#BULETIN

A P R | M A Y | J U N | 2 0 1 5

Convention IS AROUND THE CORNER!

President's Message: Stay the Course pg. 4

Executive Director's Message: Come to Convention! pg. 5









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Stay the Course

am approaching the end of my presidency of the Virginia Funeral Directors Association and it seems like yesterday we were gathered in Virginia Beach for our annual convention and I had the privilege to be sworn in as your president. I have traveled many miles this year and plan to travel many more in my quest of visiting all VFDA member firms. Unfortunately, I was hampered in December and January with a broken foot, but I intend to make up for lost time this Spring.

I would like to thank Larry Spiaggi and the entire legislative committee for their outstanding representation of the VFDA in Richmond during the 2015 session. The committee presented the voice of VFDA in meetings and we were very successful in our legislative agenda for this year. I would also like to thank our lobbyist team of Angela Bezik and Julie Dime who were on the ground every day and kept a close eye on issues that are important to the funeral directors of the Commonwealth. Their expertise has been invaluable to the legislative efforts of the VFDA. We are indeed fortunate to have such a team representing VFDA.

I believe we should continue our efforts in Richmond and stay the course

that has been set by the VFDA over the past several years. We must continue to grow our membership and get more and more members involved with the work of VFDA. Please share our message with your fellow funeral directors that may not be members of VFDA. There is power in numbers especially if our message is consistent.

As you are all aware, the EDRS was launched in November of 2014 and the roll out has been far from satisfactory. Originally, there were many delays at the local health departments when printing. Those issues seem to have been worked out as their experience level has grown over time. The response to register for the EDRS by funeral homes has been good and we hope that all funeral homes and directors will become registered in the near future. However, the response of the medical certifiers has been dismal.

VFDA's goal is to seek mandatory registration to the EDRS. We are asking that funeral homes report all problems they may experience with the EDRS to the

VFDA office. But more importantly, please report all difficulties you may experience with medical certifiers. We intend to gather statistical data as to the participation of medical certifiers, funeral homes, and deaths in Virginia to provide a clear picture to our legislators in Richmond.

The amount of time to process a death certificate by paper is much greater and leads to longer wait times for

families to have estates, bank accounts, and insurance claims settled. Many families are placed into awkward financial positions while awaiting a simple death certification. The EDRS would go a long way in assisting our client families during their time of need.

In our funeral home, we have been recording the number of miles and man hours spent delivering "drop to paper" certificates to medical certifiers and local health departments. I don't believe many people are aware of the costs that funeral homes are incurring during this process. Of course, your cost of operation is being passed on to the consumer or the constituents of our legislators. If all funeral homes would gather information, I believe we could present an impressive case to Richmond.

Another area of concern that VFDA is examining is the location where death certificates may be filed and/or purchased. Presently, when the EDRS is utilized by the medical certifier and the funeral director, the death is recorded electronically. The EDRS generated certificate may be purchased at any local health or vital records department in the Commonwealth. If the certificate is filed as "drop to paper", it must be filed and/or purchased at the local health department where death occurred. VFDA would like to pursue legislation to allow the filing and/or purchase of ALL death certificates at any location, no matter where death occurs, within the Commonwealth.

If VFDA is to be successful in Richmond, we need your participation and cooperation in supplying data for our cause. In addition, we need you to reach out with the voice of the VFDA when communicating with your local legislator. Together we can succeed!

continued at right



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Come to Convention!

e are looking forward to seeing everyone at the 127th Annual Virginia Funeral Directors Association Convention in Roanoke, Virginia. The convention committee, sponsorships committee, Rob and Judy Finch and staff are hard at work to make this convention a great one.

We have many networking opportunities, golf outing, food and wine tour of downtown Roanoke and many more fabulous events planned for the entire family. This edition of the Bulletin is filled with convention information, exhibitor information and registration forms. We are pleased to announce that the exhibit hall is all under one roof, including vehicles this year. We are also offering a one-day "Super Sunday Blitz" where you can receive all of your required continuing education. We are also happy to be teaming up with the National Funeral Directors Association to offer the Certified Crematory Operators Training at the closing of our convention. Come out and celebrate with the VFDA in Roanoke this year, we guarantee a great time with friends and family!



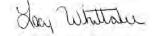
A very special thank you to all of our presenters and participants who came out this year to support the VFDA Traveling Caravans. We had another successful year of continuing education programs and closed out our season with 46 attendees in Chester, Virginia. We hope you will take advantage of these continuing education opportunities throughout the coming year.

Thank you to Rob and Judy Finch for their dedication and support of the Association this year. Rob's leadership has been outstanding and I could always call on him to answer questions or for advice. Thank you both for visiting our member funeral homes and connecting with our membership. I know that pulls you both away from family and work commitments, but truly does make a difference in our continued efforts to connect with members.

I truly hope you will join us in Roanoke this year for the 127th Annual Convention and I look forward to seeing you all in June!

Sincerely,

Lacy Whittaker



Rob Finch

½ 2015 VFDA Annual Convention

JUNE 14-17, 2015

The Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center



continued from previous page

My time as president has been an extremely positive experience for Judy and I and hopefully, for the Association. It will not be long now before we all meet at the Hotel Roanoke for the 2015 VFDA Annual Convention. It will then be my honor to hand the gavel over to my friend I. Ray Sloan of the Blue Ridge District. I feel extremely confident in knowing that Ray will follow me and provide the necessary leadership needed for VFDA in the coming year.

In closing, it has been my pleasure to work with our officers and board of directors over the past year. They have been supportive and worked diligently for the funeral homes and funeral directors of Virginia. I cannot thank them enough for their dedication and service. A special thanks to our executive director Lacy Whittaker for the

excellence she exhibits daily. Her dedication to improving the VFDA and her patience with me during my tenure as president and to our membership director Abbey Shepperson for her energy and positive attitude every day, both keep the VFDA moving forward.

I would be remiss if I did not thank the Southwest Funeral Directors Association for the opportunity to serve as president of VFDA this year. Although I am a member of Southside FDA, I have felt the warm support of the Southwest FDA this year and I thank them for the support they have provided me during this past year.

Stay the Course! Rob

APR|MAY|JUN 2015





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Devon & Jones Men's Full Zip Fleece Jacket Black with Khaki Embroidery \$40 now \$20



Harriton Ladies' Full Zip Fleece Jacket Charity Pink with White Embroidery \$30 now \$15



Inner Harbor Men's Full Zip Fleece Sleeveless Vest Navy Blue with Khaki Embroidery \$35 now \$17.50

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Firm:			
Name on C	Card:		
Signature:			

Welcome New VFDA Members

Firm Member:

Obaugh Funeral Home, Inc.

Affiliate Members:

ASD - Answering Service for Directors -Lauren Kress

Thacker Caskets, Inc. - Bob Lowcher

ABM Funding, Inc. - Scott Baker

Have You Seen the VFDA Resource Center Online?

isit http://www.vfda.net/resource-center/ to see a selection of helpful resources available to members of the Association.





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NFDA Certified Preplanning Consultant (CPC) Seminar & Exam August 20-21, 2015 • Ashland, Virginia

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The CPC Seminar is a mix of lecture and discussion that will help you prepare for the certification exam given the final morning. Upon application approval by NFDA, you will receive the CPC Standards Manual for study prior to attending the seminar.

Seminar Thursday, August 20: 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., with lunch & refreshments provided The seminar is approved for up to 8 CE hours by APFSP and licensing boards in most provinces.

Exam Friday, August 21: 8:30-10:45 a.m.

The certification exam is based on the *CPC Standards Manual*, studied in advance of seminar attendance. Topics include preplanning principles, the FTC Funeral Rule, meaningful ceremonies, ethics, customer service, contract standards, marketing, and funding options. There are 75 multiple-choice questions, with a 2-hour time limit.

Seminar location: Hampton Inn Ashland

705 England Street, Ashland, Virginia • Call 804-752-8444 • Room rates from \$125
Only 20 miles from Richmond International Airport and 2 miles from Amtrax Station
In the historic town of Ashland, the Hampton Inn is minutes from unique shopping options, a variety of locally owned restaurants, the James River Cellars Winery, and the Center of the Universe Brewing Co. The hotel provides a complimentary hot breakfast buffet and fitness center.

Seminar fee \$390 VFDA or NFDA Member or Non-Funeral Director \$575 Nonmember Funeral Director

U.S. Dollars on U.S. Bank. Fee includes lunch and refreshments, CPC Standards Manual, seminar presentation, exam and scoring, CE processing, certificate, and certification benefits.

The mission of the CPC Program is to promote professionalism and expertise in funeral preplanning by recognizing individuals who have met defined criteria and who have demonstrated their knowledge through a certification examination on preplanning standards as presented in the NFDA CPC Standards Manual.

Apply by July 30 - Advance study of CPC Standards Manual required

For eligibility requirements and an application NFDA 800-228-6332 • www.nfda.org/cpc

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VIRGINIA FUNERAL DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION

CELEBRANT TRAINING

April 26-28, 2015 Marriott Richmond West 4240 Dominion Boulevard, Glen Allen, Virginia 23060

VFDA Members \$650 Non-Members \$800 Students \$700 (limit to 5 student registrations)

Thank you to Morrissett Funeral & Cremation Service for providing a sponsorship toward this program so we are able to bring this to you at a lower cost. Thank You!

Register through the VFDA: Abbey Shepperson (804) 264-0505 or ashepperson@vfda.net

Schedule of Events

Sunday, April 26th 3:00 –9:00 p.m. (Dinner provided)

Monday, April 27th 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (Continental breakfast and lunch provided.

Dinner on your own. You will have homework!

Tuesday, April 28th 8:00 a.m.-Noon (Continental breakfast provided)

What to Bring

The dress is casual. This is an active, participant-driven training. We want you to be comfortable and ready to be a part.

We will provide a notebook and other materials. If you have a laptop computer, it is recommended (but not required) that you bring it for the funeral presentation work. We will have a printer available.

CEU Information for Funeral Directors

The Academy of Professional Funeral Service Practice: 17 hrs of attendance

State Funeral Service Board approval: Approved hours vary by state.

More Information

If you have questions about this particular training, contact VFDA, Abbey Shepperson, (804) 264-0505 or ashepperson@vfda.net

If you have questions about Celebrants in general, contact Glenda Stransbury at In-Sight Books: Glenda@insightbooks.com, (405) 810-9501 or (800) 658-9262

Emergency Cell Phone Numbers during week of training only

Glenda Stransbury (405) 550-7854

Doug Manning (405) 203-2906

VIRGINIA FUNERAL DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION

CELEBRANT TRAINING April 26-28, 2015 REGISTRATION FORM

Name:				
Firm:				
Address:				
City:		State:	Zip:	
Phone:		Fax:	Cell:	
E-mail:				
_	_\$650 VFDA	Members	\$800 Non-Members	\$700 Students
Payment:	Visa	MC	_ American Express	Discover
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Card Number:				
Expiration Date:			3-Digit Code:	
Signature:				

Cancellation Policy: Cancellations made prior to March 31, 2015 will receive a full refund.

Cancellations made between April 1-10, 2015 will receive 50% registration fee, cancellations made after April 10, 2015 are non-refundable.

Note: In-Sight Books, Inc. makes every effort to assure an adequate number of participants in order to hold the training session. However, this is not completely in our control. If we determine that it is not feasible to hold the session, based upon enrollment, we will contact you immediately.

Mail or fax your registration today to the VFDA office
P.O. Box 395
Hanover, Virginia 23069
Fax: (804) 264-3260
ashepperson@vfda.net

2015 VFDA Annual Convention



JUNE 14-17, 2015

The Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center



2015 VFDA CONVENTION SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Saturday, June 13, 2015

2:30 pm - 4:00 pm Board of Directors Meeting

Sunday, June 14, 2015

8:00 am - 2:00 pm Registration

9:00 am - 2:00 pm Super Sunday Continuing Education Blitz (5.0)

9:00 am - 4:00 pm Virginia Funeral Suppliers Sales Association Golf Outing, Ballyhack Golf Club

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Exhibitor Set-Up

6:30 pm - 8:00 pm Welcome Reception with VFDA President Rob Finch and First Lady Judy Finch

Monday, June 15, 2015

8:00 am - 2:00 pm Registration

8:00 am - 10:00 am "How Funeral Directors Can Become Invincible to Lawsuits and Save Thousands

in Taxes," G. Kent Mangelson, American Society for Asset Protection (2.0)

9:00 am - 2:00 pm Exhibitor Set-Up

10:30 am - 1:00 pm "Taste of Downtown Roanoke Food & Wine Tour" Family Excursion

12:15 pm - 1:15 pm Past President's Luncheon & Scholarship Presentation

2:30 pm - 3:30 pm Service of Remembrance, Rev. Alan Combs of Lane Memorial United

Methodist Church officiating

3:30 pm - 4:30 pm Service of Remembrance Reception

6:00 pm - 7:30 pm Exhibit Hall Grand Opening and Cocktail Social

3rd Annual Virginia Funeral Directors Association Foundation Silent Auction Opens

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

8:00 am - noon Registration

8:00 am - 9:00 am Virginia Funeral Suppliers Sales Associations Business Meeting

9:00 am - 10:30 am Annual Business Meeting, featuring motivational speaker Patrick Henry (1.0)

II:00 am - 2:00 pm Exhibit Hall Opens

3rd Annual Virginia Funeral Directors Association Foundation Silent Auction Opens

2:00 pm Silent Auction Closes (winners will be called at 2:30 pm)

6:30 pm - 9:00 pm Farewell Banquet and Installation of Officers, Entertainment provided by

Patrick Henry

Wednesday, June 17, 2015

7:30 am - 3:30 pm National Funeral Directors Associations Certified Crematory Operators Training

CONVENTION SOCIAL ACTIVITIES



Cocktails with the President

Please join Rob and Judy Finch for cocktails during the convention. Cocktails will be served in the presidential suite on Monday, June 15 from 9:00 p.m. - until. And on Tuesday, June 16 immediately following the banquet festivities. Room number will be announced during the social events each evening. Come relax, socialize and enjoy a cocktail with friends!

Exhibit Hall Grand Opening and Cocktail Social

The Grand Ballroom at the Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center will transform into a grand exhibit hall with rows of exhibitors and vehicles all in one location. Spend time with exhibitors while enjoying heavy hors d'oeuvres and an open bar. The exhibit hall will open with a ribbon cutting at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, June 15.





Farewell Banquet and Installation of Officers

Say farewell to the 127th Annual Convention on Tuesday evening as we honor President Rob Finch and welcome incoming President Ray Sloan. It will be held on Tuesday, June 17 from 6:30-9:00 p.m. Enjoy dinner with friends and family, help us welcome officers of our board, salute our profession's award winners and enjoy entertainment by former Nashville songwriter and current SiriusXM radio personality, Patrick Henry. Attire for the evening is semi-formal; we ask that men wear suits (jacket and tie) or tuxedos, ladies cocktail or formal dresses.

What To Wear Guide

All classes/ board/annual business meetings are business casual Welcome Reception with VFDA President is business casual Friends & Family Outing is casual attire/comfortable walking shoes Past President's Luncheon is business casual Service of Remembrance is business attire Exhibit Hall Grand Opening is business casual Farewell
Banquet
(Tuesday) is
Semi-formal/

THE HOTEL ROANOKE

Address: 110 Shenandoah Avenue Northwest, Roanoke, VA 24016

The sleeping room block for the 2015 Virginia Funeral Directors Association Convention is now open!

Standard room rates are \$159.00.

Room rates include complimentary internet connections in all sleeping rooms. Rates will be offered three (3) days before and three (3) days after the conference based on availability.

Toll free reservations: 866-594-HRCC (4722)

Mention the Virginia Funeral Directors Association when calling in your room reservation to receive the discounted room rate.

Group Max web link: aws.passkey.com/event/13372616/owner/9515698/home

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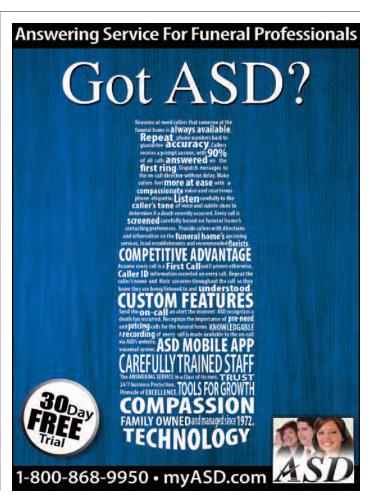
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VFDA Friends & Family Outing

Downtown Roanoke Food & Cultural Tour — Space is Limited. Reserve Your Spots Today



SCHEDULE

- I. Hotel Roanoke Welcome & Introduction
- 2. **Ist Tasting Stop** Wine & 'Southern Flair' Tasting Billy's
 - a.) Roanoke's Colorful Early Years
- 3. **Pedestrian Bridge** History & Architecture
- 4. **2nd Tasting Stop** Cedars Restaurant/Shishka Location
 - a. Lebanese Food & Wine Pairing
 - b. Roanoke's Amazing Lebanese History
- 5. Market Square History
- 6. 3rd Tasting Stop Metro Restaurant
 - a. Wine & Gourmet Cheese Board Tasting
- 7. Center in the Square 'Green' Rooftop
- 8. **Taubman Museum View** History & Architecture
- 9. Great View Photo Opp!
- 4th Tasting Stop Center in the Square 6th Floor Tasting Room
 - a. Wine Tasting with Owner of the 'Wine Gourmet 'Specialty Store & 'Farm to Table' Food Tasting
 - b. Dessert
- 11. Return to Hotel Roanoke

What?

Downtown Roanoke Food & Cultural Tour -

- Wine/Food Tastings
- Lunch
- 4 Wine Pairing Tasting Stops on Walking Tour

When?

Monday, June 15, 2015

Start Time: 11:00 a.m., approximately end time at 1:30 p.m.

What's your pick?

Option 1: Adult Wine & Food Tasting (4 Wine/ Food Tasting Stops)
Option 2: Adult Wine & Food Tasting (Food Tasting Only – No Wine; Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverage)

What to Wear?

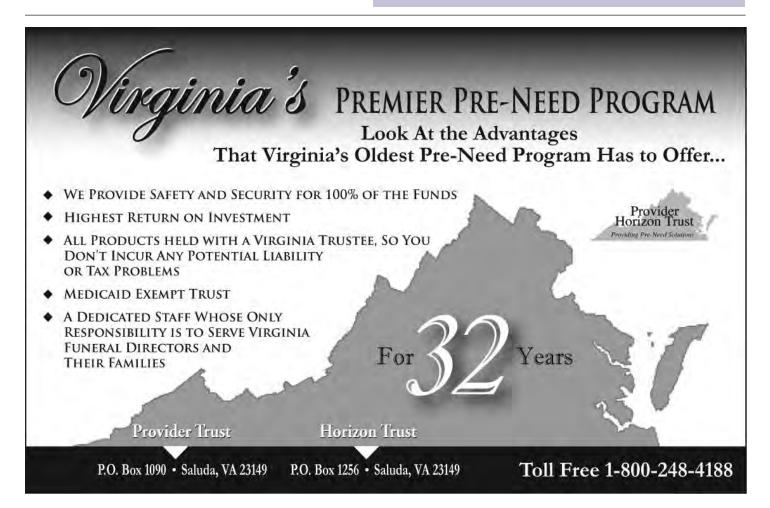
Casual Attire/Comfortable Walking Shoes

How Far is the Walk?

Level Surfaces, 1/2 Mile (All within a few blocks of Downtown). Begin & End at Hotel Roanoke

Accessibility?

Handicap Accessible, Elevators provided at all stops



Virginia Funeral Directors Association Super Sunday Education Blitz

Sunday, June 14, 2015



The Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center

110 Shenandoah Avenue Northwest, Roanoke, VA 24016

\$165 for VFDA members who are only attending the Super Sunday Education Blitz.

\$225 for non-VFDA members who are only attending the Super Sunday Education Blitz.

FREE to VFDA members who are registered at the full convention registration fee. Does not apply to one-day member registration fees.

FREE to non-VFDA members who are registered at the full nonmember convention registration fee. Does not apply to oneday non-member registration fees. **Schedule**

9:00 a.m. Restorative Art

10:00 a.m. Virginia Laws & Regulations

11:00 a.m. "Keeping the Family Business in the

Family" Business Succession, Estate

Planning and Wills & Trusts for

today's Funeral Director

Noon Do's & Don't of the EDRS/Q&A

Roundtable Discussion/ Working Lunch

1:00 p.m. Preneed

Presenters

Ted Castle, Castle Mortuary Transport

Lynne Helmick, Virginia Board of Funeral Directors and

Embalmers

Debbie L. DeWeerd, Regulatory Support Services

Janet Rainey, Office of Vital Records

Abe Zysman, Federated Insurance

Receive all required continuing education credits in one day (5 CEUs)

Mail to: VFDA P.O. Box 395

Hanover, Virginia 23069

Phone: 804-264-0505

Fax: 804-264-3260

E-mail: info@vfda.net



Please register in advance by mailing or faxing your registration to the VFDA office.

Virginia Funeral Directors Association Super Sunday Education Blitz

Sunday, June 14, 2015

REGISTRATION FORM

\$165 for VFDA members who are only attending the Super Sunday Education Blitz. \$225 for non-VFDA members who are only attending the Super Sunday Education Blitz. Free to VFDA members who are registered for the full convention registration fee (does not apply to one day registration fees). Free to non-VFDA members who are registered for the full non-member convention registration fee (does not apply to one day registration fees).

Name:			
Firm/Company Name:			
Address:			
City:	State:	Zip Code:	
Phone:		Fax:	
E-mail:			
Emergency Contact:			
PAYMENT:Visa	MC AMEX	DISCOVER	
Name on the Card:			
Card Number:			
Expiration Date:		3 Digit Code	
Signature :			

Please register in advance by mailing or faxing your registration to:

VFDA

P.O. Box 395

Hanover, Virginia 23069

Fax: (804) 264-3260

<u>E</u> 2015 VFDA Annual Convention





JUNE 14-17, 2015

The Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center

FIRM MEMBER REGISTRATION FORM

All participants (including spouses, children & guests) must wear name badges to all continuing education courses and optional events. All registrants attending the Monday's Friends & Family Outing and Tuesday night's Farewell Banquet must present tickets at the door before entry.

•	umber A tending	kt-Cost Per Person	Attendees / Spouses / Guests Name	Total cost
Firm Member (1st person from firm)	1	\$300		\$300
Each additional person from firm		\$200		\$
Spouse/Guest/Children (No CE Credits)		Free		Free
VFDA Associate/Individual Member		\$300		\$
VFDA Student Member		\$35		\$
One Day Registration Fee Circle day attending: Sun Mon Tue		\$140		\$
Exhibit Hall Pass (Tuesday Only) No CE Credits, No Lunch Option		\$25		\$
ADDITIONAL EVENTS FOR MEMBERS				
Friends & Family Outing - Monday		\$15		\$
Past Presidents Luncheon - Monday (Past VFDA Presidents Only)		Free		Free
Farewell Banquet - Tuesday		\$65		\$
			GRAND TOTAL	\$

ONLY MEMBERS WITH THEIR 2015 DUES PAID ARE ELIGIBLE FOR THE VFDA MEMBER RATE

Firm Name:	UVISA UMC AMEX UDiscover Expires:				
Address:	Card #: 3 or 4 digit code:				
P:	Name on Card:				
Email:	Signature:				
Emergency Contact Name:	Emergency Contact Number:				
Registration must accompany payment. Fax or mail this form and send payment to: VFDA, PO Box 395, Hanover, VA 23069 • Phone: (804) 264-0505 • E-mail: info@vfda.net • www.vfda.net					

Cancellation Policy: Full registration refunds will be given provided cancellation is received in writing via e-mail or mail by May 29, 2015. After that date, 50% registration refunds will be given providing cancellation is received in writing via e-mail or mail before June 9. No refunds will be given after June 9, 2015.



NFDA Certified Crematory Operator Program™ Seminar • Roanoke, Virginia

Host: Virginia Funeral Directors Association
Wednesday, June 17, 2015. Registration 7:30-8 a.m. ■ Seminar 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
Seminar location: Hotel Roanoke, 110 Shenandoah Avenue NW, Roanoke, Virginia 7 FD CE Hours*

Regist	tration Opt	ions		• Onlin	ne <u>www.n</u>	fda.org/cco • C	all 800.22	8.6332	• Fax	262.789.697	7
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Address							City				
State			100	ostal ode			Phone				
Email				•			Fax				
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2.											
Currently	cremator oper	ator?	☐ Yes	□ No	If no, what	is interest in program?					
3.									-1		
Currently	cremator oper	ator?	☐ Yes	□ No	If no, what	is interest in program?					
Method	of Payment		erican E eck paya		-	MasterCard Dillars on U.S. bank)	Visa			Total Due	
Name on	Card										
Account	Number							Expira	ation Date		
A	ed Signature							Today	's Date		

Registration confirmation and agenda will be emailed to you in advance of the NFDA CCO Seminar.

*Approved by APFSP and many state licensing boards. It is your responsibility as the registrant to verify the seminar is approved for CE in the state/s in which you are licensed. Certain states mandate that individuals must meet additional criteria to qualify and practice as certified crematory operators in those states; it is your responsibility to verify that you meet all requirements for crematory operator certification in your state. All events are subject to change.

Cancellation. Cancellation must be in writing and is subject to a \$50 cancellation fee OR application fee may be applied to another CCO seminar. Substitutions permitted for registered candidates only. NFDA reserves the right to cancel a seminar due to circumstances beyond its control. Should circumstances arise that result in the cancellation of a seminar, candidates will have the option to either receive a full refund or transfer to another CCO option. NFDA's liability for any cancellation is limited to a refund of the CCO application fee and shall not extend to any other claims including, but not limited to, travel expenses, cancellation fees, lost wages, inconvenience, and other related costs.

WEBFORM

CONVENTION SPEAKERS



Keynote Speaker Patrick Henry

Don't miss motivational speaker
Patrick Henry on
Tuesday, June 16,
2015 at the 127th
Annual Convention
in Roanoke,

Virginia! Patrick will also keep us laughing as he entertains us after the Tuesday evening Farewell banquet. As a former Nashville songwriter and current SiriusXM radio personality on The Family Comedy Channel and Blue Collar Radio, Patrick believes that the height of learning happens while we are being entertained...and so do the over one thousand meeting planners who have hired him. Patrick Henry is more than a motivational humorist, He is a performance keynote speaker and is obsessed with showing audiences how to create extraordinary engagement at home, at work, and in the community. The challenge in the marketplace is that customer loyalty is fragile. Products, services, and ideas are being differentiated based on price rather than value. Patrick shows how to create a value based customer relationship. He knows that if you can't create an emotional connection with your customers, clients, and coworkers, you're going to lose them. This will be a presentation to remember!



Ted Castle, Castle Mortuary Transport Ted Castle, owner and operator of Castle Mortuary Transport is a 1996 graduate of Gupton-Jones College of Funeral

Service in Atlanta, GA. Ted is licensed in Tennessee and Virginia as a Funeral Director and Embalmer. He has been in the mortuary transport business since 2003 and his previous experience included managing Castle Funeral Home in Bristol,

VA, which was established by his father. Ted currently sits on the VFDA Board of Directors and served as chaplain. He is past President of Southwest Virginia Funeral Directors Association.



Debbie L.
DeWeerd,
Regulatory Support
Services, Inc.
Debbie has 17+
years in health
sciences and regulatory experience. She
has 29+ years in

educational and professional development. She frequently presents at state and national consortiums. Her experience and activities include National Consortium for Math, Science, and Technology, State Board Continuing Education Advisory Committee, Regional Educational Service Center Wellness Committee, National Staff Development Council, Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development,

Central Virginia Funeral Directors Association

President:

L. C. Corey

Morrissett Funeral and Cremation Service, Chesterfield larrycorey@comcast.net

Vice President: Doni Kashinejad

Nelsen Funeral Home & Crematory various locations doni.kashinejad@sci-us.com

Secretary/Treasurer: Jim Dickerson

Bliley's Funeral Homes & Cremation Services, Richmond annnjim70@netzero.net



Maymont Gardens, Richmond

Installations in November.

Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday in January,

March, May, July, September and November.

Institute for Educational Management, Regional Educational Service Agency and the Michigan Leadership Institute.



Janet Rainey,
Director and State
Registrar for the
Division of Vital
Records at the
Virginia
Department of
Health

Janet Rainey is the or and State Registrar for the

Director and State Registrar for the Division of Vital Records at the Virginia Department of Health. She is a graduate of Smithdeal-Massey Business College. Ms. Rainey has 39 years of experience in the administration of the system of vital records. She is a member of the National Association for Public Health Statistics Information Systems (NAPHSIS), State Child Fatality Review Team and the Advisory Committee National Violent Death Reporting System.



Lynne Helmick, Department of Health Professions Lynne Helmick, works for the Department of Health Professions. She was appointed as the Deputy

Executive Director for three health professional boards, including the Board of Funeral Directors and Embalmers. on October 4, 2010. As Deputy Executive Director, she has responsibility for the licensure, disciplinary, and inspection processes of the boards. Prior to that, she was a Senior Inspector for the Department of Health Professions for eleven years. The duties of the job included conducting investigations for all the health professional boards under DHP and conducting inspections for the boards of Veterinary Medicine, Funeral Directors and Embalmers, and Pharmacy. Previously she worked for the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and

Developmental Services for six years; first as a Licensure Specialist and then as a Regional Manager in the Licensure Office. Before she moved to Virginia in 1992, she worked in the state and local mental health systems in Ohio for twenty years. Lynne has a Bachelor of Science in Social Work from West Virginia University and a Master of Public Administration from Kent State University.



Abe Zysman, J.D., LL.M, Federated Insurance and The Zysman Law Firm Avram H. (Abe) Zysman, a passionate and dedicated advocate for his clients, has

been helping families with their planning needs for over 15 years. After graduation from the New York Law School in 1997, Abe joined the Epstein, Becker & Green law firm in New York City, and worked

continued on page 22

Southside Funeral Director's Association

President:

Kevin Brown

Finch & Finch, Inc. Altavista kbrown51885@gmail.com

Vice President: Trey Finch

Finch & Finch, Inc. Altavista tfinch@finchandfinchfuneralservice.com

Secretary/Treasurer: Les Powell, III

Powell Funeral Home, South Boston lespowell111@gcronline.com



Altavista

Installations second Tuesday in May.

Meetings are quarterly and determined by district

with attorney Peter J. Strauss, a pioneer in elder law and one of the foremost estate planning attorneys in the country. Mr. Strauss was instrumental in nurturing Abe's curiosity and passion for the field of estate planning. After working in New York City for five years, Abe moved back home to Virginia, where he worked as an Associate for Ferris & Associates, P.C. a law firm specializing in estate, trust and business planning. Five years later, Abe and his family relocated to the Tidewater Virginia area, where he opened his own practice, The Zysman Law Firm, P.C. Abe received his J.D. from The New York Law School and a Master of Laws (LL.M.) in Estate Planning from the University of Miami School of Law. He happily calls Pikesville - a quaint neighborhood in Baltimore, Maryland - his home, where he resides with his wife, their son and two daughters.



G. Kent Mangelson, American Society for Asset Protection G. Kent Mangelson has over three decades of experience as a senior advisor with clients

in all fifty states. He teaches funeral directors how to become invincible to lawsuits and save thousands in taxes. He is author of several books including: Protect Your Assets, The Asset Protection Bible, America's Greatest Tax Secrets Revealed, and Estate Planning Made Easy. His career has been credited with saving clients over one hundred million dollars. He is one of the nation's top speakers and has shared the stage with U.S. Presidents Reagan, Ford, Clinton, and Bush as well as Zig Ziglar, Margaret Thatcher, Colin Powell, and Donald Trump.



Mike Watkins, CFSP, CCO, National Funeral Directors Association Guest speaker Michael J. Watkins, CFSP, CCO, is the senior vice president

of Operations for the National Funeral Directors Association. A licensed funeral director and embalmer, Mike has been involved in various capacities in funeral service for over 30 years. Prior to joining the NFDA staff in November 2009, he served as executive vice president of Palm Mortuary in Las Vegas, NV; executive director of Maximum Living Consultants in Birmingham, MI; and vice president of Operations for Carriage Services in Houston, TX. He has served on the NFDA Policy Board and NFDA Professional Conduct Committee and has been recognized by the Academy of Professional Funeral Service Practice as a Certified Funeral Service Practitioner.

Tidewater Funeral Directors Association Est. 1945

President: Christopher Wilson Hale Funeral Home, Norfolk chriswilson06@mac.com

1st Vice President: James Quinn H.D. Oliver Funeral Apts., Norfolk hdofh@aol.com

2nd Vice President: Danielle Fitchett-Mann Fitchett Funeral Home, Chesapeake dani23320@aol.com

Secretary: Jamie Karpa R. Hayden Smith Funeral Home, Hampton jamiekarpa@gmail.com

Treasurer: Bryan Graves
H.D. Oliver Funeral Apts., Norfolk
digger9822@aol.com or hdofh@aol.com



Norfolk Botanical Gardens

1st Year Director: Patricia Louis
Sterling Brook Funeral Home, Windsor eplouishorizon@msn.com

2nd Year Director: Robie Gardner Sturtevant Funeral Home, Suffolk

Meetings are held on the third Monday of the month except June, July, August & November

2015 VFDA Annual Convention

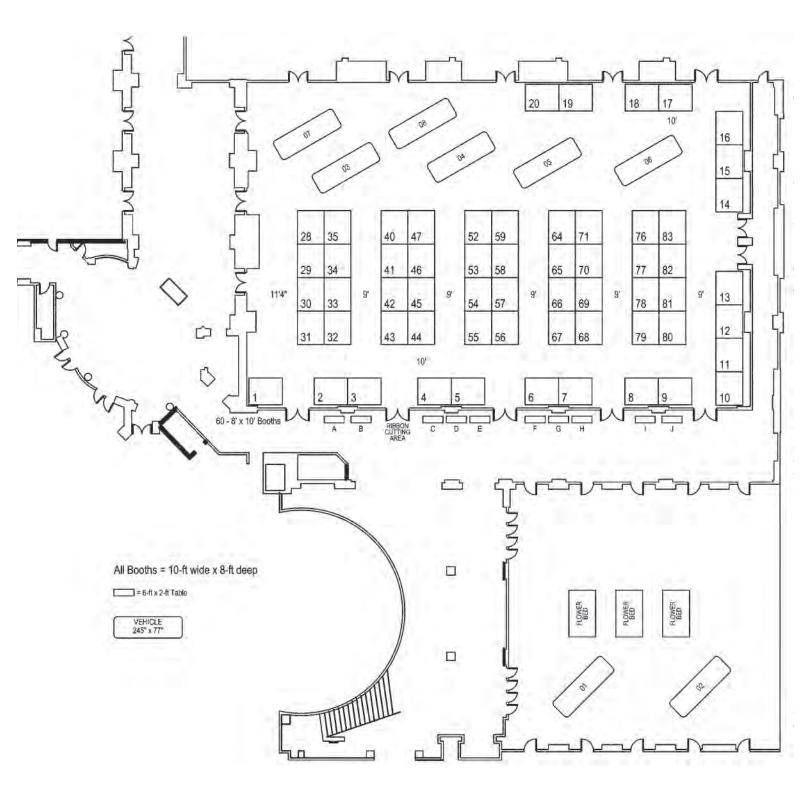




JUNE 14-17, 2015

The Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center

FLOOR PLAN



2015 VFDA Annual Convention



JUNE 14-17, 2015

The Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center

EXHIBITOR RULES

- 1. **VFDA** as used herein shall mean the Virginia Funeral Directors Association, Inc. or its officers or agents or employees acting for it in the management of the Exhibit.
- **2. Eligible Exhibits.** VFDA reserved the right to determine the eligibility of any company, individual or product for inclusion in the Exhibit as an exhibitor.
- 3. Limitation of Liability. The Exhibitor agrees to make no claim for any reason whatsoever, including negligence, against the Exhibit for the VFDA its members or agents or employees, for loss, theft, damage or destruction of merchandise, nor for any injury to himself or employee while in the Exhibit guarters.
- 4. Defacing the Building. Exhibitors are liable for any damage caused by fastening displays or fixtures to the building floors, walls, or to the standard booth equipment, or for damage caused in any other manner. Exhibitors may not apply paint, lacquer, adhesive or any other coating to building walls and floors or to standard booth equipment. Exhibitors agree to hold VFDA harmless for any claims for such damages including the payment of VFDA for reasonable attorney's fees incurred to defend against such claims.
- **5. Insurance.** Fire and theft insurance, if so desired must be taken out by each exhibitor at his own expense.
- 6. Exhibitor Representatives' Responsibility. Each exhibitor must name at least one person to be it representative in connection with installation, operation and removal of exhibit. Such representative shall be authorized to enter into such service contracts as may be necessary, and for which the Exhibitor shall be responsible.

- **7. Exhibit Hours.** The exhibit hours are shown on the agenda. Exhibitors will be required to comply strictly.
- 8. Shipment of Exhibit Material. Each exhibitor will receive a notice from the exhibiting company designated by the VFDA. This notice will include the prices for the rental of furniture, draperies, special construction, etc. The information will reach each signed exhibitor in ample time for advance planning of merchandise shipments.
- **9. Attendance.** Admission to the meetings and continuing education classes is included.
- **10. Cancellation of Exhibit Space.** If an Exhibitor cancels their contracted space after the deadline for full payment, the following is the refund policy.
 - a. A refund will only be considered if the VFDA has received full payment for the booth space.
 - b. If VFDA is able to re-sell said space up to 30 days prior to the Exhibitor move-in date, 25% of the payment would be refunded.
 - c. If cancellation is made with less than 30 days prior to the Exhibitor move-in date, or if space is not resold, there will be no refund.
- 11. Amendment to Rules. Any and all matters or questions not specifically covered by the preceding rules and regulations shall be subjected solely to the decision of the VFDA. These rule and regulations may be amended by the VFDA at any time by the VFDA and all amendments so made shall be binding on exhibitors equally with the foregoing rules and regulations.

<u>5</u> 2015 VFDA Annual Convention





JUNE 14-17, 2015

The Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center

APPLICATION FOR EXHIBIT SPACE

Return to: VFDA, P.O. Box 395, Hanover, VA 23069

BALANCE DUE: May 14, 2015	Deposit Received: \$	Amount Due: \$				
Important Notice: Please read and complete this form. Upon acceptance, a copy will be returned to each exhibitor and serve as the record for your reserved space.	by Abbey Sheppe	Virginia Funeral Directors Association, Inc. rson, Director of Membership				
		Signature:				
Exhibitor(s) Name (as appear on name badges	5):	Card holder's billing address/zip code:				
		Exp. Date:CCV Code:				
Indicate type of merchandise to be displayed:		Check One: MasterCard Visa AmEx Discover Credit Card Number:				
In case your first three choices are not availab if any about locating your exhibit near or remosimilar interest:		Fax:Name to Appear on Booth Sign:				
Will you need electricity in your booth?	Yes 🔲 No	Phone:				
3rd Booth Preference	at \$	E-mail:				
2nd Booth Preference	at \$	State: Zip:				
1st Booth Preference	at \$	City:				
Exhibitors who are not members of the VFL pay an additional 10% of total booth space	,	Contact Name:				
\$1,000 each vehicle space, 245"x77" (alinside the exhibit hall.	bout 20' x 6')	Company:				
\$500 for a table top 6'x2' table		deposits will not be refunded after May 14, 2015 and that acceptance of our application by VFDA shall constitute a contract.				
\$850 for an 8'x10' booth space		Regulations are a part of this agreement. It is understood that				
Kindly indicate your three (3) booth choices a official floor plan submitted by the VFDA. Each signage and draping. Exhibit hall is carpeted. Exhibit space is:	n booth comes with	I agree to pay 50% of the total rental charge either by check (made payable to the VFDA) or credit card. It is hereby agreed that the undersigned agrees to and will abide by the Rules and Regulations printed within this booklet and that those Rules and				

VFSSA GOLF TOURNAMENT

Sunday, June 14, 2015, 9:00 am Shotgun Start

Ballyhack Golf Club, a National Golf Club, 3609 Pitzer Rd., Roanoke, VA. 24014

he Vision of Ballyhack located in the heart of Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains, Ballyhack is a premier, private golf club and retreat for members and their guests from all reaches of the nation. The course at Ballyhack is nothing short of spectacular. The 190-acre 18-hole championship course is a

classic Scottish highland-type design incorporating the dramatic topography of the property. Featuring 50- to 70-foot elevation changes, fairways as wide as 150 yards, and old-style, gougedout, roughed-out bunkers the course will set new benchmarks in modern golf course design.



Join us for a unique golfing experience full of fun and excitement. You may bring your own foursome or be paired with others.

Southwest Funeral Directors Association

President:

Jamie Broadwater
Gate City Funeral Home,
Gate City

jamie@gatecityfuneral.com

Vice President: Adam Light

Matthews Caskets alight@matw.com

Secretary/Treasurer: P. Martin Hagy

Hagy & Fawbush Funeral Home, Inc., Norton info@hagyfawbush.com



Richlands

Meetings are held on the third Thursday in March, June, September and December

Installations in June

VFSSA GOLF TOURNAMENT

Golf Package including boxed lunch after first 9 holes: \$75

Mulligan Package: \$20 per golfer.

You get:

- 2 mulligans per golfer
- I "Sand Wedge Toss" per golfer
- 2 "Short Shots"- per golfer...shot from forward tees, one in front 9, one back 9,.. any hole

EXTRA BONUS BALL per foursome, whomever (foursome) has the ball at the end wins prize...and "YES", you must use it the entire round!! You can even alternate who uses it per hole.

Directions will be announced at event and on paper as well.

Ballyhack limits group amounts up to 50 golfers so sign up soon to reserve your spot.

Payment must be	received by	Monday, June	10, 2015
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Make check payable to: VFSSA, mail to Todd Dean 907 Richmond Rd., Staunton, VA 2440 I

Questions? Contact Todd Dean: 540-761-5717 or Richie Boudreau: 703-727-8759

Name(s):
.,
Number of golfers
Number of Mulligan Packages
Total amount of check \$

All proceeds from the mulligan packages will benefit the Comfort Zone Camp.

7201 Glen Forest Drive Suite 301, Richmond, VA 23226 Phone: (804) 377-3430

Northern Virginia Funeral Directors Association

President:

LaDonna Gilbert

National Funeral Home, Falls Church ladonna.gilbert@dignitymemorial.com

Vice President: Robyn Short

Fairfax Memorial Funeral Home, Fairfax rshort@fmfh.com

Secretary/Treasurer: Valarie Armstrong

Advent Funeral Home, Falls Church varmstrong@adventfuneral.com



Morrison House, Alexandria

Meetings are held on the first Wednesday in March, June, September and December.

Installation-June

SILENT AUCTION

To recognize the generosity and support of our donors, we'd like to display business information for all of our donors near the items and services they donate. To help us support you, please be sure to include business cards and/or brochures that we can use to promote you and your donation and have them to us by May 1, 2015.

Thank you for your support!

Would you be willing to donate an item of \$100 or more (items to go in a package and/or monetary donation) for our auction?

n June 14-17, 2015, the Virginia Funeral Directors Association Foundation will hold its 3rd Annual Virginia Funeral Directors Association Foundation Silent Auction during the 127th Annual Virginia Funeral Directors Association convention at The Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center.

We're currently collecting merchandise and services for our event and I'm writing to request your support. By making a package and/or monetary donations to the silent auction, you'd be making a tax-deductible contribution that will help the Virginia Funeral Directors Association Foundation continue its mission of engaging business and community partners in the support of professionals and students currently in or entering the funeral service profession through education, advocacy and leadership development.

By doing this, the VFDAF will help to eliminate barriers to opportunities by helping people to reach their fullest potential. You will also gain valuable exposure at our convention. Last year's silent auction brought in over \$3,500 and over 200 attendees bid on auction items.

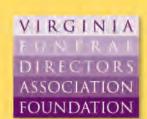
The Foundation is a non-profit organization formed to support professionals and students currently in or entering the funeral service profession through education, advocacy and leadership development. The Foundation is committed to helping students finish their education in the funeral service profession and support their continued leadership development. This is our third annual silent auction and we are depending on members like you to help support this year's auction and its continued success in future years.

Sincerely,

Joseph W. Teague

Chairman
Virginia Funeral Directors Association
Foundation

DONATION FORM



AUCTION AUCTION

127[™] ANNUAL CONVENTION

June 14-17, 2015 The Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center

일본 마이어나는 얼마를 걸하면서 어떻게 되었다.	tre and personal donations are permissible.				
These contributions are in support of the VFDA Foundation and are tax deductible.					
Detailed description of item (blease be specific):				
-					
Brand and Model # (if applica	ble)				
Retail price or market value: \$					
Our item will be:					
☐ Picked up by VFDA Repre	sentative (Before June 8, 2015)				
Delivered to VFDA (Before	June 1, 2015)				
Sent to Winner Once Avai (VFDA will create certificate.	lable s with your contact information for the winner)				
Type of Donation: Compa	ny Personal				
Name:					
	State:Zip:				
Phone:	Fax:				
Email:					

Please fax form by June 1, 2015. Items need to be to the VFDA office before June 8, please.
P.O. Box 395, Hanover, Virginia 23069

Phone: (804) 264-0505 Fax: (804) 264-3260 lwhittaker@vfda.net

2015 VFDA AWARDS PROGRAM

he purpose of the VFDA Awards Program is to recognize those who perform above and beyond the call of professional duty.

The VFDA wants to identify these individuals, to honor them publicly and to express appreciation and gratitude for their exemplary efforts. Please read each nomination form to determine if you or someone in your firm or district may qualify for an award.

Nomination forms will be reviewed and the recipient of the award will be determined by the Executive Committee of the Virginia Funeral Directors Association Board of Directors.

Award recipients and their guests must be registered for the Farewell Banquet installation of officers and awards ceremony on Tuesday, June 16, 2015 at convention.

Deadline to receive nominations is May 25, 2015.

2015 AWARDS PROGRAM

Golden Licensee Award

NOMINATION FORM

The Virginia Funeral Directors Association, Inc. will honor those individuals who have contributed fifty, fifty-five, sixty, sixty-five, seventy or more years of service to the funeral service profession. These individuals have actively participated in charting

the course for our future, and have contributed greatly to our history and tradition. These individuals are association members in good standing. If you, or someone you know is eligible for this award, please complete and return a copy of this form to VFDA.

I hereby certify that the person listed below to the best of my knowledge is eligible to receive the Virginia Funeral Directors Association, Inc. – Golden Licensee Award:

Please check of □ 50 years		☐ 60 years	☐ 65 years	☐ 70 years	☐ 75 or more		
Name of Golder	n Licensee:						
Date of Licensur	re:		Schoo	Attended:			
Firm:	Firm:						
Address:	Address: City, State, Zip:						
Phone: Fax:							
E-mail: Nominated by (Name):							
Number of Guest(s) Attending Awards Ceremony:							

Return form to: VFDA, P.O. Box 395, Hanover, VA 23069 • Deadline to receive nominations is May 25, 2015

Funeral Director of the Year

NOMINATION FORM

A special award bestowed upon a VFDA member. The Funeral Director of the Year is recognized for his or her professional skills and talents displayed through involvement at the local, state and national level. This award is an honor, above all others, presented to the funeral licensee by his or her peers, citing expert leadership and professional integrity displayed within the funeral service profession.

The nominee should be a funeral licensee and an association member in good standing who has served within VFDA in various capacities, and has not received the award in the past 10 years. The individual should have displayed a dedicated spirit, in the name of funeral service, for the collective good of the VFDA Membership and possess forethought for the Associations' future advancement.

Name of Nominee: Firm: Address: City, State, Zip: Phone:	committee work, seminar activity, special assignments, legislative affairs, convention participation.
Fax:E-mail:	
Number of Guest(s) Attending Awards Ceremony:	•
Achievements and Contributions:	tive affairs, convention participation.
A. Spirit of Service: (20%) Faithfulness to principles of service, funeral law and regulations and the Code of Ethics. Efforts to encourage good practice among other funeral direc-	
tors, other members of the profession, time spent with the press	Present Business Affiliation:
and the general public, explaining all aspects of the Funeral	Firm:
Service Profession.	When Firm Founded:
	How Long Affiliated With Firm:
	Date of Licensure:
B. Activity in Civic Affairs: (25%) Local, state and national participation in civic, community service, religious, charitable, volunteer, fraternal, or political groups.	Other Comments:
	Nominated by (Name):
C. Activity in District Associations: (20%) Membership,	Firm:Address:
offices held, seminar activity, special assignments, etc.	City, State, Zip:
	Phone:
	Fax:
	E-mail:

Return form to: VFDA, P.O. Box 395, Hanover, VA 23069 • Deadline to receive nominations is May 25, 2015

Please return to the VFDA office before Friday, May 29, 2015. Virginia Funeral Directors Association, P.O. Box 395, Hanover, Virginia 23069

Virginia Funeral Supply Sales Association

President: **JEB Cranford**

Triangle Atlantic Casket Company jeb@triangleatlantic.com

1st Vice President: Cliff Blasius, Jr.

SinoSource ccblasius@verizon.net

2nd Vice President: Richie Boudreau

Warfield-Rohr Casket Co., Inc. rs2b1@msn.com

Secretary/Treasurer: Lori A. Eanes

C&L Containers lorianneanes@yahoo.com



Meeting and Installation held in June during annual convention.

We Guarantee 30% savings and have saved customers as much as 50%





WWW.SECUREDMEDWASTE.COM 1-877-861-8970

- No Monthly Standard Fees "Only pay for the services that we provide"
- No Long Term Contracts 12 or 24 Month, You Decide "we don't trick customers into signing ridiculous contracts for services like the larger provider"
- Easy "No Hassle" Transition. We have helped thousands of customers make the switch.
- Flexible Service Options... weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, quarterly "YOU PICK"
- Per box "Flat-Rate" Pricing no additional or hidden fees! HAVE YOU REVIEWED YOUR CURRENT INVOICE FOR SERVICES LATELY?
- It's as easy as 1 2 3.... Contact us, Select Service, Schedule Pickup
- Multi Box Discounts
- Local and Family owned "you're talking to the owners when you call"
- Courteous and Professional Service we'll even assist in the packaging of your box if not ready

Why Pay More? Call us now!!!

Thank You,

Jim Hitt, President



2015 Past Presidents Council Scholarship Application



VFDA is offering college scholarships to future funeral directors and those in the funeral profession. Scholarship(s) will be awarded each year based on the amount previously approved by the Past Presidents Council. Applicants will receive consideration without discrimination of race, creed, color, sex, age, marital status, national origin or handicap. Tell your friends! Apply today!

Qualifications for the Scholarship:

- 1. Virginia resident.
- 2. Employed and endorsed by a VFDA member firm in good standing.
- 3. Explanation of financial need and supporting documents.
- 4. 2.0 grade point average (on 4.0 scale)

- 6. Written essay with the theme: "Why I Chose Funeral Service as My Profession." No less than 1,000 words and not to exceed 2,500 words. Essays must be typewritten, double spaced, with one-inch margins. Essays containing excessive spelling, punctuation or grammatical errors will be disqualified.
- All applications/essays must be postmarked by May 25, 2015. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.
- 8. Scholarships will be awarded at the sole discretion of the Scholarship Committee of the Board of Trustees of the Virginia Funeral Directors Association Foundation based on the evaluation of the above named items. All scholarships awards will be paid directly to the college where enrolled.

Name	Employment:
Address	
City, State, Zip	
Firm	
Endorsement Signature	Duties Performed
Phone	
Fax	
Email	
College(s) Attended:	Current Extracurricular Activities:
(1) Name of Institution	
Address	
City, State, Zip	
Semester/Quarter Hours Completed	
DegreeYea	
(2) 27	Special Skills and/or Hobbies:
(2) Name of Institution	
Address	
City, State, Zip	
Semester/Quarter Hours Completed	
DegreeYea	r
Current College Matriculation:	I certify that to the best of my knowledge the information contained in this application is correct and complete. It is my intention to continue my
Name of Institution	Mortuary College Education and to enter the field of Funeral Service upon
Address	successful completion of professional education, examination and licensure.
City, State, Zip	
Semester/Quarter Hours Completed	Signed
Cumulative Grade Point Average	Dated
-	Witnessed (Employer)

Mail or email this form, explanation of financial need, and required essay to: VFDA, P.O. Box 395, Hanover, Virginia 23069 P (804) 264-0505 • F (804) 264-3260 • E-mail: info@vfda.net

Value-Added Benefits With Optima Health Association Plans

If you are a dues-paying member of **Virginia Funeral Directors Association** and have between 51 and 99 employees - you are eligible to receive Optima Health value-added* benefits for your employees and their families.

What are the value-added benefits?

Groups** receive these value-added benefits at no additional cost to the member when received from an in-network provider:

- \$5 reduction for Primary Care Provider (PCP) and behavioral health Copayments (unlimited), offered on all Copayment Association plans
- \$5 reduction for Specialist visit Copayments (unlimited), offered on specific Association plans
- \$50 reduction for Outpatient Surgery copays (unlimited), offered on specific Association plans
- Three (3) Additional Employee Assistance Program (EAP) Sessions, offered on all Association plans

What is the cost?

There are no additional premiums for these value-added benefits. Once your company is insured by Optima Health at the determined premium level, indicate you are a member of **Virginia Virginia Funeral Directors Association** and these value-added benefits will be included in your plan at no additional premium cost.

What if we already offer Optima Health plans?

If you already offer an Optima Health plan, you can add these benefits to your plan at renewal at no additional cost. Contact your local agent for more information.

What if I don't have two or more employees and still need coverage?

Optima Health can also meet your unique needs with Optima Individual health plans. To get a free quote, apply online or to get more information, please see the contact information below.

How do I get more information? Contact your current agent or

Robert Kelly, Independent Contracted Agent

804-931-6646, robert.kelly@hbwinc.com

For additional information, please contact Suzanne Stewart with Optima Health at (804) 510-7433 or visit www.optimahealth.com/associations

* Value-added refers to an enhanced benefit design compared to non-Association group plans.

** Groups in the Association program are individually underwritten.

Optima Health 8

Optima Health is the trade name of Optima Health plan and Optima Health Insurance Company. All Optima Health plans have benefit exclusions and limitations and terms under which policy may be continued in force or discontinued. For cost and complete details of coverage, please contact Optima Health or visit optimahealth.com

Health Reform Questions? Visit www.optimahealth.com/healthreform

2015 VFDA Annual Convention





JUNE 14-17, 2015

The Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center

BECOME A SPONSOR!

Dear Valued Partner:

Greetings from the Virginia Funeral Directors Association (VFDA)! We hope you will join us at the VFDA's 2015 Convention at the Roanoke Hotel & Conference Center this summer. Enclosed is the sponsorship information and a convention schedule of events. This year's convention consist of numerous networking opportunities, an exhibit hall and continuing education programs with dynamic speakers.

Please be sure to take a look at the convention schedule. Additional information will be mailed leading up to the convention. We hope you will be able to attend and experience this year's exciting convention.

We are offering two types of sponsorships this year, an opportunity to sponsor events/activities or convention supporter levels. This will give individuals a chance to sponsor regardless of the amount available in their budget.

We also encourage multiple sponsorships for each event.

Don't miss the fun and professional development opportunities – participate in the VFDA 127th Annual Convention at the Roanoke Hotel & Convention Center on Sunday, June 14- Wednesday, June 17, 2015.

Our website will be updated with the latest sponsorship, exhibitor information and floor plan assignments. We hope you will join us for what promises to be a fantastic 2015 convention! Visit: www.vfda.net and click on "Convention" for the latest details, and please let us know your e-mail address so we can share updates with you as the convention dates approach.

Sincerely,
Lacy S. Whittaker
Executive Director

Hary Whittalu

½ 2015 VFDA Annual Convention





JUNE 14-17, 2015

The Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center

SPONSORSHIP SOLICITATION

DATE	ACTIVITY	SPONSOR
MONDAY, JUNE 15	OPENING RECEPTION WITH EXHIBITORS	\$10,000
	"TASTE OF ROANOKE" FAMILY OUTING	\$3,000
TUESDAY, JUNE 16	EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS - ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING WITH MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER . Includes signage, website recognition, Bulletin recognition, acknowledgement in convention program	\$5,000
	FAREWELL BANQUET/INSTALLATION	\$5,000
CONVENTION SUPPORTERS	DIAMOND SPONSORSHIP PLATINUM SPONSORSHIP GOLD SPONSORSHIP SILVER SPONSORSHIP Includes signage, website recognition, Bulletin recognition, acknowledgement in convention program	\$5,000 - \$9,999 \$1,000 - \$4,999

SPONSORSHIPS TO DATE as of March 9, 2015

Federated Insurance	Past Presidents Luncheon
SCI	Service of Remembrance - Reception
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National Funeral Directors Association	Gold Sponsor
Southwest Virginia Funeral Directors Association	President's Welcome Reception

For more information or to become a sponsor contact the VFDA office at (804) 264-0505.

2015 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Association, (VFDA), adopted a 2015 Legislative Agenda. The items decided upon were:

- 1. Physicians Timely Signing of Death Certificates: Reiterate Penalties for Failure to Comply; and
- 2. Require "Manager of Record" for Transportation Companies, both patroned by Delegate Ron Villanueva; and
- 3. Technical changes to 2014 GA Session "unclaimed" legislation patroned by Senator K. Alexander. VFDA also monitored legislation that we did not proactively pursue, but might directly impact the funeral director industry.

Our proactive legislation was mostly successful, even the "timely signing" legislation (which did not pass), as it brought the issue to the attention of many members of the General Assembly.

This will serve us well moving forward on issues of utmost importance to VFDA. Additionally, it evoked commitment from Ann Hughes, internal government rela-



tions person for Medical Society of Virginia (MSV) and Scott Johnson, the MSV external government relations person, to work with VFDA to encourage physicians to enroll in the Electronic Death Registry System (EDRS) that debuted last October. They have also committed to working with VFDA to help educate physicians who have chronic issues with timely signing of death certificates. Several pieces of legislation were followed during this General Assembly Session. The table at right shows the bills and status of the legislation.

Blue Ridge Funeral Directors Association

President:

Jonathan Arritt

Arritt Funeral Home, Covington arrittfh@aol.com

Vice President: Tony Mullins

Vaughn-Guynn-McGrady Funeral Home, Hillsville ttbn@embarqmail.com

Secretary/Treasurer: Megan Conner

Lotz Funeral Home, Salem Megan.Conner@carriageservices.com



Narrows

Meetings are held on the third Tuesday in January, March, May, July, and September

Installations in July

Bills	Committee	Last action	Date
HB 1432 - Cole - Health care providers; regulation, prohibited acts, Class 1 misdemeanor.	(H) Committee for Courts of Justice	(H) Left in Courts of Justice DEAD	02/10/15
HB 1435 - O'Bannon - Physician assistants and nurse practitioners; appointment as medical examiners.	(H) Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions(S) Committee on Education and Health	(G) Governor's Action Deadline Midnight, March 30, 2015 SUPPORTED – PASSED; AWAITING SIGNATURE OF GOVERNOR	02/23/15
HB 1607 - Garrett - Medicolegal death investigators; Chief Medical Examiner authorized to appoint.	(H) Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions (S) Committee on Education and Health	(G) Governor's Action Deadline Midnight, March 30, 2015 SUPPORTED – PASSED; AWAITING SIGNATURE OF GOVERNOR	02/23/15
HB 1802 - Villanueva - Certification of death; signing medical form, if not in timely manner Class 1 misdemeanor.	(H) Committee for Courts of Justice	(H) Left in Courts of Justice VFDA PROPOSED LEGISLATION — DEAD	02/10/15
HB 1803 - Villanueva - Surface transportation and removal service; registration, manager of record.	(H) Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions (S) Committee on Education and Health	(G) Governor's Action Deadline Midnight, March 30, 2015 VFDA PROPOSED LEGISLATION - PASSED; AWAITING SIGNATURE OF GOVERNOR	02/23/15
HB 1963 - O'Bannon - Health Professions, Department of; disclosure of confidential information.	(H) Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions (S) Committee on Education and Health	(G) Governor's Action Deadline Midnight, March 30, 2015 SUPPORTED – PASSED; AWAITING SIGNATURE OF GOVERNOR	02/23/15
HB 2123 - Head - Funeral services; practice does not include sale of caskets.	(H) Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions	(H) Left in Health, Welfare and Institutions OPPOSED – DEAD	02/11/15
SB 864 - Chafin - Cemeteries; access when located on private property.	(S) Committee on General Laws and Technology	(S) Stricken at request of Patron in General Laws and Technology (15-Y 0-N) SUPPORTED — DEAD	01/26/15
SB 895 - Alexander - Funeral Directors and Embalmers, Board of; clarifies definition of embalming.	(H) Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions (S) Committee on Education and Health	(G) Governor's Action Deadline Midnight, March 30, 2015 SUPPORTED – PASSED; AWAITING SIGNATURE OF GOVERNOR	02/23/15
SB 951 - Alexander - Disposition of dead bodies.	(H) Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions (S) Committee on Education and Health	(G) Governor's Action Deadline Midnight, March 30, 2015 VFDA PROPOSED LEGISLATION — PASSED; AWAITING SIGNATURE OF GOVERNOR	02/26/15
SB 1106 - Alexander - Veterans; unclaimed cremains.	(H) Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions (S) Committee on General Laws and Technology	(G) Governor's Action Deadline Midnight, March 30, 2015 SUPPORTED – PASSED; AWAITING SIGNATURE OF GOVERNOR	02/23/15
SB 1434 - Hanger - Dead bodies; disposition, identification of decedent.	(H) Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions (S) Committee on Education and Health	(G) Governor's Action Deadline Midnight, March 30, 2015 SUPPORTED – PASSED; AWAITING SIGNATURE OF GOVERNOR	02/26/15

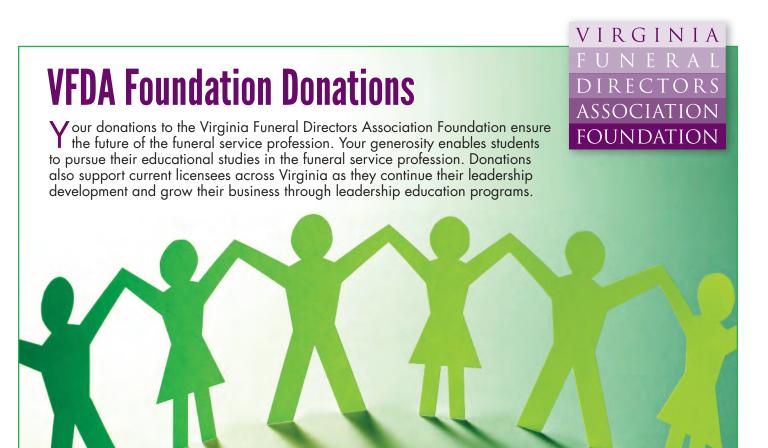
VFDA members who live in the districts of the legislators mentioned in the table above should contact those patrons to let them know you appreciate their interest in our industry and set an expectation (for example: "...we look forward to talking to you later this year about some of our issues...") that VFDA will be reaching out to them later this year on other important matters to the VFDA. It is especially important to let our patrons know we appreciate their efforts on VFDA's behalf. Handwritten notes, emails and calls will be appreciated reminders of our gratitude.



Senator Kenny Alexander District05@Senate.Virginia.gov 120 West Berkley Avenue Norfolk, VA 23523 (757) 223-1333



Delegate Ron Villanueva DelRVillanueva@House.Virginia.gov P. O. Box 61005 Virginia Beach, VA 23466 (757) 216-3883



Shenandoah Valley Funeral Director's Association

To donate to the VFDA Foundation, visit www.vfda.net/the-foundation

President:

Charlie Rimel

Henry Funeral Home, Staunton svfda00@gmail.com

Vice President:

Vacant

Secretary/Treasurer: Daniel Chapman

Johnson Funeral Service, Bridgewater dchapmanp@gmail.com



Buena Vista

Meetings are held on the third Thursday in January, March, May, September and November.

Installations third Thursday in May.

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PUBLICATION

ADS DUE

The Bulletin Magazine Jul|Aug|Sep 7/10/15
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ASSOCIATION NEWS



In Remembrance January 24, 2015 - February 12, 2015

Helen J. "Sloanie" Green January 24, 2015, Southside District Jacob Carpenter "Jerry" Pence III January 26, 2015, Shenandoah District William Arlington "Billy" Hite, Jr. February 12, 2015, Southside District

2015-16 Calendar of Events (Subject to Change)

April 14, 2015 Virginia Board of Funeral Directors and **Embalmers Meeting April 17 - 24, 2015** VFDA International Trip, Tuscany & the Italian Riviera **April 26 - 28, 2015** Celebrant Training 127th Annual VFDA Convention, The Hotel Roanoke & June 14 - 17, 2015 Conference Center June 17, 2015 NFDA Certified Crematory Operators Training Hotel Roanoke NFDA Leadership Conference at Disney's Grand Floridian Hotel July 12 - 15, 2015 July 14, 2015 Virginia Board of Funeral Directors and Embalmers Meeting 2015 CPC Seminar August 20 - 21, 2015

October 2, 2015

Virginia Board of Funeral Directors and Embalmers Meeting

NFDA International Convention, Indianapolis, Indiana

June 18 - 22, 2016

Virginia Board of Funeral Directors and Embalmers Meeting

NFDA International Convention, Indianapolis, Indiana

128th Annual VFDA Convention, Renaissance Portsmouth Hotel & Waterfront

June 18 - 22, 2016

128th Annual VFDA Convention, Renaissance Portsmouth Hotel & Waterfront

129th Annual VFDA Convention, Williamsburg Lodge, Williamsburg, Virginia

June 9 - 12, 2018 130th Annual VFDA Convention, Boar's Head, Charlottesville, Virginia

Conference Center