



January 2013

Chapter Team

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Don't Forget

You are REQUIRED to have a Virginia Tech PID (vt.edu email address) to access the Chapter Forms database.

The Chapter Newsletter is a communications tool between the Virginia Tech Alumni Association and its chapters.

If you have any comments or suggestions, please send them to your chapter liaison. If you have problems viewing the newsletter, please contact [Ginny Ritenour](#), Chapter Program Coordinator.

Dear Chapter Volunteers,

Welcome to 2013! As we begin a new year, we are looking forward to working with you on your chapter programs and events scheduled for this spring. If you're still looking for a speaker, be sure to contact your chapter liaison for assistance.

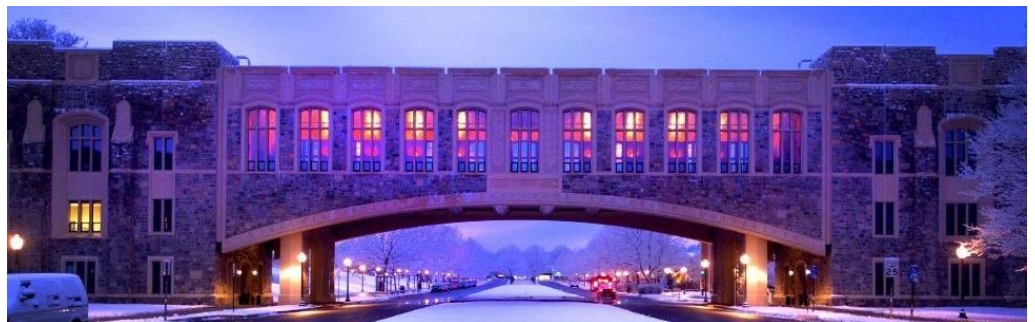
We will be hosting several training opportunities this spring, so be on the lookout for more information about webinars and conference calls exclusively for chapter officers. If you're interested in learning more now, we have materials from previous officer training events available on our website under "Presentations" on the [Chapter Resources page](#).

This April, we will continue our *Hokie Nation Serves* initiative. As we have for the past several years, we encourage all chapters to initiate or participate in community service projects in their local area. You can find out more about what other chapters are doing on our [Hokie Nation Serves webpage](#). We will continue to update this page as our chapters organize events. Also, be sure to request your official "Hokie Nation Serves" t-shirts for your event by contacting [Josh Burnheimer](#). The only requirements are that you wear your shirts proudly and submit a photo to our office of your chapter volunteers in action.

As you begin to plan your spring and summer travel, be sure to check out the offerings in our [2013 Drillfield Series](#). You're sure to find a fun and informative program to bring you back to Blacksburg this spring or summer.

We look forward to working with you in the upcoming year!

Debbie



Communications Corner: January 2013

From [Dave Hunt](#), [Denise Royal](#), & [John Borman](#)

We're excited to see so many chapters gearing up for some great events this spring. To ensure that each communications request is processed in a timely manner, details on how to submit requests for email templates and print postcards are listed below.

We also want to hear from you so we can better communicate our processes and services for print and email.

Print Requests: Complete information is needed six weeks prior to RSVP date

- Reminder:**
 Due to our schedule, the printing process, and the post office, we need at least six weeks after receiving your complete and final information to ensure your postcard is received before your RSVP date.
- Want to submit a list of "upcoming events" but not sure how to fill out the print request form?**
 Chapters typically request postcards for only one main event (speaker, golf, wine, etc.); therefore, the print request form is designed for one event. If you want to submit a "save-the-date for upcoming events" print request, please enter your events in the "event specifics" section of the form. Remember a postcard size is 5.5 x 8.5 so each event should be brief. Please only list the event name, date, location, contact person, a brief sentence or two (max), and where to go for more information. An example of the First State Chapter's postcard announcing their "upcoming events" can be found at http://www.email.alumni.vt.edu/chapter/comm_corner/FirstState-events12.pdf. Their complimentary email can be found at <http://www.email.alumni.vt.edu/chapter/2012/firststate-events.html>.

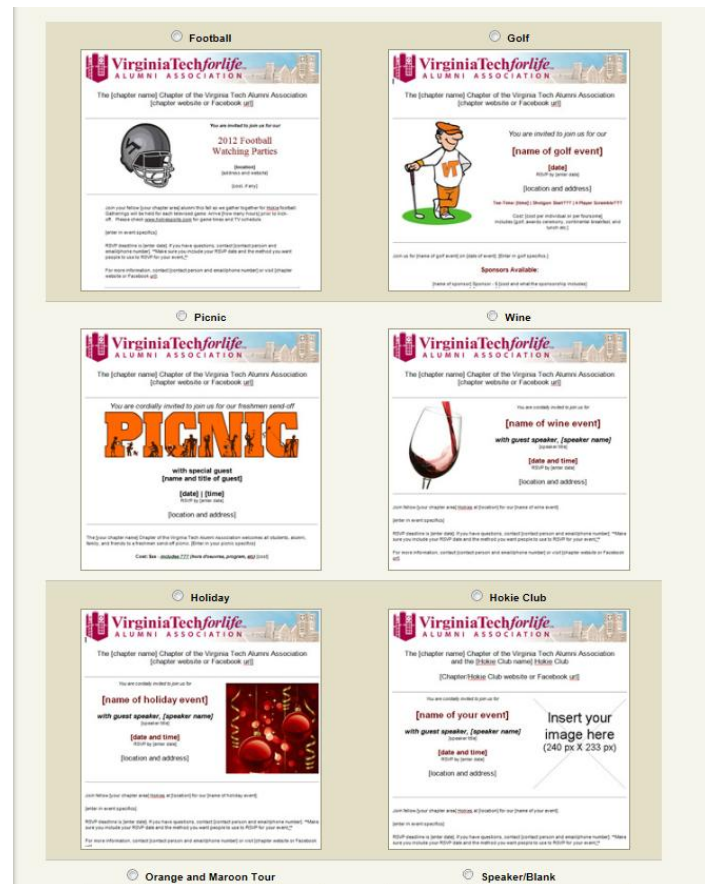
Email Requests: Email templates are sent within five business days

- Submit your email notice with plenty of time before an event so your notice is sent early enough for people to respond and plan to attend. **Content must be final!** Submissions are considered approved, and additional proofs are not sent.
- Update:** Email templates were updated in October. Please make sure you are using the latest version of our Word templates. Submissions using old templates will no longer be accepted.

We want to hear from you!

We are always interested in finding ways to improve our processes and better serve our chapters. If you have questions or suggestions, please send them to Denise Royal at kdenise@vt.edu. Your feedback can help shape our processes and determine the information we share each month in the Communications Corner.

Examples of email templates available online:



Community Service Highlight: Wreaths Across America – National Capital Region

This holiday season, the [National Capital Region Chapter](#), in conjunction with the Capital Alumni Network (CAN), worked with Wreaths Across America to help place wreaths on gravesites at Arlington National Cemetery.

Along with other area volunteers, more than 30 Hokies from across the Washington D.C. area assembled at Arlington National Cemetery on Saturday, December 15th to lay wreaths in front of tombstones in designated areas. The project took about three hours to complete and 110,000 wreaths were laid in Arlington, with CAN alumni contributing to the effort.

Alumni were also able to sponsor a wreath for only \$15 through the Wreaths Across America website.

The National Capital Region Chapter offered a special thank you to the Corps of Cadets for promoting the chapter's participation to parents of students in the metropolitan area. As a result, several parents volunteered and were able to participate in the event.

[Wreaths Across America](#) is a national non-profit organization with more than 500 participating locations nationwide that carries out its mission to "Remember, Honor, and Teach" by placing wreaths on veterans' graves during the holiday season. The Arlington event is among their largest projects.



WREATHSACROSSAMERICA.ORG
REMEMBER • HONOR • TEACH



Volunteers brave the cold as they receive instructions



National Capital Region area volunteers



*Brent Blevins, Community Service Chair, (center)
and NCR Chapter officers*



Freshly-placed wreaths at Arlington National Cemetery

Chapter Volunteer Highlight: 2012 Outstanding Chapter Volunteers Steve & Jean Barry, Middle Tennessee Chapter

Steve '81 and Jean Barry of the Middle Tennessee Chapter can only be described as the ULTIMATE Hokie Fans; if anyone's blood runs orange and maroon, it's theirs!

Steve's company has been the chapter golf tournament's title sponsor for 7 years, and he has served as the Golf Tournament Chair in 2011 and 2012, guiding the chapter in 2012 to one of their most successful tournaments ever, netting more than \$9,000.

As a couple they have opened their home (also known as the Hokie Oasis) to the chapter and hosted numerous chapter events there, including student mixers, pool parties and TV watching parties.

In recognition of their outstanding volunteer efforts, the Virginia Tech Alumni Association presented Steve and Jean with the 2012 Outstanding Chapter Volunteer award at the annual Chapter Officers Forum.



Steve and Jean accept their award, presented by Lance Smith, President, National Alumni Board of Directors; Charles Steger, University President; and Tom Tillar, Vice President for Alumni Relations

Staff Highlight: Latanya Walker, Director of Alumni Relations for Diversity, Inclusion and Community Engagement

Latanya coordinates on and off-campus activities to promote diverse alumni involvement. This includes planning and partnering with both university and community members for reunions, university programming events, student organizational events, and varied on- and off-campus alumni chapter programs.

In addition, she works to promote and support the activities and successes of Virginia Tech's diverse constituency, which includes writing articles and providing opportunities for networking, community engagement, and mentoring.



Definitely a local, Latanya moved to her mom's hometown of Blacksburg, Virginia when she was ten years old. Following her graduation from Blacksburg High School, Latanya earned her B.S. in Family and Child Development from Virginia Tech. After several years of teaching pre-school and working with the Shawsville Head Start, she began graduate school at Radford University and completed her M.S. in Counseling and Human Development, with a focus in school counseling. For two years, she advised undergraduates in the department of Industrial and Systems Engineering and then went on to serve as counselor and assistant director of the VT Upward Bound Program for 13 years.

Chapter Event Highlight: VT Alumni Golf Tournament, Prince William Chapter

The 5th Annual Prince William County Virginia Tech Alumni Association Golf Tournament was held on June 1, 2012 at the Virginia Oaks Golf Club in Gainesville, Virginia. The sold-out event hosted 144 golfers competing in a scramble to help raise over \$12,000 for the Prince William Chapter's scholarship endowment.

Golfers enjoyed a continental breakfast after registration and had the opportunity to visit with vendors before teeing off. There were several contests to compete in, including a team putting contest, longest drive, closest to the pin, straightest drive, and longest putt. There were also multiple prizes to be won at each of the par 3s if someone got a hole-in-one, including the chance to win a 2012 Acura. The winning team received invitations to represent Virginia Tech in the 2012 College Alumni Team Championship at Pinehurst, an all-expenses paid trip.



First place winners will travel to Pinehurst to compete again



Virginia Tech cupcakes provided by local bakery

Once golfing was complete, participants enjoyed a barbecue luncheon and cupcakes donated by local vendors. Former Board of Visitors member Mike Anzilotti served as guest speaker for the event.

A local massage business had tables set up to give back massages during the luncheon, while bidders could take their chances on numerous exciting items in the silent auction. Donations from local businesses and organizations drew many bids from all the golfers. Each golfer walked away with a gift bag that included golf balls, tees, coupons, and a VT golf umbrella.

The chapter takes advantage of many different opportunities to market this event, including Alumni Association postcards and emails, the chapter's Facebook page, [their golf tournament website](#), locally distributed flyers, and local newspaper and magazine articles.

Due to the annual Golf Tournament's continued success, the Virginia Tech Alumni Association was pleased to present the Prince William Chapter with the Best Golf Tournament Award at the 2012 Chapter Officers Forum in Blacksburg.



Golfers receive back and neck massages after lunch



Catherine Ferguson accepts award from Lance Smith, Charles Steger, and Tom Tillar at Chapter Officers Forum

2013 Drillfield Series

Mark your calendars now for our 2013 Drillfield Series events! More details will be posted on the [Alumni Association website](#) as they become available.

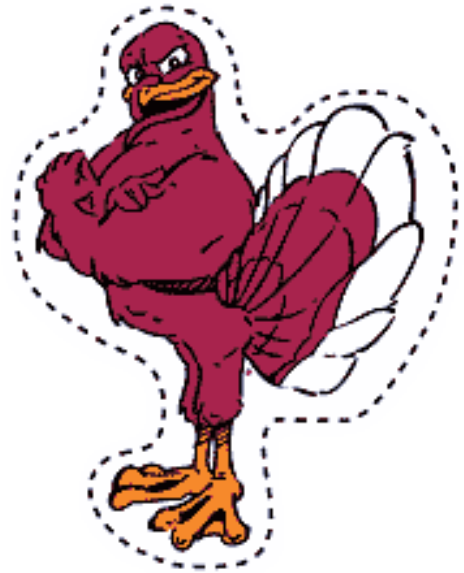
- February 15-16, 2013
[Food For Thought: Culinary and Wine Experience](#)
- May 10-11, 2013
[Focus on Photography](#)
- June 21-23, 2013
[Corps of Cadets Alumni Weekend](#)
- July 12-13, 2013
[Virginia Tech Admissions Weekend](#)
- July 19-21, 2013
[Women's Getaway Weekend for Alumnae](#)

A \$105 special lodging rate is available at the Inn at Virginia Tech for all events.

Dates to Remember:

- January 31: Hokie Day in Richmond
- February 13: 2013 Grad Fair at Holtzman Alumni Center
- February 15-16: Drillfield Series – Food for Thought: Culinary and Wine Experience
- April 20: Virginia Tech Spring Game
- May 10-11: Drillfield Series – Focus on Photography 2013
- May 16: 2013 Grad Bash at Holtzman Alumni Center
- May 17: Spring Commencement
- June 15: Deadline to submit scholarship recipient information to our office
- July 12-13: A Day in the Life of College Admissions Event
- July 19-21: Alumnae Weekend: Women's Getaway

Show your Hokie Pride when you travel with Flat Hokie!



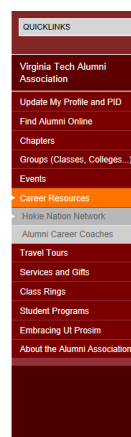
[Download and cut out Flat Hokie](#) and take him with you wherever you go!

Send your favorite photos with Flat Hokie to vtalumnet@vt.edu and we'll post them on the Virginia Tech Alumni Association's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/virginiatechalumni.

Stay Connected!





Visit the [Hokie Nation Network](#) for career and job networking opportunities. HNN leverages social media, job listings (no PID or password required), and other career resources designed to help Hokies connect with fellow alumni.

Contact [Nancy Brittle](#) for more information.



HNN Hokie Nation Network

Welcome to the new Hokie Nation Network, a portal for alumni interested in professional networking opportunities. The Hokie Nation Network leverages social media, job listings (no PID or password required), and other career resources designed to help Hokies connect with fellow alumni.

 <p>» Job listings for alumni (no PID/password required) » Job posting form for employers</p>	 <p>» More than 94,000 Hokies are on LinkedIn » Join over 20,000 Hokies already networking on LinkedIn » Learn how to use LinkedIn</p>
 <p>» Career resources for alumni searching for jobs (links to other sites, career coaches, webinars, and presentations)</p>	 <p>» Use the Online Alumni Directory to find contact information for fellow Hokies (PID and password required)</p>