

BILL STRAUSBAUGH AWARD

Thomas B. Joyce, PGA
Hidden Valley Country Club, Salem, Virginia

Tommy was born August 16, 1968 in Martinsville, Virginia. He has two sisters, Wanda Cart and Kathy Carpenter. He began playing golf at Lynwood Golf and Country Club in Martinsville, Virginia when he was eight years old with his father and Head PGA Professional Wayne Haley (now deceased). The one-on-one time with his dad kept his interest high and the encouragement and relationship with Wayne Haley took his play to the next level. Tommy began working as a cart attendant at Lynwood when he was fifteen. He was a member of the 1986 VSGA Junior Team and a runner-up in the Donald Ross Junior Championship. Tommy received a full golf scholarship to Virginia Commonwealth University, was the Team Captain during his junior and senior years and received All-Sunbelt Conference Honors in 1991. Jack Bell, PGA, the school's golf coach, was also a strong influence on Tommy.

Tommy began working as an assistant at Hermitage Country Club in Manakin Sabot, Virginia in 1990. He began playing on the Hooters Tour in 1991 and qualified for several Nike Tour events. After two years as a touring professional and election to PGA membership, Tommy went to work for Links Group Management Company, first as a Head PGA Professional and then as the Director of Revenue and Acquisitions. He has been the Head PGA Professional at Hidden Valley Country Club since 1997.

Tommy was selected as the Section's 2001 Junior Golf Leader for his extensive commitment to juniors. He worked with other PGA Professionals to develop several successful programs: working with PGA Professional Roby Roberson, he assisted in developing an indoor hitting facility and a golf training program for the Roanoke Valley Boys and Girls Club plus he organized fellow professionals to teach golf in school as part of the Scott Robertson Golf in School Program. Tommy serves on the Roanoke Valley First Tee Board of Directors that constructed a First Tee Range in 2005. He also serves on the Roanoke Valley Golf Hall of Fame Board of Directors which annually awards over \$46,000 in scholarships to high school seniors with an interest and ability in the game of golf. Tommy's continuing efforts to give back to the game are a fitting tribute to his two mentors, Wayne Haley and Jack Bell.

Tommy is also active in the governance of his Association. He previously served two years on the Carolinas Section Board of Directors and was President of the Myrtle Beach Area Golf Professional Association. When he moved to the Middle Atlantic Section, he quickly became involved with the Southern Chapter and Section Boards of Directors and currently serves as the President of the Southern Chapter. Tommy has served as Chair of the Section's Junior Golf Committee and as a member of the Employment and the Tournament Committees.

Tommy and his wife, Kristy, have been married for five years. They have one son, Trey, and a daughter, Kendall.