

GRAND HOTEL MARRIOTT RESORT GOLF CLUB & SPA NAMES NEW EXECUTIVE CHEF

September 10, 2015 - Pt. Clear, Ala - Plenty of fresh seafood plus other local ingredients, an abundance of seasonings and a bit of Texas swagger can now be found in the executive kitchen at the Grand Hotel Marriott Resort, Golf Club & Spa. The Grand Hotel has named Cory Garrison Executive Chef at the historic resort. Garrison, a Texas native with more than 24 years of culinary experience, came to the Grand Hotel from the Omni Hotel Downtown in Dallas, Texas.

"This is a beautiful property with a great history and some of the nicest people I have ever met," said Garrison. As equally fond of seafood as steaks, Garrison will keep many Grand culinary traditions but will influence the menu of the Grand Steakhouse and the Saltwater Grill. "My favorite foods tend to be very fresh and clean tasting," said Garrison. "I tend to cook more with olive oil than clarified butter and add a combination of spices to complete dish."

The Grand Steakhouse is a Four Diamond Award winning restaurant and something very comfortable to Chef Garrison. He has worked at three Four-Diamond restaurants previously and look forward to building on the Grand's reputation of culinary excellence. "Don't worry, the bread pudding will remain on the menu," said Garrison. "However, we will consult with local farmers, ranchers and fishermen to see what additional options may be available to enhance the Grand's menus."

After helping his grandmothers cook holiday meals at age 10, Garrison formally joined the culinary industry when he turned 15. From busboy to dishwasher to fry cook in just six months, his career has skyrocketed throughout Texas and Garrison has landed at the Queen of Southern Resorts in Alabama as Executive Chef. Professionally, Garrison has also worked at La Torretta Lake Resort and Spa in Montgomery, Texas; The Gooses Acre in The Woodlands, Texas; Ruffinos Italian Restaurant in Fort Worth, Escargot in Fort Worth; Lola the Restaurant in Dallas and the Melrose Hotel in Dallas.

Garrison graduated from the Scottsdale Culinary Institute in Arizona. His love for cooking goes full circle with his hobbies of hunting and fishing. "Basically I live in the kitchen and have found an industry that I love."

The Grand Hotel Marriott Resort, Golf Club & Spa has maintained a gracious tradition of Southern Hospitality since opening in 1847. With 405 luxury guest rooms, the Grand Hotel has eight food and beverage outlets in addition to 37,000 square feet of meeting space, a world class spa and 36 holes of championship golf. The Grand Hotel is owned by the Retirement Systems of Alabama and is part of the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail's Resort Collection. For more information visit www.grandhotelmarrriott.com or call 251.928.9201.

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