



Windsong wedding and event venue at The Outpost features an outdoor deck overlooking a stream and scenic wooded area.



Windsong seats up to 100 people and has a kitchen, restrooms and changing area.

Windsong

The Outpost continues growth, adds venue to its destination

Story, Photos By MARK BOEHLER
For Crossroads Magazine

PICKWICK, Tenn. — Jay Harrison is a visionary.

The Outpost reflects his thoughts. Before one project becomes a reality, the business owner is thinking about his next step. The next venture. Adding more to The Outpost family.

He and wife/co-business owner Cher have added another family member to their expanding venture along Highway 128 just north of Pickwick Landing Dam.

The duet hope they have hit all the right notes with the opening of event venue Windsong.

For anyone who knows Jay Harrison, Windsong was an inspiration with divine intervention.

“I felt a nudge and the Lord provides,” said Jay.

Built beside the restaurant above the

babbling brook which also calls the scenic gristmill home, Windsong continues with The Outpost symphony of promoting the family unit.

The Harrison’s had a mere \$7 left when they first opened The Outpost in November 2011 in the former Adams Bait Shop.

With God as CEO and Balanced Life Ministries earning a share of the profit, the good Lord continues to bless The Outpost with expansion efforts.

The restaurant has undergone several expansions and the sprawling dining, shopping and overnight stay destination includes the General Store, boutique shops, wildlife photography gallery, furniture store, sign making business, Bo’s famous chainsaw art and three bed and breakfast units called The General, The Admiral and The Presidential.

The Windsong is Jay’s latest work of orchestra art and continues the rustic Outpost theme with poplar wood siding.

Jay compares the venue to a human being.

“One must come inside to get the whole picture,” he said. “Far too often we judge for what’s on the outside rather than getting to really know someone from the inside.

Once

inside the Windsong, people will see the message within the whole experience.”

The pine floor is repurposed from a Mississippi cotton gin, while the large wooden beams in the vaulted ceiling were built in 1828 and first called home in a Virginia horse barn.

The venue seats up to 100 people and includes a full kitchen, restrooms and changing area. An outdoor deck adds to the ambiance, complete with a fireplace to set the mood for any event.

Ample parking is provided behind The Outpost complex.

The walls inside Windsong are huge panes of glass from the ceiling to the floor, giving the venue an open air feeling to the forest beyond.



The Gristmill was added at The Outpost for families to have photo opportunities.



Windsong has floor to ceiling glass walls, flooring from an old cotton gin and wood beams from a horse barn built in 1828.

“The change of seasons are just beautiful,” said the venue composer, looking toward the outdoor deck through the huge windows. “It just takes one’s breathe away – spring, fall and winter. You are one in nature.”

Opening in November, 2019, The Windsong has hosted family reunions, corporate and business functions, women’s retreat, holiday parties, wedding receptions and weddings.

The Windsong hits all the right chords for many events with the restaurant doing the cooking and the overnight lodging available on site, said Jay.

The Harrisons are most excited about the latest addition to The Outpost choir being a wedding destination.

“It is the perfect spot for a small, quaint wedding,” said Jay, “It’s so peaceful.”

With weddings and family reunions, “it’s about spending quality family time together,” added Jay.

Cher came up with the venue name, scoring what he thinks is a number one hit, said the husband and business partner.

“It came out of nowhere,” he said. “It was the perfect fit for what we are trying to do.”

“There is always music being played everywhere,” added Jay. “We just need to listen.”

Windsong isn’t the final result of The Outpost providing a venue.

With six acres recently acquired beside The Outpost property, a bigger event venue and cabins for overnight stays are Jay’s next big musical score.

“You know Jay,” said Cher. “He won’t ever be done.”

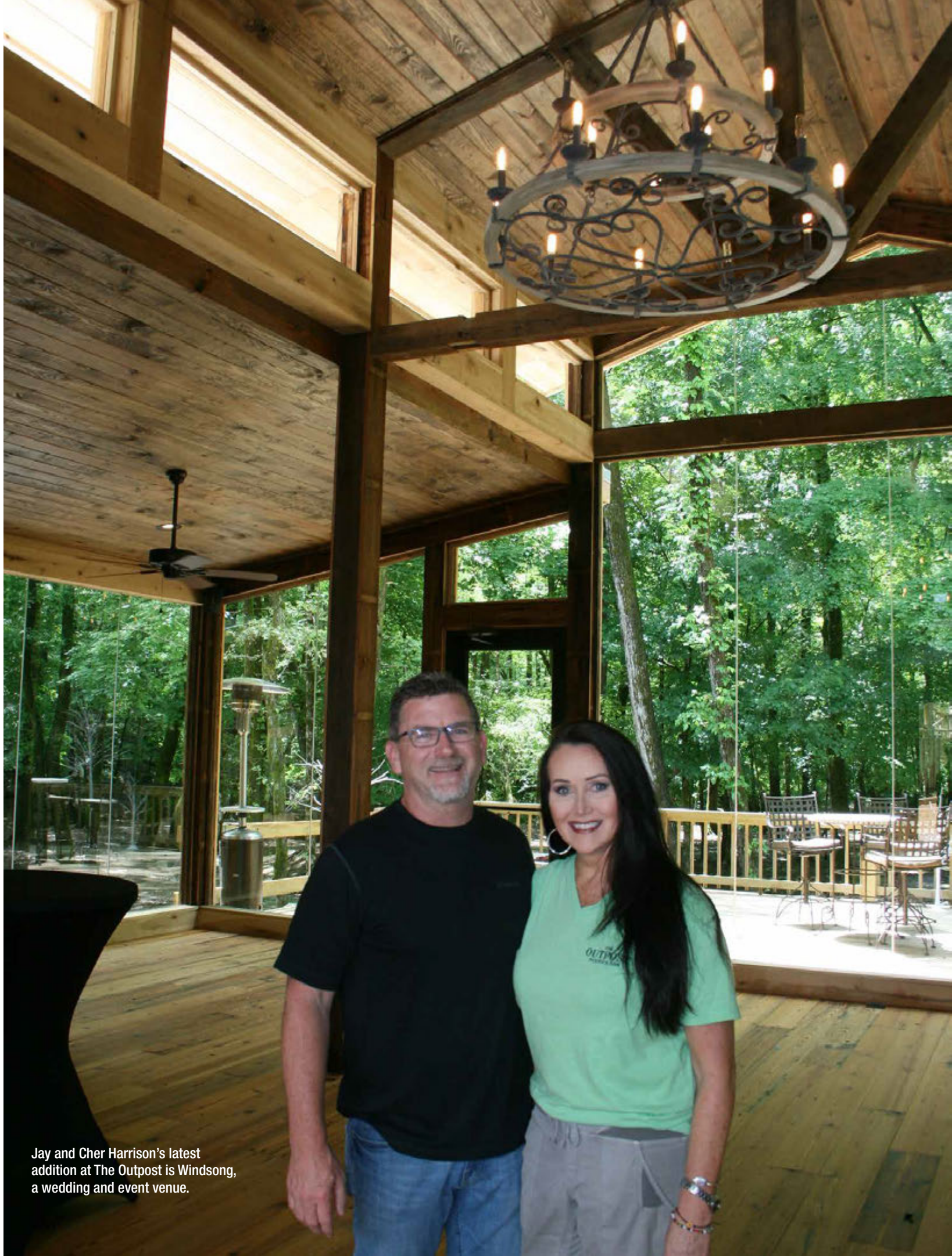
For now, the Windsong is another successful verse in one of Pickwick’s biggest hits in The Outpost.

What to know:

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Jay and Cher Harrison's latest addition at The Outpost is Windsong, a wedding and event venue.