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Mark your calendar

- **March 28:** 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.
- **April 25:** Candidate forum, 6-8:30 p.m. Campbell Community Center. Free. No breakfast meeting in April.

New Members

Please welcome the following new SVARW members:

Nancy and Charles Boesenberg
Oscar and Andrea Braun
Susan Dias
Marianne Haas
Lorraine Lovelace
Joan Mahan
Stacy Martin and Mark Burns
Diane and John Milburn
Zena Sailer and Anne Malcolm
Alexa Purtee
Michelle and Daniel Purtee
Cathy and Rick Ridder
Linda Sanchez
Sally Tham
Stephen Theard
Kristen Trojel
David Whittum
Christina Yip

Upcoming Events at SVARW

Columnist to discuss 2018 elections

March: Steve Frank

Readers of Steve Frank's daily column in California Political Review (www.capoliticalreview.com) know that he always is the first to break the news on the sneaky Democrats and the antics of the establishment Republicans. We are delighted to have him as a speaker on March 28. Steve is well qualified to speak on political issues, having served four terms as the California Republican Party Parliamentarian, past president of the California Republican Assembly, past first assistant secretary of the California Republican Party and as founder of the National Federation of Republican Assemblies.

Currently, Steve Frank is involved in:

- Advising campaigns and causes on "Netroots," the use of the Internet for building the base, moving the message, broadening the reach of phone banks and voter contact, etc.
- Promotion of ground support efforts
- Development of volunteer organizations in support of candidates and causes, including creating coalitions
- Working with People of Faith in support of candidates and causes
- Advising candidates on local political issues, leadership and potential support

April: Candidate Forum

The April meeting will be a candidate forum from 6 to 8:30 p.m. April 25 at the Campbell Community Center, 1 West Campbell Ave. **Note this is an evening meeting with no breakfast meeting for April.** Plan to attend, meet and learn about candidates for local offices in the Bay Area and statewide executive and legislative

DETAILS

Time: Check in begins at 9 a.m.; program begins at 9:30 a.m.
Date: Wednesday, March 28
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.

branches. There is no charge for the April meeting, but attendees should RSVP to SVARW.com.

Candidates who would like to participate should contact SVARW President Jan Soule at president@SVARW.com.

May: Karen England

Karen England, the executive director for the Capitol Resource Institute in Sacramento, will be SVARW's guest speaker on May 23. The institute is a watchdog on the state legislature and works to educate and strengthen families through legislation.

CRI has sponsored Lobby Day, a daylong visit to the state capital where voters visit legislators offices to discuss their concerns. In addition, the institute also runs City on the Hill (see page 3), a summer camp that teaches high school students about how state government works.

For those who requested printed newsletters, check the outside of your envelope. If there is a red asterisk on the label, this is your last newsletter.

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 a.m.
typically on the first Wednesday
of each month. All members
are welcome to attend board
meetings.

Contact Jan Soule at
President@svarw.com for details.

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 Bill
Monning, 916-651-4017
State Sen. Jerry Hill, 650-212-3313
State Sen. Jim Beall, 408-558-1295
State Sen. Bob Wieckowski, 510-
794-3900

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.

President's message

Lessons for California from Costa Rica

I realize that this is a bit of an odd
topic. Having just spent a glorious
week on vacation in Costa Rica, it
is hard to focus on other topics that
make me crazy, like how the mayor of
Oakland made a dangerous city more
dangerous by ensuring that criminal
illegal aliens were not removed.

Costa Rica was a mega family
vacation with 11 of us roughing
it in a 5-star all inclusive beach
resort venturing out only for zip-
lining, horseback riding and other
activities. In contemplating a
vacation destination, I certainly was
greatly influenced by House Hunters
International on HGTV; many
Americans have moved to Costa
Rica! Of course that made me curious
about the government and politics of
this Central American nation. While
Obama was president, I was making
my short list of countries to escape to;
Costa Rica was on the list to check
out.

Politics in Costa Rica

Searching online there was much to
say about the Jan. 20 protests in San
José (capital of Costa Rica) where
many were marching, demanding that
this official Catholic country become a
secular state with abortion and same-
sex marriage being legal. Certainly
California liberals would be right at
home in this crowd.

Feb. 4, brought the first round
of elections for president of Costa
Rica. A candidate would have to

win with 40 percent of the vote to
be elected outright; failing that the
top two vote getters would face off
on April 1. If this was California, we
would see a socially conservative
candidate running on issues like fiscal
responsibility and playing down their
pro-life traditional marriage stands.
This was not the case in Costa Rica.

There were five candidates running
in the Feb. 4 election. Fabricio
Alvarado was described in Wikipedia
as one of the minor candidates. He is a
journalist-turned-politician serving as
a deputy in the Costa Rican congress.
Fabricio Alvarado, a singer, was a
former news anchor for CBN's (the
Christian Broadcasting Network's)
Spanish news program *Mundo
Cristiano*. He campaigned on a pro-
family, pro-life, traditional marriage
platform.

As unlikely as we in California
would think, this Evangelical Christian
standing for traditional values came in
first with 25 percent of the vote in this
five-way race. The candidate in second
place received 22 percent and the two
will faceoff on April 1.

Do the math: Costa Rica is 80
percent Catholic. Fabricio Alvarado
was brave enough to stand up for what
he believes and won the votes of many
who may not be on the same page as
far as religion but share similar values.
Could it be that if conservatives ran
on what they believed that they would
attract Democrats who are fed up with
the nonsense of the left?

— Jan Soulé

*** Time to Renew Membership ***

To keep receiving the SVARW newsletter after this month, dues need to be
received by March 31. New members who joined in conjunction with attending
the 2017 Stars and Stripes Gala are already paid in full for 2018. Dues are
accepted at all regular monthly meetings, by mail or online at SVARW.com.

If you're unsure whether you've paid for 2018, contact membership chair Gail
DeSmet at membership@svarw.com. There are several levels of membership;
some include free admission to all regular breakfast meetings.

Scholarships available for conference

SVARW will be awarding \$400 scholarships for two local teens to attend this summer's City on the Hill Youth Leadership Conference.

To apply, students must submit written essays to SVARW. See submission details on the flyer enclosed with this month's newsletter. Feel free to pass along the flyer to relatives, neighbors and friends.

City on the Hill is a week-long summer camp sponsored and operated by Capitol Resource Institute, a Sacramento-based non-profit whose mission is to educate and strengthen families by working to influence public policy. CRI's President Karen England will be SVARW's guest speaker at the May 23 meeting.

All high school students and their parents are encouraged to explore this great opportunity to help shape tomorrow's leaders.

SEE ENCLOSED FLYER

Who: High school students
What: City on the Hill Youth Leadership Conference
When: July
Where: Rocklin and Sacramento
Cost: \$400
Learn more: <http://cityonthehill.org/>
Details: See enclosed flyer or SVARW.com for scholarship details and essay deadlines



Image source: Pixabay

June primary endorsements

The SVARW board has endorsed the following three candidates in the June primary election:

- State Assemblyman Travis Allen is running for governor. He is a small businessman from southern California and was elected in 2012. His campaign website is jointravisallen.com
- Retired Superior Court Judge Steven Bailey is running for California attorney general. Bailey recently retired from the bench in El Dorado County to run full-time for the statewide office. Learn more about him at baileyforag.com
- South Bay resident Peter Kuo is seeking the office of state insurance commissioner. Kuo has a professional background in the insurance industry and also runs a marketing firm, True 3D. His website is peterkuo.org

Service members, vets can get free tickets to local events

Service members, veterans and family members are eligible to receive free tickets to local sports and entertainment events, thanks to donations made to Operation Care and Comfort. Tickets go quickly. To find out what events are available, visit the Operation Care and Comfort Facebook

page.

The all-volunteer organization sends care packages to deployed service members every few weeks and is always in need of both financial contributions and donations of personal care items. For details, contact SVARW member Kathy



Imamura or see the complete list of items needed and donation locations at the website at www.occ-usa.org.



RealOptions
OBRIA MEDICAL CLINICS



05.12.2018

Walk for Life

5K RUN HONOR YOUR MOTHER

Two Locations – May 12th
 Martial Cottle Park | San Jose
 Kennedy Park | Union City

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

In case you missed it: February meeting

Speaker: election fraud widespread

By Joyce Hall

Many people are familiar with the advice to “vote early, vote often,” as a call for rigging elections. They’ve heard stories about dead people voting, ballots gone missing or ballot boxes stuffed with fraudulent votes for a particular candidate.

The new touch-screen voting machines are the latest devices that can leave election results in question.

SVARW’s February speaker Orlean Koehle detailed the many ways that unscrupulous people can tamper with voter registrations, ballots and election results. As a poll worker in Santa Rosa in the 2016 primary, Koehle said she encountered several voters whose registrations had been switched from Republican to Democrat, when the voters themselves had not made the change.

In California, 11 counties have more registered voters than they have adults living in the counties. County officials explained this away as a result of not culling inactive voters on the rolls, but there is no explanation why the other 47 California counties don’t have the same problem.

In Trinity County, elections always tilt 70 to 30 percent in favor of Democrats, a result Koehle says is tied to voting machines rigged to provide that result. Touch-screen voting machines can be programmed to change a vote from one candidate to another, Koehle explained.

Other states reported voter fraud as

Be a poll worker

To work on election day, call the Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters at 408-299-7655 or go online at www.sccvote.org

well.

“In Colorado, dead people were voting,” she said. “Someone is getting records of these people and keeping them alive and voting for them.” In Maryland, 31,000 votes were recorded by dead people and jammed voting machines were reported in Michigan, but only in Republican districts.

In fact, one estimate puts the number of invalid voter registrations for the 2016 presidential election at 18 million.

The top five voter integrity problems are:

- dead people voting (sometimes called “ghost voters”)
- people who have moved still voting in their previous district
- people voting with fictitious or similar names, giving them more than one ballot
- incomplete registration
- non-citizens voting, possibly as large as 14 percent of the current non-citizen population

One way SVARW members and other conservatives can challenge voter fraud is by working at the polls or volunteering to be poll observers. See box above for how to sign up.

Primary ballot includes more state spending

Here are five propositions slated for the June 5 ballot in California. Check the SVARW newsletters in April and May as the board determines whether to support or oppose these propositions.

Prop. 68: Issues \$4 billion in bonds for parks, environmental protection and water infrastructure with no mention of dams or new water storage. Bond money is slated to be used for facility improvements for county fairs, to purchase coastal land/riparian rights, and to enhance streamflows to benefit fish and wildlife.

Prop. 69: Requires certain tax and fee revenue related to transportation be used for transportation purposes. The new gas tax bill didn’t specify that diesel fuel tax and license fees must be used for the public transportation fund. This would change that.

Prop. 70: Would require a one-time two-thirds vote of the legislature to spend money collected under the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (cap and trade).

Prop. 71: Changes the date for when voter-approved ballot measures would take effect.

Prop. 72: Excludes rainwater capture systems from property tax assessments.

— Wendy Brukwinski

Meeting all your insurance needs

Pinnacle 1 Insurance has been protecting the Bay Area and Californians for 30 years. Agency owner **Robert Varich** has been in the insurance business since 1987 and is proud to be at the helm of three busy offices in San Jose, Milpitas and Santa Cruz. His offices provide a complete line of insurance: auto, home, business and life. Pinnacle 1’s goal is to help clients feel better prepared and more in control of their future than ever before. Robert is a lifelong San Jose resident, active in community service and is also a sponsor member of SVARW. Visit his website at pin1ins.com



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