

Commonwealth Crier

News from the Virginia Golf Course Superintendents Association

President's Message

Is it just me or do the summers go by quicker than what I remember when I was a kid. The summer conditions in the Richmond area were a little of the same as last year, consistently inconsistent. We have been fortunate to have received very few days above 95 degrees and the rainfall at times has been plentiful. Hopefully the rest of August will continue to give us a glimpse of what's to come this fall, milder temperatures and average rainfall.

This summer has been filled with great events at some of the top facilities around the state. The Environmental Cup was held at Salisbury Country Club in May with a near full group. The event raised \$17,000 which will be used to support Environmental Stewardship and our government relations efforts. I would like to thank Patrick and Kevin Connelly and Landscape Supply, Syngenta, BASF, Bayer, Dow Agro, Earthworks, FMC, Goose Creek Golf Club, Growmark, Hydro-Solutions Inc., Lebanon Turf, MAPGA, Monsanto, Mountain View, Nufarm, PBI Gordon, Performance Nutrition, Pickseed, Precision Labs, Quali-Pro, Sepro, Solucal-USA and the TTA. All of your efforts help make this a popular event every year. Thanks to all those who participated and a special thanks to the team at Salisbury Country Club for their great hospitality.

The joint meeting with the CMAA and the NGCOA was held in June at The Keswick Club and Peter McDonough was our host. Peter gave a great presentation of his experience working with Pete Dye, and Brent Graham, CGCS and I offered our experiences from our recent renovations. The course was phenomenal, and I can't wait to get back to play it again. Thanks to Jacobsen for the support and sponsorship of this event.

Glenmore Country Club was the site of this year's VGCSA Championship and Kevin Fortune and his team had the course in great condition. Cameron Yancey,



superintendent at Nottaway River Country Club, took the Superintendents Championship with a 2 under par 70. Brian Vincel from Spring Creek took second overall in the Superintendents division and Terry English of The Olde Farm in Bristol took the Assistants Championship. These three will join the Virlina Cup team, captained by Matt Boyce and consisting of Jeff Whitmire, Scott Cornwell, Bill Keene, Bobby Friend and Dick Fisher, who look to bring back the Cup in Beaufort, SC September 27-29.

The Fall Conference is shaping up to be even better than last year. Hermitage Country Club will once again host not only the Conference but the Joe Saylor Golf Tournament and the recently added Annual Meeting. The events will begin on Monday, October 19 with a 10:00 a.m. shotgun start on the Manakin course followed by an awards ceremony with light appetizers and spirited beverages. The Annual Meeting will kick off with a social starting at 6:00 p.m. followed by dinner and the business meeting. The Conference will be held the following day, Tuesday, October 20, beginning with a crowd favorite networking breakfast at 7:30 a.m.

The lineup of outstanding speakers for the conference will include our keynote speaker Seth Jones, the Editor-in-Chief of *Golfdom* magazine, a USGA Green Section representative (TBA), Rafael Barajas, CGCS, current GCSAA Director and selective team members from the Virginia Tech Agronomy staff. Back for a second year, John Robertson from Buy Sod will be having a drawing for Redskins

tickets at the end of the conference. I would like to thank our sponsors in advance for their support of this great event, John Deere Revels and Finch, Lebanon Turf, Residex and Turfgrass Inc., Newsom Seed and others (sponsorships still available!). The registration will be out soon, so don't delay, this event will fill up quickly.

Ryan Johnson, our Assistants board representative from Kanawha Club, has been working hard on what should be one of our best Assistant Forums to date. The event is scheduled for Monday, November 2 at Belmont Country Club in Ashburn, VA and will be a joint meeting with the Assistant Superintendents from the MAAGCS. The featured speaker will be Tim Morgahan of Aspire Consulting, providing his insight of the golf industry as relates to Assistants aspiring to be Superintendents, as well as a special segment on renovation. This should be a great event with invaluable networking opportunities, so please have your Assistants sign up.

WOTUS (Waters of the US) and the Final Clean Water Rule was passed, and the rule will become effective on August 28, 2015. How will this affect you? You can go on the GCSAA website to view a free webcast that describes all the parameters of the rule and how it might affect you and your facility. Our friends at Virginia Agribusiness Council are still hoping that a legislative fix will come either proactively or retroactively to stop the rule from going into effect. Stay tuned for more information.

Continued on p. 2



Jeff Holliday, CGCS
VGCSA President

President's Message cont.

The date is quickly approaching for everyone to obtain their Nutrient Management Plan. July 2017 is the deadline so please contact one of the Nutrient Management Planners from the list provided on our web site. All golf courses can now apply for the government grants, not just the courses in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Please follow the link on our website to obtain additional information on how to apply.

I would like officially announce that this year's Buy Sod Scholarship winner is Jake Thompson, son of Jeff Thompson, the golf course superintendent at Old Trail golf course. Jake will be attending James Madison University and pursuing an

engineering degree. Congratulations, Jake, and good luck with your college career. I also want to thank John Robertson and Buy Sod for their continued support of this program. As a reminder, the Buy Sod Scholarship is built on a percentage of sod sales from Buy Sod across the state of Virginia.

I'm sure everyone has heard by now that one of our board members and area golf course superintendents has moved on to greener pastures — and, no, he didn't take a sales job. Chris Petrelli has accepted a superintendent position with Club Corp at Eagles Landing Country Club in Stockbridge, GA. Chris has provided leadership for this association for many

years first as an External VP for the TTA and for the past three years as the Secretary/Treasurer and Vice President. His dedication, friendship and leadership will be sorely missed by this Association and the Tidewater area. Chris, good luck and don't be a stranger. Mark Cote has moved up to the Vice President position.

Finally I would like to thank our Partners for their support and contributions to our Association. I can't say this enough, that your support is a large part of the success of the VGCSA. I look forward to the rest of the year as we move into the fall and all of the great events that are yet to come.



2015 VGCSA Board of Directors

VGCSA Officers

President

Jeff Holliday, CGCS
Salisbury Country Club
13620 Salisbury Road • Midlothian, VA 23113
Ph: 804-794-8389 / Cell: 804-640-0748
E-mail: jholliday83@msn.com

Vice President

Mark Cote
Pete Dye River Course of Virginia Tech
8400 River Course Drive • Radford, VA 24141
Ph: 540-633-0247 / Cell: 540-679-9002
E-Mail: mcote@vt.edu

Secretary/ Treasurer

Open

Past President

Matt Boyce
Princess Anne Country Club
3800 Pacific Avenue • Virginia Beach, VA 23451
Ph: 757-428-0346 / Cell: 757-971-7222
E-mail: mboyce@princessannecc.com

VGCSA External Vice-Presidents

Old Dominion Golf Course Superintendents Association

Dan Taylor, CGCS
Independence Golf Club
600 Founders Bridge Blvd. • Midlothian, VA 23113
Ph: 804-601-8608 / Cell: 804-640-9467
E-Mail: dan@playigc.com

Tidewater Turfgrass Association

Pete Stephens, CGCS
Indian Creek Yacht & Country Club
P.O. Box 1508 • Kilmarnock, VA 22482
Ph: 804-435-2470 / Cell: 804-436-4059
E-Mail: pscott@vabb.com

Virginia Turfgrass Association

Sean Baskette
Hidden Valley Country Club
2500 Romar Road • Salem, VA 24153
Ph: 540-989-6222 / Cell: 540-892-9299
E-Mail: hvccmaint@comcast.net

Greater Washington Golf Course Superintendents Association

Shawn Gill
Prince William Golf Club
14631 Vint Hill Road • Nokesville, VA 20181
Ph: 703-754-3125 / Cell: 571-238-0090
Email: sgill@princewilliamgolf.com

Shenandoah Valley Turfgrass Association

Scott Cornwell
Winchester Country Club
1300 Senseny Road • Winchester, VA 22602
Ph: 540-662-2682 / Cell: 703-928-3278
E-Mail: scott@winchestercountryclub.net

At-Large Board Members

Assistant Superintendent

Ryan Johnson
Kanawha Club
725 River Road West • Manakin-Sabot, VA 23103
Ph: 804-784-7280 / Cell: 757-748-3230
E-Mail: rjohn2009@gmail.com

Associate

Tommy Adams
Helena Chemical
11412 Laurel Top Place • Midlothian, VA 23114
Cell: 804-337-2232
E-Mail: AdamsT@helenachemical.com

Staff

Executive Director

David Norman
VGCSA
1900 Manakin Road, Suite C
Manakin-Sabot, VA 23103
Ph: 804-708-9760 / Cell: 804-399-7802
E-Mail: dnorman008@gmail.com

General Counsel

M.E. "Dick" Gibson, Jr.
Tremblay & Smith, PLLC
P.O. Box 1585 • Charlottesville, VA 22902
Ph: 434-977-4455 / Fax: 434-979-1221
E-mail: dick.gibson@tremblaysmith.com

John Burns
Tremblay & Smith, PLLC
105-109 East High St. • Charlottesville, VA 22902
Ph: 434-977-4455 / Fax: 434-979-1221
john.burns@tremblaysmith.com

Seventh Annual Environmental Cup a Big Success!

This year marks the 7th anniversary of the Environmental Cup, a tournament supporting important research to showcase the environmental stewardship practices of Virginia's golf course superintendents. The 2015 Environmental Cup successfully raised \$17,000. The VGCSA is honored to have strong commitment from Landscape Supply and ALL of our sponsors – without them, this event would not be possible.

The tournament began as a means to help fund the VGCSA Best Management Practices manual, which was formally published in 2012. Then the event continued to support a second research project covering "Water Quality Management," which was completed last year and will be published later this year. The VGCSA has been lauded nationally for its leadership in this arena and is working with the EIFG and Virginia Tech to select the next research project. A special thanks goes out to all of our sponsors and other partners for a proud statement to the industry.

This year's host club, Salisbury Country Club was well received by the players and sponsors attending the event. Originally designed in 1969 by Edward Ault, the course underwent a complete renovation and modernization in 1998 by nationally recognized architect, Lester George, resident of Richmond, Virginia.

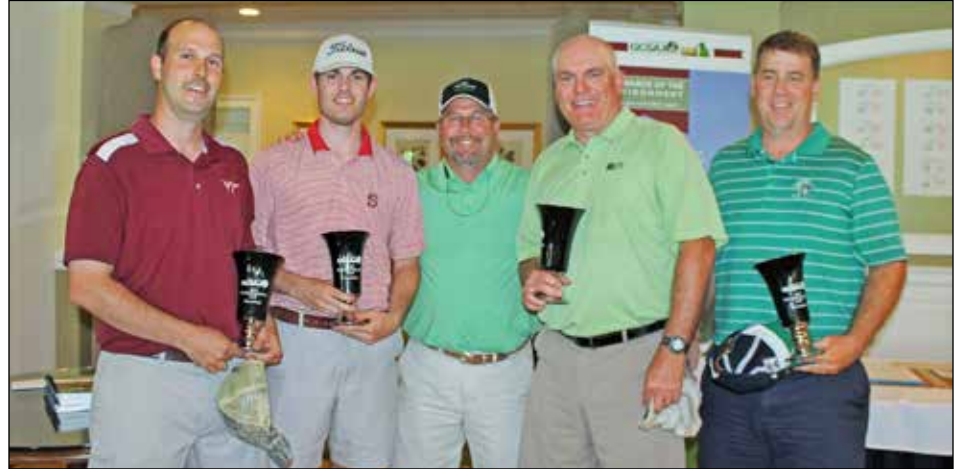


Kevin Connelly of Landscape Supply addresses the audience.

presented by



LANDSCAPE SUPPLY, INC.®



2015 Environmental Cup Champions – The Quali-Pro Team (L-R): David McCall, Brent Corbett, VGCSA President Jeff Holliday, CGCS, Jerry Corbett, Jim Wilson



The Bayer Team putting on #9



VGCSA President Jeff Holliday, CGCS congratulates Buck Ames of the host club on winning Closest-to-the-Pin.



BASF sponsors Sarah Thompson and Dave Schell show off prizes for the putting contest.

Harmon Turf Services

SPECIALIZED CONTRACT SERVICES & TURF EQUIPMENT SALES



Since 1982
HTS
Harmon Turf Services

NEW SERVICE:
from Harmon Turf Services
GRADEN WITH SAND INJECTION
www.HarmonTurfServices.com



Drill/Backfill Aeration



Fairway Aeration



Graden with Sand Injection

Call us at:
1-800-888-2493

or email:
harmonturf@comcast.net

WANT THE "WOW FACTOR" ON YOUR GOLF COURSE?

An excellent alternative to bermudagrass, Zeon Zoysiagrass masters the complex balancing act between the art of lush beauty and the science of prime performance. Exquisite enough for the highest-end applications, yet resilient enough to take the traffic of carts and cleats, Zeon provides a premium playing surface for fairways and tees. It grows more slowly than bermudagrass, reducing labor costs for mowing and edging, and it requires far less nitrogen, slashing fertilization expenses by up to 50%. If you want "wow," you want Zeon — it's truly in a class by itself. In Virginia, Buy Sod is your source for the highest-quality, "Blue Tag" certified Zeon Zoysiagrass sod.

John Robertson, Golf Course Sales Manager
cell/text 804-337-0703 or email at jrobertson@buysod.com



www.buysod.com | 866-428-9763
The Professionals' Source for Superior Selections and World-Class Service

Turfgrass Students Win VSGA Scholarships

Students Working Toward Virginia Tech Turfgrass Degrees Receive Assistance

The VSGA-VIP Scholarship Foundation provides scholarships to Virginia high school students who are interested in golf and who attend colleges and universities within the commonwealth. Criteria for the awards include an active interest in golf (ability not important), academic achievement and character.

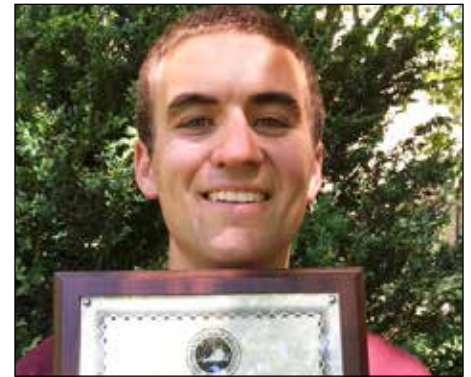
Joe Tyler Green of Blacksburg, Va. (\$2,000) is pursuing a degree in Crop and Environmental Sciences–Turfgrass Management at Virginia Tech. Joe is a Field Assistant in the Department of Plant Pathology, Physiology and Weed Science at the Glade Road Research Center in Blacksburg where he is working under Dr. Shawn Askew. Joe is active in helping and participating in research trials and completing day-to-day maintenance around mow research areas (fairways, rough and greens). He is a former summer intern at Colleton River Plantation's Nicklaus Course in Bluffton, S.C., where he led project crews and applied chemicals and fertilizers to greens, tees and fairways. He is a member of the GCSAA. Honors and awards include being president of the Virginia Turf Club as well as president, vice president and secretary of the Future Farmers of America. He is also a Farm Bureau scholarship recipient and is a part of the 2014 Golf Course Superintendents Association of America Educational Turf Bowl Team.

Travis L. Roberson of Stuart, Va. (\$2,000) is active in the Department of Crop and Environmental Science and Turf Management department as a part of his studies at Virginia Tech. Travis is a research assistant at Glade Road Research Center at Virginia Tech where he is working under David McCall. Travis' duties include coordinating and examining research trials as well as mowing research areas. He worked in golf course maintenance at The Highland Course at Primland Resort where he collaborated on a bunker project, which entailed dethatching and seeding bunker faces to improve the course. He also installed coring tines on aerator to aerate greens, tees and surrounds and calculated rates for chemicals to spray fairways and surrounding areas. Travis managed crews, walk-mowed and watered greens as well as performed maintenance on other areas of



Joe Green

the course. Travis is a member of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America and earned a Virginia Golf Course Superintendents Association scholarship, as well as an award from the



Travis Roberson

Virginia Turfgrass Association.

Since 1904, the VSGA has been dedicated to providing golfers a full range of services for the good of the game and golf in Virginia.

VGCSA Honors Jake Thompson with Buy Sod Scholarship Award

The Buy Sod VGCSA Scholarship program was established in 2012 by

Buy Sod, Inc. as a means to support the children of qualified golf course superintendents, who plan to attend an institution of higher learning, following graduation from high school.

High school seniors who are the children of Class A or SM members in good standing of the Virginia Golf Course Superintendents Association are eligible for the program. The program is based on sales to customers in Virginia. John Robertson is the Golf and Athletic Sales Manager for Buy Sod.

This year's the Selection Committee has named **Jake Thompson** of Charlottesville as the 2015 recipient of a \$3,000 scholarship.

Jake Thompson is the son of Mr. Jeffrey Thompson, who is superintendent at Old Trail Golf Club. As a young boy of nine-years-old, Jake began playing golf. Upon turning 15, he began working on the maintenance staff at Old Trail Golf Club, where he developed his passion for the game. Jake acknowledges his father as being instrumental in his growth, providing endless support to achieve his goals.

Jake has always loved building and making things with his hands and enjoys



Jake Thompson



problem solving. His high school shop teacher Kevin Matheny, who also doubled as his pole vaulting coach, sparked Jake's interest in building and figuring out solutions to practical problems, thus leading to the dream of becoming an engineer. This fall Jake will attend James Madison University to pursue his dream, where he will study engineering. He hopes to develop more skills and put these interests to good use.

In his spare time Jake enjoys snowboarding, golf, and hiking. He also likes to do woodworking and other building projects. VGCSA is excited to name Jake the winner of the 2015 Buy Sod Scholarship and wishes him all the best at James Madison.

Matt Boyce and Shawn Gill Named GCSAA Ambassadors

GCSAA is taking its government relations program to the next level by recruiting Grassroots Ambassadors and has recently named Matt Boyce and Shawn Gill to its ranks. Matt has been assigned Representative E. Scott Rigell of Virginia's Second Congressional District. Shawn has been assigned to US Senator Mark Warner. The goal is to match a member of GCSAA with each Member of Congress, and to build strong relationships between them. The program will establish a network of committed volunteers to serve as the "go-to" people for lawmakers and their staff on golf course management issues. The GCSAA is looking for Grassroots



Ambassadors so that it can continue to grow this powerful network and help inform members of Congress first-hand about any issues or concerns. The most important thing you can do as a GCSAA Grassroots Ambassador is to share your story.

Matt Boyce is the superintendent at Princess Anne Country Club. He is also Captain of the Virlina Cup and was VGCSA President 2012-2013. Matt is a Graduate of Penn State and formerly

worked at Pinehurst.

Shawn Gill is superintendent at Prince William Golf Course in Nokesville, VA. He is a board member of VGCSA representing the Greater Washington GCSA, and he serves as Chairman of the Government Relations Committee.



Matt Boyce



Shawn Gill

Petrelli Takes Georgia Job

The VGCSA would like to congratulate its Vice President Chris Petrelli on his new job at Eagle's Landing Country Club in Stockbridge, GA (Atlanta suburb). Chris leaves Cedar Point Country Club after a long stint as their superintendent, highlighted by hosing the Virginia State

Amateur Championship while there. Chris has served VGCSA in many roles, as a Tidewater Turfgrass Association officer and External VP, then as Secretary/Treasurer and Vice President of the VGCSA. With Chris's departure, Mark Cote of the Pete Dye River Course at Virginia Tech will

move up to VGCSA Vice President. We wish Chris and his family well in Georgia!



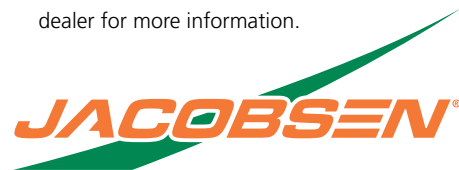
Chris Petrelli

MOW YOUR FAIRWAYS
WITHOUT
SCALPING
YOUR BUDGET



DIESEL POWERED BY
Kubota

The **Jacobsen LF510™** large area reel mower offers **affordability from the start, simplified maintenance** and a reliable **Kubota diesel Tier 4 final engine** – making it easy to afford, use and maintain through its entire life. The LF510's clean and consistent quality-of-cut is provided by the **TrueSet™ cutting units with Classic XP™ reels** that boast an **industry-leading 425-lbs. of holding power**. See your local Jacobsen dealer for more information.



1.888.922.TURF | www.jacobsen.com

©2015 Jacobsen division of Textron. All rights reserved.

VGCSA Fall Conference – Bigger and Better in 2015

VGCSA Annual Meeting Now Part of the Event

Save the Dates of October 19-20 for the second edition of the VGCSA Fall Conference, returning to Hermitage Country Club in the western part of Greater Richmond. New for 2015 is the addition of the popular VGCSA Annual Meeting to proceedings. With the Joe Saylor Memorial tournament also a part of the festivities, this event is quickly turning into a “can’t miss” opportunity for education, networking, golf and fun!

The Education Committee is currently working on the lineup of speakers, which will include Seth Jones of *Golfdom* and Rafael Barajas, CGCS of the GC SAA Board of Directors. There will also be a panel segment featuring Virginia turf experts David McCall, Shawn Askew, and Erik Ervin. A USGA Green Section representative will give the popular “Year in Review” presentation.

The Hilton Short Pump & Spa is the official hotel, located adjacent to the Short Pump Town Center Mall, about 12 miles west of downtown Richmond. This new hotel is beautifully appointed and features a lively bar, Shula’s Steakhouse and the Aura Spa.

presented by



Hermitage Country Club – Manakin Course, Hole 14 – site of the 2015 Joe Saylor Memorial

VGCSA Fall Conference Schedule of Events

Monday, October 19

- 8:30 am – Joe Saylor Registration, Hermitage CC – Driving Range Open
- 10:00 am – Shotgun Start, M&M Consulting Putting Contest
- 3:00 pm – Awards Reception presented by Landscape Supply - 50-50 drawing & door prizes
- 6:00 pm – VGCSA Annual Meeting, Hermitage CC – Networking Reception
- 7:00 pm – Dinner and Awards



Seth Jones, *Golfdom*



Rafael Barajas, CGCS

Tuesday, October 20

- 7:30 a.m. – Networking Breakfast
- 8:30 a.m. – Welcome - Jeff Holliday, CGCS - Introductions
- 8:45 a.m. – Education
- 10:00 a.m. – Break
- 10:15 a.m. – Education
- 11:30 a.m. – Lunch
- 12:30 p.m. – Education
- 1:45 p.m. – Break
- 2:00 p.m. – Education
- 3:15 p.m. – Concluding Remarks – Jeff Holliday, CGCS
- 3:30 p.m. – Adjourn

Thank You 2015 Partner Program Participants!

Diamond

Buy Sod
Finch Services
Growth Enhancer Turf Consultants
Harmon Turf Services, Inc.
Home Field Fertilizer
Jacobsen
Landscape Supply
MeadowSpring Turf
Revels Tractor
Smith Turf & Irrigation
Syngenta
Tom Rash Company

Gold

BASF Turf
Buffalo Turbine LLC
Genesis Turfgrass, Inc.
Grigg Brothers Fertilizer
Harrell's
Helena Chemical
Newsom Seed
Precision Laboratories
Pro Arbor Tree Care
Quali-Pro
Rain Bird
Riverside Turf
Turf Equipment & Supply
Turfgrass, Inc.

Silver

Aspen Corporation
Aspire Golf Consulting
Bayer Environmental Science
Cannon's Service
Cardinal Chemicals
Commonwealth Sports Turf
Cushman
Davisson Golf
Fisher & Son
Graden USA Inc.
John Deere Landscapes
Lebanon Turf

Bronze

A.H. Green Design
Aqua-Aid
Aquatrols
Better Billy Bunker
Crop Production Services
George Golf Design
Golf Cart Services (EZ Go)
Hertz Equipment Rental
Horizon
Innovative Turf Services

Luck Stone
McDonald Design Group
Modern Turf
NuFarm
Oakwood Sod Farm
PBI Gordon Corporation
Plant Food Company, Inc.
Southern States
The Care of Trees
Turf & Garden
WeatherBug
Yamaha Golf Cars of VA

Linne Industries/Pondhawk
Peebles Golf Cars
R&R Products, Inc.
Rick Bryner Golf Sales
Scott Turf Equipment
SOLitude Lake Management
Stantec
Timothy Liddy / Associates, Inc.
Trinity Turf, Inc.
VGM Club

Golf & Assistants

FMC Professional Solutions
Hydro Solutions, Inc.
Mid Atlantic Sports Turf
Sunbelt Rentals

Assistants

GWGCSA TTA
ODGCSA VTA

Golf

East Coast Sod & Seed
IGM
M&M Consulting

Research

Chantilly Turf Farms
Dow AgroSciences
Egypt Farms

Nonprofit

Keep Virginia Beautiful
MAAGCS
USGA Green Section

Season to season, make the right call.
Apply Velista™
spring—summer—fall.



Spring and fall are the perfect seasons to clean up your greens, tees and fairways. Velista™ fungicide is the broadest spectrum SDHI that protects against anthracnose as well as dollar spot and brown patch and more. And when used in rotation with Briskway® fungicide, Velista delivers excellent control of summer stress diseases on greens when temperatures shift from warm to hot. Velista is the right call.

For more information, contact:

Steve Dorer
919.943.0360
Stephen.dorer@syngenta.com
@SteveDorer

Sam Camuso
240.405.5069
Sam.camuso@syngenta.com
@samcamuso



🐦 @SyngentaTurf #Time4Velista

©2015 Syngenta. **Important:** Always read and follow label instructions. Some products may not be registered for sale or use in all states or counties. Please check with your state or local extension service to ensure registration status. Briskway®, GreenCast®, Velista™, the Alliance Frame, the Purpose Icon and the Syngenta logo are trademarks of a Syngenta Group Company. All other trademarks used herein are the property of their respective company.
MW 1LGG5006 03/15

Nutrient Management Plan Grant FAQs

All golf courses needed to have a plan by July 1, 2015

Is there a cost-share program? Currently there is no cost-share program, but grant funds are available for the writing of nutrient management plans for golf courses in Virginia.

Is my course eligible for grant money?

All golf courses in Virginia are eligible to participate in this grant. This grant is a mix of state and federal funding, unlike the previous grant that was only federally funded and could only be used for courses in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. If you have any questions about eligibility, contact DCR Urban Nutrient Management Specialist Derik Cataldi at derik.cataldi@dcr.virginia.gov or 804-371-7489.

How do I receive grant funds? Contact one of the grant contractors (listed below). The contractors are paid \$10 per acre to write nutrient management plans for land maintained by the golf course. Only land

that will receive nutrients within the five-year period of the plan can be included. This \$10 per acre grant may not cover the entire cost to write the plan.

How can I be sure I am getting the \$10 per acre from the contractor? Ask your grant contract planner. They should be able to break down the costs of the plan for you.

How long will this grant program last?

There is just over \$148,000 in the grant program. The grant funds are administered on a first-come, first-served basis. The funds for this grant will only be available until June 30, 2016, but the funds will most likely be used before then, so act soon. The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation is pursuing sources of additional funding to continue the grant availability for golf courses until July 1, 2017, but nothing has been secured at this time.

Nutrient Management Plan Grant Contractors

Alan Marshall
Ag Management Services
Louisa, VA
540-967-3889
ag-management@comcast.net

Bruce Petrelli
Golf Course Consult
Appomattox, VA
434-942-6351
brucepetrelli@yahoo.com

Marshall T. Hibbs
MTHibbs Consulting
Ashland, VA
502-507-3558
mthibbsconsulting@gmail.com

Andrew Jeffery and Ethan Virts
Timmons Group Inc.
Richmond, VA
804-200-6500
andrew.jeffery@timmons.com
ethan.virts@timmons.com

Jeff Michel
M&M Consulting
Warrenton, VA
540-229-0134
mmwetest3@verizon.net

Matt Austin
Essential Elements NMP LLC
Williamsburg, VA
757-634-5595
essentialelementsmp@gmail.com

Angela C. Whitehead
Soil Horizons LLC
Williamsburg, VA
804-892-6678
soilmapper@yahoo.com

John Roller
Ecosystem Services
Charlottesville, VA
540-578-4296
jon@ecosystemllc.com

Robert Habel
Five Oaks Consulting
Amherst, VA
434-665-2813
habelrf@gmail.com

Brent Wills
Wills Soil & Stream
Montvale, VA
540-947-0337
soils@bramblehollowfarm.com

Laurie Anderson
Landscape Ability LLC
Clifton, VA
703-802-6318
landscapeability@cox.net

Ryan Lehrter
757-354-5663
rlehrter@valleycrest.com



Golf Course Renovations Continue to Rise

The upswing in golf course renovations across the United States has continued as the calendar turns to the “back 9” of 2015. American Society of Golf Course Architects (ASGCA) members are seeing an increase in proposed and ongoing renovation projects at private clubs and public facilities, alike.

Course owners and managers who were previously hesitant about taking on small- or large-scale projects have been more likely to move forward in recent months, as interest rates remain near record lows, and they see the long-term benefits of maintaining sustainable, playable facilities for golfers.

“Our members are very busy with renovations right now,” ASGCA President Steve Smyers said. “Clubs are taking advantage of new technology and the knowledge ASGCA members bring to address areas like turfgrass removal, forward tees, bunker removal and smart water usage, leading to greater efficiency all over the course.”

Golf courses that have completed renovations in recent years are seeing a strong return on investment, according to some experts.

The National Golf Foundation retained Sirius Golf Advisors for a study reported on in the summer issue of *By Design* magazine (http://asgca.org/images/stories/members-only/by_design/Issue_23/Return_on_renovations.pdf). The study detailed the positive economic impact of renovations at Dallas-area public courses. Eight projects were “major” renovations, with \$5 million spent per course on renovations. For these courses, annual revenue increased from an average of \$939,000 before renovation to \$1.6 million in the first year of reopening.

At four courses with “minor” renovations – \$445,000 spent per course – average annual revenue increased from \$1.1 million to \$1.5 million.

The ASGCA website has posted a number of articles citing ongoing or recently completed renovation work by ASGCA members across North America, including:

Information on golf course Master Planning and Remodeling is available online from ASGCA by visiting <http://www.asgca.org/free-publications>.

Yancey, English Claim VGCSA Titles

Vincel Makes Virlina Squad

There are two new champion golfers of the VGCSA, as vetted at the Glenmore Country Club in the Charlottesville area. Cameron Yancey of Nottoway River Country Club in Blackstone took home the Superintendent title with a solid 2-under-par 70, winning by six over runner-up Brian Vincel of Spring Creek Golf Club in Gordonsville. Both Yancey and Vincel earned spots on the Virlina Cup team. Finishing a further shot back

at 77 was Dick Fisher of Lake Chesdin Golf Club in Chesterfield.

The Assistants Division was tightly contested — it went to a playoff on the card. Terry English of The Olde Farm in Bristol finished even with hard-charging Josh Sumler of Lee's Hill — both shot 75. But English claimed the title and punched his ticket to the Virlina Cup. The J.D. Dickinson Memorial Trophy was presented by Mitchell Pace,

representing J.D.'s family.

Host superintendent Kevin Fortune had the course in spectacular condition. The event was sponsored by Syngenta, with Steve Dorer on hand to help with the awards. The Virlina Cup is set for Sept. 27-29 at Berkeley Hall in Bluffton, SC. Recently named team members are Jeff Whitmire, Scott Cornwell, Bobby Friend, Dick Fisher, and Bill Keene. Matt Boyce returns to captain the team.



L-R: Brian Vincel, CGCS, Cameron Yancey, Terry English, Steve Dorer, CGCS

Final "Waters of the United States" Rule – A Webinar

Implications and Implementation

On June 29, 2015, the Federal Register published the Final Clean Water Rule: Definition of "Waters of the United States" (WOTUS). The rule will become effective on August 28, 2015. To learn what these changes may mean to you, Diedre Duncan, partner at Hunton & Williams and the legal counsel to the Waters Advocacy Coalition, presented a 90-minute webcast that is now available on demand.

On the Agenda:

- Brief History of the Rule
- Final Definition – What's changed
- Implementation – The next six months
- What will agencies do?
- What should you do?
- Jurisdictional Determinations
- Ongoing Opposition – Litigation & Legislative Efforts

Become informed about the changes and learn how the WOTUS rule will impact golf course design, construction and management in the future.

About the Presenter



Deidre G. Duncan is a Partner at Hunton & Williams, LLC, in Washington, DC. She represents clients exclusively on environmental, energy and administrative law, with an emphasis on the Clean Water Act. Duncan is counsel to the Waters Advocacy Coalition, a coalition of over 40 national trade associations focused on the issue of CWA jurisdiction.

This is a FREE webinar, and you do not have to be a member to view the webinar.

Please go to the GCSAA website to register

(<http://www.gcsaa.org/education/webcasts/on-demand/final-wotus-rule>)

Flying High

Drone Usage Has Applications for Superintendents – David McCall, Virginia Tech

Major change is in the air. Seriously, it's in the air, right above the golf course. Drones, UAV, UAS, birds ... call it what you want, the drone era is upon us. It seems that I can't go a week without seeing something (usually bad) about a drone on TV.

Much like online shopping and banking, drones are getting a bad reputation because of very small minority that are using these technologies for evil over good. They are an invasion of personal space! They are taking away all control that we have as humans! They are making our daily jobs obsolete! You may have a point on the first one, but taking control of our decisions and making our jobs obsolete ... C'mon. I have now seen enough of this emerging industry firsthand to realize that the agronomist will play the most important role in making this concept work.

The technology is there, but as is usually the case, the government (FAA) is trying to play catch-up with important regulations that will ensure safe use of unmanned aerial


systems (UAS). They are taking their time to ensure as many T's are crossed and I's are dotted, which is highly important because of the variety of things that can potentially go wrong (I've seen a few firsthand under controlled circumstances). My understanding of the current timeline is that several new regulations will take affect within the next 6-8 months that will allow for more commercial use. There are already a number of options available, with huge variability in deliverables.

I have spent the last few years working very closely with ground and equipment-mounted sensors to help detect stress before we can see it. My primary focus is to develop unique methods to alert turf managers about a problem before it becomes a problem. We have made a lot of progress and now I am working to get these technologies into the air for more rapid assessment. I have been a part of several flights under strict FAA scrutiny. There are many moving parts with this industry and successful use of drones to

more precisely manage turf will take a strong team, with an informed agronomist (golf course superintendents) being a key component. Success will be more than a stunning video of the course from above. It will take useable information collected from the ground to accurately apply to the rest of the golf course. We are currently using UAV's to estimate many important factors that contribute to successful turf management. As I said, change is in the air. And it's pretty exciting if you ask me.



Drone Photo of Salisbury Country Club



Urease Inhibitor


LEARN HOW TO IMPROVE YOUR NITROGEN EFFICIENCY WITH VOLATEX™


The VOLATEX stabilizer "key" fits perfectly into the urease "lock," which prevents urease from breaking down urea.

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{O} \\ \parallel \\ \text{H}_2\text{N}-\text{C}-\text{NH}_2 \\ \text{(Urea)} \end{array} + \text{H}^+ + 2\text{H}_2\text{O} \xrightarrow{\text{Urease}} 2\text{NH}_4^+ + \text{HCO}_3^-$$


(Ammonium)

The VOLATEX stabilizer controls volatilization process by blocking this enzyme.





Rooted in Science



GROWTH ENHANCER
TURF CONSULTANTS

**Tom Rash
Company**

News from Local Associations

ODGCSA News

The Tollie Quinn golf tournament sponsored by STI was held at Two Rivers Country Club on May 4th. Brent Graham and his staff did a spectacular job of preparing the golf course for the event. Congratulations to Brent and his partner on winning this year's tournament. Thanks again to STI for their support of this event.

Kevin Fortune and Glenmore Country Club hosted the VGCSA championship on June 17. ODGCSA member Cameron Yancey was crowned the champion and will lead the Virginia's team in the Virlina Cup this fall.

Coming up in the fall will be our golf outing at Independence Golf Club on September 29. The date and location

for our annual meeting is yet to be determined.



Dan Taylor
ODGCSA
External Vice President

TTA Summer News

This has definitely been a great season for bermudagrass, given the heat and humidity we have had in the Tidewater region. The spring dead spot is filling in, and now goosegrass, crabgrass break-through and nutsedge seem to be the hot topics of discussion along with what method is the best for control.

So far, this summer has been in the normal range. The rain has been spotty. For some of us it's been right on time, while some of us have found themselves in drought situations. Others received in excess of 20 inches of rain for the month of June (18 inches in my case).

The last TTA event was the combination annual Dick Cake Memorial Golf Tournament and Virlina Cup Qualifier at James River Country Club in May sponsored by Turf and Garden. It was a beautiful day and the course was in great shape. Many

thanks to Rob Wilmans for hosting the event and we look forward to more events at James River Country Club. Congratulations to Jeff Whitmire, as he qualified for the Virlina Cup team this year.

On August 22 the TTA is attending the Norfolk Tides baseball game for a doubleheader against the Toledo Mud Hens beginning at 5:00 p.m. This is a great time for members and their families to get out, network, talk with other superintendents about good and bad issues on your course, and have a great time watching the game.

The annual Outer Banks meeting will be on September 17 sponsored by Cardinal Chemical Co. and hosted by our President Paul Culclasure at Kilmallick Golf Club. This will be another great time to get out play golf and talk with our peers.

The TTA board is looking forward to seeing everyone at these two events and wishes everyone the best for the rest of the season and, remember, September is in sight and it will be here before you know it.

If you know of a fellow superintendent 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. Likewise, this is a great time to get your assistant superintendent involved.



Pete Stephens, CGCS
Tidewater Turfgrass
Association
External Vice President

SVTA News

Well, as of right now the Shenandoah Valley is dry ... finally. Rain has hampered most courses throughout the Valley for the past two months sometimes making daily operations a real chore! Well, nothing you can do about Mother Nature.

Over the past two months the SVTA has had two meetings. The first was at Shenvalee Golf Resort where few were in attendance, but those who were got a great chance to hear Dr. Sean Askew talk about many different

topics. There was a lot of interaction with great discussions.

The other meeting was held at Ingleside Golf Club, which was a social event with golf included. We had 15 in attendance that just caught up with each other and discussed turf!

Our next meeting in August will be hosted by Peter Schmidt at Shenandoah Valley Golf Club or Jackson's Chase Golf Club. This will be another social event with golf and lunch.

Don't forget about our October SVTA Fundrasier hosted by Bobby Jenkins at Rock Harbor Golf Course. Hope to see everyone at the next couple of meetings.



Scott Cornwell
Shenandoah Valley
Turfgrass Association
External Vice President

**SAVE
the
DATES**

VGCSA Fall Conference Hermitage CC • October 19-20

Featuring Seth Jones of Golfdom

VGCSA Assistants Forum Belmont CC (Ashburn) • November 2

Featuring Tim Moraghan of Aspire Golf Consulting

Visit
www.vgcsa.org
for more
information
and registration

ASK ABOUT OUR BERMUDAGRASS

NorthBridge™
BERMUDAGRASS

VIRGINIA'S
NEW GOLF STANDARD

- Exceptional Cold Tolerance
- Fine Textured Blades
- Earlier Spring Green Up
- Excellent Overall Turf Quality
- Rapid Sod Production Cycles
- Transitional Bermudagrass
- Excellent Wear Tolerance
- Rapid Divot Recovery
- Excellent Density Ratings



MeadowSpring Turf Farm, LLC
17820 The Glebe Lane
Charles City, VA 23030
804-829-2696



The Power of



Who doesn't like more of a good thing? When we add the "&," it means you truly are getting more.

With STI & Toro, you get products that are #1 in golf maintenance equipment & in golf irrigation, plus extraordinary innovation & unequalled quality. We bring together superior service & the best parts fulfillment to ensure confidence & trust in our products. STI combines the dedication of our people & our strong support network to strengthen the commitment to our customers' success & satisfaction.

It's simple. More & Better, You & Us...

Smith Turf & Irrigation



SMITH TURF & IRRIGATION



Office 800.752.7931 • Orders 877.828.8734
www.smithturf.com

News from Local Associations

News from the GWGCSA

Jeez, what ever happened to the good old days when summer started in May around here and we prayed every day that one of those passing thunderstorms would hit us so that we wouldn't have to drain our irrigation ponds down another 6" at night.

I think everyone in the mid-Atlantic has been in the same crazy weather pattern this year. A super slow start — especially if you are growing bermudagrass — followed by a flush of growth that didn't end until July. And rain, rain, rain followed by drought and then right back to a swamp after a bunch of grass decided to "check out."

Why is it, again, that we chose to enter (and stay in) this profession? Oh yeh, because it is filled with the best group of professionals that you'll ever find. There is always someone there to lend a hand or a piece of equipment to another Superintendent in need. So regardless of how hard it is sometimes, I'm still thankful every day to be seeing the sunrise on my golf course and I don't even mind when I have to stay and see the sunset while dragging a hose around.

Now for local business. We've had some truly great events so far this year in the GWGCSA. April started with the long anticipated Virlina Cup Qualifier at our President's (aka: Mike Mueller) course. Herndon Centennial was in fantastic condition despite the crazy amount of rain we were enduring at the time. Scott Cornwell took home the honors with a dominant performance and will again be representing the VGCSA at this year's annual grudge match against the Carolinas.

Next, we headed over to International Country Club for our May event where everyone got a first-hand lesson in the effects of Poacure. As usual, Nathaniel Guldseth and his crew had the place in impeccable condition. Brian Nevans and his team of ringers from Laurel Hill Golf Club won the event and, from what I hear, there was a serious amount of gloating going on.

June found us over at Creighton Farms. Our hats off to Matt Zarnstorff for showing us one heck of a time. The hospitality was amazing and really made us feel welcome and

appreciated. The team (stacked in my opinion) of Bo Jumbercotta, Dave McGregor, Patrick McNamara and Jake Straub were the eventual winners after some creative handicapping by one of those on the winning team.

Finally, Jeff Van Fleet hosted another great maintenance open and almost managed to win it, having local knowledge of which side to leave the ball when approaching the devious pin positions. The team from Dominion Valley took the cup and everyone enjoyed the fact that they didn't have to get their course ready for this annual July event. We're looking forward to some more fun events, including a joint super/pro event at Belle Haven this fall.

Well, hang in there everybody. It's August, and that signals the countdown to the end of another summer.



Shawn Gill
GWGCSA
External Vice President

VTA News

I cannot speak for anyone else, but I am ready to start punching some holes, slinging some seed and fertilizer, and eager to hear the sweet hum of the blowers. Summer all in all has not been bad in Southwest Virginia, but one of extremes. Whatever happened to a nice evening shower every four to five days with temperatures never getting above 90 degrees. Ha, yeah right.

It has been a very busy year for the VTA. We held our annual Bob Ruff fundraiser at Ashley Plantation. Once again we were able to make over \$3,000 to go toward our scholarship.

In June we held our meeting at Auburn Hills where Kevin Dresser, Virginia Tech

wrestling coach, was kind enough to take time out of his busy schedule. Auburn Hills was also the sight of our Virlina Cup qualifying, where Bill Keene of Blacksburg Country Club was able to eke out a victory. Congratulations Bill and hope you help the Virginia team bring the cup back to the Commonwealth.

In July, we had our second annual family night with the Salem Red Sox. It was great meeting the families of our fellow superintendents and spending time talking about anything but turf.

Our fall schedule is looking very exciting as well. At the end of September, we will be making a voyage to Sam Snead country with a meeting hosted by Doug

Miller at The Homestead Resort. This is always a great place to be, especially after the grind of the summer. In October, we will be heading to Lynchburg with our year-end meeting at Boonsboro Country Club.

I hope everyone is fairing the summer well and look forward to seeing everyone this fall at the VTC tournament and again at the VGCSA fall conference.



Sean K. Baskette
Hidden Valley
Country Club
VTA President

**SAVE
the
DATES**

GCSAA Conference & GIS San Diego Convention Center
February 8-11, 2016

GCSAA Social Event Horton Grand Hotel (San Diego)
February 10, 2016

Visit
www.vgcsa.org
for more
information
and registration



Trusted by the best courses on Earth.

Control like this has always been out of reach. Until now.

The New A Model Mowers from John Deere.

Now your presence can be felt on every part of your course. Thanks to our TechControl display, no matter who is operating the mower, you can easily program these mowers to mow and turn at exact speeds, to transport at safespeeds, and to lock in fuel savings. You can also plug in service reminders and get diagnostic feedback quickly and accurately. And all of your operators can now mow in a more consistent fashion.

The power to control your course is now in your hands. To find out more about our new A Models, call us or sign up for a demo at JohnDeere.com/Demo.



Our exclusive, password-protected TechControl™ Display lets you program commands for your operators.

JohnDeere.com/Golf



JOHN DEERE
GOLF

REVELS Turf & Tractor

FINCH

REVELS TURF & TRACTOR
800-849-5469
RevelsTractor.com

FINCH SERVICES, INC.
800-783-3373 (800-78-DEERE)
FinchInc.com

B05010QCUC61728-

ROANOKE • CHARLOTTESVILLE • RICHMOND • MIDLOTHIAN • VIRGINIA BEACH • CHANTILLY



LANDSCAPE SUPPLY, INC.®