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Virginia Trapshooting Hall of Fame, Inc.

Dear Fellow Members:

I am writing this letter in support of the nomination of Gary Funkhouser to the Virginia Trapshooting Hall of Fame, Inc. (“VTHOF”).

There are a multitude of reasons why Gary should be inducted into the VTHOF, such as:

Shooting Ability. Gary shot his first ATA registered targets in 1992. His 16 yard average has never been below 93 and peaked at 98. An enviable record for any of us.

Management. Gary has been manager of the Winchester Gun Club (“WGC”) since approximately 2004. What does it mean to be a gun club manager? If you are a competitive shooter, it means you want to go to a venue that welcomes you with excellent shooting facilities and skilled staff. While WGC has probably the best background and shooting facilities in the Commonwealth, that means nothing if the targets are poor. Gary maintains the traps to a high degree of excellence. He is there early before every shoot to check equipment and set targets. During the shoot he keeps a watchful eye on the line and is quick to respond to problems. He even has the ability and skill to manufacture trap machine parts. This is a financial benefit to the WGC.

Management involves more than facilities and equipment. It means people. Over the years as manager Gary trained many young people to be the trap “help”. This training involved more than teaching a person how to score, and load traps. He has the ability to mold these young people into responsible and respectful human beings. These are life skills will follow these WGC “kids” throughout their lives.

In addition to Gary’s duties as gun club manager, he is a long time WGC board member and officer. I served with Gary on the board. I served with him while he was president of the WGC. At all times he acted in the best interests of the WGC, its members, and the shooters. As president he guided the club through good and hard times. He ran a meeting like a concert conductor. Gary has always said if we are not throwing targets, we may as well close up. And if we are not throwing good targets we should close up.

Gary is hands on. Not only does he direct activities and duties, he is there with you. He willingly takes on any task, and doing so, makes all of our jobs easier.

Who is this man, Gary Funkhouser? This is a man who will take you to task if he thinks you are in the wrong. However, if this man later finds out or recognizes that he was in the wrong, he will be in your face apologizing. I’ve seen this and as a result I have the highest respect for Gary Funkhouser.

I urge you to vote for Gary Funkhouser for induction into the Virginia Trapshooting Hall of Fame. I know I will.

Sincerely,

Dave Hakola