



# THE BRUNSWICK BEACON

ASH WACCAMAW  
MULTI-USE BUILDING  
UNDERWAY

PHOTO BY [unreadable]



The Most Grilled Dinner Group (MGDG) of Ocean Ridge Plantation (ORP) presents the \$800.00 check to the Veterans Welcome Home & Resource Center (VWHRC) of Little River. From left are John Santos, Andy McCadden, John Hartwig, Dave Research, Wiley Patten, Rob Barnes, Kyle Jones, Terry Smith, Rob Patten and Brian Mendenhall.

## The Ocean Ridge Plantation 'Meatheads' raise \$800 for charity

Donation presented to Veterans Welcome Home & Resource Center (VWHRC) of Little River

The Men's Grilled Dinner Group (MGDG) of Ocean Ridge Plantation raised \$800 for the Veterans Welcome Home & Resource Center (VWHRC) of Little River during an NFL Wildcard Playoff watch party on Sunday, Jan. 14.

The MGDG is a group of male Ocean Ridge Plantation property owners and full-time residents who prepare non-kernel grilled dinners within the community campus approximately every six weeks to build camaraderie with the community's men. MGDG members are known as "Meatheads."

Formed in June 2021, the MGDG has quickly grown to more than 140 enthusiastic members, making it the third largest organized group in the community. The group thrived following an enthusiastic and passionate discussion, in which a group of friends asked each other, "Why doesn't our community have a group that gets together to grill meat... lots and lots of meat?" When the group couldn't provide a satisfactory answer by the end of the evening, the challenge was accepted, and the concept soon became reality.

The Jan. 14 NFL Wildcard Playoff watch party was the fourth MGDG event held since its inception. Forty Meatheads attended the first event in September, followed by a 64-Meathead event in November, and an



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Meatheads are getting ready to put more than 80 ribeye steaks on the three grills needed to handle the appetite of the MGDG. From left are Ron Miller, Paul Mychalski, Ted White and Jeff Sonnenburg.

## MEATHEADS

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80-Meathead event in December. Seventy-one Meatheads attended the NFL Wildcard Playoff watch party. For each event, the Meatheads transform the ORP Plantation Club Member's Lounge into a steakhouse-type atmosphere and bring in extra grills to meet the grilling needs of the group. The men feature a grilled meat extravaganza with plenty of appetizers, sides, and desserts. Meatheads do not go home hungry at the end of the evening.

Capitalizing on the Meatheads' enthusias-

tic response to the first three events, the MGDG Planning Team tapped into the generosity of the group and has begun a collaboration with ORCA to mutually support each other's efforts.

The highlight of the January MGDG event was the whole-hearted participation by the Meatheads in raising an incredible \$800 to support the Ocean Ridge Charity Association's (ORCA) efforts.

Meathead Dennis Georgiadis led the fundraising and the collective group voted by unanimous decision which of four charities vetted by ORCA would receive the proceeds. The Meatheads overwhelmingly voted for the

Veterans Welcome Home & Resource Center (VWHRC) of Little River, whose mission is to aid veteran homelessness. The success of the effort made for a very happy group of Meatheads, many of whom are veterans themselves.

MGDG Planning Team member John Fasigai commented, "The excitement in this room is instant! ORP should have a place like this for everyone to enjoy all year long!"

The MGDG Planning Team is already working on its next event scheduled for late February and is engaged with ORCA to continue their collaborative efforts.