



Commonwealth Crier

News from the Virginia Golf Course Superintendents Association

July 2018

President's Message



Short and sweet and to the point. By the time you receive this I hope this current phase of heat and humidity is over and you have time or desire to sit down and read the news. If not then there will be more to write about in the fall.

This year we tried to focus on the Rounds 4 Research program sponsored by EIFG. The good news is that we almost doubled what we raised last year, over \$4,500 was sent back to the VGCSA. The bad news is there is a lot left on the table. By definition this money is used for Research, Education and Advocacy, all areas that we have been trying to enhance for our members. Let's see if next year we can double again. Thanks to all that participated this year. This year's VGCSA Championship winner was Cameron Yancey with Assistants title going

to Garrison Fowler and Vendor title to Jim Wilson. Thanks to all that participated. Virginia Cup Qualifiers are ongoing and so far we have Cameron Yancey, Garrison Fowler, Scott Cornwell, Jeff Whitmire and Brent Graham. One more is open from the VTA qualifier.

As many already know the Virginia Tech Turfgrass Research Classic has been rescheduled to Sept 18 at Independence GC. There are still opportunities to donate. National Golf Day was a success with David Norman, Tyler Eastham and Jeff Holliday attending. Jeff was a part of the National Mall Beautification process. Thanks Jeff for beautifying the Mall. There was also a Joint event at Farmington CC about the future of Golf, which was well attended and full of useful information.

In closing I was able to meet with Dr. Mike Evans, the new Director of the School of Plant and Environmental Sciences at Virginia Tech this spring. We had a very productive conversation regarding the turf program and what options there are for its future. He is an avid fisherman and a Virginia Tech graduate. Please don't hesitate to contact him with concerns. We have invited him to the Research Classic and he expressed a desire to meet and talk to various associations.



Mark Cote, CGCS
VGCSA President

Rounds 4 Research Auction Raises Record \$312,663 for Turfgrass Studies

National program has raised more than \$1 million since 2012

The 2018 Rounds 4 Research fundraising program to support turfgrass studies, administered by the Environmental Institute for Golf (EIFG), sold more than 1,330 rounds and yielded nearly \$313,000 in its May online auction, making it the most successful in the program's history. The EIFG is the philanthropic organization of the GCSAA.

The Carolinas Golf Course Superintendents Association was the leader among more than 70 GCSAA affiliated chapters and turfgrass

organizations that received proceeds from the auction to support turfgrass research at the local level. Virginia raised over \$5,600, a notable increase over the prior year. Once again, Primland's Highland Course won "high bid" honors. Other top bids were for Kingsmill's River Course, Ballyhack, Spring Creek and the Pete Dye River Course.

"We are thrilled that Rounds 4 Research had its most successful year ever," said Rhett Evans, GCSAA chief executive officer. "This is a wonderful program that

allows golfers to help support the future of the game while playing the courses they love.

The national campaign is supported by a \$50,000 donation from The Toro Co. The Golf Channel, Golf Advisor and GolfNow provided promotional support. Over 60 golf course management companies donated more than 350 rounds to the auction, including Billy Casper Golf, ClubCorp, Marriott Golf, the PGA Tour TPC Network and Troon Golf. The program has raised more than \$1,095,000 since launching in 2012.



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VSGA names Smiley new Executive Director, effective January 1, 2019

MIDLOTHIAN – Matt Smiley, who has been a member of the Virginia State Golf Association staff since 2003, will become the organization's new Executive Director on Jan. 1, 2019, the VSGA Board of Directors announced.

Smiley will become the organization's fifth Executive Director and will succeed Jamie Conkling, who announced in December 2016 that he will retire from the position on Dec. 31, 2018.

The Executive Director is responsible for leading the VSGA's professional staff as well as working with the association's board, volunteers and membership, which includes more than 300 member clubs and 70,000 individual golfers in the Commonwealth.

"I'd like to thank the Search Committee and VSGA Board of Directors for the confidence they have shown in me by selecting me to be the next Executive Director of the VSGA," Smiley said. "The VSGA has been a huge part of my life and I am excited about the opportunity to lead the association through its next chapter. I look forward to continuing to create opportunities for golfers around Virginia to deepen their love for and engagement in this great game."

The VSGA Board of Directors conducted a national search for the position beginning in January. Smiley spent 10 years as the VSGA's Director of Rules and Competitions before being promoted to Assistant Executive Director in January 2017.

"After a lengthy process, we identified four outstanding candidates for the position, and it was a tough decision," VSGA president Michael Millen said. "Matt's experience and longtime dedication to the organization played a big role in the decision, and we're all very pleased with how this process turned out."

Smiley joined the VSGA staff in 2003 after two stints as a P.J. Boatwright Intern. He served as the VSGA Women's Tournament Manager and Assistant Director of Rules and Competitions before being promoted in 2008.

Smiley was responsible for leading a tournament staff of five full-time employees and several independent contractors. Along with VSGA championships and qualifiers, the VSGA tournament staff oversees the VSGA One-Day Program, the VSGA Junior Golf Circuit and helps with USGA



qualifiers and VHSL championships hosted at VSGA member clubs.

"I'm excited for Matt and the VSGA," Conkling said. "Matt has been an integral member of the staff and is well respected by

others on staff, the Board of Directors, volunteers and members of the association, including many of the elite players. I have

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Kyle Shreve named Executive Director of the Virginia Agribusiness Council

Kyle Shreve has been named the newly chosen Executive Director for the Virginia Agribusiness Council. He hails from a rich background of association work including the International Dairy Foods Association, Virginia Retail Merchants Association and, most recently, the Virginia Association of Health Plans. His association experience, along with his demonstrated strength in government policy and legislative affairs, makes him a tremendous asset for Virginia Agribusiness Council.



Kyle Shreve

Kyle has begun his work as the Council's newest leader: "I am truly blessed to join this wonderful organization and look forward to being a tireless advocate for the Virginia agriculture industry."

Kern Houff, The Council's Board President and Chair of the Search Committee, remarked: "We are very excited

to have Kyle Shreve as our Executive Director. We look forward to his leadership as the Council enters a new phase in its growth as a resource for both its members and the legislative body in Richmond."

Kyle is originally from Pennsylvania and received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and History from Penn State. He moved to Northern Virginia in 2008 to begin his six-year tenure at the International Dairy Foods Association, focusing on legislative affairs. Soon after receiving his Masters in Political Management from the George Washington University, Kyle moved to Richmond to work with the Virginia Retail Merchants Association as the Director of Government Affairs. He is transitioning from his current position with the Virginia Association of Health Plans to take on the role of Executive Director, representing an industry for which he has a life-long love and affinity.

Kyle and his wife, Christie, live in Midlothian, Virginia with their son, Bennett.

3rd Old Dominion GCSA Scholarship Tournament a Success at Magnolia Green GC

ODGCSA President Jay Wade of Magnolia Green Golf Club graciously hosted the third annual ODGCSA Scholarship Tournament. The weather was ideal and the group enjoyed this relatively new course in the Richmond area.

In the two-man Stableford format, Brent Graham, CGCS and Garrison Fowler of Two Rivers Country Club took top honors with a gross score of 39 points. First place in the net division went to the team of John Crain of Smith Turf and Irrigation and Dan Sabina of The Federal Club, with a score of 56 points.

For the third year in a row, ODGCSA is proud to be able award \$2,000 in scholarships. These scholarships are available for anyone that works at a golf course that has a current VGCSA member in good standing, regardless of their position at the club. Visit <http://vgcsa.org/-old-dominion-gcsa> to download the scholarship application.

Thank you to our sponsors for helping to make this important event a success – Smith Turf & Irrigation, Harrell's, Landscape Supply, Target Specialty Products, Buy Sod, Syngenta, Helena Chemical Company, Revels Turf Tractor, Southern States, VGM, Textron and Chase Rogan, GCSAA.

Presented by



(L-R) John Crain, Dan Sabina, Jay Wade, Brent Graham, Garrison Fowler

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Support Biological Lake and Pond Management with “Probiotics”

By Erin Stewart, Aquatic Biologist at SOLitude Lake Management

There are many sustainable options for the management of lakes and ponds, so it can be difficult to determine which direction to turn when a water quality issue occurs. This is especially true for waterbodies used for recreational activity, irrigation and stormwater runoff—or any location where pesticides or other traditional management methods may be less desirable or restricted. However, all aquatic resources can benefit from proactive applications of natural and biological products. Beneficial bacteria-based products can be used as a pesticide alternative, or used in conjunction with other products and methods to enhance the efficiency of the treatment.

Bacteria may sound like a bad word in some situations, but these organisms are the foundation of most biological processes within an aquatic resource. Think of them as probiotics or yogurt for your lake or pond—they are responsible for breaking down and processing organic material in a process called biological augmentation.

When properly introduced, biological augmentation can help limit the impact of nutrients like nitrogen and phosphorous, which tend to enter waterbodies through runoff containing fertilizers, animal waste and other organic materials. Without proper management, these materials may accumulate as sludge at the bottom of your waterbody, causing noxious odors, promoting nuisance algae and weed growth and expediting the waterbody’s rate of aging. Over time, costly dredging will be required to restore the health and overall volume of the aquatic resource. When beneficial bacteria are in place, they convert nutrients to forms that cannot fuel nuisance plant growth, promote efficient decomposition



Over time, organic runoff builds up as muck at the bottom of lakes and ponds. As part of a proactive management plan, biological augmentation can be used to naturally and sustainably limit the accumulation of materials while improving the water quality and beauty of the waterbody.

and prevent the accumulation of organic materials. This, in turn, can help diversify the biological community structure by facilitating the development of “good” algae, diatoms, zooplankton and healthy fish.

Regular applications of these biologicals can be incredibly favorable and help keep beneficial bacteria concentrations and activity high throughout the year. Depending on the particular water quality or vegetation issues within your waterbody, a professional may recommend different forms of probiotic

bacteria, including liquid, pellet or powdered applications.

A professional will determine the rate and frequency of beneficial bacteria and/or herbicide applications by conducting water chemistry tests or considering the targeted issue. However, the best way to achieve your overall lake or pond goals is to ensure the proper products are being utilized. There are many selections available on the market, so it is very important to choose a quality option with field data and science supporting the claims. Always rely on your lake and pond management company for beneficial bacteria recommendations, as well as guidance on strategies to improve aeration, beneficial buffers, water quality and native wildlife populations. Your water will thank you.

Erin Stewart is an experienced Aquatic Biologist with SOLitude Lake Management, an environmental firm providing sustainable lake, pond, wetland and fisheries management solutions. www.solitudelakemanagement.com.



Beneficial bacteria acts much like a natural probiotic for your lake or pond, aiding with the efficient decomposition of organic materials and excessive nutrients, which can help prevent the development of nuisance algae and vegetation and facilitate the growth of healthy organisms.



Virlina Cup Team Taking Shape

Home Stand at Princess Anne Country Club

Virlina Cup Captain Jeff Holliday, CGCS is pleased with the nucleus of his team, when the Cup heads to the Princess Anne Country Club in Virginia Beach on October 14-16. Five spots have been claimed, and all five are returning from last year's squad.

First it was Brent Graham, CGCS claiming the Greater Washington qualifier to earn the first spot on the team. Then at the VGCSA Championship, Cameron Yancey of Nottoway River CC, Scott Cornwell of River Creek CC and Garrison Fowler of Two Rivers CC punched their ticket. Most recently, Jeff Whitmire of Williamsburg Golf Club won the Dick Cake tourney for the fifth spot. One spot remains at the VTA/SVTA Qualifier, with two spots reserved as picks for the Captain and Sponsor.

Syngenta returns as the sponsor, headed by Larry Feller, Sam Camuso and Mark Brazinski. The Carolinas Team currently holds the Cup.



Jeff Holliday, CGCS
Captain



Jeff Whitmire, CGCS



Scott Cornwell



Cameron Yancey



Garrison Fowler



Brent Graham, CGCS



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Turfgrass Research Classic & Field Day Rescheduled for September 18 at Independence GC



The VGCSA and VTC are proud to announce that their joint fundraiser, the Virginia Tech Turfgrass Research Classic, will take place Tuesday, September 18th, hosted by Independence Golf Club in Richmond. It was rescheduled from its May date, to feature a new grassing program currently underway at the club. Last year's event at The Country Club of Virginia was a sellout and raised over \$47,000 for turf research. While this year's event is already a sellout, there are other opportunities to participate as a social registrant or a sponsor.

In 2017, the Virginia Tech researchers first established turfgrass testing on the Short Course at Independence. Guests will be able to take a tour of the ongoing research the morning of the Classic. The Tech team targeted research in central Virginia – the

climate and growing conditions are more “mainstream Virginia,” than that found in Blacksburg. Primary testing is for warm season grasses on putting greens. Independence has Champion bermudagrass on their championship course greens.

This year's golf tournament is a “can't miss” affair! It will be totally first class from the golf, to the food & beverage, to the prizes and more. In addition, the event will feature a silent auction component to add excitement to the day. Please contact Eric Snelsire of Bayer if you can contribute an item (eric.snelsire@bayer.com). The event has become the ultimate networking event in the industry.

Please visit www.vgcsa.org and www.vaturf.org for event details!



Lentz Wheeler and Kevin Connelly share a laugh at last year's event



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VSGA-VIP Scholarship Foundation Announces Scholarship Award Recipients at 2018 VSGA Day

Thirty-seven high-school seniors and three turfgrass students at Virginia Tech were among the 40 scholars honored as the VSGA-VIP Scholarship Foundation announced its 2018 scholarship award recipients at VSGA Day at Richmond Country Club.

The VSGA-VIP Scholarship Foundation provides scholarships to Virginia high school students with an interest in golf (ability not important). Other criteria for

the awards are academic achievement, character and community involvement.

This year's grants total \$108,500, including \$4,500 that went to three students studying turfgrass science in Blacksburg. Since being launched in 1984, the program has now distributed more than \$2.21 million to 993 students. A portion of each VSGA VIP Golf Card sale helps fund the VSGA-VIP Scholarship Foundation.

"I want to congratulate this year's scholarship recipients for the impact they have made both in the classroom as well as their local communities," VSGA-VIP Scholarship Foundation president Michael Millen said. "The caliber of the applicant pool seems to get stronger and deeper every year and this class may be our most impressive to date in terms of well-roundedness."

2018 VSGA-VIP Scholarship Foundation Award Recipients Turfgrass Research Awards



John Brewer (Blacksburg/Virginia Tech) – \$1,500:

Received undergraduate and Masters degrees from University of Tennessee at Martin. ... Is doing Ph.D.

research at Virginia Tech assessing the mechanism of herbicide resistance in annual bluegrass (*poa annua*).



Jordan Craft (Newport/Virginia Tech) – \$1,500:

Received undergraduate and Masters degrees from Mississippi State University. ... Is doing Ph.D. research at

Virginia Tech examining factors that govern zoysiagrass response to herbicides during green-up.




Travis Roberson (Blacksburg/Virginia Tech) – \$1,500:

Received B.S. degree from Virginia Tech. ... Is working toward his M.S. at Virginia Tech in Plant Pathology,

Physiology, and Weed Science with a concentration in Applied Pathology. Has worked on the course maintenance staffs at both Kinloch Golf Club and the Highland Course at Primland.

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Yancey Regains Title at VGCSA Championship

Convincing Margin Shooting 69



Top Performers (L-R) Scott Cornwell, Cameron Yancey, Jim Wilson, Garrison Fowler



Net Winners (L-R) Mark Merrick, Dan Sabina, Chris Roberts

Cameron Yancey regained the VGCSA Championship title at Keswick Club in convincing fashion, after a 3-under-par 69 and a nine stroke margin. The Nottoway River CC superintendent has now won three of the past four titles. A respectable 78 earned Scott Cornwell of River Creek Club Runner-Up honors. Both players earned spots on the 2018 Virlina Cup Team.

Yancey's wild trip around the beautiful Keswick course featured six birdies, as he got on a roll, after bogeying three of his first four holes. He was a blazing 5-under-par in a nine-hole stretch of holes #8-17. Defending Champion Jeff Whitmire struggled to an 80 to finish third.

In the Assistants Division, Garrison Fowler of Two Rivers CC defended his title, shooting 75 to win comfortably and earn a spot on the Virlina Cup Team. Dan Sabina of The Federal Club took

home Low Net honors with a 79.

In the second year of the Senior Championship, Bobby Friend of Brookwoods CC defended the title, after a 82 to edge out Dick Fisher of Lake Chesdin and Jeff Snyder of The Water's Edge.

In the Affiliate Division, Jim Wilson of Harrell's defended his title with a 79, to edge out Jeff Scott of Scott Turf Equipment, who shot 83. Mark Merrick of Genesis Turfgrass surprised everyone to win Low Net with a 71.

In the Superintendent Division, Chris Roberts of Richmond First Tee won a scorecard playoff with Marshall Hibbs of Penderbrook for Low Net honors at 75.

Host superintendent Peter McDonough had the course in beautiful condition.

RESULTS

Superintendent Division

Champion

Cameron Yancey,
Nottoway River CC 69

Runner-Up

Scott Cornwell,
River Creek CC 78

Low Net

Chris Roberts,
First Tee of Richmond, 71 (playoff)

Assistant Division

Champion

Garrison Fowler,
Two Rivers Country Club 75

Low Net

Dan Sabina,
The Federal Club 79

Affiliate Division

Champion

Jim Wilson
Harrell's 79

Low Net

Mark Merrick
Genesis Turfgrass 71

Senior Division

Champion

Bobby Friend,
Brookwoods CC 82

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Government Relations Round-Up

WE ARE GOLF Celebrates 11th Annual National Golf Day in Washington, D.C.

Record-High 230 Meetings with Members of Congress from 40 States Showcase the Game's Benefits

Golf industry leaders participated in a record-high 230 meetings with members of Congress representing 40 states to discuss the game's economic, social and environmental contributions to society during the 11th annual National Golf Day on Capitol Hill on April 25th. The VGCSA delegation included Jeff Holliday, CGCS of Salisbury CC, David Walter of Potomac Shores GC and staffers David Norman and Tyler Eastham.

Conversations with Senate, House of Representatives, Executive Branch and federal agencies' directors coincided with Tuesday's release of the new U.S. Golf Economy Report, conducted by TEconomy Partners. It shows \$84.1 billion in activity was directly driven by golf in 2016, a 22% rise from \$68.8 billion in the 2011 report. The industry supported \$191.9 billion in total annual activity, including 1.89 million jobs and \$58.7 billion in wages and benefits. Demonstrating golfers' and businesses' commitments to charity, \$3.94 billion was raised in 2016 through tournaments and other golf activities.

The fourth report since 2000 to measure golf's impact, research encompassed golf course operations, tourism, real estate, supplies, tournaments, associations, charitable events, capital investment and other commercial segments.

Produced by WE ARE GOLF – the coalition of the game's leading associations

and industry partners – National Golf Day brought together heads of golf organizations and companies from throughout the U.S.

"Golf is healthy and we continue to collaborate on

conservation.

"Golf is a lifetime sport. It teaches values to the young and helps the season golfer stay physically fit. Nebraska boasts some of the most diverse and beautiful golf destinations in the world," said Senator Debra Fischer

(R-NE). "On National Golf Day, we celebrate our love of the game and renew our commitment to ensure Americans can continue playing for generations to come."

Golf ambassador and social media influencer Paige Spiranac joined the WE ARE GOLF contingency to promote health and wellness

GCSAA Government Relations Director Chave McKeel meets with VGCSA staff Tyler Eastham



GCSAA CEO Rhett Evans mans the edger on the National Mall

ways to have a positive impact in America," said Steve Mona, CEO of World Golf Foundation and administrator of WE ARE GOLF. "Meeting with many powerful lawmakers and influencers helps educate people about golf's numerous benefits, grow participation and preserve the game's legacy for future generations."

The WE ARE GOLF agenda centers on golf course owners and operators receiving tax relief from natural disasters, labor policies, physical fitness legislation, tax reform, and environmental sustainability and



Jeff Holliday was in charge of the sodding project on the National Mall

derived from playing. An 18-hole round equates to a four- to five-mile walk and up to 2,000 calories burned.

Highlight exhibits in the Rayburn Office Building foyer included golf lessons and swing analysis for Congressional Members and staff from Michael Breed, former PGA

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***One Team,
Many Solutions***

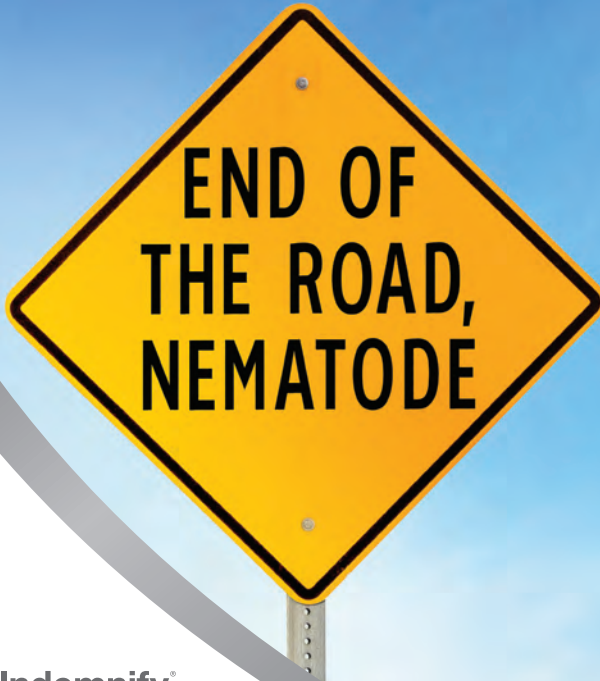
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2018 Event Previews

VGCSA Conference Returns to Charlottesville in December

Kuhns, Gross, Jacobs Will Speak

Presented by



The VGCSA Conference continues to grow in its fifth year, and the event returns to the UVA Darden Inn in Charlottesville on December 3-4, 2018. The event will feature a similar format to the 2017 event. A good deal of education credit will be available to VGCSA members, as the Old Dominion's Education Segment will again be held on the first day, running 1-4 pm, then followed by the Association's Annual Meeting and Awards Presentations. Immediately following the meeting, there will be a FREE Partner Appreciation Reception, featuring your favorite beverages and



Mark Kuhns, CGCS Baltusrol



Patrick Gross, USGA Green Section West Region



Paul Jacobs, USGA Green Section Northeast Region



hors d'oeuvres, and plenty of networking time with your friends. The evening will feature a Monday Night Football Party presented by Ian Grove of Target Specialty Products.

Then on Tuesday, a Networking Breakfast will run 7:30-8:30 a.m., followed by more education, featuring outstanding speakers from the fields of turf and business, all designed to make your jobs just a little easier and a little better. Confirmed speakers include Mark Kuhns - GCSAA Past President & Superintendent at Baltusrol Country Club in Springfield, NJ, plus Pat Gross, USGA Green Section Agronomist,

Santa Ana, CA, who will speak on water issues and Paul Jacobs, USGA Green Section Agronomist, Easton, PA.

"We polled our members after last year's event, and we got some good ideas. We are committed to continual improvement of the program," said VGCSA President Mark Cote.

Thanks to the excellent support of sponsors like Revels Tractor and Finch Services (the John Deere distributors) and other excellent companies, the conference will be at a reasonable price, and a single guest room will be just \$99 plus tax. The VGCSA is committed to providing value and service to its members.

VGCSA Assistants Forum Heads Back to Richmond Stonehenge Golf & Country Club to Host Monday, October 29, 2018

VGCSA is excited to host another first class event for the assistant superintendent members. Providing the assistants with an opportunity to receive first class education along with a fun and competitive day of golf helps shape the future of the industry and allows for them to build relationships. This is

an important aspect of the association and the future of golf as a whole. VGCSA Assistant Superintendent Board Representative Garrison Fowler of Two Rivers Country Club is putting together a great event. Stay tuned for more information!



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2018 Event Previews

Williamsburg Golf Club to Host the Joe Saylor Memorial Tuesday, September 25, 2018

The VGCSA is pleased to announce that Williamsburg Golf Club in Williamsburg will host this year's Joe Saylor Memorial Tournament on Tuesday, September 25th. VGCSA Secretary/Treasurer Jeff Whitmire, CGCS is playing host to the most fun event of the fall, which will continue its tradition of friendly competition with plenty of refreshments and a little golf!

As always this event is a tribute to Joe Saylor, the honoree of this annual memorial event. Joe was longtime superintendent at James River Country Club, and a leader in state and regional affairs for the superintendents. Joe passed away in 2005. Defending the title will be host Superintendent Jeff Whitmire, CGCS and Jeff Yarborough of King Carter Golf Club.

As always, this event supports the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program so don't forget to bring a toy to donate!



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News from Local Associations

ODGCSA News

Hope everyone is doing well with the onset of summer, it was a crazy spring with the cool and wet conditions throughout the Old Dominion Region. Bermuda had a slow start with a lot of winterkill throughout the area, along with heavy pressure from weeds that most likely broke through a diluted pre emerge barrier and thinner turf.

Last month several ODGCSA members were able to get out to the Flying Squirrels game in Richmond, thanks to Luck Ecosystems for providing the hospitality for

this event. The next event will be a joint meeting with the SVTA on September 11th at Wintergreen. This event will be sponsored by PBI Gordon, they will be discussing successful solutions for managing Spring Dead Spot Control. We look forward to seeing you there. This is always a great event since we will get to travel to cooler grounds after the summer heat.

If we can better serve your needs as a member of the association, please feel free to reach out to us.



Scott Mauldin, CGCS
ODGCSA
External VP

TTA News

Summer is officially here and the temperatures are here to verify it! Some are ecstatic to see the warm temps while for others it signals the dog days of summer spent on the end of a hose. After a tough winter that saw some winter kill up and down the Peninsula, it has been nice to get some Bermuda grass weather. Many properties have been busy repairing winter damaged areas via, sprigs, sod, aerification and/or a combination of them, and the warm temperatures are a welcome sight.

For those with cool season grasses, the focus has been on sound cultural and chemical management practices and training standard operation procedures for watering crews as they dig in for the grind to Labor Day.

The TTA yearly meeting schedule has continued to roll on, and turn out has been pretty solid and consistent. Tim Doran, Superintendent at the River Course at Kingsmill Resort, hosted our annual joint meeting with the Old Dominion GCSA on April 2nd. The weather was great and the

course was in great shape! Dave Toleris a weather meteorologist from @wxrisk gave an entertaining and informative presentation and the food and golf was excellent. We would like to extend a big thank you to Revels for sponsoring the event!

On April 30, Superintendent Mike Hall of Riverfront GC hosted an industry Field Day with our partners from John Deere, Toro and Jacobsen on hand to share their products with us. It was a great event and a great opportunity for us to give support back to the folks that work so hard to support us throughout the year. Thank you to all that attended!

Also well attended was our Dick Cake Memorial Tournament, which took place on May 24 at James River Country Club. We would like to say a big thank you to Superintendent Rob Wilmans for hosting. The golf course was in phenomenal shape and the event was well attended, as always.

The TTA is excited for the rest of 2018 with the Bert Walton tournament slated for Sept. 20 at Kilmarlic GC, and our annual

meeting November 12 at Greenbrier CC in Suffolk. As always, we are always looking to grow, so if you know of a fellow Superintendent, Assistant, Equipment Manager etc, who is not currently a member, please encourage them to join the TTA or your local association and start enjoying the benefits associated with them! We are committed to supporting our members so if there is any way we can better do that, please do not hesitate to reach out to any and all Board Members. Please follow us on Twitter- @tidewaterturf and Facebook- Tidewater Turfgrass Association, or better yet, come on out to our next event!



James Mazowieski
TTA
External VP

SVTA News

The SVTA held its May meeting at Bryce Resort where we had a very nice round table discussion. After the discussion we had a spirited nine-hole golf match. Thanks to Dean Freeman and his staff at Bryce for a great day.

Our schedule for meetings is July 26 at Ingleside, September 11 at Wintergreen with the Old Dominion Association, and October the VTF Fundraiser is at the Caverns Country Club. I hope to see you soon at one of our meetings.



Ed Eagle
SVTA External VP

News from Local Associations

VTA News

If I had any sort of musical talent, I am sure I could have written a country song about this year's weather thus far in 2018. Yes, even us boys over here on the other side of state in the "mountains" have seen our fair share of wicked weather. On the bright side, the days are getting shorter and our fall aeration countdown clocks are getting closer by the day.

We had a successful start to the meeting calendar this year with our annual Bob Ruff Sr. fundraiser held at The Westlake, hosted by H.T. Page. We changed things up a bit this year, and asked H.T. to talk about their recent conversion to Zoysia grass fairways and tees. They took a bit of different approach and sprigged the zoysia. H.T. shared the pros and cons and what they would do differently the next time if given a chance.

Our June meeting we moved our way to the Pete Dye River Course hosted by Mark Cote. We took advantage of the close proximity to VA Tech and had two of Shawn Askew's graduate students John Brewer and Jordan Kraft walk through some of the test plots on Sedge control and other summer weeds that are hard to control. It is always interesting to see how the different products on the market and those in the trial stage compare to each other side by side.

Our original date for the Virlina Cup qualifier was rained out at Roanoke Country Club, but is looking to have a new date and time set in the very near future, so stay tuned for information regarding the new date.

We finish off the year with our family night at the Salem Red Sox and then our Annual Meeting at Blacksburg Country Club in October. Keep your eyes open for

information on these events and the possibility of a quick get together in September to unwind, relax and play a little golf with our peers.

Stay cool, hydrated and safe over the last couple months of the season. Look forward to seeing everyone and personally ready for Summer 2018 to go away.



Sean K. Baskette
VTA President

News from the GWGCSA

The phrase "from one extreme to the other" best describes our weather over the past several months. The cool, dry weather pattern we were in at the start of the growing season has quickly turned into above average temperatures and rainfall totals throughout the month of May.

Unfortunately, many courses throughout the Mid-Atlantic, including courses south into the Carolinas experienced some loss of warm season turf this winter which proves again that nothing likes to grow in this area. The hardest hit areas seemed to be on the north facing slopes and areas susceptible to drying out due to wind and well drained soils. Repairing these damaged areas at most facilities has already begun, or they are in the

process now. On the positive side, favorable growing conditions ahead should heal these areas in a timely manner.

On May 8th, the GWGCSA held its Virlinia Cup qualifier at The Piedmont Club where host Superintendent Adam Schilpp had the course in excellent condition. Congratulations to Brent Graham, CGCS, Superintendent at Two Rivers Country Club for his victory which secures his spot on the Virlinia Cup roster.

There are some great events ahead this summer for the GWGCSA including the Maintenance Open at Forest Greens Golf Club on July 18th. Be on the lookout for the emails as we get closer to these dates.



Aaron Wells
GWGCSA External VP

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2018-19 VGCSA Schedule

July TBA	VTA Salem Red Sox Baseball, Salem
July 18	GWGCSA Maintenance Open, Forest Greens GC, Triangle
July 24	Virgina Cup Qualifying, Roanoke CC, Roanoke
July 26	SVTA Meeting, Ingleside Golf Resort, Staunton
August TBA	VTA Fishing Trip, TBA
August 9	VGCSA Board Meeting, Wintergreen Resort, Nellysford
September 11	SVTA/ODGCSA Joint Meeting, Wintergreen Resort, Nellysford
September 13	GWGCSA "Glow Ball" Tourney, Stonewall GC, Gainesville
September 18	Virginia Tech Turfgrass Research Classic, Independence GC, Midlothian
September 20	TTA Bert Walton Memorial, Kilmarlic GC, Outer Banks, NC
September 25	Joe Saylor Memorial Tournament, Williamsburg GC, Williamsburg
October TBA	ODGCSA Annual Meeting, TBA
October 9	GWGCSA Superintendent/Assistant Championship, TBA
October 14-16	Virgina Cup, Princess Anne CC, Virginia Beach
October 16	VTA Annual Meeting, Blacksburg CC
October 18	SVTA Fundraiser for VTF, Caverns Country Club Resort, Luray
October 29	VGCSA Assistants Forum, Stonehenge G&CC, Richmond, VA
November 6	GWGCSA "Buttery Goodness" Golf Tournament & Annual Meeting Evergreen CC, Haymarket
November 12	TTA Annual Meeting, Greenbrier CC, Chesapeake
December 3-4	VGCSA Conference, UVA Darden Inn, Charlottesville

2019

February 2-7	GCSAA Conference & Golf Industry Show, San Diego
February 6	VGCSA-MAAGCS-ESAGCS Social Event, San Diego, CA
TBA	Mid-Atlantic Regional Golf Conference, Richmond, VA

Additional Events Coming Soon

2019 Dog Days of Golf Calendar

Submissions for the 2019 Dog Days of Golf Calendar will be accepted through Aug. 1, 2018. Visit www.gcsaa.org to submit online.

From the submissions, 14 dogs will be selected. Owners of the selected dogs will be notified in September, and the calendar will be distributed with the November issue of GCM magazine.

Plan now to stop by the LebanonTurf booth at the Golf Industry Show in February to place your vote for the 2019 Dog of the Year. The winner's owner will receive a \$500 prize and \$3,000 for his or her GCSAA-affiliated chapter. A \$2,000 charitable donation will also be made by GCSAA and LebanonTurf in honor of the winner.

LebanonTurf has been supporting golf course superintendents and their chapters through the Dog Days of Golf Calendar for more than a decade.



National Golf Day *continued from page 11*

Teacher of the Year and SiriusXM PGA TOUR Radio host, and Deb Vangellow, LPGA Teaching Professional. A closest-to-the-pin contest and Srixon/Cleveland Golf “Republicans vs. Democrats Putting Challenge” created spirited competition along with support from aboutGolf, GOLFTEC, Titleist and other industry brands.

The second annual Community Service Project on April 24th featured 175 participants focused on beautifying and preserving the National Mall in Washington,

D.C. GCSAA members led other golf industry leaders who volunteered to lay sod, rake, edge, overseed, aerate, brush walkways and spruce gravel pathways across 18 projects from the Capitol Building to the Washington Monument. The four hours of “roll-up-your-sleeves” work saved the National Park Service nearly four months of labor.

For those unable to make it to D.C. to celebrate National Golf Day, Topgolf partnered with WE ARE GOLF to conduct free, five-minute lessons at each of its 37 U.S. locations (excluding Las Vegas).

About WE ARE GOLF

Established in 2010, WE ARE GOLF is an industry coalition that promotes the economic, charitable and environmental impact of golf, as well as the game's health and wellness, affordability and accessibility, to Members of Congress, the Executive Branch and regulatory agencies. The goal of WE ARE GOLF is to ensure laws and regulations are fair and appropriate to an industry that in 2016 generated \$84.1 billion in economic impact, 1.89 million jobs and \$3.94 in charity fundraising. More information: www.wearegolf.org.

Smiley *continued from page 3*

had the pleasure of working with Matt in many different capacities, most recently as Assistant Executive Director. Matt will do a fine job in his new role as executive director. I look forward to watching what Matt and the staff do to help propel the VSGA forward.”

A lifelong Virginian, Smiley was born in Danville before moving to Wytheville with his family at age 7. Smiley played golf and basketball for George Wythe High School. In 2002, he graduated from the College of

William and Mary. During his time in Williamsburg, Smiley played for the Tribe's golf team.

Smiley and his wife Ashley have two children, Hudson and Anne Reese, and reside in the Richmond area.

Conkling began his term as VSGA Executive Director in 2006 after stints with the Met Golf Association, Southern California Golf Association and the PGA Tour. He is the organization's fourth Executive Director and was preceded by

Wallace McDowell—a member of the Virginia Golf Hall of Fame—Phil Sullivan, and David Norman.

“Jamie Conkling has been an outstanding leader and mentor over the last 13 years and will be leaving the VSGA in a very solid position on so many levels,” Smiley said. “The VSGA has a top-notch Board, staff and volunteer base that have been developed during Jamie's time and will be the foundation of the future of the VSGA.”

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