



Republican State Senator George Runner, Our April Speaker

George Runner was elected to the State Senate in 2004. As a thoughtful conservative, Runner's priorities in the Legislature are to focus on improving economic prosperity, business growth, education excellence, and family preservation for all Californians.

Runner and his wife, Assemblywoman Sharon Runner, are the authors of California's Jessica's Law and honorary co-chairs of Proposition 83-Jessica's Law which was passed by over 70% of California voters in November 2006. It created some of the toughest and most comprehensive sex offender management and control laws in the nation. He was also the author of the well-known Amber Alert in California, which has resulted in over a hundred successful reunions of parents with their kids.

Runner is the Chair of the Senate Republican Caucus. He also is the Vice Chair of the Senate Banking, Finance, and Insurance Committee, Vice Chair of the Senate Environmental Quality Committee, and is a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, Senate Revenue and Taxation Committee, and on the Select Committee on Defense and Aerospace Industries.



Senator
George Runner

During the 2005-06 legislative session, Runner was named **Legislator of the Year** by the:

- California State Sheriffs' Association**
- Crime Victims United**
- California Sexual Assault Investigators Association**
- Coalition of Chief Probations Officers**
- California Coalition of Directors of Environmental Health**
- California Community College Trustees**
- California Building Industry Association**

He also received the **Pursuit of Justice Award** from the **Association of Deputy District Attorneys - Los Angeles County**.

Some of his other successful legislative measures in the State Legislature are:

Joint Strike Fighter tax credit which was designed to make California competitive with other states by allowing \$250 million in tax credits for wages and equipment used in the production of the Joint Strike Fighter (JSF)

Authored Proposition 11 in 1998, to allow flexibility for local governments to enter into sales tax revenue sharing agreements;

Military families law that provides a permanent exemption from non-resident tuition at all California public universities for active military personnel and their families;

Landmark food safety legislation that improves and updates California's

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From the President's Desk----

Brenda Montaine

Spring Break Spring Fever Greetings from your Southern California Republican Women and Men President!

Thank you to all who attended our March Luncheon. Special thanks to Dennis Mountjoy for being our featured speaker. I was very impressed and have much respect for Dennis who is a true conservative Republican with a defined moral compass.

There were a couple of current issues that spoke to me this month as I prepared my president's column. It is clear to me that though there is an interpreted separation of church and state a spotlighted politician can not separate his/her self from being measured and ultimately judged by what he/she chooses to delineate as his/her moral compass. For example, Obama's ill defined side-stepping choice of church and Spitzer's hypocritical fall in the state of New York. However, the issue that most inspired me was our Second Amendment Supreme Court precedent setting District of Columbia v. Heller case.

To remind us all the Second Amendment reads, A well regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed. I find it odd that many on both sides of the Second Amendment battle, pro and con, looked to Webster to seek insight into the rationale of what the Bill of Rights defines instead of directly to what we know about our Founding Fathers and the writings that they left behind. To illuminate, I share the following quote:

"I ask, Sir, what is the militia? It is the whole people. To disarm the people is the best and most effectual way to enslave them."

-George Mason, co-author of the Second Amendment during Virginia's Convention to Ratify the Constitution, 1788 <http://cap-n-ball.com/fathers.htm>

Guns assist in killing people each and every day. So do knives, motor vehicles, water (too much of it - drowning), fire, and air (not enough of it - choking). However, I continue to cook, drive, swim, light my fireplace and eat - some of which I do every day. At this time I do not own a gun. If I lived alone I most certainly would own and have one on hand for protection.

I have squeezed the trigger - all in fun, and I am almost able to

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**Executive Board**

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Members are encouraged to submit articles and political material for publication in the SCRW&M Newsletter.

SCRW&M reserves the right to accept, reject and edit letters and other editorial material.

Letters and editorial material must include the name, telephone number and address of the person making the submission.

SCRW&M does not return letters, photos, editorial material or other submissions.

Letters and editorial material may be mailed to: SCRW&M 2312 Cheremoya Ave. Los Angeles, CA. 90068 or email to: equick1@sbcglobal.net

All letters, photos and editorial material submitted shall become the property of SCRW&M and may be published in any format.



Website:
Scrw.org

Blog:
Scrw.wordpress.com

Deadline for May 2008 Newsletter

SUBMISSIONS:
May 2, 2008

Forum Report by Eldon Quick

As usual **Michael Lerew** came prepared with a number of thought provoking questions, and as usual we members of the Forum wandered far a-field with our answers. Not surprisingly a lot of discussion was dedicated to various takes on the Presidential candidates. John McCain got the most time as he had just obviously wrapped up the Republican nomination. We Forum members were not 100% gung ho in our support of McCain but all realized we no longer have a choice. He is our candidate and the thought of a Clinton or Obama Presidency is just too awful to contemplate enduring. And if some of us don't feel we want to work our tails off to get him elected we better be ready to work our tails off for Conservative Republican candidates for Congress, State Assembly and Senate.

There was some feeling in the room that **McCain** could do more to help himself among the Conservative base of the party by spending more time talking about economics and getting into the discussion Hillary and Obama are having about Free Trade, (NAFTA) trade with China, India, and other developing countries. Conservatives believe NAFTA has benefitted the three countries signed on to it. We believe in free men, free trade, and prosperity.

The discussion then turned to McCain's chances of **winning in California**. The optimists among us believe he has a better chance carrying California than the three previous Republican candidates. The pessimists among us believe he doesn't stand a chance. California, or rather San Francisco, Los Angeles, and San Diego make California a solid blue state for the foreseeable future. But, we are reminded, politics is not a game with a final inning, or buzzer, or gun. It is a never-ending game and who is ahead today is not destined to be ahead forever. We do not have the luxury of retiring just because we are behind. Persistence will triumph.

Thoughts on **Hillary and Obama**; Hillary would be the easier candidate to beat. She has an easier record to attack. Her support is primarily among feminists and blue-collar workers. Obama's support is among college kids, the Left Wing elite, and wealthy Hollywood. (Or is that redundant?) Attacking Obama is difficult because any criticism of him is taken as an expression of racism. Close examination of his voting record and of what he advocates other than, "hope", "change" and "yes we can," shows he is a great admirer of Socialism and of nationalizing health care, the auto industry, energy and anything else he can get his hands on. He is without doubt an inspirational and charismatic speaker. But then so were Stalin and Hitler

The observation of Hillary's support being

among the **Feminists** led to questions about what has happened to them? Where are they, who are they today? The opinion was expressed that Bill Clinton's escapades pretty much did them in. They were exposed as hypocrites whose first loyalty was not to women, but to the Democrat Party. They were hostile to women who chose to stay at home and to take care of the home and children. It has not been good for the Nation to take mothers out of the home and give the government the responsibility of paying for daycare. The Feminist Movement is not a movement for young women today. Men and women have equal rights, but that doesn't mean they are the same. It was pointed out that 54% of female under grads and 60% of female law school students consider themselves feminists, all of them Democrats.

The passing of **William F. Buckley Jr.** led to discussion of the current state of the leadership of the conservative branch of the Republican Party. Are our politicians so constrained by Political Correctness that they cannot speak out and we therefore look to Journalists or commentators? Are our leaders such as Thomas Sowell, Peggy Noonan, Newt Gingrich, etc our only inspiration?

There was then some spirited discussion on what is the **Republican Party today**. Have our foundations, -- Limited Government, Individual Freedom, Lower Taxes, gone stale? Have we allowed ourselves to be branded by the Left as old white guys in favor of war, against the environment, oppressing the poor in order to make the special interests richer? Now, more than ever, it was said, we need to show ourselves and educate those around us about what, and whom, we are. Be proud, show the Republican logo in the back window of your car, engage in polite conversation, and stand up for the truth. Work to get true Conservatives elected to Congress who will stand up to the misrepresentation and slanders perpetrated by the Left and who are willing to defend the rank and file of the party when they are accused of believing in or wanting things that they do not believe in or want.

This is just scratching the surface of what went on in the Forum. The best way to get the whole impact is to join us at 11:30 second Saturday of the month.



Eldon Quick

Presidents Message cont. From pg. 2

forget that underlying the fun was relief in the fact that I was (and I like to think that I would be again) a good enough shot that I could blow away anyone who might decide to break into my house for any unpleasantness.

Some people go bowling, or miniature golfing when they have a spare evening. I've taken a 9mm beretta to an indoor target range (back in the day). I've shot the center x after center x out of a paper target and then stark reality - if there's a big guy coming in through your window quick what do you do? And what I do I never want to find out, but at the target range I practiced picking up the 9mm and shooting three times without aiming breathtakingly hitting the mark 2 out of 3 times.

Yes, guns statistically are a cause of death every day and now I have the knowledge and the ability to become one of those statistics but I posit that as long as an upstanding citizen has a gun within their reach they will not become a rape victim, burglary victim, or murder victim. As long as criminals use guns I will lend my voice to the supporting voices of the Second Amendment. I may even find myself one day once again shooting for the fun of it even as I pray that I never have to shoot for the life of it.

Where do you stand on the Second Amendment? Have you ever fired a firearm? Here's where George Washington stood on the Second Amendment.

"Firearms stand next in importance to the constitution itself. They are the American people's liberty teeth and keystone under independence ... from the hour the Pilgrims landed to the present day, events, occurrences and tendencies prove that to ensure peace security and happiness, the rifle and pistol are equally indispensable ... the very atmosphere of firearms anywhere restrains evil interference — they deserve a place of honor with all that's good."

-George Washington First President of the United States <http://cap-n-ball.com/fathers.htm>

Let's just think for a moment what would happen if government takes guns away from its citizens... Unequivocally, the upstanding citizens turn in their guns and the criminals keep theirs! I believe that two factors toward less crime are to arm your upstanding citizens and increase penalties for armed crime. It makes criminals stop and think.

I am encouraged that after oral arguments the Supreme Court, at this time, looks to be agreeing that the Second Amendment refers to an individual's right to keep and bear arms. It will be a few months before the decision is handed down. In the meantime I challenge Gun Control backers to do research and make decisions based on facts and not just based on passionate opinion. Gun facts at nra.org (National Rifle Association's website) speak for themselves and repeal gun myths. In conclusion, it's not guns that have the motive or intent to kill people. Do you agree? Do you completely disagree? Wondering what you can do? 1. Vote 2. Join us on the Second Saturdays!

Resources for April's President's Column:

<http://cap-n-ball.com/fathers.htm>

<http://www.justfacts.com/guncontrol.asp>

<http://www.law.cornell.edu/constitution/constitution.billofrights.html>

<http://www.nra.org/>

<http://www.nraila.org/legislation/read.aspx?id=3722>

<http://www.nraila.org/media/misc/fables.html>

<http://www.truenews.org/religious/separation.html>

Runner, cont from page 1

food safety code and is based on the best available food safety science. This law was crafted to ensure that consumers are protected when they eat at retail food facilities; and

The HOV Lane law, that allows High Occupancy Vehicle lanes on State Route 14 available to single-occupancy drivers during non-commuter hours.

Prior to his election to the State Senate, Runner served in the State Assembly for three terms, from 1996 to 2002. During this time of service, Runner was involved in developing and implementing real solutions to the challenges Californians face and served as Vice Chair of the Assembly Budget Committee.

He is married to Assemblywoman Sharon Runner who represents the 36th Assembly District. George and Sharon are the first husband and wife in California history to serve concurrently in the Legislature. They are proud parents of their son, Micah, daughter-in-law, Sandy, daughter Rebekah, and three grandchildren.



Bill's Bills

With calliopes playing, elephants and donkeys parading and stilt-walkers strutting, the circus returned to Sacramento in early January - the legislature reconvened. Anyone hoping that this session would be better than the last had best high-tail it to the liquor cabinet.

The 800 lb gorilla (I'd say elephant but that might offend the Governor's "post-partisan" sensibilities) of the session will be the budget. Continuing his mad dash away from not only GOP principles but also common sense, one of the Governor's first moves in the budget chess game was to give away his Queen by announcing that while he of course continued to oppose "new" taxes, he was all in favor of "closing tax loopholes". English is Ahnolt's second language, but it is the first language of the very liberal Democrats who now dominate his staff. To them a "loophole" is a law that allows you to retain any money you earn. The GOP legislative contingents are planning for a long, long – did I mention long? – summer, as at this point they have their heels dug in on the tax issue, and won't vote for taxes no matter what lipstick the Governor puts on that pig. Stay tuned – this could be both ugly and fun to watch at the same time.

But til then, the clowns have been running around squeaking their big red noses and taking their pratfalls, to wit:

*Assemblywoman Sally Lieber is a 3-ring circus all by herself, introducing AB 2943, a repeat of her effort last year to outlaw parental spanking of children, and AB 3025, which would outlaw the "styrofoam peanut" packaging material on environmental grounds, even though the manufacture of its only substitute – bubble wrap – emits more greenhouse gases than does the manufacture of the peanuts.

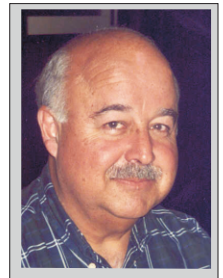
*Senator Sheila Kuehl has introduced SB 1661 which would roll back much of the progress made by the Governor's workers' compensation reforms of past years. Kuehl would greatly increase the cost of doing business for small employers by creating new phantom issues and injuries which would qualify the worker for benefits for not working.

*Not to be outdone in the zaniness derby, Assemblyman Charles Calderon's entry is AB 1840, which would impose sales taxes on computer and internet downloads of songs, movies, software and books. How this nightmare would be enforced is not explained.

*And last but not least we have SB 1322 by Senator Lowenthal, which would **repeal** current laws which give schools the ability to dismiss a teacher for being a member of the Communist Party.

On the good news front – from the Republican side – Assemblywoman Audra Strickland introduced ACA 14 that would deny taxpayer-funded benefits to illegal aliens unless such benefits were specifically mandated by federal law; Senator Mark Wyland has SB 1274 which would require recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance every day in California classrooms (bet you thought that was already the law!); and Assemblyman Joel Anderson is carrying ACR 79 which would force the UC system to divest all monies from Iran – estimated to be in the hundreds of millions of dollars.

The fun is just beginning – so stay tuned !



William Saracino

An Issue for the 2008 Campaign

Comment by Eldon Quick

Back in 1994 an imaginative Congressman by the name of Newt Gingrich came up with a plan to increase Republican representation in the House and Senate by "Nationalizing" the election. That is he put forth a plan to make the election about Republican plans Nationally not just State by State. He called it the Republicans "Contract with America."

It was enormously successful. So much so that the News Media threw off any pretense of objectivity, the Democrats abandoned any sense of fairness, and a full-scale plan to destroy Newt as Speaker of the House began. He was attacked for (Oh horror of horrors) accepting a multi-hundred thousand dollar advance for a book he was writing while serving in Congress. His divorce was made to look like infidelity equivalent to Clinton's, a constant drum beat of news stories misrepresenting his programs turned the nation and his party against him and he was forced to resign as Speaker.

For some years after, while not exactly remaining out of sight, he has kept a relatively low profile. That is till just recently when he has come forward with his "American Solutions" program. American Solutions was a big boulder thrown into the pond of public discourse that failed to make a ripple. Why, I don't know. But it has failed to catch on as a subject of conversation or news media interest. Now however, he has used Barack Obama's speech on racism as a springboard for his own thoughts on what he considers to be the most important issue of the 2008 campaign.

His candidate issue is – *"How bad culture reinforced by bad government is crippling America and trapping the poor in disastrous situations."*

Referring to Barack's request for a conversation on race in America, Newt says, "The coming months will test whether we can have an honest, direct dialogue about the disastrous cultural patterns and destructive government policies of the last 40 years." He goes on, "Replacing bad culture and bad government with good culture and good government is the most important single challenge

we face here at home.

"In case after case it is clear that the number-one threat to poor people is not racism. Instead, the poor are trapped by bad culture and bad government."

"Yelling racism is an attempt by the elites on the left to hide from this reality. After all, the bad culture and bad government trapping the poor are in large part a product of the efforts made by those elites and their allies."

"Bill Cosby has been a lonely voice advocating a serious look at the fundamental patterns and the cultural crisis that underlie many of our most serious problems."

"It's time the rest of us reinforced Bill Cosby and followed his lead."

"The counterculture and the militant Left repudiated middle class values and assaulted the core patterns which had worked for 200 years, creating the most prosperous country in the world."

"The result is that we now have red-tape-ridden governments that reinforce the wrong values and undermine the still healthy parts of the culture."

"These are not the patterns of a healthy, wise society prepared to maintain its prosperity and sustain its freedom."

"These are the patterns of a self-destructive, juvenile society that is putting everything at risk by ignoring the lessons of history."

These observations by Newt seem to be hitting a nerve. He is getting a very intense response in his email and on his blog at Newt@AmericanSolutions.com. Check him out there.

Republicans should not be planning on McCain to be the leader and creator of ideas to carry Republicans into office in the House, Senate, or Governor-ship races. Republicans, Conservative ones anyway, will have to be creating their own issues and ideas. The failures of culture and government which are not relegated to any one segment of our society seems to me to be an issue with great potential.

Americans Are Ready to Talk about
Bad Culture and Bad Government

Hollywood Hilltoppers F.R.W.
Invites you to join them for a
Ronald Reagan Library Tour April 24
Meet 9:30 a.m. At Woman's Club of Hollywood
for bus. Tour \$20.00, no host lunch at library.
Call Julie Parr 323-462-4092 for reservations.

Notes from the Board.

Because one of our Board Members who shall remain nameless, was to be in Hawaii on the weekend scheduled for the Board Meeting, there was no Board Meeting this month. Humph! Seems to me the Board Member could have taken the rest of the Board with him or her.

Two special mailings going out this month; an email mailing to 23,000 Registered Republicans in the area announcing our presence and urging they investigate us and join. And a special mailing of 210 hard copies of the Newsletter to prominent Republicans.

The new web site is very close to completion we have been told, and should soon be up for your review.

Any member can attend a board meeting, just ask a board member when and where the next meeting is. (Unless its in Hawaii)

Membership

Membership dues provide the main source of funding for the Club's programs, including this newsletter. By increasing your membership level you can help our club grow. There are five SCRW&M membership classifications, Regular, Patron, Golden, Eagle and Patriot. Membership dues help SCRW&M sponsor guests and send newsletters to potential members and other organizations. All SCRW&M members receive the clubs' newsletter.

Membership in Southern California Republican Women & Men is on a calendar year basis. January 1st through December 31st. Membership dues received after October 1st of a given year are credited for the balance of that year and as payment in full for the entire following year. Luncheon and special event tickets are available to members on a first come, first served basis and are subject to availability.

SCRW&M Membership Application

The undersigned registered Republican does hereby submit this application for membership in *Southern California Republican Women & Men* for the Calendar year of 2007 as indicated below—

Name of Applicant as Registered (Please Print or Type) _____ () _____
Area Code Telephone Number

Registered Address: Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Signature of Applicant _____ E-mail Address _____ Name of Applicant's Sponsor _____

Date of Application ___/___/___ **___ New Membership ___ Membership Renewal**

Membership Level: ___ Regular(\$25) ___ Patron (\$50) ___ Golden (\$75) ___ Eagle (\$100) ___ Patriot (\$200)

Make check payable to: **SCRW&M** Mail to: SCRW&M, Membership, 3625 Angelus Ave. Glendale, CA. 91208

Saturday, April 12th, 2008

Featured Speaker

State Senator George Runner

THE SMOKE HOUSE

*Founded in 1946 at the corner of Pass & Riverside in Burbank.
The original restaurant seated 46 people, and was enjoyed by local
luminaries Bob Hope and Bing Crosby (among others) on its opening night.*

4420 West Lakeside Drive
Burbank, California 91505

Political Forum at 11:30 am

Luncheon at 1:00 pm

Members: \$25 Non-Members: \$40

Reservations by April 10th, 2008

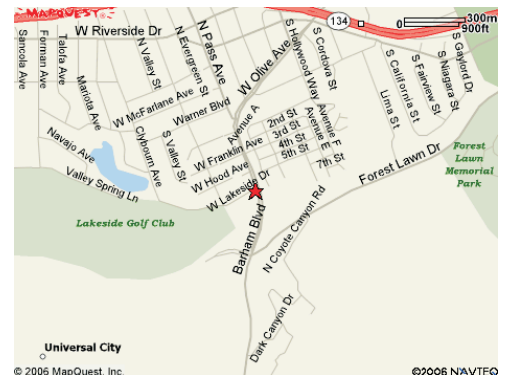
For Reservations

Call: Barbara Smith (323)849-7420

Or E-mail: scrwmresrvations@juno.com

Mark Your Calendar for 2008!

April 12th	Luncheon
May 10th	Luncheon
June 5th	Calif Primary
June 14th	Luncheon
July 12th	Luncheon



2312 Cheremoya Ave. LA, CA. 90068

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