



# Meadows Monthly

## Meadows Farms Golf Course

Home of the Longest Hole in the USA (841 yard Par 6)

## 25 Incredible Years

# March 2018

Volume 2, Issue 3

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## Upcoming Events:

### March

6- Aeration  
7-9 Dollar Days  
24-Shamble

### April

14- Orange Republican Golf  
Tournament with special  
guests Dave Brat, Bryce  
Reaves, and Nick Freitas  
20- Locust Hill Hunt Club  
28-Rappahannock EMS



4300 Flat Run Road  
Locust Grove, Virginia 22508

(703) 854-9890 • (800) 404-9292

Open to the public  
April 23, 1993

Taking tee times one week in advance.  
(Tee times recommended.)

VISIT US AND PLAY THE  
LONGEST HOLE IN THE U.S.A.

PAR 6 • 841 YARDS

We will be having our 25-year anniversary party on Monday April 23, 2018. Everyone is welcome to come. Golf will only be \$25 to celebrate our anniversary. We will have plenty of discounts on food and merchandise to celebrate the occasion. There will also be tons of giveaways, so put this on your calendar today. We look forward to seeing you at The Farm on April 23<sup>rd</sup>.



*The nominations are in!*

**Vote for your favorite businesses in our area!**

Now through March 16



**LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD!**



**VOTE NOW!**

[fredericksburg.com/bestof](http://fredericksburg.com/bestof)

Please vote for us to be the #1 course in  
Fredericksburg in 2018



# 25 Years of Memories

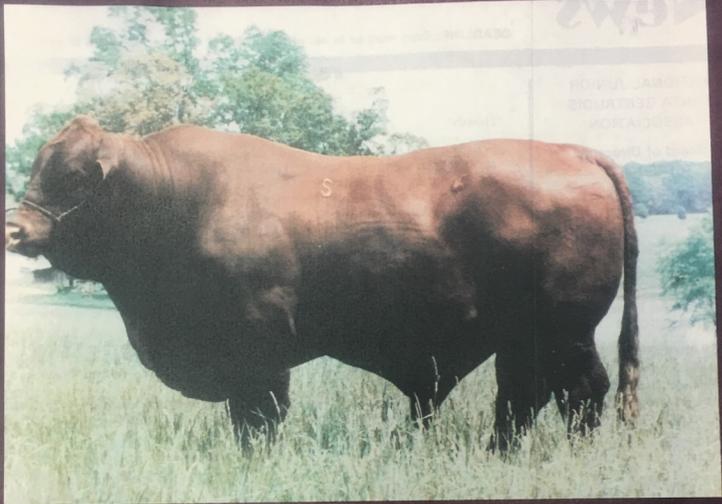
Meadows Farms Golf Course didn't always used to be a thriving 28-hole golf mecca. Before Farmer Meadows laid his magical hands on the property, it was his prized farm where he showed off his giant Santa Gertrudis cattle. In 1991, Farmer Meadows hired Ken Dotson to clean the fence row of cedar trees so that everyone passing by on the state road could see his prized possessions.

Never one to turn down a job, Ken Dotson agreed to clean the fence row up for Farmer. On a hot summer day, Farmer's Lincoln Continental came to a stop beside Dotson's old Case front end loader. As Farmer got out of his car into the mid-day heat, looking out onto his fields full of cattle, he exclaimed "you know what? This would be a hell of a place to build a golf course." Shrugging it off, Ken said yea, and went back to work on the mangled mess of cedar trees.

By the end of the year, Farmer was in contact with Bill Ward Jr, a golf course designer from his home state of West Virginia. The pair hired friends and family, and construction began on the course in 1992. When Farmer needed a pond built around his Island Green, he knew exactly who to call, that young loader operator who helped him clean the fence row. Ken Dotson, along with his father in law Paul Hickman, worked together at the course on and off. From cart paths to tee boxes, Ken was there helping Farmer along the way.

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**Big Ben 945**



Double Polled 64" Hip Height

Weight — 2,610 lbs. in pasture condition

**"Big Ben's"** strong polled genetics and his ability to produce growthy calves can be a tremendous step forward for your breeding program.

**Semen Available**

**Meadows Farms Cattle Company**  
HC #1, Box 179  
Owner: William J. Meadows — Locust Grove, Virginia 22508 — Farm manager: Ron Burleson  
Day 703 450-4240 — Night 703 854-6155

Above is a flyer for Big Ben, one of Farmer's prized bulls that roamed Meadows Farms Golf Course

After construction of the course was complete, Farmer and Ken went their separate ways. Farmer was now owner of the busiest golf course in the state of Virginia, doing over 400 rounds some days, and Ken was slowly building up his company into something he was proud of.

Fast forward to present day. Ken can still be found on a piece of heavy equipment at Meadows Farms Golf Course, but not as hired help, but as owner. He and a partner were able to purchase the property from the Meadows Family in May of 2014. Since then, it has been Dotson's mission to make an already incredible course better. Within the first year, he repaved a majority of the cart paths and bought new equipment for the maintenance department. Within the second year, he had grown the business over 20% across the board, and invested all the profits back into making the course better.



Above, current golf course owner Ken Dotson, helps our maintenance crew clean up after a big winter storm

As you ride around the course today, you will see the old, mixed with the new. The dilapidated rock walls that used to surround tee boxes and greens have been replaced by brand new bulkheads. Tee boxes have been meticulously leveled up, so the golfer has the perfect service to tee off of. Unwanted sand traps have been discarded, in order to make the game more enjoyable for all players. Pete Dye influenced, railroad tie steps have been dismantled and replaced with new concrete ones, and that is just the beginning.

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As we work our way through 2018, Meadows Farms Golf Course will be celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Each month, we will interview current and former employees who were here in the very beginning, and many, who still work at The Farm today. Stories from Bucky, Andy, and Sambo Wheeler will highlight their 25 years of hard work. Shirley Lewis will give everyone an inside look into how life has changed at The Farm in her tenure here. We will also be talking to past superintendent's, who helped shape this course in to what it is today. We hope you will look forward to reading the newsletter every month and learning more about the Meadows Farms family.



Above is the actual flyer Meadows Farms Golf Course used to promote the opening of the golf course back on April 23, 1993.

# SPRING FLING SHAMBLE TOURNEY

SATURDAY MARCH 24TH 10:00 AM SHOTGUN

Format: 3 Person "Shamble." Mixed teams encouraged. Ladies play RED tees; Seniors 55+/ juniors UNDER 16 play Gold Tees; Men play WHITE tees. Play will be on the Island and Longest Courses

Each player hits their respective tee shot. "The team selects the best tee shot and EACH player plays their own ball from that spot to hole completion. Each team will count ONLY their TWO best scores of three on each hole for the competition.

Entry Fee: \$35 pays your Green Fee/Cart Fee + \$20 for the event. After play we will have a pizza party to celebrate

Field & Prizes: Limited to the first 40 teams. \$1800+ in prizes offered based on full field. TEAM LOW COMBINED SCORES WITH FIELD SPLITS will win prizes! Skins are \$5/person and will be awarded to THE TEAM with the lowest combined score on any given hole. FIVE closest to the pin prizes to win.

Call: Meadows Farms Pro Shop (540) 854-9890 to sign up. PLEASE have your three players before you call. Spots are filling up quickly! Do NOT delay. If you are a single player, every effort will be made to put you with another team!

Entries Close: Friday March 22 @ 5:00 pm Meadows Farms "Home of the Guinness Longest Hole in the USA...an 841 Par 6" and where everyone who plays immediately becomes a member of our family!

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1. Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

2. Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

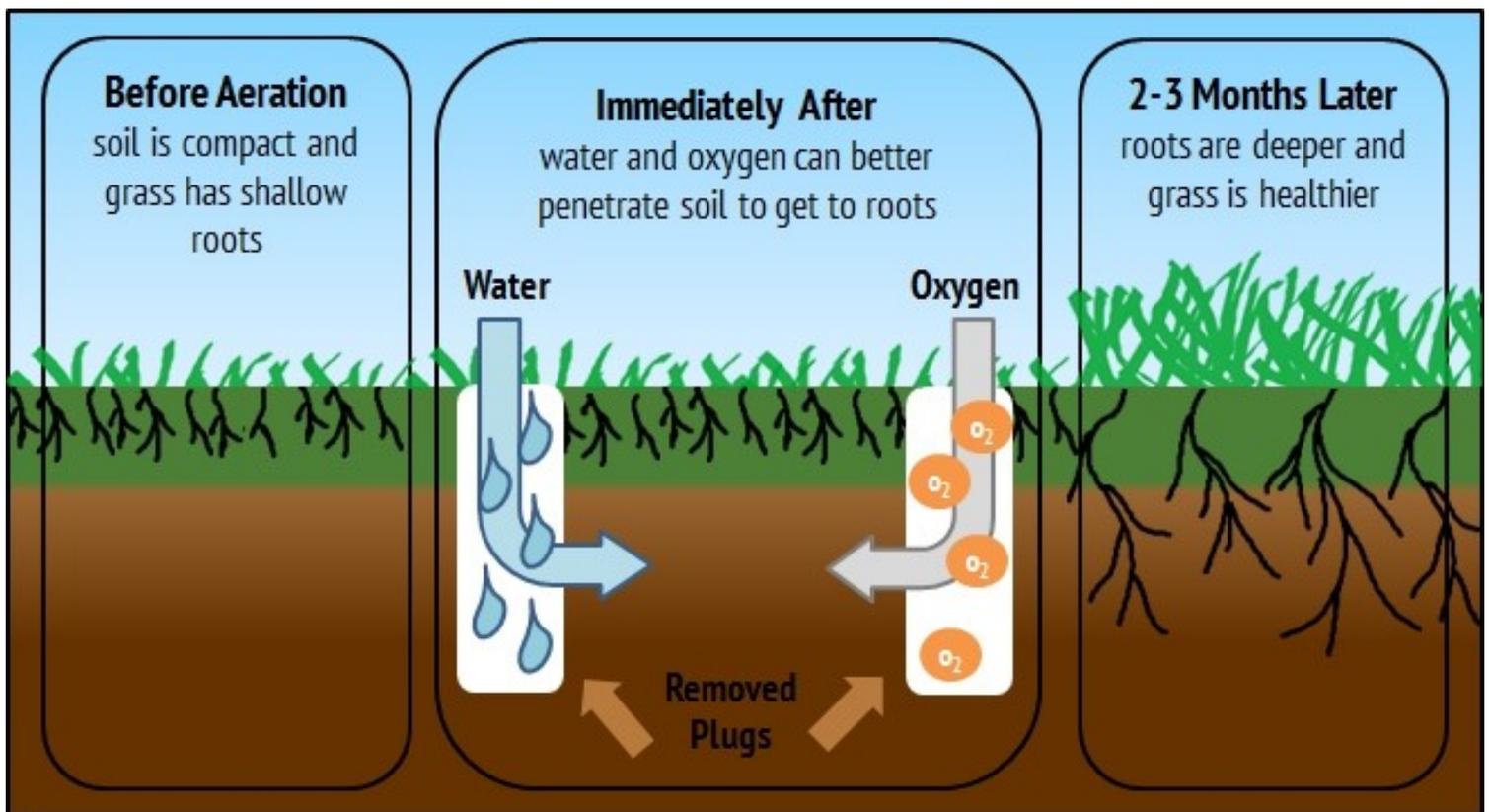
3. Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

# Spring Aeration

We will be aerifying our greens Tuesday March 6th. The course will be closed the entire day. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you. Our plan for this aerification is to use super deep tines to fracture our soil level over 8" in the ground. In addition to the action of the tines piercing deep into the greens, a deep tine aerator will also create a "kick" action where the soil is fractured below the surface. The fracturing creates additional fissures below the surface. This creates an environment in the rootzone that is rich in oxygen and creates an easy path for additional root growth.



# DOLLAR DAYS

Beginning on Wednesday March 7th we will be switching over to Dollar Days. Each hole you play will only cost you \$1. When you check in, just let us know how many holes you would like to play, and we will charge you accordingly. On Saturday and Sunday, we will be \$2 a hole, which works out to \$36 plus tax. Please follow our Facebook page for more up to date notifications.

We will return to our regular winter rates on Monday March 12th.



# OUR NEW DIRECTOR OF GOLF

Hello! My name is Rod Crooks and I am your Director of Golf Operations here at Meadows Farms Golf Course. I am joining the Meadows Farms family following 30+ years in private and public school education, 12 years of those years as an Athletic Administrator. I have over 28 years in teaching or coaching a variety of sports, and have worked with a wide variety of students and athletes, from special needs students to All-Americans. The most successful of my athletes all had one thing in common – a true love of their sport.

I have a great appreciation for the game of golf and have had for some time. I have been fortunate enough to attend the Masters twice (as a spectator!), driving all night to make it back to Ohio in time for morning classes the following Monday. I look forward to helping the Dotson family in running a golf course that is user friendly and always trying to make Meadows Farms a place of fun and relaxation.

I also appreciate a real commitment to quality and that is what excites me most about becoming part of the Meadows Farms team. In our conversations leading up to my employment, the emphasis Josh, Kenny, and Lora put on the customer experience being the best possible was something I knew fit with my own priorities. I have worked with kids for many years with great success and hope to keep that going in some camps and clinics. A shared love of dogs, the outdoors, and the golf community are all bonus features to this job!

I welcome your feedback on operations and how I can make your time and experience here at Meadows the best it can be.

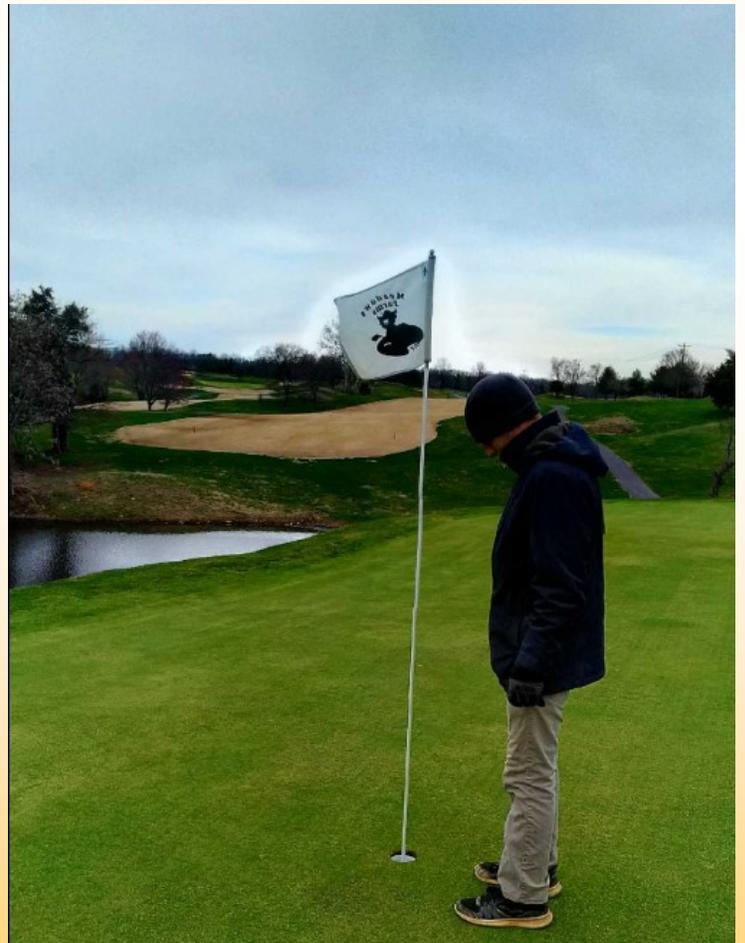


# Scott's Corner

Spring is here, and a might bit early if you ask me! The narcissus is blooming, maples have buds and the turfgrass is beginning to show signs of green... Oh Boy! Looks as though Winter has released the stranglehold it so tightly had on us, but don't fear there is still time to use the winter coats!

This winter also bestowed another blessing, the Virginia Turfgrass Council (VTC) nominated and elected me to serve on the Board of Directors. We have many organizations within the turfgrass industry to be a part of, the VTC has been one that I have been closest to and admired the most. The VTC has been successful in changing many introduced legislative bills that could have crippled not only homeowners but landscapers and farmers where no other organization has even tried. The VTC and VA Tech has also started the Certified Turfgrass Professional program and I hope to be a guiding force in making this program an industry standard. Wouldn't you prefer a trained and certified turfgrass professional to maintain your property?

On a sad note, we have lost a valuable member of our Greens Team. Cory Davis has taken a position outside the turf field and we wish him all the best on his new quest. In the future, if you happen to see Cory on the course please give him a big hand with helping to regain your golf course. He was a valuable asset to Meadows Farm and will surely be missed. Good luck my friend!



Pictured above: Asst. Superintendent Cory Davis sets his last pin on Island 9. Cory will be greatly missed and we wish him the best

## *Note from Josh...*

We are looking forward to a successful spring at The Farm. We are excited that this could be our best year yet. After 6.5" of rain in February, we are beginning to dry out.

Exciting news looking forward, we just purchased 100 brand new Yamaha golf carts. These will be awesome new machines we are excited to have at the course. They will add to the already gorgeous golf course.

As we look forward, please let us know what we can do to make your round more enjoyable. We need your constant feedback so we can make Meadows Farms Golf Course the best course in the state.

Thanks to everyone that voted for us in Best of Fredericksburg and Best of Virginia. We are excited to let you know the results once we receive them.

Sincerely,

Josh Dotson

General Manager



# MARCH 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6 <b>CLOSED</b> <b>Aeration</b>	7 <b>Dollar Days</b>	8 <b>Dollar Days</b>	9 <b>Dollar Days</b>	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 <b>Shamble</b>
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

# APRIL 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13 <b>Henderson Hall</b>	14 <b>OC Republican</b>
15	16	17	18	19	20 <b>Locust Hill Hunt Club</b>	21
22	23	24	25	26	27 <b>Riker Open</b>	28 <b>Rappahannock EMS</b>
29	30 <b>ChildHelp</b>					