



Christopher Hanes (Manager) and Donna Adams (Owner)

BOOMERS SPORTS BAR & RESTAURANT FAMILY RUN

Celebrating 20 Years of Success in Prescott

By Jon Vickers

"It's about taking care of my customers." Donna Adams said, as we sat down in a booth to reflect on her 20-year anniversary of ownership of Boomers Sports Bar & Restaurant. "Customer service is so important to me, if you take care of your customers and provide the best service possible, they'll keep coming back."

Donna then started to reminisce and gave me a little bit more of the story of how she started in the Restaurant and Bar business, which for her has spanned a little more than 32 years.

Donna, born and raised in Iroquois, worked in Morrisburg for an owner of a restaurant and bar in the town. She worked there for 16 years and was a loyal employee. In 1985 he approached her with an opportunity to own her first bar and restaurant. It turned out to be "Jiggers" in Iroquois. Donna at the time was married and had a young family. She decided to take a chance and she bought the business.

In 1997, while owning "Jiggers", another opportunity came Donna's way. The owner of Boomers Sports Bar offered to sell the business to Donna. After careful consideration, knowing her son Christopher could run "Jiggers", Donna

took a leap of faith and took over ownership of Boomers. Donna quickly made Boomers a hub with bands playing on weekends. She changed the menu and listened to her customers. Her initial plan was to only own the Sports bar for a few years, as at the time they were leasing the premises. Things changed quickly. In 2000, Donna sold "Jiggers" and Christopher joined her in Prescott. A wonderful family working relationship truly started. In 2002, Donna purchased the building Boomers is located in and decided to secure a long-term future in Prescott.

Through the years till now, Boomers Sports Bar & Restaurant has been involved with fundraising in the community, especially the Beach Improvement in Prescott, where the Bar raised over \$2300 for the cause. Donna and the staff have held many fundraisers at the bar and hosted various events. One event that has stuck in Donna's memory, is the time Atlantic Canadian comedian, "Jimmy Flynn" was in town and performed at Boomers. He stayed at Donna's house for the night. "He was a lovely man and with his thick maritime accent, the crowd just loved him."

Boomers Sports Bar wouldn't be the same without her son Christopher, the longtime manager. When he was 12, Christopher worked at Jiggers and helped out doing different jobs in the bar. Christopher, like his mother, loves the bar and restaurant business, and the daily interaction with their customers. "I like the independence it has given me to run a business with my Mom" he said. "A lot of times for families with close working relationships it can be demanding and at times stressful, but Mom and I have different shifts and we have a business relationship as well as a family relationship. It works well for us, and I am grateful for her love and support all these years. This 20-year anniversary is for her. She deserves to be celebrated for this accomplishment."

Kalina Greene, longtime waitress of 9 years, loves working in the bar as well. Her husband Scott plays in a band, "A Bigger Hammer" a bar favourite, that plays a couple of times a year in the establishment. Kalina spoke about what attracted her to work at Boomers. "It's Donna and Chris, they are like family and I love working here. The food is all home cooking and the customers, especially my regulars are awesome. I wouldn't want to work anywhere else."

One of the best kept secrets in the area is Boomers Food Menu. They make the best Burger in the area and on Tuesday's it's just \$4. It's worth the trip. The Boomers Pizza is an area favourite with customers as well. All the food is home cooked fresh, with original recipes from over 35 years Donna emphasizes.

If you've not been to Boomers Sports Bar & Restaurant in Prescott, make sure you go in November. Every Saturday night a band will be playing, and gift certificates and prizes will be drawn each week. On November 25th a special "20th Anniversary" celebration day is planned with prizes, menu specials and that night the original band, "3rd Wave", who played the night Donna started her ownership in Boomers, is playing the Anniversary gig.

Boomers Sports Bar & Restaurant is a mainstay in Prescott. Here's to "Another 20 years of great food, fun and friends at Boomers!" **LH**