

■ Results of RCA 2008 Election

The results of the Reston Citizens Association 2008 Board of Directors elections, held at the Reston Festival July 12-13 and also by mail are noted below. With almost 200 valid ballots, voter turnout was significantly higher than it had been in previous years.

The new RCA Board of Directors is:

- Marion Stillson, President - 180 votes**
- Mike Corrigan, At-Large Director - 154 votes**
- Diane Lewis, At-Large Director - 122 votes**
- John Lovaas, Lake Anne/Tall Oaks - 55 votes**
- Barbara Burluson, Lake Anne/Tall Oaks - 50 votes**
- Todd Harbour, Hunters Woods - 44 votes**

There were also 43 write-in votes resulting in Dan McGuire being appointed to the South Lakes Director's seat. The newly-elected Board sat for the first time on July 28. At this meeting, it elected Colin Mills as Vice-President, Dan McGuire as Treasurer and Marie Huhtala as Secretary. Two seats remain open – North Point and one At-Large. If you would like to apply for one of these, go to the following to download a candidate form:

www.restoncitizensassociation.org/elections



Volunteers Deborah Steppel, Marion Stillson and Nancy Davis helping set up RCA booth at Reston Festival.

The results of the straw poll for the U.S. Presidential Election are:

- Barack Obama - 134 votes
- John McCain - 43 votes
- Bob Barr - 4 votes
- Ralph Nader - 4 votes
- Ross Perot (write-in) - 1 vote
- Dennis Kucinich (write-in) - 1 vote

Thanks to everyone who volunteered to staff the RCA booth and/or voted to show an interest in our Reston community.



* Support the Reston License Plate *

Place your order for the Reston License Plate, offered by Reston Citizens Association, so we can reach our 350 minimum order.

The VA DMV requires a minimum of 350 **pre-paid** applicants to produce a specialized license plate. Complete the form at: <http://go-resTOWN.org/docs/VADMVvsa10.pdf> and send with check for appropriate fee made out to **Reston Citizens Association**: Reston Citizens Association, P.O. Box 2851, Reston, VA 20195. According to instructions from the VA DMV, RCA will hold all applications and checks until the special license creation process is complete and then forward one check to cover all the applications to the VA DMV. **For more info go to** <http://go-resTOWN.org> or email RCA-Info@comcast.net

NOTE: If you would like to volunteer to be on the committee to promote sales of the Reston license plate contact Dan McGuire at guildmore@aol.com or Diane Lewis at dyan03@juno.com.

■ Metro Rail Presentations at RCA Board Meetings



RCA Board is pleased to continue a series of transportation presentations focused on Dulles Rail, aired by Comcast Channel 28 live from the Reston studio at the start of RCA Board meetings.

On August 25, Scott Monett of Tysons Tunnel will make the transportation presentation, starting near the beginning of the 8 pm Board meeting. The date is Monday August 25. After a 15-minute presentation, Mr. Monett will take questions from the RCA Board of Directors for 15 minutes.

On Monday, September 22 at 8 pm, Patti Nicoson of Dulles Corridor Rail Association will take the podium. She has undertaken to watch Mr. Monett's presentation of the previous month and respond to the issues he raises, as well as to answer questions raised by the RCA Board of Directors for her final 15 minutes.

In July, the presenter was Marcia McAllister, Communications Manager, Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project, which is a division of Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority. "

Reston Citizens Association's newsletter is published 6 times/year and is available by email or on RCA's website at <http://go-resTOWN.org>. In the absence of a self-governing body, RCA seeks to protect and to promote the social and political interests of Reston, serving as a forum for all residents and a voice and advocate for the community with County and State government. RCA's monthly board meetings are shown on Ch. 28 RCTV at 8pm on the 4th Monday of the month. To get on email list, send email to RCA-Info@comcast.net. To suggest articles, send to Susan Merk, RCA Newsletter Editor/Webmaster at sbmerk@comcast.net.

■ Former Reston Resident Speaks Out

Tom Grubisich, a Reston resident from 1968-2003, author of "Reston: The First Twenty Years" (Prentice-Hall, 1985) and co-founder of the Connection newspapers had this response to RCA's June 2008 newsletter:



"Thanks for the very informative newsletter. I noticed in particular the following excerpt from pg. 3...

Among the challenges we face are:

1. Reinforcing the community's sense of identity as citizens of a **unique place whose principles should be preserved.**
2. Raising community awareness in our diverse community, including young people, about how Reston was created, what Robert E. Simon's vision was, and the **critical difference incorporation will make** to help preserve his original goals.

I heartily agree. I hope RCA will do everything it can to help make these challenges become accomplished facts. If, because of economic constraints, we will be entering a period of scaled-down county initiatives, it will be even more critical that Reston have control over its destiny to ensure that it remains the "unique place" that it mightily struggled to become. Reston's success was not foreordained. After Bob Simon and his principles, Reston could have ended up subdivided. It didn't because Simon's successor developers included decision makers who had worked for and were inspired by Bob. They literally saved Reston. There is not today any cadre of Simon-inspired execs. There's not even a successor developer. Rather, there are "players" who will "flip" this or that property without winking an eye. The only way that Reston can protect itself against these folks is through governance. As the economic downturn makes itself more visible, governance will become more necessary. RCA needs to be alert to seize the initiative. Otherwise, it will be too late. Then forget the Reston dream -- and wake up to a nightmare."

**Buy Fresh Produce from Local Farmers
at 2 farmers' markets in Reston:
Saturdays, 8-12 thru Oct. at Lake Anne Plaza
(voted best in NoVA)**

<http://restonfarmersmarket.com> and
Thursdays, 3-7pm in Reston Town Center
<http://smartmarkets.org>

■ Reston Multicultural Festival

**Saturday, September 6, 2008
11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Lake Anne Village Center
For All Ages - Free**

Families, friends and visitors are invited to come, enjoy and experience multicultural entertainment, cultural displays, children's and adults' activities, children's passports, a global fashion show, food, arts and crafts, and cultural demonstrations. Come dressed in your own native attire and share your culture with your neighbors. Get more info at: <http://restoncommunitycenter.com/>. To volunteer, contact Ha Brock at habrock@reston.org or 703-435-7986.



■ Reston Master Plan Review process

Readers, please answer these questions regarding the Reston Master Plan Review process. They have been posed to Reston residents by Fairfax County Planning Department:

1. Do you have suggestions regarding the process to review and update Reston Master Plan? (i.e. Task Force, Study Group, Advisory Group, Town Hall Meetings, Surveys, etc.)
2. Here is a list of the groups we are meeting with in this information-gathering stage of this process. Are there additional groups that you believe we should meet with at this stage of the process? RA, Reston P & Z Committee, RCA, ARCH, RCC, RTCA, Reston Interfaith, GRCC.
3. To what degree are you able to be involved in this planning process? Are you or someone connected with your organization, able to meet weekly or monthly?

Please e-mail your answers before the end of August to Barbara Burluson, at barbaraburluson@gmail.com. Barbara will ensure that your answers reach the appropriate Fairfax County staffer.

Also Read Letter to the Editor re: this topic on pg. 3

Volunteers needed!

Use your skills to help your community!

Do you:

- Have graphic design skills to develop a new RCA logo?
- Have copy-editing skills to work on a 90-page document consisting of original research on Reston?
- Know how to operate a video camera during monthly Board meeting, trained by Comcast?

RCA cannot pay you for your work but will publicize your contributions.

RCA needs help with the projects above and also needs volunteers to serve on the RCA committees noted on pg. 3. Please contact Marion Stillson at mbs@point0.net if you can help, or know of someone we can ask.

■ Reston Association Volunteer Opportunities

■ Weed Warrior Project – 9/27 and 10/25

Reston Association is currently seeking volunteers to participate in the Weed Warriors Program. Come help restore Reston's forests to their natural state. Our native ferns, wildflowers and tree seedlings are under attack by invasive exotic plants like English Ivy, Japanese Honeysuckle and Bamboo. These fast growing plants escape from people's yards and seriously damage local ecosystems, taking away vital food and habitat from already stressed wildlife populations.

■ Candidate Forums On RCTV – Ch. 28

Monday, September 29 at 8:00pm

RCA and Reston Impact, the local public policy issues/ personalities TV program, will again combine with Comcast Ch. 28 to telecast the 2008 Reston Candidates Forum for US Congress. This will be the 10th year that Restonians will be able to see the candidates for election go head to head and respond to questioning by reporters and editors from all of Reston's community newspapers.



Committees to Advise RCA Board, 2008-2009 (NOTE: Volunteers are needed for all committees but especially the shaded ones.)

NAME	FUNCTION	RCA BOARD MEMBER/S	VOLUNTEER MEMBER/S	NOTES
Stakeholders Committee	Help plan Reston zoning documents to guide next 40 years	Dan McGuire, John Lovaas, Marion Stillson	John Bowman; Dick Stillson	
License Plate Committee	Get 300 more registrations by 2009	Dan McGuire, Diane Lewis		RA may be interested in partnering with RCA; solicit help from business interests in Reston
Sustainable Reston Committee	Work with Reston groups, sponsor meetings and projects	Diane Lewis; Barbara Burleson	Hank Blakely; Paul Hughes	Help sustain Reston's quality of life in a time of expensive oil
Fundraising Committee	Raise funds, eg. e-mail solicitations to 100 supporters		Suzanne Bowman	Suzanne will draft letter, we need someone to send and receive
Charter Issues Committee	Evaluate dues, tax status	Colin Mills, Marion Stillson		
Grant Proposals Committee	Seek money to implement RCA goals	Mike Corrigan; Diane Lewis; John Lovaas		
Marketing/Design Committee	Use tagline to create bizcards, logo, etc		Suzanne Bowman	Tagline has been created
Press Relations Committee	Advice press of RCA activities	Todd Harbour		Get more info at: http://restoncitizensassociation.org ; (Click on Press Coverage)
Reston Access Committee	Improve access for residents with impaired mobility	Marion Stillson	Ken Fredgren, Glenn Sartori, Michael Barrett; Sonia Cronmiller	Get more info at: http://restoncitizensassociation.org ; (Click on Current Issues)

Letter to the Editor 8/15/08 from Marion Stillson, Pres. of RCA

Fairfax County Planning Department representatives are about half way through a series of focus group meetings with Reston organizations to discuss the process by which the Reston Master Plan (and related planning documents) will be reviewed. The meetings are the outgrowth of requests by RCA, RA, ARCH and the Reston P&Z Committee in 2006 to review the Reston planning documents.

As these meetings proceed, Reston Citizens Association (RCA) is sending to organization leaders a summary of the issues raised during RCA's own meeting with the County Planning Department representatives. This meeting of County staff with seven RCA board members occurred on July 22, 2008 to. The summary covers the issues described below.

Bob Simon's goals (slightly modified) are currently only in the PRC. Ideally, the goals should be in both the plan and the PRC and there should be some discussion about updating them.

"Blob" zoning may now be a liability. The original developer had substantial leeway, by means of very general zoning, to put together a harmonious community. That same leeway, in an environment where a re/developer is only interested in the single part of Reston he owns, could lead to very inharmonious results. One approach to replacing blob zoning would be to use more standard zoning for "stable residential communities."

There is significant concern that the level of density that could occur in Reston with the existing plans could lead to a deterioration of our environment (in all senses). In general, there is a loose consensus that additional development (or redevelopment)

should be in the RCIG, Town Center and around the Village Centers (where it was originally planned).

Transportation infrastructure should precede re/development. While there may be areas of Fairfax with an even higher level of congestion than Reston, it is not acceptable to Reston residents, as members of a planned community, to destroy that plan so that we match the worst congestion in the county. . The planning for the Reston-Herndon Suburban Center was done almost a decade ago, and it did not address the infrastructure associated with Metro. While there is a theoretical lower level of additional congestion associated with mixed use, when compared with single use, there was very little actual data provided. The entire issue should be reviewed.

Piecemeal redevelopment of the RCIG/Reston-Herndon Suburban Center area is likely to have very undesirable results. Perhaps we need a master plan for the RCIG area or the Reston-Herndon Suburban Center like the one for Tysons.

RCA is concerned that the original goals of diversity (economic, age and ethnic) in Reston will be met less in the future. Economically, many people are being priced out of the Reston market and new residential construction is aimed almost exclusively at high end condos. Approval of development plans that do not provide a range of housing should not be given. In particular, we need additional affordable, accessible housing for people currently in townhouses who become disabled due to aging or other factors, so they can stay in Reston.

The county indicated that they believed the review should be relatively quick, in particular, quicker than the Tysons Corner Task Force schedule. RCA members felt that the quality of the review was important and that it would be acceptable for the review of the planning documents to take as much time as needed.