

EAGLE RIDGE RESORT & SPA: KEY PERSONNEL

Located on 6,800 acres, amid the rolling hills of northwestern Illinois, Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa is a full-spectrum resort recognized nationally by outlets including *Wine Enthusiast*, *Midwest Living*, and *Travel + Leisure Golf*.

The property provides a superior golf experience with 63 holes on four acclaimed courses. The resort offers distinctive dining options including The Woodlands Restaurant & Lounge and Spikes Bar & Grill, each catering to guests and locals alike.

Amenities on the property include the tranquil Stonedrift Spa, state-of-the-art fitness center with an indoor pool and sauna along with an endless array of seasonal outdoor activities including hot air balloon rides, horseback riding, cross country skiing, sledding, ice skating, biking and hiking on miles of trails and fishing and boating on the 220-acre Lake Galena.

KEY PERSONNEL:

Ikhlas Ahmed, General Manager

Ikhlas Ahmed was appointed General Manager to Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa in September 2006 after serving as the Director of Finance since 1993. He has over 30 years of experience in the hospitality industry. Ahmed is responsible for the overall operations at Eagle Ridge, which include 18,000 square feet of meeting space, 80 guest rooms and more than 300 privately owned villas, condominiums and executive homes, five food and beverage outlets, a full-service spa and four golf courses. Previously, Ahmed worked at the McCormick Center Hotel in Chicago from 1973 to 1990 and was promoted to corporate controller for Aerie Hotels and Resorts, where he directed the opening of the Silver Eagle Riverboat Casino. He was also responsible for the financial management of the McCormick Center Hotel and the Essex Hotel, Chicago.

Randy Whiteside, Director of Sales & Marketing

Randy Whiteside was appointed Director of Sales and Marketing to Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa in Galena, Ill., in June 2009. Whiteside comes to Eagle Ridge with over 30 years in the hospitality industry, specializing in luxury resort sales and marketing. "I love the Midwest and find Eagle Ridge to be a beautiful resort," says Whitehead. Whiteside brings his skill and knowledge gained from a proven track record of successful sales and marketing initiatives. His forte in resort properties, Whiteside looks forward to perpetuating Eagle Ridge in all aspects, including the highly awarded golf amenities. Whiteside's key initiatives will undoubtedly raise the standard for all hotel and resort management practices. Prior to Eagle Ridge, Whiteside served as Vice President of Sales and Marketing at Bay Point Marriott Golf Resort & Spa.

Barbara Schubert, Advertising & Promotions Manager

Barbara Schubert joined the team at Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa in June of 2000 as an employment manager. She was promoted as the resort's Advertising & Promotions Manager in October of 2007. Schubert oversees and develops the resorts advertising and promotional plans and handles all aspects from in-house marketing materials to the complete redesign and execution of a new website. Prior to Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa, Schubert has held operational positions at a staffing company in Dubuque, Iowa and in Ocala, Fla. Schubert graduated in 1991 with a BA in English from the University of Dubuque in Dubuque, Iowa. Schubert has been involved in numerous professional and community associations including Shullsburg Music in the Park, Scales Mound Stage Coach Festival Committee and Tri-State Human Resources Association. She is also a freelance editor, writer and graphic designer for publications such Garden & Greenhouse magazine in Dubuque, Iowa, and Monty's Plant Food in Louisville, Kentucky.

Donald C. Pleau, Director of Food and Beverage

Donald C. Pleau joined the Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa team as Director of Food and Beverage in March 2005. Pleau oversees all restaurants, banquet and food service operations including the Woodlands Restaurant & Lounge, Spikes Bar & Grill, Paisanos, the North, South and East Golf Clubhouses, and the General Store Bakery & Deli. Most recently, Pleau served as the food and beverage director for the Grand Harbor Golf and Beach Club in Vero Beach, Fla. Pleau brings a remarkable résumé to one of the Midwest's foremost resort properties. Previously, he served as Executive Chef at the four-star, five-diamond Ponte Vedra Inn & Club, Vero Beach, Fla., and Executive Sous Chef at The Cloister, Sea Island, Ga., a five-star, five-diamond American Plan Resort Hotel. Pleau is a certified sommelier received from the Court of Master Sommeliers.

Randy Hoppman, Executive Chef

Randy Hoppman began his culinary career as a line cook at Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa 24 years ago. Hoppman's love of different cultures, culinary ingenuity and commitment to the resort resulted in his unique cuisine and his position as Executive Chef at Eagle Ridge. Hoppman was mentored by award-winning chefs from Denmark, France and Poland, and the diverse cultural influences are reflected in his signature dishes. His most influential mentor, Teddy Marzeck, of Polish descent, taught Hoppman how to create soups and sauces, including Eagle Ridge's famous smoked corn and sausage chowder. Former executive chefs Will Delage and William Town also contributed to Hoppman's culinary education. Hoppman, a lifelong resident of East Dubuque, Ill., oversees operations at Eagle Ridge's three restaurants – Woodlands Restaurant & Lounge, Spikes Bar & Grill and Paisanos – as well as the resort's banquet facilities. An award-winning ice sculpture designer, Hoppman has created ice bars, company logo sculptures and unique designs to compliment Eagle Ridge's special events.

Erin Strieck, Director of Golf

Erin Strieck was appointed Director of Golf May 17, 2007. Strieck joined Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa as Head Golf Professional in 2000. She is responsible for the day-to-day operations of four courses (63 holes), including The General, the second-ranked public access course in the state, according to Golfweek's latest ranking of "America's Best Golf Courses." Also, she is in charge

of the management of the resort's golf academy, tournament office and corporate golf events, as well as the oversight and supervision of 100 employees. Strieck began her golf management career at Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa in 1997 as tournament coordinator. In 1998, Strieck moved to Scottsdale, Ariz., to serve as assistant golf professional at Troon Golf's Legend Trail and Kierland Golf Clubs. Shortly after her return to Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa in 2000, Strieck was promoted to the position of head golf professional. Originally from Bettendorf, Iowa, Strieck attended the University of Iowa on a golf scholarship and graduated with a degree in sports management in 1995. In 2004, Strieck won the Merchandiser of the Year award in the Resort Category by the Professional Golf Association, Illinois Section.

Tom Tully, Director of Agronomy

Tom Tully has been the Director of Agronomy at Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa since April 2004. Tully manages a staff of 10 year-round and 45 seasonal employees and is responsible for the maintenance of four golf courses – 63 holes in total – and all of the resort's common areas. A native of LaGrange, Ill., Tully comes to Eagle Ridge after serving as director of agronomy for the Chicago-based Kemper Sports Management, where he was in charge of the six Chicago Park District courses. Prior to that, he managed Cardinal Creek Golf Course in Beecher, Ill. Tully earned a Bachelor of Science degree in ornamental horticulture from the University of Florida in 1992 and his MBA from Clarke College in 2007. He began his career in golf course maintenance as an assistant at Stonebridge Country Club, Aurora, Ill., before earning his first superintendent's post at The Course at Aberdeen in Valparaiso, Ind.

Matt Romer, Head Golf Professional

Matt Romer came to Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa in 2006 as the Tournament Coordinator. He was appointed in 2009 as the resort's Head Golf Professional. A graduate of Coastal Carolina University in Myrtle Beach, S.C., Romer has over a decade of golf industry experience. Upon graduating in 1997, Romer went on to work as a Golf Instructor in Pawley's Island, S.C. Romer was then the Head Golf Professional at Quail Creek Golf Club in Conway, S.C. in 1998. Romer left the Carolinas and headed north to work as the Assistant Golf Professional at Wheeling Country Club in Wheeling, W.Va., in 2002. Prior to Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa, Romer continued to move north and went on to work as the Director of Instruction at Stonewall Orchard Golf Club in Grayslake, Ill., in 2004. As Head Golf Professional, Romer works closely with Director of Golf Erin Strieck and oversees a staff of about 60 people. Romer is looking forward to the 2010 season and developing the tournament and outing roster for the golf program. He and his wife currently reside in Galena, Ill., with daughter Kellyn (7-years-old) and sons Roman (3-years-old) and Brant (18-months-old).

Patricia Lee, Spa Manager at Stonedrift Spa

Patricia Lee was named Spa Manager at Stonedrift Spa at Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa in June 2009. Previously a senior massage therapist at Coldwater Creek – The Spa in Naperville, Ill., Lee brings over seven years of practical and teaching experience to the

resort. Lee is certified through the NCTMB (National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage) and has held positions at Timber Spa at Lake Lawn Resort in Delavan, Wis., and Olympia/Everest College in Aurora, Ill., where she was the Instructor of Massage Therapy.

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