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The Horizon

What's New at Shangri-La

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Shangri-La Continues to Set New Records – and now...Here Comes The Battlefield!

*by Barry Willingham, President & CEO
Shangri-La Golf Club, Resort & Marina*



The Battlefield is taking shape and ready for an early May opening

Shangri-La Resort set new records in virtually every venue in the month of March. Spring Break was nothing short of incredible in terms of both arcade play and crowds enjoying the March Madness competition on our video walls. The hotel set new records for the month, as did both Doc's Bar & Grill and The Summit; and just when we thought The Anchor and the Racquet Club couldn't get any busier...they did. Our COW (Change Our World) Week "Day at The Anchor" partnership with the Grove High School Student Council was a tremendously successful fundraiser for the Abundant Blessings Center – and pickleball play is off the charts. In addition to the twenty-two teams in the COW Week tournament, fun-loving pickleball players flocked to

the festivities at Coach Kerr's "Almost Midnight Madness" pickleball mixer. Next up? The Spring Open Pickleball Tournament April 22.

Community Involvement

We love the opportunity to help support important charities and civic organizations. In addition to the COW Week fun at The Anchor, Executive Pastry Chef Julie Morgan's team knocked it out of the park again at the annual Home of Hope Chocolate Affair. This month, we have the privilege of hosting the Grove Educational Foundation for Excellence "GEFFE Gala" fundraiser and the South Grand Lake Area Chamber of Commerce "Bootleggers' Ball and Murder Mystery." Next month, our first big tournament

on The Battlefield will be an 18-hole "Battlefield Charity Challenge" benefiting 18 local charities.

Speaking of "The Battlefield"...

We are finally getting very close to the addition of 18 holes of world class championship Par 3 play at "The Battlefield." The cart facilities are complete, the course is almost ready for play, the warm-up facility and the enormous putting green are in place, and work is almost complete on the new club house and golf shop. If we can continue to have cooperative weather conditions, we will officially open The Battlefield for play in the first part of May.

Continued on page 2...

Continued from page 1...

Our entire team is thrilled with the progress of the new course. It just needs a few more weeks to finish the grow-in. There are some photos and more details about The Battlefield on our website now. Just go to the "Golf" link and click on "The Battlefield."

Golf, Golf, Golf

Despite a little uncooperative weather, our golf course was crazy busy in the month of March – and April officially begins our high demand season for players from throughout the region and around the country. We'll host the Verdigris Valley High School Conference competition in addition to seven groups from around the region including the Marquart Golf Group who have been making Shangri-La their annual stop for well over thirty years; and April 24, we are honored to host the inaugural Modoc Nation Golf Scramble.

If you need a little help with your game, this month also marks the return our Friday and Saturday golf clinics hosted by PGA Golf Instructor Joe Hassler. Fridays are targeted for ladies. Saturday clinics are for both men and women. Clinics will start at 3:00 p.m. and will last 90 minutes. There are new clinic topics each session, so please contact the Golf Shop if you would like to participate.

The Shangri-La Women's Golf Association swings into action this month, as well as the Men's Golf Association which will start the season with the MGA Kickoff Scramble April 22. For horse race competitors, John Lewis kicks off the 2023 season for the weekly Friday night "Yellow Rabbit Run Horse Race" fun on Friday, April 28.

The Golf Course, By the Way, is for...Golf!

As the weather gets warmer, golf cart traffic on Monkey Island increases and, of course, everyone is outdoors more for exercise and fun in the sun. Please share with your family members, guests, friends, and neighbors that the Shangri-La golf course is for one thing: GOLF! It is not a short-cut to your next destination. We have the Monkey Island Trail for golf cart travel from place to place. It is not for walking dogs. It is not for soccer or frisbee games. It is not for your daily walks. I would appreciate your help in support of our hard-working maintenance crew as we all focus on keeping all traffic off the golf course to make sure it is always in pristine championship condition for its only purpose – golf!

Get Your Kids Signed Up for Junior Golf

Sign-ups are underway for our constantly expanding programs for Junior golfers. Our Junior Players Academy is scheduled for June 19-21 (\$299 per player). This camp has grown significantly in the past ten years. The 3-day camp includes instruction,

daily lunch, and swimming following play. T-shirt, hat, prizes and lots of fun are included in this camp.

For the more serious youngsters, our Junior Skills Camp is scheduled for July 17-19 (\$399 per player). The focus of the Skills Camp is to identify each player's strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities to grow their game. If your player shows a desire to play golf at a higher level, this camp is for them. This camp is for experienced golfers only.

Sign your kids up for either of these great camps by calling the Golf Shop at 918-257-7706 or email Rob Yanovitch directly at rob.yanovitch@shangrilaok.com.

Plan Your Family Easter Celebration at Shangri-La

Easter weekend is always a big celebration at Shangri-La, and this year is no different. Our culinary team has planned two very special Easter Sunday Brunch menus – one for Doc's Bar & Grill and another at The Summit.

After brunch, you'll want to keep the youngsters on campus for the huge Easter Egg Hunt at The Anchor beginning at 2:00 p.m. on Easter Sunday, April 9.

April is Members' Wine Dinner Month

Mark your calendars and make your reservations. The first Members' Wine Dinner of the year is scheduled for Thursday, April 20 at The Summit. There will be no regular menu that night, but our culinary crew has planned an incredible menu with each course accompanied by special wines from Van Duzer Vineyard presented by Handcrafted Wine & Spirits.

Fun for the Entire Family at The Anchor

There's always something fun happening at The Anchor. Our arcade and virtual reality games are the talk of the lake – and The Anchor sports bar is the ultimate sport for your favorite sporting events. Following the NCAA Championship on April third, we will barely have time for a breath before The Masters coverage April 6-9. NBA playoffs begin April 11, followed by the NHL Stanley Cup Playoffs beginning April 18.

The fun continues each week at The Racquet Club, as well, with a variety of mixers and drills including the popular Thursday night Ladies' Night session followed by the Competitive Pickleball Mixer; and Coach Kerr's new offering of Cardio Pickleball Drills, along with tennis lessons for adults, junior high students and high school players.

Boating Season

The arrival of springtime means the kickoff of another busy boating season on Grand Lake and our marina crew is anxious to see everyone. Sail Grand pontoon, tritoon, and bowrider rentals are now available at the marina, along with yacht charters. Mitch Whitehead has added to the charter fleet. In addition to the 64-foot Bluewater Yacht (30 passengers), we now also offer a 39-foot Princess Cruiser (8 passengers) and a 38-foot Chris Craft Launch (10 passengers). Personal watercraft will be available for rental in May, and parasailing season begins Memorial weekend.

The marina ship store and fuel dock are open six days a week (Monday-Saturday) from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. offering gasoline, diesel, pump-out facilities, and a variety of apparel, footwear, snacks, ice, beverages, souvenirs, boating supplies and accessories. Spring and summer merchandise is arriving at the ship store daily, and our marina staff continues to welcome boaters from throughout the area - and Eddy's will be opening for the season in mid-May. Let's get on the water!

Moving Ahead!

I can't over-emphasize my gratitude for the continued support from all our incredible members offering encouragement and participation that enables us to constantly move forward to greater success with expanding venues and increased amenities. Thank you for your support, your patronage, and your friendship through the years. Our team is always here for you and your guests any time you are struck by the urge to Escape the Ordinary.

One of the many fun features at the Battlefield are the "FELIX Tees." Look for these up near each greens complex for a chip and putt option and also to be used by our newest and youngest players as their teeing ground. This will give them the ability to select the same club as our experienced players on each hole and see immediate success.



Culinary Conversation

By Jonathan Moosmiller

Executive Director of Food & Beverage



Executive Pastry Chef Julie Morgan (center) was joined by Mike Neigel and Kaylee Thomas to Wow the Crowd with sweet treats at the Home of Hope Chocolate Affair.

The Food & Beverage crew is getting very busy. We had a great time with St. Patrick's Day specials last month – and we survived a very busy Spring Break week. April's schedule of group events is a full calendar – and it brings one of my very favorite holidays. Easter Brunch is always a fun event, and we have planned some terrific menus for the entire family.

EASTER BRUNCH AT DOC'S

Our Easter Sunday Brunch offering at Doc's Bar & Grill is a one-price affair priced at \$25 for adults and \$12 for kids with a selection of delicacies sure to please everyone in the family.

Our Cold Display includes a Cheese & Fruit Display, Assorted Danishes, Muffins, Bagel Dots & Pullman Breads, along with Chilled Shrimp, and Smoked Salmon. For salads, take your choice of a House Salad or Caesar.

Our Carving Station will feature Slow Roasted Leg of Lamb – and our Hot Station offers multiple choices: California Egg Benedict, Creamy Garlic Chicken, Baked Redfish, or Rigatoni Primavera accompanied by Parmesan Whipped Potatoes and a Seasonal Vegetable Medley.

If you're in the mood for breakfast, we will offer Bacon & Sausage, Eggs Two Ways, Buttermilk Biscuits & Gravy, Waffles, made-to-order Omelets, and Potatoes O'Brien.

OR EASTER BRUNCH AT THE SUMMIT

At the Summit, we offer some very special choices. Our Cold Buffet is priced at \$15 for adults and \$7 for kids, and includes three salad choices as well as Assorted Breakfast Pastries, a Fruit & Yogurt Display and a Seafood Display with both Smoked Salmon and Shrimp Cocktail with all the accompaniments.

Entrees are priced separately to maximize choices and value. Biscuits & Gravy includes Green Chili Cheddar Biscuits topped with Chorizo Enchilada Gravy (\$13) – or you may prefer Caramel Cream French Toast with Vanilla Cream and a Caramel Drizzle served with thick-sliced bacon (\$14). Our Par 3 Breakfast includes Two Eggs any style, Hash Browns, Thick-Sliced Bacon, House Made Sausage Patties and Sourdough Toast (\$15).

For heartier appetites, check out our Crab Cake Benedict – Lump Crab Cake with Fresh Sliced Tomato, Remoulade Hollandaise with an Arugula Herb Salad (\$21) – or the irresistible Summit Steak and Eggs – a 12 oz. New York Strip, Two Eggs any style, Hash Browns and Sourdough Toast (\$24). Kids' pricing is offered on all entrees, as well.

COME FOR EASTER BRUNCH, STAY FOR THE EGG HUNT

If you have kids with you, plan to stay after brunch for the incredible Easter Egg Hunt at The Anchor beginning at 2:00 p.m. This is the biggest Easter family attraction on the lake – and we look forward to hosting you for an entire day of great food and fun at Shangri-La!

MEMBERS' WINE DINNER APRIL 20

Our first Members' Wine Dinner of the year is scheduled for Thursday evening, April 20. Get your reservations in early. Our wine dinners are always extremely popular. This month, Handcrafted Wine & Spirits will present wines from Van Duzer Vineyards. Chef Matt and Kelsy will prepare a perfectly paired course for each wine. No regular dinner service will be offered Thursday, April 20 in order to accommodate attendees at this great event. Cost for the Wine Dinner is \$150 per person.

YOU'LL BE SEEING SOME NEW FACES SOON

As we gear up for a busy season, you'll begin seeing some new faces this month – and some familiar faces, as well. Our seasonal staff members from many different parts of the world will begin arriving this month; and almost half of our 46 new servers, bartenders, and cooks will be familiar faces you will remember from last summer. Please help us welcome these new and returning team members.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT ALL MONTH AT DOC'S

Doc's isn't just about food. It's about entertainment, as well. Dinner each Thursday evening is complemented by great musical fun as Jason Morgan leads the karaoke and the always-fun Singo competition at Doc's; and we always offer live musical entertainment on Friday evenings. Our Friday evening featured performers this month include Kevin Price, Ryan Graham, Scott Musick, and JR Neal.

GREAT MENU ITEMS AND ALA CARTE BREAKFAST AT DOC'S

Our regular menu at Doc's includes some great appetizers – Jalapeno Peppers, Fried Pickles, Nachos, and the addition of a Soup of the Day to warm you up on those remaining chilly days.

Sandwiches on the menu include the popular Chicken Sandwich, an Island Philly, and Doc's Club as well as the popular burgers and our complete Pizza Menu. Entrees include Catfish, Salmon, Tomato Basil Penne and, of course, the ever-popular Chicken Fried Steak.

I think you'll enjoy these choices as well as a variety of our most popular breakfast dishes including made-to-order omelets.

We know you have a variety of choices for dining, drinking, and entertainment – and we are always grateful when you choose to spend your time with us at our variety of Shangri-La venues. Please join us anytime you can. We're always cooking up something!

Dock Talk

by Mitch Whitehead, Shangri-La Marina Manager



With new merchandise arriving daily, the Ship Store is stocked with a variety of apparel for both cool weather and warm!

THE MARINA IS DEWINTERIZED – NOW...YOUR BOAT

Serious cold weather threats are gone. The marina has been dewinterized. There is now water available on all docks and the pump-out facilities at the fuel dock are operational. With the official arrival of the spring boating season, it's also time to dewinterize your boat and make sure it is fully operational and ready for the great boating days ahead.

As is the case for winterization in the Fall, service technicians can't get to all the boats in a single day, so now is the time to get on the calendar for dewinterization.

If your boat is at Shangri-La Marina, contact Service Manager Monte Langley at Nichols Marine to schedule your date to make sure your boat is ready for the water. Call 918-257-5500 or email him at monte.nicholsmarine@gmail.com.

If you need cosmetic repairs or engine/outdrive service, this is the perfect time to make sure those issues are taken care of, as well.

BOAT RENTALS AND YACHT CHARTERS ARE AVAILABLE

The Sail Grand rental fleet is available for rentals. Pontoons, tritoons, Chaparral bowriders, and, for fishermen, we have a 22-foot Lowe center console bay boat equipped with a trolling motor available for rental, as well. Shangri-La members receive a 10% discount on all rentals, with the exception of Saturdays and holi-

day weekends.

Yacht charters are also available from Sail Grand – and there are three different options from which to choose. Our 64-foot Blue-water Yacht has a passenger capacity of thirty. We also offer a 39-foot Princess cruiser which accommodates eight passengers, and a 38-foot Chris Craft which accommodates parties of up to ten people. Shangri-La members also receive a 10% discount on all yacht charters. To reserve dates for rentals or charters, call 918-257-6000 or make your reservations online at www.sailgrand.com.

It's still a little chilly for personal watercraft. Rentals of PWCs will begin in May. Parasailing adventures will be available beginning Memorial Day weekend.

CHANGE IN BILLING FOR MARINA SLIP RENTERS

For slip renters at Shangri-La Marina April is the last time you will receive separate billing for monthly charges. In the future, marina charges will be included with monthly membership billing for Shangri-La Resort as a single invoice. Statements will be emailed from KateLin.jumper@shangrilaok.com. However, all questions about all marina operations and marina charges on your future statements should be still be directed to Lyn Moore at the marina – 918-257-4898 or email her at lyn.moore@shangrilaok.com.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR MAY 6 – PARTY TIME!

Be sure you have marked your calendar to join us at Eddy's Lakeside Bar Saturday, May 6 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. for a Customer Appreciation Luau for our valued slip renters at Shangri-La Marina as well as customers of Nichols Marine. COVID messed up our party plans for the past couple of years, so we're ready for a great time.

In addition to our party on Saturday, May 6, we will also have an in-water boat show on the sales dock at the marina. Things are finally back to normal in the boat sales industry, so the selection of Chaparral, Bennington, Robalo, and MasterCraft boats is excellent.

Many of the new boats are located at the Nichols showroom adjacent to the causeway onto Monkey Island, but we will also have a variety of new and used boats in the sales dock at the marina. We have a fantastic selection available, and more new models are arriving each week – and we're planning a great in-water boat show the first weekend of May.

With more than 50 years of dependable sales & service, Nichols Marine is one of the largest dealers in this part of the United States; and we are proud of our operating partnership with them. In addition to their operation at Shangri-La Marina, they have a sales & service center on Monkey Island. The full inventory is online at www.nicholsmarine.com.

YEAR-ROUND BOATING ACCESS TO FOOD AND FUN AT SHANGRI-LA!

Courtesy slips at Shangri-La Marina remain open and accessible year-round – and Doc's Bar & Grill is the only accessible-by-water restaurant that is open for breakfast, lunch, and dinner seven days a week year-round! Thursday evenings are a great time to boat to Shangri-La for the weekly karaoke fun with Jason Morgan! Doc's also features weekly Friday night live entertainment year-round. April Friday night live entertainment at Doc's includes great entertainers throughout the month – Kevin Price, Ryan Graham, Scott Musick, and JR Neal.

The Anchor is also within walking distance of our courtesy docks with lots of indoor and outdoor fun seven days a week, so plan to come join the fun – by boat!

As always, our marina team is here to serve you. Contact us at 918-257-4898 or email marina@shangrilaok.com.

Staff Spotlight: Hanna Heffley

by Communications Director Mike Williams



Front Desk Manager Hanna Heffley: "Making sure our guests have a good time is why we're here!"

We all like to be greeted by a smiling face and a friendly welcome when we step into an unfamiliar atmosphere. That's why so many guests at Shangri-La's Resort Hotel comment on the warm greetings they receive from Front Desk Manager Hanna Heffley and her crew of eight staffers who man the hotel's front desk 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 52 weeks a year.

A native of Miami, Oklahoma, Hanna started her hospitality career when she was still a senior at Quapaw High School.

"My mom suggested I apply for a job at Buffalo Run Casino Hotel in Miami when I was in high school. I worked there for two years, starting in 2016. In 2018, after Shangri-La opened the new hotel, Brent Beyers had joined the Shangri-La team as Facilities Manager. I had worked with Brent at Buffalo Run. I called him to see about job openings at Shangri-La, and he urged me to apply.

"I guess you could say I brought my own boss with me," Hanna laughs. "Brett Wisdom was my boss at Buffalo Run. I told him we should both apply at Shangri-La – and we did!"

Ironically, Brett began his new job as Hotel Director in 2018 on the same day Hanna took her new position as a Front Desk Clerk. In 2021, Hanna was promoted to her current position as Front Desk Manager. She takes on the busiest part of the schedule herself working a normal 1:00 p.m. 'til 11:00 p.m. shift – the time when the hotel is busiest with guest check-ins and questions about available entertainment and amenities.

"We do a little bit of everything," Hanna says. "We book reservations at restaurants. We tell people what's going on at all the Shangri-La venues and

other places on Monkey Island. We just need to know as much as we can about everything that's going on so we can let our guests know...events, restaurant specials, other events happening in the area."

Providing complimentary shuttle service to resort guests is another busy amenity.

"Since our club house, the Summit Restaurant, and soon, The Battlefield are all accessible by water, our busiest shuttles are from the marina courtesy slips to those venues," she says, "but our shuttles also provide transportation for hotel guests to other businesses on Monkey Island. The shuttles are popular and busy all the time," she says.

Historically, the resort hotel has been far less busy during the winter months, allowing time for staffing, training, and revising schedules and operating systems. But the addition of The Anchor activity park with so many additional all-weather amenities has changed that.

"This winter, we didn't get much of a break," Hanna admits. "We had a short time to recuperate a little bit and plan what we're going to do differently in the summer season, but we're now pretty busy year-round."

An unexpected benefit of her Shangri-La position was meeting her fiancé, Brandon Rascoe. He, too, worked at Shangri-La when they met, but he currently works as Club Manager at Arrowhead Yacht Club.

"We haven't set a date," she laughs. "With both of us working in the hospitality business, it's a little tough to find a date when we're not both crazy busy!"

Hanna loves everything about working in the "lake atmosphere." She enjoys the resort community and meeting new people every day. She also finds time to spend with friends and family, boating, visiting, or just hanging out. She lives on Monkey Island and her family is nearby. Her parents are building a new retirement home in the Elk River area of the lake and her sister lives in Claremore with her two nieces and a nephew.

"I love working here," she says. "We have so much to offer. We have lots of golf groups – and guests who love our resort pool, The Anchor, the course, and our variety of dining and drinking venues – plus lots of other options available on Monkey Island. Everyone who checks in here wants to have a good time; and making sure they have a good time is why we're here!"



Director of Catering Linda Wall and Director of Sales Dana Able were on hand to spread the Shangri-La news at the Tulsa Home & Garden Show.

SLWGA News

by Cheryl Brecheisen

Could you use a bit of a boost to brighten your sometimes moody Monday? Are you a female member of Shangri-La? Do you enjoy spending time with other ladies in a spectacular setting? If so, participation in the Shangri-La Women's Golf Association (SLWGA) may be a great fit! SLWGA members have a range of golf skills and experiences. Some ladies play 18 holes while others prefer to play just 9 holes. Monday play days begin April 10 and run through October 30. SLWGA welcomes all interested women. For more information regarding membership contact Cheryl Brecheisen at 918-331-7692.

The SLWGA Board has been very busy planning for the new season. 2023 Board members are Peggy Howard-Burgess, President; Barbara Patrick, Vice President; Candy Couch, Secretary; Carol Cable, Treasurer; Linda Ballard, 18 Hole Chairperson; Susan Jones, 9 Hole Chairperson; Judi Barber, Away Golf Chairperson; Cheryl Brecheisen, Past President & Publicity Co-Chairperson; Melissa Scribner, Publicity Co-Chairperson; and Kim Quillin, Member-at-Large.

In addition to weekly Monday play days, the SLWGA offers an abundance of other golf opportunities throughout the year. Some of the member favorites include Guest Day on May 8, an Eclectic 2-day tournament in May and the Grand Lady championship event in September. The Board is especially excited to add a Monday play day each month at the fabulous new Battlefield Par 3 course as well as a Ryder Cup event in August.

As much as the women love the Shangri-La courses, they also enjoy "hitting the road" and participating in many away golf events through membership in Interclub, Women's Oklahoma Golf Association (WOGA), Women's Tri-State Golf Association and the Tulsa District Women's Golf Association (TDWGA).

SLWGA, through its many golf events, is a wonderful way to meet other Shangri-La members, get out on the pristine property at Shangri-La, improve your golf game, and simply live the "Grand" life!

SAVE THE DATES

April 10 – First Play Day of the Season

May 8 - Grab a guest for golf and lunch as we "Swing Into Summer". Please sign up on the SLWGA website or by contacting Barbara Patrick at 405-990-1307 by May 2 for this fun Guest Day event.

"I went to play golf to try and shoot my age, but I shot my weight instead." –Bob Hope



Look out Battlefield, the SLWGA ladies are gearing up for "the battle" in 2023! SLWGA 2023 Board members (front row) Kim Quillin, Barbara Patrick, Linda Ballard, Melissa Scribner, (back row) Judi Barber, Peggy Howard-Burgess, Candy Couch and Cheryl Brecheisen. (Not pictured are Carol Cable and Susan Jones)



Congratulations to Gary Graham of Bristow, OK on his fourth career hole in one carded Tuesday, February 28, 2023 at Shangri-La. Gary aced #2 Legends from 184 yards with his five iron. The shot was witnessed by friends Brian Pinson, Joe Murphy and Brad Mudgett. Congratulations, Gary! Great shot!

Member Profile: Joe & Janice Wilburn

By Mike Williams



Joe & Janice Wilburn: "Monkey Island is the perfect place to live; and we're excited about making it our home – full time!"

It was almost as if fate intervened to put Joe and Janice Wilburn together. Although they didn't actually meet until Joe was in college, they both grew up in Tulsa just a few miles apart – Joe "right by the first Quik Trip in Tulsa on Peoria" and Janice in a neighborhood near the University of Tulsa. They were even born in the same hospital! Janice graduated from Tulsa's Central High School, Joe from Jenks High School.

"We met when I was with a buddy who was wearing an All-State football shirt," Joe recalls. "That shirt caught the eye of a friend of Janice's, and the two of them agreed to go on a date. Janice and I decided to double-date with them. It didn't work out for our friends, but Janice and I continued that summer – and were married three years later."

Both Joe and Janice attended Oklahoma State University where Janice was a "Diamond Doll," a bat girl for the Cowboys' baseball team. She finished her degree at the University of Tulsa and spent a successful career as a CPA, ultimately becoming a partner in the top 25 national CPA and Consulting firm Eide Bailey. She plans to retire next month.

As for Joe, "I started writing insurance business my first week out of college because I couldn't really find anything else to do. I stayed with that, adding a securities license and built a firm with some partners out of Iowa."

He sold the business in 2015. With a three-year non-compete clause, he spent his time fixing up a house the two purchased in Shangri-La Estates. When his non-compete clause expired, he started another firm, Midtown Wealth Management, which he still operates although he laughs that "I have a couple of partners who do most of the work."

The Shangri-La Estates home wasn't their first exposure to the Grand Lake lifestyle, though. As their three sons grew up and family-filled weekend demands began to decrease, Joe and Janice began weekend treks to Grand Lake.

"When our last son at home was in high school, we started building a house in The Coves," Joe recalls. "Before

the house was finished, we decided that wasn't for us, so we stopped construction. About a month later, we saw a place in Ketchum Cove right across from Hammerhead Marina. We decided that was our 'On Golden Pond home' – and we had a great time with our boys there."

When their six grandchildren began expanding the family, the Ketchum Cove house was too small, resulting in the move to Shangri-La Estates. Six years ago, they added even more space with a move to Shangri-La Chateaus. Next month, they plan to make lake life a total commitment, moving from their mid-town Tulsa home to their home in the Chateaus full time.

As they began discussions about transitioning to full time life at Grand Lake, they decided to expand their longtime commitment to support of non-profit organizations.

"We have always been involved in the Tulsa area, but I felt like there were so many organizations at Grand Lake that we didn't know about, we decided to expose a lot of organizations around the lake to the people who may be new on Monkey Island."

Their initial involvement with area charities was certainly no small step. It resulted in the first major golf tournament to be held at Shangri-La's new Par 3 golf course, The Battlefield, which opens next month. The "Battlefield Charity Challenge" is scheduled for May 25, benefiting a variety of local charities.

"We decided to dedicate each hole on the golf course to a different charity. "It's a way for us to learn more about the community and get more involved in our new community, doing some of the same kinds of things we have done for years in Tulsa," Joe says. "The McCorkle Family Foundation is graciously covering the cost of the tournament, so all of the green fees for teams and the additional money raised will go directly to the charities. Each charity has their own hole, plus a nineteenth charity with a separate display space."

Beneficiary charities include the Home of Hope, Har-Ber Village Museum, Comfort Closets, DCCSAN, Grove Area Creative Alliance, Christian Help Center, Abundant Blessing Center, Second Chance Pet Rescue, Grove Education Foundation for Excellence, The Blue House, Vinita Day Center, Neighbors Helping Neighbors, Integris Health Grove Hospital Foundation, Community Crisis Center, Lendonwood Gardens, Playmakers, Grand Lake O' The Cherokees Guild, House of Hope and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Delaware County.

"It's almost a selfish event on our part," Joe smiles, "because it has already taught us so much about the tremendous work being done by a variety of charities. It's a great opportunity for both part-time and full-time Monkey Islanders to get involved with the important work being done in the Grand Lake area."

The Wilburns are obviously a fantastic addition to the Grand Lake community, but it isn't all work. They are also totally immersed in the amenities available at Shangri-La Resort. They began meeting new friends by participating in couples' tournaments at the Shangri-La Golf Club. More recently, their social scene focus has been on pickleball mixers at The Anchor Racquet Club. Janice is also an avid tennis player on several women's tennis teams. She is obviously excited about a lifestyle that puts here a short golf cart ride away from the Racquet Club and plenty of other tennis and pickleball players. She is spreading the Shangri-La love to multiple family generations, as well, planning participation in a variety of Shangri-La summer camp activities for her grandchildren.

Joe and Janice have been privileged to travel throughout the world. Janice is partial to Africa. Joe says if you give him a beach and warm weather, he quickly looks like he's in the middle of a Corona

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Anchor Activity

by Shaun Tune, Director of Anchor Operations



Executive Chef Matt Hensley manned the Hooray Grill with a variety of tacos to feed the hungry COW Week crowds at The Anchor.



3-on-3 basketball drew competitors and spectators alike to the COW Week "Day at the Anchor" charity fundraiser sponsored by the Grove High School Student Council.

I couldn't be more thrilled with the fantastic participation in our fun-filled days at The Anchor. March was a record month for us, topped off by an incredibly busy Spring Break week. We were also privileged to help the Grove High School Student Council with their fantastic COW (Change Our World) Week charity fundraising efforts by hosting a "Day at The Anchor" with pickleball, basketball, cornhole, ping-pong, and billiards competition along with a home run derby on the mini-Fenway WIFFLE® Ball field, and longest drive and duck hunting in the simulator bay. Kudos to Shangri-La CEO Barry Willingham and Dr. Terri Geary who volunteered as "pool sharks" to take on all challengers in a "Beat the Shark" billiards battle – and to coach Todd Kerr who assembled pickleball competition for 22 participating teams.

This year's COW Week beneficiary is the Abundant Blessings Center, a nonprofit organization focused on providing resources for individuals throughout pregnancy. Their mission is to provide support for families and individuals through their variety of services. It was a great day of fun for a great cause!

Don't Miss the 2023 Anchor Easter Egg Hunt

Easter Sunday will be a huge day at The Anchor as we host our annual Easter Egg Hunt beginning at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, April 9. This fun event is a free event that is open to the public with participation by kids age 12 and under.

Egg hunting competition will be divided into age groups – 6 and under and 6-12. Be sure your kids bring a basket, bucket, or other container to gather the eggs – and bring your camera. This is always a huge event for youngsters.

Spring Pool League Play is Underway

We kicked off Spring Pool League competition at The Anchor on March 23 with seven participating teams. This year's competition is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. each Thursday evening continuing through May 4.

The Sports Bar is THE SPORT for Sports Coverage

There is certainly no shortage of sporting event coverage at The Anchor. This month is highlighted by complete live coverage of the NCAA Championship finals April 3 and coverage of The Masters April 6-9.

NBA Playoffs begin April 11 and NHL Stanley Cup Playoffs

begin April 18. We also provide coverage of Major League and college Baseball, the red-hot OU and OSU Softball teams, as well as weekly NASCAR coverage.

If your favorite sporting events happen at the same time, it's no problem. We have LOTS of sports screens to make sure we have complete coverage of ALL your favorite events.

Pickleball Tournament, Mixers, Drills - and Tennis Fun at The Racquet Club

We had a fantastic turnout for Coach Todd Kerr's "Almost Midnight Madness" Pickleball Tournament last month with a four-hour evening filled with competition, food, fun, and beverages. This month, be sure your calendar is marked for the Spring Open Pickleball Tournament Saturday & Sunday, April 22-23. Deadline for entering the tournament is April 18. Sign up at the Racquet Club Pro Shop or contact Coach Kerr at 918-787-1235. The tournament is open to the public.

There is a wide variety of Spring activity at The Shangri-La Racquet Club. Pickleball drills this month are held Thursdays at 5:45 p.m., Fridays at 9:00 a.m. and Saturday at 10:00 a.m. Cardio Pickleball Drills are held Tuesday morning at 9:00.

There are plenty of pickleball mixers, too, including Ladies' Night Pickleball Mixers each Thursday evening at 6:00 followed by the Competitive Mixer at 7:30. Pickleball Mixers are also Mondays at 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., Thursdays at 9:00 a.m., Fridays at 7:00 p.m., and Saturdays at 11:00 a.m.

Tennis players are on the schedule, too, with open adult tennis drills Tuesday evenings at 7:30 and Saturday morning at 9:00 a.m. High School tennis drills are held Saturdays at 12:30 p.m., and Junior High tennis drills are Saturdays at 1:30 p.m.

PLEASE NOTE: There will be no drills or mixers on Saturday, April 22 due to the Spring Open Pickleball Tournament April 22-23.

Lots of Options for the Entire Family

There are always plenty of entertainment options for the entire family – no matter what the weather. Our golf and shooting simulator bays and arcade provide both traditional games for all ages as well as challenging virtual reality games.

The arcade is just the beginning of our entertainment options.

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We also have pool, ping-pong, shuffleboard, foosball, and darts – and that's just what we have indoors. Mild days also fill the basketball court, WIFFLE@Ball field, pickleball courts, and tennis courts with members and guests burning off a little excess energy.

We are thrilled to be Grand Lake's total entertainment headquarters – no matter what the weather. I hope to see you soon at The Anchor!



Opening Day has come and gone in the MLB. What are you waiting for? Batter Up!



Dr. Terri Geary and Shangri-La President & CEO Barry Willingham volunteered their time as "pool sharks" to take on all challengers in the COW (Change Our World) Week charity fundraising fun at The Anchor.



Battlefield Golf Course Superintendent Zach "Peach" Roach (right) hosted Golf Oklahoma Magazine Editor Ken MacLeod on a pre-opening tour of The Battlefield.



Getting the course into Spring condition takes a lot of manpower



At the Battlefield we honor those who have served our country with great honor. Use this QR code to find out more and learn more about our Oklahoma Heroes!



Shangri-La Mission Statement

Our mission is to provide a first class resort experience for our guests and members by consistently providing enjoyable recreation, a safe environment, and memorable vacation experiences. We strive to reach these goals by developing relationships, creating a sense of camaraderie and instilling pride through the delivery of exceptional products, a diversity of programs and engaging services.

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Monkey Island, OK 74331
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Beer commercial. These days, their travel is limited pretty much to Michigan, Texas, and Edmond, Oklahoma to visit kids and grandkids.

"Everything we love is right here," Joe says. "We love golf, boating, pickleball, and taking advantage of the incredible Shangri-La amenities

with great friends. Honestly, though," he admits, "I really enjoy sitting on my deck with a cup of coffee and looking at the lake. Monkey Island the perfect place to live; and we're excited about making it our home – full time!"

Please Help Us Honor All Our Veterans and Military Personnel

The Battlefield Par 3 Course at Shangri-La, with each hole named after a World War II Oklahoma hero, is planning extensive and continuing recognition of both current military personnel and military veterans; and we are asking for your help to enhance that process.

Each day, we will honor veterans and military personnel in the new club house at The Battlefield.

If you or any of your relatives or ancestors currently serve or historically served our country in any era, please submit information to provide us with the ability to honor them at The Battlefield.

We need the following information from you in order to properly honor those who served. Copy and paste the below details in your response and submit your answers along with attached photo(s):

- Your hero's name and at least one photograph (preferably one in uniform, 3 max photos)
- Birth and Death (if applicable) dates,
- Their rank and branch of military
- Any special awards or honors
- Their hometown
- A brief (100 word) biography
- Submitted by: Example "The Charles Smith Family" or "Charles Smith"
- Relation to submitted by if applicable: Example "Uncle" or "Great Grandfather"

We are building a file of those who will be honored daily in the club house at The Battlefield, and I hope you will help us recognize all our deserving military personnel and veterans.

Please email the above information to Rob Yanovitch at rob.yanovitch@shangrilaok.com. Include your name, phone number, and email so we have the opportunity to notify you when your nominee is honored.

We appreciate your cooperation in assuring that we honor all who served our nation – past or present.

Shangri-La Hours of Operation

Golf Shop

7:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. daily

Turnhouse

8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. daily

Summit Restaurant & Buffalo Bar

CLOSED Monday-Wednesday

5:00-9:00 p.m. Thursday & Sunday

5:00-10:00 p.m. Friday & Saturday

Shangri-La Marina and Ship Store

9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday-Saturday

CLOSED Sunday

The Spa at Shangri-La

9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Thursday-Sunday

Doc's Bar & Grill

At Shangri-La Resort Hotel

7:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m. Sunday-Thursday

7:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m. Friday-Saturday

The Anchor Activity Park

11:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m. Sunday-Thursday

10:00 a.m.-midnight Friday & Saturday

The Galley at The Anchor

CLOSED Monday-Tuesday

4:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. Wednesday-Friday

11:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m. Saturday-Sunday

The Monkey Grind

Sunday-Saturday – 7:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Eddy's Lakeside Bar

CLOSED FOR THE SEASON