Greetings Friends and Neighbors:

The Federation Board had an annual dinner at the Marco Polo Restaurant in Vienna with the bulk of the meeting focused on membership retention and recruitment. One of the suggestions that percolated to the top was to get feedback from the citizens associations as to what is going on in the community and how we can take our programming into the community. We discussed an open house event for citizens associations to gather to exchange information about our diverse communities. We are very excited to take our discussions and act on them in the near future. Personally, I strongly believe that when people connect with each other, they can accomplish a lot of good things to benefit our communities. I hope you will take the moment to connect with the Federation.

On a community note, I am pleased to inform you that I have appointed Rob Jackson of McLean, Virginia as the Federation’s representative to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisor’s 2011 Redistricting Citizens Advisory Committee. I am confident that Rob’s background and experience as the President of the McLean Citizens Association and with the Iowa redistricting commission will bring to the committee cohesive and collegial work and is in the best interest of the citizens of Fairfax County. The Federation is appreciative to the Board of Supervisors for this opportunity to serve.

On a programming note, we are looking forward to an excellent presentation by George Lamb, Director of the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District. We have additional notes about his talk and bio in this newsletter edition.

On behalf of the Federation Board, I wish you, your families and community good health, prosperity and joy. Together we can accomplish our goals for the New Year. We look forward to staying connected.

Happy New Year!

Tania Hossain

Visit us at
www.FairfaxFederation.org
Directions to Sulley District Community Room
Take I-495 (Capital Beltway) to I-66. Go west 11.3 miles toward Front Royal. Take exit 53B for VA-28 N. Go 0.1 miles. Keep right at the fork to continue toward VA-28 N/Sully Rd and merge onto VA-28 N/Sully Rd. Go 1.6 miles. Take the Westfields Blvd exit toward Co Rd 662. Go 0.2 miles. Keep left at the fork to continue toward Westfields Blvd. Go 0.2 miles. Keep right at the fork to continue toward Westfields Blvd and merge onto Westfields Blvd. Go 0.4 miles. Turn right at Stonecroft Blvd. Go 0.6 miles. Make a U-turn at Co Rd 661/Lee Rd. Go 0.5 miles to 4900 Stonecroft Blvd.
Do you want to have an impact?

The Federation is only as strong as its voice, and the Federation's many committees make up its collective voice. If you are interested in serving on any of the ten committees that make up the backbone of the Federation please contact the committee chairs using the following email addresses:

Budget: Carey Campbell and Charles Hall ... FedBudgetChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org
Citizen Association Services: Don Hinman ... FedAssociationServicesChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org
Education: Leonard Bumbaca, Ed Saperstein and Tim Thompson ... FedEducationChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org
Environment: Roger Diedrich and Flint Webb ... FedEnvironmentChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org
Human Services: No chair ... FedHumanServicesChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org
Land Use: Fred Costello ... FedLandUseChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org
Legislation: Frank Anderson ... FedLegislationChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org
Public Safety: Gail Parker ... FedPublicSafetyChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org
Resolutions: Bill Hanks ... FedResolutionsChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org
Transportation: Carey Campbell, Roger Hoskin and Jeff Parnes ... FedTransportationChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org

The committees conduct the bulk of their business by email, and formulate positions and suggest actions for consideration by the membership at large. They also provide inputs to the Federation's legislation and budget presentations. Here's a chance to make a mark in an area of your interest. Join us in making our County a better place to live!
Membership Meeting Minutes

Meeting held at: Braddock Hall, 9002 Burke Lake Road, Burke, VA on Thursday, November 18, 2010, 7:30 p.m.

Draft submitted for approval at Dec16, 2010 meeting

The November 2010 Meeting of the Membership of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations was called to order by President Tania Hossain at 7:35 p.m. in Braddock Hall, Burke. The attendance list is attached to file copy of the minutes.

PROGRAM: TYSON’S CORNER BICYCLE MASTER PLAN

Jeffrey Hermann, Fairfax County Bicycle and Pedestrian Planner, and Charles Strunk, Fairfax County Bicycle Program Coordinator talked with participants regarding the county’s bicycle program. Jeff and Charles explained and discussed the county’s bicycle program and related issues; some of the points covered follow.

The county bicycle program was created by the Board of Supervisors four years ago; a mandate is to network the county by bicycle. Products include publishing the county-wide bicycle map in 2008, adding bike racks to Connector buses, and the recently published Tyson’s Corner Bicycle Plan. (See http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/pdf/TysonsCornerBicycleMasterPlan111118.pdf) Development of a county-wide bicycle master plan will begin in the spring of 2011.

Other bicycle concepts covered included: considerations required for new developments, the goal of accommodating bicyclists ages “8 to 80,” bicycle street lanes versus sidewalk use, bicycle lane standards, safety issues, related public education, connecting existing trails and building new ones, coordination among agencies, how the county gets citizen input on bicycle requirements, the difficulty connecting McLean pedestrians and bicyclists to Tyson’s Corner, insuring safe routes to schools, autonomy of school principals regarding school bicycle policy, and ensuring bike lanes on the new beltway bridges built for the HOT lanes project.

President Hossain expressed the Federation’s gratitude for this update on the bicycle program and presented Jeff and Charles with Federation mugs.

ADMINISTRATIVE TOPICS

Minutes: The membership approved the minutes of the September 16 and October 21, 2010, membership meetings.

Treasurer’s Report: Scott Schlegel presented the treasurer’s report, which the membership voted to receive and file.

The Bulletin (newsletter): Newsletter articles are due to the editor by December 1. Committee chairs and Federation representatives to other organizations are urged to share information via The Bulletin.

OLD BUSINESS

2011 Citizen of the Year (COY) Award: Chair Jeff Pames, requests that all members please spread the word about the next Citizen of the Year Award. More information is available on our website at http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/coy1.htm. Jeff will send announcements to The Washington Post, local newspapers, the planning commission, supervisors, and legislators.

NEW AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Citizens Police Academy Fund Raising Effort
Fairfax County Police: Following up on a fundraising effort described at the October membership meeting by Gabe Goldberg, representative of the Walnut Hill Association, Esther Ferington made the same coupon books available on his behalf for a second and final time. As described in the October minutes, the project is conducted by graduates of the Fairfax County Citizens Police Academy and the funds raised will be used to supply a Police Department mobile canteen that supplies food and rest areas for police at major incident scenes where police may be on-site for many hours or days.

Redistricting of the Election Districts of the Board of Supervisors
The board of supervisors on November 16 approved the process and schedule for reapportionment of supervisor districts. Earlier Chairman Bulova stated that the Federation would be one of the countywide organizations included on the Advisory Citizen Committee to participate in the process with County staff. The Federation must choose its representative; those who wish to represent the Federation on this committee should contact President Tania Hossain.

Board & Committee Reports

Budget: Chairs Carey Campbell and Charlie Hall. Charlie Dane reported that by December he and Kosmo Tatalias will prepare a schedule for the Federation’s budget committee activities.

Citizen Association Services: Don Hinman. No report

Education: Chairs Leonard Bumbaca, Ed Saperstein, & Tim Thompson. Tim reported that the Education Committee met with the FCPS Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources Kevin North and Chief Financial Officer Susan Quinn to review plans for employee pay raises and funding of retirement accounts.

Environment: Chair Flint Webb. The Federation’s December 16 meeting program topic is water quality. The presenter will be George Lamb, member of the board of the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District. The NVSWD will provide informational brochures at the meeting.

Human Services: Chair vacant

Land Use: Chair Fred Costello, in support of the Reston Master Plan Special Study Task Force, developed several analytical models related to traffic. The County has more sophisticated models, such as VISSIM, but the time required to look at one alternative road change is several months—far too long to be useful given the Task Force’s schedule. Fred’s models are simpler.

His gridded-streets model shows that grids do not improve traffic flow significantly, except for the last 0.2 mile for a destination away from the artery.

His model of mode shares shows that walking and bicycling are faster for distances less than ½ mile. A single-occupant private automobile is less costly than a bus for distances less than eight miles, if time is evaluated at $20 per hour and the time to walk and from the bus is included. The bus is cheaper for longer distances because the Metro bus fare structure does not depend on distance. Fred is still working on a model to estimate the percent of people who would prefer the bus, despite its higher cost.

Fred has compared the George Mason University (GMU) and
The revised Transportation Committee webpage ([http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/transportation1.htm](http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/transportation1.htm)) holds recent presentations (including those mentioned above) that may be of interest to Federation members.

**Website:** Chair Jeff Parnes will add the Tysons Corner Bicycle Master Plan to the web site along with other transportation presentations.

### District Council Reports

Seven supervisor districts have councils of citizens associations; Dranesville and Hunter Mill districts do not.

**Braddock:** Rep. Art Wells reported that future events of the Braddock District Council include:
- December 2—Taste of Braddock at Braddock Hall
- First half of December—2nd meeting of district budget advisory committee
- First half of December—Woodson Bus Lot public meeting

**Lee:** Rep. Don Hinman. No report

**Mason:** Rep. Keith Taggart. Tania reported that Mason District Council will hold a powwow at Mike's Pizza Place on December 9.

**Mount Vernon:** Rep. Karen Pohorylo. No report

**Providence:** Rep. Charles Hall. No report

**Springfield:** Rep. Mike Thompson. No report

**Sully:** Rep. Jeff Parnes reported that topics of the November 17 meeting were a presentation on plans for the National Air and Space Museum's Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center and the Centre- ville Immigrant Foundation's plans to set up an immigrant assistance center.

The topic of the December 15 meeting is Watershed Management, to be presented by Joe Sanchirico, the project manager for the Sugarland Run/Horsepen Creek Watershed Plan.

### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

### NEXT MEETINGS

The next board meeting is scheduled December 2, 2010 at 7:30 p.m., at the Marco Polo Restaurant, 245 Maple Ave. West, Vienna. All members of the Federation are invited to join in the evening's festivities and the excellent Thursday night buffet. Please RSVP to President Tania Hossain by November 28.

The next membership meeting is scheduled December 16, 2010, at 7:30 p.m., at the Sully District Community Room in the Sully Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Boulevard, Chantilly.

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Minutes written and published by

*Ed Wyse, Recording Secretary*
An Urban Conservation Ethic

Our December Speaker: George Lamb was appointed as a Director of the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District to fill the seat of the late Sally Ormsby in 2009. Over the past two years he’s learned much about practical conservation and realized that very few people have the opportunity or experience to practice conservation. He spends weekends fighting invasive plants in his backyard and chasing his two daughters. He is also Vice Chair of the Fairfax County Environmental Quality Advisory Council (EQAC), which is appointed by the Board of Supervisors to advise them on environmental issues across the County. By training, George is a computer scientist and works for Cisco Systems in Herndon.

Here are some of the points George will cover:

Conservation in the United States has a long and proud tradition. One hundred and seven years ago, John Muir convinced Teddy Roosevelt to go camping in the Yosemite Valley. Over three days he lobbied the President to create a national park to preserve the valley and a stand of giant redwoods. In the 1930’s great dust storms that ravaged the Midwest had moved east and “blotted out the sun over the nation’s capital and drove grit between the teeth of New Yorkers.” Thus was born the Soil Conservation Districts that restored conservation on our farm lands. Today we live and work in very different ways than John Muir and the 1930’s farmers, yet we inhabit the same lands as they did. In this talk we’ll discuss what it means to be a 21st century conservationist in Fairfax County, what is being done to advance the Fairfax County environmental agenda, and how to participate in an urban conservation ethic.

Redistricting Virginia

The Redistricting Subcommittee of the Virginia House Committee on Privileges and Elections seeks public comment on the redistricting process, criteria to be considered in preparing redistricting plans, and potential district changes to legislative and congressional districts. The remaining public hearings will be held according to the following schedule:

Fri, Dec 17 at10 am …… 9th Floor Appropriations Room, General Assembly Building
(time approximate, after Governor’s remarks to the money committees)

The Subcommittee Members are The Honorable Mark Lo Cole, Chairman, the Honorable Robert B. Bell, the Honorable Rosalyn R. Dance, the Honorable Algie T. Howell, Jr, the Honorable S. Chris Jones, the Honorable Jackson H. Miller, the Honorable David B. Albo, and the Honorable Johnny S. Joannou. Questions may be directed to Jack Austin, Division of Legislative Services at (804) 786-3591 or: FJAustin@DLS.Virginia.gov Persons wishing to register in advance to speak at one of the September hearings may do so by contacting Scott Maddrea [SMaddrea@house.virginia.gov], House of Delegate Committee Operations at (804) 698-1540. Persons wishing to be notified of future meetings may also contact Scott Maddrea. More information is available on the Redistricting Virginia website at [http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb/fy2012/diy/]

News Items

Citizen of the Year

The Federation is accepting nominations for the Fairfax County Citizen of the Year (COY) award, which honors those citizens whose voluntary contributions of time and talent have resulted in major accomplishments that have enhanced the quality of life for citizens of Fairfax. The criteria and nomination form is at [http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/COY/COYApplication.html]

Fairfax County Budget

How the budget is developed is described in the video: “Juggling in a Struggling Economy: The FY 2012 Budget Process” which can be found at [http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb/]

A Do-It-Yourself Budget Toolkit is available at [http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb/fy2012/diy/]

Conservation


Christopher B. Leinberger of Brookings and Patrick C. Doherty, Director, Smart Strategy Initiative, New America Foundation describe the next real-estate boom as involving walkable communities of childless households. See [http://www.brookings.edu/articles/2010/11_real_estate_leinberger.aspx]

The authors do not address the impact of the various ethnic groups that still foster large families.


Wendell Cox introduces another contrarian view in “Hello Smart Growth, Goodbye Affordable Housing”, which can be viewed at: [http://www.heritage.org/Research/Commentary/2010/07/Hello-Smart-Growth-Goodbye-Affordable-Housing]