

Since 1919 Dedicated to Responsible Citizenship and the Improvement of Local Government

B U L L E T I N



Next Meeting

**12 noon – Thursday
June 4, 2009**

**SunTrust Building
Executive Dining Room
24th Floor
929 East Main Street**

Downtown Richmond

Lunch is \$18 for members and \$20 for nonmembers.

Please call (545-6656) to make your reservation.

You can park in the SunTrust parking lot. (*Heading East on Cary Street turn left into the deck just after you cross over 9th Street.*) Have your parking ticket validated in the bank — to offset the parking cost. We appreciate the support of SunTrust by giving us an hour of parking each month!

Our speaker on June 4, will be Senator Donald McEachin.



Senator McEachin

The Honorable Senator A. Donald McEachin and the Recent Virginia General Assembly

The Richmond First Club will host Senator A. Donald McEachin, Democratic senator representing Virginia's 9th District, as guest speaker in June. He will recap significant legislation affecting our government and our lives.

Virginia's status as a Dillon Rule state places considerable legislative authority on our legislative body, which must deal with a multiplicity of bills from the mundane to the essential in every session. Local governments in Virginia must seek state legislative approval for many local actions, causing a glut of bills and resolutions to be either passed, tabled, "passed by," engrossed, or defeated. The Governor's April veto day is another significant milestone in our legislative process.

From abortion rights to payday lending, death penalties, public educational objectives, unemployment insurance, health insur-

ance, energy, offshore drilling, definitions of marriage, sex education, mental health, transportation, land conservation, car taxes, and estate (death) taxes — you name it and our General Assembly has dealt with it! The 2009 short session had several political "hot potatoes" on its plate: Governor Kaine's veto of two pro-gun bills, his veto on bills applying the death penalty to murder accomplices and to killers of auxiliary police officers, and the House's rejection of his amendment to a Senate bill on voluntary energy reduction goals. Another political hot potato may yet have implications for House of Delegate re-elections: rejection by the House of the Governor's proposal to use \$125.5 million federal "stimulus" funding to provide expansion of unemployment insurance eligibility to unemployed part-time workers and unemployed people in job training programs. Virginia is one of the first states to reject jobless benefits from President Obama's stimulus package.

The current recession and its impact on our state budget prevented General Assembly actions that would encumber funding of ambitious projects. However, significant legislation was passed in a "bare bones budget" year. Our guest speaker, Senator McEachin, will bring us up-to-date on the most pertinent legislative actions our General Assembly has taken in 2009, with special em-

McEACHIN Continued on page 2 —

Reminder: To help us coordinate our planning with the SunTrust dining staff —

***Please RSVP for the monthly meeting
in a timely manner!***

Pat Ryan — 545-6656 — or email: patryan@kw.com

McEACHIN — *From page 1*

phasis on legislative initiatives involving transportation and housing pertinent to the Richmond region. His speech is entitled "General Assembly 2009: Focus on Housing and Transportation."

Senator McEachin is an attorney with the McEachin & Gee Law Firm, which he founded with his friend and partner, Donald Gee. Elected to the Senate in 2007, he represents the 9th district, which includes Charles City County, parts of Henrico County, and the City of Richmond. He currently serves on the Senate Committees of Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources; Commerce and Labor; General Laws and Technology; and Privileges and Elections. He is also a member of the Virginia Legislative Black Caucus and the Henrico County Democratic Committee. Prior to his service in the Senate, he was a member of the Virginia House of Delegates from 1996 – 2001 and from 2005 - 2007.

Senator McEachin is married to Colette, a distinguished attorney with the Richmond Commonwealth's Attorney's Office. They are the proud parents of three daughters, Megan, Briana, and Alexandra.

Richmond First Club is delighted to welcome Senator McEachin as our June 4th guest speaker. We wish him well as he continues his public service as one of our Senators.

By Jane Koontz, First Vice President and Program Chair



JACV Needs and Deserves your Support

Amid the current business/financial/economic/employment crises for the nation and its citizens, it is proving to be both a critical and exciting time for the financial education arena in general and for Junior Achievement (JA) in particular. Junior Achievement of Central Virginia (JACV) is the Richmond metro area operations of JA Worldwide, and its business in the form of demand for and relevancy of the JA classes and materials on economic and financial education and literacy is booming.

In a sense, the bad news is good news of a sort, but it is really a huge and immediate opportunity and challenge that JACV is working diligently to address. This includes the request for a record number of classes in the public, private and parochial schools (in Richmond, Chesterfield, Henrico, Petersburg, Colonial Heights, Hanover, Powhatan and Goochland) for the well established K through 12 programs. JA also has produced two new publications that provide timely and relevant information and explanation of the crises, with "Understanding the Financial Crisis: Origin and Impact" addressing the causes and consequences, and "Understanding Stock Market Fluctuations: The Turmoil at the Heart of the Capitalist System" addressing the fundamentals of the stock market and recent substantial fluctuations.

The numbers for JACV dramatically show the opportunity and related need for continued as well as new and expanded support by businesses and individuals, both financially and as volunteers in the classroom. JACV has been sound and growing in local impact through the increased number of classes and students in the area schools, plus the second year for the special month long Finance Park program that has been significantly underwritten by Capital One. In the schools, the classes filled had grown to 900, with 19,000 students last year, and the budget for this year was for 950 classes, but the requests have grown to and been cut off at 1,400 classes, which would mean 27,000 students.

This creates the challenge of getting more support when local businesses and individuals are being challenged by the crises. JACV is cutting costs and stretching every dollar and its staff to help meet the challenge, but it still requires a volunteer teacher and about \$100 for the materials for each class, and this adds up to around 400 volunteers and \$40,000 that is not in hand or even in the budget. We hope some or many of you can find either the time to volunteer or the funds to make a donation to fund all or part of a class or two, or possibly both, to help respond to this record breaking demand and urgent need.

It has been my privilege and pleasure to serve on the JACV board for over 20 years now, and I can assure you without reservation that JACV is the right organization and operation and is ready right now. I am hopeful that you will respond to this appeal, and encourage you to promptly check out JACV on its website at www.JAToday.org where you can get information on its operations, review its programs, read and download the above publications, make a contribution and/or contact the staff about being a volunteer. You can also contact JACV President Anne Marie McHugh or one of the education managers or other staff at the JACV office by calling 804-217-8855.

JACV and I thank you for your quick consideration and response, and hope you will also contact and encourage your family and friends to join you in this endeavor. JACV and our kids and community all need and deserve whatever support you are willing and able to provide.

Jonathan Macdonald, Secretary and Director, RFC



RFC June Meeting

Prior to our speaker and program at the June luncheon meeting, there will be a brief meeting of the membership. Only paid members may vote on the following agenda items.

1. ELECTION — The Richmond First Club Nominations Committee has been talking with members and recruiting new leadership for the August 1 2009 — July 31 2010 fiscal year. Elections will take place on June 4, 2009 at the annual luncheon meeting of the membership. As of this date the following have agreed to serve:

PRESIDENT: Fred Fisher
 FIRST VICE PRESIDENT: Nancy Finch
 SECOND VICE PRESIDENT: Mike Brooks
 SECRETARY: Jonathan MacDonald
 TREASURER: Lewis Matherne
 AT-LARGE: Len Morrow
 AT-LARGE: Pat Ryan
 AT-LARGE: Rayford Harris
 NEWSLETTER: TBA

Other: Pat Ryan has agreed to continue as Membership chair; Len Morrow has agreed to continue as PR committee chair; we are looking for an individual to fill the position of Newsletter (*Bulletin*) Editor and another as that of Education chair.

2. PROPOSED BYLAW CHANGES — *(Please review the inserted pages.)* Only those current paid members may discuss and vote.

3. MEMBERSHIP CONTEST — The winner will be announced and the awards presented.

You are invited — Aging in Place Initiative

- Developing Livable Communities for All Ages+
- Engaging Community Leaders in the Process:
- Creating a Livable Richmond Metro Region for All Ages

Wednesday June 17, 2009 — 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. — Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Richmond Convention Center

Join a select gathering of key innovators and representatives from across the Richmond Metro Area and contribute to a national conversation on aging co-hosted by Senior Connections: The Capital Area Agency on Aging, the Greater Richmond Chamber of Commerce, United Way of Greater Richmond & Petersburg, the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission, and AARP Virginia.

The Richmond Metro Area was chosen to host one of a series of dynamic workshops highlighting the opportunity to improve livability for persons of all ages. Communities that are user-friendly for people of all ages, abilities and aspirations will have a competitive edge over other jurisdictions. Engaging Community Leaders in the Process is your opportunity to speak out about what you think will make the Richmond Metro Area livable for all ages.

The workshop is free and includes lunch and information on obtaining a JumpStart grant (\$1,000-\$2,500) to keep the conversation going. Reservations are required and space is limited. Visit www.aginginplaceinitiative.org/Richmond to register and learn more.

Catherine Hendrickson 353-1176. Questions? Contact Penny Cuff at Partners for Livable Communities; (pcuff@livable.com); Helen Eltzeroth at the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (heltzeroth@n4a.org); or Thelma Watson at Senior Connections, The Capital Area Agency on Aging (twatson@youraaa.org).



Membership Recruitment Contest

As stated in earlier editions of the *Bulletin*, one of the results of the “Leadership Surge” (a long night retreat last October by the board) was a recommendation for increasing membership and recruiting new and young members to take on leadership roles in the Richmond First Club.

In order to preserve the rich heritage and mission of the Richmond First Club, and to ensure future growth while attracting potential new leadership to our ranks, the Board of Directors recently approved a recruitment incentive for current members to recruit new members to Richmond First Club. Again, this incentive is for current members of the Richmond First Club — The member who recruits the highest number of new members by the June meeting (that is the end of this fiscal year) will be designated as this year’s contest winner and will receive the following:

- an \$85 credit for one year of free membership! The dues will be applied to the next fiscal year (August 2009 – June 2010).
- a gift certificate for two people for a 2-hour Richmond Landmark tour from Segway of Richmond. What fun that will be!
- an afternoon kayak trip at Winter Harbor — on the Chesapeake Bay (when the weather permits).

To be eligible for the incentive prizes: you, as a current member of the Richmond First Club, will need to recruit a minimum of two (2) new members (*who are not previous members*) who apply, are approved, and pay their dues to RFC this spring. The individual who recruits the greatest number of new members (must be a minimum of 2) will be the winner! You should finalize the new members now! Recruit the new members and bring them to the June meeting. **The contest ends with the June meeting!**

Please use the form at the bottom of this page. Sign your name where it indicates “Member Sponsor”.

Application for Richmond First Club Membership (or Annual Renewal)

I am familiar with and will subscribe to the purposes of the Richmond First Club. I understand that members are expected to participate actively on a club committee and are encouraged to attend the club meetings as often as possible. I certify that I am a registered voter in the Richmond metropolitan area (Richmond, Chesterfield, Henrico and Hanover) and by signing this application, and upon being accepted for membership by the Board, I agree to fulfill the membership obligations set forth above.

Name: _____ (Name or Nickname used) _____

Home Address: _____

Business Address: _____

Name of Business: _____ (Position or Title) _____

Home Phone: _____ Business Phone: _____ Fax: _____

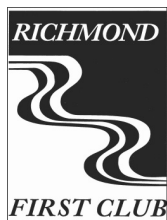
Email: _____ Preferred mailing address (please check one): Home Business

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____ Enclosed \$ _____

Member Sponsor: _____ Date: _____

Annual Membership Dues \$85 (plus paying separately for each of 10 monthly luncheons attended.) — OR select the “Gold Star” membership with dues of \$210 annually (\$210 includes the fee for 10 monthly luncheon meetings as well as your dues). — If you attend all meetings you realize a savings of at least \$55 per year and don’t need to remember to bring a check each month for your lunch! Look for the members with a gold star on their badge — they took advantage of the new “Gold Star” membership benefit! Please mail to Richmond First Club — PO Box 344 — Richmond, VA 23218-0344.

The Bulletin is published monthly by the
Richmond First Club
PO Box 344
Richmond, VA 23218-0344
<http://richmondfirstclub.org>



Board of Directors

Acting

President: Board members or past presidents preside

1st VP: **Jane Koontz** 795-2117, jekoontz@juno.com

2nd VP: *vacant*

Secretary: **Jonathan Macdonald** 804-272-1442
jbmacdon@hotmail.com

Treasurer: **Jim Doherty** 353-2000 mldoherty@aol.com

At large: **Rayford Harris** 321-7944, vsuteach@verizon.net

At Large: **Len Morrow** 358-7355 lmorrow3@verizon.net

At Large: **Charlie Finley** 648-0357 charfinley@mindspring.com

Past President: **Allan Troclair**

Education Committee:

Need new chairperson

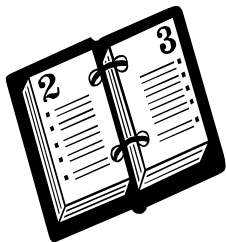
Membership Committee:

Pat Ryan 545-6656, patryan@kw.com

Newsletter: **Brenda Finley** 272-9004, brenden.associates1@juno.com

The public is welcome to attend meetings, which are generally held on the first Thursday of each month. Please call or email Pat Ryan to make a reservation — 545-6656, patryan@kw.com.

FIRST CLASS MAIL



**Mark your calendar now
for the last luncheon
meeting of the
Richmond First Club's
2008-2009 fiscal year.**

The Club meets on the first Thursday of the month. We will continue to meet at SunTrust Bank at 10th & East Main Streets.

- **June 4, 2009 — Senator Donald McEachin**
- **June 4, 2009 — Annual Meeting— Election of Board; Proposed Bylaw Changes**

Members are welcome to attend the monthly meetings of the Board of Directors — usually held on the Monday evening following the Thursday membership meeting.

If you come, you will be provided with an opportunity to offer your ideas, concerns, and/or other areas of interest. You may be looking for a way to become more involved in the club, or head up a committee.

Please call or send an email message to any officer (above) for directions and to be included on the agenda. (804)272-9004

Richmond First Club

Our Mission

The club's founders shared a common vision of a permanent organization that would inform the public and political leaders about a broad range of civic issues, policies and solutions.

The spirit of enlightened activism that initially inspired the formation of the Richmond First Club in 1919 carries on today in its active study of and involvement in issues currently affecting the Richmond metropolitan area.

During its 80-plus year history, the club has provided leadership on a number of issues critical to the quality of governance in the metropolitan areas. All the region's citizens have benefited from the club's energy and diligence.

The club pioneered the idea of cooperation among the political jurisdictions in the metropolitan areas. The club completed comprehensive studies advocating regional cooperation as early as 1981.

The lifeblood of the club is its committee structure, where members focus on and research civic issues vital to continued development in the region. Thorough and nonpartisan studies have been published by these committees, assisting in many high-profile accomplishments over the years.

**Be advised that our mailing address is:
Richmond First Club
P.O. Box 344 – Richmond, VA 23218-0344**

Changes of name, address, telephone number or email address go to Pat Ryan patryan@kw.com who is charged with producing the membership directory.

Thank you!