



# Checking

Food ★ Fun ★ Frolic  
By Bill Whitman



## Instant Summer

That's the way it seems to happen. One day it's spring and then suddenly it's summer. At least in name! Can't say too much for the weather, but according to the calendar, summer officially arrived last Saturday. And we're stuck with it!

Oh well, maybe it'll burn off by the time we want to take a trip down to Fullerton for the grand opening of a new \$100,000 dinner house and cocktail lounge.

Of course, by that time it'll be fall again so we can't win for losing.

Anyway the Villa Del Sol complex will be the site of this brand new Cellar Restaurant featuring a master-planned layout to accommodate approximately 110 persons. A renowned European restaurateur by the name of Louis Schnell will operate this newest of facilities.

They'll retain the existing Spanish architecture of Villa Del Sol and create an Old World atmosphere, according to food service consultant, Lou Clem.

Should be quite a nice store when it's completed.

Now this isn't too far off, although we've mentioned it before. It's the up-coming Royal Ballet opening July 2 through 8 at Shrine Auditorium for seven performances.

Should be quite a series, with Dina Margot Fonteyn and Rodolph Nureyev dancing together in four of the numbers. They'll be "La Bayadere" for the opener, "Giselle" July 3, "Pelleas and Melisande" on the 4th, and the full-length "Romeo and Juliet" Sunday night, July 6.

Also featured in leading roles

during this engagement will be Brien Shaw, Monica Mason, Derek Rencher, Alexander Grant, Georgina Parkinson, Desmond Doyle, and Antoinette Sibley in "Enigma Variations."

"Coppelia" will be seen at the Saturday matinee, July 5 featuring Diana Vere as Swanilda, Keith Martin as Frank, and Stanley Holden as Dr. Coppelius.

It'll be Antoinette Sibley as Odette-Odile and Anthony Howell as Prince Siegfried in "Swan Lake."

Anyway, that's the happening at the Shrine Auditorium and the Royal Ballet starting July 2 so make your plans now for some fine afternoons and evenings of excellent entertainment.

Remember when the Fortune Steak House was located on Western in Gardena and the steaks (where you charbroil 'em yourself) were sweet, juicy, and thick? Well they're still the same way at the new location, 1435 Redondo Beach Blvd. And you can still cook 'em yourself.

The good people who run The Fortune have a knack and an eye for selecting the best meals — only the top grade variety — and when you cut into them you know you're in for a treat. Included with your steak is bean salad, a tossed green, and hot Boston baked beans. It's a thorough meal.

Then of course, in the evenings it's Quinan "Q" Williams at the piano-organ cocktail bar for your entertainment. Quite an artist, this guy. Plays and sings equally well and can knock out just about anything you care to hear. You name it and he'll play it. Becoming quite a nite spot for the stay-

out-at-niters, is the Fortune Steak House.

Say now, anyone been wondering what ever happened to Gertie who used to work at Cherrio's down there in Leimert Park across the lot from the old Raffles?

Well just found out last week that she's now at the Onyx Club on West Manchester. She's on days and Monday nites.

This must be quite a spot to work. When you realize that some of the people who work there have been with the Onyx Club for 22 years, you know it's a "happy family" down there.

According to host-manager Gene Martin, Lougi and Wes have a combination of years that would give them more time in at the Onyx than you have sex and ties.

Make it by this popular Inglewood spot soon.

Been wondering also whatever happened to Sadra Du Valle? Well rest your brain. She's still around the area and still singing her lungs out.

And as with all good and hard working entertainers, Sandy is hard at it working for the Pucci Brothers up there in Wall Street West. That's at the top of the escalator in the Union Bank Building, Del Amo Center.

And hard working she is. One must work hard to keep up with the traffic that patronizes Len and Mike's delightful little hide-away for that terrific lunch bit.

People from all walks of life have found their way there in recent months 'cause those lunches are really something. Mike and Len don't spare the horses when they pour either, you better believe...

So swing on up there and say hello to these lovely people. Naturally, Sandra included! As a matter of fact, this talented gal is the loveliest of 'em all. Even more-so than Len and Mike!

Are you one of those "get-away-from-it-all" type buffs? So here's a spot you shouldn't miss. It's the Santa Barbara Inn in the city by the same name. You can even escape the smog up there.

It's a most pleasant drive up the coast where you may avail yourself (or selves) of a delightful lunch or dinner in the



**TURTLES ALL . . .** Two of the newest members of the Turtle Club in Manhattan Beach (Pen and Quill Hotel) are left, Dennis James and center, Dick Whittinghill, shown above with Turtle President, Gerry Norton, presenting the new members with a club scroll. Whittinghill, a new Turtle? Heck, he's been a turtle ever since that turtle they're holding has! New member in Manhattan Beach, however. The Turtle Lounge is open to the public 7 days a week, 11 a.m. 'til 2 a.m.

beautiful Sky Room overlooking the ocean (that's the Pacific, dum-dum!) where there's an excellent buffet at lunch time. Then in the evenings there's a brand new menu offered for dinner. One of the finest in the West.

And there's also a special week day rate for those of you who are planning a vacation. And it's a lovely beach setting you'll be getting, too.

Rooms are available from fourteen dollars and includes a charming swimming pool, an ocean-view cocktail lounge and all the comforts of home with superb service thrown in. When you visit there, you'll see that we've been there ourselves.

There's dancing and entertainment nightly and if you care to make reservations call (805) 966-2285. And the other guests you meet at the Santa Barbara Inn are a warm and friendly bunch.

Well, it's "Memorable Weekend Time" again! You must remember the Memorial Day weekend that you availed yourself of at the Torrance Ramada Inn. So now owner-host John Gregory has up and gone and done it again.

That last one was so successful that he's been bombarded with requests for a repeat performance so he's once again set aside a weekend for you to paste into your little memory book.

This one, of course, will be

the July 4 weekend when you may flee the bumper-to-bumper traffic and take a leisurely few hours off for just your own pleasures. And the whole shot will run you just a nickle short of thirty bucks for two.

You simply check in any time Saturday afternoon and when you're settled in your king-size room, slip on out to the pool and have yourself a dip and some sun. (sun?)

Then in the evening it's champagne dinner and dancing in the Royal Giraffe Restaurant.

And on Sunday you have your druthers. It's either breakfast in bed with a complimentary copy of the Sunday paper (take the Friday paper — it'll be the Torrance Press-Herald!) or the brunch buffet in the Royal Giraffe.

Yep, your "home away from home" — the Torrance Ramada Inn.

Got some switch-o-reenies coming up here for you this weekend at Hop Louie's Latitude 20 Supper Club just up the street.

Martin Denny will button up his affair for this trip on Sunday and then Tuesday, July 1, the one of the most fabulous

combos around will open at this popular Torrance spot.

They're The Allis and would you like to hear what Don Ho has to say about them? Well he says, "I regard this group as the perfect musical combo. The only way to describe them is 'fantastic-fabulous.' In working with these young men, they have met every test and every challenge in every aspect of show business. Entertainment to me requires warmth and crowd participation and beautiful music with definite quality. The Allis dominate the musical field vocally as well as instrumentally. Put all these qualities together, youth, musical ability, beautiful vocals, entertainment, warmth, participation and you have what we call a perfect package."

Now that's what Don Ho has to say about The Allis.

It's to be a three week-stand at the Latitude 20, marking their initial mainland appearance.

Really should call 378-8358 and make reservations for this one, though! By the way, there's also something new for you up at the Trad' Winds in Oxnard. Ernie Menehune has closed up there and in his place it's the Arnie Derksen Trio.



**INITIAL APPEARANCE . . .** Initial appearance on the mainland, that is. They're The Allis, appearing nightly at the Latitude 20 in Torrance starting Tuesday, July 1.

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