

## VAAE Summer Conference Schedule 2017

|                           | AM   | Lunch   | PM   | Evening  |
|---------------------------|--|---|--|--|
| <b>Monday<br/>7-17</b>    | 9:00-3:00 Registration<br>10:00-3:00 Optional Workshops <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Microsoft IT Academy</li> <li>• Cybersecurity</li> <li>• GIW Workshop</li> </ul>  | Lunch on your own   | 3:00-4:30 General Session I <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• VA FFA Update</li> <li>• National FFA Update</li> </ul> 4:30-5:00 BREAK/Vendors<br><br>5:00-Until Area Meetings   | Dinner on your own   |
| <b>Tuesday<br/>7-18</b>   | Breakfast on your own<br><br>8:30-10:30 Workshop Session I <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Realityworks - Diane Ross</li> <li>• Envirothon - Beth Beran, VASWCD</li> <li>• Student Leadership - Zach Wakeman</li> <li>• Communities of Practice - Julie Fritsch, NAAE</li> <li>• Drones - Dan Swafford</li> </ul> 10:30-11:00 Vendors | 11:00-1:00 Working/Lunch<br>General Session II <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• VDOE Update<br/>LaVeta Nutter (Introduction of Dr. Tricia S. Jacobs)</li> <li>• VT Update<br/>Matt Spindler</li> <li>• VSU Update<br/>TBD</li> <li>• VACTE Update<br/>Brandon Monk</li> </ul> | 1:00-3:00 Workshop Session II <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reality Works - Diane Ross</li> <li>• Navigating the FFA Website<br/>Karen Hutchison</li> <li>• Engage your students in authentic scientific investigations - Suzie Gilley</li> <li>• Food Safety Detectives<br/>Dr. Laura Strawn &amp; Rachel Pfuntner</li> <li>• Ag. Mechanics-Lab Maintenance<br/>Dr. Preston Byrd</li> <li>• Lincoln Welding - Kyle Drummer</li> </ul> 3:15-4:15 Workshop Session III (Roundtable Discussions/Idea sharing) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agribusiness Systems</li> <li>• Animal Systems</li> <li>• Plant Systems</li> <li>• Power Systems</li> <li>• Natural Resource Systems</li> <li>• Food Products and Processing</li> <li>• Middle School</li> </ul> | 6:00 - Until<br>Casual Picnic at the Oyster Farm with music and cornhole |
| <b>Wednesday<br/>7-19</b> | 7:45-1:30 Offsite Workshops with boxed lunches provided  |   | 2:00-4:00 Workshop Session IV <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The AET - Brandon Monk</li> <li>• Using Google - Laurel Bishop</li> <li>• Turf - Marc Moran</li> <li>• New Agriscience Fair Categories - Andy Seibel</li> <li>• FFA Alumni and YFV - Ron Byrd and Mark Milby</li> </ul>   | 6:30 - Until<br>Banquet at the Oyster Farm                               |
| <b>Thursday<br/>7-20</b>  | 8:00-10:00 VAAE Breakfast/Conference Survey/Closing  | Travel home!  |  |  |

## **Workshop Descriptions**

**Monday 7/17**

**10:00 - 3:00**

### **Microsoft Imagine Academy, VDOE**

- The Microsoft Imagine Academy (MSIA) provides both teachers and students with technology tools, training and skills to obtain Microsoft certifications. Please join us for this session that will introduce you to the Imagine Academy benefits, the new member site, GMetrix practice test software and ways to implement these technology resources into agriculture education classes. In addition, tips and tricks will be given on using various Microsoft technologies in your classroom.

### **Cyber Security Training, VDOE – Dr. Gardner**

- “Cyber” is around us in our daily lives and in our daily line of work. Explore the importance of cybersecurity in agriculture as more and more farmers are relying on data, with satellite-guided equipment, and are seeing algorithm-driven planting services across the US Farm Belt. During this session, the National Integrated Cyber Education Research Center (NICERC), the academic division of the Cyber Innovation Center, through a project driven approach, will guide teachers through the opportunities, threats, responsibilities and legal constraints associated with operating in cyberspace. Teachers will receive free, cyber curricula that can be integrated into the classroom.

*Dr. Gardner is the Director of Curriculum at the National Integrated Cyber Education Research Center (NICERC), in Bossier City, LA. He received his BS from the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy and his MBA and Ed.D from the University of Phoenix. After ten years in the maritime industry and ten years in the classroom, Dr. Gardner now oversees the creation of academic content and workforce development initiatives that allow elementary, middle, and high school students the opportunity to relate STEM and cyber content to all subjects including the humanities and liberal arts in a project-driven, hands-on setting.*

### **GIW Workshops with Certifications offered in Urban Forestry and Landscape - Fred Kapp**

- This workshop will cover some of the content and resources including web-based testing, videos, and study guides. Once teachers gain the certification, we support their effort to credential their students. These Career Readiness Indicators are endorsed by the national Professional Grounds Management Society, Auburn University at Montgomery, many employers, associations and government entities.

**Tuesday 7/18**

**8:30 -10:30**

### **Reality Works-Diane Ross**

- Creating Student Engagement Through Experiential Learning Tools  
Engage your students with hands-on agriculture learning aids, simulation technologies to further student understanding, create an interactive classroom and address career path exploration. In this session you will experience “best practices” that focus on involving your students in lessons through hands-on activities and interact with new agricultural products from Realityworks.

### **Envirothon - A session for Newbies and Pros! - Beth Beran**

- Participants in this session will gain an overview of the program as well as pointers on how to create or expand an Envirothon team at your school. This session will include a mock competition and time for open discussion on ways to utilize Envirothon curriculum in your classroom. Seasoned Envirothon coaches will also have an opportunity to provide input on ways Virginia can improve resources and logistics of the Envirothon program at the local, regional, and statewide level. Anyone currently involved with the program or interested in becoming involved are encouraged to attend.

### **Student Leadership - Putting DIY to rest - Zach Wakeman**

- Are you tired of feeling like you, the chapter advisor, are doing everything humanly possible to keep the FFA chapter afloat? Are you questioning what happened to true student leadership? If you answered yes to either or both of these questions, come hang out with us and discover some tips on how your program could revitalize student leadership while putting the "do it yourself" days behind you! This experience will incorporate thoughts from student leaders about what gets them motivated to serve and take the lead.

### **Communities of Practice (CoP) - Julie Fritsch, NAAE**

- Participants in this workshop will explore Communities of Practice from the ground up. We will begin with building your profile and setting up your preferences so you get information from CoP in your preferred way – whether that's mobile, email, or by visiting the site. Next we'll explore how to most efficiently find things on CoP, and how to organize those things so you can find them again. We'll move on to creating content, groups and spaces, and finally, we'll explore the new mobile application that's part of Communities of Practice. This workshop will take place in a computer lab, and participants are encouraged to bring their own devices if they would prefer.

### **Using Drones in Agricultural Education - Dan Swafford**

- Do you ever wonder about the legality of what you can do with a drone in your classes? Find out the answer to this and other questions dealing with this new agricultural tool. This workshop will look at the FAA regulations dealing with drones on the farm and in the schools. Participants will investigate drone purchasing options for their agricultural department's needs. Participants attending will get an opportunity to fly drones prior to leaving the workshop.

1:00-3:00

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### **Engage your students in authentic science investigations - Suzie Gilley, VDGIF**

- The Department of Game and Inland Fisheries offers a wide variety of education opportunities for the CTE educator. This session will share, The Conservation Education Strategy Tool Kit, developed by the 50 state wildlife agencies. The toolkit contains resources developed by the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) to support conservation educators who offer fish

and wildlife based programs. This session will share how to ask investigative questions, develop observation skills and what is, “systems thinking”? Each participant will receive a CD containing the toolkit.

### **Navigating the FFA Website - Karen Hutchison**

- Learn how to use FFA.org and My Journey for your students. Changes to National FFA CDEs, Proficiency and National Chapter applications will also be discussed.

### **Food Safety Detectives - Dr. Laura K. Strawn & Rachel Pfunter [Eastern Shore - Agricultural Research and Extension Center (AREC), Virginia Tech]**

- In this 2 hour workshop, educators will play the role of foodborne pathogen epidemiologists to investigate an unusual number of potentially linked gastrointestinal illnesses using a combination of epidemiological and microbiological information. The workshop activity will be followed with a discussion on ways to improve the activity for effective implementation in a classroom setting.

### **Agricultural Mechanics-Lab Maintenance - Dr. Preston Byrd**

- Topics covered include: Laboratory layout, machine maintenance, and shop safety routines. Laboratory layout will cover how to utilize existing laboratory space to maximize student learning opportunities. Machine maintenance will examine methods and routines needed to increase the life span of your equipment. Shop safety will emphasize methods to help minimize safety hazards, how to maintain a safe working environment, and materials that can be used to teach laboratory safety.

### **Lincoln Welding - Kyle Drummer, Technical Sales Representative**

Mr. Drummer will present on the resources that Lincoln Electric provides for educational institutions. This includes online welding curriculum, classroom tools and project based lessons. He will also discuss the use of virtual reality welding simulators and advanced training solutions in educational environments. Finally, he will provide details regarding how schools can purchase discounted welding consumables for their instructions.

3:15-4:15

### **Round Table Collaborations**

*Bring your best lesson plans, activities, and ideas to share with colleagues in this informal discussion. Facilitators will be in each room.*

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| Agribusiness Systems Collaboration         | Howard Hill   |
| Animal Systems Collaboration               | Cindy Blaha   |
| Food Products and Processing Collaboration | Ron Daughtrey |
| Natural Resources Systems Collaboration    | Laurel Bishop |
| Plant Systems Collaboration                | Tammy Cole    |
| Power Systems Collaboration                | Chad Brock    |

|                             |                 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| Middle School Collaboration | Teresa Lindberg |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|

**Wednesday 7/19**

**(7:45-1:30)**

**Offsite Workshops**

### **Offsite Workshop 1 – Cherrystone Aqua-farms – Chatham Vineyards - ESAREC**

Cherrystone Aqua-farms is owned and operated by Ballard Fish and Oyster Company and has been producing shellfish since 1895. Today, the 5th generation of the Ballard family is still producing great shellfish and has a reputation for quality, consistency, and service. The Company has four facilities on the Eastern Shore of Virginia, Cherrystone Aqua-farms is one of those facilities. Cherrystone Aqua-farms offers top quality clams and oysters in a variety of sizes and types. These farm-raised products are raised in Virginia State-certified clean growing waters and are available year-round. Most importantly, our clams and oysters are an environmentally friendly and sustainable food product and an excellent way to address nonpoint source pollution in the Chesapeake Bay waterways. The stop at this facility will provide an overview of production from seed to shellfish.

Chatham Vineyards is owned and operated by the Wehner family at Chatham Farm. The land at Chatham, which overlooks Church Creek, was patented in 1640. Since 1999, more than twenty acres of high-density (1,740 vines per acre) French vinifera varieties have been planted. They are Merlot (clone 181 and 3 on rootstock 101-14 and 3309), Chardonnay (French Dijon clones 95/96 and 76, and California Clones 4 and 5 on 3309 rootstock), Cabernet Franc (clone 214 on 101-14 rootstock), Cabernet Sauvignon (clone 337 on 101-14 rootstock) and Petit Verdot (clone 400 on 101-14 rootstock). The vineyards are cane pruned during the winter months to balance the vines and limit yields to less than 4 tons per acre thereby concentrating wine flavors. The grapes are hand-picked and sorted before pressing to ensure the highest quality of the juice. Grapes not vinified at the winery are sold to other wineries in Virginia. The winery was constructed in 2005 and currently has a production capacity of 3,000 to 5,000 cases annually. The stop at this facility will provide visitors a tour of the winery.

\*\*\*a \$10/person fee applies

Virginia Tech's Eastern Shore AREC is committed to supporting commercial vegetable and agronomic crop production. The center sits on a 226-acre farm that hosts an office complex, laboratories, equipment buildings, garages, a greenhouse, graduate student housing, a large freshwater pond, and woodland areas. More than 25 agricultural crops are grown annually for research and extension studies. Five tenure-track faculty members are located at the AREC and specialize in Entomology, Food Science, Plant Pathology, Weed Science, Horticulture, and Crop and Soil Environmental Science. Research projects involve weed management and resistance, integrated pest management, insect behavior, biological control, plant disease and nematode identification and management, cultural management, evaluation of alternative crops, fumigants, fertilizers, and application practices. In addition to the faculty, there are seven full-time staff members, eight graduate students, three farm workers, and numerous part-time employees. This stop will include a field tour of the research plots and a meet-and-greet with the resident faculty and staff.

### **Offsite Workshop 2 – NASA Visitors Center – Chincoteague National Wildlife Visitors Center – ESAREC**

Visit the NASA Wallops Visitors Center Auditorium and view the NASA 360 film "Wallops Flight Facility". This film will give you a history of the Wallops flight facility and the research and operations that are performed on Wallops Island. Also, visitors will be able to take a self-guided tour of the exhibits at the NASA Visitors Center.

The Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge is one of the most visited refuges in the United States, providing visitors with outstanding opportunities to learn about and enjoy wildlands and wildlife. The Chincoteague Natural History Association maintains a visitor's center on Assateague Island where you will be able to take a self-guided tour of the exhibits pertaining to the natural history and the conservation efforts on Chincoteague and Assateague Island. Information on the Chincoteague ponies and other wildlife will be provided.

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### **Offsite Workshop 3 – Barrier Island Center – Helena Veris Demonstration – Tankard Nurseries - ESAREC**

The Barrier Islands Center (BIC) is a museum of Virginia's Barrier Island history from 100 years ago, to today. The mission of BIC is to preserve and perpetuate the unique culture and history of Virginia's Barrier Islands through education and the collection of artifacts. The BIC produced in partnership with Academy-Award nominated filmmaker James Spione, a documentary, *Watermen*. The documentary explores the lives of the last independent fishermen to work the waters of the Atlantic and Chesapeake Bay. Participants will watch the documentary, *Watermen*, before viewing the BIC's historical exhibits.

Whether you're a grower, consultant, supplier, or researcher – you have something in common: your fields vary. The variability may be in water-holding capacity, organic matter, yield potential, nematode pressure, soil pH, or other possibilities. One thing is certain – managing these fields as if they were uniform is not the best strategy. Before you can manage soil variability, or manage the inputs differently, you need to map it. Mapping with the accuracy and intensity that truly captures the variations is what Veris Technologies is designed to do. Kyle Sturgis, a precision agricultural specialist with Helena, will introduce and explain Veris Technologies, demonstrate how it works and answer any questions about precision agriculture and Veris Technologies.

Tankard Nurseries is a wholesale nursery serving the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states. The nursery sits on 700 acres and utilizes above ground pots, Pot in Pot systems and large and small field materials for production. 90% of the plant material used at the nursery is propagated to benefit the life cycle of the plant. Propagation also allows for consistent sustainable plants produced in a timely fashion. Products produced by Tankard Nurseries include azaleas, shrubs, trees, perennial plants, and grasses. The stop on this tour will include a tour of the nursery and an opportunity to learn more about the production of nursery plants.

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Environmental Science. Research projects involve weed management and resistance, integrated pest management, insect behavior, biological control, plant disease and nematode identification and management, cultural management, evaluation of alternative crops, fumigants, fertilizers, and application practices. In addition to the faculty, there are seven full-time staff members, eight graduate students, three farm workers, and numerous part-time employees. This stop will include a field tour of the research plots and a meet-and-greet with the resident faculty and staff.

## 2:00-4:00

### **AET - Awards, Data, & Record Keeping Done Easy - Brandon Monk**

- This workshop will cover the basics of, The Agricultural Experience Tracker (The AET), the premiere personalized online system for tracking experiences in agricultural education. Learn how the AET tracks educational and financial experiences for students and agriculture programs. The AET summarizes those experiences into standard FFA award applications. The AET can also aggregate those experiences across programs to produce local reports for school administrators and overall economic impact reports for interested stakeholders and legislative representatives. The goal is to share helpful tips and insights that will help you in the classroom and save time come application season. No experience with AET needed.

### **Using Google - Laurel Bishop**

- Make Google work for you! Come, learn and share ways to reduce paperwork, collaborate seamlessly with students and colleagues, and make your life easier. We will review Gmail, Calendar, Docs, Sheets, Slides, and Forms as well as other tips and tricks to improve productivity! Even if you are not part of a Google School, see how Google can help you!

### **Sports Turf Management - Marc Moran**

- This workshop will focus on basic sports turf management practices and how they can be implemented in traditional horticulture or agricultural education programs. Many of these can practices can be used to help promote local agricultural programs. Cross-curricular examples will be explored to help strengthen core classes and highlight recruiting strategies for increasing student enrollment in agricultural and/or horticulture programs.

### **New Agriscience Fair Categories - Andy Seibel**

- The new categories for the Agriscience Fair will be explained and tips for competing in the Agriscience Fair will be discussed. A representative from the National FFA will participate via computer to answer questions and provide input.

### **FFA Alumni, YFV - Ron Byrd and Mark Milby, Region VI Vice President, National FFA Alumni**

- The workshop will include information on how to form a local FFA Alumni Chapter and the benefits of having a chapter. Mark Milby, Region VI Vice President will share the latest information from the National FFA Alumni Association and answer any questions. Ron Byrd will discuss the Young Farmers of Virginia, their activities, and the possibility of the two organizations working together on various activities.