

Golden Pheasant Inn

Ownership History Under the Michel and Barbara Faure – 1986 to present

The road to the Golden Pheasant Inn began 26 years ago, when Barbara and Michel Faure purchased the historic property. Michel Faure, a native of Grenoble, France came to America in 1967 and having worked at some of the great restaurants of Paris, including the Tour d'Argent, continued his career in America at some of the most noted establishments in the tri-States area, including Le Bec Fin, Hotel Du Pont and locally at Odette's and the Stockton Inn. It had always been a dream of Barbara and Michel's to own their own restaurant and country inn – much in the tradition of the European chef-owner. So, in 1986, with their five children in tow, the Faure family bought the Golden Pheasant. All five girls, Briar, Brooks, Brittany, Blaise and Blake, grew up at the Inn doing every job, from dishwasher to waitress, hostess to gardener.

As the years passed the family matured. Briar attended the University of Pennsylvania and went off to pursue a career in finance, Brooks attended Lehigh University and started her career. Brittany chose to stay closer to home and remained integral to the family business, working with both Michel and Barbara at the Inn. Blaise attended Penn State, earned a degree in hospitality and began her career at The Four Seasons. The youngest daughter, Blake, inherited her father's passion and gift for the culinary arts. Having spent countless hours by her father's side in the kitchen, she decided become a chef and formalized her training with a degree from the Cordon Blue in Pasadena. After earning her degree, she did an apprenticeship at the Wynn Hotel in Las Vegas and continued to hone her skills. While she loved the bright lights of Vegas, she missed Bucks County and the connection with the land that is so much a part of life in the country.

Thus, in 2006, she returned to the Golden Pheasant, working with her father and learning his skills, this time through the lens of being both a daughter and a trained, experienced chef with her own ideas and tastes. Joining her was her partner of many years, Jon Ramsay, who immediately fell in love with Bucks County and the Inn. Blake and Jon were particularly interested in the sources of the food and began to explore the bounty of the local suppliers, forming connections and friendships with local artisans and farmers throughout the area.

As time went on and Barbara and Michel contemplated retirement, they were faced with the question of what would happen to the Golden Pheasant Inn? Sale or something else?

The Inn itself was built in 1857 and is the longest continuously operating restaurant along the Delaware Canal in Bucks County. It is recognized on the National Registry of historic places. The Inn sits nestled between the Delaware River and Canal – with the river directly out the front door and the canal directly out the back door. There are few historic buildings in Bucks County so perfectly situated that have not been damaged by the recent devastating floods. Thankfully, the wise builders who selected the location of the Inn were all too familiar with the flood waters of the Delaware and in the 155 years that the business has been in operation, it has never suffered serious flood damage. The family always felt a responsibility to the historic heritage of the place and the choice to sell the Inn was a very difficult one for the Faure family.

Ultimately, the sisters came together with Barbara and Michel and their own respective families and made a big decision – the next generation would take over the Inn. Not everything would stay the same, but the tradition of culinary excellence, care for the historic property and love of our customers and community would continue. And so, we the Faure Family welcome you to the Golden Pheasant Inn.