



# The Horizon

*What's New at Shangri-La* 

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April 2024

## Shangri-La Staff

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**Todd Rodemyer**  
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**Mitch Whitehead**  
Marina Manager

**Dana Able**  
Director of Sales

**Katelin Jumper**  
Membership Services & Event  
Coordinator

**Brett Wisdom**  
Resort Manager



## New Menus, Tap Takeover, Grand Lake Skins Shootout, March Madness, and Meet the Chefs of Shangri-La Top the April Shangri-La Schedule



*A busy month of March events at Shangri-La included Grand Lake's inaugural Balloon Glow!*

I'm pretty sure there has never been a March in the history of Shangri-La Resort that was as filled with special events as March 2024. The arrival of Daylight Saving Time and the First Day of Spring brought expanded hours of operation on the golf courses and the increase in play was dramatic. Another awesome Spring Break Kids' Camp (complete with a petting zoo), a nationally-acclaimed "Killer Keyz" Dueling Pianos show, Grand Lake's first Balloon Glow, the inaugural Shangri-La Food & Wine Festival, trivia, karaoke, Saturday Game Show events, the debut of both Smokin' Monkey BBQ and

our exclusive "Monkey Island Makers" by Maker's Mark, and live performances at Doc's every Friday Night have kept Shangri-La members and guests on daily trips to the resort for another day of fun!

I couldn't be more proud of the Shangri-La team and their flawless execution of some very unique events on a very busy calendar. In April, we're keeping our foot on the accelerator! ***New Menus, Another Tap Takeover and a Chance to Meet Our Chefs***

Early this month, we will have new Spring & Summer

menus at Doc's (April 8) and The Galley at The Anchor (April 15). Our Food & Beverage team has done a great job trying new offerings as Chef's specials to make sure the new menus are hitting the mark with all your favorites. In May, we will also debut a new menu at The Summit Restaurant.

We are planning another "Tap Takeover" by a popular Oklahoma brewery this month, too. Our first takeover by Emer-sumnice Brewery last month was so popular that F&B Director Todd Rodemyer has decided to

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make the takeovers a monthly event. The April Tap Takeover provides our members and guests with a little midweek tasting opportunity. Mountain Fork Brewery from Broken Bow, Oklahoma will take over the taps at The Anchor from 4:00-8:00 p.m. Wednesday, April 24 to show off their favorite brews.

Our members will have an opportunity this month to provide feedback directly to the professionals who are planning your menus and preparing your food. Mark your calendars for Friday, April 12 and plan on being at The Summit Restaurant from 5:00-7:00 p.m. to "Meet the Chefs of Shangri-La!" I'm betting the appetizers for that event will be over the top!

#### **Honoring Our Customers and Those Who Make Us Safe**

We seem to never spend enough time honoring the men and women who make our Grand Lake community safe for all of us. This month, we will honor all our area First Responders by hosting a special complimentary dinner for them and their families. Our First Responders Appreciation Dinner is scheduled for April 21. We want to take that special opportunity to show them how much they are appreciated by the staff, management, and ownership of Shangri-La.

If you rent a slip at Shangri-La Marina or you are a customer of Nichols Marine, we will be hosting our annual Luau in appreciation of our customers May 4 at Eddy's Lakeside Bar from 5:00-8:00 p.m. We'll have great food, great camaraderie, and great music from Empire to thank the slip renters and boat customers.

Nichols Marine will also host an in-water boat show that same weekend – Saturday & Sunday, May 4-5 from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. debuting all the latest models from Chaparral, Robalo, Bennington, and MasterCraft boats.

Boat and personal watercraft rentals and yacht charters are available for the 2024 season at Sail Grand; and, if you haven't already checked out the advantages of membership in the Shangri-La Boat Club by Sail Grand, talk to Mitch Whitehead at the marina about the advantages of membership in this club available exclusively to Shangri-La Members. The \$1,000 annual membership entitles you to discounted rental rates as well as one-time training sessions that allow you to enjoy trouble-free, hassle-free boating throughout the year.

#### **On the Golf Course**

Aerification is complete, the greens have healed, and both the Championship Course at The Battlefield Par 3 course are in fabulous condition! April is always a busy golf month, and this year is no exception. In addition to regular play, we will host the Grand Lake Skins Shootout on the Championship Course Monday, April 15. Players should be properly motivated from watching The Masters the weekend ahead of the tournament, so we are looking forward to an awesome event.

Taking a peek ahead at the month of May, the "Yellow Rabbit Run Friday Horse Race" competition returns to a weekly schedule beginning May 3. Saturday, May 4, we

begin our weekly Co-Ed Golf Clinics each Saturday afternoon at 3:00.

Sunday, May 5 we will celebrate the first anniversary of The Battlefield with a special 4-player scramble tournament. Contact the golf shop to get signed up for this epic celebration.

#### **Fun all Month at The Anchor**

March Madness is well underway with the Men's Final Four April 6 and the National Championship game April 8. The Women's Final Four is April 5 with the National Championship April 7. Naturally, we'll have full coverage at The Anchor.

NBA Playoffs get underway April 20 – and with the incredible success of the Oklahoma City Thunder this year, we'll be keeping the televisions at The Anchor tuned to playoff action, as well.

Of course, it's also the biggest month of the year for professional golf. It's time for The Masters! Catch that action on the giant video walls at The Anchor, as well, April 11-14.

The Anchor isn't just about sporting events, though. There's plenty of fun for the entire family seven days a week at Grand Lake's most popular recreation venue.

Needless to say, Coach Kerr always has a full schedule of fun on the Racquet Club courts with pickleball drills, mixers, and tennis drills for all ages. Coach has also added a couple of new events to the busy Racquet Club schedule – a Ladies' Competitive Pickleball Mixer and a Pickleball 101 learning session, both on Tuesday evenings from 7:00-8:30.

The Anchor has become an unbelievably popular spot for corporate and group outings; so you should match your calendar with dates The Anchor will be closed for private events this month – Friday, April 5 from 6:00-9:00 p.m., Monday, April 15 from 6:00-9:00, Tuesday, April 23 from 3:30-7:30, Saturday, April 20 from 6:00-10:00 p.m., and Friday, April 26 from 8:00-11:00 p.m.

#### **Food, Fun, and Live Entertainment at Doc's**

Doc's Bar & Grill is a lot more than Grand Lake's favorite restaurant stop for three meals a day, seven days a week. It's also headquarters for great entertainment and some special opportunities to enjoy some very special offerings.

Doc's is also the spot for great musical fun. Jason Morgan hosts karaoke every Thursday night at Doc's beginning at 6:00 p.m. – and Friday night means live entertainment every week at Doc's. The April Friday night line-up includes *Rockwell*, *Scott Musick*, *Chloe Johns* and *Ryan Graham*.

With the arrival of Spring, Doc's Bar & Grill is open extended hours. Doc's opens daily at 7:00 a.m. and is now open until 9:00 p.m. Sunday-Thursday, and until 10:00 p.m. Friday & Saturday.

Beginning May 2, Thursday Night Shrimp Boil and Karaoke fun returns to Doc's Patio. That let's you know the fun season is here in its entirety at Shangri-La

Resort!

#### **An Important Message to Shangri-La Members**

We have been transitioning to several new operating and accounting systems to enhance our service and accountability to our members; but I am the first to admit there have been a few bumps in the road. I am totally aware of the issues with our new Member Portal system, and the related hiccups with both billing and payment of bills. This issue has my undivided attention, and I assure you the problems with credit card payments, ACH payments and detailed billing items will be solved quickly – and the new system will provide you with much easier access to all issues and billings related to your account.

The correct link to access the member portal is <https://engagemember.onagilysys.com/SLR/SLR>. Use that link to set up your personal portal. If you have difficulty with any portion of the setup, contact Katelin Jumper at 918-257-7720 or email [Kate.lin.jumper@shangrilaok.com](mailto:Kate.lin.jumper@shangrilaok.com). She will be happy to help you set up your personal portal if you need assistance. Once you are set up, I assure you that the system will be quicker and easier to access and provide more detailed information at your fingertips.

#### **Exciting New Additions Coming to Shangri-La**

If you have made the drive to Shangri-La lately, you have undoubtedly noticed the work going on across from the airport and adjacent to The Battlefield. That's the site of our new "Legacy of Liberty" World War II Memorial Park. Very soon, we will have a replica of the flag-raising on Iwo Jima statue and a plaque honoring the legendary Native American Code Talkers, as well as several pieces of authentic World War II equipment that will join the P-51 fighter that has already been installed at the site. This Park will be a very special addition to the Shangri-La campus, honoring Oklahoma veterans from World War II, offering an education of the critical contributions made during this period that paved the way for the freedoms we are afforded today as Americans. We hope you find this new facility as special as we intend it to be.

We have lots of exciting plans on our agenda for 2024. Before you know it, we will be lounging by the resort pool, enjoying the Shrimp Boils, and listening to great bands at Eddy's. Our continued growth and success would not be possible without our incredible members and guests. 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 move forward in exciting times. Our team is always here for you and your guests any time you have the sudden urge to Escape the Ordinary.

# Culinary Conversation

by Todd Rodemyer, Director of Food & Beverage

March was an absolutely fabulous month for the Food & Beverage team at Shangri-La. We introduced our new premium blend “Monkey Island Makers by Maker’s Mark” whisky available exclusively at Shangri-La to rave reviews. We have had so many inquiries about purchasing bottles of the new blend that I want to make it clear that Oklahoma law does not allow us to sell liquor by the bottle; but it is available by the drink exclusively at all Shangri-La dining & drinking venues.

We also had a fantastic response to our new “Smokin’ Monkey BBQ” at both the Balloon Glow and our inaugural Shangri-La Food & Wine Festival. I want to give a special shout-out to all the food & beverage vendors who participated in our festival – and the hundreds of members and guests who joined us for a beautiful evening of food, beverages, and great entertainment.

Our local restaurant partners included Blind Swine, The Market at 216, and Mulligans at Patricia Island Country Club joining with The Summit, The Galley, Doc’s Bar & Grill, Smokin’ Monkey, and the Monkey Grind. We also had great offerings from several of our beverage partners – Emersumnic and Lively Breweries, Armada Distributing, Brown Forman, Handcrafted Liquor, Republic National, Premium Brands, Campari, and Tito’s. It was an awesome evening topped off by excellent weather.

We wrapped up the month with outstanding Easter Brunch offerings at both Doc’s and The Summit. I want to extend a special “thank you” to all our members and guests who helped us make March so special!

## UPCOMING CHANGES & EVENTS IN APRIL

Several changes in hours and menus are coming this month in addition to a couple of events that I’m confident will be a lot of fun. We have extended the hours of operation at Doc’s Bar & Grill, still opening daily at 7:00 a.m., but closing at 9:00 p.m. Sunday-Thursday and 10:00 p.m. Friday & Saturday. I am planning to introduce a new menu at Doc’s on April 8 and at The Galley at The Anchor April 15. We are also finalizing new menu items for The Summit, and we will have a new menu there next month.

We also have great live entertainment Friday evenings at Doc’s throughout the year. April entertainers include *Rockwell*, *Scott Muckick*, *Chloe Johns*, and *Ryan Graham*. All that in addition to *Jason Morgan’s* regular Thursday Night Karaoke fun.

## MEET THE CHEFS

I hope you will mark your calendar to join us at The Summit Restaurant Friday, March 12 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. for a special “Meet the Chefs” event. We’ll enjoy some great appetizers and camaraderie while giving you an opportunity to provide feedback on our menus and visit firsthand with all the chefs who are responsible for all our food preparation. I hope you’ll plan to join us.

## TAP TAKEOVER

We had so much fun at our first “Tap Takeover” by Emersumnic Brewery last month, we have decided to make that a monthly event, providing exposure to a wide variety of beverages from some great Oklahoma breweries. This month, we are providing an opportunity for a little midweek break at The Anchor. Mountain Fork Brewery from Broken Bow, Oklahoma will take over the taps at The Anchor to show off their offerings Wednesday, March 24 from 4:00-8:00 p.m. It should be a great evening of fun and some outstanding special offerings from Mountain Fork Brewery.

## MORE EXCITEMENT ON THE HORIZON

Our culinary crew has a great opportunity for a couple of special events this month including the annual GEFGE Gala benefiting the Grove Education Foundation for Excellence; and we are also hosting a special dinner April 21. We are always honored by those who protect us and serve us – so we are looking forward to the opportunity to serve *them!*

Next month, we’ll kick off our Thursday Night Shrimp Boil & Karaoke evenings on Doc’s Patio and, of course, Eddy’s Lakeside Bar and the Pool Bar will be opening in May, as well. Exciting times ahead!

I am thrilled to lead a truly great culinary crew; and I am excited about the future. 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!



Food & Beverage Director Todd Rodemyer and John Havens II, Executive Chef & Director of Culinary Operations, show off the first barrel of the premium “Monkey Island Makers by Maker’s Mark,” a special whisky blend available exclusively at Shangri-La venues.



Shangri-La members Bobby and Derielle Howard of Oklahoma City were the lucky winners of a bottle of “Monkey Island Makers by Maker’s Mark,” the new special Maker’s Mark blend created exclusively for Shangri-La.

## Dock Talk

by Mitch Whitehead, Shangri-La Marina Manager



*The Sail Grand crew at Shangri-La Marina has added several brand new boats and personal watercraft to the fleet. Ask about the rental advantages of joining the Shangri-La Boat Club by Sail Grand!*

Daylight Saving Time is in effect and Spring has officially arrived! The water has been turned on at all the docks at Shangri-La and pump-out service is available as well as gas, diesel, boating supplies, apparel, footwear, hats, caps, ice, beverages and snacks. Our ship store is open Monday-Saturday from 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. The 2024 boating season is officially underway!

### **SLIP RENTERS – MARK YOUR CALENDARS – IT’S ALMOST LUAU TIME!**

Shangri-La Marina and Nichols Marine will be cohosting another evening of Customer Appreciation Luau fun Saturday, May 4. All Nichols Marine customers and Shangri-La slip renters are encouraged to come join in on the fun, food, beverages – and live entertainment by the great band *Empire* from 5:00-8:00 p.m.

Nichols Marine at Shangri-La will also be hosting an in-water boat show at the marina Saturday and Sunday, May 4-5 from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Check out all the new models from Chaparral, Bennington, Robalo and MasterCraft!

### **IF YOU HAVEN’T DEWINTERIZE YOUR BOAT – IT’S TIME!**

If you haven’t already dewinterized your boat, get on the schedule so you don’t miss any of the great upcoming days on the water! The average date of the last light freeze at Grand Lake has come and gone.

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](mailto: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 ARE AVAILABLE – INCLUDING SOME NEW ONES!**

With the arrival of Spring, boat rentals and yacht charters are now available at Sail Grand. In fact, we have already had our first yacht charter of the year – and our rental boats have already been in demand. Personal watercraft, pontoon, tritoon and runabout rentals are now available. Parasailing adventures will not begin until Memorial Weekend.

We have some new rental boats available this year, including 21-foot Chaparral bowriders, a new 25-foot Landau tritoon, a 24-foot Bennington, and a 25-foot Bennington with a 300 HP engine. We also have a new fleet of SeaDoo’s for the personal watercraft fans. To reserve a rental or arrange for a yacht charter, contact Sail Grand at 918-257-6000 or check out the website at [www.sailgrand.com](http://www.sailgrand.com).

### **SHANGRI-LA MEMBERS CAN ENJOY EVEN MORE BENEFITS!**

For Shangri-La members, I have already had a lot of inquiries and several sign-ups for membership in The Shangri-La Boat Club by Sail Grand. This club membership is offered exclusively to Shangri-La Resort members to make rental boat access easy, quick, and with increased availability and extended rental times offered only to members of the Boat Club. Your Shangri-La Boat Club 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.

Your \$1,000 per year Boat Club membership offers personal walk-through orientations, training and safety instruction at your convenience. Our experienced crew will be available to make sure you are comfortable with the variety of watercraft offered by Sail Grand. As a member, you will enjoy express check-in and easy access to your preferred boat each time you utilize a rental to take friends and family on the water. You will enjoy advanced booking options with no pre-payment required and will receive options for flexible extended rental times not available to others. Members will also be offered concierge service including staff refueling to make your check-in and drop-off of rentals totally trouble-free. Members also have access to some very cool Shangri-La Boat Club apparel and accessories.

Cost is only \$1,000 per year, and requirements are minimal. You must be a Shangri-La member 25 years of age or older with a valid driver’s license and must sign the liability release form. That’s it. That’s all that is required for an entire year of easy and trouble-free access to the entire fleet of rental boats, personal watercraft, yacht charters and parasailing adventures offered by Sail Grand at Shangri-La Marina – and with a 10% discount!

The Shangri-La Boat Club is a terrific amenity available exclusively to members. For more info, come by and visit, call 918-257-6000 or email [info@sailgrand.com](mailto:info@sailgrand.com).

Whether you own a boat, rent a boat, or borrow a boat from friends, Shangri-La Marina is here for you six days a week from 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday-Saturday (closed Sunday)

## Staff Spotlight: Sarah Roper

by Communications Director Mike Williams



*Sarah Roper: Director of People & Culture*

Most people recognize the name of the department as Human Resources. At Shangri-La, it is People & Culture. And according to Director of People & Culture Sarah Roper, there is a difference.

“When I think about HR vs. People & Culture, it is an expansion of services. Human Resources is all about the people; and while you can’t have the right culture without the right people. They go hand in hand.

“The culture at Shangri-La is very much a family atmosphere. All the staff here, at the core, care about each other. Our top leaders – our executive committee members - are all passionate about making this a great place for our team, our members, and our guests.”

A native of Siloam Springs, Arkansas, Sarah traveled a circuitous route to her current post, mixing the raising of three children with three different stints in college, moves to Kansas City, back to Westville, Oklahoma, Gentry Arkansas where she spent 13 years raising her children and, ultimately, to her current home in Jay.

Her commitment to reaching her education goals while juggling family responsibilities and multiple moves paints an accurate picture of Sarah’s dedication and attention to completion of the tasks at hand. She finished her college work with a Business Administration Degree and a Liberal Arts Degree in Human Resources.

She began her career at the McKee Foods factory in Gentry, Arkansas. In 2008 she went to work for Tyson Foods as a Credit Analyst, transferring to the Tyson Subsidiary of Cobb where she spent five-and-a-half years as an Accounting Manager before transferring to Human Resources where she spent another six-and-a-half years. Ultimately, she returned to Tyson’s Payroll Department before taking over the Human Resources Role at Tyson supporting 33 locations across the United States.

In November 2023, Tyson’s announcement of multiple plant closings resulted in her position being eliminated.

“I took a little time off, then noticed the opening for a Director of People & Culture at Shangri-La. I had applied for the job previously, but when I saw it was open once again, I applied again. I came for a tour and was offered the job that same day.

“My philosophy regarding people I work with is this,” Sarah says. “We spend more waking hours with the people we work with than we spend with our family members. They deserve to be treated like family. It’s important to do what you love and love the people you work with. My philosophy dates all the way back to Confucius who said, ‘love what you do – and you’ll never work a day in your life.’”

“I spent many years in accounting. When you’re in accounting, you’re behind the scenes. There are people who do very well in that atmosphere, but I really love people. I love being around them and I love helping them. People & Culture is all about helping people, and that makes me very happy.”

Sarah lives in Jay with her husband Sean who works for the City of Tulsa as well as a side career at O’Reilly’s. They love to travel with friends (Mexico is her favorite destination), enjoy free time with other couples – and NASCAR!

Like any executive, though, work takes up the vast majority of Sarah’s time. She holds a job that is one of the most critical to holding the team together, encouraging support for each other, and moving the people and the culture in a positive direction.

“A good work culture is defined by how we treat each other - with respect and dignity. I’m fortunate to head up a department that touches everybody and everything at Shangri-La,” she says. “I see people on their worst days and on their best days – and we try to work through every situation to maintain a positive attitude and a positive culture of cooperation and mutual support in the Shangri-La workplace.”



*Congratulations to Shangri-La Assistant Golf Professional Ryan Dalton who has been named Ping Golf Power Fitter of the Year for the second consecutive year! Ryan is pictured here with Ping Representative Kendall Dye.*

## Member Profile: Dennis and Melissa Patrick

by Mike Williams, Director of Communications



Melissa and Dennis Patrick, owners of the legendary Clanton's Café in Vinita.

Dennis and Melissa Patrick's legendary Clanton's Café in Vinita is not only a legendary establishment in our area, the popular Route 66 café regularly hosts travelers from around the world. It has been featured in the Food Network series *Diners, Drive-Ins & Dives*, the National Public Radio Series *The Pampered Chef, Guns and Gardens Magazine*, and *Oklahoma Today Magazine*. The elite *Gourmet Magazine* featured their calf fries and chicken & dressing, and went so far as to boldly proclaim their chicken fried steak as "the best on Route 66." Andrew Zimmer, from The Travel Channel Network, declared Clantons for some of the best 'comfort food on Route 66.'

The restaurant was established originally as the Busy Bee by Melissa's great-grandfather Sweet Tater Clanton in 1927, and has remained in the family ever since. Dennis and Melissa are the 4<sup>th</sup> generation of family ownership and operation. The walls are adorned with certificates of honor, plaques of recognition, and enough autographed pictures from celebrities, movie stars, United States Congressmen, Senators, governors, athletes, musicians, and foreign travelers to keep you occupied for hours.

Ironically, it is Dennis, not Melissa (Clanton), who has spent his entire career in the restaurant industry. Melissa's uncle actually ran Clanton's during her formative years before her parents took it over in the mid-70s. It wasn't until her parents thought of selling the restaurant in 1998 that Dennis and Melissa took the reins, returning to Vinita to establish 4<sup>th</sup>-generation Clanton ownership and operation.

A native of Colorado, born and raised in Denver, Dennis first went to school at Colorado's Western State College in Gunnison where he "majored mostly in downhill skiing" before finishing his education at the University of Colorado.

"I had a girlfriend who was a cocktail waitress. She was always working and I thought, 'this is kind of a drag, just sitting around waiting all the time,' so I started talking to the people while I sat in the bar waiting for her. She worked for the Cork & Cleaver Restau-

rant Chain. One conversation led to another, and I ended up in their management program. I fell in love with the business and have been in it ever since."

His career took him on a circuitous path, including years as District Manager for the popular Black-Eyed Pea restaurant chain. His path crossed with Vinita native Melissa Clanton when he was manager of an enormously popular Oklahoma City restaurant, Molly Murphy's House of Fine Repute.

"I hired Melissa at Molly Murphy's right out of college in 1979. Little did I know...45 years later," he says, rolling his eyes.

"Hired for life," Melissa quipped. "He should have known -- you're not supposed to date the help."

The two moved back to Colorado where Dennis was a partner in a couple of restaurants, first in Denver – then to Colorado Springs. Melissa had both family and personal roots in the food business, of course, but she stayed out of it professionally.

"I've always had a love for cooking and for food. In fact, one of my first jobs was working for Archie Wilson at Shangri-La back in the 70s," she recalls. "My professional background is all customer service, though. I've been a travel agent and I worked for a software company as a meeting planner. My famous saying was, 'I'm not going back into the restaurant business unless I own it.' Let that be a lesson to you. Be careful what you say," she laughs. When we took over Clanton's and I got back in the restaurant business, all my skills fit in perfectly with catering and meeting planning. It's a nice complement."

Indeed. Catering jobs at Clanton's are varied and plentiful. With a varied clientele ranging from small groups to dessert-only events, outdoor venues to catered multi-course meals for 200, Clanton's caters an unbelievable 500-700 events each year... in addition to serving three meals a day at the restaurant.

Dennis and Melissa joined Shangri-La at the urging of another member, the late Dan Arnold.

"I think Dan was tired of me mooching off of him to play golf," Dennis jokes. "I had committed myself to become a better golfer. I decided going to the best facility would be at least one step in the long procession to achieve that goal. And I'm at the right place. Shangri-La is an outstanding facility. I love it.

"It's not just the golf facilities, though," he adds quickly. "The Summit Restaurant is a great place to take Melissa on our nights off to treat her special. The food is always creative and good, and the staff members are all personable. When they approach you to say 'hi,' and they say they're glad to see you, they mean it. Shangri-La has a definite personality. We're glad to be a part of it."

When they're not working, Melissa enjoys reading, music and running, including half-marathons. Dennis enjoys golf, snow skiing, and classic cars. Both enjoy travel.

Somehow, the Patricks find time for extensive involvement in civic and charitable events. Dennis is Past President of Home of Hope Board of Directors where he has served for fourteen years. He has served on the Chamber of Commerce Board. He has organized car shows, golf tournaments and currently serves on the committee of the Vinita Friends of Route 66, promoting Route 66 in Vinita and Oklahoma. He is also active with the Home of Hope golf team which is fortunate to have Shangri-La as their home course.

Dennis also served as Chairman of the Oklahoma Restaurant Association and as a member of the Oklahoma Department of Tourism and Recreation's Tourism Promotion Advisory Council.

"Anything I can do to get out of work," he jokes.

"He's the PR(BS) guy," Melissa says. "I let him go out and PR(BS), and I stay here and work."

There's plenty to do – and plenty happening – at one of Route 66's most popular stops!

# SLWGA News

*Submitted by Peggy Blair*

Spring is in the breeze, and swinging a golf club is a great way to start the season.

If you are a female member of Shangri-La, you might want to check out the Shangri-La Women's Golf Association (SLWGA). SLWGA members have a range of golf skills and experiences. Some ladies play 18 holes while others prefer to play 9 holes. The ladies enjoy the company of each other and the beautiful courses. If you would like to join the SLWGA please call Carol Cable 918-758-7542.

The 2024 season blasts off with a Spring Brunch of Delight. It will take place on April 6<sup>th</sup>, in the Charles Davis Room, at the Summit Restaurant. The brunch begins at 10:00 a.m. with a meet and greet. At 10:15 we will gather for pictures. The meal will be prepared by the amazing food staff and served at 10:30. I hear the greens will not just be on the outside courses. Don't waste a moment of your precious time. Sign up on the Website. If you have questions or need more information call Candy Couch (918-541-0058).

Our 2024 Board Officer members are: Barbara Patrick, President; Candy Couch, Vice-President; Cheryl Brecheisen, Secretary; Carol Cable, Treasurer; Peggy Howard-Burgess, Past President; Linda Ballard, 18-Hole Chair; Susan Jones, 9-Hole Chair; Judi Barber, Away Golf; Peggy Blair, 18-Hole Publicity Chair; Kim Quillin, 9-Hole Publicity Chair; Melissa Scribner, Member At Large.

This year promises to be chock-full of fun events. Our first day of play is April 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. The 18-Hole players start at 9:00. The 9-Hole players meet on the patio at 9:15. Of course, Linda and Susan would be so happy if you show up early to warm up and get pairings together. Each month we challenge ourselves with the beauty of the Par 3 Battlefield course. It is double fun, because it's 18-Hole and 9-Hole players combined.

There are many tournaments planned for our enjoyment. Guest Day is April 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a Black, White, and Bling affair. Invite a friend!!!! Some of the other favorites include the Eclectic, in May and June. Also in June, the big La Tee Da Tournament occurs. Sign up early for this one!!

The Ryder cup is also in June. This is a 2-day Team tournament. In August we have the Grand Lady, which is our major tournament of the season. Golf for the Cure occurs yearly. We all wear pink and contribute toward cancer research. Don't forget the Un-mystery trip. Check it out on our website. Other trips planned for Away Golf include Interclub, Tri State, WOGA, and Tulsa District. More Information about these activities will be announced as the season continues.

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."

*"Sometimes, being with your friends and golfing is all the therapy you need." (unknown)*



*SLWGA Board Members preparing for the new season. (Back row) Cheryl Brecheisen, Melissa Scribner, Peggy Howard-Burgess, Linda Ballard, Barbara Patrick. (Front row) Susan Jones, Carol Cable, Candy Couch, Judi Barber. Not pictured: Kim Quillin and Peggy Blair).*

# Anchor Activity

by Shaun Tune, Director of Anchor Operations



Shaun Tune, Director of Recreation, The Easter Bunny, and Gabby Wallace, Anchor Manager, prepare for the Easter Egg Hunt

With a week-long Kids' Camp, a fun Spring Break week, and a month of Trivia and Game Show competition – topped off with a gigantic Easter Egg Hunt – The Anchor was a busy place during the month of March. April has even more family fun options.

Jason Morgan hosts the popular “Tuesday Trivia” every week beginning at 7:00 p.m. sharp. But he has added another event that has quickly become equally popular – Saturday Night Game Show Night with the battles beginning at 6:00 p.m. Last month, he puzzled competitors with “Jeopardy” battles. In April, the Saturday Night Game Show fun switches to Wheel of Fortune. April 6, we'll have NCAA Final Four Coverage at the Anchor, and The Anchor is closed for a private event Saturday night, April 20 – but Jason will host the Wheel of Fortune competition April 13 and 27.

### Private Events at The Anchor in April

If you are planning events at The Anchor, please make a note that the facility will be closed for private events on the following dates and times: Friday, April 5 from 6:00-9:00; Monday, April 15 from 6:00-9:00; Saturday, April 20 from 6:00-10:00; Tuesday, April 23 from 3:30-7:30 p.m. and Friday, April 26 from 8:00-11:00. I apologize for any inconvenience, but The Anchor has become a very popular spot for groups making special arrangements for their meetings, conferences, and recreational activities at Shangi-La.

**Basketball, Basketball, Basketball**

March Madness is underway at full speed and, of course, The Anchor is the ultimate spot for catching your favorite sporting events on our gigantic video walls. We'll have coverage of the “Final 4” games April 6 with the National Championship game set April 8.

With added excitement surrounding Women's College Basketball this year, we also have full coverage of the Women's NCAA Tournament. Final Four competition for the ladies is Friday April 5. The Anchor is reserved for a private event from 6:00-9:00 p.m. April 5, so we won't have coverage of the first game at 7:00 – but we'll be open for the second game which tips off at 9:00. The Women's College Championship Game will be Sunday, April 7 at 2:00 p.m.

If that's not enough basketball coverage for you, the NBA Playoffs get underway this month with the play-in tournament games April 16, 17, and 19 – and the Playoffs getting underway officially Saturday, April 20. With our Oklahoma City Thunder a certainty to be in the playoffs, this year is particularly exciting for Oklahoma NBA fans!

Add a schedule of college softball and baseball coverage – especially in the incredibly competitive Big XII Conference, plus weekly NASCAR action and PGA Golf, and sports fans have something for everyone every day at The Anchor!

### And April is Golf's Biggest Month!

We feature PGA golf coverage every week at The Anchor, but you won't want to miss golf's biggest event this month. It's time for The Masters. We'll have complete coverage April 11-14. Join us to enjoy every hole of “The Super Bowl of Golf!”

### Mark Your Calendars – It's Another “Tap Takeover”

We had a huge afternoon of beer-tasting fun last month when the Owasso-based Emersumnic Microbrewery took over the beer taps at The Anchor to show off their specialty brews.

Mark your calendars for some mid-week fun with another “Tap Takeover” at the Anchor Wednesday, March 24 by the Broken Bow, Oklahoma-based Mountain Fork Brewery. The takeover kicks off at 4:00 p.m. Don't be late!

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

We are excited about hosting the inaugural South Grand Lake Area Chamber of Commerce Spring Pickleball Mixer Sunday, April 28 from 2:00-6:00 p.m. Entry is \$50 per player. If you aren't already signed up for this Sunday afternoon of fun, contact Amanda Reed at the Chamber at 918-782-3214 or email [sgrandlakechamber@gmail.com](mailto:sgrandlakechamber@gmail.com).

Of course, there is always 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 101 lessons are scheduled each Tuesday evening from 7:00-8:30.

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 (Level Up). This month, Coach also has scheduled Ladies Competitive Pickleball Mixers on Tuesday evenings from 7:00-8:30.



Continued from page 8...

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

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. Come join the competition and fun!

**Fun for the Entire Family**

There are always plenty of indoor entertainment options for the entire family – no matter what the weather. Our arcade games and virtual reality games provide a great option for the youngsters. Our simulator bay offers LaserShot shooting and Trackman Golf. We also have more traditional games – ping-pong, pool, foosball, shuffleboard, and darts – so there’s plenty of fun for the entire family.

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, and we are always open to the public!

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



Great turn out for the 3rd annual Easter Egg hunt. Shaun and his team would like to thank everyone for coming out..



The Shangri-La team welcomed the nationally acclaimed “Killer Keyz” dueling pianos show to Grand Lake for a sold-out performance March 19. Pictured (from left), Shangri-La General Manager Lance Funderburk, Director of Communications Mike Williams, Killer Keyz performers Eddie Thompson and Rich Wyman, Shangri-La Director of Sales Dana Able and Director of Engineering Brent Beyers.



Blind Swine, Mulligans and The Market at 216 were local restaurants among the 17 exhibitors who joined Shangri-La venues at the inaugural Shangri-La Food & Wine Festival March 23.



## 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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*Congratulations to Shangri-La member Erin Fitzgibbon. Erin had a hole in one Wednesday, March 27. He accomplished the feat on #8 Heritage at Shangri-La with his 6-iron from 170 yards.*

*Great shot, Erin!*



*Congratulations to Shangri-La Member Sheila Brown of Norman, OK on her first career hole-in-one! Sheila aced #12 at The Battlefield using her 8-iron for the 100-yard shot. The feat was witnessed by fellow member Debbie McCurdy.*

# Shangri-La Hours of Operation

### Golf Shop

#### Championship:

Open Seven Days a Week: 7:30 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

#### Battlefield:

Open: Thursday - Tuesday 7:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
Closed: Wednesday

### Canteen at The Battlefield

Open: Thursday-Sunday 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.  
Closed Monday -Wednesday

### Turnhouse

Open Seven Days a Week: 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

### 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

### 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

Monday-Thursday - 7:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.  
Friday - Sunday - 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