

# Spot Checking

Food ★ Fun ★ Frolic  
By Bill Whitman

## Spo-o-o-okoblins

And tomorrow nite's the nite for 'em so all ye be wary who venture out for a bit of food, fun, and frolic this nite! Not really, though! Just be content that it's not full moon 'cause then's the time you really run into the spooks!

Let's take a look into The Raffles Restaurant on Deegan Boulevard in in Leimert Park for a second. There're big things doing here for the Halloween festivities. Like for example a big costume party starting at about five in the afternoon with all the spooks and goblins

out in force. Head Goblin Warren Ward has even promised to put in an appearance, pipe and all.

All employees will be in full costume and you're invited to dress any way you want to although that's optional for guests.

There'll be entertainment and free hors d'oeuvres but reservations for dinner is advised.

"Course if bar-tenders "Hal" and "Myron" come in costume and mask it won't make for much competition. "Smiley" will out-do 'em and he'll just come as he is!

And over at the Jet Room Lounge you'll find another bunch of jolly spooks for their annual Halloween party.

Nick Cicciarelli promises big doings that nite with door prizes, prizes for the best costume, prizes for the best vocalist that enters into the fun at the piano-bar with Bill Fulkerson — as well as probably the worst voice.

Ah yes, it'll be a gala old time at the Jet Room, too. Everyone's welcome and here, too, costume is optional.



**GIFTED GUITAR . . .** That's the box of Arturo Hernandez, shown above as he appears nitely, Tuesday through Saturday at the Red Onion on Hawthorne in Torrance.

world. How's that sound to you?

And remember, the Harborlight sits up there high on a hill which overlooks the Port of Los Angeles and is one of the most exciting dinner-houses in the Southland for atmosphere and elegance.

You can dine and dance nitely in the lounge and they also offer complete banquet facilities.

Oh and hey, here's still another new and fabulous restaurant for you to try. It's Ben Brown's down there in Laguna Beach and manager Roy Moss will see to it that you don't want for anything.

This one is slated to be one of "the" spots on the Southern California horizon featuring rare and unusual dishes, prepared by Chef de Cuisine Andre de Smedt. They also offer banquet facilities for parties or meetings up to 250 persons at one sitting. Quite a spot, wouldn't you say?

Ben Brown's South Laguna Restaurant is at the Laguna Beach Country Club, 31106 S. Coast Hwy.

Should you have reservations in mind, the number to call is (714) 499-2663 and make your needs known.



**MR. AND MRS. "88" . . .** Or in this case it really should be "176" with their two pianos at the Portofino Inn. Shown above is Barney (left) and Nora Brooks playing nitely at the Redondo Beach nite spot.

Then down Palm Springs way at the Palm Springs Biltmore Hotel and Golf Course, you'll find another seasoned veteran at the helm in John Noyes who has been recently named manager of this popular spa spot.

Mr. Noyes is no charlie-come-lately to the hotel and restaurant dodge, having for the past seven years been general manager of the San Andros Hotel down in the Bahamas. And the owners of the Biltmore, Richard and Robert Levin, remembered that he's also been with the Biltmore before so got him back.

Sam Failla's San Francisco Restaurant and Cocktail Lounge on Sepulveda Boulevard at Crenshaw in Torrance was the scene last Monday nite of the Father and Son's Night for the South Bay Optimist Club.

Sam's back room looked small by the time all these fathers and sons got crammed in there but they came out in numbers and all seemed to have a great time of it, cramming themselves full of the fine foods available at the San Franciscan.

Club President Ed Smith had booked in Father Bayo of Africa as guest speaker for the evening.

Dr. Van Dyke is vice president and program director of the South Bay Optimists. Don Ellis is secretary and Steve Goppert is treasurer.

So when you're having a get-together, always keep in mind Sam's friendly little restaurant right here in Torrance and you can't go wrong. Just ask anyone who attended last Monday nite, from the kids on up.

There'll be all manner of fun, including costumes and contests for the kids and all stuff like that there.

Remember a couple of years ago when manager Clara Dahlke had ordered a whole flock of pumpkins for the kids and then some dirty no-good-nick swiped them? Let's not have any recurrence of this kind of action.

Well now, hey, he's back! It's Arturo Hernandez that Bart Earle has booked back into his Red Onion Restaurant and Cocktail Lounge on Hawthorne Boulevard in Torrance.

With the talent to play one of the finest guitars in the Southland, Arturo, who was for some time with his brother, Vicente, at the other Onion on the hill, has returned to our area with a "one man band" sort of—drums, guitar, echo chamber, all the necessary little goodies to put out some truly big sounds.

If you haven't ever heard this lad, make it a point to get by the Red Onion some nite soon, Tuesday through Saturday and be entertained. You'll like this cat.

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OPTIMISTIC . . . The South Bay Optimist Club selected Sam Failla's San Francisco in Torrance last week to hold their annual Fathers and Sons dinner in the cozy banquet room, where the Optimists meet every Monday nite. The goodly crowd is shown above.

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