated welfare programs and her corrupt brand of crony capitalism and crippling regulation.

Donald Trump was not my first choice for president, or even my twelfth, but if I must prioritize presidential choice points, I have to say that national defense, followed by sound fiscal policy and leadership qualities, mean I'll be voting for

him in November. I fear the same thin-skinned, self-centeredness demonstrated by Barack Obama may scare off well-meaning and serious voters in both parties. If he can't muster the self-discipline to turn his (and our) outrage at Democrats and their toxic policies instead of his fellow Republicans, he will probably lose or win so "ugly" he will have trouble garnering support from Congress or the public. I have to believe he'll step up to the awesome job.

Trump's affection and respect for the military and law enforcement stand in stark contrast to Clinton's and Obama's disrespect of those who serve to protect us. If he'll only invite Republicans and moderate Democrats with common sense ideas, he could be the game changer we need. Harry Truman wasn't anyone's first choice either, but he stepped up, made the tough call to end the war with Japan and bring home Uncle John to witness the peace he'd sacrificed so much to secure.

Join SVARW host committee

While it's great to attend SVARW meetings and hear from our interesting speakers, you miss really connecting with other great conservatives by not being a little involved.

By joining the SVARW host committee, you'll meet others and be a big help to the SVARW board. We are looking for people who will commit to help for just three months.

Here are the small jobs we need help with:

- **Greeters:** Welcome guests at SVARW meetings.
- **Flyer Distribution:** Hand out flyers at SVARW meetings
- **Help with check-in:** Be at the door to sign-in guests
- **Telephone committee:** Make about 20 calls to remind members about meetings and events
- **Technical expertise:** Computer-related tasks.

You can sign up at our next meeting or send an email to Jan Soule at jansoule@svarw.com

Thank you!



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Campaign rhetoric and the politics of disruption

By Dave Nelson
SVARW member

A Republican friend had had enough with the 2016 Presidential campaign. He hated all the candidates, Democrats and Republicans. He wanted a candidate with credibility and leadership qualities. He hated the nasty, juvenile nature of the campaign rhetoric. Welcome to the real world of American politics.

The real world is a messy, violent place in which humans, not angels, prowl. We must make choices from unsavory options while having incomplete knowledge of future events. This is a terrible dilemma, one which probably explains why so few Americans bother to vote. When it comes to Republican candidates, I have been holding my nose and voting for so long, I now have permanent indentations on each side of my snout.

So what are we Republicans to do? A few responses to my friend's concerns which I hope will help ease the stress:

Leadership evolves

I'll stipulate this year's presidential candidates are not saints. If you were to analyze the known qualities of the people who actually became president, you would be hard-pressed to identify many presidential traits other than vaulting ambition. This year we must choose between a known and

an unknown. My advice, go with the unknown because what have you got to lose?

Credibility always scarce

Who can we trust with great power? Certainly not the Democrats, but even Republican presidents disappoint. Nixon promised "peace with honor." He also brought us wage and price controls and the Environmental Protection Agency. My favorite president, Ronald Reagan, promised to eliminate the Departments of Education and Energy that Jimmy Carter had instituted. We're still waiting. George W. Bush sold himself as a "compassionate conservative" who, somehow, could not veto even one pork barrel bill out of Congress. He also appointed Chief Justice John Roberts and Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke, two guys whose decisions rescued the Obama Administration from implosion.

Nasty rhetoric nothing new

Just look back at a couple of elections from the 20th century to see how nasty rhetoric and violence accompanied presidential elections.

In 1964, my father was managing editor of the only newspaper in northern California to endorse Barry Goldwater. I had just turned 14, just entered high school, and was trying desperately to fit in. I was unprepared for the level of vitriol that came my

way.

My family and I became pariahs, dunces and war mongers. The bile heaped upon us in our neighborhood and at school was unnerving. I'm not talking about polite dissent here. The discourse coming from Democrats was "Eat s*#t and die, you fascist scum!" I have heard nothing from Trump or his supporters that could rival what I heard then.

But 1964 was mild compared to 1968. During that campaign, we had riots in Chicago, a candidate assassinated, and another gunned down. Campaigns simply do not come any nastier than 1968, yet we managed to muddle through.

Enjoy the disruption

What sustains me this year is the entertainment of disruptive politics. This is the way every election should be. In 2016, a lot of people who have grown way too accustomed to suckling at the teat of Washington D.C. government are watching their comfy worlds explode. This was not supposed to happen.

The rest of us have had our worlds disrupted by technology, globalization, and communal tyranny. Now suddenly members of the political class get to taste the bitter disruption stew and they can't handle it. I have no idea what's going to happen but I am uplifted by the anticipation.

ICYMI: Americans should halt Muslim immigration, ban Sharia law

Americans are right to call for an end to Muslim immigration into the United States, David Rubin told the SVARW attendees at the May 16 meeting. Western civilization is at risk of being undermined by Islam, whose adherents use demographics, the educational system and the legal process to advance their cause of establishing a global Islamic state.

"Look at Europe to see what's going on. No country has an obligation to

self-destruct," he said. "Islam is an idea with a political agenda to change western civilization into an Islamic civilization."

He urged SVARW members to demand that Congress pass an amendment stating that Sharia law is contrary to the U.S. Constitution.

Rubin, the former mayor of Shiloh, Israel, said that waging jihad, or holy war against all non-Muslims, is the highest precept in Islam and that

Muslims are allowed to deceive or lie in order to advance the jihad and Islam.

A native of Brooklyn, Rubin moved to Israel two decades ago and now makes his home in Shiloh, a town in the West Bank. He is the founder of the Shiloh Israel Childrens Fund, an organization that works to help heal children affected by terrorism. Learn more at shilohisraelchildren.org

— *Joyce Hall, newsletter editor*