

EASTER

DINING GUIDE



Spot Checking
Food ★ Fun ★ Frolic
By Bill Whitman



Be a Good Egg

... and make it a full day this coming Sunday by taking 'em out to dinner and/or breakfast in observance of Easter Sunday. For instance, right after church you might continue to make it a good day with a brunch someplace.

Pen and Quill's got one in Manhattan Beach that starts at 10 in the morning and goes 'til 2 p.m. for \$2.95 each.

You might follow this up with some of the exciting enterprises ranging in price from \$3.25 to \$5.55 with the Easter dinner bit. This begins at 2 in the afternoon on the complete dinner basis. The kiddies plate goes at \$1.75.

A bit farther downtown on South La Brea, Robert Robaire and his able staff are opening the original Robaire's French Restaurant a couple of hours earlier this Easter Sunday to

acomodate the expected patrons on that day. It'll be 3 p.m.

They'll be serving the complete menu as well as a special of Boeuf Bourguignon, which is tenderlion tips in burgundy wine sauce, accompanied by salad with vinaigrette dressing, fresh rolls and au gratin potatoes, all for \$3.25.

Ordinarily, Robaire's opens at 5 Tuesdays through Sundays for dinner and banquets.

Now here's a little something different once again in the way of Easter dinner, traditional style.

It's at Millie Riera's Seafood Grotto in Redondo Beach featuring Joe Riera's special recipe for Bouillabaisse which is an exotic concoction from the seaport town of Marseille.

Then, of course, the Italian pasta, steaks, swordfish, hal-

but, white bass and dozens of other seafood goodies will also be served on Easter. Yes, the abalone, too.

Located just off Pacific Coast Highway at the corner of Avenue I and Esplanade, The Seafood Grotto is open every day for luncheon and dinner plus cocktails and with musical entertainment on Friday and Saturday furnished by Rickey Angeles.

Down the coast a ways at Ben Brown's fabulous restaurant at the Laguna Beach Country Club you'll find a special Easter dinner menu of offered diners from 11 in the morning with a wide variety of complete dinners at \$4.95. Here might be an idea; combining a nice leisurely drive with a comfortable Easter dinner at the end.

Exactly what kind of specialty executive chef Odie Reed will be offering patrons



EXCITING... The new Steve McQueen picture, "Bullitt" opens Wednesday, April 2 at United Artists Theatre, 2735 Pacific Coast Highway, Torrance. Matinees daily from 1 p.m., April 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

on Easter, can't tell but the Golden Galleon Restaurant of the Marina del Rey Hotel always comes up with something.

Odie Reed, as you may know is the son of a famed former master chef by the same name. The current one at the Golden Galleon was formerly executive chef at Whittinghill's Restaurant in the Valley as well as the Money Tree in the same general area, plus the Deauville Country Club. Chef Odie began his career as sous chef with Jacques Richard of the Santa Inez Inn.

He's no slouch, this one, having attended chef's school in Lingres, Germany, and Salzburg, Austria so you can see, he knows his stuff when it comes to culinary delights.

And as we outlined last week, the International Hotel will be serving its traditional Easter Brunch and Dinner for the entire family on Easter Sunday in the Penthouse Restaurant up at the top of the hotel, the charming Hunt Room just off the main lobby and the Coffee Shop.

There's to be special kiddies' plates served in each dining room and all children dining at the hotel with their families will receive an Easter surprise.

Here's a quickie reminder for you in case you happen to be in Las Vegas for the weekend: there's always something doing of a special nature at the Riviera Hotel in that city so why should Easter be any different! Y'know, they know other things up there besides the galloping cubes and stuff like that there.

And while on the subject of The Riviera — though Dean Martin's premiere engagement here is still a few months off, he jumped the gun last week and took an unofficial "bow" as part of the Sonny King act in the intimate Starlite Theatre. But he'll be in there officially soon.

In Torrance at the Royal Giraffe in the Ramada Inn on Pacific Coast Highway, they'll also present a special Easter Sunday dinner from noon 'til 9 p.m.

You'll find the choice of baked Virginia ham, roast turkey or roast sirloin of beef for the main course and includes everything from soup through dessert. The tariff will be \$3.95 for

the grown-ups and \$1.75 for the kiddies.

Been trying to get hold of Tom and Lois Whally all week to find out just what their intentions are (oops! Bad choice of words there) regarding Easter but had no luck.

However, dropped in at the King's X Restaurant one evening last week and Tom said he was planning on doing something a little special but at the moment didn't know just what. So what? So just put in a phone call over there and got an answer — or two.

According to Chef Casey, there's both ham and turkey on the menu (possibly other goodies, as well) and will run out at \$3.95 per copy for complete dinners. You take it from there and have a good day!

Here there now, Buddy! It's not only Easter with which Sam Failla's wrestling! Naturally Easter is the number one project in his mind for this coming weekend, but he must also keep in mind that the San Franciscan has been open five years as of this week. Sam has this problem every year — whether to push Easter or his anniversary — so he usually winds up with pushing them both at the same time.

This brings us around to "first things first" and then what comes first is Easter for which Sam is presenting the good old baked Virginia ham, prime rib, top sirloin or turkey — take your pick — and it all goes off at the handsome price on ONE NINETY-FIVE per each meal, and that's on a complete dinner basis, if you please! The kids get off for a buck and a quarter. And it all begins at one o'clock in the afternoon.

Now then, back to the fifth anniversary thing at the San Franciscan — this all gets off the ground on Tuesday, the 8th, featuring the regular dinner from 5 'til 11 in the evening and with a buffet dinner available from 8 'til 10 p.m. Try to make this bash 'cause every year we've made the scene down there at 2520 W. Sepul-



CULINARY EXPERT... He's the executive chef of the Golden Galleon Restaurant at the Marina del Rey Hotel, Odie Reed, formerly of Dick Whittinghill's spot in the Valley. Comes from a long line of chefs, according to general manager, Ernest Crouch.

veda in Torrance, it's been exactly that — a bash! And you shouldn't miss it!

As a sort of follow-up to this early month's activities — there's to be a baseball party coming up at the San Franciscan. Well, not exactly AT the San Fran but FROM there.

As the signs say — "Join the Party!" It's a Dodgers-Giants game to come off along toward the latter part of the month. As a matter of fact, the 21st.

The bus leaves from the San Franciscan at 6:30 in the p.m. and the whole schmere is included in the fast price of

\$4.50 per each. So like, go, man (and woman) go!

Another Easter offer is being presented at the Red Balloon on Hawthorne Boulevard in Torrance.

It's a one-ninety-nine bit that includes so many things you wouldn't believe! Like baked Virginia ham with fruit sauce, salad, candied yams, green beans, roll and butter, apple pie and a choice of coffee or tea. And the kids get off with just half of that price!

It's 11:30 to 10 p.m. and a special Easter breakfast from 6 in the a.m.

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