

Homeowner Newsletter

Homeowner News straight from your local team



Quarter 2 • 2019

STAFF INTRODUCTION: Meet Your New Marketing Manager

We are proud to welcome Brent Justice as Oceana Resort's new Marketing Manager! Brent has worked in marketing and advertising for over 20 years and brings with him experience in graphic design, videography, and branding. Brent's love of marketing first grew from working in his family's sign shop, where he learned how effective branding can make or break a business. Throughout the years he obtained his Bachelor's Degree in Advertising, gained experience in the graphic design field, and created television commercials for both small local businesses and national brands such as NBC, ABC, and FOX.

Shortly after making the move to the Myrtle Beach area Brent started MotionWorks, a media company that worked with local businesses to create effective advertising and marketing. It was at MotionWorks where Brent began a partnership with Oceana Resorts that would last for years to come. "After working with Oceana Resorts for over 6 years, I was ecstatic to learn about the opportunity to be a part of the team. I knew it would be a perfect fit." says Brent.

Since coming on board in May, Brent has been hard at work on the Bay Watch Resort mobile app redesign to enhance the guest experience while on property, adding to our video and photography assets, and creating new social media campaigns to target past, current, and future guests. Exciting upcoming projects in the marketing department include a fall video shoot, which will entail bringing in models and a professional film crew. The purpose of the video shoot will be to obtain updated and fresh marketing materials for the upcoming seasons. When asked what he was most looking forward to in his new role as Marketing Manager, Brent stated "I'm just really excited to be a part of the Oceana team. I've always been a fan of the Oceana brand and I'm looking forward to seeing how much we can grow over the upcoming years with new initiatives.



2019 SERVICE RESULTS

Below is a chart illustrating an aggregate of all online media review sites including Trip Advisor, Facebook, Booking.com, Expedia, and others. We are excited to report that we are seeing improvement in Service, Overall, and General Staff. Our guests have spoken and we continue to adjust to the feedback.









MARKETING UPDATE:

In the second quarter of the calendar year, we have focused on creating exciting promotional offers that reach potential travelers earlier in the consideration phase, garnering earlier bookings and longer stays. Coupled with our Weekend Weather Outlook and Deal of the Day Email campaigns, we've seen equal to or greater revenue as compared to the previous year, even with some inclement weather.

In April we launched our Easter promotion with activities that ran April 12 - 27th and complimented that with a Pay Per Click ad campaign to push last minute incentives with various activities packages. Each property received a promotional push during the month of April, with our strongest response coming from email outreach.

May was strong with multiple marketing messages, targeted to our most qualified guests. These included a Memorial Day weekend promotion, Mother's Day, and an exciting campaign based on the newest TripAdvisor data ranking that placed Myrtle Beach as the #21 Best Vacation Destination in the United States. Our 21 Reasons to Visit messaging was a hit, and we look forward to future growth as the Grand Strand sees an increase in visitors year after year.

As we close June and look into July, we continue to push Super Saver Rates with heavy emphasis on free admission to Wild Water and Wheels Water Park and perks with our Guest Privileges Program and continue to offer our successful Deal of the Day offers. Keeping a pulse on the market as a whole, we are consistently working with our Online Travel Agency travel partners to stay competitive as the surrounding properties jockey for position.

As we move into the summer months we will see an increase in paid social media advertising, opening a new channel of revenue and retargeting and re-engaging past guests to be brand loyalists, while refueling our email databases allowing us greater reach to potential earnings. We are also re-tooling an important asset for guest engagement and satisfaction, our mobile app. In the coming months you will see a completely new app interface, one that encourages guest participation and streamlines the check-in and check-out process. Our goal is to give our guests the very best experience while staying at our properties, with the added benefit of in-house promotions to drive revenue and reviews.

We continue to evaluate our messaging channels and tools and are actively developing new and exciting ways to reach new potential guests, maximize our paid advertising, and overall provide the very best in guest experience. We are looking forward to having these initiatives complete in the coming months and to share with you their success.

Brent Justice, Marketing Manager

Below are examples of emails sent to guests to promote our Memorial Day, 21 Reasons to Visit Myrtle Beach, Deal of the Day, and Easter at the Beach campaigns.













FINANCIAL UPDATE:

Q2 - 2019

Peer to peer market data for properties in North Myrtle Beach indicated a struggle to maintain prior year occupancy levels during Q2. A decline in group business was the major contributor to the shortage for Bay Watch, but we were able to capture last minute leisure business at a higher rate. Our challenge continues to be replacing the business during weekday travel periods.

Property	ADR Change YOY	Occ Change YoY
Bay Watch Resort	+5.63%	-6.04%

Q3 - 2019: Looking Ahead

As we look ahead to Quarter 3, Bay Watch Resort shows positive occupancy growth compared to the same time last year. Much of this growth is for July, where our group business has reached an all time high due to events at the North Myrtle Beach Sports Center. Peer to peer market data suggests that our competitive set is showing a softer quarter than prior year, but our group base will allow us to push last minute rates for leisure travels in our effort to maximize the rate and occupancy combination for our owners.

Property	ADR Change YOY	Occ Change YoY
Bay Watch Resort	-1.66%	+2.61%

*Currently what is on the books as of 6/28/2019 - this will change based on pickup between now and the end of September 2019.

Anthony Bottaro, Revenue Manager

MAKING A SPLASH: Guests Are Loving Free Water Park Admission

We are continuing to see positive feedback from our guests regarding our Book Direct Perks, particularly pertaining to the free unlimited water park admission to Wild Water & Wheels Water Park. Other Book Direct Perks include free mini golf, free DVD rentals, no greens fees at top area golf courses, and up to \$500 worth of savings to local dining, shopping, and entertainment venues with our Guest Privileges Card. Exclusive benefits such as free water park admission allows Oceana Resorts to stand out in the Myrtle Beach market by offering guests a unique experience they can't find anywhere else.

PROPERTY UPDATES: Bay Watch Resort

We are excited to announce the following improvements to Bay Watch Resort. Oceana Resorts continues to partner with your Board of Directors and RAM to maintain your investment.

- HVAC System was replaced in Tower 1 Lobby
- Landscape lighting upgrade to LED lighting
- Plaster, tile, and coping was completed for lap pool
- Replacement of boiler





HOMEOWNER SERVICES:

Product Enhancement

In this quarter, we have been focused on enhancing the guest experience by partnering with our homeowners to add attractive and up-to-date additions to rental units.

We continue to convert failing murphy beds into many attractive and modern alternatives, such as a dry bar, a breakfast nook, and a dining area. This serves two purposes: one being the elimination of the high cost of maintaining and repairing the antiquated bed construction. When murphy beds fail, that means the unit cannot be rented until repaired, leading to decreased revenue. The second is that the renovated units are receiving better guest reviews, boosting bookings overall.

We also help facilitate the upgrade of dated televisions in the units to popular Smart TVs. These enhance the guest experience with streaming and mirroring technology. As more and more Americans trade out cable for streaming applications, our guests expect the same flexibility while on vacation.

Due to the moist salt air and humidity, we have a constant battle of corrosion to the appliances in the units. It is a reality that we have to face being right on the ocean and the always present salt air. However, we have found solutions that we recommend and see great success. One, black appliances tend to hold their appearances better and longer than white appliances. Also, stoves with glass tops instead of exposed elements fare much better in the long term and are highly suggested. Dryer drums are sure to corrode over time, but we continue to monitor and encourage replacements as issues arise.

A major initiative in Quarter 2 was the addition of triple sheeting in units. This has a large positive affect on the presentation of the unit not only in person and in unit photography, but also serves as being the most practical option. Scarves on bedding have been replaced with a decorative top sheet that compliments every room.

Keep an eye out for upcoming design boards to help transform the look of your unit. We are collaborating with IQ Designs to create 3 themes: Coastal Cottage, Uptown, and Downtown. We are very excited to share the options with you as soon as they are complete!

Regina Spake, Product Enhancement Specialist

WELCOME TO OUR NEW HOMEOWNERS

We welcome these new owners to Bay Watch Resort and to the Oceana Resorts family!

Sandra S., New York Jeri C., Florida Shashi G., New Jersey Andrea L., North Carolina Nancy D., New Jersey Patricia G., New Hampshire



Sable Kendle, Business Development Specialist 877-261-3357





UPCOMING EVENTS

Ocean Boulevard Summer Nights June 10 - September 1 Plyer Park, Myrtle Beach

Summerfest at Barefoot Landing June 1 - August 31 Barefoot Landing, North Myrtle Beach

Summer Concert Series May - September NMB Park & Sports Complex, North Myrtle Beach

Music on Main Concert Series May - September Main Street, North Myrtle Beach

Brookgreen Summer Festival June - August Brookgreen Gardens, Murrells Inlet

Farmers Market at The Market Common May - September The Market Common, Myrtle Beach Summer Parrot Head Fest July 13 La Belle Amie Vineyard, Little River

Craftsmen's Classic Summer Art & Craft Fest August 2 -4 Convention Center, Myrtle Beach

Myrtle Beach World Amateur Golf Tournament August 26 - 30 Various Golf Courses, Myrtle Beach & North Myrtle Beach

Myrtle Beach Mustang Week September 2 - 8 Broadway at the Beach, Myrtle Beach

Irish - Italian Festival September 28 Main Street, North Myrtle Beach

Atalaya Arts & Crafts Festival September 27 - 29 Huntington Beach State Park, Murrells Inlet

COMMUNICATION CORNER





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