



Silicon Valley Association of Republican Women

*** March 25 SVARW Meeting Is Cancelled ***

*Message from Jan Soule,
President of SVARW*



For the first time in the 13-year history of the Silicon Valley Association of Republican Women, we have taken the unprecedented action of cancelling our monthly meeting. Santa Clara County has asked that all large meetings be cancelled for the next 3 weeks to mitigate the spread of the Corona Virus. Out of an abundance of caution we have chosen to cancel our meeting.

Mark your calendar:

April 22: SVARW regular monthly meeting 9:30 - 11 am at Three Flames Restaurant, 1547 Meridian Ave, San Jose. Check-in from 9 - 9:30. Cost \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members. Free to Reagan, Patriot Gold and Sponsor premium members.

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Welcome new SVARW members!

Edith Aguilar, Cheryl & Thomas Bombaci, Catherine Bullock, Vi Burgo, Ken Chin, Evelyn Cozakos, Mary Cozean & Nathan Huang, Pamela Danna, Lillian Hamada, Linda Larsen, Dennis Lynch, Leon Milburn, Martha Miroyan, Linda Moudakas, Louise Ng, Belen Palmer, Cindy Pickford, Joyce & Bob Rhodes, Joyce Stanford Dale, Lee Svetal, Roy & Judith Truitt, Rowena Turner, John & Lisa Weiland

www.SVARW.com

Looking Ahead to April 22

We are hoping the situation will improve significantly to enable us to host our April meeting, when June Gilliam will give an update about the Corona Virus. Some of you may remember June when she gave a well-received talk to SVARW in 2018.

June Gilliam has family located in Wuhan, China. She has been following updates from independent news outlets and social media posts and writes:

Stories about this deadly virus first surfaced on a Facebook-like social media platform in China and other messaging apps as early as Dec. 8th, 2019. "Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, or SARS was back" some wrote. Instead of verifying these 'horror' stories, the government decided to crack down the 'rumor creators' as if it could somehow make the virus disappear. Agence France Press later reported that the police forces in Wuhan arrested eight people for 'publishing or forwarding false information on the internet without verification.' The police had posted a note on their social media channels, informing people about the detention and requesting citizens in Wuhan to obey the law and refrain from spreading misinformation.

Join us in April for the rest of the story!

Date: Wednesday April 22, 2020 (Check-in begins at 9am)

Where: Three Flames Restaurant, 1547 Meridian Ave, San Jose

Register at: www.SVARW.com



New breakfast pricing

Effective with our April meeting, the price of non-member and guest breakfasts will increase to \$20 from the current \$15. SVARW member price will remain \$15. Premium member breakfasts remain free of charge. Our membership year runs from January 1 through December 31. Join today!

See speakers online

Visit SVARW.com to see some of our previous speakers. Thanks to our volunteer videographer and video editor!

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.

Editorial by Jan Soule, President of SVARW 2020

Should Republican candidates in California shun President Trump in order to win?

In the March 3rd primary, 92% of Republicans statewide voted for Trump, and here in Santa Clara County it was 88% support (<https://electionresults.sos.ca.gov/>). Clearly not all Republicans support the president and several whom I have encountered in our campaign for seats on the Santa Clara County Republican Central Committee have made it clear that they no longer identify with the Republican Party.

On the other hand, as my husband and I walked precincts delivering door hangers we encountered Republicans who were so happy to see other Trump-supporting-Republicans! The day after Pelosi tore up Trump's SOTU speech, one fellow in Willow Glen begged us to tell him how he could help. Another couple would not let us leave their door step and insisted that we come into their home for a longer visit.

Should Republican candidates shun Trump? Neither the California Republican Party nor its Board of Directors have endorsed President Trump. Writing in the LA Times on 3/2/20, George Skelton reports that "If the leader of the California Republican Party (Jessica Patterson) had her way, GOP candidates in this state would never mention President Trump's name."

Not a Winning Strategy!

In June of 2018, Johnny Khamis, a member of the San Jose City Council who was originally elected as a Republican, held a joint news conference and left the Republican Party. He stated opposition to "Trump's" immigration policy of separating families at the border and called it the "last straw" in a string of Trump's controversial actions (See 6/26/18 San Jose Inside). Of course Johnny failed to mention that the immigration policy was Federal law and was the same policy followed by the Obama administration.

Seeking higher office, Khamis ran for State Senate District 15 in the recent Primary to succeed Jim Beall. Although it was a crowded field, Khamis hoped that the 34% No Party Preference voters would put him over the top. After spending at least \$500K, the election results currently being tabulated from March 3rd show Khamis and Robert Howell battling it out for fourth place. Robert Howell whose ballot statement clearly identified himself as a Trump supporting conservative Republican spent less than \$2k to garner similar results to Khamis.

It is clear to me that more California Republicans embrace President Trump than not. Perhaps the California Republican Party should do the same!

Election Integrity Project Update

Wendy Brukwinski, SVARW First VP, reports: Were you delighted to see that the new Prop 13 was going down in flames on Election Night, even in dark blue Santa Clara County? Yet, have you also noticed since then that SCC flipped and is now showing support for that measure? How is it that later ballots slant so heavily in one direction? And how, exactly, did California contribute to the GOP losing the House in 2018, WEEKS after that election? Are we confident that our election process is fair and honest?

These are just some of the reasons why it's so important that we have volunteers willing and able to support Santa Clara County's election observations on behalf of the Election Integrity Project, California. As you know, California elections process is quite complicated and bloated by government bureaucracy. You now have the option to vote by mail, by ballot drop box, in person using a paper ballot or in person using an electronic screen which prints a paper ballot, or even vote via a ballot harvester who returns your ballot for you (hopefully).

And now they've added several new accessibility adaptations to ostensibly aid disabled voters but in reality, make things more confusing. Each of these requires a different process flow and training for election workers. One big discovery we noted is that training instructions were provided very late and training was just not adequate. Another recent change was Governor Newsom endorsing a bill less than 3 weeks before Election Day that allowed voters to change their party affiliation or address on the fly, leaving many election workers untrained on how to properly follow those procedures.

Our election integrity is so important that Wendy will continue to provide more updates in the next issue. Please contact her if you would like to help.

Highlights from February 26 Meeting

Trump campaign photographer Gene Ho thoroughly energized the SVARW meeting in February, inspiring and motivating all of us ahead of the 2020 Election. Addressing a record attendance of 210 members and guests, Gene recited life on the road with the Trump campaign, and gave personal accounts of how he met Trump, how his interactions with conservative values changed him, and why he is now on the road touring the country to energize the "Silent Majority." To find out more about Gene Ho's journey and support his work, visit www.RightOnFocus.com.

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Come explore a variety of ways you can volunteer at RealOptions.

At this informational meeting, we answer key questions about who we are, where we are going, why we exist, and how you can get involved to help advance a culture of life in the Bay Area.

Central San Jose

Saturday, March 28th

9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Light refreshments will be served.

Please RSVP online

FriendsofRealOptions.net/volunteer



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Meet Your Board of Directors

Mingi Bodine, Second Vice President of SVARW

Mingi Bodine joined the 2020 Executive Committee as Second Vice President to help arrange speakers for the monthly meetings, and to outreach to local Asian communities on behalf of SVARW. You will often find her at the check-in table next to our Treasurer and Membership Chair, Lisa Seago, welcoming members and visitors to our events.

Mingi moved from Taiwan to the United States in 1990 to attend the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She earned a Master's degree in Speech-Language Pathology and today serves as a speech therapist, treating patients referred to her by doctors, and coaching international clients with their accent. She is an avid supporter of conservative causes, from helping Massachusetts Republican Governor Charlie Baker's campaign in 2010 and 2014, to volunteering with local Asian community churches here in California, to homeschooling her daughter with conservative principles.

We are grateful to have Mingi help expand conservative values and grow SVARW membership along with all our board members and volunteers. To learn more about her story, see: https://www.svarw.com/?page_id=1580



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Judy is a 3rd Generation Santa Clara Valley native who grew up in Campbell. She has served the Silicon Valley for 21 years from Los Altos to Morgan Hill... Experienced, Ethical and Exceptional Service

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