• **Virginia Agribusiness Council**
  - Legislative Banquet – the VNLA had 6 representatives at the meeting and hosted guest Sandy Adams. She was appointed as Commissioner of the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services this summer.
  - **VAC National and State Policy Meetings** – VNLA was a sponsor and represented.

• **Regional Meetings** – The VNLA was a sponsor of the following meetings/events and the Executive Director represented the VNLA distributing membership, certification, the Guide to Virginia Growers and sample VNLA Newsletters:
  - Mid-Atlantic Horticulture Short Course
  - Northern Virginia Nursery & Landscape Association
  - Shenandoah Greenhouse & Nursery Association
  - Piedmont Landscape Association
  - Virginia Society of Landscape Designers
  - Central Virginia Nursery & Landscape Association
  - Shenandoah Valley Plant Symposium
  - Virginia Tech College of Agriculture & Consumer Services Homecoming Open House

• **VNLA Board** – held 4 board meetings, a budget meeting, multiple conference calls
  - Held a 2-day Board Training and Strategic Planning Workshop

• **Event/Program Sponsorships**
  - Hahn Horticulture Gardens
  - Virginia Tech Horticulture Students to PLANET Career Days and Competitions
  - Virginia Tech Graduate Student to IPPS
  - FFA State Nursery Proficiency Award
  - Virginia Agribusiness Council
  - Ag In The Classroom (VA Farm Bureau)
  - Virginia Green Industry Council
  - Master Gardener Annual Conference
  - AmericanHort (formerly ANLA)
  - Legislative Beacon Fund and Lighthouse Program

• **Research**
  - $25,598 in research projects were funded by the VNAHRF
  - **VNA Horticulture Research Foundation Gala/Auction** – The Research Committee held another successful gala/auction in Baltimore adding additional funds to the permanent research fund; now at over $675,000

• **Scholarships** –
  - Laird/Gresham Scholarships at Virginia Tech (2 @ $1,500 each)
  - Shoosmith Scholarships ($9,000)
  - C.W. Bryant Scholarship ($750, first time)

• **Field Day** - was attended by 125 members at Virginia Tech Department of Horticulture

• **Summer Tour** – was sold out with 55 participants

• **State Fair** – The VNLA, in conjunction with the Virginia Green Industry Council, had consumer-oriented displays promoting Virginia Certified Horticulturist and the new “Plant Something” marketing program for members. The attendance this year was 238,000, a 4 percent increase over 2013 attendance and the educational tours had around 8,000 students come through the agriculture exhibits in the Meadow Pavilion.

• **Certification**
  - 83 members passed the VNLA Virginia Certified Horticulturist (VCH) Exam
  - Certification Manual online study review available for 2015 through VT Scholar program
  - Plant Id study online for VCH exam
  - Working towards having the manual and test online.

• **Communications**
  - **Website Upgrades**
    - Added option for Virginia Certified Horticulturist to apply and pay for their recertification online.
  - Consumer online lookup for Virginia Certified Horticulturist in their area
  - **E-News Updates** to members on time sensitive and important issues
  - **Newsletters** – Quarterly Newsletters, 4-color, 68 pages

• **Guide to Virginia Growers** – expanded the “native plant” section to list growers who grow native plants and distributed over 4,000 copies of the Guide.

• **Legislation and Regulatory Issues** – the VNLA has been represented at meetings concerning invasive plants, noxious weeds, stormwater runoff, sustainable landscapes, Bay-friendly landscaping
  - **Mission H2O** – VNLA is a member of this state organization working to coordinate collaboration and development of positions on ground and surface water supply issues, advocate for regional water supply studies/solution and legislative tracking.
  - **Distributed 140 gift baskets** with VNLA info to members of the General Assembly, the Governor’s office and Virginia Department Secretary’s