

Sunset Wedding Venues at Deep Creek Lake writte

Written by: Sara Mullins Photography by: Lance C. Bell

Visitors looking for lakefront lodging at Deep Creek Lake now have an exciting new option with the 2016 opening of the Lodges at Lakeside Village in McHenry. Located in the McHenry Cove, this lakefront community of five log cabins is an expansion of the Lodges at Sunset Village, a log cabin suite hotel on the mountain across from the new complex that has welcomed guests since 2011.

It's yet another venture launched by local entrepreneur Jonathan Kessler, better known as Smiley, who also owns and operates the Pine Lodge Steakhouse and Smiley's Bar & Grill/Fun Zone.

"It's a unique offering on the lake," Smiley says. Kessler earned this sunny moniker in college from friends who noted that he smiles — a lot. He has good reason to smile.







The five new Lakeside
Village cabins offer rustic
charm and luxurious
comfort. The cabins are
equipped with a full
kitchen or kitchenette,
air conditioning, gas
fireplaces, flat-screen TVs
and wireless internet.
Guests can enjoy private
outdoor hot tubs as well
as the Sunset Dock and
adjacent park in front of
the cabins.

"It's fabulous," he says. "The cabins are renting well. Everyone is glowing."

The Lakeside Village cabins offer an appealing combination of rustic charm and luxurious comfort in a choice of two cabin styles with six different floor plans. There are four cabin styles that offer 500 square feet of space on one level, while Cabin 5 is the largest and has two bedrooms and 850 square feet on one level with an expansive lakefront deck. Some units are pet-friendly. All Lakeside Village cabins are equipped with a full kitchen or kitchenette, gas fireplaces, plus air conditioning, flat-screen TVs and wireless internet access. Front porches and decks with hot tubs allow guests to relax outdoors and take in the mountain and lake views.

The five new cabins at The Lodges at Lakeside Village offer king suites (cabin C1, C2 and C4) or queen suites (cabin C3). The king suites offer one king bed and a queen sleeper sofa. The queen suites have two queen beds plus a queen sleeper. The existing twenty-one cabin hotel suites, The Lodges at Sunset Village (now lake access), have several cabins that are duplexes with connecting doors while others are standalone, single units. Cabins 45, 46, 48 and 50 are set up as duplexes with a loft. The largest Cabin 48 can accommodate up to 10 people with 1,300 square feet on two levels and two and a half bathrooms. There is a great rendering online at **www.DCLHOTEL.com** that depicts all of the available room styles.

continued on next page



The existing 21 cabin hotel suites, **The Lodges at Sunset Village**, now have Lake access. One, two, and three bedroom units are available with outdoor hot tubs, decks, grills, fire pits, and daily housekeeping and room service.

All hotel guests can now enjoy the use of the new Sunset Dock and adjacent Lakeside Sunset Park located near the lakefront cabins. With 10 boat slips and 1,350 square feet of cabana space, the dock offers a whole new world of fun on the water, while the park's lawn and gazebo provide guests with an area to relax, soak up some mountain sunshine and enjoy lake and mountain views.

With the addition of the new dock and lakefront park areas, Smiley sees opportunity, and the result is his newest venture — **Sunset Wedding Venues**. Both locations offer ample space for weddings and receptions for couples looking for a scenic celebration by the lake.



Meeting venues are available near the mountainside cabins that offer ski/lake views, and banquet space on tent pad sites for groups up to 500 guests or more. The two restaurants – Pine Lodge Steakhouse and Smileys – have been offering events and catering, at the restaurants and offsite, for decades.

"It's a natural evolution from years of doing rehearsal dinners and receptions at Pine Lodge Steakhouse," Smiley says. There is plenty of event space and catering, as well as tent pad sites near the cabins for up to 500 guests or more. With lodging, food and Smiley's Fun Zone close by, it's all convenient, too. Smiley is now booking weddings/groups for 2017.

301.387.2227 www.DCLHOTEL.com



Sunset Wedding Venues offer ample space for weddings and receptions at multiple locations. Host your special event at Deep Creek Lake on the water at Sunset Dock (top), lakeside at Lakeside Sunset Park (left) or several mountainside locations (below).

