

SILICON VALLEY REPUBLICAN WOMEN FEDERATED JANUARY 2010

President: Laura Riffle (408)263-0990 ~ 1st V.P & Program: Ellen Longworth (408)354-0419
~ 2nd V.P/Membership: June Fromm ~ Treasurer: Naomi Blais ~
Secretary: Gloria Estes ~ Newsletter Editor/Legislation: Eve Bretzke
Website: www.svrwf.org. Mailing Address: 1909 Grand Teton Dr., Milpitas, CA 95035

**SVRWF Meetings are held at the Blue Pheasant Restaurant
22100 Stevens Creek Blvd., Cupertino, CA 95124**



**Our next luncheon meeting is Thursday, January, 7th.
Social 11:30 AM., Lunch 12:00 PM, Cost \$20.00**
"A reservation made is a reservation paid!"

Menu Choices: Roasted Pork Loin with Garlic Rosemary Sauce OR Filet of Sole, sautéed in Pomadro Sauce.
Call Louise Kinney at (408) 739-4724 for reservations.

Our guest speakers this month are Peggy Martin and Rosemary Hernandez and will focus on New Tax Laws for 2010.

New Tax Laws Focus on the Economy by the Federal government tweaking and expanding prior tax laws to include "something for everyone". Our two speakers include: Peggy Martin, a partner of The Family Wealth Consulting Group, has been in the financial services industry for over 30 years. She is currently President of the Silicon Valley Planned Giving Council. Her specialties include planning for senior services, estates, investments and insurance. Rosemary Hernandez is a Certified Financial Planner (tm) and an Enrolled Agent, who for over 30 years has specialized in tax law for individuals, estate, gift and trust returns.

The January meeting presentation will focus on changes that can benefit many taxpayers that take the standard deduction, receive refundable credits and give a heads up to the "ending" Bush tax measures that sunset 12/31/2010. There are very important opportunities that need to be addressed in the 2010 year. Bring your questions and concerns of you and your families to the January meeting as Peggy & Rosemary will be glad to provide some insight on the coming year. For more detail on the speakers go to their websites at www.fwcg.net and www.hernandeztaxpractitioners.com.

Let's welcome our speakers and get off to a good start in 2010. See you Jan. 7th.

SILICON VALLEY REPUBLICAN WOMEN FEDERATED NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 2010

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE (12/28/09)

Happy New Year, all! I hope you are ready to put on your running shoes, exercise your phone dialing finger and put on smiles for voter registration. The Republican Party and (especially) the Republican Women Federated have a lot of work ahead of them. We need to register every voter we can and we need to spread the Republican philosophy of smaller government, less taxes and individual responsibility.

Please find a candidate to or cause to work for... let them know what you can do... and do it! They can never have too many people working for them! Our club will be doing voter registration and I hope we have Valley Fair as our venue. We did a great job before the 2004 presidential election there and I know we can do it again. We will also get a bounty so it will help our bank account, as well.

The Tea Party Express is still active and planning their next Road Trip. This one will start March 27th in Harry Reid's home town of Searchlight, Nevada and end Tax Day, April 15th, in Washington DC. I can't attend this one because of work (taxes wait for no one) but maybe some of you can attend... or at least donate. Our Country Deserves Better (sponsor of the Tea Party Express) is running television commercials against Harry Reid in Nevada right now.

We also have some great local candidates. One of my favorite is Dolores Carr... running for reelection as Santa Clara County District Attorney. The Mercury News is running a smear campaign against her and she can use all the help she can get. We have heard from several local candidates already and I am sure more will drop in for lunch and the chance to say a few words to us. Please support them when you can.

I also want to invite any of you to join me at the Leadership Conference January 23rd in Fairfield. It is a great workshop and will prepare anyone interested in working on the Board for all positions. The club pays the registration and we can form carpools so that anyone who wants to can attend. Please let me know ASAP so I can send in the registration by the January 8th deadline. This also provides us a time to meet and get to know other Republican Women from Northern Division. I look forward to hearing from you.

Watch your mail for 2010 Membership Dues (you can bring your check to the January meeting). The 2010-2011 Volunteer Hours sheets will also be included. We will earn the Diamond Award at the 2011 Convention!

Laura Riffle
President, SVRWF

UPCOMING EVENTS

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| January 7 | General Meeting Blue Pheasant Restaurant, Cupertino 11:30 gathering 12:00 meeting
Speakers will be Peggy Martin and Rosemary Hernandez. They will discuss changes to the tax code for 2010. |
| January 14 | Board Meeting |
| January 23 | Leadership Conference Courtyard by Marriott Fairfield, CA
9:00 AM - 3:30 PM. Call Laura Riffle if you would like to go. The club
Will pay your registration and we will form car pools. |
| April 20-21 | Advocacy |

SILICON VALLEY REPUBLICAN WOMEN FEDERATED NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 2010

MEMBER NEWS

Club membership renewals are due this month. Dues are \$32.00 for regular members. Please see June Fromm or Laura Riffle if you have questions about membership and its benefits.

Thank you to all the members who helped make our 2009 holiday donation drives (Adopt-A-Chaplain, Sunnyvale Community Services, Palo Alto Veterans Hospital, etc.) successful. Your generosity is appreciated and has helped many people in need this holiday season.

LEGISLATION

California Update from CRWF and other sources

Fall Election Results: In November, Bay Area Republicans added to the increase in successful Republican candidates across the country. Marin, San Mateo and Santa Clara County Republican Parties each had local election victories. In the East Bay, Republican congressional candidate David Harmer beat GOP registration by 14 percentage points. Senator Abel Maldonado, the only Republican state legislator who represents part of the Bay Area, was nominated by Governor Schwarzenegger to be Lieutenant Governor. The California Lieutenant Governor serves on a number of state agencies and commissions including: The UC Board of Regents, CSU Board of Trustees, Ocean Protection Council, the California Emergency Council, and the State Lands Commission. In addition, The Lieutenant Governor of California chairs the Commission for Economic Development, which is responsible for fostering economic growth in California. This is a positive sign for our state. – *various sources*

The Senate will be hearing the Assembly's version of the Race to the Top bill, but not until January 4th. But they did send a "compromise" bill to the Senate Education Committee on Thursday that the Assembly will likely hear after the New Year. Both houses adjourned with plans on reconvening in January. Governor Schwarzenegger threatened to veto the Assembly's bill after the Assembly Education Committee killed the Senate's version of the bill, which the Governor supported. The Senate's new version, SBX5 4 (Steinberg, D-6), includes compromises between the Senate and the Assembly with regards to charter schools and parental choice. But one issue still remains: open enrollment. Open enrollment means the opportunity for parents to petition to transfer their children from failing schools. The Legislature is trying to pass a bill that would qualify the state for "Race to the Top" federal funding. This competition for the funding requires that certain issues are covered in a state's legislation. Your CFRW Advocate will continue to monitor this bill as it carries through to next year. – *CFRW News Capitol Update, Dec. 19, 2009*

Budget Must Have New Base in the \$80 Billion Range: The Legislative Analyst's Office released their budget forecast ahead of the release of the Governor's Budget in January. As you may have read, the LAO says we are looking at a \$21 billion shortfall between now and July 1, 2011. \$5 billion of the \$6.3 billion deficit for 2009-10 is phony cuts and overly optimistic revenue estimates. In 2010-11 the ending of federal stimulus dollars plus the absence of gimmicks that have already been used will result in an operational deficit of \$14.4 billion. After the 2010-11 fiscal year, the shortfall is forecast to be at least \$20 billion per year. The obligations for repaying prior theft from special and local funds will spike the shortfall to \$24 billion in year 2013. Given the state's debt load, which Treasurer Bill Lockyer already warned us about, the state cannot go on this way without being insolvent. If this is not alarming enough, check out the comments from outgoing Director of Finance Mike Genest at a Pew Center conference in Washington D.C. on November 13th. The Wall Street Journal reported on it: "I looked as hard as I could at how states could declare bankruptcy," said Michael Genest, director of the California Department of Finance who is stepping down at the end of the year. "I literally looked at the federal constitution to see if there was a way for states to return to territory status." Mr. Genest estimated that, eventually, 40% of the state's budget would go to the state Medical program, 40% to education, 10% to debt service and 6% to retiree medical services and pension—leaving little left for anything else, such as the state's corrections system. The bottom line, which the Analyst does not state clearly, is that state general revenue is in the mid-\$80 billion range and not the \$100 billion legislators would like it to be. The state must rebase its budget as an \$80 billion operation and not try to wait for some miracle year to make us think otherwise. – *Leonard Letter 11/30/09 – BOE*

SILICON VALLEY REPUBLICAN WOMEN FEDERATED NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 2010

Last Throes of Environmental Madness: Most Dangerous I almost despaired that blogger Greg Lucas would be the only one to point out a study on California's global warming law, AB 32, that calculates the cost to California businesses between \$48 billion and \$143 billion over the first ten years. I am pleased to see at least some national blogs have picked it up. The study provides some concrete examples that I have only seen from Greg Lucas. Depending on the final cost of their "allowance" Conocco Phillips' refinery in Wilmington would have to pay between \$40 and \$120 million per year for their CO2 emissions, which they will pass directly onto you. Alstyle, an Anaheim clothing company, would pay a minimum of \$540,000 and a maximum of \$1.6 million per year to be allowed to make t-shirts-- a perfect example of a product that could be made exclusively in China and just about anywhere except here. The supporters of AB 32 want you to believe the people who work at the Alstyle plant will find "green jobs" instead. You and I know that is an absolute fantasy. California's government is waging war against its own people. I have never come close to thinking this before, but it is not irrational to think we are arriving at a point where the environmental madness threatens every private sector job in California. Even though California's mainstream media (except Lucas) is hiding the impact of AB 32, they cannot protect the political class forever. Verily, I say unto you, if AB 32 is ever fully implemented, the Proposition 13 revolution is going to look mild in comparison to what is going to come down on elected officials in this state. – *Leonard Letter 12/14/09*

National Update from NRWF and other sources

H.R. 3961, the Medicare Physicians Payment Rates Reform Act, which passed the House with only one Republican vote (thank you Michael Burgess, R-TX), amends the rate of pay for physicians serving Medicare patients. The CBO estimates that this bill will cost \$210 billion over 10 years. Furthermore, H.R. 3962, the House version of ObamaCare, supposedly reduces the deficit by \$109 billion over the same period. So, using simple math, the net 10-year deficit increase for the two bills is at least \$89 billion, which apparently is acceptable to Democrats despite their oft-repeated claim that health care legislation would be deficit-neutral. Furthermore, PAYGO, the Democrat plan to supposedly offset increases in spending with corresponding tax increases or cuts in spending elsewhere, conveniently does not apply here because, according to House Democrats, any adjustment to Medicare is a reflection of existing legislation. PAYGO applies only to "new" spending. Recall also that Barack Obama has pledged not to sign a health care bill "if it adds even one dime to our deficit." The CBO expects the government to subsidize 57 percent of all individual health insurance premiums, covering nearly two-thirds of the total cost. In addition, all individuals and families making up to 400 percent of the poverty level (\$87,400) would also be subsidized. – *Patriot Post 12/3/09*

The House voted 221-202 to pass a 1,088-page, \$1.1 trillion domestic spending bill. It gives many domestic programs their third significant boost this year. According to the Associated Press, "The measure provides spending increases averaging about 10 percent to programs under immediate control of Congress. It comes on top of an infusion of cash to domestic agencies in February's economic stimulus bill and a \$410 billion measure in March that also bestowed budget increases well above inflation." Next up is raising the debt ceiling by \$1.8 trillion. – *AP 12/09*

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) this week called for a global tax on financial transactions, claiming that the revenue raised could be used for -- drum roll please -- more stimulus spending. H.R. 4191, which is currently before the House, calls for a quarter percent tax on the sale and purchase of all financial instruments, including stocks, bonds, options, futures, you name it. – *Patriot Post 12/12/09*

Carter introduces Geithner Penalty Waiver Act. This December, members of Congress find themselves grappling with what to do about expiring tax provisions (federal estate tax) as well as what to do about new taxes ("war" tax and health care surtax). In the midst of it all, Rep. John Carter (R-TX) has his own idea for consideration: the Geithner Penalty Waiver Act. Rep. Carter's bill is officially known as H.R.4172 with the Title: To provide the same penalty rate for taxpayers who voluntarily disclose unreported income from offshore accounts as was afforded Timothy Geithner with respect to his failure to pay self-employment taxes with respect to his compensation from the International Monetary Fund. -- *Kelly Phillips Erb Dec 7th 2009*

SILICON VALLEY REPUBLICAN WOMEN FEDERATED NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 2010

Other

"Here is a math problem for you: Assume that the legislation establishing government control of medical care is passed and that it 'brings down the cost of medical care.' You pay \$500 a year less for your medical care, but the new costs put on employers is passed on to consumers, so that you pay \$300 a year more for groceries and \$200 a year more for gasoline, while the new mandates put on insurance companies raise your premiums by \$300 a year, how much money have you saved?" --*economist Thomas Sowell*

"With 20,000 delegates, advocates and journalists jetting to Copenhagen for planet Earth's last chance, the carbon footprint of the global warming summit will be the only impressive consequence of the climate change meeting. Its organizers had hoped it would produce binding caps on emissions, global taxation to redistribute trillions of dollars, and micromanagement of everyone's choices. China, nimble at the politics of pretending that is characteristic of climate change theater, promises only to reduce its 'carbon intensity' -- carbon emissions per unit of production. So China's emissions will rise. Barack Obama, understanding the histrionics required in climate change debates, promises that U.S. emissions in 2050 will be 83 percent below 2005 levels. If so, 2050 emissions will equal those in 1910, when there were 92 million Americans. But there will be 420 million in 2050, so Obama's promise means that per capita emissions then will be about what they were in 1875. That. Will. Not. Happen." --*columnist George Will*

"Barack Obama and Democrats in Congress have drawn sharp ideological lines with Republicans -- divisions understood best by each side's strongest partisan supporters. For Democrats, Republicans are 'standing in the way' of needed reforms. For Republicans, Democratic policies represent European-style government meddling. To many Republicans and conservatives, 'bipartisanship' in this type of environment is code for government doing even more. After a year of bailouts, czars, government takeovers, spending sprees and huge debt, many self-identified Republicans and conservative-to-moderate-leaning independents think more bipartisan success is not necessarily accomplishment or a positive outcome. So expect the paradox of partisanship to continue. While many will undoubtedly call for the machinery of Congress to operate smoothly, many important constituents will reward those who throw sand in the gears." --*columnist Gary Andres*

"Ten Cannots" by Abraham Lincoln (Found on a political poster from Christmas 1974)

1. You cannot bring about prosperity by discouraging thrift
2. You cannot help small men by tearing down big men
3. You cannot strengthen the weak by weakening the strong
4. You cannot lift the wage earner by pulling down the wage payer
5. You cannot help the poor man by destroying the rich
6. You cannot keep out of trouble by spending more than your income
7. You cannot further the brotherhood of man by inciting class hatred
8. You cannot establish security on borrowed money
9. You cannot build character and courage by taking away man's initiative and independence
10. You cannot help men permanently by doing for them what they could and should do for themselves

"There is but one straight course, and that is to seek truth and pursue it steadily." --*George Washington*

Happy New Year

SILICON VALLEY REPUBLICAN WOMEN FEDERATED NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 2010

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Louise Kenney	Telephone
Barbara Ferguson	Hospitality
Alice Wilson	Luncheon
JoAnn Barr	Budget
Jane Reed	Ways & Means
Eve Bretzke	Legislation

MEMBERSHIP

Patron Member:	\$50.00
Regular Member:	\$32.00
Associate* Member:	\$20.00

**A member of another Federated Club or a Republican Gentleman*

Membership dues may be sent to:

SVRWF c/o Laura Riffle, President
1909 Grand Teton Drive
Milpitas, CA 95035

NFRW / CFRW/ SVRWF CLUB WEBSITES

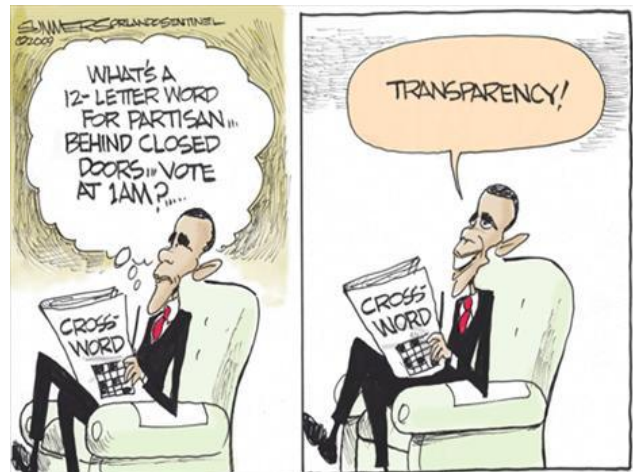
Silicon Valley Republican Women Federated
www.svrwf.org - Back issues of club newsletters available online.

CFRW and NFRW websites:
www.cfrwnd.org – Newly Updated!
www.cfrw.org
www.nfrw.org



Other Websites of Interest:
www.bayareagop.com
www.politicalvanguard.com
www.gop.com
www.townhall.com
www.fairspin.org – social news site

Don't have a computer? Visit your local library for free internet access. Your local taxes at work!



**Cartoons from townhall.com and club member submissions.