

Bozman passes away at age 83

Ellen McConnell Bozman, whose public career in Arlington spanned the decades from segregated schools to fiber optics, died January 8 at Virginia Hospital Center after a battle with recurring breast cancer. She was 83 years old.

Bozman's 24-year tenure on the Arlington County Board is the longest of anyone since the board structure was created in 1932.

Her career in Arlington civic affairs began in an un-civil era a half-century ago when she learned to slip bail money into her shoes before leading un-segregated meetings of the League of Women Voters.

Bozman served six four-year terms on the County Board from 1974 through 1997. She was

recruited to run in 1973 to challenge Kenneth Haggerty, an incumbent Republican. But Haggerty chose to retire. In a three-way race, Bozman eked out a 51 percent win that year. Four years later, she won re-election by 53 percent. After that, it was a cruise; Bozman won her next four races by margins of 76 percent, 70 percent, 65 percent and 65 percent.

She was succeeded in 1998 by current Board Member **Jay Fisette**.

Ellen McConnell was born April 21, 1925, in Springfield, Illinois, where she was reared during the depression in a strong Republican family. She later said, "I think I became a Democrat partly

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Fendley won't run again for SB

School Board Chairman **Ed Fendley** surprised almost everyone at the January membership meeting by announcing he will not run for re-election this fall.

Fendley is completing his first four-year term.

He explained that he has "two of the greatest jobs in the world"—serving on the School Board and working at the State Department—but not enough time to devote to both.

At the same membership meeting, **James Lander** threw his hat in the ring, announcing he will seek the Democratic endorsement for Fendley's seat

at the party Caucus to be held May 7 and 9. As of press time, no other candidates had yet announced, but the filing deadline is not until March 9.

Lander ran in last year's School Board endorsement caucus. Six people ran then for two seats. Incumbent **Libby Garvey** and newcomer **Emma Violand-Sanchez** won with **Karla Hagan** third and Lander fourth.

Fendley won the 2005 endorsement caucus with 56 percent of the vote in a two-person race. In the fall, he won the seat with 55 percent in a three-way

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Eisenberg announces retirement

Delegate **Al Eisenberg** has announced that he will not stand for re-election this fall, opening up what is expected to be a sizzling primary for the Democratic nomination to succeed him.

Eisenberg represents the 47th District, which lies entirely inside Arlington and takes in most, but not all the area between Lee Highway and Columbia Pike.

Four candidates have already announced plans to run to succeed Eisenberg. **Andres Tobar**, **Patrick Hope**, **Miles Grant** and **Adam Parkhomenko** are the announced candidates so far. **Alfonso Lopez** is reported to be considering a run. The deadline for filing is April 10th for the

June 9th primary.

Eisenberg announced his decision in a speech on the House floor January 22. "I will not be standing for public office in the next election," he said. "I am taking this step because I see new opportunities to explore and hopes to fulfill."

Eisenberg, 62, did not announce what he will do when he leaves office at the end of the year. But he did discuss his strong interests in history in general and the Civil War in particular. Then he said, "In the future, I plan to take a more active role in connecting the citizens of Virginia

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Report from Chairman Peter Rousselot

Onward to the New Virginny

“On this day, we come to proclaim an end to the petty grievances and false promises, the recriminations and worn out dogmas, that for far too long have strangled our politics....Our time of standing pat, of protecting narrow interests and putting off unpleasant decisions — that time has surely passed. Starting today, we must pick ourselves up, dust ourselves off, and begin again the work of remaking America...What the cynics fail to understand is that the ground has shifted beneath them—that the stale political arguments that have consumed us for so long no longer apply.”—**From Barack Obama’s 2009 Inaugural Address.**

Our new Democratic President—the President we all worked so hard to elect—enters the Presidency with a reservoir of good will that can transform the nation. But to transform it, Barack Obama needs all of us to help him.

Make no mistake: there are some among us who still cling to their stale political arguments because they look backward not forward, mired in a past that seems comfortable to the skin. We must resist the temptation to

engage them on the terrain on which they would prefer to engage us—a terrain of backbiting, vindictiveness, and recriminations over old slights no longer relevant to the challenges that confront us.

Our great Democratic Governor, Tim Kaine, told us last fall, in a memorable phrase (since captured on a campaign button), that the “Old Virginny is dead.” In many ways it is. The Old Virginny of Republican dominance of our congressional delegation, both U.S. Senate seats, and a 44-year failure to provide Virginia’s electoral votes to a Democratic President—that Old Virginny is dead.

And yet, there are vestiges of the Old Virginny that are very much alive: Republican control of the Virginia House of Delegates, Republican control of the offices of Lieutenant Governor and Attorney General, and Republican support for an outmoded division of Virginia political power between state and local governments (the Dillon Rule) that stifles progress and grassroots innovation.

In the wake of the enormous setbacks they suffered in 2008, Republicans nationally and in Virginia are going to focus all of their resources on scoring a comeback in 2009. Vir-

ginia offers them the most tempting national target for doing so. With reliably Democratic New Jersey as the only other state in America to be holding statewide elections, we are an irresistible target on which the Republican attack machine will concentrate.

We can’t let the Republicans succeed in this certain attempt at a comeback. We must harness the new ideas and the new politics that characterized the Obama campaign in Virginia, and focus that energy, those ideas, and that politics to continue to transform our state. The forces of the Old Virginny will want to engage us on the old comfortable battlefields. Let’s not get trapped into such an engagement. Let’s bring to bear the volunteer energy, enthusiasm, and new technologies of the 21st Century to fight these battles on our own turf.

As the Reverend Joseph Lowery urged in his Inaugural benediction, let us “come in a spirit of unity and solidarity to commit our support to our president by our willingness to make sacrifices,...to turn to each other and not on each other.”

Democratic Values in Action

Show your values

Arlington Democrats demonstrate their values (beyond campaigning) through the Democratic Values in Action Committee.

Over the years, this has resulted in aid to Katrina victims, cleaning up local parks and streams, providing clothes and other assistance to the homeless, tutoring students and similar activities.

Currently, the committee has focused on providing cereal to the Arlington Food Assistance Center by encouraging Dems to bring a box of cereal to each monthly meeting. AFAC has been extremely grateful for this effort, especially since the number of those seeking food assistance has increased substantially in the current economic downturn.

Charley Conrad and Sarah Zevin, co-chairs of the committee, are looking for volunteers to beef up their ranks to provide new ideas and initiatives. This is in keeping with the Obama Administration’s emphasis on service.

If you are interested, contact either of them at charleyconrad@comcast.net or sarahzevin@gmail.com.

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unless expressly approved by an appropriate Committee Resolution*

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**Next Monthly Meeting—
All Dems (Volunteers Especially) Invited**

Wednesday, February 4, 2009, 7 p.m.

NRECA Building, 4301 Wilson Blvd

*Corner of North Taylor and Wilson, just east of Glebe & Wilson
Free parking under building, enter from Taylor Street*

We continue to collect breakfast cereal to help the homeless through the Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC). Please bring a box to the monthly meeting. It's a simple and easy way to help the less fortunate. We are expanding the Democratic Values in Action Committee to do more in 2009. If you would like to join the committee, please let Sara Zevin or Charley Conrad know at the meeting. (See story on page two.)

***Bumper Sticker
of the Month***

**THIS one
voted for
THAT one!**

***Get started
on the 2009
campaigns***

Last month we provided the names and contact information for those Dems who had announced for statewide races in Virginia. Since then, there have been several changes.

Terry McAuliffe has announced he is running for governor; Rich Savage, Pat Edmonson and Michael Signer have joined the lieutenant governor contest; and John Fishwick has pulled out of the attorney general race. The filing period for the June 9 primary is noon, March 24, to 5 p.m., April 10. Here is a new list:

GOVERNOR

Creigh Deeds – contact Mary Margaret Whipple, mmwhipple@erols.com, website: <http://www.deedsforvirginia.com>

Brian Moran – contact Kip Malinosky, kipmalinosky@gmail.com, website: <http://www.brianmoran.com>

Terry McAuliffe – contact Ben Lingeman at ben.lingeman@terrymcauliffe.com, website www.terrymcauliffe.com

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Jon Bowerbank – contact Ben Charlton, ben@jonbowerbank.com, (703) 549-5254, website: www.jonbowerbank.com

Rich Savage—website: www.getsavagvirginia.com

Michael Signer – contact Joe Lestingi, joe.lestingi@gmail.com, (703) 822-3682

Jody Wagner – contact Bob Brink at Robertbrink@comcast.net; website: <http://www.jodyforvirginia.com>

Pat Edmonson — contact info@patforvirginia.com or 1-888-687-4743, website: www.patforvirginia.com

ATTORNEY GENERAL

Steve Shannon – website: www.shannon2009.com

Sue Gruskiewicz
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Arlington Chamber of Commerce

Ellen Bozman, who served 24 years on the County Board, dies at 83 years of age

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because I listened to such terrible stories being told about Democrats that—even as a young person—I thought, ‘This can’t be. They don’t have horns. They can’t be that bad.’”

She spent the war years as a college student at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, graduating Phi Beta Kappa in 1946 with a bachelor’s degree in political science.

She then moved to Washington to join the National Institute of Public Affairs (NIPA) as an unpaid intern, long before internships became the common induction to the Washington world. After nine months, she joined the Bureau of the Budget (precursor of today’s Office of Management and Budget) in the personnel office, where she recruited and trained non-professional staffers.

She passed on to her supervisor the name of another NIPA intern, Bill Bozman, who got a budget job. Asked years later how she met her spouse, Ellen said, “I hired him.”

Bill had a slightly different perspective on that. He was dating Ellen’s roommate who tired of him and passed him off to Ellen. Bill tells of calling at the girls’ apartment one day to find Ellen greeting him from the top of the stairs in shorts “with great legs.”

Bill and Ellen married December 29, 1949, and, like so many other newlyweds in the Washington area, moved across the river to Arlington to set up home. In 1952, when Ellen was about to give birth to the first of their three children, she left the Budget Bureau to be a full-time mother, as was the norm at the time.

“To have something to do,” she got involved in the Arlington League of Women Voters. Like so many others who had come to Virginia from the North at that time, it wasn’t long before the segregation issue became the dominant issue confronting her.

With a group of similarly minded young Arlington women, Ellen Bozman organized to oppose the state campaign of “massive resistance” to de-segregation that called for closing public schools rather than allowing integration.

She got an early taste of old-style southern politics when she, Mary Marshall and Theda Henle went to the Lyon Park Civic Association to give a presentation against mas-

sive resistance. A segregationist offered a motion to bar them from talking—and the motion passed.

Ellen helped organize the League’s routine candidate debates. But nothing was routine in Virginia at this time. The Arlington League didn’t have segregated seating. The Defenders of State Sovereignty and Individual Liberty came to the League demanding that seating be segregated and got a ruling from the commonwealth attorney general that seating had to be segregated.

The League decided to test the ruling in court—but with an Arlington twist. A white woman was recruited to sit in the “colored” area. Ellen was told by Arlington’s commonwealth’s attorney that, to set up a

Fendley not running again for SB

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race against a Republican and an independent candidate.

Fendley has worked at the State Department for 21 years, the last 10 as a climate change negotiator dealing with international talks under UN auspices. “And I can tell you how exciting that job is—especially now that we will be promoting the climate change policies of the Obama Administration.”

But, Fendley said, his School Board post and his State Department position “both require full-time focus and full-time energy. In the long run, there is not enough time in the day for me to continue to do both of them. So, I’ve decided—reluctantly—I will not be seeking re-election to the School Board. As critical as this job is, I’ve decided—reluctantly—that it’s even more important for me to help advance President Obama’s climate change policies.”

Fendley received a long and standing round of applause when he finished his announcement.

case, Ellen would have to instruct the woman to move and the woman would have to refuse. The woman was duly arrested for breaking Virginia’s segregation code. But the effort to make this a major suit, maybe going all the way to the Supreme Court, was foiled locally. The white woman was found innocent because she couldn’t prove she was white! Ellen explained that Virginia law defined a colored person as anyone with 1/32nd black blood—i.e., one great-great-great grandparent who was African. The woman couldn’t trace her lineage back that far, so the judge ruled there was no proof she wasn’t black.

“Those were tumultuous days,” Ellen commented decades later. “Can you believe Bill would say, as I went to a candidates’ debate as chair, ‘Do you have your bail money?’” Ellen made a point in those days of slipping \$15 in bail money into her shoes before going off to chair League meetings.

Commenting on Bozman’s passing, **Barbara Favola**, current chair of the County Board, said, “Ellen was an exemplary public servant and role model for all of us. She was a big part of what makes this community so special.”

Before her County Board tenure, and in addition to her League of Women Voters activities, Bozman served as the Arlington member of the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority from 1963 to 1967 and chaired the Arlington Health and Welfare Council from 1967 to 1969. In that Council position, she organized a study of latchkey children. Then she spearheaded the drive for extended day programs so kids with working parents could stay at their schools in the late afternoon hours.

After ending her quarter-century on the County Board, Ellen observed that much had changed in Arlington—and not just in race relations. When she started out, bus service in the region was privately owned. Then the bus companies went belly-up and Metro, just starting up as a subway system, got the buses as well.

Ellen said the region had just begun to clean-up the Potomac when she joined the Board. “Now we return water to the river purer than when we took it out.” Furthermore, Ellen noted, the jail she knew as a junior Board member had cells for 80 inmates, while the new jail has room for 500.

Eisenberg is retiring from House

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with that history, which is still around us. I want to help Virginians see how the Civil War has hallowed our past and enriched our heritage.”

Eisenberg is a member of both the state and county commissions commemorating the sesquicentennial of the Civil War with events beginning this October on the 150th anniversary of John Brown’s Harpers Ferry raid.

The delegate was born in Jersey City, New Jersey. He received his bachelor’s in history from the University of Richmond and a master’s in education from Hampton Institute. He served in the U.S. Navy in 1968-69.

In Arlington, Eisenberg won a seat on the County Board in 1983 by just 299 votes. He served on the Board until resigning in February 1999 to join the Clinton Administration as the deputy assistant secretary for transportation policy.

Before joining the County Board, Eisenberg worked on the staff of the Senate Subcommittee on Housing and Urban Affairs. During most of his years on the Board, his day job was as chief of legislative affairs for the American Institute of Architects.

After the GOP returned to power in Washington, Eisenberg sought to return to the County Board when **Charles Monroe** died in January 2003. But **Walter Tejada** won the Democratic nod. A few months later, Del. **James Almand** accepted a judgeship; Eisenberg ran to succeed him and won.

In his retirement speech to the House of Delegates, Eisenberg said, “I have always seen my public life as a kind of journey, a journey comprised of many small steps and yet a journey to great destinations.”

Eisenberg is married to **Sharon Davis**, a former chair of ACDC and twice a candidate for the School Board. They have two grown children.

Eisenberg’s district comprises the following Arlington precincts: Ashton Heights, Ballston, Barcroft, Glen Carlyn, Clarendon, Lyon Park, Overlee Knolls, Westover, Arlington Forest, Fillmore, Jefferson, Dominion Hills, Lexington, Arlington View, Ashlawn, Virginia Square, Woodbury, Buckingham, Central, Monroe and Taylor.

Donkey Ears

Listening to the doings of Arlington’s Dems

as overheard by Dan Steen and Warren Nelson



Kaine talks shop: As you all know, Gov. **Tim Kaine** has taken over as chairman of the Democratic National Committee. You might want to check out the DNC website where you can watch a superlative video of the governor-chairman answering questions from voters all around the country about the Democratic Party. Go to Democrats.org, where you’ll see a pix of Kaine. Click on the “Read More” button under the photo.

Early voting will be late: Here in Arlington we actively pushed early voting last fall so voters would not face long lines on Election Day. Legislation was introduced in the state legislature this year to allow early voting throughout the state with no encumbrances at all. Guess what? Only a few days into the current session, a committee in the House of Delegates—which has a GOP majority—buried the bill six feet deep. One more reason to work hard this fall to elect the six more delegates we need to give the House a Democratic majority like we have already won in the State Senate.

Ball goes had a ball: Channel 4 in D.C. carried video of the Virginia Inaugural Ball at the Arlington Westin showing some of the 1,200 folks who managed to get tickets. Arlington’s share of the tickets sold out just four minutes after the offer went up online. We mentioned last month that there might be a lottery for some additional tickets—and there was one, though only a handful got tickets because of the fire marshal’s limits.

For both the Blue and the Gray: The sesquicentennial of the Civil War is almost upon us. Virginia just finished marking the 400th anniversary of the first settlement in America. Now it’s on to our most divisive experience. The state has named a sesquicentennial commission, of which Del. **Al Eisenberg** is a member. The County Board has also named a commission, of which Eisenberg is also a member, and which will be chaired by former ACDC Deputy Chair (and *Voice* Deputy Editor) **Warren Nelson**. The long observance begins this October on the anniversary of John Brown’s raid on Harper’s Ferry, which was then in Virginia. Arlington, of course, is pulled two ways by the sesquicentennial. It was the home of Robert E. Lee, commander of the Army of Northern Virginia. But it was also the home of the Army of the Potomac for most of the war, until Ulysses S. Grant decided to use it.

Democracy inaction: Brian Moran resigned his House of Delegates seat to run full time for the Democratic nomination for governor. That set up a special election in his west Alexandria district. Obama won the district handily in November, but the turnout in the special election was just 2,679 voters, a mere 6 percent. Still, we won the seat—Democrat Charniele Herring had a majority of just 16 votes. The Republicans who control the House of Delegates didn’t think a majority was good enough—so they refused to seat her without a recount, even though she had a certificate of election from the State Board of Elections! One more reason to work hard this fall to elect the six more delegates we need to give the House a Democratic majority.

A final question: Do you need any more reasons to work hard this fall for a Democratic majority in the state House of Delegates?

Inauguration was a ball for all

Anne Rousselot, daughter of ACDC Chair Peter Rousselot, taught English as a Second Language to adults in Istanbul, Turkey, until the spring of 2008, when she returned to Arlington. She currently works in the main office at Swanson Middle School while simultaneously applying for government jobs and considering a career in teaching. She wrote this report for The Voice.

As the daughter of the chair of the Arlington Democratic Committee, I tend to keep a low profile when it comes to political activities. However, the extraordinary national and state-wide electoral victories and the prospect of a fancy black-tie event were more than enough to lure me onto the planning committee of the DPVA-ACDC Inaugural Ball.

The Ball was held on Monday, January 19th, at the Westin Arlington Gateway, and was, at least as far as this political novice is concerned, a tantalizing glimpse into the worlds of community outreach, networking, politics, and glamour.

I arrived early along with the other planning committee members and planted myself near the ticket tables—a perfect spot to watch the grand entrances of the Ball's guests. Not one person failed to deliver a spectacular arrival – men in tuxedos and gleaming cufflinks, women in high heels, floor-length gowns and glittering jewelry.

The revelry wasted no time in getting started; within minutes of its opening, the ballroom and adjoining great hall were bustling with more than a thousand excited revelers, some mingling and some dancing to cover band Gonzo's Nose.

At every turn there were people I recognized, and not just politicians: once, when looking for my father, I rounded a corner and was dazzled by Emmitt Smith and his wife Patricia Southall.

Finally, towards the end of the evening, came the speeches we were so eager to hear. We piled into the sweltering ballroom to listen to Governor Tim Kaine, Senators Jim Webb and Mark Warner, Representatives Jim Moran and Bobby Scott, DPVA Chair Richard Cranwell, County Board Member Walter Tejada, and my father.



Photo courtesy Mary Rousselot

THE PARTY BEGINS — Senator Jim Webb (right) chats at the Virginia Inaugural Ball with ACDC Chair Peter Rousselot and his daughter, Anne, recently back in Virginia after a teaching stint in Turkey.

They all beseeched us to celebrate our impressive collective victory, but also to use this exciting time as inspiration to improve our community, state, and nation. Their mes-

sage lingered with me as I stepped into the cold Virginia air, and again as I watched Barack Obama continue to make history the following morning. A night to remember!



LOUDER — The Grassroots Ball drew Northern Virginia volunteers to the State Theater in Falls Church. See story on next page.

Swearing-In: The long walk was worth it

Terron Sims is Vice-Chair of ACDC's Outreach Committee and an Iraq War veteran. The Voice asked him to write of his experiences on Inauguration Day.

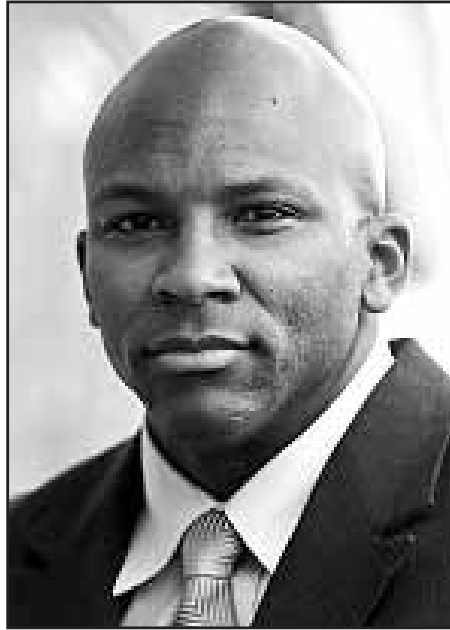
The phone rang at 6 a.m. Inauguration Day. It was **Kip Malinosky** calling to wake me up and get me motivated for the big event. Kip, along with his brother, sister-in-law and three friends, met me at my house in the Courthouse area at o'dark hundred to begin the day.

When we arrived at Courthouse Metro, it was clear that we were going to have to walk. The trains were packed. No problem. That had been our original plan in any case.

We started out walking alongside Route 50, then onto 110 to Memorial Bridge. There were not too many people out yet; in fact, police officers and emergency responders were still setting up their stations, laying out cones and lining the roads with gates.

Once we crossed the bridge and entered D.C., we were met by a swarm of volunteer greeters who directed pedestrians to the Mall. The walk from the river to the Washington Monument was very well controlled and we realized that hundreds of thousands of people had already beaten us to the Mall.

We did the best we could to get as close to the Capitol as possible. The crowd was so dense that we finally claimed our spot near the Smithsonian Metro. Though the Capitol



TERRON SIMS

... standing on the Mall

appeared as a mere backdrop, we were standing near a teletron and were able to view and participate in the historic day.

Spirits were extremely high; strangers were speaking to each other and meeting and making new friends.

While it was bitter cold when we first arrived, once the music began we started jumping and marching to the beat. This not

only helped us get warm, but also built up the anticipation (as if it needed building up!) of President Obama's inauguration.

After hours of waiting, the moment arrived as the dignitaries' names were called and they took their seats on the podium. The crowd cheered wildly as Senator Ted Kennedy's name was called. So too with Vice Presidents Joe Biden and Al Gore and Presidents Carter and Clinton. This was not the case when "43" was announced but his presence was important and his graciousness appreciated.

Finally, out stepped the 44th President of the United States: President Barack Obama! The crowd paid little attention to the announcer. The Mall erupted with a great roar of cheers as Obama's image was flashed on the teletrons.

Tears of joy streamed down the cheeks of nearly everyone around me during the President's inaugural address. Those who were not crying had looks of deep contemplation, trying to take in everything he was saying.

And then it was over. Due to our earlier experience with Metro we decided to walk back to my house. Because most of the roads were blocked in the direction from which we had come, we did something I had never done before: walked on I-395! We eventually made it home and got some much needed food and rest.

The working crews got their ball too

More than 500 Dems from Arlington, Falls Church and the District descended January 18 on the State Theatre in Falls Church for the Grassroots Gala and Benefit for the Arlington Food Assistance Center.

Casually clad in jeans and Obama T-shirts, party goers celebrated the Inauguration of our new President, Barack Obama, and the extraordinary hard work they put into making it happen.

In the spirit of the community service we have been called upon to do by our new President, Dems raised more than \$7,500 for AFAC. They also delivered 2,795 pounds of food to waiting trucks. There was so much food the trucks couldn't hold it all!

Copies of the Constitution were given to everybody who attended. They were told

See Grassroots Ball photo on previous page

that it was, after all, the owners' manual, and now we have a chance to get it back. "The fact that our new President is a constitutional scholar is just breathtaking," said **Marge Epstein**.

Gubernatorial candidates Creigh Deeds, Brian Moran and Terry McAuliffe, and lieutenant governor candidate Mike Signer, all took full advantage of the chance to chat up volunteers and collect hundreds of petition signatures. They know a gold mine when they see it!

In the star spangled room, revelers listened to the terrific music provided by Nobody's Business, the band of Arlington's own **Paul Ashin**, Metro Area Co-Chair.

More than a few ACDC folks stepped out to the music, including **Ingrid** and **Judith Morroy**, who could be seen moving to the beat whether or not they were on the dance floor.

The event was conceived and organized by four individuals who felt that the "foot soldiers" of the Obama campaign should have an opportunity to celebrate. They were ACDC Deputy Volunteer Coordinator **Marge Epstein**, Metro Area Co-Chair **Paul Ashin**, Yorktown Precinct Captain **Mark Habeeb**, and Obama Arlington campaign office administrator, **Joan Porte**.

AYDs lay out multitude of strategic goals for 2009

Arlington Young Democrats are off to a fast start for 2009, having established their goals for the year. In a recent letter to ACDC and elected officials, AYD President **Sarah Godlewski** outlined AYD's aspirations to maintain the high level of engagement of young voters in 2008 and to focus on increasing this momentum in 2009.

The strategic goals established by the AYD Executive Committee for 2009 include:

- o To inform, engage, and activate young Arlingtonians to positively impact local, state, and national issues.
- o To represent the experiences, backgrounds, and identities of the various communities within Arlington.
- o To reflect the variety of interests of AYD members by expanding the scope of AYD activities beyond political action.

- o To increase official membership, active participation, and retention of new and current members.

- o To enhance partnerships between AYD and the broader community by fostering awareness and open dialogue.

Godlewski emphasized that individual AYD officers will seek to develop specific initiatives to meet these goals and continue to work with ACDC and the larger community to elect Democratic candidates to office.

Though 2009 is still new, AYD has already undertaken a review of its constitution, hosted its first monthly meeting and an "inaugural ball alternative" party, participated in National Day of Service activities, and begun planning its popular annual date auction. Stay tuned for more news from this energetic group.

Your Steering Committee

3 new officers are Steering

Three new members have joined the ACDC Steering Committee.

Elected at the January meeting were:

Jordan Higgins, webmaster. Jordan is an experienced web designer and developer who got his start in politics designing the web sites for the presidential campaigns of General Wesley Clark and Senator John Kerry as well as campaign sites for Governor Tim Kaine and Senators Jim Webb and Mark Warner. He has served as webmaster for the Arlington Young Democrats and the Virginia Young Democrats, and currently is the creative director for the U.S. Senate Democratic Multimedia Center.

Melanie Ciolek, communications director. Melanie is also secretary of the Arlington Young Democrats for 2009. When not involved in Arlington activities, she works in communications and survey management for a global public opinion research think tank.

Karl Johnson, program chair. Karl is a director with a technology consulting firm in D.C. and serves as the director of membership retention for AYDs. He is also a member of the Young Democrats of America Communications and Outreach Select Committee.

All three have been working at their jobs for some time—but then, so has the Obama transition team.

Read about the plans of County Board members for 2009

The new Arlington County Board was sworn in January 1 with **Barbara Favola** elected as chair and **Jay Fisette** as vice chair.

You can read their opening day speeches outlining their goals for 2009 on the County Board web site at <http://www.arlingtonva.us/Departments/CountyBoard/CountyBoardMain.aspx>.

The traditional New Year's Day swearing-in was followed by the traditional New Year's Day ACDC reception in honor of the Board, held this year at Board member **Mary Hynes'** home and catered, as is traditional, by the ACDC Kitchen Crew. We are steeped in tradition!



THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF VIRGINIA

invites you to the

2009 Jefferson-JACKSON Dinner

7:00 p.m. Saturday, February 7th, 2009

Greater Richmond Convention Center

403 N. Third Street

Richmond, Virginia

Clinton addresses state J-J

Former President Bill Clinton will be the guest speaker at this year's Virginia Jefferson-Jackson Dinner.

As shown in the logo above, the annual dinner will be held Saturday, February 7, in the Greater Richmond Convention Center.

Tickets start at \$175 each.

Full details on table prices, directions to the Convention Center, reservations at nearby

hotels, and a ticket order form are all available on the web at <http://www.vademocrats.org/pages/jj2009/>

Calendar items

To submit items for the calendar, go to <http://www.arlingtondemocrats.org/submitevent.phtml>.