

Commonwealth Crier

News from the Virginia Golf Course Superintendents Association

President's Message

Mother Nature has not been kind to us this past Fall and Winter, leaving most of the state with extremely wet conditions, not to mention consecutive days with single digit lows. It seems like every year we can't wait to get to the seasonal conditions of the fall, dread the winter conditions with anticipation of the spring green up, and stress over the dog days of summer. Life in the transition zone, I guess.

First I would like to thank Matt Boyce and all of the Association's past presidents for the leadership and vision they have provided to help build what is one of the country's top golf course superintendent associations. My goal over the next two years will be to continue to provide that same vision and leadership, maintaining the progression of our Association. I would also like to thank the current board members and past board members for their time and input, their involvement is what has kept this association moving forward.

Speaking of past board members I would like to take this time to thank our outgoing board members, David Lewallen, Steve Dorer, Aaron Evans and Jeff Berg. David, the Golf Course Superintendent at Bowling Green Country Club and the external VP for the SVTA, has been the driving force behind our education committee proving direction to the VTC education committee, as well as our partnership with the ODGCSA, assisting with the development of the Monday education at the VTC Conference and Trade show. Thanks for you service David, you will be missed.

Steve Dorer from Syngenta was our Vendor Board Representative and provided support for Rounds4Research and our partner program. Steve has also been a vital component with the support of the Virlina Cup as the key sponsor.

Aaron Evens, our Assistants representative from Farmington Country Club, developed the Assistants Forum this past year securing a great speaker in Bruce Williams and



provided an excellent Superintendents panel.

And finally Jeff Berg, last year's Immediate Past President, who led with passion and vision during his long tenure on our board. Jeff represented us nationally at GCSAA events for years and oversaw the BMP project, a great accomplishment for our association.

Thanks gentlemen—your support is greatly appreciated!

I would also like to welcome our new board members Scott Cornwell, Larry Adcock and Chad Karr. Scott is the Golf Course Superintendent from Winchester Country Club and will be the External VP from the SVTA. Larry, Sales Manager for Revels Turf and Tractor, will be our Vendor representative. Chad Karr, Assistant Superintendent from Westham Golf Club, will be the Assistants representative.

In addition, we welcome back Mark Cote from the Pete Dye River Course at Virginia Tech. Mark is our new Secretary/Treasurer. Gentlemen, thanks for your support and I look forward to working with you.

As we all know the deadline for the completion of your nutrient management plan will be July 2017. There are roughly 335 courses in Virginia and to date only a small percentage of clubs have completed their Certified Nutrient Management Plan.

A number of others are initiating the process with the help of the \$100,000 grant approved last year to help offset the cost to the courses within the Chesapeake Bay watershed. This past year an additional \$100,000 was approved and added to DCR budget as a cost share to golf courses across the state (not just in the watershed).

So if you haven't started the process yet, please do so as soon as possible. We have a

list of Nutrient Management planners on our web site, who would be more than willing to help you out.

We have an exciting list of events planned for this year to include our annual VGCSA championship, the Assistants Forum, the Joe Saylor tournament, two joint events with the CMAA and NGCOA, plus the BMP tournament. The VGCSA championship will be held on April 29th at Viniterra Golf Club and will also act as one of our qualifiers for the Varlina Cup. The Joe Saylor will have a new twist with an awards reception and evening entertainment, followed by a half day of education the next day (the Fall Conference), taking place October 20th and 21st.

The two joint events will take place at Hermitage CC on March 17th and Cavalier G&YC on June 9th. This is a great opportunity for the VGCSA to network with two of our allied associations. The BMP Tournament, which again will be sponsored by Landscape Supply, will be held at Farmington CC on May 12th—this looks to another great event with a great venue. Thanks again to Landscape Supply for all of their continued support of this great event. Please reference our website for more information on all of these events.

In closing, I would like to thank our partners for all of their support—this partnership is what keeps our association strong. I would like to encourage all of our members to consider our partners when purchasing decisions are made—we are all here to help each other. I look forward to busy and productive year on the Board as well as on the course. If there is anything that we can ever do to help, please contact one of your board members.



Jeff Holliday, CGCSA
VGCSA President

VGCSA Announces Board Line Up for 2014

At the recent Annual Meeting, the Virginia Golf Course Superintendents Association announced its Board of Directors for 2014. Jeff Holliday, CGCS will lead the organization as new President. Chris Petrelli of Cedar Point Country Club is Vice President, and Mark Cote of The Pete Dye River Course at Virginia Tech is Secretary-Treasurer. Matt Boyce of Princess Anne Country Club is Past President.

The Board includes five External Vice Presidents, representing their respective local associations: Dan Taylor of Independence Golf Club (Old Dominion GCSA), Shawn Gill of Prince William Golf Club (Greater Washington GCSA), Rob Wilmans of Elizabeth Manor Country Club (Tidewater Turfgrass Association), Scott Cornwell of Winchester Country Club (Shenandoah Valley Turfgrass Association) and Bill Keene of Blacksburg Country Club (Virginia Turfgrass Association).

Rounding out the Board are representatives: Chad Karr of The Westham Club (Assistants) and Larry Adcock of Revels Tractor (Associates).



2014 VGCSA Board of Directors – Front row (L-R): Chris Petrelli, Jeff Holliday, Matt Boyce, Mark Cote. Back row (L-R): Scott Cornwell, Rob Wilmans, Bill Keene, Dan Taylor, Shawn Gill, Chad Karr. Not pictured: Larry Adcock.



2014 VGCSA Board of Directors

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Jenkins Wins Presidents Award for Lifetime Service

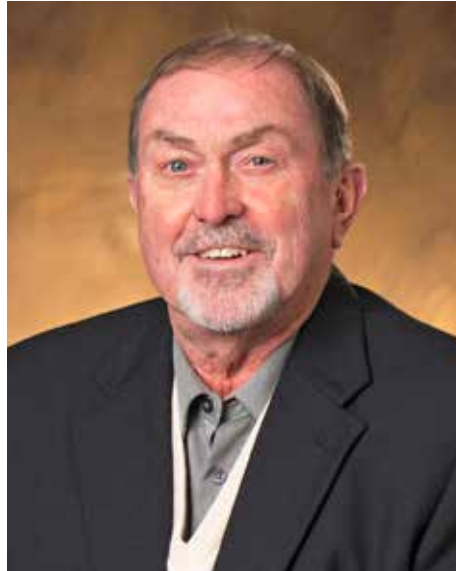
Bobby Jenkins of Winchester, VA is the winner of the 2013 VGCSA Presidents Award for Lifetime Service. The VGCSA's highest award is "to honor those superintendent pioneers who were instrumental in state and local affairs, but who may no longer be actively involved in the VGCSA. Qualifications include twenty years or more of service to the turfgrass industry, at least ten of which were as a superintendent." On all accounts, Jenkins has earned the distinction.

Jenkins has become known as the heart and soul of the Shenandoah Valley Turfgrass Association, one of five local organizations comprising the VGCSA, but wasn't a golfer as a youngster. Growing up in Winchester, Jenkins knew little about golf until around age 14, when the old farm across the street was sold to build a golf course.

He was curious about the project and would often watch what was going on, until the construction men ran him off. But then the owner (Lewis Lamp) got to know him and took him under his wing. Jenkins' mother was a single parent, and the owner treated him like a son. His first job was chipping rocks with an iron tool, but he quickly learned golf operations by spending time in the golf shop, and he also learned how to mow greens. In fact, he learned to get his driver's license from driving a tractor!

After high school, Jenkins entered the Air Force in 1968 and was stationed in Southeast Asia. At the time, President Nixon was trying to draw down troops, and servicemen with a good reason might get reassigned early. The course owner back home wrote a note to his commanding officer, telling him he needed Jenkins back home as an Assistant Superintendent. That letter facilitated his release from the military about six months earlier than expected.

Jenkins next move was to go to work for Carper's Valley in 1972, where he learned from Basil Cline, but his true mentor was Lewis Lamp. He attended the VTC Conference at Shannon Green in Fredericksburg (ironically, on virtually the



Bobby Jenkins

same property where today's conference is held) – he learned a lot and went back to Carper's and continued to improve conditions. In 1976 the superintendent quit, and Jenkins was offered the job. He would end up investing 20 years in Carper's Valley, 1972-1992.

Then a nice job opened at Cress Creek Country Club in Shepherdstown, WV, and Jenkins took the superintendent job in 1992. He was there until 2000.

Then a developer in Winchester unveiled plans to build a new course, Rock Harbor. The owner knew Jenkins from way back, and he really wanted Jenkins on the project from the outset. So at age 54, Jenkins did the construction and grow-in in April of 2000. He remains at Rock Harbor, and they are currently building another 9 holes to take the facility up to 36 holes.

"I never knew what a golf course was until I was 14," said Jenkins. But he excelled quickly and lettered on his high school golf team and went to the regional tournament. He still maintains interest and skill in the game, carrying a handicap of 13.

"I learned the profession through hard knocks," Jenkins remarked. "I did not have formal training, but I did have Lewis Lamp teaching me how to diagnose diseases." Jenkins often called Lamp "Grump," because he rarely gave praise,

making sure everything was done just right. But Jenkins loved him as a father figure, who was basically a country boy who made good – Lamp built the second nine of Winchester Country Club, as well as Shenandoah Valley Golf Club and Bowling Green Country Club.

Jenkins counts Lamp, Mike Burkholder and Jack McClenaghan as his primary mentors. He loved to hear "the big boys" talk and he would take it all in. Every year at the VTC Conference, he would sit up front and listen carefully. Many others would be sitting in the back. He fell in love with the profession.

Jenkins has always served his fellow superintendents, and he was a co-founder of the SVTA in 1982. At the time, most guys were members of the Middle Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents, but they wanted their own local group, so they wouldn't have to travel "over the mountain" to meetings. He was the very first Vice President and became President in 1985-86. Shortly thereafter, he was asked to become Treasurer, a post he still has today. In addition, Jenkins has served his community as a volunteer firefighter and EMT for 41 years.

Jenkins has some good advice to young people entering the profession. "Listen to your peers and don't have a know-it-all attitude," he said. "Book sense is good, but common sense is important. You have to get your hands dirty and do labor work. What I learned 20 or 30 years ago still works and you need to have basic skills."

When asked about being honored by his peers with this award, Jenkins remarked, "It is humbling – I would have never expected to get an award like this – an old country boy like me – this is fantastic!"

Delagrange Named VGCSA Scholarship Winner

Paul Delagrange of Spotsylvania, VA has been named the VGCSA Scholarship Winner for 2013-14. Delagrange is one of the top students in Virginia Tech's Crop and Soil Environmental Science Program in the Turfgrass Management discipline, with graduation expected in December of this year.

Delagrange first developed an interest in golf when his older brother was on the high school golf team. His first job was working on the golf course at The Lake of the Woods, and he started playing golf as a perk of the job. Immediately he got interested in turf and began asking golf course superintendent Mike Kuhn all kinds of questions about the different types of grass.

Delagrange developed a respect for his boss, who gave clear and precise answers. He became interested in the science aspect of growing turf, and he admired the finished product. He decided to enroll in the program at Virginia Tech.

Once at Tech, Delagrange liked the small class size, and when he entered there were just 24 students in the entire program. He particularly admired Dr. Erik Ervin, who not only taught him but also conducted research to see what was evolving in golf.

He liked the fact that the classes prepared him for what he would face after graduation, especially with the hands on learning in the lab. He also enjoyed learning with field tests.

"This award means a lot to me," said Delagrange. "The work I have been doing is paying off, and this scholarship will help ease a financial burden. My family will be proud!"

Delagrange currently has a part-time job working 20 hours a week, in addition to his studies. He credits Mike Kuhn and Dr. Ervin for cultivating his interest in the profession.



Paul Delagrange



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Robinson Recognized for Environmental Stewardship

Cutler Robinson, CGCS of Virginia Beach has been recognized by the VGCSA as just the third recipient of the VGCSA Environmental Stewardship Award. The award is presented “in recognition of distinguished and meritorious service in the environmental stewardship of Virginia golf courses, and in grateful appreciation for unselfishly promoting the profession of golf course management, which led to the advancement of the association.”

Robinson is the golf course superintendent at Bayville Golf Club, an environmentally friendly course located alongside the Lynnhaven River in Virginia Beach. From day one, the developers of the club in the mid 1990s pledged that the development of this dairy farm into a golf course would only be done with the utmost care and respect for the environment. That meant establishment of buffers and greens set off from water hazards. Robinson continues to deliver on that promise every day at Bayville.

As a boy, Robinson developed an interest in environmental stewardship while crabbing and fishing in the Chesapeake Bay. His grandparents lived on the Northern Neck, and he visited often.

In high school, Robinson was a promising baseball player, but the golf coach joked about golf, with some similarities in the swing. Robinson had a little exposure to golf from his brother, who had a summer job working at The Hamptons Golf Course. He decided to take up the game and improved quickly, even shooting a school record round of 72.

When Robinson enrolled at Virginia Tech, his interest was in forestry. But Dick Schmidt was his advisor, and he helped steer him toward a minor in agronomy. Schmidt also helped him get his first job at Bassett Country Club in 1982, where the ENTIRE maintenance budget for the nine hole course was a mere \$42,000 (including salaries!). Robinson loved the people at Bassett and earned his stripes during his tenure through 1985.

Then an opportunity opened up in 1985 at the Oceana Naval Air Station course—an 18-hole superintendent job with more pay. The budget was \$250,000, and the Navy’s complicated budget process proved



Cutler Robinson, CGCS

to be a great learning experience for Robinson.

Then in 1986, Elizabeth Manor Golf & Country Club came to call, and he began a nine year love affair with the club and its members. He learned a lot about watershed management with the western branch of the Elizabeth River adjacent to the property. He studied storm water runoff first-hand, watching drainage after heavy rains. It was a relatively small property (145 acres) and there were two paths for drainage off the course—and the impacts were mitigated by a lake and two ponds to catch silt before discharging on into the Elizabeth River. He learned how important buffers are for sediment retention. He also saw benefit in establishing marshy grasses alongside the riverbank.

In 1995, Robinson took the job at Bayville, a high profile Tom Fazio design that created a buzz in Tidewater and beyond. While there, Robinson met with city inspector Mike McIntyre to study erosion, and the Bayville site featured 250 acres of exposed soil at the outset of construction. The two worked together to lower the risk of erosion and control sediment, and he used his experience at Elizabeth Manor to install retention ponds.

Construction was fast and the course opened just one year after it began. From the outset, the owners wanted to protect the river, and Fazio and Robinson planted 45 acres of native grasses, with buffers along the rivers and lakes.

In 2003, a group called “Lynnhaven River Now” was formed by citizens concerned about pollution. Robinson was asked to co-chair the group’s Landscape Practices Committee along with Virginia Tech extension agent Susan French, they sought to educate the public in environmentally responsible landscape and turf management. Robinson generated a number of “converts” to the environmental benefits that golf courses can bring to a community. The Lynnhaven River Now group honored Robinson with an award for environmental stewardship. Robinson still entertains students in landscape management by showcasing some of the key elements in the grassing and design of Bayville.

Robinson has given back to the industry in many ways. Since 1998, he has served on the USGA’s Green Section Committee, which he acknowledges as the leader in turf research funding. He has served in an advisory role to the Environmental Institute for Golf (EIFG), including writing articles and doing case studies. He is also a Past President of the Old Dominion GCSA. He feels his biggest contribution is putting together his career goals as a superintendent at Bayville together with his role in environmental stewardship at Lynnhaven River Now, yielding a platform to help citizens utilize proper landscaping techniques.

On the future of golf, Robinson remarks, “In 20 to 50 years, a golf course will be viewed as an environmental asset. Along with providing green space, a community’s runoff should flow to a golf course where it can be stored in retention ponds and filtered through the turf as irrigation.”

Robinson is also a big advocate for nutrient management planning, remarking, “It is worthy of going through the process.”

Editor’s note: Currently there is a state grant program for Virginia golf courses to complete their nutrient management plans, which are required as of July 1, 2017.



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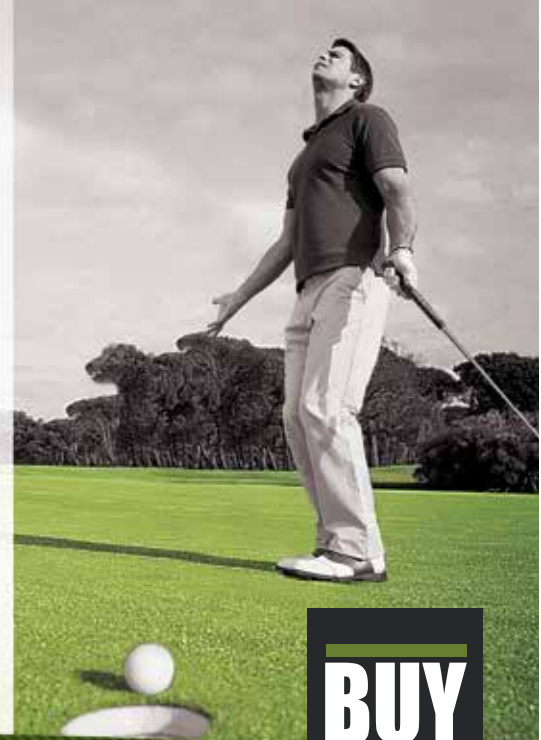
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Bailey Recognized for Distinguished Service

Philip M. Bailey, CGCS of Cypress Creek Golfers' Club has been recognized by the VGCSA with its Distinguished Service Award for 2013. The award is "presented to a member who has given his time unselfishly in promoting golf course management and unification of the Virginia Golf Course Superintendents."

By all accounts, Bailey earned the distinction through his professionalism and integrity, his interaction with his fellow superintendents, and his dedication and devotion to the Wee One Foundation.

Bailey grew up in Mequon, WI, living across the street from the Ozaukee Country Club, where he got his first job. The impetus was his father's requirement for him to help pay for the family car, so he could use it for dates. That first job changed his life forever.

The superintendent at Ozaukee Country Club was Wayne Otto, the diminutive but respected man who became a mentor and somewhat of a father figure to the young Bailey. A high school job turned into a college job and ultimately into a career in the golf industry, but not without some good coaching from Mr. Otto.

Bailey's initial goal was to become a graphic artist, but then he found he enjoyed golf more. Otto taught him construction and budgeting and encouraged him to switch his major to business, because that would help him get ahead.

Bailey did alright the first year of school studying business, but the second year his interest waned and he switched to soil science, but he had to take some time off due to finances. So Otto stepped in and helped him get a job at the Milwaukee Curling Club, looking after the ice! It was actually adjacent to the clubhouse at Ozaukee Country Club. Now back in good shape, Bailey was able to return to school and graduate with his soil science degree.

While in his last semester of school in 1991, he went to work as Assistant Superintendent at Ville du Parc Country



Philip Bailey, CGCS

Club, also in Mequon. It was a 27-hole facility just down the road from Ozaukee. He remained there until 1993, when he went to work for Greensmix, the leader in soil blending, based in Waupaca, WI. It was a small family-owned company, and Bailey traveled the United States to promote their products and service.

Bailey returned to WI just a year later, when he was hired in his first head superintendent job at KSL Fairways, managing two courses. He was offered a promotion to take a superintendent job in Florida in 1998, but at the last minute the company changed plans and offered him the job at Broad Bay Country Club in Virginia Beach.

KSL Fairways was sold off, so Bailey found an opportunity working as a construction foreman for TPC Virginia Beach (now Virginia Beach National).

In 2001 the developers of Cypress Creek Golfers' Club gave him a surprise phone call totally out of the blue – again Wayne Otto had a hand in this.

While at a national turf conference Otto happened to be speaking with the owner of the Cypress Creek property, and Otto mentioned Bailey's name. The owner asked

him if he could do the job. Otto replied, "I would give him the keys right now!" So Bailey got the job, and he always emphasizes how important friendships and contacts are in life.

Otto visited Bailey at Cypress Creek, but not long after, the mentor known as "The Wee One" passed away from cancer. During Otto's struggles, his buddies tried to raise money to help cover medical bills, including the use of experimental drugs. Bailey wanted to give back to the industry, in memory of the man who meant so much to him.

The group established The Wee One Foundation, which raises money to help superintendents who face financial hardship due to medical expenses of them or a family member. Bailey annually hosts the Wee One Tournament at his club, where the owners completely donate all golf fees to further the cause—the event raises thousands of dollars. Three Virginians have received much-needed assistance from the program.

Bailey has also served his fellow superintendents locally through the Tidewater Turfgrass Association, acting as Treasurer at the time VGCSA was formed. He has also published articles in the USGA Green Section Journal, and his course (Ozaukee Country Club) was the first in the state to receive recognition as a certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary.

He also participated in a pilot program testing water quality, long before this was a big issue. He worked with the World Golf Hall of Fame on a display highlighting the environmental stewardship emphasized by golf courses.



Save The Dates – Spring and Summer

March 17 **VGCSA-CMAA-NGCOA Joint Event** "It's All About the Green," Hermitage CC
April 29 **VGCSA Championship**, Viniterra GC, New Kent
May 6 **The Tollie Quinn Tournament**, The Williamsburg Club
May 13 **Landscape Supply BMP Tournament**, Farmington CC, Charlottesville
June 9 **VGCSA-CMAA-NGCOA Joint Event**, Cavalier G&YC, Virginia Beach

Save The Dates – Fall

October 5-7 **The Virlina Cup**, Primland, Meadows of Dan
October 20-21 **The Joe Saylor Memorial**, The Federal Club & **The Fall Conference**, Richmond

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National Arboretum Announces Turfgrass Exhibit

A 'Grass Roots' Initiative

As professionals in the turf industry, we search for ways to communicate to the public what it is that we do, how we steward our environment, and especially, how turfgrass benefits our society, economy and health. We all know these things, but how do we tell others? Well, one new communications vehicle is officially on the road to support this ambition — the turfgrass exhibit at the National Arboretum in Washington D.C.

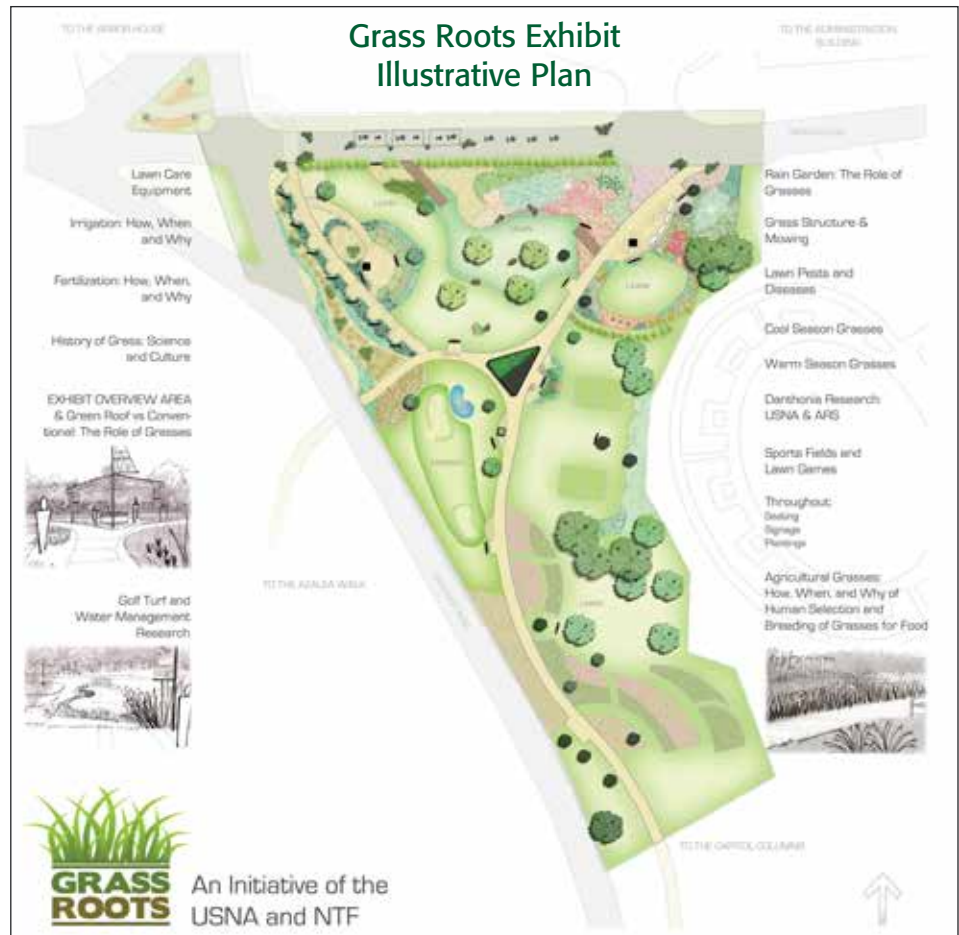
The new exhibit, coined 'Grass Roots,' broke ground last November, with about 120 people (8 or so of them superintendents) in attendance. Colien Hefferan, Ph.D., director at the arboretum, gave opening remarks, thanking the many contributing partners and describing the initiative as a "beautification of science."

Arboretum Assistant Director Kevin Morris then outlined the five components of the exhibit, expected to be completed in spring 2014:

1. Outdoor interactive area
2. Web-based information
3. Workshops, symposiums, product demos
4. National greenscape corridor
5. Personal 'Grass Roots' stories

Frank Rossi, Ph.D. at Cornell University, presented an educational lecture detailing the history of America's love for lawns. "Can we sustain this love affair," Rossi asked the crowd. And the answer was an emphatic yes. To support his theory, Rossi presented science-based information detailing turf's role as a carbon sink and water filter in the context of golf, lawns, landscapes and athletic fields. However, if we are going to sustain, Rossi said, we must do it smartly—starting with educating the public. Come full circle and there you have it, the unveiling of a turf exhibit on a national stage.

The National Arboretum (www.usna.usda.gov) worked with partners at the USDA and National Turfgrass Federation (www.turfresearch.org)—of which GCSAA is a sponsor—to provide the financial support for the development of the Grass Roots exhibit. The display aims to explore the economic, environmental, recreational, and aesthetic benefits of turf. Furthermore, all statements and information will be scientifically based, and donors of



The final blueprints for the exhibit - expected completion in spring 2014

the project are welcome to host visitors, events, and suggest workshops.

Geoffrey Rinehart has been hired to coordinate the development and maintenance of the project, and will oversee the exhibit on a full-time basis, which is an important component to assure the presentation of the exhibit be maintained at a standard in which we expect of our beloved golf courses.

The all-inclusive exhibit will display a real-life par-three complete with a tee, green, and fairway. Likewise, a green roof, a rain garden, sports fields, lawn games, and both cool- and warm-season grasses will be showcased—and that's only half of it.

Imagine an interactive center for displaying responsible fertilization practices, proper water use and re-use techniques, maintenance demos, and recreational lawn games. Twenty-yard dash anyone? Just check out the exhibit.

Superintendents of the Mid-Atlantic GCSA chapter will play a key role in supporting the exhibit by offering their expertise in management, assistance with

turf equipment maintenance, and possible labor support. Not only is this a great way to get involved, but it's also a great way to embrace an industry initiative that will benefit the livelihood of us all. Grass Roots is the name, and how could it be any better?

For more information and to show your support, follow @Grass_Roots_NTF on Twitter, Like them on Facebook (search NTFGrassRootsInitiative), and check out the webpages mentioned above.



The ceremonial breaking ground at the site of the future green roof display

UPDATE:

Effect of Golf Course Turfgrass Management on Water Quality of Non-tidal Streams in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed

C.M. Wilson, S.H. Schoenholtz and E.H. Ervin • Virginia Tech

Golf courses are viewed to be a significant potential contributor to nonpoint source water pollution. Many Virginia golf courses are located in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed, which has a history of nutrient pollution and eutrophication problems.

No watershed-scale studies have been completed in Virginia investigating the role of golf course turf management in nutrient deposition or attenuation in local streams to date. Furthermore, no studies have extended this information to the Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) of an associated watershed to find nutrient contribution or reduction amounts.

The goal of this project is to quantify effects of golf course turf management on stream water quality by comparing areas upstream and downstream of managed turf areas. These data will help to clarify if future water quality regulation by the State or EPA is warranted for golf course management.

The goal of our project is to collect water quality data from golf courses in the James River Watershed to assess if existing golf course turf management has a possible correlation with water quality changes in local streams. These data will be useful for identifying the degree to which golf course management may be associated with possible pollution or improvement of water in local streams.

Water quality data from at least six golf courses with perennial streams in the James River Watershed has been collected and will be used to assess effects of golf course management on local streams. Grab samples representing each season are taken at all sites at least four times per year and analyzed for phosphate-P, total N, nitrate-N, and ammonium-N concentrations at the Virginia Water Resources Research Center using *Standard Methods for the Examination of*



Water and Wastewater.

Samples are only taken at baseflow conditions. Selected streams are assessed for temperature, dissolved oxygen, specific conductance, and pH values. Samples are taken with respect to upstream locations where streams enter the golf course (ins) and downstream locations where streams exit the golf course (outs).

These are compared to ascertain whether water quality changes are occurring between upstream and downstream sampling locations as influenced by adjacent turfgrass management practices. Sampling began in Spring 2011 and will continue through at least Summer 2014.

Results

Data for eleven quarterly sampling seasons have been analyzed thus far for six golf courses in the James River Watershed. To date, we have not seen any significant trends of impairment with respect to dissolved oxygen, specific

conductance, temperature, or pH on eight monitored stream sites. Please refer to the Table 1 (*right*) for mean nitrate, phosphate, and ammonium levels detected in the streams thus far.

Stream levels of NO₃-N (nitrate-N) were below the EPA established level of 10 mg/L for drinking water for all sites. No established guidelines for freshwater streams in VA are available, although < 1 mg/L is considered “good”, while 1-10 mg/L is considered “fair” water quality (Janke et al, 2006).

Four of eleven sites (on three separate golf courses) had means of nitrate-N higher in the water leaving the course as well as concentrations > 1 mg/L. However, these differences do not appear to be significant statistically.

From a preliminary analysis of nitrate data, we have observed that there is a weakly significant statistical difference on Course 3 between the IN B and OUT B.

Nitrate levels are higher in the waters leaving the course than those entering the course. However, the nitrate levels observed do not pose a significant threat to local water quality. NH₄-N (ammonium-N) is also a source of N allowing for algal growth and eutrophication. Ammonium-N increased at four of the sites (on three courses), but these increases do not appear to be significant.

As for PO₄+P (phosphate-P), minor increases were observed at one downstream location with other sites showing downstream decreases or no detectable phosphate-P. Phosphate-P levels in waters leaving the course were below the EPA recommendation of 0.05 mg/L.

Based on the preliminary evidence presented thus far, we do not believe that the golf courses investigated in the study pose a significant threat to water quality of the Chesapeake Bay watershed with respect to nutrients. Further statistical analysis and collection of data will be needed to make a final assessment.

Cited: Janke, R., R. Moscou, and M. Powell. 2006. *Citizen Science Water Quality Testing Series*, PK-13 W-4 Nitrogen, Kansas State University.

Funding and Support

Acknowledgements: VGCSA, GCSAA's Environmental Institute for Golf and Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station.



TABLE 1. Mean nutrient levels in streams on participating James River Watershed golf courses. All values are averages from eleven seasonal samples with the exception of Course 2, which are averages of twenty-one monthly and seasonal samples. “Ins” represent areas upstream of turf management and “Outs” represent downstream areas.

	Nitrate-N mg L ⁻¹		Ammonium-N mg L ⁻¹		Phosphate-P mg L ⁻¹	
	Mean	Standard Deviation	Mean	Standard Deviation	Mean	Standard Deviation
Course 1 IN	0.105	0.083	0.101	0.100	0.012	0.026
Course 1 OUT	0.071	0.095	0.059	0.087	0.000	0.000
Course 2 IN A ^a	0.912	0.316	0.074	0.053	0.012	0.008
Course 2 OUT A	High*: 1.135 1.171	0.885	High: 0.112 0.034	0.057	High: 0.017 0.009	0.012
Course 2 IN B ^a	1.650	0.925	0.044	0.024	0.051	0.066
Course 2 OUT B	High: 2.304 2.667	0.999	High: 0.061 0.107	0.261	High: 0.098 0.027	0.049
Course 3 IN A ^b	2.645	1.937	0.069	0.080	0.001	0.001
Course 3 OUT A	High: 4.688 3.217	1.385	High: 0.162 0.038	0.046	High: 0.003 0.008	0.017
Course 3 IN B	0.924	0.502	0.065	0.146	0.021	0.040
Course 3 OUT B	3.668	1.422	0.180	0.500	0.004	0.010
Course 3 IN C ^a	1.361	0.045	0.023	0.007	0.003	0.000
Course 3 OUT C	High: 1.393 2.827	1.071	High: 0.027 0.020	0.034	High: 0.004 0.002	0.007
Course 4 IN	0.180	0.268	0.039	0.054	0.005	0.017
Course 4 OUT	0.124	0.112	0.039	0.044	0.000	0.000
Course 5 IN A	0.200	0.158	0.019	0.030	0.000	0.000
Course 5 OUT A	0.167	0.102	0.026	0.040	0.000	0.000
Course 5 IN B	1.785	0.830	0.039	0.052	0.000	0.000
Course 5 OUT B	0.164	0.104	0.057	0.054	0.000	0.000
Course 6 IN	0.088	0.021	0.038	0.031	0.000	0.000
Course 6 OUT	0.129	0.021	0.021	0.013	0.000	0.000

* High values represent the highest mean value of the corresponding “in”

^a Values are the averaged means of two “in” sites

^b Values are the averaged means of three “in” sites

At the VGCSA Annual Meeting



**January 28, 2014
Fredericksburg Country Club**



Thanks Matt Boyce, for two outstanding years serving as VGCSA President!

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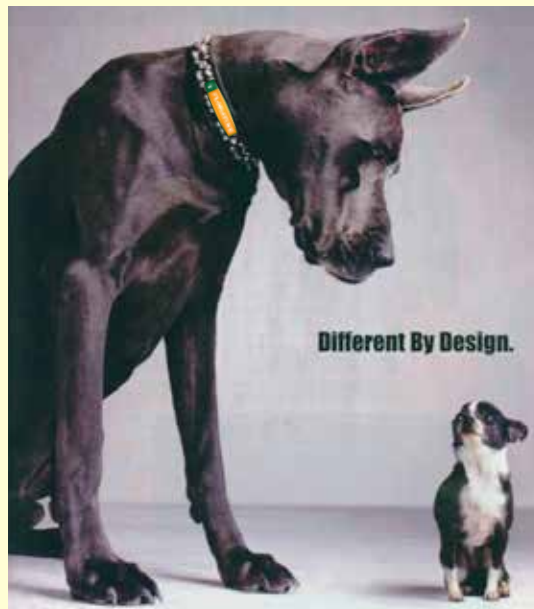
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News from Local Associations

ODGCSA News

The Old Dominion wrapped up 2013 with another well-attended annual meeting held at Independence Golf Club. Scott Mauldin was elected President and Paul Van Buren will serve as our newest Director.

As always thanks go out to all our sponsors that helped to make our annual meeting a success. A special thanks go to SePro, Genesis Turf, and Fisher and Sons for providing lunch. We would also like to say thanks to the other vendors that supported the Par 3 contest with donated prize packs.

The vendor support has been great!

We held a Strategic Planning meeting for our Board at Willow Oaks on January 21st. This meeting was offered by the GCSAA and Chase Rogan.

The Old Dominion partnered with the VGCSA for the Monday class prior to the VTC Conference. This year's choices were: 1) Maximizing Turfgrass Disease Control with Proper Application Strategies and 2) Gadgets and Gizmos-Using Technology to Identify and Communicate Turf

Management Problems.

The full 2014 calendar will be out soon and posted on the VGCSA website (www.vgcsa.org).



Dan Taylor
ODGCSA
External Vice President

TTA News

The winter of 2013-2014 in Tidewater has been a roller coaster ride. We have gone from single digit temperatures over night to highs in the low 80s only days apart. The bermudagrass has gone dormant and greened back up multiple times since December. Fall weed control measures are being evaluated with courses in the area trying multiple pre- and post-emergent control strategies for *poa* control. There are some newer products that right now are showing some promising results in our area.

Our annual business meeting was held at VB National this fall. Mark Ross, as always, was a gracious host and provided an

awesome course and a great meal.

New officers were elected with Chris Brnich taking on the role of President. Travis Creech from Bide-a-Wee is back on the Board along with new comers Pete Stephens from Indian Creek and Paul Culcasure from Hell's Point.

The TTA is looking forward to a great season with an action-packed schedule. We will be doing our annual Norfolk Admirals game this winter, our first meeting of the year will be at James River Country Club in March, and we are gearing up for our 1st annual 5k Charity Run to take place in September. It should be an

exciting year for us.

Conference season is upon us. The VTC show in January is quickly followed by the National in February. It looks like most guys from Tidewater spent some time in Fredericksburg but will pass on the trip to Orlando.

Enjoy some time with the family this winter, spring aeration will be here in a blink.



Rob Wilmans
Tidewater Turfgrass
Association
External Vice President

SVTA Update

Winter has arrived in the Shenandoah Valley with a vengeance! After a cold and snowy December, January was worse. We had very cold nights and days with wind chill temperatures around 0 degrees.

The snow cover has been nice as it has given all of us a break and not allowed the course to get beaten up. Hopefully this polar vortex goes back North where it belongs

and we are able to finish up some projects before the spring rush hits.

The SVTA has been setting up our schedule for 2014. We are hoping to come up with an exciting schedule at our great Valley courses along with tremendous speakers. If anyone has any suggestions, please contact me or any other board member.

Enjoy the winter while you can. The extreme heat and humidity will be here before we know it!



David Lewallen
SVTA
External Vice President

Note: The VGCSA would like to thank retiring SVTA External VP David Lewallen for his outstanding service, while welcoming Scott Cornwell to the post for 2014.

At the GCSAA Social in Orlando

L-R: Tom Rash, Ryan Dwyer and Mike Layel;

Troy Fink and Peter McDonough;

Jordan Booth (3rd from left) celebrates attaining the CGCS designation with Eric Frazier, Dennis Reidlinger and James Nick





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News from Local Associations

News from the GWGCSA

To say this winter has lived up to the old adage "If you don't like the weather, wait a minute and it'll change" would be a tremendous understatement. Although we've escaped any major snow storms so far (I am now knocking on my wooden desk) we have seen some extremes.

Sub-zero temperatures and rain every time it starts to warm up have made it a difficult time for anyone trying to complete outside projects, especially if they consist of earth moving activities.

Hopefully many of you will get to escape from the winter in a couple weeks by attending the GCSAA show in Orlando FL, maybe playing a little golf and meeting up with some old friends.

On to news about happenings in the

GWGCSA. We ended the year with our most popular event. Thanks to Dave Anderson and the entire staff of Evergreen Country Club for hosting another terrific event. Even with temperatures dipping into the 20s and winds blowing at 20 mph, there were around 75 players! While most were trying to keep warm by consuming prodigious amounts of buttery nipples, Ed Long and I brought our cart covers and portable propane heaters and basked in the 80 degree mini saunas we created.

Following the golf, we had our annual meeting during which Mike Mueller was elected as President of the GWGCSA. Congratulations Mike.

I'd also like to thank Ray Nash for his dedication while serving as President for

the last two years.

We've got a great slate of venues for our 2014 events which includes a meeting and golf at the much anticipated Potomac Shores Golf Course.

I guess it's time to go put out another preventive application of ice melt. 52° and sunny today, but 5" of snow and frigid temperatures coming in tomorrow. Funny how we all long for winter when we're in the throgs of summer. Take care everyone.



Shawn Gill
GWGCSA
External Vice President

VTA News

With the weather turning colder and the holiday season, I hope everyone has had the opportunity to spend some quality time with family, friends, and loved ones. Here in southwest Virginia the temperatures have struggled to make it above freezing on several occasions.

Those of us with Bermudagrass will be anxious until spring green up. Night time low temperatures at or below freezing (-5° here at Blacksburg Country Club for two consecutive nights) will test the new cold-hardy varieties.

Unfortunately we have been void of snow. A little snow cover would have made a nice turf blanket on these cold days.

This is the time of year when we all are doing maintenance on equipment and spending plenty of time in the shop. This is also the time of year for continuing education. I encourage everyone to take advantage of classes and seminars to not only better your facility but to better yourself.

If you are unable to attend conferences like the VTC or the GCSAA national convention, there are plenty of other resources available online. While sitting in front of your computer, point your browser to gcsaa.com and turfnet.com. These are two resources that provide

online seminars and webcasts at little or no cost. If you pick up only one time saving or cost cutting tip, it will be time well spent.

As always, we are looking for thoughts, comments, or ideas for the association and please feel free to share them. We are constantly looking to provide you with quality meetings and educational opportunities. Speaking of meetings, in the coming weeks we will be setting

meeting dates for the upcoming season. As soon as we have them finalized, we will get them into your hands so you can make plans to join us throughout the year for fellowship and education.



Bill Keene
Virginia Turfgrass
Association
External Vice President



VGCSA President
Jeff Holliday, CGCS,
with Governor
Terry McAuliffe
at the Virginia
Agribusiness
Council Dinner.

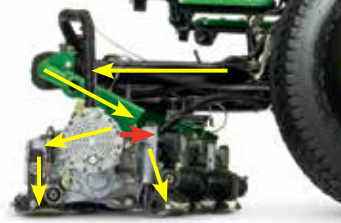
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