



THE Civic Voice

ARLINGTON COUNTY CIVIC FEDERATION

The Newsletter of the Arlington County Civic Federation

February 2009

ACCF General Meeting Notice

NORMAL START TIME
Tuesday, February 3, 2008, 7:30 PM
Hazel Conference Center
Virginia Hospital Center – Arlington
1701 North George Mason Drive

1. **7:30 pm** - Pledge of Allegiance
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes (January 6, 2009)
4. Treasurer's Report
5. **7:35 pm** – Committee Reports/Announcements
6. **7:45 – 9:20 pm – Annual ACCF County Board Program** – (1 hour 35 Minutes – See Page 2)
 - Program Structure and Rules – (1 Minute)
 - Arlington County Board Chairman Remarks – Barbara Favola (4 Minutes)
 - Questions posed by the moderator to the Board as a whole. (30 Minutes)
 - Questions submitted in writing by delegates and alternates and read by the moderator. (30 Minutes)
 - Questions from the floor (30 minutes)
7. **9:20 pm** New Business & Other Announcements
8. **9: 25 pm** - Adjournment

Membership Overdue Letters Sent!

The past due letters have been mailed to the presidents. If your organization received one, please send the membership dues check and the list of delegates and alternates as soon as possible. Thanks to the organizations that have already responded to the letter. If you are no longer the president please give it to the new person. Make sure the writer of checks for your organization also receives the request. Send checks and delegate information to Eileen Williams, 4141 North Henderson Rd, #1226, Arlington, VA 22203. For status on dues payments, email Eileen @civfed.org.

The Civic Voice
Please Visit Our Web Site

"Tree" Giveaway

*By Patrick Wegeng Environmental Landscape Supervisor,
Arlington County Parks and Natural Resources Division*

Arlington County's Parks and Natural Resources (PRCR) is hoping for the participation of all of Arlington County's civic associations in this year's 2009 Neighborhood Day County tree giveaway. Each association should assign a neighborhood coordinator to promote the tree giveaway program and record residents' requests.

This program has been increasingly successful over the past three years with PRCR having given out over 3000 trees over this time period. The trees, to be planted on private residential properties, help enhance and sustain Arlington's urban forest.

Please feel free to contact Patrick Wegeng, Environmental Landscape Supervisor by email pwegeng@arlingtonva.us or phone at 703-228-6521, if there are any questions.

Presentations Available

Did you know that Presentations made at our meetings are available on the Civic Federation Web Site! Even material not "displayed at the meetings are often available: For example:

1. **County Manager's County Economic Picture** – Ron Carlee's presentation "The Fiscal State of the County" can be found here:
<http://www.civfed.org/presarlcocofin08-1202.pdf>
He gave us the economic facts at the December ACCF meeting. This month you can hear the leadership (County Board) outlook.
2. **"Waterworks"** – Jeff Harn's enlightening January presentation on Arlington's drinking, storm and sewer water is available here:
<http://www.civfed.org/preswaterworks09-0106.pdf>
3. **Arlington's Integrated Solid Waste Management System** - The factual presentation by Erik Grabowsky on Arlington's Waste management was a "hit" – especially since the beginning of April, recycling rules will be expanded! Look here:
<http://www.civfed.org/pressolidwaste09-0106.pdf>
4. **New Rail Service Proposals** – The presentation on alterations being evaluated to Blue and Yellow line service presented by Jim Hughes from Metro can be found here: <http://www.civfed.org/presnewrailserv09-0106.pdf>

Volume 93 Issue 6
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December was the LAST Mailed Edition - Do you want current information?

By Mileva Hartman, Chair, Membership Committee

As previously stated, December's edition was the LAST Postal Service mailed copy to ALL delegates and alternates, You NO LONGER receive a mailed copy (UNLESS you have no email available)! Again, please provide us your email address if you haven't done so already.

Again, for your convenience, we have included a notification form. Print out and use the form on the last page of this newsletter to request mailed editions (if you have NO email) or use the same form to provide us new or updated email information. **Take ACTION now to keep receiving monthly information!**

March Meeting: Tuesday, March 3, 2009

The Major Topics: Arlington School Board Program

March News deadline: February 19, 2009

Tidbits

New activities or actions considered by the Executive Committee since the January meeting are itemized. Where noted, material is posted to the ACCF Web site: (<http://www.civfed.org/>).

1. **School Board Program** – The program this year will be under the auspices of the Schools Committee. Have questions you want considered by the Committee to be sent to the School Board? Send any questions and/or suggestions to Beth Wolffe, the School committee chair via email - wolfflaw@verizon.net.
2. **Banquet** – Continue to stay tuned for further details. The Banquet date is April 3, 2009. The Banquet Committee needs help – (see article – page 3). Do you have any “main” speaker suggestions?
3. **Ideas and Help** – We are responsive to ideas and help on committees and programs! Please respond to Larry Mayer with your interest at larrymayer@civfed.org!

You can still get “Shot”!

A final reminder! As previously noted, the ACCF passed a resolution at its November, 2008 meeting “[ACCF participation in Managing Action through Planning and Partnerships \(MAPP\)](#)”. In the resolved portion:

“... that we become a booster for the MAPP priority initiative on influenza in Arlington County where an ACCF member has already been involved in the planning. Federation involvement

would be largely limited to publicizing, through our website, to our Delegates and Alternates and their member organizations the importance of annual vaccinations against the influenza...”

Consequently let your member organization know that ALL should get the “Flu Shot”. For further details, make sure to look at the County or CDC websites or the document on the County Website:

<http://www.arlingtonva.us/Departments/HumanServices/PublicHealth/page66293.pdf>

County Board ACCF Program

Peter Owen, Chair, Executive Committee

The Executive committee decided to alter the “historical” format of the County Board ACCF program. The Committee worked with the Board in to develop a three step program (excluding introductions). Fundamentally, the bulk of the program (two-thirds) will be in the form of specific questions given to the Board by a moderator. The last portion will consist, as in the past, with questions from ACCF Alternates and Delegates. In an effort to be “very transparent” below is a copy of the material transmitted to the Board members:

1. **Introductory comments by the moderator**, President Larry Mayer (<1 minute)
2. **Introductory comments by the County Board Chair**, Barbara Favola Chair (approx 4 minutes).
3. **Questions posed by the moderator to the Board as a whole.** (30 minutes)

Seven questions have been prepared. We don't expect to get to all seven, but would like to get to at least four or five of them. We do not expect every board member will want to respond to every question, but if it happens to occur on some questions, that is also fine. We will not impose time limits on the Board's responses, but we encourage the chair, to encourage total response time by all board members collectively per question to less than about 5 minutes, if feasible. **The topics** for the seven questions we have prepared are:

- The current outlook for the County's capital projects,
- Improving civic participation,
- Approaches to affordable housing,
- Use of Arlington's reserve funds,
- The legislative session in Richmond,
- Public safety and infrastructure and,
- The Federal stimulus bill.

The moderator's questions have been designed to draw on Board members' general familiarity with and, long interest in these topics and, are not intended to require board members to have done specific research or preparation on narrow subject areas. By agreement with the Board, we are not sharing the specific questions with you in advance in order to ensure that the “questions” have this character.

(Continued on page 3)

(County Board ACCF Program continued)

4. **Questions submitted in writing by delegates and alternates and read by the moderator.** (30 minutes)

This section has the same format as the previous section. Again, we hope to get at least 4-5 questions in, and though we will not have formal time limits, we hope that the Board Chair will be able to help the Board keep total response time per question to under 5 minutes per question, if feasible.

As the meeting is beginning, delegates and alternates will be invited to submit questions to the Board in writing. During the first phase of moderator's questions, a committee consisting of Executive Committee members (Larry Finch, Mike Kerley, and Wayne Kubicki) will select from among the submitted questions, the ones for the Moderator to pose based on factors including frequency with which similar questions are submitted, interest to the delegates and diversity of topics.

5. **Questions from the floor** (30 minutes)

For this part of the program, the moderator will select (perhaps randomly, perhaps not, perhaps first-come-first served) delegates and alternates to pose questions from microphones from the floor. **Questioners will have 30 seconds to pose their question, speeches are not permitted, and follow-up questions are not in order.** (*emphasis added*) Again, we hope to get at least 4-5 questions of this sort in and, therefore are once again counting on the County Board chair to keep board members moving along in their collective response time.

6. **Conclusion.** No specific closing remarks are anticipated.

The actual questions posed by the moderator in item #3 above (*Questions posed by the moderator to the Board as a whole*), have not been directly transmitted to the County Board. They were developed jointly by the Executive Committee and all the ACCF Committee chairs and, will be available in written form subsequent to that portion of the program. Both those questions and the ones selected by the committee for item #4 (*Questions submitted in writing by delegates and alternates and read by the moderator*) will be posted to the ACCF website after the February meeting.

ACCF April Banquet Information

By Ann C. Rudd, Chair, Banquet Committee

The ACCF Banquet is scheduled for April 3, 2009. We have selected the Rosslyn Holiday Inn as the banquet location. Food selections have been determined and free parking will be provided. While final prices have not been determined, emphasis was made during the selection process to provide a cost that would be less than previous years. Our hope is that a reduced cost will spur a greater attendance!

However, we need your help! Invitations need to be prepared, taken/picked up from the printer and, mailing assembled. The program booklet needs to be constructed and also printed prior to the actual banquet. Help is also needed in writing up

the nominations for various awards. There are a myriad of other areas including assembling food lists and tickets as well as help at the banquet itself.

Bottom line – your Banquet Chair cannot do all this herself. Please volunteer to help to support this endeavor. To volunteer or for any further information please contact me: Ann Rudd, 703-536-8270 and/or acrudd@juno.com.

ANNE and The ACCF Calendar

By the ACCF Webmasters

Did you know that the ACCF Calendar consists off many items sent to us by various organizations in Arlington? Look periodically at: <http://www.civfed.org/calendar.htm>

Many items on that page are also transmitted to numerous Civic Federation member newsletter editors (and others) via the **ANNE** (Arlington Network News Exchange) list server – particularly those which have enough lead-time for printing in the numerous neighborhood newsletters. Look at: <http://www.civfed.org/anne.htm>. You might desire to use **ANNE** to convey information – but remember you should plan in advance – probably two months out - to account for timely notification, newsletter deadlines, preparation and delivery. Also sign up to receive ANNE emails if you desire!

Following are some “*selected*” items that are on the Calendar for February and which were also distributed via **ANNE**:

1. Searching for Science-Based Information on the Web

Virginia Cooperative Extension's Master Gardeners offers guidance on how to access reliable, science-based information on the Internet about gardening and the environment at a workshop at Arlington Central Library's Computer Lab. Free and open to the public.

Friday, February 20th, 2009, 10 a.m. to noon, Arlington Central Library, 1015 North Quincy Street, Arlington 22201.

For information, registration and directions call: 703 228-6414.

CONTACT: Joanne Hutton, Virginia Cooperative Extension, 703-228-6426 or jhutton@arlingtonva.us

2. Second Sundays @ Gulf Branch, Next Date: Sunday February 8, 2009, Time: 12:00 pm - 2:30 pm

Repeats: This event repeats every month on the second Sunday through 2009.

Location: Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 Military Road, Phone: 703-228-3403

Notes: Work up a sweat as we get rid of unwanted plant invaders. We'll warm up indoors with some basic plant identification and find out why some plants are problematic. Then gear up and head out to remove some of these intruders from the park land. If you have your own garden gloves and tools, please bring them along. Some tools will be provided. Be sure to come dressed for work, wear long pants, long sleeves, and perhaps a hat. You may also want to bring along a water bottle.

There are many other items, far too numerous to list here – **check both the Calendar and ANNE out!**

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ADDRESS: _____ ZIP _____

Current Applicable EMAIL: _____
(Send to mileva@civfed.org)

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