

Harbor Bar & Grill in Stockbridge is Under New Ownership

By Jackie Kempf
Staff Journalist

The historic Harbor Bar & Grill, located at Stockbridge Harbor on Lake Winnebago, combines remarkable sunsets and lake views with a casual atmosphere for an enjoyable visit. Offering a dining area, 2 bars and a deck, the restaurant provides ample space for hosting special events such as anniversary, birthday and holiday celebrations, baby and wedding showers, and bachelor and bachelorette parties.

On January 1, 2020, new owners Nick Conway and Bud Nackers reopened the bar and are bringing back the original Harbor Bar feeling.

Nackers, an investment advisor, lives only $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from the restaurant, so when it went up for sale, he decided that the purchase would make a good long-term investment. However, owning investment Designers Inc. in Appleton is a full-time job, so he needed a co-owner that could perform the day-to-day management.

“Once I met Nick, I knew partnering with him was the right choice to help bring the small-town appeal of Harbor Bar back to the residents,” says Bud. “Nick had proven experience in running a successful restaurant, and he had detailed plans to improve the flow in the kitchen and make menu updates.”

“I was looking for another restaurant opportunity,” said Conway, who also owns The Lake House on Cedar Lake in Kiel. “When the Harbor Bar became available, I knew this would be a perfect venture for myself and my family. And it was clear that the locals wanted a place where they could receive high quality food at great prices.”

Upon purchasing the restaurant in December 2019, Conway and Nackers opted to keep the original décor, as well as employee Mary who has been with the location for 20 years, but they did choose to revamp the menu to offer more fresh ingredients and grilled items. In the works for the summer is the addition of a tiki bar and a sand volleyball pit, along with some updates to the current patio.

The bar offers many events, such as the recent Sturgeon Festival Weekend, and the upcoming St. Patty’s Day party on March 14th that includes a DJ, green beer, Irish food specials, and free giveaways. Specials under the new ownership includes \$2 burgers on Mondays, Mary’s Famous Fried Chicken on Wednesday nights when kids also eat free, Happy Hour Tuesday through Friday from 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm, a \$19.99 steak and lobster special on Thursday, and a Build Your Own Bloody Mary bar on Saturdays.

So whether you come from the marina or the parking lot, or if you’re looking for your next employment opportunity, you won’t be sorry that you stopped at Harbor Bar & Grill at 1919 West Lake Street at the Stockbridge Harbor.

