

The Fairfax County
FEDERATION
of Citizens Associations *Established 1940*

December 2013/January 2014

THE BULLETIN

Volume 63, Number 4

Federation Membership Meeting

Thursday, January 16, 2014
To accommodate the speaker's schedule,
the meeting will start early:
7:00 p.m.

FCPS Administration Center, Room 1600
8115 Gatehouse Road, Falls Church, VA 22042

Note: The Gatehouse garage is located on the east side of the building, and entry closes at 8 p.m. Anyone arriving after that time will need to call someone at the meeting to be let in at the front door on the west side of the building.

Topic: Fairfax County Public-School Budget

By: Susan Quinn

Chief Financial Officer, FCPS

And

Kristen Michael

Director of the Office of Budget Services, FCPS



Federation Board Meeting

January 30, 2014, at 7:30 p.m.
Hidden Oaks Nature Center

President's Message

Greetings: Federation Members, Officers, and Board Members

I first hope you had the best Holiday Season and have a happy, healthy and prosperous 2014.

I would also be amiss were I not to thank the many "Federation people" who have contacted me with best wishes or otherwise kept me in their thoughts and prayers during my ongoing recovery. I suffered a seizure on November 5. "Nasty bacteria" found its way into my bloodstream and the left frontal lobe of my brain. Doctors found and removed an abscess on my brain. But with rest, doctors' visits, lots of needles and tests, and many pills, I am on my way to full recovery. I consider myself very fortunate as the seizure occurred on a day when I went to the office, rather than work alone at home, and because I have so many wonderful and caring friends and acquaintances.

2013 was significant for me for other reasons. First, I was humbled by the Federation's trust in me to be its new president, a task that is made easier by my excellent team of officers. Second, I am proud of how well the Federation has responded to and influenced government decision-making on two issues of key importance to the homeowners of Fairfax County. One is the proposed reorganization of our libraries. Federation volunteers worked feverously to provide community input to the County. Consequently, the County abandoned its "Beta Plan" that would have made our libraries "almost bookless". We will continue to work on this issue to ensure the libraries evolve in ways that meet community desires.

We also have had a major impact on the County's proposed amendment to the zoning ordinance to permit the construction of one-room residential studio units (RSUs) apartments for lower-income residents. By working with housing advocates, staff and elected officials, the Federation has persuaded the County to modify the proposal such that RSUs would not be permitted in low-density residential neighborhoods yet provide sufficient housing choices for county residents. The Federation will remain active on all important land use issues.

Among our endeavors for 2014, we will represent the homeowners of Fairfax County and their local associations in areas such as: the County and School budgets; the real estate tax rate; the proposed independent school auditor; ensuring community input to transportation projects and their funding; reduction of litter; enforcement of occupancy limits; emergency preparation; increasing community input to land use decisions; and addressing the needs of an aging population.

Come work with us as we work together to protect and enhance the quality of life in Fairfax County.

Rob Jackson, President

Twitter

If any of the district councils or member organizations have twitter accounts, the Federation wants to follow them. We suggest that they also follow the Federation. For example, @SullyDistrict is following @TheFCFCA.

Visit us at

www.FairfaxFederation.org

See us also on Facebook: Search for "Fairfax Federation", click on "See more results", and select "Fairfax Federation" with the Packard Center sign (as logo) from the list of alternatives.

FCFCA Calendar 2013-2014				
Membership Meeting			Board Mtg	
Date	Program	Location	Date	Location
2013				
Jul	no meeting	—	—	—
Aug	no meeting	—	22-Aug	Braddock Hall
19-Sep	Membership discussion and vote on Federation resolutions	Mason Governmental Center, Main Conference Room (MCR)	26-Sep	Braddock Hall
17-Oct	Legislative Package	Mason Governmental Center, Large Conference Room (LCR)	24-Oct	Braddock Hall
21-Nov	Public Safety—New Police Chief; Final vote on Legislative Package	Mason Governmental Center (MCR)	—	—
Dec	no meeting	—	5-Dec	Hokkaido Seafood Buffet
2014				
16-Jan	School Budget	FCPS Administration Center	30-Jan	Hidden Oaks Nature Center
13-Feb	Storm-water Budget	Braddock Hall	27-Feb	Hidden Oaks Nature Center
20-Mar	County Budget	Mason Governmental Center (MCR)	20-Mar	Hidden Oaks Nature Center
3-Apr	Report from Richmond	Mason Governmental Center (MCR)	24-Apr	Hidden Oaks Nature Center
8-May	Annual Meeting; Election of Officers	Mason Governmental Center (MCR)	22-May	Hidden Oaks Nature Center
12-Jun	Picnic, Installation of Officers, State of Fairfax	Annandale Community Park	26-Jun	TBD

Changes from the previous bulletin are shown in red.

Braddock Hall is at 9002 Burke Lake Road, Burke

All meetings start at 7:30 pm, except at 7:00 pm on Jan 16 and 6:30 pm on Jun 12.

The deadline for submissions to *The Bulletin* (our newsletter) is the first day of the month for that month's issue.

Do you want to have an impact?

The Federation is 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 committees that make up the backbone of the Federation please contact the committee chairs, listed below, using the following email addresses:

Budget: Linda Boone & Rob Jackson	FedBudgetChr2014@fairfaxfederation.org
Citizen Association Services: Don Hinman	FedAssociationServicesChr2014@fairfaxfederation.org
Education: Ed Saperstein & Tim Thompson ..	FedEducationChr2014@fairfaxfederation.org
Environment: Flint Webb	FedEnvironmentChr2014@fairfaxfederation.org
Human Services: Cherie Tripp Lejeune & Morgan Jameson.....	FedHumanServicesChr2014@fairfaxfederation.org
Land Use: Fred Costello & Matthew Bell.....	FedLandUseChr2014@fairfaxfederation.org
Legislation: Frank Anderson & Bill Barfield.....	FedLegislationChr2014@fairfaxfederation.org
Membership: Tania Hossain.....	FedMembershipChr2014@fairfaxfederation.org
Public Safety: Daniela Cockayne	FedPublicSafetyChr2014@fairfaxfederation.org
Resolutions: Bill Hanks	FedResolutionsChr2014@fairfaxfederation.org
Transportation: Karen Camplin & Jeff Parnes.....	FedTransportationChr2014@fairfaxfederation.org

The committees conduct the bulk of their business by email and formulate positions and suggest actions for consideration by the Board and by the Federation members. 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!

County Maintenance of Stormwater Facilities

In October, the Federation passed a resolution recommending to the county that the county should take over maintenance of the approximately 600 HOA stormwater facilities that it currently does not maintain. Compliance will thus be assured and the HOA's will be relieved of this cost.

The Count Board of Supervisors approved the county taking over maintenance of HOA BMP's.

Directions to Gatehouse

Take I-495 (Capital Beltway) to Route 50 (Arlington Blvd, Exit 50, going west)

go west 0.1 miles toward Gallows Road/Rt 650/Merrifield
Turn right at traffic signal onto Gallows Road.

Go 0.2 miles, turning right onto Gatehouse Road
Go 0.1 miles and turn right onto road on east side of building

Make first right into underground garage

Park on any level, but the level at which you enter the garage is P2

The meeting is on the first floor.

Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations

P.O. Box 3913, Merrifield, VA 22116-3913

www.fairfaxfederation.org

2013-2014 President: Rob Jackson

Newsletter Editor: Frederick A. Costello

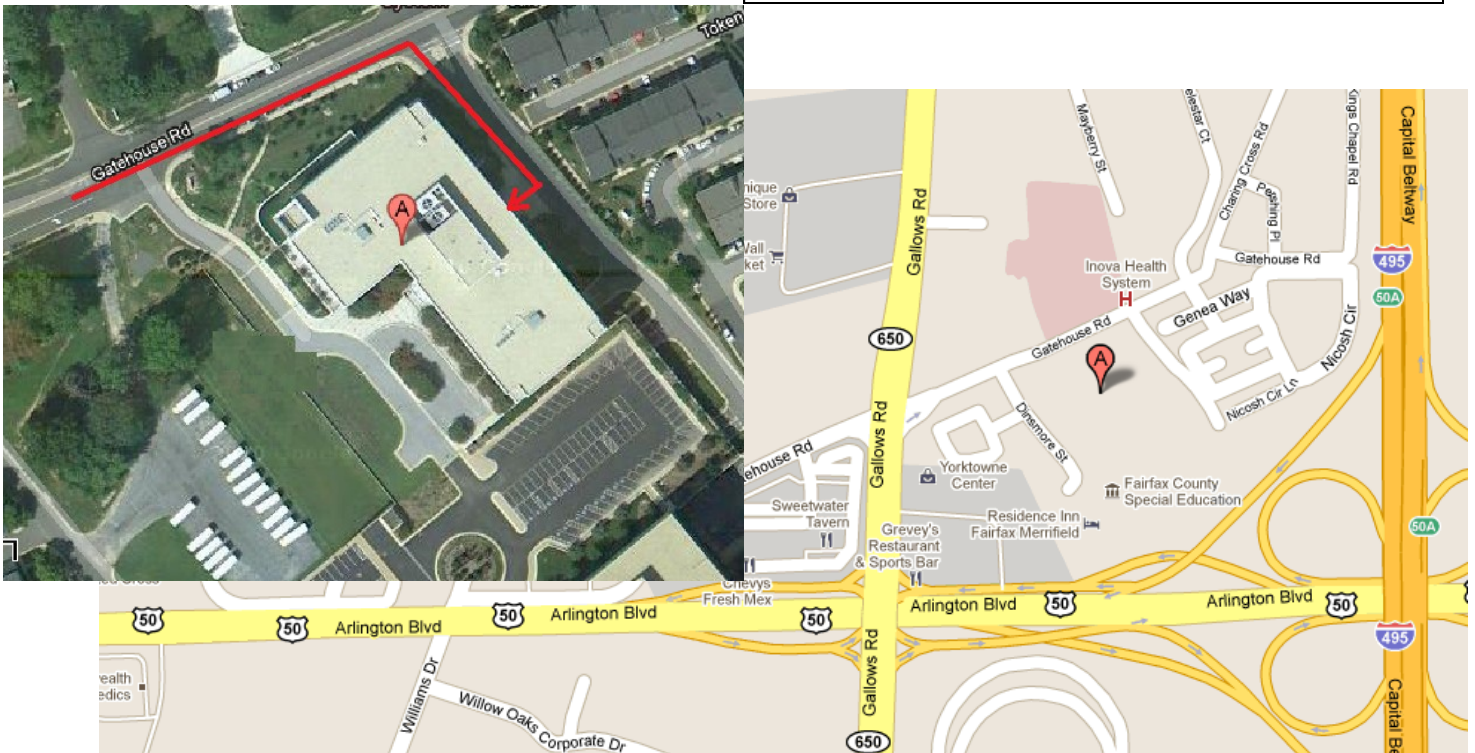
The Bulletin is the newsletter of the Federation. It is usually published monthly, except in August. The purpose is to provide information to member communities; federal, state, and local officials; and other interested persons. Articles reflect the view of their author and may be reprinted with the use of the following citation: "*The Bulletin* of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations". Please contact Fred Costello with newsletter name and email address changes, comments, or suggestions at FedBulletinEditor2014@fairfaxfederation.org or 703-620-4942.

Federation Meeting Cancellation Policy

If either Fairfax County Government or Schools are closed after 12:00 noon the day of a Federation membership meeting, or if it is announced that Fairfax County Government or Schools will be closed the day after a scheduled Federation membership meeting due to inclement weather or other emergency, the Federation will not hold that event. This does not pertain to regularly scheduled closures. Membership meetings will not be rescheduled, although speakers may be asked to attend an upcoming meeting. We will make every attempt to post the cancellation on www.fairfaxfederation.org or, for more information, you can call 703-620-4942.

Keep Your Association Information Up-to-Date

Fairfax County lists approximately 2500 Community Associations (<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/internet/assoc.htm>). Be sure your association keeps its contact information up to date, using <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/opa/hoaupdate.htm>.



Apartment Buildings next to Your House?

The Fairfax Federation was at least temporarily successful in having the County change its proposed policy of allowing Residential Studio Units (RSU's) to be put into every residential district. The Mason District Council was instrumental in the Federation's success, organizing many meetings and activating many citizens. The proposed change in the zoning ordinance would have allowed new "houses" and remodeled existing houses to contain between three and 75 apartments, 250-to-500 sq. ft. each. The Federation resolution, as sent to County officials, called for limiting the RSU's to areas zoned R-20 or higher. The resolution and the public outcry caused the chairman of the County's RSU committee to call for limiting such buildings to areas zoned R-12 or higher, although the Federation's analysis showed that there are enough areas zoned R-20 and above to accommodate the demand forecast by the George Mason University's Center for Regional Analysis.

The Federation's success is considered a "temporary" because the County has not finalized the program.

A recent article adds another caution concerning of the health risks in RSU-type buildings. See:

<http://www.theatlanticcities.com/housing/2013/12/health-risks-small-apartments/7929/>

Additional hearings on the RSU's are scheduled as follows:

- January 22, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. Conference Rooms 2/3 Government Center
- February 11, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. Conference Rooms 4/5 Government Center
- March 3, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. Conference Rooms 4/5 Government Center
- March 26, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. Shared Conference Room 120C (inside the cafeteria) Government Center

Revamping the County Libraries

Kathy Kaplan, Chairman of the Federation's Ad Hoc Committee on the Library, led the Federation's effort to have the Beta Plan canceled by the County. Here are the steps she followed:

1. Call on Reston 2020.
2. Enlist the League of Women Voters.
3. Write letters to the newspapers and local blogs.
4. Build an email list of supporters.
5. Learn how to cross-post on all the Patch blogs to list meetings, articles.
6. Find a sympathetic supervisor or three; never visit a supervisor alone.
7. Send 178,395 emails.
8. Speak at every public opportunity; if you can't be there, make sure someone else is.
9. Do everything you can think of as fast as you think of it.

We could all learn from Kathy's success — and her hundreds of hours of labor.

Current Federation Members

The Federation welcomes all citizens associations in Fairfax County to join in our collective effort to be an effective voice on behalf of residents to local, state, and federal officials. Associations may join at any time. Our membership application is located on the last page of this newsletter and online at

www.fairfaxfederation.org/membership1.htm.

As of January 1, 2014, current members, having voting rights at Federation meetings, are:

Braddock

Country Club View Civic Association
 Middleridge Civic Association
 North Springfield Civic Association
 Oak Hill Citizens Association
 Ravensworth-Bristow Civic Association
 Red Fox Forest Civic Association
 Stone Haven Civic Association
 Truro Homes Association

Dranesville

Colvin's Glen/Colvin's Forest Citizens' Association
 Glen Haven Farms Homeowners Association
 Marlborough Nantucket Community Association
 McLean Citizens Association
 McLean Hamlet Citizens, Inc
 Potomac Hills Citizens Association

Hunter Mill

Fox Mill Estates Homes Association
 Reston Citizens Association
 Townes of Coppermill Property Owners Association
 Woodside at Holly Oak

Lee

Amerliegh Homeowners Association
 Groveton, Virginia, Civic Association
 Hayfield Citizens Association
 Huntington Grove II Homeowners Association

Mason

Adams Walk Homeowners Association
 Annandale Acres Civic Association
 Hillbrook-Tall Oaks Civic Association
 Lafayette Village Community Association
 Lincolnia Park Civic Association
 Parklawn Civic Association
 Ravenwood Park Citizens Association
 Skyline House Unit Owners Association
 Sleepy Hollow Citizens Association
 Sleepy Hollow Woods Civic Association
 Sunset Manor Civic Association

Mount Vernon

Huntington Community Association
 Montebello Condominium Unit Owners Association
 Stratford on the Potomac Section IV Homeowners' Association
 Waynewood Citizens Association

Providence

Holmes Run Acres Civic Association
 Mantua Citizens Association
 Tysons Manor Homeowners Association

Springfield

Innisfree Community Association
 Middle Run Estates Homeowners Association
 West Springfield Village, Civic Association of

Sully

Chantilly Farm Homeowners Association
 Chantilly Highlands Homes Association
 Virginia Run Community Association

Membership Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 21, 2013

[Draft to be submitted for approval on 1/16/2014](#)

The November meeting of the membership of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations was called to order by First Vice-President Ed Wyse at 7:38 p.m. at Mason District Government Center.

President Rob Jackson has been ill and could not preside at the meeting. We wish him a speedy recovery.

There is a meeting quorum. See membership sign-in.

Program: Chief Roessler, Fairfax County Police Department

Colonel Ed Roessler, the new Police Chief for Fairfax County provided his Vision for the Police Department. His goal is described as ethical leadership through engagement with the community. The Police Department is the 32nd largest police department in the county, yet the county has the lowest crime rate for our size. The department also has the lowest officer to per capita ratio in the 50 largest communities in the country. He emphasized a culture of safety –prevent and fight crime—gun turn in program will start in January 2014. The department needs to keep pace with urbanization, e.g., working with Zoning in Tysons to design enough police coverage for the new areas. The department plans to use foot patrols, bikes, and segues to police shopping and metro locations. The demographics of the department do not match the demographics of the community. One of 25 applicants is hired into the department. Chief Roessler is looking for more diversity in newly recruited police officers. He wants to develop future police officers through the Explorer program for kids ages 14-18.

Emergency Preparedness—3 divisions in the police department respond to emergencies. The Incident Commander for police is located at each District. He highlighted the close working relationship between the Police and Fire Departments in the county.

The Chief answered questions from members about:

- the role of the Police and Sheriff's Departments. Sheriff's operate the Adult Detention Center and Courthouse. The departments work together and share the same academy for training. Their civil disturbance teams work together.
- Use of Informants. He discussed the legal standards and policies that apply.
- World Games in 2015. A CEO, Mr. Knight, has been hired to raise funds and coordinate the venues. Volunteers are needed to help at the sites. There will be a Volunteer Coordinator hired also to recruit and manager the 4000 volunteers required to make this event happen. The games begin on June 26, 2015 and will run for 15 days at venues throughout the region.

Vice President Wyse presented the Chief with a Federation mug in recognition of his informative presentation to the membership.

Administrative Matters

Approval of Board Meeting Minutes: The October Membership minutes were approved unanimously as presented; filed for the record.

There was no other urgent business for the membership.

Legislative Resolution

Frank Anderson, co-chair of the Legislative Committee, assumed control of the meeting and introduced items for consideration of the membership regarding legislative priorities. There will be a weighed voting to prioritize the items later.

Items A-F were previously approved at the October Membership meeting including: Implement the Iowa Plan for Reapportionment; Restore rule violation enforcement authority to HOAs and Condominium Associations; Permit local school boards to set opening day; Provide additional state funding for quality pre-kindergarten education; Hold FCPS harmless with regard to the LCI and revise the LCI formula; and Make use of hand-held phone when operating a motor vehicle a primary offense.

Don Hinman spoke to an additional item – Seeking restoration of authority for Boards to change HOA documents. Vote: unanimously for.

Litter Reduction —discussion opened by Flint Webb and seconded by John Cockayne. Previous legislation package supported this item and the Federation needs to be able to support projects that arise. Vote: _17 Yea _6 Nay _0 Abstentions

Discussion

McLean Citizens Association had concerns that there was not enough time to consider these proposals and will not support any of the items.

There was discussion about whether the members could support legislative positions without having specific language. The format of the resolution will contain only subject, position, and rationale. These are general concepts for legislation that the Federation would like to see. Federation Legislative Committee can then craft specific positions to make them more consistent in tense, tone and format. We want our legislators to know what is on our minds.

Deer Control—John Birch moved and it was seconded to discuss control of the white deer population in Fairfax County. Jim McGlone, Urban Forestry, may have data to add to this subject. Commercial hunting permits would have to be done by the State. The addition of deer fences along major roads and other methods could require state involvement. Federation should remove reference to Fairfax County since this is a state issue. Vote: _15 Yea _5 Nay _0 Abstentions

Climate Change—Moved by Flint Webb, seconded by John Birch. Discussion included encouragement of renewable energy sources. Vote: _21 Yea _3 Nay _0 Abstentions

Reporting Transportation Performance Measures to the Public— John Birch moved and Ed Wyse seconded the item. Discussion included the value of performance measures and standards for projects—reducing travel time would be a measure that means something to residents. Normalizing the values of certain projects so public can understand them easier. Vote: _22 Yea _3 Nay _0 Abstentions

Mobility and Accessibility—Moved by John Birch and seconded by Don Hinman. This issue was in the public safety program last year but was moved to Transportation this year. The item is similar to the previous year's resolution.

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

Could include sidewalks, new transit facilities, etc. How is this not allowed now? There was confusion about the subject and the purpose of this legislation. Vote: _5 Yea _17 Nay _0 Abstentions

Two members expressed further concerns that they had not seen the legislative items before tonight.

Prioritization of the legislative items occurred at the end of the meeting.

Overall Vote to adopt the legislative package was moved and seconded. Vote: _20 Yea _3 Nay _0 Abstentions

Old Business/New Business

Citizen of the Year Banquet will be held Sunday, April 27, 2014, at the Tysons Corner Crown Plaza.

Don Hinman offered comments and requested members contact legislators now. December 2 is the cutoff to have legislation drafted. The Federation would like contact names of each member HOA so that they can be contacted when the Federation needs support for various legislation during the upcoming session. First Vice President Wyse will be collecting the names.

Prioritization of Legislative Package

The members prioritized their support for the above legislative issues by voting on the previous legislative items. The results will be tabulated after the meeting.

Adjournment

Membership meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Next Meetings

Next Membership meeting is January 16, but the location is tentative at this time. Members will be notified. Everyone is invited to the Board meeting on December 5.

Minutes prepared by Linda Boone, Recording Secretary

Call-In Show for HOAs and Condo Associations

Caller, you're on the air! What is your question about managing and/or living in a homeowners' association or condominium association? Are you a new board member seeking guidance about your leadership role? Are you a member who needs information about what it means to live in a homeowners' association or condominium association? Are you a manager seeking best practices on how to manage a community concern?

On one Tuesday of every other month, including March, Fairfax County Government Channel 16 at 7 p.m. will air a live, call-in TV program, Your Community, Your Call: What's On Your Mind? This is your opportunity to call in or e-mail questions about HOA/Condo topics of concern. Industry professionals will answer your questions during the hour.

Email your questions ahead of time to ycyc@fairfaxcounty.gov. Email to the same address to ask to be put on the notification list for the date of the next airing.

To Fairfax County's State Legislators

The following letter was written by Rob Jackson, Federation President, to the State legislators who represent any part of Fairfax County.

I am writing on behalf of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations ("Federation") and its members, throughout the county, to transmit our 2014 Legislative Program (copy attached). After considerable research, review and discussion, the Federation members voted to select the following ten items as our priorities for the 2014 General Assembly. We respectfully request your support for each of these items. The items are in order of importance as determined by the members.

Making the use of a handheld cellular phone while driving a primary offense, while continuing to permit the use of hands-free devices.

Restoring the ability of homeowners and condominium associations to impose fines on members for rules violations with appropriate safeguards.

Holding Fairfax County Public Schools ("FCPS") harmless with respect to changes in the Local Composite Index ("LCI") and making appropriate changes to the LCI to reflect the higher cost of living and school operations in Fairfax County.

Permitting all local school boards to set the opening day for school.

Providing additional state funding for quality pre-kindergarten education.

Implementing the "Iowa Plan" for General Assembly reapportionment.

Encouraging the use of renewable energy sources.

Making appropriate legislative changes that would help reduce litter.

Supporting performance-based reporting for transportation projects (road, transit, public transport).

Controlling White Tail Deer.

The Federation exists to protect and enhance the quality of life and to advocate for the interests of homeowners in Fairfax County as expressed by their homeowners, condominium, citizens and civic associations. While we speak in their name, the message is theirs. These are your constituents' priorities as determined by our member associations' votes. We respectfully urge you to listen to them.

We understand the complexities of the legislative program and that not every legislative change passes immediately. But we do urge you to work towards their accomplishment. If you have questions or concerns about our priorities, please do not hesitate to contact me. The Federation's board is here to work with you.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

The Federation's Legislative Program is on the Federation website: <http://fairfaxfederation.org/legislation1.htm>

Return this form to Membership Vice President at address shown below.

Please tell us who is submitting this form: and your email address:

Federation Membership Application/Renewal for Fiscal Year 2013-2014 (starts July 1, 2013)
 Print this form in landscape mode and submit by mailing with a check to address shown below.
 You may also complete this form on line at www.fairfaxfederation.org/memberappl.htm

Association Name:		and address:		Date:
Position	Name	Address	Phone/FAX (XXX.XXX.XXXX)	E-mail see note #2
President				
Treasurer				
1st Delegate				
2nd Delegate				
3rd Delegate				
4th Delegate				

Please indicate person and address above to send future membership renewals:

Association Size/Federation Dues: _____ **Organization's web site:** _____

District? _____ **Association Type?** _____
Month new officers installed: _____

1. Number of votes is based on association size. Dues are based on association size and number of mailed bulletins (see chart below):
2. Bulletin notices are distributed by e-mail at no cost. Mailed Bulletins are \$10 per subscription. Unless otherwise noted, email addresses provided above will be added to the Federation's email list for distribution of Federation notices
3. Membership dues are from July 1 to June 30 of the following year. Separate invoices may not be mailed. To determine whether your association's membership is current check with the Federation Treasurer at fedtreas2014@fairfaxfederation.org

4. Mail application form and check, payable to "Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations" or simply "FCFCA", to:

THE FEDERATION
 Attention: Membership Vice President
 P.O. Box 3913
 Merrifield, VA 22116-3913

Dues, Delegates, & Bulletins

# of Residences	Dues	Voting Delegates	Bulletins (emailed) One per delegate
Under 100	\$20	1	+ \$10 per each mailed
100-1000	\$40	2	+ \$10 per each mailed
Over 1000	\$60	3	+ \$10 per each mailed

Please print this page landscape mode using the properties box

Future membership renewals: 1. Submitter, 2. Association Address, 3. President, 4. Treasurer, 5. 1st Delegate, 6. 2nd Delegate, 7. 3rd Delegate, 8. 4th Delegate
District: B. Braddock, D. Dranesville, H. Hunter Mill, L. Lee, M. Mason, MtV. Mount Vernon, P. Providence, Sp. Springfield, Su. Sully
Association type: Civic, Coop, Condo, Homeowner
Association Size/Federation Dues: For example: 90/\$20