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The Horizon

What's New at Shangri-La



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October 2023

Fall Festivals, Football, Charity Golf, Pickleball Camp and Tournaments, and New Fall Hours of Operation at Multiple Shangri-La Venues

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



On the heels of Oklahoma Lieutenant Governor Matt Pinnell's record "Luau on the Green & Golf Tournament," the "NEO Charity Pickleball Tournament," the annual Missouri Southern State University College Invitational Golf Tournament – and even the privilege of hosting Major League Baseball Hall-of-Famer John Smoltz for a little golf in September, we are facing an equally busy month of October at Shangri-La.

The month kicks off with our "Courage Under Fire Classic" golf tournament benefiting the Monkey Island Fire Department. I am so grateful to the generous sponsors and enthusiastic players who

signed up for this tournament honoring the courageous team of dedicated first responders who put their lives on the line for us each and every day. From fighting fires on land and on the water to providing quick and competent medical attention, the MIFD crews will respond to more than 1,000 emergency calls this year. No one does more to keep us all safe – and I am grateful to all who stepped up to the plate to help support them at this inaugural tournament.

Football, Red River Rivalry Party, Pickleball, and Halloween Fun at The Anchor

Football season is in full swing at The Anchor with another big "Red River Rivalry Hooray Grill Tailgate Cookout & Watch Party" for the OU-Texas game Saturday, October 7. The Anchor is Grand Lake's official headquarters for college and NFL football. There's no better place to catch your favorites than at The Anchor Sports Bar. And yes, we have Prime Video, so you won't miss those Thursday night NFL games, either.

Halloween is always a special time for family fun at The Anchor, and this year is no dif-

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ferent. Plan to bring the entire family to The Anchor from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Saturday, October 28 for costume contests, pumpkin painting, jelly bean counting contests, and special treats. There's something for everyone – costume contests will be held in a variety of age groups – 5 and under, 6-9, 10-13, 14-16 and adults. Get those costumes ready. Halloween is always a fun time at The Anchor.

Pickleball courts are always busy, but there are some great special events coming up. On the heels of the NEO Charity Pickleball Tournament, The Anchor Racquet Club hosts a "Ladies Day Dinkers" two-day pickleball camp Monday & Tuesday, October 2-3. In conjunction with the bit Halloween celebration at The Anchor, Coach Kerr & his Racquet Club Crew are also planning a big Halloween Costume Pickleball Mixer from 7:00-9:00 Saturday, October 28.

If you haven't already signed up for the Mary Bulten Memorial Open Pickleball Tournament set for November 4-5, be sure to get on the sign-up sheet. Stop by the Racquet Club Pro Shop or contact Coach Kerr at todd.kerr@shangrilaok.com.

Fall Arrival Means New Hours of Operation at Shangri-La Venues

It's that time of year. The official arrival of fall means new hours of operation for virtually all Shangri-La venues. The resort pool will remain open, but the pool bar is closed for the season, as of October 1. Doc's new hours of operation are from 7:00 a.m. daily, closing at 9:00 p.m. Sunday-Thursday and 10:00 p.m. Saturday & Sunday. We continue the Thursday night karaoke fun with Jason Morgan, as well as regular Friday night live entertainment. October performers include Kevin Price, Chloe Johns, Mark Gibson, and Ryan Graham.

As of October 1, The Summit Restaurant will no longer offer lunch service. Dinner service is available Thursday and Sunday from 4:00-9:00 p.m. and Friday & Saturday 4:00-10:00 p.m. Terry Jordan will entertain Friday & Saturday evenings throughout the

month of October.

The Anchor arcade, activity park, and sports bar will also reduce hours of operation on weekdays – open from 4:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 4:00-midnight Fridays. Saturday hours are 10:00 a.m.-midnight. Sunday hours are 11:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.

The Galley at The Anchor offers food service Friday & Saturday until 10:00 p.m. and Sunday until 9:00. The Galley will not be open Monday-Thursday for the off-season months.

The Racquet Club hours of operation are 8:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m. Sunday-Thursday, and 8:00 a.m.-midnight Friday & Saturday.

Effective October 1, Shangri-La Marina will be closed Sundays, but is open from 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday-Saturday. Boat rentals and yacht charters are still available from the Ship Store. For reservations, call 918-257-6000.

Hours of operation at The Monkey Grind (7:00-3:00) and The Canteen at The Battlefield (7:30-5:00) changed slightly.

Still Spreading the Grand Lake News

We have been honored significantly in the past two or three months by sports and tourism writers across the country – especially with the opening of The Battlefield 18-hole par 3 course. Following write-ups in Kansas City's "Tee Times Magazine," Dallas-based "Avid Golfer" and "Texas Golf Insider," Wisconsin-based "Midwest Golfing Magazine," and of course "Golf Oklahoma," our latest write-up is in "On the Links Magazine" distributed throughout Texas and Arizona. We couldn't be prouder to help spread the news of Oklahoma's number one tourism destination!

It's a Great Time of the Year on Grand Lake

It's hard to believe that Fall is already here, but it's a fabulous time of year on Grand Lake, and we are grateful that you choose to spend those months enjoying all

Shangri-La has to offer. Bookings on the golf course are already busy, and October is one of the most popular times of the year for golf groups arriving from across the country.

We are busy with corporate groups, associations, weddings, and family reunions – and we kick off the month of November by welcoming our marina colleagues from throughout the state of Oklahoma for the Oklahoma Marina Association Annual Conference November 1-2, hosting a variety of valued speakers including Oklahoma Tourism Director Shelley Zumwalt and Oklahoma Parks Director Sterling Zearley. We always love the opportunity to share ideas with our counterparts from across the state and learning of the always-expanding tourism plans for Oklahoma.

Next month, we are also honored to host a couple of Grand Lake's most important fundraising events – The Delaware County Children's Special Advocacy Network (DCCSAN) "Winterset" event as well as the South Grand Lake Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet.

As we look ahead to the upcoming holiday season, we will once again offer our popular "Thanksgiving-to-Go" complete holiday meals, along with Chef Julie's awesome desserts for the holidays. If you haven't already booked your Christmas party at Shangri-La, spots are filling fast. Contact Dana Able at dana.able@shangrilaok.com to check available dates to join the holiday fun at Shangri-La!

I can't thank our valued members and guests enough for your continued support, encouragement and participation that enables us to constantly move forward to greater success. Your support is sincerely appreciated, and we hope to see you often – anytime you have the urge to "Escape the Ordinary!"



The soccer teams took Staff Appreciation competition a little more seriously than we thought they would.

Culinary Conversation

By Jonathan Moosmiller

Executive Director of Food & Beverage



Executive Director of Food & Beverage Jonathan Moosmiller

October brings cooler weather and significant changes in our hours of operation at Shangri-La dining and drinking venues. The Pool Bar is now closed for the season. The Summit Restaurant begins winter service – no lunch service – but full dinner service Thursday-Sunday evenings for members and resort guests, and open to the public on Sunday evenings.

Doc's Bar & Grill will continue to offer three meals a day, seven days a week – open 7:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m. Sunday-Thursday, and 7:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. The Summit Restaurant and Buffalo Bar are open 4:00-9:00 p.m. Thursday & Sunday, and until 10:00 p.m. Friday & Saturday. We continue to offer food & beverage service daily at The Turnhouse.

We have reduced the size of our menu at Doc's for the Fall and Winter months, but our best-selling favorites are all still on the menu. We continue to offer our Smokin' Monkey BBQ featuring your choice of half-pound meat servings – Baby Back Ribs, I'll Be a Monkey's Uncle Smoked Chicken, Monkey Business Brisket, and I Don't Give a Monkey's Port Butt – all smoked fresh daily and served with your choice of two sides along with pickled jalapenos & onions, jalapeno cheddar cornbread, and Barrel of Monkeys BBQ Sauce. Handheld choices include a Crispy Shrimp Po'Boy, Pulled Pork, Nashville Hot Chicken, and the popular Doc's Smash Burger.

Steak lovers have been appreciative of our steak offerings, as well. Our Chicken Fried Steak is a longtime favorite, but the addition of Chef's Market Cut offerings

– a 14 oz. Ribeye and a weekly "Chef's Market Cut" steak – has been very popular. We also continue to offer Fried Catfish, Salmon, and Pasta Jambalaya along with a variety of "shareables" including Brisket Nachos, Pimento Cheese & Crab Dip, Smoked Chicken Wings, and Hummus.

Our breakfast menu at Doc's includes all the favorites, as well – the OK All-American with eggs, hash browns, bacon and sausage, biscuit or toast, as well as Buttermilk Pancakes, Biscuits & Gravy, Avocado Toast, and a Breakfast Burrito. Fruit is available as a side. We also feature a Three-Egg Omelet "bar" where you can select your choice of meat, veggies, and cheese. We also have a Kids' Breakfast Menu offering a mini-OK All-American breakfast or Buttermilk Pancakes (available plain or with chocolate chips or fresh blueberries).

We have a lot of other dining options, of course. Our Thursday Night Shrimp Boil & Karaoke with Jason Morgan continues this month – and The Canteen at The Battlefield has become extremely popular for the breakfast & lunch crowd. There's nothing better than enjoying a meal and the beautiful Fall weather on the patio at The Battlefield!

We're not just about the food, though. We're also about the fun! Terry Jordan continues to entertain at the keyboards Friday and Saturday evenings at The Summit through October. In addition to Jason Morgan's Karaoke on Thursday nights, we also feature live entertainment at Doc's every Friday night. October entertainers include Kevin Price, Chloe Johns, Mark Gibson, and Ryan Graham.

Are You Ready for Some Football Tailgates?

Football is a big part of the Fall months at Shangri-La, and we always have great options available on game days. Saturday, October 7, join us for a great "Hooray Grill" tailgate watch part at The Anchor for the OU-Texas game. If you're planning ahead, we'll have another great "Hooray Grill" tailgate for what looks like the final Bedlam game for a while – OU-OSU on Saturday, November 4.

Onward and Upward

In addition to our multiple dining venues, our banquet crew is also busy with lots of groups, meetings, and conventions, and they continue to hit it out of the park day in and day out. We are excited about the Fall and Winter food & fun enjoyed by our members and guests at Shangri-La!

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!



The calm before the soccer competition storm at Shangri-La's 2023 Staff Appreciation Party.

Dock Talk

by Mitch Whitehead, Shangri-La Marina Manager



It's always a thrill when Heartland Classic Boat Club enthusiasts visit Shangri-La prior to their annual Mahogany & Chrome boat show.

Like most Shangri-La venues, the marina is moving to Fall hours of operation this month. Unlike many marinas on the lake, we are not closing – and we are not reducing our operations to just two or three days a week. Beginning October 1, we will be closed Sundays, but we will be here to take care of anything you need Monday-Saturday from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

We are not winterizing the marina this month, so all the docks still have water available and we are still offering pump-out service. We will continue to supply boaters with gasoline and diesel throughout the Fall and Winter months.

LOTS OF NEW SHIP STORE MERCHANDISE

With cooler weather, Lyn has laid out some terrific outerwear, including a terrific new line of Shangri-La Marina hoodies. We're still taking care of your snacks, beverages, and ice – and, of course, we have a great selection of apparel, caps, hats, and footwear, along with a full line of boating supplies.

BOAT RENTALS AND YACHT CHARTERS NOW OPERATE OUT OF THE SHIP STORE

October is a fabulous time to be on the lake. The Fall colors will start showing themselves soon, and we can get you on the water to enjoy this fantastic season, even if you don't own a boat. The Sail Grand office is closed, but we are continuing operation of the boat rentals and yacht charters out of the Ship Store.

We offer pontoons, tritoons, Chaparral bowriders, and a 22-foot Lowe center console bay boat equipped with a trolling motor. Personal Watercraft are also available this month, including our all-new fleet of SeaDoo's.

Yacht charters are also available accommodating up to 30 passengers per charter – and Shangri-La members receive a 10% discount on all rentals and yacht charters, with the exception of Saturdays and holiday weekends. To reserve dates for rentals or charters, call 918-257-6000 or make your reservations online at www.sailgrand.com.

FOOD AND FUN IS AVAILABLE BY BOAT YEAR-ROUND

Doc's Bar & Grill at Shangri-La is the only restaurant on Grand Lake that offers three meals a day seven days a week – and it's right across the

parking lot from our courtesy slips. There's no need to continue posting those "what's available by water to get something to eat" social media questions. No matter what day or what meal, the answer is always – "Doc's at Shangri-La." Thursday night Karaoke and Shrimp Boil fun continues this month, as well.

The weekly musical entertainment runs throughout the year on Friday nights at Doc's. The October line-up includes Kevin Price, Chloe Johns, Mark Gibson, and Ryan Graham.

SPORTING EVENTS AT THE ANCHOR...BY BOAT!

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! Football season is well underway for both College and NFL teams – and a great "Red River Rivalry Hooray Grill Tailgate Party" is on the calendar for the OU-Texas game October 7. The Anchor will certainly be the place to be that day!

It's not just football, though. A new PGA season is underway, NASCAR action is down to the final month of playoff competition, Major League Baseball playoffs begin this week, heading toward the world series beginning October 27 – and the NBA season tips off this month, too; and you have access to all of it by boat at Shangri-La!

IT'S TIME TO PLAN WINTERIZATION OF YOUR BOAT!

We hate to see anyone miss the spectacular Fall boating season on Grand Lake. If you want to enjoy the great weather on the water, you are probably in good shape to wait until mid-November to winterize your boat. But no matter when you plan to winterize, right now is the time to get it scheduled. This is an issue every year. There are a lot more boats than there are service technicians – and they can't winterize all the boats the day before that first freeze is predicted. Get on the schedule now!

If football season, school, and kids activities have already ended your boating season, you should go ahead and winterize your boat now so you don't have any worries when the chilly nights arrive. Schedule winterization by contacting Nichols Marine at 918-257-5500. They'll send you all the information you need to plan your winterization and any mechanical or cosmetic repairs you may need.

BOAT SALES AT SHANGRI-LA MARINA

Our selection of Chaparral, Bennington, Robalo, and MasterCraft boats is excellent. Nichols Marine at Shangri-La offers both new and used boats for sale. Be sure to check out the incredible all-new Bennington QX Tritoon that is 28 feet long, 10 feet wide, and is powered by the awesome new Mercury 600 HP outboard! Many of the new boats are located at the Nichols showroom adjacent to the causeway onto Monkey Island, but we also have a variety of new and used boats in the sales dock at the marina. Check with Kenny Smith or Mike Williams in the boat sales office adjacent to the Ship Store. See the full inventory of new and used boats at www.nicholsmarine.com.

As always, our marina team is here to serve you. We're always glad to see you; and we are here six days a week to take care of your fuel and all the supplies for your fall boating. If you have questions, contact us at 918-257-4898 or email marina@shangrilaok.com.

Staff Spotlight: Gina Holloway

by Communications Director Mike Williams



Shangri-La Marketing Manager Gina Holloway

The buzz throughout our region of the United States is all about Shangri-La Resort and its increased visibility in the marketplace – both locally and everywhere on the internet. Credit the efforts of that ever-increasing digital presence to Marketing Director Gina Holloway.

A native of Tulsa, Gina certainly has the necessary experience to put the resort in front of more people every day. She began her trek into the digital marketing world at Owasso Medical Spa. After a stint with her own consulting firm, Gina worked in the advertising agency arena. She managed social media and digital marketing for such diverse accounts as Mazzio's and Pennwell Publishing.

From Oklahoma to New Mexico and back, Gina has kept herself a step ahead of the traditional marketing and advertising world, especially in the ever-changing world of Digital Media and technology. Before joining the team at Shangri-La, she was Digital Director for KJRH television, the NBC affiliate in Tulsa. Gina worked with a group of marketing professionals coordinating and managing Digital Media in the newsroom.

"Although I studied Psychology and Liberal Arts at Northeastern State University and wanted to become a counselor, I never used my degree, really," she laughs. "I followed the marketing path because my oldest daughter was involved in musical theatre, and I volunteered to promote the theatre group. However, I didn't know that I would fall in love with Marketing and Fundraising. This experience allowed me to carve out a career. As the marketing world evolved, I continued educating myself and learning as much technology as possible. I remained fascinated with the challenges in the changing marketplace and the work involved in staying ahead of the curve."

"My goal since joining the Shangri-La team three years ago has been to create a branding campaign for the resort, so I work daily on maintaining a comprehensive online visibility strategy."

Gina's efforts have had dramatic results and have significantly improved the online face of Shangri-La, including collaborating on an all-new website that will debut in early 2024.

"Whenever a user Googles, 'Weekend getaways in Oklahoma for families,' I want those people to see Shangri-La first – and make sure they know it is the best place to stay in Oklahoma," she says.

Gina, the daughter of a Petroleum Engineer, traveled the world as a youngster, including five years in Saudi Arabia. She spent her summers there as a teenager while returning to live with her sister during the school year, graduating from Morris, Oklahoma High School. Gina is the mother of two daughters and a son and the grandmother of five. She enjoys gardening and time with a couple of puppies, but she readily adds that her free time is spent with her grandchildren and boyfriend, who also happens to be the Hotel Director at Shangri-La Resort. We can credit him for sharing Gina's talents with Shangri-La!

Gina's enthusiastic approach and innovative ideas have already impacted Shangri-La's visibility. Still, she admits, there is a never-ending challenge to encompassing all the increasing amenities the resort offers into a focused outreach plan.

"This growing operation has a lot of amenities," she says. "I want to make sure that we shine a light on each area of the resort. Promoting Shangri-La is a team sport, really," she says, "and I'm excited to be in the game!"



Shangri-La Golf Club had the honor of hosting Major League Baseball Hall-of-Fame pitcher John Smoltz for a little golf outing in September. He worked shots to the flag stick just like he worked his strike zone! Pictured with Smoltz are Shangri-La Lead Golf Instructor Ryan Dalton, Director of Golf Rob Yanovitch, and Christian Yanovitch.

SLWGA News

Submitted by Cheryl Brecheisen

The BIG EVENT...SLWGA's annual Grand Lady Championship tournament that determines the group's top golfers in both the 18-hole and 9-hole divisions, was held September 10 and 11. With assistance from the pro shop staff, the Grand Lady committee of Linda Ballard, Tara Lawson, Debbie Hess and Kim Quillin did a wonderful job coordinating the 2 days of golf as well as the awards luncheon. Congratulations to the following winners!

9-Hole Division

Grand Lady Gross Champion – Susan Jones

Grand Lady Net Champion – Becky Brock

1st Low Gross – Jan Castelli

2nd Low Gross – Gaylyn Haynes

1st Low Net – Mariel McGehee

2nd Low Net – Kim Quillin

18-Hole Division

Grand Lady Gross Champion – Ann Turner

Grand Lady Net Champion – Vicki Graper

1st Low Gross – Robin Purdie-Smith

2nd Low Gow – Carol Cable

1st Low Net – Liz Paden

2nd Low Net – Penny Humphrey

With their red-hot clubs in hand several of the Grand Lady winners also competed on the Shangri-La Interclub team in the final match of the season on September 14. Home was truly "sweet home" as the 8-person team made a big move up the cumulative leaderboard and finished the season in 2nd place of the gross division and 3rd place of the net division. Way to represent, ladies!

The 4-person team of Carol Cable, Vicki Graper, Susie Kraft and Liz Paden continued their victory tour as they competed in the end of the season WOGA Cup Championship on September 18 & 19 at Forest Ridge. In an impressive two days of team golf, they played their way to first place and brought home the traveling WOGA Cup! We can all look forward to seeing that piece of hardware proudly displayed in the Shangri-La trophy case for the next 12 months.

Led by SLWGA's fantastic assistant pro Taron Wright, thirteen members traveled to Stillwater for a fun Home & Away event with the women at Stillwater Country Club. Ann Turner organized the inaugural competition last year when SLWGA hosted the Stillwater women at Shangri-La. This year SLWGA left the traveling trophy in Stillwater as the home Stillwater team was victorious; but we look forward to another opportunity to reclaim the prize in 2024! Congratulations to the following winners of the horserace:

1st Place: Carol Cable and her Stillwater partner, Jodi Deer

2nd Place: Cheryl Brecheisen and her Stillwater partner, Edna Pitts

3rd Place: Cheryl Dalton and her Stillwater partner, Denise Childress

SLWGA has many remarkable women, but we would be remiss if special recognition was not given to two members who were recently recognized on much bigger stages than our little community. First, we are so proud of Carol Cable who played with the ladies' team from Southern Hills at the 2023 Women's International Team Challenge in Toronto. She said, "We came in 2nd but we were winners in fun and friendships." Secondly, our very own Grand Lady and Club Champion, Ann Turner, was recently inducted into the Oklahoma State Athletics Hall of Honor! You can call her Pittsy, coach, champ, but we call her amazing (and our friend)! Congratulations, Ann and Carol!

SAVE THE DATES:

October 23: Tulsa District at Cimarron

October 30: Halloween Tricks and Treats Play Day

November 4: Annual Fall Brunch and end of the season awards

"The only sure rule in golf is he who has the fastest cart never has to play the bad lie." –Mickey Mantle



They are the Champions! SLWGA members Susie Kraft, Liz Paden, Carol Cable, and Vicki Graper brought the WOGA Cup home to Shangri-La.



Congratulations Vicki Graper, 18-hole Net Grand Lady and Ann Turner, 18-hole Gross Grand Lady.

Member Profile: Kate & Mitch Lindley

By Mike Williams



Kate and Mitch Lindley: "When we joined Shangri-La in 2010, we joined because we believed in Eddy's Gibbs' vision; But over the years, he has just hit it completely out of the park, way beyond what we dreamed of or hoped for."

Following their inauspicious meeting in an Edmond, Oklahoma club, it's a wonder Mitch and Kate Lindley ever made it to the stage of matrimony. Right then and there, they made a date, but when Mitch showed up to begin the courtship, Kate was nowhere to be found.

"I thought it was just bar talk," Kate recalls. "People don't go out with people who ask them out at bars."

"Or, you could say, some people just don't meet their obligations when they make commitments at bars," Mitch interjects. Thankfully, they finally did get together.

"We met for a drink. It was very romantic," Kate says. "I think he ordered me a Bud Light. But, at least he bought my dinner, too."

"Yeah, she 'Hoovered' her way through a double chicken & fries dinner while I ate my salad," Mitch points out. Something worked, though. Seven months later, he proposed.

"That was romantic, too," Kate adds. "It was on 9-11. It's easy to remember *that* anniversary!"

It's almost a miracle the two ever met. Kate grew up at Grand Lake, Mitch in Salado, Texas – a small town 40 miles north of Austin. When their paths finally crossed, Kate was a student at the University of Central Oklahoma where she made history by being the first female elected President of the University's Student Body. Mitch had already graduated from Texas A&M University, spent eight months abroad working for a missionary at Payap University in Chiang Mai, Thailand as a Bible and English instructor, then returned to Edmond where he went to work as an hourly worker for REO Construction, a company founded by his father.

Two decades later in 2013, Mitch took over ownership of REO, a company specializing in renovations, restorations and upgrades of multi-family housing properties with clientele from Tulsa to Amarillo, Wichita to El Paso. Kate worked for several years as

an Assessment Specialist, assessing educational needs for Aid to Families with Dependent Children applicants in an effort to help them forge career goals and opportunities that would enable them to further their education and ultimately get off public assistance. She set her outside-the-home career aside for a few years to spend time as a stay-at-home mom (or "COO of the Lindley Household," as she puts it) caring for their daughters Charlotte and Halle who are now 14 and 11 respectively. She was active in the Junior League of Oklahoma City for many years, including service as Merchant Chair (twice), Vice-Merchant Chair (twice) and Personnel Chair for the League's popular "Mistletoe Market." She is still active as a Junior League Sustainer – and she is still caring for and educating kids, but it's not just her own two daughters, anymore. She is a Pre-K teacher in the Piedmont school system.

"I thought about going back into social work, but after spending all those years at home with our girls, I discovered I didn't detest little kids, after all," she laughs. "I went into teaching in 2019 and have never regretted a day of it."

Although the couple lives in Piedmont, they spend a great deal of time at Grand Lake where they have a condo at Vista Tower on Monkey Island. They joined Shangri-La as members as soon as Eddy Gibbs bought the resort property in 2010.

"Whenever you hear about a guy with a business record like Eddy Gibbs who's willing to invest his own time and money in a project, you're usually pretty smart to back a plan like that and get involved," Mitch says. "It's sort of like getting a stock tip from Warren Buffett."

"We believed what Eddy said he was going to do with the property. When we heard that there were no initiation fees during that start-up – and we saw what the initiation fees were going to be, we knew it was an opportunity we couldn't pass up. It quickly became obvious we made a pretty smart decision once the clubhouse and golf facilities were finished," Mitch says. "Now, with the addition of the hotel, spa, pools, all the incredible facilities at The Anchor, and the addition of The Battlefield, we really look smart for believing in Eddy Gibbs and his vision for Shangri-La thirteen years ago!"

"When we joined Shangri-La, the main clubhouse wasn't even built," Kate says. "We joined with hopes that someday there would be a pool, but we weren't counting on it. The hotel and recreation side of the development took us completely off guard....and Eddy just hit it completely out of the park, way beyond what we dreamed of or hoped for."

"We can't wait to get to the lake," she adds. "With children, it's always work to stay home. There's always some planned activity at school or some organized activity with friends. When you go to the lake, not so much. We wanted a nice place to get away for the weekend and bring friends. With a condo right in the middle of the Shangri-La Golf Course, a membership in a terrific club with fantastic amenities for everyone in the family just a short golf cart ride away, it's a great getaway. With the beauty and quality and continued growth of the Shangri-La operations, an investment on Monkey Island was a great investment – and fortunately it becomes a better investment every day."

Mitch is an avid sports fan, an active Fantasy Football League participant and enjoys golf. In fact, in high school, he earned extra money working on the support staff at Mill Creek

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Anchor Activity

by Shaun Tune, Director of Anchor Operations



The Labor Day "Rollin' with my Foamies" slip & slide and foam party at The Anchor was a huge hit for those looking for a fun way to cool off!

Fall has officially arrived at Grand Lake – and that means a change in hours of operation for virtually all Shangri-La venues (and lots of others around the lake). With school in session and lots of school activities burning up the days, The Anchor arcade activity park and sports bar hours of operation are now 4:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 4:00 p.m.-midnight Friday, 10:00 a.m.-midnight Saturday, and 11:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m. Sunday.

Galley Food Service Has New Hours, Too

Throughout the fall and winter months, The Galley at The Anchor also has new hours of operation. Food service will be available from 4:00-10:00 Fridays, 11:00-10:00 Saturdays and 11:00-9:00 Sundays.

Plan to Spend Halloween at The Anchor

The Anchor is the favorite spot on Grand Lake to celebrate Halloween every year. We have lots of fun planned for kids of all ages Saturday, October 28 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. There will be games, special treats, scary staffers, and costume contests for every age category from 5-and-under to adults. Keep it family friendly, but put on your best tricked-out outfit – and let's have some major league Halloween fun at The Anchor!

Football, Baseball, NASCAR, Golf – Even Basketball –

The giant video walls will be busy all month – and there are so many sporting events that every sports screen in the bar will be busy! We'll kick off the month of college football fun with a great Red River Rivalry Hooray Grill Cookout and Watch Party for the OU-Texas game Saturday, October 7 – and go ahead and mark your calendar for another huge tailgate & watch party for Bedlam Football November 4. We'll have lots of college football every Thursday, Friday & Saturday. The NFL season is in full swing, too, with games Thursday, Sunday, and Monday (and yes, we have Prime Video for those Thursday night games).

Baseball season is winding down with Wild Card Playoffs

getting underway October 3 and continuing almost every day until the World Series kicks off October 27. NASCAR wraps up with the NASCAR Cup Series Championship November 5, and there's a new season of PGA Golf already underway.

Believe it or not, basketball is on the near horizon, too. The OKC Thunder kick off the 2023 season October 25. We'll have every Thunder game all season long at The Anchor.

It's a Big Month for Pickleball and Tennis Fun at The Racquet Club

Racquet Club fall hours of operation are 8:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m. Sunday-Thursday, and 7:00 a.m.-midnight Fridays and Saturdays; and we have some special events coming up at the Racquet Club. On the heels of September's fantastic NEO Charity Pickleball Open, we kick off the month of October with our inaugural "Ladies Day Dinkers" pickleball camp Monday and Tuesday, October 2-3.

Naturally, we never let a Halloween go by without a little extra fun at the Racquet Club as well as the Anchor; so start planning your costume for our Halloween Costume Pickleball Mixer Saturday, October 28 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. If you get creative enough, maybe you can scare your pickleball opponents into just forfeiting the game!

Our Mary Bulten Memorial Pickleball Open Tournament isn't until next month – Saturday & Sunday, November 4-5 – but if you haven't already signed up, you need to stop by the Racquet Club Pro Shop or contact Coach Kerr at todd.kerr@shangrilaok.com and get your name on the roster. You don't want to miss this one. Play starts at 8:00 a.m. with Men's and Women's Doubles competition Saturday, November 4, and Mixed Doubles competition on Sunday, November 5. Entry fee is \$50 per person.

There is a wide variety of additional October activity at The Anchor Racquet Club every week, but we also have a bit of a schedule change for the nicer fall weather. Pickleball drills this month are held Monday at 5:45 p.m., Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m. (except October 3 when Ladies Pickleball Camp takes the courts), Thursdays at 5:45 p.m., Fridays at 9:00 a.m. and 5:45 p.m., and Saturdays at 8:00 a.m. Pickleball 101 for ages 13+ is held each Tuesday from 7:00-8:30 p.m.

There are plenty of pickleball mixers, too, including a Ladies' Competitive Pickleball Mixer each Tuesday evening at 7:00 p.m. Pickleball Mixers are also Mondays at 9:00 a.m. (except October 2) and 7:00 p.m., Thursdays at 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. (Level Up Mixer), Fridays at 7:00 p.m., and Saturdays at 9:00 a.m. (Level Up).

Tennis players are on the schedule, too, with open adult tennis drills Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. and Saturday mornings at 10:00 a.m. We're not forgetting about younger players, either. We have added Beginners Tennis Drills each Tuesday from 5:00-6:00 p.m. Middle School and High School tennis drills are held Tuesday evenings at 6:00, and Saturdays at 11:30 a.m.

Don't forget that fun Halloween Costumer Mixer Saturday, October 28 – 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Fun for the Entire Family

There are always plenty of entertainment options for the entire family – no matter what the weather. The sports bar, arcade, simulator bay, and virtual reality games only represent the beginning of our entertainment options. We also have pool, ping-pong, shuffleboard, foosball, and darts – and that's just what we have indoors. Beautiful fall days and nights also fill the basketball court, WIFFLE® Ball field, pickleball courts, cornhole 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. I hope to see you soon at The Anchor!



Assistant pro Taron Wright joined some of the SLWGA members for a fun Home and Away event at the Stillwater Country Club.



Congratulations to Sue Ellen Layton on her first ever Hole in One! Sue Ellen aced #18 at the Battlefield with her 7 wood. The shot was witnessed by Jan Castelli and Jana Marion. Great Shot Sue Ellen!!!



Welcome new SLWGA member, Pam Goodeyon (left)! She jumped right in and recently joined Marilyn Mlnarik and Robin Purdie-Smith at The Battlefield. And took home 2nd place in the team scramble competition.



A Grand Thank You to Grand Lady Committee Members Kim Quillin, Debbie Hess, Tara Lawson, and Linda Ballard



300! That's right! Congratulations to Jack Moore who shot his age or better for the 300th time last month. Let's go for 500. Viva la Jack!



Combine senior management, accounting, and hotel front desk experts, and you not only have a great resort, you have a pretty good Staff Appreciation Day golf team: Lance Funderburk, Joe Snow, Randy McAbee, and Sierra Shamburg.



Congratulations to Susan Jones, 9-hole Gross Grand Lady winner and Becky Brock, 9-hole Net Grand Lady.



Gabby Wallace's batting form indicated she's spending too much time at the mini-Fenway Wiffleball park.

Congratulations to Toby Keith – An Honored Icon...Again!

Congratulations to Shangri-La member Toby Keith who was awarded the inaugural “Country Music Icon” award at the live two-hour nationwide telecast of the “People’s Choice Country Awards” September 28. The award was presented by fellow Oklahoma superstar Blake Shelton who said he was “thrilled to have the honor of presenting a heartfelt tribute and the most exciting award to the night to an award-winning country music legend.”

Toby also performed live on the broadcast, returning to the national scene for the first time after successfully battling stomach cancer for 18 months. He recently announced he hopes to resume touring later this fall. Famous for such songs as “Should’ve Been a Cowboy,” “How Do You Like Me Now,” “As Good As I Once Was,” and “Beer for My Horses,” Toby was honored once again for his 30-year career as a musician, humanitarian and entrepreneur.

The honor is the latest in a long list of accomplishments for Toby, including being named “BMI Icon” last year, receiving the “National Medal of Arts” in 2021, being inducted into the “Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame” in 2021, and the “Songwriters Hall of Fame” in 2015.

In addition to creating 42 Top-10 hits, 32 #1 singles, and more than 10 billion streams, Toby is also an incredibly generous philanthropist. His annual golf classics fund “The Toby Keith Foundation.” He and Tricia have raised more than \$18 million for charity, and their “OK Kids Korral” in Oklahoma City offers cost-free housing for families of pediatric cancer patients at Children’s Hospital at the OU Medical Center, Stephenson Cancer Center and other nearby facilities.

We are thrilled for Toby and Tricia – and proud that they spend so much of their free time with us at Shangri-La.



At the People’s Choice Country Awards, Toby performed live on the national stage for the first time in 18 months.



Fellow Oklahoma superstar Blake Shelton presented Toby Keith with the inaugural People’s Choice Country Icon Award.



Fun times at Lieutenant Governor Matt Pinnell’s “Luau on the Green” at Shangri-La. Pictured (from left) are Bobby Hendren, Beverly Jones, Mike Williams, Lt. Governor Pinnell, and Laura Dishman.



Don’t shoot girls! That cannon really works! Shanelle Buchanan and Neosha Campbell strike an appropriate pose at The Battlefield.



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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Golf Club in his hometown of Salado, Texas – gripping clubs, working in the cart barn and on the driving range.

“I found there are a lot of jobs at a golf club, but I decided there were only two good ones – Golf Pro and Beverage Cart Girl – and I wasn’t qualified for either one of those,” he says.

Kate loves spending time with her family, but also enjoys domestic organizing and interior decorating. “I’m sure Mitch would say I enjoy spending money,” she laughs. Both Kate and Mitch enjoy travel, both domestic and international, and spending time with friends and family at Grand Lake. During the summer months, family time at the lake is divided almost evenly between time at the resort pool and time at The Anchor – with focus more on the indoor options available at The Anchor once football season is underway. Charlotte and Halle are fans of both venues and have also been involved in organized camp activities at Shangri-La.

“Aside from the fabulous bartenders at the Pool Bar and Anchor Bar, my favorite thing is the view from our condo,” Kate says. “I love seeing a place that I treasured as a little girl in an even more magnificent setting as a grown-up.”

“I’m partial to The Battlefield,” Mitch adds. “I’ve never seen a more incredible course, taking advantage of the natural hill-and-valley landscape to create a course that’s a little more friendly to those of us who are getting a little older and a little heavier,” he laughs. “It’s the perfect design – forgiving, but challenging. It’s an incredible piece of real estate. For all the guys who can’t play the

links anymore, it’s a really good time. And the setting is magnificent,” he adds. “Honestly, eating on the patio at The Battlefield and enjoying that incredible view is almost as much fun as playing the course; and it’s a lot easier on my body!”

“The people in Port Duncan and Brighton Bay sure ought to be happy with the \$15 million in landscaping added to their front yard,” Kate jokes. “Eddy has singlehandedly increased the value of virtually every property on Grand Lake!”

The lake is a year-round destination for the Lindleys, including family time during fall break, Christmas break, and spring break – as well as most holidays.

“Having grown up at Grand Lake, it has been a lifelong passion for me,” Kate says. “Heading out on the water with my mom & dad with blue skies, smooth water and a Billy Joel recording was a perfect lake day when I was growing up – and that’s still a perfect day!”

“I have the best memories of the old Shangri-La Resort,” she adds. “I was just a little girl, but that place will always be a castle in my memories; and I get to re-live those memories every time we pull into the driveway at the club house and see the historic ‘Shangri-La Eagle’ that always sat on top of the main lodge building. Keeping that Eagle was a really nice touch!”

“Shangri-La has been a part of our girls’ lives ever since they can remember. I hope that someday when our girls walk past that eagle, into the club house and walk up the staircase to the Summit Restaurant, they will have those same kinds of wonderful Shangri-La memories.”

Shangri-La Hours of Operation

Golf Shop

7:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. daily

Turnhouse

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. daily

Summit Restaurant & Buffalo Bar

4:00-9:00 p.m. Thursday & Sunday

4:00-10:00 p.m. Friday & Saturday

CLOSED MONDAY - WEDNESDAYS

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

Canteen at The Battlefield

7:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Thursday-Tuesday
(Closed Wednesday)

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

4:00-10:00 p.m. Sunday-Thursday

4:00 p.m.-midnight Friday

10:00 a.m.-midnight Saturday

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

The Galley at The Anchor

4:00-10:00 p.m. Friday

11:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m. Saturday

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

CLOSED Monday-Thursday

The Monkey Grind

Sunday-Saturday – 7:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Racquet Club at The Anchor

8:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m. Sunday-Thursday

8:00 a.m.-midnight Friday & Saturday