



## Shangri-La Staff

**Jason Sheffield**  
Executive Chairman

**Barry Willingham**  
President & CEO

**Lance Funderburk**  
General Manager

**Jerrod Neighbors**  
PGA Director Head Golf Professional

**Shaun Tune**  
Director of Anchor Operations

**Mike Williams**  
Director of Communications & Government Relations

**Justin May**  
Golf Course Superintendent

**Todd Rodemyer**  
Director of Food & Beverage

**John Havens**  
Executive Chef and Director Of Culinary Operations

**Mitch Whitehead**  
Marina Manager

**Dana Able**  
Director of Sales

**Katelin Threet**  
Membership Services & Event Coordinator

**Brett Wisdom**  
Resort Manager

**Selina Hoflund**  
Director of People & Culture



# The Horizon

*What's New at Shangri-La* 

Volume 14: Issue 1

January 2024

## January is a Busy Month of Boat Shows, Trivia, Football, Karaoke, Singo, Golf & Pool Leagues and Live Entertainment at Shangri-La!

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



*Escape the Ordinary: Where every Season is a Dream.*

I want to start a New Year with a heartfelt expression of my deepest gratitude to the members, guests, and groups who made 2023 a record-breaking year of success at Shangri-La Resort. A lot has happened in the four-and-a-half years since I took the reins for this wild ride. The addition of The Battlefield Par 3 golf course has dramatically impacted our operations this year; but nothing has contributed to our dramatic growth more than our people – those who have joined our membership, plus those who chose our resort as a destination, along with those on our awesome Shangri-La team who welcomed them with the delivery of memory-making

good times.

As we look forward to a new year ahead, early scheduling of events foretell an even bigger year on the near horizon. I am so grateful for the leadership of General Manager Lance Funderburk and our incredible team at each of the varied venues – and our loyal members and guests who have made it all possible.

### ***There is No “Off Season” at Shangri-La***

A sold-out schedule of Christmas parties, our “Ultimate Christmas Party” at The Anchor, Christmas Brunch with Santa, the wonderful two Sundays of “A Grand Lake Holi-

day Celebration” hosted by our wonderful members Jack & Nancy Adkisson with the musical treats from *Terry Jordan*, *Andre Jones & The Showstoppers*, and *David Bridges & The Message*, huge “Tuesday Trivia” turnouts, Thursday Night Karaoke and Friday night live entertainment at Doc’s, some fabulous year-end celebrations by corporate groups, and our year-ending “New Year’s Eve Wine Dinner” proved that December is not an “off-season” at Shangri-La Resort. And no one on our team is taking their foot off the accelerator for January.

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Our Sales & Catering Team kicks off the month hand-in-hand with the crew from Nichols Marine at Shangri-La by spreading the Grand Lake news at the Oklahoma Boat Expo at the Cox Business Convention Center in Tulsa January 5-7. Be sure to stop by for a visit during this first and biggest boat show of the year. A wide variety of exhibitors will join more than 20 of the largest boat dealers in Oklahoma, including virtually all the Grand Lake dealers. The show will be open from 11:00-8:00 Friday, 10:00-8:00 Saturday, and 10:00-5:00 on Sunday. It will, without a doubt, be the premier show of the year!

In the meantime, there is no shortage of fun on the calendar on the Shangri-La home front. We continue our Thursday night Karaoke and dining feature each week with Jason Morgan hosting the musical fun – but with an added twist. This month Jason will host Singo competition at The Anchor each Saturday night from 6:00-9:00 p.m. beginning January 6.

It's also kick-off month for our Winter Golf League and Winter Pool League at The Anchor. Lead Assistant Golf Professional Ryan Dalton heads up the Winter Golf League in the Simulator Bay at The Anchor each Wednesday night this month beginning January 3. Players compete on a variety of courses utilizing the Trackman Golf fun at The Anchor. If you're interested, check with Ryan and see if there may be available player slots remaining. You can contact him via email at [ryan.dalton@shangrilaok.com](mailto:ryan.dalton@shangrilaok.com).

Director of Anchor Operations Shaun Tune will host the Winter Pool League fun each Thursday this month, beginning with an organizational meeting Thursday, January 4 at 7:00 p.m. If you want to participate in the league, but cannot make it to the January 4 meeting, you need to be sure an email Shaun no later than January 4. Contact him at [shaun.tune@shangrilaok.com](mailto:shaun.tune@shangrilaok.com).

Needless to say, Coach Kerr always has a full schedule of fun on the Racquet Club courts with a full schedule of pickleball drills, mixers, and tennis drills for all ages. With our heated dome, there's no need to worry about the weather. No matter what the forecast, the weather is perfect every day at The Racquet Club.

There's year-round musical entertainment too, of course. Each Friday night, we also feature great live performances at Doc's from a cadre of talented musicians. Entertainers in January include Ryan Graham, Mark Gibson, JR Neal, and Kevin Price.

*Never Ending Sports Coverage at The Anchor*

With 42 college football games in the rear-view mirror, January sporting events at The Anchor are only getting bigger and more important.

Join us Monday evening, January 8, for

the biggest college game of the year – the National Championship Watch Party at The Anchor beginning at 6:00 p.m.

The end of college football for the year means the premier battles in the National Football League are just heating up. NFL Playoffs begin January 13 with three days of play, followed by Saturday & Sunday games the following weekend, and Conference Championship games Sunday, January 28. Go ahead and mark your calendars to join us next month for Grand Lake's biggest Super Bowl Party Sunday evening, February 11!

It's a busy month for college and NBA basketball, too. We'll have all the biggest games including OU, OSU, Arkansas, and Kansas games, as well as all the OKC Thunder games featured on the video walls at The Anchor.

#### **It's Time for Shangri-Low Golf!**

With the arrival of winter weather, PGA Head Golf Professional Jerrod Neighbors has once again implemented our most popular winter golf special – Shangri-Low Golf. It's simple. Just watch the temperature and pay a price equal to the low temperature on the day you play. If the early morning temperature is 25, but the Mercury rises to 55 degrees in the afternoon, you'll enjoy a pleasant afternoon on the course and pay \$25 for 18 holes. The special promotion continues through February, allowing you to enjoy a high time of afternoon golf, but the price you pay is... Shangri-Low!

#### **Exciting Additions to Our Food & Beverage Department – Plan to Come Meet Them**

We are excited to welcome two fantastic new team members to our Food & Beverage Department. Todd Rodemyer joins our staff as Director of Food & Beverage this month – and John Havens II joined the team in mid-December as Executive Chef and Director of Culinary Operations. Chef John showed his talent and flair with the fabulous New Year's Eve Members' Wine Dinner – and both he and Chef Todd have some exciting plans for Food & Beverage.

In addition to our Taco & Tequila Tuesdays at Doc's, our culinary crew is planning a variety of Wednesday night Chef's Specials at Doc's, and some new and exciting special touches to favorite dishes at all of our venues.

Mark your calendars for Sunday afternoon, January 21 and join us for a special "Meet and Greet" to get acquainted with Chef Todd and Chef John and find out first-hand what new and innovative plans they have to enhance your dining experience at Shangri-La. The "Meet and Greet" will be held at The Summit and Buffalo Bar from

2:00-4:00 p.m. Sunday, January 21 – and I hope all our members who are at the lake that weekend will come join us to welcome these important players to the Shangri-La team.

#### **Golf Team Promotions, Too!**

Congratulations to Jerrod Neighbors and Bradley Jumper. These two dedicated professionals have stepped up their game to accept additional responsibilities with the departure of PGA Director of Golf Rob Yanovitch who joined Twin Hills Country Club in Oklahoma City as General Manager.

Jerrod is now PGA Head Golf Professional at Shangri-La, and Bradley has taken on the responsibilities of Head Golf Professional at The Battlefield. Be sure to congratulate these Shangri-La veterans next time you're on the course.

#### **Save the Date – Valentine in Black & White!**

We are still finalizing plans for some fantastic entertainment, but you need to be sure to mark your calendar to save the February 17 date. I promise you won't want to miss our special "Valentine in Black & White" gala scheduled for that evening in the Roosevelt Ballroom. With Valentine's Day midweek this year, we will have special offerings on Valentine's Day and both the weekend before and weekend after the holiday at dining venues – but the "Valentine in Black & White" promises to be a very special evening of dining, dancing, and live entertainment that is sure to leave you with some fantastic memories.

We'll have full details available very soon – but I wanted to make sure you saved the February 17 date on your calendar.

#### **There's a Great Year Ahead!**

Midway through my fifth year as President and CEO at Shangri-La, I am humbled by the support we have had as we continue to move our resort in an exciting direction, including the confidence shown by our owner Eddy Gibbs, the leadership from General Manager Lance Funderburk who is leading our team in the implementation of exciting improvements, and all our incredible members offering encouragement and participation that energizes our path forward to continued success. I am truly in an enviable position. We can already tell from advance bookings that 2024 will be another record year.

Thank you for your support, your patronage, and your friendship through the years. We hope you will join us often at Shangri-La Resort as we begin a new year together. Our team is always here for you and your guests any time you have the sudden urge to Escape the Ordinary.



# Culinary Conversation

by Executive Chef John Havens II

What an exciting time this is at Shangri-La! I joined the team in mid-December and was astonished at everything happening my very first weekend on the job – Brunch with Santa at Doc's, the "Grand Lake Holiday Celebration" with food, beverages, music and Christmas spirit in the hotel lobby, and two big groups in for Christmas parties. And that was just my first day!

It was an incredible way to begin life with my new Shangri-La family – and it was a wonderful opportunity to begin meeting some of our awesome members.

Executive Pastry Chef Julie Morgan blew everyone away with her amazing dessert displays over the holidays. I had a chance to see (and taste) her incredible work at all the holiday events – and I know you did, as well. Her creations are spectacular, indeed.

The New Year's Eve Wine Dinner at The Summit was an even better opportunity for me to spend a little time with some terrific members and guests for the holiday. I know what an important holiday tradition the New Year's Eve Wine Dinner has become over the years, and I'm honored to be a part of that tradition. I'm especially humbled by the wonderful comments from members I was able to visit with during and after the wine dinner. What a fabulous way to wrap up one year and start a new one!

## LOOKING AHEAD TO A GREAT YEAR

As we kick off a new year, we are already planning for the weeks and months ahead. I feel a little like I'm drinking from a fire hose as I learn about all the great activities at Shangri-La throughout the year. There are things I expected – special celebrations for Mother's Day, Easter, the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, busy times at The Anchor, especially during school breaks and the summer months. Other things required an extension of my learning curve – like the popularity of the summer season at Eddy's Lakeside Bar, the karaoke and SINGO following of Jason Morgan, and the live entertainment options year-round at the resort.

With the New Year's celebrations behind us, our team has begun planning for the all-important Valentine's Day coming up on the near horizon. We are planning very special Valentine menus at both Doc's and The Summit, of course – but we are also planning a very exciting evening of dining, drinking, dancing, and terrific live entertainment at our "Valentine in Black & White Gala" scheduled for Saturday evening, February 17.

We're working on a special menu for a plated dinner to begin the evening, and I'll get details to you as soon as we have the menu finalized. It's going to be a very special evening, so I want to make sure I have a very special menu.

## FIRST THINGS FIRST – JANUARY!

New Year's Eve was a tremendous send-off for 2023 at Shangri-La, not only with the Members' Wine Dinner, but with the great crowd at Doc's and, of course, the huge crowds of football fans at The Anchor as we wrapped up the holiday bowl season and narrowed the field of college teams down to two. We're planning a great watch party for the National Championship game at The Anchor on Monday, January 8.

There is a lot more food & fun planned for The Anchor and Doc's. We resume our popular Tuesday Trivia with Lee Lawson January 9 and continuing each Tuesday through February. In conjunction with Tuesday Trivia, we feature "Tacos & Tequila Tuesday" at Doc's from 5:00-9:00 each Tuesday. It's the perfect way to prepare for a battle of the wits every Tuesday.

In addition to Jason Morgan's popular Thursday Night Karaoke at Doc's, we are adding another night of competitive musical fun each week. Jason is now hosting Saturday Night SINGO Competition at The Anchor. The Galley will be open, as well, providing sustenance for an evening of music and fun from 6:00-9:00 each Saturday night.

Doc's, of course, also continues with great live acoustic entertainment every Friday evening. January Friday night entertainers at Doc's include Ryan Graham, Mark Gibson, JR Neal, and Kevin Price.

## HOURS OF OPERATION FOR FOOD AND FUN

Doc's is open daily from 7:00 a.m., closing at 9:00 p.m. Sunday-Thursday and 10:00 p.m. Friday & Saturday. Pizza menus are available daily from 11:00 a.m.-close.



John Havens II, Shangri-La Executive Chef & Director of Culinary Operations



Executive Pastry Chef Julie Morgan always has new delicacies to top off a great meal.

The Summit Restaurant offers full dinner service Thursday-Sunday including dinner service open to the public on Sunday evenings.

The Monkey Grind proudly serving Starbucks® is open daily from 7:00 a.m., closing at noon Monday-Thursday, and remaining open until 3:00 p.m. Friday-Sunday.

The Galley at The Anchor offers food service Friday-Sunday – as well as additional dates when we host special events.

I am excited about the future, and am proud to join the great culinary crew at Shangri-La. I 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 any of our varied Shangri-La venues. We're always cooking up something!

# Dock Talk

by Mitch Whitehead, Shangri-La Marina Manager



Shangri-La Marina Manager Mitch Whitehead

Happy New Year! I hope everyone enjoyed a fabulous Christmas with family and friends – and I hope 2024 is a fantastic year for you. At Shangri-La Marina, we are spending the remaining winter months catching up on some maintenance items and planning some great new amenities for our members and customers – including a significant upgrade of our Wi-Fi system and a few maintenance items to make sure we're ready for the spring boating season which will be here before you know it!

Shangri-La Marina is one of the few Grand Lake marinas that remains open throughout the winter months to provide fuel, boating supplies, snacks and beverages for the increasing number of year-round boats. The marina is open from 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

## IT'S BOAT SHOW TIME!

It's officially BOAT SHOW TIME IN OKLAHOMA! The two biggest boat shows of the year in Oklahoma are just days away – The Oklahoma Boat Expo at Tulsa's Cox Convention Center January 5-7 and the Oklahoma City Boat & RV Show at the Bennett Event Center at the OKC Fairgrounds January 12-14.

The Nichols Marine at Shangri-La crew will be on hand with the biggest display of new boat options at each show – Chaparral, Bennington, Robalo, MasterCraft and a great selection of bass boats, as well.

Don't miss your opportunity to see some incredible new boating options for 2024. Nichols Marine will have an unbelievable SIXTY BOATS on display at both the Oklahoma Boat Expo and the OKC Boat & RV Show.

Bennington continues to lead the pack in the triitoon market. In addition to the wide variety of models, things continue to get bigger! The lineup for 2024 includes a 10-foot wide 27-foot model with twin 300 HP Mercs – as well as a 27-footer powered by the all-new 600 HP Mercury motor. That motor is so big, folks are using it as a photo prop, showing that it is taller than most people!

Check out the incredible new 36-foot center console from Robalo – and the awesome Chaparral 347 which provides all the exterior seating of a bowrider with the heated and air conditioned comfort of a cleverly designed mid-cabin. Chaparral also offers a wide variety of pleasure boats with surfing option for those who want every available option in a single boat.



If you're deadly serious about surfing, MasterCraft is the undisputed leader of the industry. The big January boat shows provide a great opportunity to pick your favorites from all the Nichols locations – Shangri-La, Monkey Island, Tulsa, Norman, McAlester and Longview, TX. **MORE BENEFITS COMING FOR SHANGRI-LA MEMBERS IN 2024!**

I'm so excited about an upcoming offering for Shangri-La members that I can't wait until we have all the details ironed out to give you a "heads up." In the spring of 2024, we will unveil the "Shangri-La Waterfront Club by Sail Grand." Waterfront Membership will provide a wide variety of boat rental options through Sail Grand including extended hours and days of rentals, special concierge benefits, express check-in on rentals and new luxury boat options.

The Shangri-La Waterfront Membership will expand the horizons of watercraft rentals, charters and parasailing far beyond what is currently available to those who don't own boats, but want the option of boat availability on an extended schedule with easy check-in. It's another great amenity option that will be available exclusively to members of Shangri-La. Details soon!

## 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. Every time we have a nice mid-winter day, social media platforms seem to fill up with the same question - "what's available by water to get something to eat?" No matter what day or what meal, the answer is – "Doc's at Shangri-La."

The weekly musical entertainment is a year-round offering at Doc's, too. Jason Morgan hosts great karaoke fun every Thursday night, and the December lineup of live entertainment on Friday nights at Doc's includes Ryan Graham, Mark Gibson, JR Neal, and Kevin Price.

## SPORTING EVENTS AND TRIVIA AT THE ANCHOR...BY BOAT!

The Anchor is also within walking distance of our courtesy docks with lots of indoor fun seven days a week, so plan to come join the fun – even by boat! Tuesday Trivia with Lee Lawson is back at The Anchor each week

beginning January 9 – and Jason Morgan leads SINGO competition every Saturday night from 6:00-10:00.

Football season is at a critical stage – and there's a big National Championship Watch Party at The Anchor January 8. If that's not enough, NFL Playoffs begin January 13 – and you have access to all of it by boat at Shangri-La!

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 winter boating. If you have questions, contact us at 918-257-4898 or email [marina@shangrilaok.com](mailto:marina@shangrilaok.com).



## Staff Spotlight: Selina Hoflund

by Communications Director Mike Williams



*Selina Hoflund, Shangri-La Director of People & Culture*

Selina Hoflund, Shangri-La's new Director of People & Culture, has one of the most incredible American Dream success stories imaginable. Born and raised in Malaysia, she is quick to point out that, sadly, "in the Chinese culture, girls are of no value."

Her life's story is unimaginable to most of us, beginning when her birth mother was told that, as a girl, Selina would bring her bad luck – so she sold her newborn in exchange for two cans of milk and a chicken.

"That happens every day," she says. "In my culture, that's the norm."

That was not, however, the end of Selina's rocky road. Her adoptive mother died when she was only two years old, and she was raised by adoptive grandparents.

"I knew I had to go somewhere to make a new life," Selina recalls. "My grandmother gave me everything she had. It was \$7,000. She said 'take it and make a life for yourself.' I came to the USA at age 19 to go to college – and I have not left since."

Selina graduated from Central Washington University in Ellensburg, Washington. If that seems like an unusual destination for a 19-year-old from Malaysia, there's a reason.

"I didn't know there was both a Washington state and a 'D.C.' I said I wanted to be in the middle of everything in Washington, but I thought it was D.C. I ended up in the middle – but the middle of the State of Washington," she laughs. "It's probably a good thing. Looking back, I would probably have been terrified if I arrived as a young girl in Washington, D.C."

"My major in college was Management Science, but I'm a people person. When I took a job as a Human Resources Clerk, I decided that's where I wanted to be. That was my first job and, in the past 35 years, I've done every job in HR. That's all I've done since I left college."

The transition from international student to permanent employment and residency in the U.S. was a task in itself for Selina.

"I was still on just a student visa, so I wrote a heart-wrenching story for the school paper about why I was in the U.S. and why I needed to work. Unbelievably, I received a four-year work visa in the mail a short time later. I know that's unheard of, but that's what happened to me. God has always had me in the palm of his hand. Things have always worked out for me. I'm a very blessed girl."

Selina has worked in Washington, Hawaii, Virginia, Wyoming, Montana, South Dakota – "and there were others," she laughs, "but that's enough."

Most recently, she was Interim HR Director at OSU Medical Center in Tulsa. She wanted out of the health care industry, and decided to apply when she saw a job posting for the position at Shangri-La.

"I didn't think I would get the job because I had no hospitality experience," she confesses. "But I thought, 'well 'hospital' is close to 'hospitality.' Maybe they'll take a look at me.' I met with GM Lance Funderburk and we just clicked instantly."

"I'm part of the proof that Shangri-La is a multi-cultural organization," she jokes. "My mother tongue is Chinese, and I'm fluent in three dialects, as well as my native language of Malay and, of course English."

What most of us have known as "Human Resources" during our careers is known at Shangri-La as "People and Culture."

"People make the culture of an organization," Selina explains. "Part of what we do is about making sure people we work with are creating the right culture for the organization so the organization can thrive. The success of any organization comes down to its culture – and that culture all comes down to the people."

"My job is to make sure we give people the tools to succeed in their job and provide them with all of the information about benefits, goals, expectations - everything they need to succeed. Getting people to shift from behavior that doesn't serve them is my most difficult goal," she says. "I'm really passionate about young people. I see the younger generation coming into the work force without much knowledge about what to expect or what to do. Our lives are all about the decisions we make in life. I love helping them learn how to make the right decisions."

With her busy and hectic career, Selina never had children, but she has a stepson. Her husband is retired from a career in Health Promotion and Wellness, having most recently headed up the Tobacco Cessation Program in Wyoming. Selina remains on Monkey Island during the week, but she and her husband live on two acres near Skiatook.

"I have a husband, a stepson, and a cat," she grins. "I love camping – or more appropriately 'glamping.' I love knitting. I don't know why, except that's stress-free. I make a lot of scarves, hats, afghans – and give them to the poor. I love reading – and writing."

"I'm hoping who I am will rub off on people around here. I really want to change the direction of the lives of the young people I'm privileged to work with. I love it here," she says. "I love the feel of belonging to a family that is passionate about what they do. I feel that vibe at Shangri-La. I feel like I'm home."

## Member Profile: Jack and Nancy Adkinson

by Mike Williams, Director of Communications



*Jack and Nancy Adkisson: Living the Grand Lifestyle – and Adding to It!*

It's safe to say no one thoroughly enjoys the Grand Lake lifestyle more than Jack and Nancy Adkisson. It is equally safe to say no one gives back more to their community. "A Grand Lake Celebration" is a good example – a two-day holiday celebration for all Grand Lakers featuring fabulous music and appetizers furnished for all comers to celebrate the Christmas holidays. This was the second year the couple has hosted the festive event at Shangri-La Resort Hotel for all who wanted to join the celebration.

Theirs is an inspiring up-from-the-bootstraps story of success. Jack grew up in Jenks, Oklahoma, attended Conners Junior College on a football scholarship, then OU on an academic scholarship before graduating with honors from the University of Tulsa with a degree in Economics and Mathematics. He also enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserves while he was at Conners Junior College, and served for six years.

One of five children, and the only girl, Nancy was "born in the bayou," she laughs – Lake Charles, Louisiana. Her father was a pipefitter and the family moved regularly. When her father was transferred to Hawaii, Nancy moved to Tulsa to live with relatives while finishing high school.

"I was dead set on getting out of high school," she says, "so I moved to Tulsa and lived with family. I had enough credits to graduate a semester early from Will Rogers High School. I knew I wanted to go to college, but I just didn't have the money. So, I got a job working at an insurance company."

She worked for the tuition money, though, and attended Tulsa Junior College for a semester before transferring to Tulsa University where she earned a degree in accounting, and went to work for an oil company which helped her with tuition to earn her Masters Degree.

Both avid dancers, Jack and Nancy actually met at a dance club, introduced by mutual friends at the club.

"There weren't online dating sites back then, so we got to see right up front what we were getting into," Nancy jokes. "We saw each other off and on, but our first actual date was at a TU Alumni football game. We started hanging out together – and eventually got married. We both always worked, but we tried to set aside Friday nights for just the two of us."

"We still have friends from those days," Jack adds, "but we still go someplace every Friday night. It's still our 'date night' after all these years. We've been married since '67."

"That's NINETEEN sixty-seven," Nancy laughs.

They still maintain their love for dancing, though. Over the years, they have taken lessons in ballroom dancing, two-step – even disco!

In 1979, the Adkissons founded Triad Precision Products which manufactures metallic and non-metallic gaskets for heat exchangers, pipelines, and valves. Operations include a large machine shop with industrial lasers, brakes, mills, routers, and various other cnc equipment. The company primarily services refineries and chemical plants, but they also service a variety of non-related industries such as ornamental cutting of staircases, signs, and gates. Triad Precision has grown exponentially, including worldwide sales, although their market is primarily for refineries within the borders of the United States.

In addition to Triad, the Adkissons now own Hidden Valley Farms, a 170-acre pecan farm near Ramona in northeastern Oklahoma. They own the farm with their son, Glen, who is also Vice-President of Triad.

"Our son is a total outdoor freak. He was trying to find a place to just be outdoors and get away from things," Nancy says. "He wanted to buy some property and he asked if we would partner with him. We finally said we would, but the property had to have utilities and a source of income. So now we're involved with the property that has 1,000 pecan trees and a natural gas well."

"Glen loves it, though," Jack says. "He keeps it looking like a golf course. We do that as a family. It's like any farming operation. In a good year, we produce about 60,000 pounds of pecans. We give some away, but mostly we sell them wholesale in 1,500-pound bags."

"Glen is working today and we're not," Nancy laughs, "So it's a good partnership."

Jack and Nancy's first introduction to the Grand Lake lifestyle came when Jack's family built a home at Dinosaur Point in the 1960s.

"There were seven families from Jenks who had homes at Dinosaur Point," Jack recalls. "That's how we got introduced to Shangri-La when it first opened in 1969. We came to Grand Lake to visit on the weekends."

"We came to the lake any time people would invite us," Nancy adds. "We didn't have the money to come unless someone invited us."

The couple continues to maintain their primary residence at Bailey Ranch in Owasso. Although they have spent a lot of time at Grand Lake over the years, they didn't purchase a Grand Lake home themselves until 2004 in what was then called Turnberry (now Sunset Bay). For longtime lakers, that development is where Shangri-La's old Bay West Club used to be prior to being destroyed by fire.

"Shangri-La was in such a state of disrepair by then, we were actually considering moving to South Grand Lake because Shangri-La was closing," Jack recalls. "It took us a year to find a place because the entire Monkey Island area was going downhill due to the demise of the resort."

"We would play golf at Shangri-La and pull weeds out of the greens while we were waiting to putt. It was pretty bad," Nancy adds.

"Then came Eddy Gibbs and made all the Monkey Island homeowners look pretty smart," Jack says. "We love it here."

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We love everything about Shangri-La. The staff members are more than just staff. They are our friends."

Aside from their continued interest in dance, the couple enjoys golf, often playing together at Shangri-La or at Owasso's Patriot Golf Club, where they are also members. They love travel and have done so throughout the United States and much of Europe including England, Scotland, Austria, and Italy.

"It also seem like we drink a lot of wine these days," Nancy jokes. "We're members of a lot of wine clubs!

"We intend to move to Grand Lake full time," she adds, "because we love Shangri-La and we love the lake. We love it here. We love the people, especially – and you can't look at the lake without being mesmerized.

"We're just getting started," she says. "We've got a few years to go. We're always looking to the future. We've been blessed with great friends in a great community. We may come to Monkey Island by ourselves, but we're never by ourselves once we get here. You're never by yourself at Shangri-La!"



Revelers at the December 10 "Grand Lake Holiday Celebration" were serenaded by "The Showstoppers" from the Grove High School Choir under the direction of Andre Jones.



A record crowd enjoyed the music of David Bridges & The Message at "A Grand Lake Holiday Celebration" in the hotel lobby December 17.



We were honored to host the Leadership Grove class at Shangri-La for their review of the Legislative and Government programs. Pictured (from left) are Grove Chamber Executive Vice President Connie King, Shangri-La Director of Communications Mike Williams, County Commissioner David Poindexter, Shangri-La President & CEO Barry Willingham, State Representative Josh West, and Chamber President Amanda Davis.



Congratulations to Shangri-La Member Beverly Jones (right), pictured with Shangri-La Director of Sales Dana Able and Director of Communications Mike Williams. Beverly, owner of Grand River Abstract, was honored by the South Grand Lake Area Chamber of Commerce with the Chamber's Barbara Conner Lifetime Achievement Award.



## Anchor Activity

by Shaun Tune, Director of Anchor Operations



Director of Anchor Operations Shaun Tune and his wife Carley Tune made the perfect Santa & Mrs. Claus couple for the popular Christmas Party at The Anchor.

January is a month of "added fun" at The Anchor. In addition to our popular Tuesday Night Trivia with Lee Lawson which resumes weekly on January 9, we have added several events to make sure the fun continues year-round at Shangri-La. Pool, golf, and SINGO have been added to the January schedule of extracurricular fun at The Anchor!

Our Winter Pool League kicks off with an organizational meeting Thursday evening, January 4 at 7:00 p.m. If you want to participate in the pool league each Thursday night, but cannot attend the organizational meeting, you need to email me to notify me of your plans to participate no later than 9:00 p.m. Thursday, January 4. Email me at [shaun.tune@shangrilao.com](mailto:shaun.tune@shangrilao.com).

Lead Assistant Pro Ryan Dalton also hosts the Winter Golf League in January with play starting on Wednesday evenings January 3 and continuing through January 24. If you are interested in competing on multiple courses utilizing the Trackman Golf in the simulator bay, contact Ryan directly at [ryan.dalton@shangrilaok.com](mailto:ryan.dalton@shangrilaok.com). Space is limited for the golf league.

In addition to Jason Morgan's popular Thursday Night Karaoke at Doc's Bar & Grill, he will also be leading the fun each Saturday night at The Anchor with his popular SINGO competition beginning January 6. There's no need to register, just show up every Saturday night for some great musical SINGO competition!

### **There's MORE! College and NFL Football – and Basketball!**

With 42 college football bowl games behind us, there is one huge night of college football remaining. Make plans to join us at The Anchor at 6:00 p.m. Monday, January 8 for the NCAA Football National Championship Game!

NFL action is fast and furious throughout the month, as well. Wild Card playoffs begin January 13 – and we'll have coverage of every game throughout the playoffs – right up to the big Super Bowl Party at The Anchor on February 11.

The red-hot Oklahoma City Thunder are catching attention from fans throughout the country. Our NBA coverage at The Anchor includes all the Thunder games in addition to other highlighted games. Our sports screens will also feature a variety of OU, OSU and Arkansas college basketball action throughout the month.

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

We're not worried about winter weather for pickleball and tennis players. Our awesome dome is open for play during any kind of weather throughout the winter months.

There is plenty of fun on the calendar at the Racquet Club. Pickleball Drills are scheduled each Monday at 5:45 p.m., Tuesday at 9:00 a.m., Thursday at 5:45 p.m., Friday at both 9:00 a.m. and 5:45 p.m., and Saturday mornings at 9:00.

Pickleball Mixers are scheduled Mondays at 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., Thursdays at 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. (Level Up), Friday evenings at 7:00, and Saturday mornings at 10:00.

Tennis players have lots of options, as well, with Beginner Lessons each Tuesday at 5:00, followed by High School and Adult Drills at 6:00. Saturdays, Adult Tennis Drills are at 9:00 a.m. and Middle School/High School drills at noon.

Coach Kerr has always scheduled two fun "Skinny Singles Clinics" for Thursday, January 18 at 10:30 a.m. and Saturday, January 20 at 1:00 p.m.

Those are just the organized events on the tennis and pickleball courts. The Racquet Club is open for play 8:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m. Sunday-Thursday and 8:00 a.m.-midnight Friday & Saturday.

### **Fun for the Entire Family**

There are always plenty of entertainment options for the entire family – no matter what the weather. The Anchor is open 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.

If you're not at The Anchor, you're not making the most of your winter leisure time! We are thrilled to be Grand Lake's total entertainment headquarters. I hope to see you soon at The Anchor!



Members Duane and Tammie Koehler rarely miss a chance for a good party – and the "Grand Lake Holiday Celebration" at Shangri-La was no exception.





At the “Brunch with Santa” event at Doc’s last month, popular Shangri-La Front Desk Agent Melanie Freeman wasn’t about to let Santa (Harrell Pickens) get away without sharing a few of her Christmas wishes.



Even when the official “Holiday Celebration” was over, many party attendees insisted on some sing-along fun with the incredible Terry Jordan leading the charge!



Judi Barber (center) enjoyed a special time with “Grand Lake Holiday Celebration” event sponsors Jack and Nancy Adkisson.



Santa and Mrs. Claus had some special guests during The Anchor’s Ultimate Christmas Party. John Tune, far left, Shaun Tune’s Father and Neecy Tune, designer of Santa and Mrs. Claus’ attire and Shaun’s Mother.



Members and guests of all ages spent time and sparked laughter with Santa and Mrs. Claus during The Anchor’s Ultimate Christmas Party.



Jason Morgan singing some Holiday classics during The Anchor’s Ultimate Christmas Party.





## 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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*Shangri La is the place to be on Tuesday nights. Taco Tuesday at Doc's pairs greatly with Trivia hosted by Lee Lawson at the Anchor!*

## Shangri-La Hours of Operation

### Golf Shop

8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.  
Championship Course Closed Monday  
Battlefield Closed Tuesday & Wednesday

### Turnhouse

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday  
Closed Monday

### 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

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Thursday-Monday  
Closed Tuesday & 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