

SUN GAZETTE CUP

*Arlington County Civic Federation
Arlington, Virginia
95th Year
The Civic Voice of Arlington*

Michael P. Kerley
President, Arlington County Civic Federation
April 8, 2011

The story of this year's honoree could be given a header: "Local sticks around and contributes."

Our honoree was raised in Vienna, Virginia and attended James Madison High School. He moved a little ways away for college, taking advantage of our superior Virginia higher education opportunities, by attending Randolph-Macon College in Ashland, Virginia. He graduated in 1992 with a Bachelor of Arts degree. He met his future wife, Katherine, while they were both college students. And in the space of just a year or two the couple married, our honoree began work at a startup software company, and the couple moved to Arlington Forest where they still live.

The couple now shares their home with children, family, and friends. The kids attend Kate Waller Barrett Elementary School as proud 1st and 3rd grader students.

It was through his children that our honoree got involved in civic activities. Automobiles traveled awfully fast through Arlington Forest. So he got together with his neighbors back in 2003 and 2004 to figure out how to reduce automobile speeds consistent with good neighborhood design. His efforts bore fruit eventually with the emplacement of a series of traffic calming measures. Along the way he received lots of help from the Arlington Forest Civic Association. He enjoyed the effort, so our honoree decided to continue to stay engaged. He served as Arlington Forest's delegate to the Civic Federation and soon became the chair of the Civic Federation Public Services Committee.

As chair of the Civic Federation Public Services Committee, he led his committee of members, with varied backgrounds, experience, and strong diverse views, to consensus on important issues. The Committee members studied and reported on critical motions, forging Civic Federation consensus. He coordinated the Committee members' participation in the Citizens Corps Council, Community Emergency Response Team, Public Health Department Managing Action through Partnerships and Planning, Information Technology Advisory Commission, and Police Chief's Advisory Council. In short, he crafted strongly diverse and active Arlingtonians into a cohesive Arlington County Civic

Federation voice that has made significant contributions to our community.

In 2008, our honoree was elected to the Civic Federation Executive Committee where he fulfilled his responsibility so well that he became the obvious candidate to be Civic Federation president. He has served the Civic Federation in that incredibly demanding capacity for almost two years. He has a lot to be proud of.

Ladies and Gentlemen, it is with great pleasure that we present the Sun Gazette Cup, in recognition of a great contribution to the Civic Federation and civic endeavor in Arlington, to Michael P. Kerley.

Scott McCaffrey, Managing Editor
Sun Gazette newspaper