

Michael Berry

15+ years; bartender at Palladium Sports Lounge (WinStar), now GM at Springs/Bedré (The Artesian)

1. What initially attracted you to this company, and what has kept you here?

I initially started with Traditions around the beginning of 2010. I had heard that Traditions was growing and there were lots of opportunities on the horizon.

2. What would you tell someone who's on the fence about working here?

You are not going to find a better company to work for. If you want to work for a company that will take every opportunity to show appreciation for a job well done, then you have found it!

3. When do you feel most proud to work here? Can you share a specific moment or experience?

Now that I work around the area that I grew up in it is great to have people I know tell me about the experiences they have here.

4. What has this role meant to you personally or professionally?

I have worked a few different roles within Traditions and I can say that I have loved them all.

5. How has working here influenced your growth, confidence, or career path?

I have had the opportunity to experience many different areas of the hospitality industry while working for Traditions. Before working with Traditions, I just had a job that paid the bills, since working here I have found that working with the Traditions family is a career that I love.

6. Which company values resonate most with you, and how do you see them in action day-to-day?

I would have to say relationships, I try hard to treat everyone like family, I have had many co-workers and guests that have kept in touch over the years.

7. Do you feel your work here makes a difference? If so, how?

I do like to think so. I know that most of our employees will not stay forever (we have a lot that do) but I try to do anything I can to make them a better employee for whatever they choose to do next.

8. What do you brag about when you talk about your job?

The appreciation we show for the staff. We find any way we can to give back to the employee!

9. Can you share an example of a time when a leader or teammate positively impacted your experience here?

There are too many to list them all. There is one that is fairly recent, we were having a tasting at the Springs and in the middle of a random week day the restaurant filled up. Within minutes Marty Doepke, Marcus Tilley, Mark Vannasdall and Ryan Parker were up bussing tables, running food getting drink orders, cooking, and helping on expo. Anything to help out the team, we got through it and without any complaints from the guests!

10. What's something this company has done for you that you did not expect from an employer?

I always go back to during covid. The way that Traditions took care of the staff during that time was an amazing thing to see.

11. How would you finish this sentence: This company gave me...?

The ability to have fun and make memories while doing a job that I love.

12. What makes you excited to come to work?

Every day is different; you never know what you're going to run into!