



- **Lobby Day empowers voters**, page 2
- **SAVE THE DATE: Stars & Stripes set for Aug. 26**, details on page 3
- **How to influence state lawmakers**, page 4

Mark your calendar

- **April 19:** SVARW regular monthly meeting, 9:30 to 11 a.m., Three Flames Restaurant, 1547 Meridian Ave. San Jose. Check-in from 9 to 9:30 am. Cost: \$15.
- **May 17:** SVARW regular monthly meeting, 9:30 to 11 a.m., Three Flames Restaurant, 1547 Meridian Ave. San Jose. Check-in from 9 to 9:30 am. Cost: \$15.

2017 Membership

Unsure of your membership status? Contact Gail DeSmet at membership@svarw.com.

Welcome

SVARW welcomes the following new members:

Jacqueline Najera
Danielle Silva
Paige Gammon

SVARW Roster

Ever wondered how to connect with someone you met at one of our meetings? The SVARW roster is the answer. Currently in production, our membership roster will be available at an upcoming meeting.

Upcoming Events at SVARW

Will pension debt destroy California?

Can DC force states to fix pension funds? What happens if federal funds are withheld from sanctuary cities?

For the April 19 brunch meeting, SVARW will welcome former San Jose Mayor **Chuck Reed**, who led the fight for public employee pension reform in San Jose. In the past, Reed has addressed our group, detailing clearly and effectively how public employee pensions are financially unsustainable and could eventually bankrupt the city.

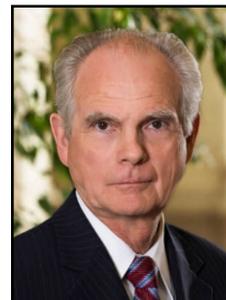
SVARW considers Mayor Reed a friend. In 2006, when Reed, a Democrat, first ran for mayor of San Jose, SVARW endorsed him based on his conservative fiscal promises... and we were not disappointed!

Serving two terms as the mayor of San Jose, Reed knows first-hand the complexity of keeping our cities safe while balancing the budget. Reed played a major role in passing Measure B, which sought to reform the pension system, putting San Jose in a better financial situation. Under the leadership of Reed's successor, Sam Liccardo, many of these reforms were watered down in the November 2016 election, forcing taxpayers to fork over more money to help support city services.

Cities also may be hard hit fiscally if they persist in providing sanctuary to illegal aliens. President Donald Trump has threatened to reduce federal funding to "sanctuary cities" because those cities refuse to cooperate with the federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency. ICE is responsible for enforcing federal laws governing border control, customs, trade and immigration to promote homeland security and public safety. What lies ahead for our cities if they lose federal funds? How much

DETAILS

Time: Check in begins at 9 a.m.; program begins at 9:30 a.m.
Date: Wednesday, April 19
Place: Three Flames Restaurant, 1547 Meridian Ave., San Jose 95125
Cost: \$15 includes buffet breakfast
Purchase tickets online: SVARW.com Those who buy tickets in advance, or RSVP online will be on paid list and admitted quickly.



Chuck Reed

deeper in debt can they go without declaring bankruptcy? What should conservatives be doing?

Today, Chuck Reed serves on the board of the Retirement Security Initiative, an advocacy organization focused on protecting and ensuring the fairness and sustainability of

public sector retirement plans. RSI marshals and organizes a broad range of resources to help policymakers learn about pension issues and explore policy options. They work at the federal, state, county and municipal levels to:

- inform and educate the public and policy leaders
- support policy development
- build strategies and organize support for fair and sustainable retirement plans

Silicon Valley Association of Republican Women

P.O. Box 3194
Saratoga, CA 95070

Executive Board

Jan Soule, President
Rosa Brown, 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 9:30 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 for 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

We lobbied! We're empowered!

Just showing up at 6 in the morning at the Curtner Light Rail Station should have earned a gold star for everyone who boarded the bus for Lobby Day on March 14. On a comfortable bus with new and old friends to chat with, the trip to Sacramento flew by quickly. With a pit stop in Pleasanton, our bus rolled up to the California Secretary of State's Building just as check in for Capitol Resources' Citizen Lobby Day was underway at 9 a.m.

As we gathered in the auditorium for the initial training session, we were all awed by the number of people who came from all over the state, including more than 100 that came from Chino Hills in Southern California (their bus left at midnight). In our training session we learned how a bill becomes a law, passing through appropriate committees and both houses of the legislature before being signed or vetoed by the governor. Karen England, the Director of Capitol Resources, reviewed the Ten Commandments of Effective Advocacy.

After lunch, England went over the specifics of SB 18 so we would have a good grasp about how to educate

the lawmakers. The bill's supporters claim that the purpose of SB 18 is to protect children's rights. However, it takes away parents' rights over their children's social, emotional, and physical well-being unless compliant with California's "researched-based essential needs" of children. Read the text of the bill here: [leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?billid=201720180SB18](http://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?billid=201720180SB18)

CRI divided the attendees into groups, each led by a previous Lobby Day participant. Each group was assigned three to four members of the Assembly to visit in their Capitol Building office. Since members of the SVARW troop ended up in different groups, I can only speak about the experiences of my assigned group. Our first assigned senator was Jeff Stone, a Republican representing District 28 in Riverside County. A staffer asked if we had an appointment, which of course we did not, but when he heard we were there to oppose SB18 we were ushered in and got to spend about 10 minutes with the senator. I asked Sen. Stone what was the best way to impact legislation and he said to bombard

continued on page 4



Members of SVARW prepare to return from Lobby Day in Sacramento last month.

Get ready for Stars & Stripes Gala in August

SVARW's Stars and Stripes Gala is the premier event for our members to have fun! Meet and mingle with fellow conservatives. It's a great way for candidates to meet and be known to this very active group of conservatives.

This year the event will again take place at the beautiful Saratoga estate of Suzanna Cody and her husband Ron Hills. The evening includes appetizers, a gourmet dinner, wine and music under the stars!

Early-bird tickets for members are \$49 and \$60 for non-members. Non-members can pay the member price by joining SVARW today. Their membership is good through December 2018. Early-bird prices are good through June 21.

The cost of your ticket covers our expenses for this wonderful event. In order to raise money to fund our candidate support activities, we offer raffle tickets at \$10 each. Raffle items include a wonderful array of gifts.

Do you have a business or organization that you would like to promote? With Sponsor Platinum membership, you will have a space at Stars and Stripes to promote your organization and Stars and Stripes tickets for you and your spouse are included.

Order tickets at SVARW.com

In case you missed it: March meeting

How to win back American culture

By Joyce Hall
Newsletter editor

Conservatives need to wrest American culture away from leftists to preserve the political gains made with the election of President Donald Trump, Nick Adams said at the March 15 meeting of SVARW. A native of Australia, Adams is applying to become an American citizen and recently published "Green Card Warrior," his book that recounts his battle to immigrate to the United States.

"There is one thing more important than politics and that is culture. You can have the House, the Senate, and the White House, but if you don't have the culture, then the change that happens in the House, the Senate and White House will not mean a thing," Adams said. "Cultural victories are much longer than political ones. The left has very successfully infiltrated every one of our cultural institutions."

"We can't allow the left to play unopposed," he said. "The time to do it is now because the political winds are at our backs. The left have always understood better than us that to control tomorrow, you must control the children of today."

In an effort to educate today's youngsters about what it means to be American, Adams has created the Foundation for Liberty and American Greatness, FLAG, which will "train

youth to understand American greatness, value their liberty, defend their country and engage the culture, as well as exposing and neutralizing the propaganda arm of anti-Americanism: the global news media." FLAG will train college-aged conservatives to spread the message at public and private schools. Already, Adams has been to 35 schools in eight different states, training young people to be proud of America.

FLAG soon will release a "kid-friendly" version of the U.S. Constitution, written to appeal to elementary children.

"In almost 5000 years of recorded human history, we have not seen a nation, a culture or a people like the United States," Adams told the crowd. "That is because the U.S. is the exception to the rule. The most prescient men to have ever been on this earth were our founders, who understood the way to unleash human creativity is to make sure people were as unencumbered by government as possible."

Adams also commented on the dangers of political correctness, a trend "that says you should strive for mediocrity, you shouldn't color outside the lines. Political correctness strips us of our ideas, strips us of our patriotism."

Learn more about Nick Adams, his books and FLAG at flagusa.org and nickadamsinamerica.com

RealOptions
Pregnancy Medical Clinics

Two Locations – May 13th
Martial Cottle Park | San Jose
Kennedy Park | Union City



05.13.2017

Walk for Life

5K RUN

HONOR YOUR MOTHER

www.FriendsofRealOptions.net/walk
walk@realoptions.net | 408-229-9836

Banish bad laws; join SVARW’s legislative group

If you are frustrated with the State of our State these days, just look to Sacramento for the many laws being passed to control you and take from you that which is yours. Be it your rights, your property, your time, your money or your children, State Assembly and Senate members work diligently to craft and codify laws to run your life and take your stuff.

Had enough? If so, please consider joining the SVARW legislative committee to work on educating ourselves and our representatives and activating their constituency (that’s us) to get bad laws changed and proposals for bad law abandoned.

The legislative committee work is:

- educating ourselves on government; our legal political tools and legal political jurisdictions
- educating ourselves on the legislative process; bill sponsoring, support/oppose, education and codification
- understand our constitution which limits what our government can do
- learning the background on today’s “legislative agenda”
- making distinctions between virtue of law (right/just/lawful) and color of law (wrong/unjust/unlawful)
- organizing members to plan and make visits to local legislative district offices and in Sacramento
- using membership in your political party to your advantage; Republican caucus overview



Voters meet in the office of a Sacramento legislator during Lobby Day on March 14.

- review proposed legislation and seek sponsors for existing legislation that we believe needs to be amended or repealed
- preparation of a legislative portfolio of laws and issues that are important to members
- hold regular meetings to continue making progress
- outreach to other groups to increase our impact
- increase your legal literacy

“The limits of tyrants are prescribed by the endurance of those whom they oppose.” ~ Frederick Douglass

The difference between tyranny and freedom is the work!

Please direct your questions and interest in this committee to the legislative chair at: advocacy@svarw.com

Scan the code below with your smartphone to load our webpage.



Lobby day empowers voters

Continued from page 1

legislators’ offices with email, fax, phone calls and petitions preferably on a focused day. Our other two assigned senators were Democrats whose staffers gave us a few minutes to explain our opposition to SB18 and said that their senator hadn’t made a decision. The benefit to Capitol Resources is that they now know who they can count on to oppose SB18 and those

they still have to work on.

All those who attended Lobby Day said that they felt empowered by the experience. Some were excited just to have the opportunity to tour the Capitol Building.

The SVARW Board discussed the possibility of organizing our own mini-lobby days to visit our local Assemblyman and State Senators in their district offices. Stay tuned!

— SVARW President Jan Soule