

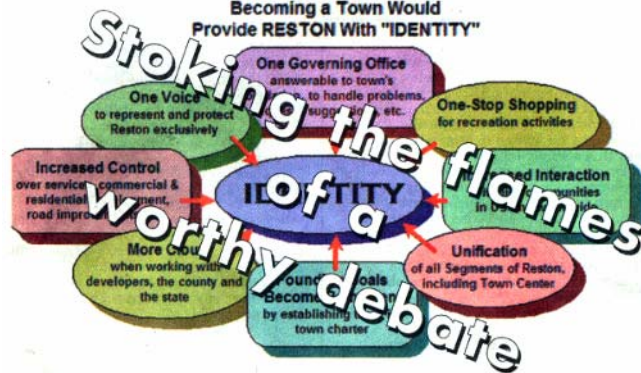
<http://www.restoncitizensassociation.org>

2005 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Reston Citizens Association



Becoming a Town Would Provide RESTON With "IDENTITY"



Clockwise from top left: RCA Board members include Mike Corrigan, president; Marion Stillson, vice president; David Pierpont; Debra Steppel; Bob Haley; Susan Merk; Colin Mills; Jan Bradshaw; John Fay; Mark Terry; and Rod Koozmin.

RCA Board Named "Citizen of the Year"

Excerpted from the 1/18/06 edition of the Reston Times:

"The significant and ongoing debate and analysis the newly invigorated Reston Citizens Association (RCA) has created throughout Reston in 2005 is a key reason it was selected by the Reston Times for the annual honor of Citizen of the Year.

The debate about whether Reston should become an incorporated town, reignited by RCA's "resTOWN" initiative, was one of the hottest topics in Reston in the past year.

In addition to the considerable impact it has had on thinking (both pro and con) within Reston, RCA also was selected for the ceaseless dedication its board members have shown in educating Restonians about the multiple issues underlying their quest to make Reston a town.

Members of the RCA Board—all volunteers—deserve to be recognized for their idealism and civic zeal, which is rare in these blatantly more money- and power-driven times." (The entire article is a link off RCA's website at:

<http://www.restoncitizensassociation.org>)

RCA to Host Info Sharing Forum

Tues., Feb 28 – 7pm

Reston Public Library – Room 2

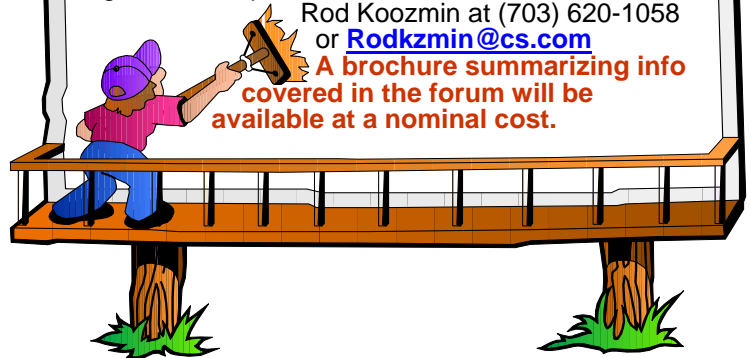
RCA will hold an informal "Info Sharing Smorgas-bord" on Tues., Feb. 28 at the Reston Library at 7pm in Room 2. Areas to be discussed in relation to the sharing of public information in the Reston area are:

- Bulletin Boards
- Websites
- Newspapers
- Radio/TV
- Locations for meetings

Come and find out how info is disseminated in our community and offer your own suggestions on what improvements could be made. There is no advance registration required. For more info, contact

Rod Koozmin at (703) 620-1058 or Rodkzmin@cs.com

A brochure summarizing info covered in the forum will be available at a nominal cost.



NEWS FLASH !!

RCC Public Hearings Relevant to resTOWN

RCC is holding Public Hearings on the following matters:
RCC Funding, Programs and Fee Structure

Sat., Feb. 11th at 1pm, at RCC - Hunters Woods

Wed., Feb. 15th at 7pm at RCC - Lake Anne

Individual speakers will be allowed two minutes to speak. Speakers representing an organization will be allotted three minutes. Speakers who register with the Board Secretary by 5pm on Feb. 8th will be recognized to speak first, in random order. Unregistered attendees may speak afterward as time permits. One can also provide written input to the RCC Board Secretary at: rccbog@faifaxcounty.gov. There are important RCC relationships with resTOWN issues, so stay on top of this latest development.

Attention – Reston Organizations

RCA Board members will make an audio-visual presentation on resTOWN to any group of 5 or more Restonites. Lead time of about a month is needed to get on RCA's calendar. Contact Marion Stillson at (703) 860-0019 or mbs@point0.net.

What has RCA Been Up To?



RCA Took part in Reston Holiday Parade 🏡

Marion Stillson, Mike Corrigan, John Fay and Colin Mills braved the cold weather and made up RCA's presence in the Reston Holiday Parade on Nov. 25. Stickers, flyers and candy were distributed to parade watchers in support of our message of requesting a referendum for town status.



Supervisor Hudgins' Meeting Nov. 2 🏡

On Nov. 2, 2005, Fairfax Co. Supervisor Cathy Hudgins joined by Sen. Janet Howell and Del. Ken Plum, called a public meeting to discuss RCA's town proposal. The meeting was well attended by about 80 interested Reston residents. Several residents spoke for and against town status at the meeting after Sen. Howell and Del. Plum gave presentations outlining the steps needed under the laws of VA to create a new town. Documents, press releases and other info relating to this meeting can be found at:

restoncitizensassociation.org/governance/index.html

New Members on RCA Board

David Pierpont has joined the Board as a Director for North Point and **Gary Lee Thomas** has joined the Board as a Director for Lake Anne. There remains one vacancy - a Director for Lake Anne. Anyone interested in being appointed to complete this vacant office should contact Marion Stillson at (703) 860-0019 or mbs@point0.net. In addition, the Board seeks a non-Board member to write the Minutes of the Board meetings. Again, contact Marion Stillson for details.

**Check out RCA's new PHOTO ALBUM
on our website at:**

restoncitizensassociation.org/photos.htm

Town Supporters Appear at Several

Government Forums



Several members of RCA appeared at the Fairfax Co. Board of Supervisors' (BOS) Public Hearing on its draft 2006 Legislative package on November 21, in support of including a request for a referendum on Reston town status in its submission to the VA General Assembly. Others gave

presentations at both Del. Plum/Sen. Howell's town meeting held Jan. 3 at Lake Anne Center and the Fairfax Co.

Legislators' forum held Jan. 7 at the Fairfax Gov't Center, in advance of the VA Legislature's session which began Jan. 12. Unfortunately, the request for a referendum on Reston town status was not included in the 2006 Legislative package, which only means we now work on getting it included in 2007.

Below are comments of Marion Stillson, representing Reston Citizens Association, to the VA Legislators Representing Fairfax County on Jan. 7, 2006.

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Topic: Referendum to Incorporate Reston as a Town

RCA looks forward to working across party lines with you, our legislators, and with Fairfax County, to achieve a referendum bill a year from now. RCA plans to implement guidelines set out by Delegate Plum and Senator Howell.

*Delegate Plum was deeply involved in the first campaign to incorporate Reston, back in 1980. At that time, the legislature recognized that a prime advantage of the urban county form of government is efficient service delivery, but a prime danger is the loss of the sense of community. A **Joint Subcommittee Report*** embraced the opportunity to experiment with Reston, which would retain County services but have a Mayor and Town Council. The need for experimentation that the General Assembly saw in 1980 has only grown. It has grown along with Reston, which now has 61,000 residents, and hi-tech companies of national and international renown.*

The General Assembly permitted a referendum in 1980. I myself voted for incorporation then, as did about 1/3 of the voters. The referendum failed, but as far as can be judged, another 1/3 of the voters favored town status but thought the charter too weak. Only the final 1/3 actually opposed the town concept. RCA believes that opinions are similar today. An improvement now is that our proposal is more detailed and cogent. RCA believes that a referendum in 2007 would pass.

Reston had a strong sense of identity. But it has eroded. No one is in charge. Change is hard to do. Even wireless Internet has not yet been implemented. If we were a town, Reston could once again be a vibrant, innovative enterprise for the County and the Commonwealth to be proud of. Self-governance at the most local level is a basic tenet of Jeffersonian democracy. RCA wants to work with you in the coming year to let Reston voters decide for themselves whether to become a self-determining town.

***Joint Subcommittee Report of 1979 is available on RCA's website:** restoncitizensassociation.org/governance/index.htm