

THE WESTIN BEAR MOUNTAIN EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH –SUMMER 2013

Front of the House - Samm Amaral - Food & Beverage



Samm (pictured left with Carmen Parry, is a server in the Masters Lounge and also works in our Mountainside Athletic Club Daycare. She worked for Bear Mountain in various roles in the past and her most recent return was in October of 2011. She was born in Bermuda and raised in Victoria. Her long term goal is to be a realtor but for now she is obsessed with travelling and is soon moving to Australia with her boyfriend Marc to embark on a new and exciting chapter of her life. Samm is being recognized for her amazing attitude. It doesn't matter how busy we are or what task is given to her, she consistently shows that sunny personality and positive attitude. Samm is a hard worker who obviously loves what she does and this translates directly to the guest experience. When asked what she likes about Bear Mountain she said she loves working with everyone here and especially loves, living and working in the same lo-

cation where she knows so many people. In her free time she loves spending time with friends and when she leaves she will definitely miss her Best Friend Marlo (Also a Bear Mountain Associate!) When asked if she had a quote she lives by, hers was "Start each day like it's your birthday!" Somewhat fitting for Samm who has such an amazing outlook on life. Congratulations Samm, we will miss you and hope to see you again soon!

Front of the House - Emily Duggan - Banquets



Emily (pictured left with Lucanne Gellner, Banquets Captain) is a server in our Banquets Department. She was born in Richmond and grew up in Armstrong. She moved to Victoria a little over a year ago to try something different and joined Bear Mountain in September of last year. Emily is being recognized for her willingness to go the extra step to make an experience memorable for a guest. She is always there when needed and able to perform tasks in a professional and efficient way. We have also seen Emily help out in the dishwashing area to assist in getting clean dishes for the next banquets event. If it needs to be done to achieve success, she sees it and does it. You all might recognize her as well from the Bear's Den at Pond's Landing where she works during the days. Emily lives and works at Bear Mountain and is continually promoting the village type atmosphere that suits the mountain so well. Her long term goals are to one day work in childcare. Sadly for us, since her presentation Emily has made the decision to move closer to family and help out on the family farm. When asked what she liked about working at Bear Mountain Emily said it was the fast pace that she loves the most. The fact that in Banquets you have the same types of events but they are always different and its always entertaining, it's nice to go to work and be enter-

tained! In closing she would like to thank Bear Mountain for everything she has learned during her year here and also for all the great friends she has made. Congratulations Emily, we will miss you and hope you stay in touch!

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Heart of the House - Simon Dejongh - Culinary



Simon (pictured left with Mark Wadsworth, Executive Chef) is a long standing member of Bear Mountain's Culinary Team. He started with Bear Mountain in August 2003, and has just celebrated his 10 year anniversary with Bear Mountain. Simon joined the Culinary Team when it was merely a BBQ and a snack shack. His dedication to the industry has been evident over the years and he is presently our Breakfast Chef running the early mornings. Simon's loyalty played a key role in a time of transition for the kitchen over the slower season and his presence played a huge part in the success of the team. Not only does Simon show a passion for the job but he has a connection with the associates at Bear Mountain and takes time to get to know people in all departments, not just his own. Simon was born in East York Ontario and grew up in St. Albert, Alberta. His first job out of High School was as a salad cook and dishwasher. Outside of cooking,

his passion is running and most days when he leaves work he is heading out to train for his next competitive run. One goal he is working on is to try to break the provincial record for the 1 mile race. Outside of work and running he also enjoys Tennis which he plays regularly with Juan from the kitchen as well as going to the MAC with the goal of one day being as "buff as Darren Burns"! In closing Simon added that he really enjoys working with Chef Mark, Thomas and the rest of the Culinary Team and enjoys the fact that he continues to build his career with Bear Mountain. We are proud to say that Simon has been with us for 10 years and look forward to celebrating many more with him in the future! Congratulations Simon!

Heart of the House - Scott Barnes—Shipping/Receiving



Scott (pictured left with Ryan Frost, Purchasing Manager) has worked in Shipping Receiving at Bear Mountain since April of last year joining us for the busy seasons and working Saturdays through the slower times. Scott was born in Nanaimo and grew up in Ladysmith. Before joining our team he worked managing first aid and safety for construction sites. Scott has a Bachelors Degree in English Literature and had plans to go back to school for mechanical engineering however those plans were put on hold in January with the happy arrival of his handsome son Cooper. Scott is being recognized for his assistance to the resort team in making the day to day business run smoothly. It doesn't seem to matter how busy he is Scott is able to keep his cool and see that things are done in an efficient way and always with a smile

and a kind word. Shipping and receiving is one of those departments at the resort that affects all areas so it is important that it runs smoothly, and we are lucky to have Scott and Ryan who make it seem effortless. Outside of work, Scott has a passion for boating. He is also obsessed with Golf and family time with Darby, Cooper and Walter the Bulldog. A quote Scott lives by is by William Blake: "You never know what is enough unless you know what is more than enough." When asked what he likes about working at Bear Mountain he said it's the natural environment that he finds quite peaceful. He also wanted to thank all the staff for making this an enjoyable place to work. And we would like to thank him for the same thing! Congratulations Scott!