

Senior Statesmen of Virginia 2010 Annual Report

Programming: 2010 was a very good year for our organization. We continued to present quality programs. Early in the year Sue Liberman, Vice President for Education and Advocacy, provided a membership survey to ascertain members' priorities for forum topics. The top choices were:

- Important to individuals: *Healthcare: Availability, Cost, and Care*
- Important to seniors: *Healthcare Availability and Cost*
- Issues affecting Charlottesville: *Transportation/Traffic*
- Other areas of concern: *Public Roadways*

Thus, this year we were fortunate to have members provide valuable input into the programming. Sue and her committee planned the fall programs around these suggestions. The *September* forum discussed the impact of the Affordable Care Act on Virginians' access to medical services and the cost as well. Presenters were representatives from the two healthcare centers in our community and a healthcare policy expert from UVA. The *October* forum allowed us to better understand and offer our ideas on Transportation Planning for the Future. Our presenters were the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission. And, Bob Gibson drew on his vast experience as we discussed civility in government during the *November* forum. In *December*, we held our annual luncheon meeting at Branchlands.

Our year of outstanding programs began in *January* with Sally Thomas, long-time County Supervisor, reminiscing on the changes in Albemarle County over the past 16 years. As the snows overwhelmed us, we cancelled the *February* forum. But we were back on track in *March* as Charlottesville Mayor Dave Norris and Albemarle County Supervisor Anne Mallek defined the states of the city and county. The 2010 Virginia House session review in *April* by Representatives Rob Bell and David Toscano was interesting and informative, as always.

Isaac Wood of the UVA Center for Politics began our look at the 2010 midterm elections at our *May* forum, while in *June* Bob McGrath discussed an important topic: the public perception and the science of climate change.

A total of 303 members and guests joined us as we hosted the Fifth Congressional District Showcase in *August*. Candidates Jeffrey A. Clark (Independent), Robert Hurt (Republican), and Tom Perriello (Democrat) were invited, but Mr. Hurt chose not to attend. SSV was recognized as the organization that kicks off the biannual Fifth District Congressional campaign!

Membership: At the beginning of 2010 our membership totaled 110; as we enter into 2011, our membership has reached 132, a 20% increase. Thanks to all our members for their recruiting efforts.

Sadly, our past President, Marvin Henry Hilton, passed away suddenly in April. His experienced counsel is missed by all.

Financial: At the beginning of the year SSV had a total of \$1805.72 in its account. As 2010 closes, our balance is \$1820.93. Most of our budget is spent on supplies used for preparing and mailing our monthly Newsletter and meeting announcement. Other major expenditures this year also included:

- \$300 for the Marvin Hilton Scholarship Fund at UVA.
- \$431.73 for marketing the SSV brand, including a meeting banner and new brochure.

SSV holds its expenses to a minimum because of the untiring work of Jim Peterson, who writes and publishes the Newsletter, prints the brochure, provides a professional sound system for our forums, and oversees the podcasts of our programs. Many thanks also go to Berta Hysell and Betty Vargas, who fold, stamp, and post the mailings.

Bill Hodson, President
12/31/2010