

Spot Checking

Food ★ Fun ★ Frolic
By Bill Whitman

And a Goodly Crowd Was There

There in this case, being *The Venetian Room* at 3144 Pacific Coast Highway in Torrance. Host and hostess owners Rich Munz and Ruchelle Ziegler whipped open their doors officially a week ago tonite and "just EVERYBODY was there . . . !"

Ruchelle and Rich put on a buffet spread that would do credit to your biggest hotels in Los Angeles and all presented in rare good taste, both service and quality . . . not to mention quantity. It was elbow to elbow and wall to wall people last Wednesday nite. And it wasn't one of the typical free-load parties, either. It was heartening to hear those cash registers ringing. Bartenders Paul and Duke will attest to that as the thirsty and hungry crowd kept them both jumping.

The bartenders weren't the only ones jumping, tho. The customers were doing their share, too. Why not, with good music by that Sylvester Scott Duo that "swang out" the whole evening. A comfortable-sized dance floor at the *Venetian Room*, too.

Take a short shot down there one nite soon and have some fun. They're a good bunch of guys and gals that visit this newest of rooms in the Torrance area. Easy to find, too, is the *Venetian Room*. Just across the Highway from the Torrance Airport.

Made another short visit one nite last week to a spot we haven't made in some time . . . *The Open Hearth* on Hawthorne Blvd. to listen to some of the most nostalgic pianoing we've heard in lo these many moons.

That Jerry Wilson comes out of left field with tunes we "old timers" remember and even the new "young timers" join in and sing-along. They're those kind of numbers. You just can't keep your mouth shut when Jerry hits the keys.

Charlie Pacis is constantly on hand to see that you're enjoying yourself as is Jim, on the bar and Lisa serving 'em up to the tables and the ample piano-bar.

from 6 to 10 p.m. and weekends 'til 12. Drop in some nite soon for a few kicks and old time music (but good!) Jerry's on the piano bar nite-ly except Sunday.

Made it by the 220 Club yet over there at 21915 South Figueroa in Torrance Used to be Big Joe's, you remember.

The new owners, Dick McCloskey and Les Bennett have done wonderful things with their new club. They've put some money into it, too.

You can spend your time in many ways at the 220 Club. Like if dancing is "your bag," they've got lots of space; if you're a pool buff then they've got that as well. Or, if you just choose to have a couple of small tiddles, the cocktail bar is open from 10:30 in the ayem 'til 2 the following morning seven days every week, and with a cocktail hour running from three 'til five in the afternoon when all the swingers gather.

Gene Brown and Tex Hart hold forth daily and nite-ly on the bar to whip up any kind of libation you want.

Say, like a little change of pace in your dining-out pleasures? Well why not try some of that cuisine they're serving over there in Gardena at the *Kyoto*. It's ideal for sukiyaki or any one of a number of exotic Nipponese dishes.

Kyoto Suki-yaki Restaurant and Lounge is on So. Western and presents some truly unique offerings. Try 'em.

You wouldn't believe the conversation at the ball park the other nite!

Ronnie Iwamoto, who is a rabid "anything BUT Dodger fan" was in a deep discussion with rabid Dodger fan Louis Song during the bus outing from *The Tea House* last Saturday nite when the Cards beat the Dodgers 3 to 1.

Louis says, "So what's the hurry! It's still early in the season."

"What's the HURRY," says Ronnie in amazement. . . . "Why do you realize there're only 149 games left in 1967?" Oh come, come, now Ronald!

Well anyway, it was a good nite and lots of fun was had by all. (Except, perhaps, Mr. O'Malley's boys.) Anyway, we got out of the cellar on Sunday!



ROSE AND TWO THORNS . . . It's Mama San, Papa San and Daddy Sam at the San Franciscoan Restaurant. Sam Filla, owner-host, Ed Nordstrand and his lovely wife, Marie, lunching recently at the popular Torrance eatery.

And on the return to *The Shop Quartet* singing in America and they're holding one of their regular meetings on Friday and Saturday nites, May 5th and 6th.

It's the Tintype Revue at Mira Costa High Auditorium. Now in case you don't know where that is, it's on Artesia at Peck Ave. in Manhattan Beach at 8 o'clock.

There'll be featured such stalwarts as the Four-Do-Matics from up in Seattle, the Golden Staters from California, naturally, the top competition foursome from Arcadia.

Then from the South Bay's Hey, hey! South Bay! Barbershoppers! Yes, and that's the name of this South Bay Chapter of the S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., all of which means Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber



. . . TURNS, BUB! . . . And here are Charlie Cox and Pete Neushul as they "drive" to greet the two on the other side of the page.



WATCH THOSE . . . It's Sterling Tallman and Neel Tyree of the Bunster Freely Quartet "driving" to the "Tintype Revue" at Mira Costa Hl.

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