

Food & Fun

Hey y'all, let's go eat at...Cherry Pocket Steak n Seafood Shak

Cherry Pocket named one of America's Best Restaurants

By **ELIZABETH MORRISEY**
Contributing Writer

Polk County has a real life "Cheers" where everybody knows your name.

Cherry Pocket Steak n Seafood Shak is a Lake Wales staple and they have been glad to welcome customers with open arms since the 1940s.

Sit back, relax and have a drink at the boat bar while taking in the sites of Old Florida. The 20-acre property has the tavern, cabins for rent, an RV park and boatslips - all on Lake Pierce.

"We have lots of regulars and people who come back year after year," said Owner Jody McKeen. "We are world famous. It's a destination."

Cherry Pocket is best known for its raw oysters and seafood dishes such as seafood nachos, catfish and other items.

They are also known for their margaritas and Bloody Mary's and homemade desserts like carrot cake, specialty chocolate cake and key lime pie.

Cherry Pocket has bars, an inside dining room and barn.

"We are known for our atmosphere where you can drink and walk around," said

McKeen, who has made several upgrades since purchasing the restaurant.

Cherry Pocket has now bottled its special cherry dressing and can be shipped around the U.S. and is found in their gift shop.

"It's the bomb," she said. "Everyone loves it."

The historic restaurant was recently named one of "America's Best Restaurants."

"We pride ourselves on our food," McKeen said. "And people don't just come for one hour. You can come and enjoy your day."

Chery Pocket is open seven days a week and has live music and daily specials. They are open Monday - Thursday and Sunday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays are 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.



