



PATRIOT HILL
RANCH

2024 YEAR IN REVIEW





PHR GUESTS

The most significant accomplishment, of course, has been the veterans, first responders, and their families/friends we had the honor of hosting at PHR. Since our doors opened in the late fall of 2023, **seventeen** veterans and/or first responders have visited PHR, along with their family and friends. These patriots served our country and their communities with pride and valor. In fact, our guests were recipients of several purple hearts and a medal of honor. They were able to enjoy various activities at PHR including: hunting (hog and deer), fishing, UTV's, art classes, shooting, fellowship, and lots of eating! We were blessed to make new friendships with some absolutely amazing people.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

LAND AND FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS

In January of 2024 we planned four separate projects to improve daily operations and the overall guest experience:

- Build a wheelchair accessible bathroom at the barn
- Build two additional wheelchair accessible hunting blinds
- Build six permanent game feeders
- Improve the water quality of the lake to enhance fishing habitat and guest experience

All four of the projects were completed with great success. We now have four wheelchair accessible blinds and six permanent game feeders. We also rebuilt an older elevated blind that is now like new.

To address water clarity in the lake, a team from the OSU Agricultural and Natural Resources Division conducted a water quality assessment. Based on

their recommendations, we added 50 tons of gypsum to the lake, planted grasses and aquatic plants, and dug two trenches to reduce run-off. By the end of the summer, water visibility improved from about 6 inches to nearly 2 feet. Furthermore, the fish population is extremely healthy. Our guests should be able to catch 4-6 pound bass with regularity.





WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBILITY

We have spent significant time, money, and resources to ensure that our guests in wheelchairs can enjoy all of the activities we offer. This includes things like a customized UTV with ramps, large hunting blinds with landing porches, a horse mounting and dismounting ramp, sidewalks connecting all parts of the lodge, landing pads at the lake and lodge, curbless showers, extra-wide doors, etc.

To test these accommodations, we invited two veterans and their wives out to the ranch this past summer. We asked them up front to provide feedback and suggestions. Overall, their feedback was very positive. In fact, both Shane and Eric told us “PHR is the most wheelchair accessible facility they had ever experienced.” Furthermore, they provided some great recommendations to make things even easier. All of their recommendations have been implemented. In fact, Eric returned for the Top Hawg fundraiser and noticed the changes right away. A short interview of Eric and Sheridan (his wife) can be found on our social media.

LOCAL COMMUNITY

A secondary goal of PHR is to support the local community when possible. We try to purchase products and services in the local community for a few reasons:

- Build partnerships in the community
- Build support and pride in PHR
- Invest money in the local community (the state of Oklahoma ranks 47th in average weekly wages)

While PHR does not currently have any full-time employees, we do contract with 9 individuals in the community for project work, land maintenance, cleaning services, wild game processing, taxidermy, etc. This provides economic stimulus and builds community involvement at PHR. All of our contractors demonstrate a significant amount of pride in PHR and its mission, as well as provide PHR with significant discounts for their services.

For the past two winters we have also donated \$4000 and volunteer hours (i.e., cooking and delivering food) to feed needy families for Thanksgiving and Christmas – 88 meals in 2023 and 67 meals in 2024.



TOP HAWG FUNDRAISER

PHR held its first Top Hawg fundraiser in September of 2024. Top Hawg is a unique team-based competition. Each event consists of 3-4 teams (2 members per team) competing in 3 separate competitions:

- Hog Hunting
- Long Distance Shooting (out to 730 yards)
- Hog Cooking (think chili cook-off with wild hogs)

The fundraiser was successful in not only raising money for PHR (netting more than \$12,000), but both the participants and the community had a great time. We have two more Top Hawg competitions scheduled for 2025.



PHR RECOGNITION

PHR was invited to the State Capital by Representative Jim Grego to receive a citation from the Oklahoma House of Representatives. It was an honor to advocate for our veterans and first responders.



2025 GOALS

OPERATIONS

For 2025 we have planned several more improvements to our facilities and the overall PHR experience for guests. These include the following goals:

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- Complete PHR memorial/monument (started in 2024)
- Build two more wheelchair accessible blinds and two more permanent feeders
- Continue to improve wildlife habitat (both the lake and land)
- Build a wheelchair accessible pontoon boat for fishing

These projects will cost between \$30,000 and \$40,000 in total. We have already applied for a private grant to build the wheelchair accessible pontoon boat. The funds for the memorial/monument project were earmarked from a significant 2024 donation.

GUESTS

For 2025 our goals for guests are in line with 2024. We already have four guest events scheduled for 2025 (February, May, June, October). More guests will be scheduled during the year. Finally, we have started planning a separate event for local first responders. We will provide more details as they are available.

FINANCIAL

Our goal is to raise \$120,000 in 2025. This is an aggressive goal, but achievable based on our success in 2024. We have two Top Hawg fundraisers scheduled (April, September) for 2025.

We expect our budget to be less than 2024 at around \$215,000. Fewer projects are planned and no significant purchases are expected (e.g., tractor).

2024 was an amazing first year of operations – and we can't wait to see what 2025 brings as we try to show our guests they are: HONORED, CELEBRATED, & RESPECTED.

