



May 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,

As the Virginia Tech campus transitions to the slower pace of the summer months, our staff and chapter volunteers are busy planning summer picnics and student send-offs, finishing end-of-the-year reports, and developing programs for the "new year" beginning this fall.

If you haven't already done so, **it is imperative that you complete all of your year-end reports and activities to ensure consideration for the Outstanding Chapter Award. The deadline is July 1**, which is right around the corner. Please touch base with your chapter liaison if you need assistance in completing your reports. All requirements and forms may be found online in the chapter database. Visit the [Alumni Association website](#) to log-in.

As this programming year ends, be sure to review the new [Chapter Awards Requirements Checklist](#). This simple, one page document should be your guide for submitting reports and planning for the upcoming year. We will host two teleconference Q&A sessions next week to answer your questions about the new awards structure, so be sure to join in (see page 4).

We have a new and exciting event coming this summer at the [Virginia International Raceway](#) in Alton, VA (near Danville). "Virginia Tech Day" at the VIR will include an exclusive Virginia Tech Alumni Association Headquarters tent, a private reception for sponsoring chapters, go-kart races, skeet shooting, and more. The event takes place Friday through Sunday, August 9-11. Look for more details coming soon!

As we gear up for yet another busy fall, please let us know how we can assist in planning your events for the upcoming year. We look forward to seeing you back on campus this fall for Chapter Officers Forum, our class reunions, college homecomings, or Homecoming Weekend.

Enjoy your summer!

Deborah A. Day
Associate Vice President for Alumni Relations

Chapter Event Highlight: April 16 Remembrance Events

In support of the April 16 Day of Remembrance events held on the Virginia Tech campus each year, many of our chapters participate in community service projects throughout the month of April to show support for those affected by the 2007 tragedy and to exemplify *Ut Prosim*, That I May Serve, our university motto.

From VirginiaTechforLife blood drives and Habitat for Humanity builds, to food pantry and Adopt-a-Highway cleanup projects, our alumni are engaged in helping to meet the needs of their local communities, carrying on our Virginia Tech tradition of service.



Philadelphia Chapter alumni gather in Oaks, PA for their inaugural 3.2 for 32 Walk in Remembrance



Denver Hokies enjoy a snack following their annual 3.2 for 32 Walk/Run in Remembrance

Several chapters host 3.2 for 32 Walk/Run events in conjunction with the race on campus, but many choose unique events that are meaningful to their local community. The Portland (Oregon) Chapter held their 3rd annual tree planting event for their local "Friends of Trees" organization. The Grand Strand/Myrtle Beach Chapter joined Coastal Carolina University in their annual Day of Remembrance Ceremony that began in 2007 to honor those affected by April 16 events. Tidewater Hokies gathered at the Hampton Roads Graduate Center in Virginia Beach for a Sunset Memorial on April 16.

If your chapter would like to begin planning a remembrance event for 2014, please contact your chapter liaison for more information.



Tidewater Chapter area alumni attend the April 16 Sunset Memorial in Virginia Beach, VA



San Antonio Chapter volunteers prepare to donate blood at their annual VirginiaTechforLife Blood Drive

Community Service Highlight: Oklahoma Chapter Accepting Donations for Tornado Victims

On the afternoon of Monday, May 20, 2013, an EF5 tornado struck Moore, Oklahoma and adjacent areas, killing 24 people and injuring 377 others. People across the country watched helplessly as victims sifted through the remains of their homes, looking for anything left behind.

Virginia Tech alumnus Brian Rock '07 is the Assistant Director of Housing and Food Services at the University of Oklahoma.

We received the following update from Brian:

"My department is currently housing 375 displaced victims of the tornado and another 300 first responders. We have turned our office into a 24 hour operation providing food and shelter for guests and emergency workers. We are a donation point, FEMA, Red Cross, Disaster Relief operational site registering guests and supporting government agencies.

Our community has really pulled together. What we do still need are gift cards for gas, groceries, mediation, etc. Any support is greatly appreciated and is being registered and distributed through the appropriate agencies to ensure it is reaching the right people. It has been an incredible 3 days so far; very eye opening, an incredible learning experience, and very heartwarming. The stories being shared are remarkable."

Please consider making a donation as an individual or as a chapter. Gift cards should be sent to Brian's attention at the following address:

Brian Rock
Housing and Food Services
University of Oklahoma
1406 Asp Avenue, Room 126
Norman, OK 73019



Staff Highlight: Cathy Lally, Assistant to the Vice President

Cathy Lally has been with the Alumni staff since 1992. She started out as the morning receptionist, and over the years provided support for both chapter programs and reunion and events. Her current responsibilities as the Assistant to the Vice President include coordinating meetings and communications for the Alumni Board of Directors, coordinating the alumni awards program, serving as the Human Resources Manager and Office Manager, and is considered the "go to" staff member in the Association when a question needs answering. She is the Association's liaison with the Athletic Department and serves on several committees including the Commonwealth of Virginia Campaign (CVC) Steering Committee, the Administrative and Fiscal Officers Group, and the HR Partners group. Her husband, Alan, is the assistant director for club sports in the Department of Recreational Sports; her son Jordan, who graduated in 2010 with a degree in history, begins a graduate program in school counseling this fall at Radford University. Among her interests are reading and cooking, and the entire family enjoys Hokie sports and soccer.

Communications Corner: May 2013

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

Student Picnic Requests

If you are planning to advertise your student picnic through the Alumni Association and want to invite students, please let [Ginny Ritenour](#) know **by June 7, 2013**. We don't need any additional details at this point; just a notification of your intent to invite students to an event this summer. The Alumni Association has to request student information from the Registrar's Office, and it can take up to two weeks to receive. By compiling a list and making the request early, this will help avoid delays in the process.

Please note that an email request that includes student invitations may take up to 10 business days, instead of the usual 5 business day turnaround. Notifying us ahead of time gives us an opportunity to reduce turnaround time as much as possible.

Annual Password Changes

PID passwords are required to be updated on an annual basis. Although you should receive an email reminder from Virginia Tech, June and July are the most popular "update required" months and we encourage you to go ahead and change your password at your earliest convenience. To find more information on these requirements and instructions for changing your password, please visit the [Security Awareness at Virginia Tech site](#).

If your password expires, you will not be able to log-in to the Chapter Database for email/mailed requests, chapter reports, and other forms. Once expired, you will be required to phone Virginia Tech's 4-Help hotline to have your password reset.

Upcoming Chapter Officer Training Opportunities

Please mark your calendars and plan on having chapter representatives attend one of these final upcoming webinars.

June 5th at 7:00 PM (Eastern)

Chapter Award Requirements Q&A
Hosted by Debbie Day and Greg Fansler
[Click here to register](#)

June 6th at 7:00 PM (Eastern)

Chapter Award Requirements Q&A
Hosted by Ginny Ritenour and Kelly Griffin
[Click here to register](#)

SAVE THE DATE!

Chapter Officers Forum, September 5-7, 2013
Stay tuned for more details and registration information!

Dates to Remember:

- June 5: Chapter Officer Training: Chapter Awards Requirements Q&A
- June 6: Chapter Officer Training: Chapter Awards Requirements Q&A
- June 15: Deadline to submit scholarship recipient information to our office
- June 30: Submission deadline for year-end chapter reports
- July 12-13: [Virginia Tech Admissions Weekend](#)
- July 19-21: [Women's Getaway Weekend for Alumnae](#)
- September 5-7: Chapter Officers' Forum

HOKIES on FACEBOOK!



Chattanooga Chapter alumni release 32 balloons in remembrance of April 16 prior to their Blood Drive



San Diego Chapter alumni enjoy Dr. Jim Wightman's presentation at their annual Beer Appreciation event



President Chris Jennings and the Tidewater Chapter Relay for Life Team



Atlanta Chapter officers and volunteers at their 2013 Big Event community service project



Fredericksburg area alumni attend the chapter's 18th annual Orange and Maroon event



President Becky Oaksmith and Annapolis Hokies enjoy a Bowie Baysox baseball game