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Center Story #11

The Place to Play Pool 24 Hours a Day?

Commercial Center's Iconic Cue Club

Today, we are publishing the 11th in a series of stories focusing on Commercial Center as written by noted long-time Las Vegas journalist, Diane Taylor.

In this article, Diane explores an iconic Commercial Center venue, Cue Club.

- *Who owns Cue Club now, and what renovations have been made to this landmark Las Vegas venue?*
- *What was the important link between the Strip and Cue Club during much of its illustrious history?*
- *What's the most popular food item that customers order while relaxing and playing pool and foosball?*

She's been a cigarette girl, a bartender, a professional pool player and an organizer of pool tournaments. But these days, Katy Scott is happier than ever. She is Managing Partner of Commercial Center's Cue Club, the place to play pool and foosball, and she hopes soon to be its sole owner.

By the way, shake hands with Katy, and you'll never forget that strong grip!

Katy came to Las Vegas in 2003. She had been a pool player in Texas so she came to Commercial Center's once-famous Cue Club to play pool and meet new people. Mission accomplished.

Cue Club originally opened in 1963 and was a popular destination. Later, it even included the store next door, though it's back to its original size now. "At one time," Katy said, "when national pool tournaments were held on the Strip, shuttle busses ran players over to the very popular Cue Club every day."

Over the years since 2003, Katy has worked at a casinos where she met her current husband, and has been a player/organizer of pool tournaments. Until just a few months ago, she worked full time and tended to her new Cue Club responsibilities on the side. These days, Katy is full-time and completely devoted to the venue. Her work has paid off, as gaming has doubled from levels just two years ago.

What work has Katy supervised? “I came in like a wrecking ball,” she says. “The place was dingy and had deteriorated. We brought in new equipment and painted everything. I asked players for photographs to put on the wall and on our entrance, we took over the kitchen and upgraded the menu. We also told players that to preserve equipment there would be no smoking inside the club.”

Katy continued, "I have a wonderful bartender, Tam Trinh, who has been a tremendous help, and she has come up with many good ideas and run many of our tournaments. I had never overseen a business before and realized I didn't know everything. I needed help. Tam is a gem.”

Working with Josephine, the widow of former owner Henry Nogiec, and Tracy Jones (another owner), Katy couldn't be happier. “They've been amazing partners and have told me that had I not come in, Cue Club would have been closed.”

Incidentally, Katy's husband, Adam, was not a fan of pool, but five years ago when he partnered with Katy in a league, the light went on and he now is quite the pool player.

Cue Club is not only a destination for pool and foosball players, but it's also a place to have a drink, play video poker or order food. One of the most popular food items? It's the Cue Club Sandwich, which is a French Onion meatloaf sandwich.

Katy is also proud that her clubhouse is family friendly with more and more young players learning proper techniques at the club. In fact, this past holiday, Cue Club hosted an orphan potluck at no charge and attracted some 44 guests.

Finally, when Cue Club celebrated its 60th Anniversary earlier this year with a Pro-Am tournament, they partnered with The Composer's Room. Damian Costa's popular entertainment spot just across the parking lot provided the celebrities and Cue Club provided the players. All profits went to an Autism charity. The two groups hope to host another fund-raiser in 2025.

Cue Club is open 24 hours a day to cater to players working in a 24-hour town. Player rates are \$7 per hour for one player and \$13 per hour for two or more players. A senior rate from 8 AM to 6 PM is just \$3.50 per hour. Day rates from 8 AM to 6 PM are \$10.

By: Diane Taylor

