

Empowering Our Nation's Heroes One Fairway at a Time.



SUMMER
2012

Mission...to incorporate the game of golf into the mental and physical rehabilitation programs of the post-9/11 wounded warriors by providing golf instruction, equipment, and family-inclusive golf opportunities.



SMGA Hires Executive Director, Gretchen Hamm
Hamm brings non-profit & fundraising experience

SMGA is excited to announce the hiring of Gretchen Hamm as Executive Director. She is charged with fundraising, raising the visibility of SMGA and overseeing the national expansion. Most recently she was Executive Director of The First Tee of Washington, D.C. for the last six years where she was instrumental in the significant growth of all programs. She can be reached at 703.298.0331 or gretchen@salutemilitarygolf.org.

Welcome Gretchen!

Three wounded warrior golfers competed in AT&T National Pro-Am with PGA TOUR Pro, Ryan Palmer

Thank you to Michelob Ultra for sponsoring us

As the sun rises over Congressional Country Club during the 2012 AT&T National Tournament's Pro Am, a mixture of metal and muscle strides towards the first tee. Each scar on these wounded warriors tells a story about what they have overcome on the path to this moment. Chris Bowers, TJ Brooks and Mike Bradley were invited to play in the Pro Am with Ryan Palmer. The SMGA members' team managed a respectable score of -7. On this day these young men proved that no goal is unreachable and with the right motivation anything is possible. A BIG thank you to Neal Katcef for providing this opportunity.



SMGA Golfers Meet & Play with Cal Ripken, Jr.
June 25 at Creighton Farms

6th Annual SMGA Northrop Grumman Charity Tournament
June 11 at Manor Country Club Raises over \$100,000

SMGA's annual charity golf classic, The Northrop Grumman Sixth Annual SMGA Charity Golf Classic, was held on Monday, June 11, 2012, at Manor Country Club in Rockville, MD. For the sixth consecutive year, the tournament was a sell-out and reached an all-time high in terms of revenues raised to support post-9/11 wounded American veterans through the game of golf. A full complement of players, veterans, and guests heard Marine Corps Lance Corporal Tim Lang discuss how the game of golf has aided in his recovery. The team of Dennis Bartos, David Bartos, Jake Ruben and Tripp Shreves took home the championship with a score of 57, while former Massachusetts state high school champion Chris Flynn scored two closest to the pin flags. The SMGA board thanks all the participants, sponsors, and volunteers for making this year's event the most successful to date. All net proceeds from the event will go to the purchase of equipment, lessons, and golf course access for post-9/11 wounded veterans.





Special Care Foundation/18th Annual Special Care Invitational in Ocean City, Maryland

Post-9/11 wounded warriors Chris Bowers, Ben Dellinger, Steve Devries, Ramon Padilla, and Scott Riddle and SMGA Co-Founder Jamie Winslow participated in the 18th Annual Special Care Invitational Golf Tournament in Ocean City, MD, on June 30, 2012. Supported by Cybercore Technologies, an SMGA Charity Golf Classic participating company, the Special Care Foundation was founded in 1995 to raise funding and awareness for children and adults with Down Syndrome. The theme of the 2012 event was "Supporting Our Troops," and SMGA members were treated to luxury hotel accommodations, a Texas Hold-Em poker tournament, participation in the Special Care Invitational, and awards banquet. The SMGA's Ramon Padilla won the men's long-drive competition, and each wounded warrior was presented with an iPad for their attendance at the event.

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Gretchen Hamm,
Executive Director
703.298.0331
(gretchen@salutemilitarygolf.org)

Rookie PGA TOUR Professional and Naval Academy graduate, Billy Hurley, III Hosts Clinic at TPC Potomac



The new Executive Director of SMGA, Gretchen Hamm, proved that last minute doesn't necessarily mean low quality. Just less than a month into the position, Gretchen was able to create a unique and intimate clinic setting for our golfers and loyal contributors. With the hospitality of TPC Potomac, and the help of Naval Academy grad and PGA Tour rookie Billy Hurley, our golfers and a few supporters were able to take part in an experience that many would envy. It's not every day that an amateur golfer gets hands on instruction from a successful tour player, and SMGA is always grateful when we can provide such an experience. SMGA would like to thank: TPC Potomac for their hospitality, UMES -PGA apprentice Josh Patterson for his interest and assistance in our program, and of course to Billy Hurley for his time and instruction. We would also like to congratulate Billy on his great finish that weekend in the AT&T National.

Adaptive Clinic Held for Shady Grove Hospital

SMGA was at it again during an annual tournament at Woodmont Country Club hosted by Shady Grove Hospital and Adventist Healthcare. SMGA member Corporal Chris Bowers, Ret. and PGA apprentice George Roy, paired up early in the morning and turned in a score of -4. While their final score wasn't enough to be competitive, the impressions they left at Woodmont will last far longer than any 1st place finish would have. The two also paired up later that afternoon to teach an adaptive golf clinic to patients currently going through physical therapy programs at Adventist Rehabilitation Center. Even though the disabilities ranged from nerve damage to multiple amputations, SMGA was there to support adaptive golf, get everyone involved, and help put a smile on every face. SMGA would like to thank Shady Grove Hospital and Adventist Healthcare for allowing us to take part in such a great event. It's a relationship we hope will grow in the years to come.



Booz Allen Hosts the 3rd Annual Wounded Warrior Tournaments Set for San Diego, Dayton, Charleston, Bethesda, Honolulu and Norfolk

For the past two years, Booz Allen Hamilton has hosted golf tournaments to benefit the Wounded Warriors. The first year was hosted at Reston National, and last year the event moved across the Potomac to Bethesda Country Club, and SMGA was designated as the beneficiary. This year, the effort is going national, with seven sites hosting events in August. The San Diego event will be held August 10th, and the other six locations will hold events August 20th. The proceeds from the event will benefit SMGA as well as local efforts working on the same mission of providing golf as a rehabilitative force for our Wounded Warriors. The San Diego event is being held in conjunction with Operation Game On, a group run by Tony Perez, father of PGA pro Pat Perez. In Norfolk, where we have a chapter of SMGA, proceeds will be used to support that effort.

We hope to help build this event in the coming years, and add more locations and help fund local efforts to support our members that are dispersed all across the nation, and continue to offer playing opportunities, equipment, and lessons.

These events are open to the public, and if you would like to register or otherwise support this event, you can access any of seven individual registration and sponsorship sites through the link: www.bah4smga.com.

Olney Golf Park Clinics

The 2012 spring clinic series teed-off on Saturday, April 14, with nearly 60 wounded warrior and family member participants. The series ran for eight consecutive Saturdays, seven at Olney Golf Park and the final session at Manor Country Club. Average wounded warrior and family member attendance was nearly 50 participants at all clinic sessions. The final clinic session was a playing session at Manor Country Club with participants playing 9 holes on Manor's inside nine and then being hosted to a catered lunch at the club provided through donations generated by Manor members. The total number of wounded warriors who attended at least one Saturday clinic session was over 80.

The 2012 spring clinic series featured special presentations by Kris Tschetter and Kirk Lucas, as well as, Big Break Participant, Aubrey McCormick. Thanks to Mary Ann Rubin and her Ledo Pizza locations, Dan Hudson and his Olney Grill, Urban Barbeque and some members of Manor Country Club, all lunches for the spring clinics were donated and clinic participants were well fed.

Olney Golf Park Fall Clinics will start Saturday, August 18, and run for eight (8) Saturdays, skipping September 1, Labor Weekend and conclude October 13.

Email Jerry May, Operations Manager (jcmay245@verizon.net) for more information.

The SMGA NOVA Golf League is off to a great start in it's inaugural season at the Old Hickory Golf Club in Woodbridge, VA. Sixteen of our warriors and their friends from the Olney and Ft Belvoir programs have been battling it out each week in a variety of team combinations and formats, from scramble, to shamble, to better-ball.

Weekly prizes are awarded and the competition is tight at the top for the individual points championship as Week Five concluded on July 11. It's anybody's guess whether it will be TJ or Keri Brooks claiming the title! Better be careful TJ! Damon Knotts, Brad Pierce, Jeremiah Grotler, Matt Levine, Brenda Marlinbanks, Kristopher Poirier, Julian Steadman and Diana Trevino are lurking in the shadows to overtake! Dennis and Brenda Walburn, Joe Sullivan, Steven Devries and Maurice Ellison still have a glimmer of hope, but might need some help from the clubhouse leaders!

Nine-hole league play continues for three more weeks, each Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. Participation is still welcomed from any players interested. The weekly league fee is \$20 to play nine holes on a top-notch course managed by our Raspberry Golf Management supporters. Since the league is winding down, the registration fee has been reduced to \$40 for the remaining three weeks.

Email Dave Barton, PGA (dbarton@raspberrygolfacademy.com) for more information.

Fort Drum, NY

Our tournament series is moving right along, on Saturday the 30th of June we had a great tournament at Brookhaven G.C. in Saratoga Springs. The Albany/Saratoga Submarine Veterans and the Marine Corps League of Ballston Spa sponsored the event. Plans for next year's tournament there are already in the formulation stage.

We just finished three clinic sessions for soldiers at Ft Drum with looks like 12 wounded warriors will be receiving clubs this year at our awards dinner in September.

The "Purple Heart Golf Association" started up here is moving along with excellent results. At the end of this week we will have five or six golf courses offering discount rates to wearers of the Purple Heart. One course "Ives Hill" in Watertown has offered their course facilities free to one of our wounded warrior foursomes for practice purposes.

The holes at our championship play-offs on September 27th will have pin-flags with the names of veterans groups who sponsor that hole. VFW, American Legion, AMVETS, Marine Corps League posts are all sponsoring a hole at \$100 to show their support for our Nation's Heroes.

Email Frank Dorchak (ss572dbf@twcny.rr.com) for more information.

Fort Belvoir

Ft Belvoir completed the 8th session on June 9, 2012.

We averaged 28 participants with 7 of those being children and spouses of the Wounded Warriors. We had a total of 40 different people participate. 10 of the WW qualified for the PING golf clubs.

We had several visitors during the program: Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta, FBI Director Robert Mueller, New York Mayor Blumberg, and President Barrack Obama came out on June 9th, spoke to the troops, took pictures and shook hands. Then he went to play golf.

The Fall Clinics will run as follows:

Aug 18, 25, Sep 8, 15, 1000-1130 then lunch

Sep 22 lunch, 1300-1430 on the course

Sep 29 & Oct 6, 1000-1130 then lunch

Oct 20 lunch, 1300-1430 on the course

Email Dick Johns (theskull@pga.com) for more information.



Proud Partner Core Values

Mentorship

Teamwork

Integrity

Respect

Sportsmanship

Investment

Selflessness

Program Locations

Olney Golf Park, MD

Fort Drum, NY

Fort Belvoir, VA

Fort Eustice, VA

Getting Involved

Interested in hosting
a clinic?

Starting a golf
league?

Put on a
fundraising event to
benefit wounded
warrior golfers?

Volunteering?

Call us!

703.298.0331



P.O. Box 83893
Gaithersburg, MD 20883

THANK YOU TO OUR DEDICATED CORPORATE PARTNERS

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What does it take? Passion. Excellence. Commitment.

Your donation makes an impact.

\$55 pays for one wounded warrior to attend a clinic

\$80 provides a wounded warrior with a private lesson

\$200 pays for a wounded warrior to play in the final outing

\$1,000 pays for a wounded warrior to participate in the Golf Channel Amateur Tour

\$5,000 allows SMGA to purchase a computer analysis system

\$21,000 buys a ParaGolfer: a one seat golf cart for immobilized golfers

Join us in making a difference in a wounded warriors recovery,
and their life.



Donate online www.SMGA.org

