

# LONGHORN STEAKHOUSE 2009 GOLF TOURNAMENT

## Amelia River Golf Club

Several days of record-breaking heat did not deter more than 100 golfers and many volunteers who traveled to Amelia River Golf Club for the Third Annual Longhorn Steakhouse Golf Classic to benefit the Justice Coalition.

Matt Leipau, Manager of Longhorn Steakhouse on Airport Road, once again did an outstanding job of organizing the tournament, with the assistance of restaurant managers from the Jacksonville area, as well as Brunswick, GA, and Fleming Island. Numerous staff members - cooks, servers, bartenders - volunteered their services for the day.

Matt said, "They [managers] all pitched in when we needed them. Because of our schedules, we could only put in so much time and effort, but they all came together on game day." He explained that Olive Garden and Capital Grille, part of the Longhorn Steakhouse family, helped out with donations, but Longhorn supplied all the help at the tournament.

Among the young people who volunteered were Miranda, Danielle, Tara and Robert from the Fleming Island Restaurant. They had a good time serving - and eating - the delicious food prepared by the six or so chefs who grilled sirloin steaks and served succulent shrimp scampi, fall-off-the-bone tender ribs, chicken tenders and chicken parmesan. Salads, as only Olive Garden can make them, started the meal, and a Peterbrooke Chocolate fountain for dipping strawberries and other fruit ended it. Thanks to Steve Finch from the Fernandina Beach Peterbrooke store who again this year donated the wonderful chocolate dessert.

Matt spoke at length about the Longhorn family, how they pull together for the community, which is how they pull together in their respective restaurants. "We expect our staff to do the things that we would do for



First place team: Jamie Seim, Keith Bush, Brad Beckmann and Vick Comastro



Third place team: Wayne McLeod, Keith Gibson, Mike Stanton and Greg Swift



Second place team: John Gearin, Mike Batten, David Taylor and Lance Buckman



Longhorn Steakhouse Managers: l to r, Mike Hickman, Owen Smallwood (Fleming Island), John Spanier (Regency), Matt Leipau (Airport), Pat Greyard (Fleming Island), Streisand Mahoney (Regency) and Pat Sabatino

them, what we *have* done for them. We are a close corporate family - that's how we run our stores. We treat everyone like family, like the way we want to be treated. In return we have a great staff that makes our job a lot easier. God bless all of them."

Longhorn Steakhouses became involved with the Justice Coalition after Cordell Foreman, an employee of the Longhorn restaurant at Jax Beach, was shot and killed during a robbery early one morning in January 2007. Matt says the murder really "hit close to home and our company wanted to do something to give back to the community and benefit organizations working to help crime victims. We also wanted to promote our company [Darden Restaurants (parent company of Longhorn Steakhouse and other restaurants such as Red Lobster, Olive Garden and Capital Grille)], and this seemed a perfect time to get involved."

The picturesque Amelia River Golf Club, one of several Amelia Island Plantation courses, is a



Fraternal Order of Police group: l to r, Bill Dobscha, Brad Gidcumb, Leonard Propper, Andy Goethe, David Stephens, Ann Dugger, Chuck Ford, Robbie Freitas and Jimmy Ricks



l to r, Robert Aspinwall, Ann Dugger (JC Exec. Dir.), Wayne Williford (JC Board Chairman) and Ronnie Williams



City Councilman Stephen Joost waits to hit the links



Aaron Bean enjoying the meal with Ted Combs, Callahan City Councilman.

perfect location for the tournament. Participant Stephen Joost, Jacksonville City Councilman and Justice Coalition board member, says, "I play in a lot of tournaments, and this is one of the best, one of the premier events for what you

get - great prizes, fabulous food, and it's so well organized. Plus the money benefits the Justice Coalition."

We appreciate more than we can say all the hard work involved in making this year's tournament such an outstanding

success. The approximate net receipts of \$12,000 will go a long way toward helping us meet our budget and continue fulfilling our mission: to advocate for innocent victims of violent crime and help make our city a safer place to live.

## Acknowledgements

### Sponsorships

Title Sponsor  
Haskew Company

### Longhorn Platinum

J. B. Coxwell Contracting, Inc.  
North Florida Sales  
Shaw's Frozen Food

### Longhorn Gold

Boston's Restaurant  
Fresh Point  
Golf Club of Amelia Island  
Rose Press  
Summit Electrical

### Hole Sponsor

Award Depot  
C&N McAllister, Inc., Golf Carts  
Honda of Jacksonville

### Vendor Sponsors

Coke  
Honda of Jacksonville  
K K Marketing  
North Florida Sales  
Peterbrooke, Fernandina Beach  
Shaw's Frozen Foods

### Tournament Committee members

Matthew Leipau, Coordinator  
Soraya Lakatos, Asst. Coord.  
Ann Dugger  
Kelli Hadd  
Chris Hunter  
Walt Johnson  
Eric Losey  
Pete Sabatino  
Phillip Sacchitello  
Rick Sherman  
Jaime Tumbelty  
Owen Smallwood

Doug Hicks  
Anthony Redford  
James Cook  
John Spanier  
Streisand Mahoney

### Golf Course Donations

Amelia Island Plantation  
Amelia River Golf Club  
Deerfield Lakes Golf Club  
Golf Club of Amelia Island  
Jacksonville Golf & Country Club  
North Hampton Golf Club  
Osprey Cove Golf Club

### Volunteers

Judith Chapple  
Tammie Cordoba  
Fran Futrill  
Brittnee Johnson  
Cydnee Johnson  
Terri Johnson  
Faith Leipau  
Lizzie Leipau  
Clyde Mills  
Kathy Salazar