



California's Perfect Political Storm

From the best state government in 1960 to arguably the worst in 2008. Why?

This is the subject of our Feb. Speaker, SCRW&M member **Bob Larkin**. He has been a resident of Ventura County and owner of a successful State Farm Insurance Agency for 39 years. He has been a leader in the company, qualifying many times for the Million Dollar Life Insurance Club and for the prestigious, Presidents Club, which requires being in the top 50 of over 15,000 agents nationwide.



Bob has been heavily involved in his community including:

- Simi Valley Chamber of Commerce, Past President
- Ventura County Parks Advisory Commission, Past Chairman
- Moorpark College Foundation Golf Tournament, Past Board Member-Founder
- Simi Valley Boys and Girls Club Golf Classic, Board Member-Founder
- Rotary Club of Simi Valley, Member
- Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Committee Member
- City of Simi Valley Industrial and Commercial Development Committee Member
- Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District, Chairman of 1986 General Plan Update

Inside This Issue	
Features	
This Months Speaker.....	1
Proposition Recommendations..	3
Editorial Cartoon.....	5
Notes from the Board.....	7
Columns	
President’s Message.....	2
Political Forum.....	6
From the Editor.....	5
General Info	
Membership Information.....	7
Calendar.....	8
Board.....	2

An Active Republican, Bob has been:

- Member, Ventura County Republican Party, 25 years, Chairman 3 years.
- Member of the California Republican Party, 25 years.
- Member and Founding President of the Ventura County Lincoln Club.
- Member and Founding President of the Ventura County Congress of Republicans.
- President, statewide California Congress of Republicans, Two Terms.
- Delegate to the Republican National Convention, 1996
- Appointed to two state commissions by Governor Pete Wilson.

Bob is an Air Force Veteran who later graduated from Moorpark College with an AA Degree in Political Science

Bob and his wife Donna live in Westlake Village. When they are not working or involved in Republican politics, they enjoy golf, bicycling, hiking and visiting their six children and five grandchildren

From the President's Desk----

Brenda Montaine

Happy Super Duper Tuesday from your Southern California Republican Women and Men president !

Thank you to all who attended our January luncheon. Thank you to club member Gary Aminoff for bringing our February 5th Presidential Primary measures into focus. Also, because of Gary and our billions of dollars California is indebted to, I feel the need to publicly apologize for voting for Arnold instead of Tom McClintock. Too many votes went to Arnold just because he could win, not because he was a proven Republican on any level. If only... I pledge to not make that mistake again (voting for an unproven candidate when there is a proven candidate who needs our support). Hey, hind site is 20/20, live and learn and all that. The California Republican base can only hope for the day that we get to elect Tom to a state wide office.

Ok, so as Eldon says I may not be able to top my last two articles (I think that means he liked them-he really liked them), but here I am to try to stay in the ballpark anyway. Follow me, if you will, through a glimpse of our country's history (you know how I'm intrigued with our Founders), government 101, current events, and possible future.

To springboard my president's column I will share the following quote I came across from the following website:
<http://marksquotes.com/Founding-Fathers/>

Every child in America should be acquainted with his own country. He should read books that furnish him with ideas that will be useful to him in life and practice. As soon as he opens his lips, he should rehearse the history of his own country.
 -Noah Webster, On the Education of Youth in America, 1788

Why did this quote strike me as poignant ? What strikes me first - it's not politically correct ! (so refreshing). Second, how much I have been learning from our club and internet research on my own which makes me think of how much I didn't learn in public school. This bothered me because I did receive a great education K-12 from Burbank Unified. One reason for this disconnect is I became interested in government and politics later in life so I am doing some catching up. Next, the more I learn about our representative government the more I realize how much I took for granted and how much I just didn't know or understand. Also, with my husband, Rick, running for office again we experience first hand how much a concerned citizen has to hunt to learn how to navigate our political system just to be a part of it. Furthermore, with our presidential primary here and a presidential election just around the corner, I have noticed how often words are twisted. For example, our state and local measures and propositions are written purposefully to mislead even the most informed voter to vote opposite of what he/she believes. We

Continued pg. 4

**Executive Board**

Brenda Montaine	President
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Susan Quick	Recording Secretary
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Hospitality	
Newsletter Editor	Susan & Eldon Quick
Reservations	Barbara Smith
Web Site	Eldon Quick Jeffers Dodge

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:
Scrwm.org

Blog:
Scrwm.wordpress.com

Deadline for March 2008 Newsletter

SUBMISSIONS:
 February 23, 2008

CRP Positions On February 5th Ballot Propositions

PROP 91: TRANSPORTATION FUNDS - NO POSITION

TRANSPORTATION FUNDS
INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

* Prohibits certain motor vehicle fuel sales and use taxes, that are earmarked for the Transportation Investment Fund, from being retained in the General Fund. Currently such taxes may be retained if Governor issues a proclamation, a special statute is enacted by a 2/3 vote of the Legislature, repayment occurs within three years, and certain other conditions are met.

* Requires repayment by 6/30/17 of such vehicle fuel taxes retained in General Fund from 7/1/03 to 6/30/08. Currently repayment is generally required by 6/30/16.

* Changes how and when General Fund borrowing of certain transportation funds is allowed.

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST'S ESTIMATE OF NET STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL IMPACT:

* Increases stability of state funding for highways, streets, and roads and may decrease stability of state funding for public transit. May reduce stability of certain local funds for public transit.

PROP 92:COMMUNITY COLLEGES. FUNDING - OPPOSED

COMMUNITY COLLEGES. FUNDING. GOVERNANCE. FEES INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT AND STATUTE

* Establishes in state constitution a system of independent public community college districts and Board of Governors.

* Generally, requires minimum levels of state funding for school districts and community college districts to be calculated separately, using different criteria and separately appropriated.

* Allocates 10.46 percent of current Proposition 98 school funding maintenance factor to community colleges.

* Sets community college fees at \$15/unit per semester; limits future fee increases.

* Provides formula for allocation by Legislature to community college districts that would not otherwise receive general fund revenues through community college apportionment.

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST'S ESTIMATE OF NET STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL IMPACT:

* Increase in state spending on K-14 education from 2007-08 through 2009-10-averaging about \$300 million per year, with unknown impacts annually thereafter.

* Loss of student fee revenues to community colleges-potentially about \$70 million annually.

PROP 93:LIMITS ON LEGISLATORS' TERMS IN OFFICE - OPPOSED

LIMITS ON LEGISLATORS' TERMS IN OFFICE INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

· 80% of legislators would have their time in office greatly increased and Assembly terms would be doubled from 6 years to 12 years and Senate terms increased from 8 years to 12 years.

· There's also a special incumbent politician loophole that allows 42 termed out legislators - including the Senate President and Assembly Speaker - to remain in office for several more years.

· Prop 93 is an intentionally misleading initiative that falsely claims to toughen term limits but actually increases terms for most politicians!

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST'S ESTIMATE OF NET STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL IMPACT:

* This measure would have no direct fiscal effect on state or local governments.

Presidents Message cont. From pg 2

must read and reread in order to discern for ourselves. To clarify, our Los Angeles Proposition S would have voters believe that a tax increase is really a decrease. Another play on words is swapping out tax and inserting fee. I'll never understand how voters, who won't vote in a tax increase, are willing to vote for new fees even though fees are just another form of taxation. How about a new cry of no taxation without proper education! I think Webster would be proud that his quote moved me to spontaneous slogan.

Moreover, to express how far removed we have become from 1788, I wonder if the average American citizen truly understands the difference between our representative republic and other forms of government. What makes our representative republic brilliant is our constitution, of course, which provides for the election of our three branches of government (Executive, Legislative, and Judiciary) as well as protecting inherent individual rights. Let's not forget though, that with every right there is a responsibility to uphold. If we do not hold up our responsibilities we run the risk of losing our rights (freedoms). For example, I have the right to vote. I have just sealed, signed, stamped and mailed my absentee ballot. Who got my vote in the primary? (I know you're asking) Well, after weighing our Republican candidate options, I voted for Mitt Romney. He has impressed me as Reaganesque, trustworthy, presidential, law abiding, honorable, and a man of faith (I've gotten over the fact that his faith is not the same as mine). So, if we do not follow through on our responsibility to voice our choices through our vote we run the risk of losing that right. I can see the headline now, "Elections suspended due to voter apathy".

To recap, we have traveled at lightning speed from our country's founding to present day. Whew! What is ahead for us as a nation? It will depend on who our electoral college chooses as our next president (a topic for another time). Society is heading down a dangerous path with the nanny state whines of: "feed me", "do I have to?", "bail me out of my poor investment decisions", "I deserve it and shouldn't have to earn it", "I'll sue you", and "why should I?". I have an idea, let's call in a super nanny to go with our super Tuesday for some super wisdom to remind us that self esteem is built by doing and stripped away by having everything done for us. An often quoted Chinese proverb sums up my Republican belief of less government, give a man a fish and he eats for a day, teach a man to fish and he eats for a lifetime. In order to protect our constitution and ensure a bright future we need to know our constitution

So, is our constitution protecting our representative republic safe from enemies foreign and domestic? I hope so. Will we drift to other forms of government like autocracy, or socialism? I hope not, however, there are representatives in power and positioning for power who, even though sworn to protect our constitution, are planning its demise. Scared? Concerned? Wondering what you can do? 1. Vote 2. Join us on the Second Saturdays!

Propositions cont from page 3

Props 94-97 - SUPPORT

Props 94-97: Referendum Petition to Overturn Amendment to Indian Gaming Compact.

* Ratifies amendment to existing gaming compact between the state and 4 Indian Tribes, the Pechanga Band of Luiseño Mission Indians, the Morongo Band of Mission Indians, the Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation, and the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians; amendment would permit tribes to operate 3000 to 5,500 additional slot machines.

* Omits certain projects from scope of California Environmental Quality Act; amendment provides for Tribal Environmental Impact Report and intergovernmental procedure to address environmental impact;

* Revenue paid by tribes to be deposited into General Fund; tribes would make \$42,500,000 to \$20,000,000 annual payment and pay percentage of revenue generated from the additional slot machines to the state.

Who's picking the Republican Presidential Nominee?

Comment by the Editor.

By now, or within the next day or two we will know who our next Republican nominee for the office of President of the United States will be. But who has picked him? Has it been the grassroots of the Republican party? Or has it been a small percent of the party living on the East coast, together with Independents and Democrats crossing party lines?

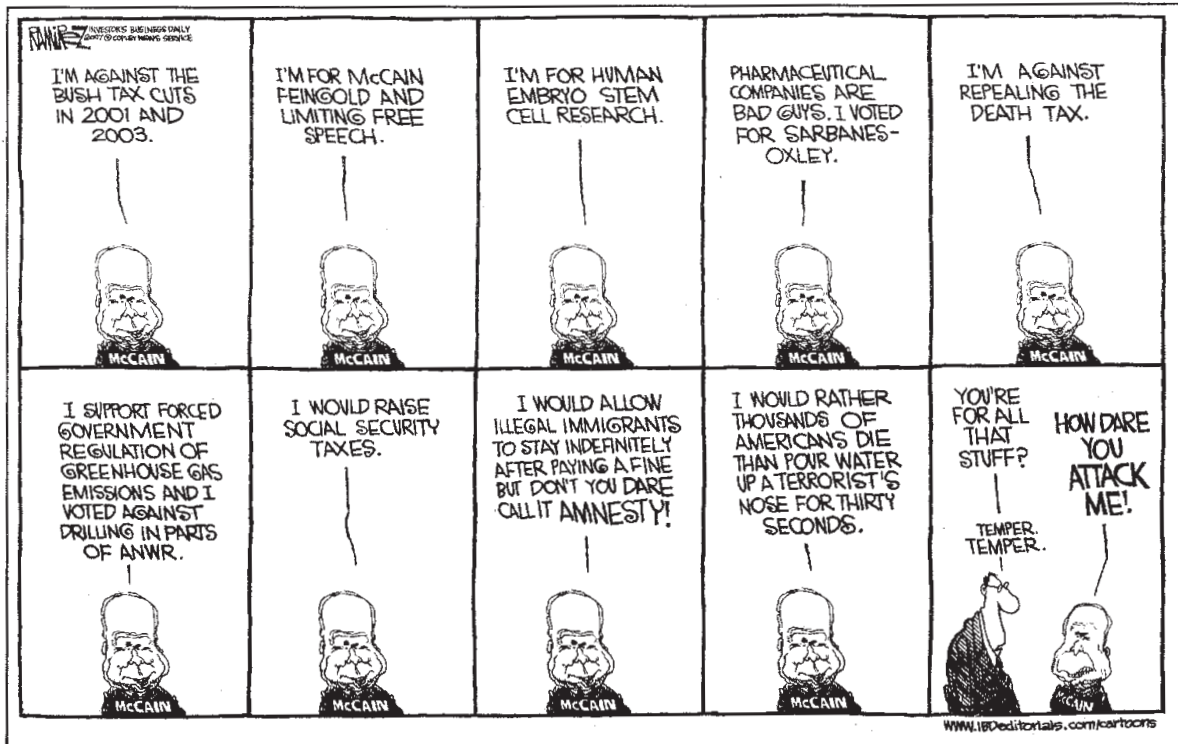
The first caucuses and primaries were all either open to members of any party, or held on the moderate to liberal East Coast. This was not a true, or fair sampling of the Republican voters and yet it eliminated the true conservative candidates from the race. As it is now a candidate must place 1st or 2nd in the early states or he cannot raise the funds necessary to continue, and so must drop out. As Giuliani learned, much to his regret, if you don't build momentum in the early states the later states won't even consider you.

This is not the best, in fact it might be the worst way to pick a presidential candidate. We have left ourselves wide open to letting the East Coast liberals and the news media pick our candidate for us.

The news media's claim that only John McCain can beat either Obama or Hillary is pure nonsense. As soon as McCain is nominated the news media will suddenly begin to discover all the inconsistencies and flip flops of the Republican candidate. They then point out (subtly of course) that he is too old, too inconsistent, too lacking in support by the Republican base to possibly win the election. So only the Democrat candidate is a reasonable choice for President. — Bye, bye, Republican party.

The question now for the Republican party is what is best for the country? A Republican, any Republican, or a Democrat who will take the country so far to the left the people will turn away and turn to the right for relief? It will be interesting to see which way we turn.

Something on your mind? Have a comment you want to share with the Newsletter readers? Send it to the editor at equick1@sbcglobal.net, or write to Eldon Quick at 2312 Cheremoya Ave. Los Angeles, CA. 90068.



Forum Report by Eldon Quick

The forum was convened on January 12 just a few days after the New Hampshire primary and the Iowa Caucus. The question was asked, “How do you feel about the results as regards Republicans?” The consensus was – they were vastly overrated because of crossover voting in New Hampshire, and special circumstances in Iowa. Neither State really represented the depth of support for the Republican candidates in the general population. Besides we hope Republicans are not influenced by the news media making such a big issue of who the winners were.

To the question, “Which Democrat candidate would you rather see a Republican face in November, Hillary, or Obama, and why?” Hillary was the popular choice because, – Barack would be the more difficult candidate to beat as his support is irrational and he has so little record to run against. Plus many independents will support Barack to prove to themselves they are not racist.

As to Barack and the others who claim to be the candidate for “Change”, we were asked, “ what kind of change would we like to see in Washington?” This question brought a wide range of answers. We would like to see the Democrats work for the good of the country instead of just the good of the Democrat Party, Republicans go back to less spending, and Washington to do what they claimed they were going to do, like closing the border.

“Why have the Republicans not lined up behind a single candidate?” Michael asked. We answered, – Each candidate has special strengths and weaknesses, they are almost all acceptable, and no one candidate sticks out above the rest. We then held our own little Smoke House Caucus. The results were:

1st Choice	2nd Choice
John McCain.....0%	John McCain.....0%
Mitt Romney.....21%	Mitt Romney.....21%
Duncan Hunter.....10 %	Duncan Hunter.....5%
Fred Thompson.....63%	Fred Thompson.....21%
Mike Huckabee.....0%	Mike Huckabee.....10%
Rudy Giuliani.....0%	Rudy Giuliani.....26%
Undecided.....5%	Undecided.....15%

On the question, “What is most at stake in the Presidential election?” We responded, National Security, foreign and domestic, and turning the country away from its creep towards Socialism. Speaking of domestic security, what is going on with the Southern Border? – No news – media doesn’t want to talk about immigration because they are for open borders, cheap labor and amnesty. Though it was pointed out that cheap illegal labor is far from cheap when all expenses are considered.

The California 2008 budget is expected to run a deficit of about \$14 to 20 Billion. Add to this another \$14 Billion for Arnold’s health care plan, and the Governors request for a \$48 Billion Bond to repair and maintain infrastructure. The Democrat’s plan to offset these expenses is to (Surprise!!) raise taxes. But what do we as Republicans suggest. It was suggested we draft McClintock as a start. Getting our SCRW&M member Rick Montaine elected to the Assembly was also considered a good idea. But all agree we must cut spending.

The biggest laugh of the day was brought about by Michael’s question concerning National Health Care. He asked, “Will it make a difference in our budget?” Sometimes we are so cynical.

There were a number of other interesting and provocative questions which space does not allow me to cover, but I think I must refer to our answers to the question about the Iranian speed boats threatening moves toward our destroyers. “We should have taken them out, they need to see the gates of Hell” Other more sane heads commended our Naval Officers for avoiding an international incident, but should we sink them if they do it again?

Unanimous “YES!”

Notes From the Board

Starting this month we will no longer be sending post cards reminding you to check the web site for the Newsletter. Instead, those of you with email will receive the Newsletter in your "in" box, and those of you without should receive a copy of the Newsletter in your post mail box. There will be email and phone call reminders of the meeting during the week before.

Be thinking about what committee you can join. Brenda will be passing around a sign-up sheet at the next meeting. Sign up for something, we need your help.

Be watching for our new Web site. The Board has authorized money for a professional Web site designer to bring our site into the 21st century, with special emphasis on Candidate development and support.

Any member can attend a board meeting, just ask a board member when and where the next meeting is.

Membership

Annual Dues for 2008 now Due.

Don't allow yourself to become delinquent. We need your support.

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, February 9th, 2008

Featured Speaker

Bob Larkin

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 February 8, 2008

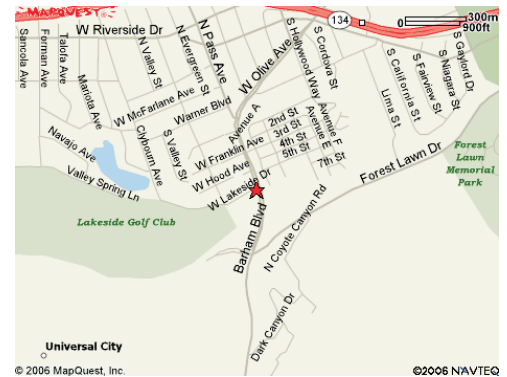
For Reservations

Call: Barbara Smith (323)849-7420

Or E-mail: scrwmresrvations@juno.com

Mark Your Calendar for 2008!

February 9th	Luncheon
March 8th	Luncheon
April 12th	Luncheon
May 10th	Luncheon
June 14th	Luncheon



2312 Cheremoya Ave. LA, CA. 90068

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