



November, 2009

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

BULLETIN



Next Meeting

12 noon – Wednesday
November 4, 2009

NEW DAY & LOCATION!

**The Colony Club is located at
10 East Franklin Street**

There is free parking in the rear or on the street. Directions — Approach headed East (one way street) on Franklin Street; left on Foushee; right into the Colony Club lot off of Foushee (this right turn is into an alleyway that runs parallel mid-block between Franklin and Grace Streets). Colony Club spaces are marked and all are on perimeter of lot. Proceed into Colony Club entrance —green awning leads into courtyard; proceed up courtyard to double glass doors.

Lunch is \$16 for members and \$20 for nonmembers.

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



Former Delegate Terrie Suit

The Day After:

**Former
Delegate
Terrie Suit
to speak Nov. 4**

When former Delegate Terrie Suit speaks to the Wednesday, Nov. 4, Richmond First Club meeting, Virginia will have elected new leadership for the next four years.

Ms. Suit resigned from her 10-year House of Delegates service as a Republican from Virginia Beach to accept a lobbyist position with the Beach office of Williams Mullen law firm. Her resignation was effective October 12.

Formerly employed in mortgage banking, Ms. Suit often initiated legislation that had to do with housing or mortgage banking. Her legislation included affordable housing incentive programs for localities in 2007, the Property Owners Association Act reform of 2008 and Real Estate Cooperative Act revisions of 2002 and 2003.

But it was her position on the Privileges and Elections Committee

that prompted her invitation to speak to the Richmond First Club about redistricting efforts that came before the P and E Committee. She cautioned that she can't speak about the legal aspects "because I am not an attorney" but she said would "only be able to speak to the political aspects and talk about my experiences leading up (to) and during the 2001 process and the correlations between this years elections and the upcoming redistricting session."

While there is broad support for nonpartisan redistricting, such legislation in recent years fails to pass in a P & E subcommittee.

Richmond First Club is focusing on redistricting. Doug Smith, executive director of the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy, spoke about redistricting at the September meeting.

Terrie Suit, 43, graduated from Tidewater Community College and Old Dominion University. She is a navy wife and often offered legislation supportive of her area's military citizens and their families.

She has received honors for her leadership in housing from the Virginia Housing Coalition and various public service awards in Hampton Roads.

Nancy Finch, Program Chair

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

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

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

— An Update —
**Members' Tickets For The
 CANDIDATES FORUM
 And the
 PSG SAUNTER BUS TOUR**

This will confirm that as an organizer for the *Candidates' Live Radio Forum* for the Richmond area Delegate Candidates to the General Assembly, and as a contributor to the *Partnership for Smarter Growth's (PSG) Saunter Bus Tour & Community Celebration*, the Richmond First Club received 8 spaces for the *Forum* and 6 spaces for the *Saunter* for paid members only.

- The *Forum* is scheduled for **Thursday, October 22** at WCVE-FM Studios, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. (with attendees required to be seated by 6:45 p.m.);
- The *Saunter* takes place on **Sunday, October 25** commencing with signing in at @ 2:00 p.m. at Stonehenge, formerly Cloverleaf Mall.

You are encouraged to get more information and details about these events by contacting the event sponsors at forum@ideastations.org for the *Forum* and www.psrichmond.org/RiverCitySaunter09 for the *Saunter Bus Tour*.

As announced at the Club luncheon meeting last week, the Board decided to distribute the 14 opportunities ("tickets") to participate in these events by a single drawing from the paid members of the Club. The drawing was held for the eligible members at the Board meeting on Monday October 12th, using a random number generator, and the results were provided in an attachment to the e-mail sent to paid members on October 13th.

The Board also decided that the "tickets" are for, and must be used by, the winning member only (no redistribution), so that if the winning member cannot attend the event then the next member in line will receive the opportunity. Beginning with the first winner and then proceeding numerically, the winners will have their choice of the events to attend until all the tickets for one of the events have been claimed, and then the next winners will get the remaining event. However, the possibility does exist that a ticket might be available well beyond the first 14 names in the drawing (or even possibly back to the top of the list).


Members were sent an e-mail announcement on October 14th with directions for claiming their place for participation in the event of their choice.

Pat Ryan (as membership chair) will compile and match the information on Friday, October 16 from those responses in the order of the drawing and inform the winning members of their event ticket.

Please further note that since there are no actual "tickets" for the events, winners will be given directions to register to include their name on the official list of attendees, and will then need to properly identify themselves at the entrance to the event. Please also keep in mind that these events are open to the public but space is limited. So if you do not win a ticket in the club drawing you might still be able to attend if you are interested by contacting the event as soon as possible.

You may listen to the *FORUM* by dialing 88.9 FM on your radio October 22nd from 7 to 9 pm.

If you have any questions, please contact Pat using by e-mail prryan@att.net or call 545-6656.

Pat Ryan, Membership Chair


www.richmondfirstclub.org

Check out our NEW website!

The Richmond First Club at AGE 90 has joined the 21st century with a spiffy new website that will be used to keep YOU and the rest of the world informed about what we are doing!

If you missed the meeting last week, read about Wednesday's (October 7th) speaker (Michael Cassidy), on the website.

So . . . take time to visit; stop at all of the tabs, buttons and links!

Then — Let us know what you think!



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!

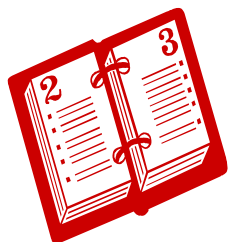
2009-2010 Board of Directors



President: Fred Fisher 804-786-1929 fsfisher@aol.com
1st VP: Nancy Finch 804-272-6188 nancyfin@comcast.net
2nd VP: *vacant*
Secretary: Jonathan Macdonald 804-272-1442 jbmacdon@hotmail.com
Treasurer: Louis Matherne 804-213-4205 lmatherne@vablood.org
Newsletter Director: Brenda Finley 804-272-9004, brenden.associates1@juno.com
Membership Director: Pat Ryan 804-545-6656, patryan@kw.com
At Large: Rayford Harris 804-321-7944, vsuteach@verizon.net
At Large: Len Morrow 804-358-7355 lmorrow3@verizon.net

Website Committee: Nancy Finch, Brenda Finley, Mike Brooks

The public is welcome to attend meetings, which are generally held on the first Wednesday of each month. Please call or email Pat Ryan to make a reservation — 804-545-6656, patryan@kw.com.



Mark your calendar now for the monthly luncheon meetings of the Richmond First Club's 2009-2010 Fiscal Year.

November 4, 2009
 December 2, 2009
 January 6, 2010
 February 3, 2010

And the first Wednesday of every month in the spring.

The Club meets on the first Wednesday of the month. Members are welcome to attend the monthly meetings of the Board of Directors — usually held on the Monday afternoon following the Wednesday membership luncheon meeting.

If you plan to 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 e-mail message to the President (above) for directions and to be included on the agenda.

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.