



## AMERICAN LEGION POST 364, WOODBRIDGE, VIRGINIA

*Providing 50 Years of Golden Service to America's Veterans*

### Post--Gram

#### POST 364 MYRTLE BEACH TRIP 2011

**Danny Bafford, Athletic Chairman**

From May 5<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup>, thirty current and former members of American Legion Post 364 vacationed in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Seventeen golfed in the James "J.J." Elliott Memorial Golf Tournament.

From Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup> to Monday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, the golfers qualified for the tournament at Indigo Creek, Shaftesbury Glen, and Wicked Stick golf courses. Those round placed them in eight flights by how each person had played. Each flight had at least one of the legionnaires in it.

The weather was beautiful most of the time with temperatures in the mid-70s. Most of the people stayed at the Compass Cove Resort in south Myrtle Beach. It is located

on the ocean and is highlighted with 22 water amenities, including six indoor and outdoor pools, three lazy rivers, jacuzzi hot tub, a tiki bar, and the Crows Nest lounge. On Tuesday, the Roadhouse Band played music by one of the pools.

Each year the golfers hit a ball in the ocean for persons that have passed away that year. On Friday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, all sixty golfers hit a ball in the Atlantic Ocean for Matt Peters.

The tournament started on Wednesday at River Hills golf course in North Myrtle Beach. It continued on the following three days at Litchfield Golf Club, Dunes Golf and Beach Club, and ended at the World Tour Golf Links, a course made up of 27 famous golf holes from around the world.

- Art Dupay - 1<sup>st</sup> place - 4<sup>th</sup> Flight;
- Jeff Bepko - 1<sup>st</sup> place - 6<sup>th</sup> Flight;
- Jay Beck - 2<sup>nd</sup> place - 7<sup>th</sup> Flight;
- Danny Bafford - 1<sup>st</sup> place - 8<sup>th</sup> Flight.



**Harley Horner prepares to hit a ball in the ocean for Matt Peters**



**Golfers from American Legion Post 364**

Trophies were awarded for first, second, and third place in each flight. Several Post 364 members won trophies in the tournament.

- Jerry Coleman - 3<sup>rd</sup> place - 2<sup>nd</sup> Flight;
- Ted Stevenson - 2<sup>nd</sup> place - 3<sup>rd</sup> Flight;

Other current and former Post 364 members making the trip were Bob Alexander, Barbara Barnes, Renee Beck, Jayson Beck, Linda Bepko, Bob Hutzell, Mike Roberge, Dee Vercoe, Janet Stevenson, Danny and Felicia Archer, Dan and Diane Condon, Brownie and Pam Conley, Harley and Laura Horner, Rich and Merci Reed, Bob and Melissa Renner, Craig and Susan Stairs, and John and Claire Veneziano.

## FROM THE COMMANDER'S CORNER

### Dan Condon, Commander



Another year has passed and a new set of officers will begin their stewardship next month. I want to begin by congratulating Randy Bower and the rest of the newly elected

officers on their selection to their new leadership positions at Post 364. I know that everyone will give them that same outstanding support they've given me this past year. They already know that they can count on my support.

But before I go I would like to say thanks to the many people that made this past year one of the most memorable years of my life. I will start with Sherry Karlson, our Auxiliary President. When I thought about running for Commander, I told her that I would do it only if she ran for Auxiliary President. That was because I knew I couldn't do it alone and I knew she would be able to pull me along and make sure all the things that needed to get done this year, got done. Well, my prediction was right. Sherry pushed and prodded me and made sure we took care of things. Without her, this year would not have been the success it was. To Sherry... Thank you so much, I couldn't have done it without you.

But as most people know it takes a bunch of people to keep this Post running and to run the many programs we support. And this Post was very fortunate to have an outstanding slate of officers this year. I can think of no one at our Post better suited to be Adjutant than Brian Mullican. With his considerable Legion experience and knowledge he set me straight more than once and made sure that we fulfilled our obligations to the District and Department. Brian taught me a lot this year and I will be always grateful.

When I was considering running for Commander, I wanted someone that was a friend that I could turn to for advice and someone that wouldn't be hesitant to

tell me when I was about to mess up. So I asked Harley Horner to be the Finance Officer. Not only did he have the experience as a Finance Officer, but I trusted his judgment and I knew I could count on him. I know he wishes I hadn't asked him, because as it turns out, we were selected for an audit by the IRS this year. So Harley has been jumping through hoops to comply with all the requests from the IRS and has done an outstanding job, not only as Finance Officer, but also as a friend and confidant. So the only thing I can say to Harley is... Sorry!

Another one of the demanding positions at the Post is 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice, the bar manager. Can you imagine working a full time job and then coming to the Post to run a business that generates nearly \$1 million in revenue each year? Well, that's what Doug Caskey has been doing for the past 2+ years. Not only has he done an excellent job running the bar, he also worked bingo, cooked steaks on steak night, helped run all the cable in the building as well as countless other things around the Post this year. That is why he was selected as the Post's Legionnaire of the Year. This is a well deserved award and I want to thank him for his committed contribution.

Still another position that requires a lot of time and attention is the Buildings and Grounds person. As most of you know, our Post is not in the best shape. It takes a whole lot of work to keep everything running and keeping the place open for business. Once again the Post was lucky to have Jim Hawkins in charge of this herculean task. I don't have room in the POG to describe the amount of time and labor Jim has put into the Post, but I do want to severely thank him for his work. But that isn't all Jim has done. Jim has lead the effort to get a new Post home built. This seems like a never ending campaign, but I think we are closer to getting a new place built than we have ever been before. This is a direct result of Jim's outstanding ability and leadership. Jim has some great ideas for our Post and I look forward to providing my support to help achieve these goals.

I don't want to take anything away from

Jim, but he did have some big time help. I also want to thank Pete Turner and Wayne Hamilton for everything they have done. These guys do more around the Post than most people realize. Most of what they do is behind the scenes but we would not be able to operate without them. They are as deserving of mine and everyone's thanks as much as anyone at our Post. Pete and Wayne... Thank you so much for everything you do.

I would be remiss if I didn't say thanks to the other people that raise the other half of the money we need to operate our Post and support all our worthwhile charities. That would be our 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Robin Oden and our Bingo Manager Warren Diperna. Without them we wouldn't be able to provide the scholarships or have children parties or have cookouts for the vets at McGuire Veterans hospital. Their hard work has not gone unnoticed. Thanks for everything you both do for our Post.

Finally, I want to say thanks and congratulations to our 1<sup>st</sup> Vice and our incoming Commander, Randy Bower. Doing membership is not an easy job, especially in an organization with over 1000 members, and I want to thank you for keeping everything straight. I also want to thank Randy for stepping in when I couldn't be there and for all of his efforts throughout the year. I look forward to providing him all the support he needs next year to make his year even better than mine.

And for all the other people at our Post that helped and provided support this past year, I want to say Thank You. I wish I had room in this article to thank each one of you personally, but you all know what you've done and I am profoundly grateful and proud to say I am a member of Post 364. If it weren't for all these people stepping up and volunteering their time and money we wouldn't be the Legion family we are. I hope you will all give Randy the same love and support you gave me.

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE.**

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PEN

### Sherry Karlson, Unit President

This is my last article for the year and I just wanted to say it was a fun filled year.

Our trip to McGuire was a lot of fun and the patients thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Thank you to all who took the time out to make the trip.

Thom and I had a great time watching our JR Shooters at the Department match in Charlottesville. What a wonderful group of young men

and women.

I would like to say a big Thank You to all my officers for this year. Thank you for your support and help in all we have done this year.

Congratulations to the incoming 2011 - 2012 officers.

The new officers are:

President: Marcia Wheatley  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice: Barbara Barnes  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice: Anne Bower



Treasurer: Sherry Karlson  
Secretary: Barbara Stevenson  
Chaplain: Terry Brown  
Historian: Joanie Mitrione  
Sgt-At-Arms: Melissa Renner



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION (SAL) – SQUADRON 364, DETACHMENTS’ DISPATCH

Jack Rike, Commander



**Attention SAL Members:** Please review your membership card to ensure it is a valid 2011 card. If not, the current dues are listed to your right and can be mailed to:

Sons of the American Legion  
PO Box 2121  
Woodbridge, VA 22195

**Make checks payable to SAL 364**

**2010/2011 Dues**

Age 21 & older .....	\$25.00
Age 13 thru 20 .....	\$20.00
Age 12 & under .....	\$15.00
Dual .....	\$10.00

If your membership card is 2010 or older please contact a SAL officer at 703.494.4304.



AMANDA ODEN, JR PRESIDENT, RECEIVING AN AWARD FOR THE BUDDY BASKETS.

Mary DiPerna (left)  
Amanda Oden (middle)  
Dianne Cabot (right)



**The Family Circle - special thoughts and prayers for our family members**

**Convalescing**

Addie Horowitz

**Prayer Requests**

*Our troops through the world.*

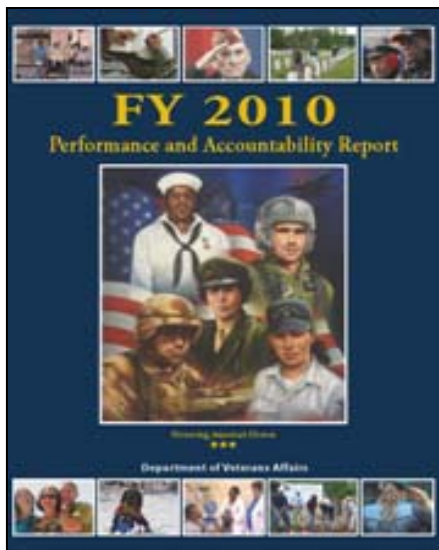
**Post Everlasting**

*On the wings of angels*

Robert (Fitz) Fitzgerald

## VA'S PERFORMANCE SCORE CARD

Art Dupuy, Post Service Officer



Although we are well into Fiscal Year 2011, this column provides a summary of the Department of Veterans Affairs performance for FY 2010. Each year the VA publishes an annual Performance and Accountability Report (PAR) with results on VA's progress towards providing America's Veterans with the best in benefits and health care. The PAR contains FY 2010 performance targets and the results achieved against those targets during the FY. Secretary Eric K. Shinseki presented the report to the President and both houses of Congress in late 2010.

There are 130 performance measures, 23 of which were identified by VA's senior leadership as "key" or **mission critical**. In the 23 key areas performance results exceeds targets in 9 instances, fell short in 13 areas, and 1 area had an undefined target. Here we focus on 3 areas that are most in demand by Veterans, survivors, dependents, and children.

In the area of *Delivering Compensation Benefits* the goal of 165 days to complete a compensation or

pension disability rating claim was exceeded by 1 day. I'll let readers judge whether 5½ months is a goal appropriate for an Agency that says it provides "world-class benefits and services..." Further, the accuracy rate for compensation entitlement claims is only 84%, resulting in appeals and further delays in receiving entitlements. There are 3.2 million Veterans now receiving compensation, up 3.6% from 2009, and 310,200 Veterans receiving pensions, down 1.3%. For those in need, waiting almost half a year for a decision compounds the hardship. The American Legion Service Officer network -National, Department, District, and Post- can't speed the process, but may help reduce chances of it being extended by working with Veterans to assure their application forms are correct and complete. Of the 280,000 VA employees, 15,100 support the compensation and pension programs.

The VA provides *Medical Care* to 5.8 million Veterans, making it the largest direct care delivery system in the U.S. The medical care goals are related to appointment scheduling. Primary and specialty care appointments were completed within 30 days 99% of the time, while new patient appointment were completed within 30 days only 83% of the time. For the undefined goals, 64% of inpatients and 55% of outpatients rated VA health care quality as 9 or 10 (10 being the best). There are 248,500 employees supporting Medical Care and Research.

With the recent change in law, the VA now provides *Education Benefits* to eligible Veterans, service members, reservists, survivors, and dependents. This figure was 574,800 in 2010, up 53% from the year prior. Processing time for original claims increased to 39 days, for a goal of 24, and supplemental claims

grew to 16, against a goal of 10. Many of our Post members are beneficiaries of the Montgomery GI Bill and the Post-9/11 GI Bill, as well as other programs providing financial support for education for those discharged with service-connected disabilities. Our local colleges have large numbers of Veterans, service members, and dependents enrolled. Most colleges and universities have one or more of the 2,000 VA employees who support education programs providing services on site.

The overall grades for areas such as vocational rehabilitative and employment services, meeting insurance needs, and delivering burial services to Veterans had similar results based on goals met and not met. As with the three areas above, the target goals did not seem to be too high a bar. In "non-key" areas success was achieved in financial stewardship, data quality and security, and the VA's Homelessness Initiative. In the end, however, for many Veterans the road to securing benefits and entitlements remains lengthy. I believe that the overwhelming majority of the VA employees are truly dedicated to "providing the best medical care, benefits, social support, and lasting memorials that Veterans and their dependents deserve," as their mission states, but they still fall far short of making the honor roll based on the latest performance report. To me, the overall performance against some relatively low target goals deserved a C- grade.



Read the entire report at [www.va.gov/budget/report/](http://www.va.gov/budget/report/)



Coming Soon to the Post Home Nearest You!



American Legion Post 364  
**Matt Peters Memorial  
Golf Tournament**  
to benefit  
**Sons of the American Legion  
Scholarship Fund**  
Friday, June 3rd



**Ospreys Golf Club at Belmont Bay**

Situated on the banks of the Occoquan River, The Osprey's Golf Club provides a unique experience and challenge for golfers. The 18-hole, par 70 layout winds its way through a breathtaking panorama of marsh land, rolling fairways and features several dramatic elevation changes. Artfully carved with respect to the surrounding environment, we are proud that The Osprey's has earned certification from Audubon International's Golf Course Cooperative Sanctuary Program. Our course is home to an array of birds and graceful wildlife, which are active in their natural habitats.

**Captain's Choice  
\$75 per person**

PRICE INCLUDES:

18 holes of Golf and Cart  
"Lots" of Great Door Prizes  
Steak Dinner at  
American Legion Post 364

Prizes for:  
Tournament Champion &  
Flight Winners  
Closest to the Pin on 6 Par 3s,  
a Longest Drive,  
and a chance at a

**\$10,000 Hole in One!**

Music following tournament by  
**ABC Entertainment**

Registration: 7:00 to 7:30 a.m.  
Shotgun Start: 8:00 a.m.



Register and PAY  
by April 30th  
and get a second  
door prize ticket  
FREE!!!



401 Belmont Bay Drive  
Woodbridge, VA 22191

**THE OSPREY'S**  
GOLF CLUB AT BELMONT BAY

To register or more information contact:

Mike Roberge  
H-703-680-6021  
W-202-231-3145

or  
Doug Caskey  
703-899-5332

# June 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Boy Scouts 7:00p	2	3 Post Dinner 5:30p - to 7:30p  Matt Peters Memorial Golf Tournament	4
5 Bingo (Team 7) 2:00p - 5:00p	6 Bingo (Team 8) 7:15p - 10:00p	7 SAL Executive Meeting 6:00p  Legion Executive Meeting 7:30p	8 Boy Scouts 7:00p	9	10 Post Dinner 5:30p - 7:30p	11 Commanders/ Presidents Appreciation Picnic 2:00p
12 Bingo (Team 1) 2:00p - 5:00p  USMVMC Meeting 6:00p	13 Bingo (Team 2) 7:15p - 10:00p	14 Flag Day Ceremony 5:30p  Auxiliary Executive Meeting 7:30p	15 Boy Scouts 7:00p	16	17 No Post Dinner	18 Installation of Officers 5:00p
19 Fathers Day Bingo (Team 3) 2:00p - 5:00p	20 Bingo (Team 4) 7:15p - 10:00p	21 SAL Membership Meeting 6:00p  Legion Membership Meeting 7:30p	22 Boy Scouts 7:00p	23	24 Post Dinner 5:30p - to 7:30p  Karaoke 8:00p - 12:00a	25
26 Bingo (Team 5) 2:00p - 5:00p  USMVMC Meeting 6:00p	27 Bingo (Team 6) 7:15p - 10:00p	28 Auxiliary Membership Meeting 7:30p	29 Boy Scouts 7:00p	30		

# July 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Post Dinner 5:30p - 7:30p	2
3 Bingo (Team 7) 2:00p - 5:00p	4 Dale City Parade 10:00a  4th of July Picnic & Membership Drive 1:00p	5 SAL Executive Meeting 6:00p  Legion Executive Meeting 7:30p	6 Boy Scouts 7:00p	7	8 Post Dinner 5:30p - 7:30p	9
10 Bingo (Team 1) 2:00p - 5:00p  USMVMC Meeting 6:00p	11 Bingo (Team 2) 7:15p - 10:00p	12 Auxiliary Executive Meeting 7:30p	13 Boy Scouts 7:00p	14	15 Post Dinner 5:30p - 7:30p  State Convention (Roanoke Plaza Hotel & Holiday Inn)	16 State Convention
17 Bingo (Team 3) 2:00p - 5:00p  State Convention (Installation of ALA Dept President, Dianne Cabot)	18 Bingo (Team 4) 7:15p - 10:00p	19 SAL Membership Meeting 6:00p  Legion Membership Meeting 7:30p	20 Boy Scouts 7:00p	21	22 Post Dinner 5:30p - 7:30p  Karaoke 8:00p - 12:00a	23
24 Bingo (Team 5) 2:00p - 5:00p  USMVMC Meeting 6:00p	25 Bingo (Team 6) 7:15p - 10:00p	26 Auxiliary Membership Meeting 7:30p	27 Boy Scouts 7:00p	28	29 Post Dinner 5:30p - 7:30p	30
31 Bingo (Team 7) 2:00p - 5:00p						



**Warren DiPerna - Bingo Manager - 571.239.7556**

Teams 1, 2 Bingo Manager: Daniel Eubank 240.993.6916

Teams 3, 5 Bingo Manager: Randy Bower 703.309.3800

Teams 4, 6 Bingo Manager: Doug Caskey 703.899.5332

Teams 4, 8 Bingo Manager: Dan Condon 703.919.6227

*Sunday Sales start 1:00p - Monday Sales start 6:15p*

**Team 1 Sundays**

VACANT (TC)  
Chris McDonald (C)  
256.408.1207  
Ed Rotherford  
703.586.8297  
Phil London  
703.930.0594  
Jim Koerber

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Diane Clark  
703.497.3254

**Team 2 Mondays**

Jim Hawkins (TC)  
703.819.8465  
Raye Ferrington (C)  
703.924.1150  
Brian Condon  
317.696.3906  
Chris Thomaidis  
703.232.0956

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Barbara Stevenson  
703.670.8750

**Team 3 Sundays**

Robin Oden (TC)  
703.772.1653  
Mike Hodge (C)  
703.583.1127  
Merle Bevenour  
843.540.0498  
Chris McDonald  
703.595.9507  
Anne Bower  
703.494.1910

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Myrna Sanborn  
717.870.4512

**Team 4 Mondays**

Gary Lepore (TC)  
703.794.0786  
Mike Hodge (C)  
703.583.1127  
Mel McGee  
703.472.9157  
Gary Eads  
703.216.2387  
Ted Zeunges  
703.583.4966

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VACANT

**Team 5 Sundays**

Pete Turner (C)  
703.680.3068  
Thom Karlson  
703.730.2172  
Sy Horowitz  
703.670.8325

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Addie Horowitz  
703.670.8325

**Team 6 Mondays**

Jack Rike (TC)  
703.878.0331  
Pete Turner (C)  
703.680.3068  
Mark Clark  
703.314.4594

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Barbara Barnes  
703.670.0753

**Team 7 Sundays**

Cal Albers (TC)  
703.670.9815  
Mike Hodge (C)  
703.583.1127  
Chris Thomaidis  
703.232.0956  
Patty Groves  
703.730.1471  
VACANT

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Mary DiPerna  
571.239.7555

**Team 8 Mondays**

USMVMC (TC)  
USMVMC (C)  
USMVMC  
USMVMC  
USMVMC

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Maureen Wessel  
703.680.6003



**... it's what we do!**



**The American Legion**  
**Woodbridge Post 364**  
**P.O. BOX 2121**  
**Woodbridge, VA 22195**



<b>Club Hours</b>	
<b>Post Lounge - 703.494.4304</b>	
<i>Friendly Hours - Monday Thru Friday 3:00p - 7:00p</i>	
Monday	3:00p - 11:00p
Tuesday thru Thursday	3:00p - 10:00p
Friday	3:00p - 1:00a
Saturday	2:00p - 1:00a
Sunday	Noon - 10:00p

<u>Post 364 Dinner Menu</u>	
<b>Home Cookin'</b>	
Regular Menu consists of the following:	
Beer Battered Cod \$8.00 Butterfly shrimp \$8.00 Scallops \$8.00 Spaghetti \$6.50 Steak \$14.00	Hamburger w/FF \$4.00 Cheeseburger w/FF \$5.00 Choice of Baked Potato or French Fries; Choice of veggie; Salad Bar
Child's menu:	Spaghetti \$3.00 Wing Dings w/FF \$3.50 Chicken Tenders w/FF \$3.50
<u>This month's Specials:</u>	
All specials are \$8.00, except for <b>Steak - \$14.00</b>	

**Driving Directions to Post Home**

Take I-95 to Exit 158, Prince William Parkway. Prince William Parkway toward Manassas. Past Commuter Lot, bear right onto Caton Hill Rd. Turn Right onto Caton Hill to Minnieville (2nd Stop light). Turn Right onto Minnieville to Fowke Lane (about 200 yards). Turn Left on Fowke (used car dealer on corner) to Jenny Lane (Stop sign). Turn Left on Jenny Lane to Friendly Post Lane (about 100yds, 1st street on right). Turn Right on Friendly Post Lane.

***Welcome Home!***