



ACCF General Meeting Notice

NORMAL START TIME
Tuesday, March 3, 2009, 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 (February 3, 2009)
4. Treasurer's Report
5. **7:35 pm** – Committee Reports/Announcements
6. **7:40 pm** – **April Recycling Changes Recap** - Michael Clem, Arlington DES
7. **7:45 – 9:20 pm** – **Annual ACCF School Board Program**
– (1 hour 30 Minutes)
 - Program Structure and Rules – (1 Minute)
 - Arlington County School Board Chairman Remarks – Ed Fendley (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 (25 minutes)
8. **9:20 pm** New Business & Other Announcements
9. **9: 25 pm** - Adjournment

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Recycling Changes Start in April

Recycling in Arlington Gets Easier Come April 1st!

Arlington County is changing its residential curbside recycling program to make it more convenient for residents to recycle. On April 1st the County will expand its curbside recycling services to collect more recyclable materials, provide new wheeled carts and allow for materials to be collected all together. The program changes are designed to increase the number of residents who participate in our various curbside programs by making recycling easier and to encourage those residents who already recycle to increase the amount that they recycle by collecting more materials at the curbside

Beginning in April, the curbside recycling changes will include:

- **More Recyclable Materials Accepted**

Plastic Containers # 1-7 (including Margarine and Dairy Tubs); Aerosol Cans; Plastic Bags (Place bags in a bag); Rigid Plastics; Aluminum foil & trays; Milk & Juice Cartons; Books and; Cardboard boxes (unflattened).

- **New Wheeled Recycling Carts**

New carts will hold larger quantities of recyclables, keep contents dry, and make it easy to wheel out to the curb. Single family homes will receive 65 gallon carts and townhomes will receive 35 gallon carts.

- **Single Stream Recycling Collection**

No longer will residents be required to separate commingled material from paper products. They can place all recyclable materials into one cart for easy collection, even cardboard. Additionally, the new program no longer requires that cardboard be cut down or flattened to specified sizes. The new program allows cardboard to be thrown in the cart as or placed at the curb next to the recycling cart without being broken down.

- **Recycle Electronics at the Curb**

Residents can now request a special pickup of electronic materials to be recycled curbside. Requests can be made online at www.arlingtonva.us/recycle or by calling 703-228-6570. There will be a \$10 charge for CRT's and \$20 for TV's. Items should be placed at the curb next to the recycling container on the scheduled pick up date.

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(Recycling Continued)

Starting April 1st, the County will replace the yellow recycling bins with new wheeled carts over an eight week period.

However residents can still participate in the other program changes, such as recycling electronics at the curb, recycling more materials and placing all recyclable materials in the same container, until they receive their new cart. The cart delivery schedule will be posted on the County's website.

Residents are encouraged to keep their yellow bins and make them an integral part of your home recycling system. More details on the curbside recycling changes will be sent by mail and a new curbside recycling guide will be delivered with the new carts.

With the initiation of the new program, County residents will now be able to recycle virtually everything at the curb; recycling using a recycling cart, electronics waste collection by request, white goods/metal collection by request, brush collection by request, spring yard waste collection, leaf vacuum collection, leaf bio-bag collection, Christmas tree collection, car battery collection, regular refuse collection using a trash cart, and bulky trash collection. The wide variety of recycling options solidifies Arlington as a regional leader in providing solid waste management services to the residents of Arlington, reaching the County's stated goal of a 47% recycling rate.

For more information please visit <http://www.co.arlington.va.us/recycle> or call the customer service center at 703-228-6570.

April Meeting: Tuesday, April 7, 2009

The Major Topic: Revenues and Expenditure Report

April News deadline: March 19, 2009

Tidbits

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

1. **Revenues and Expenditure Report** – The R & E Committee will meet after the release of the budget to review materials and make recommendations. See Page 4 and our Web site for dates and locations of meetings. Committee chairs should follow the process closely!
2. **Banquet** – Continue to stay tuned for further details. The Banquet date is April 3, 2009. Main speaker has been selected – (see article – page 3). Volunteers still needed to help in various areas. Invitations will be mailed to all ACCF delegates and alternates.
3. **Membership Parameter** – The Executive Committee reviewed membership criteria (in our by-laws) and determined organization parameters for membership qualification. More information will be forthcoming.
4. **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!

March School Board ACCF Program

Beth Wolfe, Chair, Schools Committee

The Executive Committee, in conjunction with the Schools Committee, decided to alter the "historical" format of the School Board ACCF program. Given the resounding success of the County Board program format in February, we will follow the same 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 delegates and alternates. In an effort to be "transparent" below is a copy of the material transmitted to the School Board Chair and members:

This will follow up on my correspondence of last October and our later telephone conversation about the School Board's March 3 program at the Civic Federation. After the marked success of the County Board's February program to the Federation, the Executive Committee would like to use the same format for your program in March.

It would consist of short, introductory remarks by the Board Chairman, followed by about 30 minutes of moderated questions from Federation President Larry Mayer (with my assistance), 30 minutes of questions submitted in writing that evening by delegates and alternates, and finally about 25 minutes of spoken questions from the floor. Questioners will be limited to 30 seconds to ask their questions, there will be no follow-ups. If we may have an understanding from you and your colleagues that you will keep your answers moving along, we would be happy not to impose time limits on the answers.

We found this format produced more spontaneous dialogue between our members and the County Board members, and overall a more dynamic and interesting program. The County Board members seemed to enjoy it, and our delegates generally felt the program was informative and lively. We believe results will be the same with your program, and hope you and the other Board members will enjoy this new format.

It is our plan that the questions be mostly of a general policy and practice nature, so that research of specific facts and figures should not be necessary. Nevertheless, recognizing that you may find it helpful to know the general topics that are likely to come up, I think you can expect questions in these areas:

1. *Progress on the search for a new superintendent and the qualities you are looking for.*
2. *Recent changes (proposed and implemented) to the Revenue Sharing Agreement and whether you think it will continue to be an effective tool for determining the level of funding from the County.*
3. *Major changes in the proposed budget from last year's and what you see happening with the budget this year and next.*
4. *Enrollment/capacity/boundary issues and the process that has been used to address those issues so far.*
5. *Recent results and future efforts to close the minority achievement gap.*

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(School Board Program Continued)

6. *The likely effect of the current economic environment on Wakefield, TJ and the Career Center projects.*
7. *Current procedures for sharing the use of school facilities with the County and the public and any changes you see coming in that area.*
8. *Whether APS is taking steps to track student test scores (or other performance measures) longitudinally and if so, what you are learning from that process, or whether you see more (or less) effort in that direction for the future.*
9. *The future of "choice" and "early childhood education" programs, and the challenges and benefits to them.*

S/ Beth Wolffe, Schools Committee Chairwoman

As with the County Board program, the actual questions posed by the moderator have not been transmitted to the School Board. They were developed jointly by the Schools, Executive Committee and, other ACCF Committee chairs. As in February, those questions will be available in written form at the beginning of that portion of the program (although we do not expect to get through them all). During the first phase of questions, a committee consisting knowledgeable members (Eileen Williams, Roger Meyer, 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. Both those questions and the ones selected by the committee for the second part of the program will be posted to the ACCF website after the March meeting.

John Catoe is Banquet Speaker

By Ann C. Rudd, Chair, Banquet Committee

We expect to see all at the annual Civic Federation banquet on April 3, 2009 at the Rosslyn Holiday Inn. Cocktails will be at 6:30 p.m. and dinner at 7:30 p.m. Invitations will be sent out shortly.

The Executive and Banquet committees have selected **John B. Catoe, Jr.**, General Manager of the Washington Metropolitan Transit Authority (WMATA) as the featured speaker.

A brief biography of the John Catoe follows:



John B. Catoe, Jr. has more than 30 years of experience in public transportation. As General Manager of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (Metro), he oversees the second largest rail transit system and the fifth largest bus network in the United States with more than 10,000 employees, a \$1.3 billion operating budget and a \$3.1 billion five-year Capital Improvement Program.

Upon joining Metro in January 2007, Mr. Catoe immediately focused on a complete overhaul of the transit system with the goal of operating Metro in the most efficient and cost-effective manner without sacrificing safety or service for customers. Faced with an FY2008 budget shortfall of more than \$100

million, Mr. Catoe made cuts and program changes that avoided a fare increase in 2007 and yielded \$34 million in savings. He also launched an organization-wide safety improvement program to place greater emphasis on system safety for customers and employees. The five-year safety program aims to change the culture of the organization, increase accountability, reduce bus and rail accidents by 50 percent, create a safer work environment for employees and reduce work-related injuries.

Mr. Catoe has worked diligently toward a comprehensive fare policy for the authority. Along with approval of the first fare increase in four years came a commitment from the Metro Board to consider fare changes every two years - a huge step toward a predictable and understandable approach to fare increases.

Mr. Catoe also oversaw the exceptional, and record-breaking, service that Metro provided during the 2009 Inauguration of President Obama. That day Metro transported more than 1.5 million people, operating rush-hour service for 17 straight hours.

For six years prior to coming to Metro, Mr. Catoe was the Deputy Chief Executive Officer of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority. In that capacity, he oversaw the agency's multi-modal operations with more than 2,600 buses, three light rail lines, one heavy rail line and the motorist aid program, including the Freeway Service Patrol and highway call boxes. He also oversaw the LA transit agency's planning, law enforcement, homeless assistance program, safety and facilities.

Originally from Washington, D.C., Mr. Catoe is a product of the local school system. His father was a D.C. cab driver. Catoe started his public transportation career at the Orange County Transit District in the personnel department as an Employee Training and Development Administrator in 1979 and when he left, 17 years later, he was Director of Operations. In 1996 he became Director of Transit Services for the City of Santa Monica (Big Blue Bus), and under his direction, the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) recognized the agency as the number one transit agency in the nation in 1997 and 2000. Mr. Catoe has a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from the University of Redlands in Redlands, CA.

For further banquet information or to volunteer to help the Banquet committee please contact Ann Rudd, 703-536-8270 and/or acrudd@juno.com.

The ACCF Calendar

By the ACCF Webmasters

We mentioned last month that the ACCF Calendar consists of many items sent to us by various organizations in Arlington. Look periodically at: <http://www.civfed.org/calendar.htm>

When and where we have space available, we will include some selected items – especially those near term that have recently “arrived” in our inbox!

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

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(ACCF CalendarContinued)

1. **10 Year Plan to End Homelessness** - Arlington County's Implementation Task Force of the 10 Year Plan to End Homeless has available for your civic association or organization a PowerPoint presentation of Homelessness in Arlington County. If you would like to know what Arlington's plan is and how you can help please contact Ann Rudd, 703-536-8270 or acrudd@juno.com.
2. **Inclusiveness in the Arlington Public Schools** - What You Should Know and What You Can Do. A forum consisting of Dr. Robert Smith, the Hon. Frank Wilson, representatives from organizations working in the schools will be held Tuesday, March 10, 7-8:30 pm at H-B Woodlawn, 4100 Vacation Lane. Presented by the Arlington League of Women Voters and the Arlington Branch of the American Association of University Women.
3. **Revenue and Expenditure Committee Work sessions** - Initial meeting is on Sunday, March 1, from 1 to 3 PM at the Fairlington Community Center. This is the only scheduled Sunday meeting, and the only one that will be at Fairlington. This meeting will be on overview of the Manager's budget proposal. The remaining five meetings are all at the same time and place – each Saturday, beginning 3/7 and ending 4/4, from 10 AM to 1 PM, at the Lee Community Center.

"Tree" Giveaway – Plan Now!

By Bill Anhut, Lyon Park Treasurer and Resident "Tree Hugger"

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

Lyon Park was mentioned – and the following article is extracted from the Lyon Park Citizen newsletter. Bill Anhut, the resident "Tree Hugger" has helped arrange planting of 60 to 70 trees every year.

2009 Tree Planting Season Has Arrived!

March begins a 3- month period (through May) that is ideal for planting trees in the Mid-Atlantic US. Trees really should not be planted in our area from June to September due to the extreme heat and frequent droughts. To help jumpstart the planting effort, Arlington County is again providing, free of charge, two species of trees through its Tree Giveaway program in May. The program allows replenishment of our diminishing tree canopy and helps control the run-off of damaging chemicals into the Chesapeake Bay. Some neighborhoods have citizen volunteers to plant the giveaway trees in our neighbor's yards! Lyon Park is among those that form a corps of volunteers to help to plant the trees.

Two deciduous trees will be offered, one that grows into a large shade tree and a second that can be an ornamental tree or serves as under story to shade trees. The shade tree, the Bur Oak, is a slow growing, but very substantial member of the white oak

family that can live 300 to 400 years and grow as tall as 100 feet. The second tree is the American Filbert or American Hazelnut. It grows well as under story to Bur Oaks, grows to a height of 8-12 feet and is multi-trunked as in a large shrub. A description of each tree is below. During the next month, won't you survey your yard for potential planting locations? The Bur Oak would be best located more than 15 feet from building structures, ideally on the Southern or Western borders of your property (to shade the sun in the summer). Please consider surveying your neighbors' yards as well and urge them to contribute to the neighborhood by allowing a Bur Oak or American Filbert to be planted on their property. Encourage your own Civic Association to contribute and don't hesitate to call or write if you want "pointers" on forming your own volunteer group - Bill Anhut, at 301-908-8204.

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 and to participate in the county program!

Bur oak (from US Forest Service) (*Quercus macrocarpa*) , also known as blue oak and scrub oak, and is very drought resistant. It grows slowly. Bur oak can grow to a height of 100 ft and live 200 to 300 years. Characteristically, they have a massive, clear trunk and a broad, open crown of stout branches. The acorns become an important source of food to wildlife. The wood is commercially valuable and marketed as white oak. The comparative ease with which bur oak can be grown makes it a fine tree for streets or lawns. Bur oak is widely distributed throughout the Eastern United States and the Great Plains. Bur oak is one of the most drought resistant of the North American oaks. Bur oak often dominates severe sites with thin soils, heavy claypan soils, gravelly ridges, and coarse-textured loessial hills. It is an excellent canopy tree. Shrubs are especially abundant in the bur oak forest of the plains region. Predominant among them are American hazelnut (*Corylus americana*).

American Hazelnut or American Filbert (*Corylus americana*) is a species of the genus *Corylus* that is native to eastern [North America](#). - American Hazelnut grows as a strong multi-stemmed shrub; with desirable, edible nuts that mature in Sept-October. American hazelnut prefers full sun for best growth and development. Though it can grow and persist in partial shade, plant density and fruit production are greatly reduced. It is a medium to fast growing species, that suckers moderately, eventually producing a multi-stemmed, clump appearance. American Hazelnut grows to a height of 8-12 feet. The species adapts well to a range of soil pH and types, but does best on well-drained loams. American hazelnut or filbert has low water requirements and shows a high tolerance to salt and alkali soils. American hazelnut has long been valued as an ornamental and for planting in naturalized settings. It grows in sun or partial shade and is useful for borders because of its colonial tendency. The leaves turn orange to red or purple in the fall. The plant grows along streams, hedgerows, meadows, woodlands, roadsides, and forest margins, and grows best on rich, moist, well-drained soils. The American Filbert prefers full sun exposure, but is also shade tolerant; it can grow under a light intensity of 15% or less.