



MULTI-LINGUAL SINGER . . . She's just that and her name's Yvonne Ribucca, who will open on May 1 at Rose and Louis Song's Tea House on Crenshaw in Torrance. She'll be singing and playing the piano there every Thursday, Friday and Saturday night from then on.



HOOFERS . . . The dance team shown above may be seen this weekend at the El Camino College Auditorium, May 2 and 3 when "Barberlesque" moves in for the two-day stand. They are Ellen Harris and Dick Ferrin.

# Spot Checking

Food ★ Fun ★ Frolic  
By Bill Whitman

## Santa Barbara--Slick as Ever

Now don't get that all mixed up with "oil slick" cause it just ain't so! Oh there may be a wee bit of that stuff along some portions of the beach up here but it's not really bad. It's still one of the most beautiful spots along our wonderful coastline.

For the most part here, it's balmy, calm, and sunny from any vantage point you might select. Especially from the view afforded through the windows and balconies of the Santa Barbara Inn.

Just completed a highly enjoyable dinner up in the beautiful Sky Room of this thoroughly delightful Inn — Greene-dine of beef — and could find naught of which to complain. Even cut it with a fork, it was that tender. And all the additional "fixings" were equally delicious.

And for service? You couldn't ask for more. Just what "Jack's" last name is we couldn't discover, but here is a helpful and attentive waiter, ever on-the-spot when you need something. Owner-operator Alex Shustin has a gem in this guy and let's hope he keeps him around for a long time. Yes, and partner-lovely, Gloria Shustin agrees!

Had a couple of "giant malts" at the bar prior to dinner with efficient bartender Ralph Hammons (and this guy is truly efficient — every bit the capable, courteous mixologist that a spot of the calibre of the Santa Barbara Inn would employ) and he puts out one of the finest martinis in the business, as does co-mixer Tyron (are you ready for this?) Kelly!

Manager Herb Rauch dropped by to mention what the new group was doing to them these nites. (By the way, would you buy that his name is pronounced Roak?) Must be awful, 'cause Herb says they fill the place every nite. Especially the late crowd.

Had some doubts when first setting eyes on them — you know, the hair bit and all that — but when this group began playing — WOW — it was sheer — well — music is the best way to describe Ricky Diaz and The Bosarock Swingers. Most listenable as well as danceable. This Ricky makes that piano talk. Come to think of it, the gal's not bad either, whether it be looks or talent — as are the others in the band. Like 'em!

It was a swinger-dinger up there that nite for Mayor Jerry Firestone of Santa Barbara and here, again, is a nice guy. Hizzonor should stay. (Mayor Isen, take note; he says 'hello' to you!)

That was some feast the Wyoming Travel Commission put on last week at the Beverly Hills Hotel. Everything from soup to nuts — or should that

be "moose to elk?" 'Cause that's what was on the menu in the entree department.

Then of course there were all the other type goodies in between. The same kind of fare the cow-pokes of yesteryear used to eat on the open range. Yes, even including good old baked beans. And all delicious.

Wyoming Governor Stan Hathaway gave an inspiring talk on the wonders that await the visitor of that great state. His Excellency predicted that approximately 700,000 Californians would visit Wyoming during 1969. Says that California is the largest single producer of visitors to Wyoming.

There was also a colorful motion picture presented on the beauties of our neighbor to the northeast, following the grand repast. Wonder why it wouldn't be a profitable venture for some of our fine Southland restaurants to present some of that good elk and moose meat on their menus. Might go over in a big way. Of course the preparation of such delights is something, too. Guess one must have to know just how to cook that kind of fare.

Anyway, all in all it was a full evening — as were the stomachs of all attending.

Will have a more complete run-down on this piano-vocal cutie in a few days but just wanted to remind you about the happening at the Tea House Restaurant and Cocktail Lounge.

She's Yvonne Ribucca, a multi-lingual singer of songs and player of the piano. She was in the Broadway show of "Flower Drum Song" and a highly talented chick. She opens at the Tea House May 1 and will appear every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nite. You'll enjoy this little lady.

Got still another attraction for you in the Torrance area. This is at Sam Failla's San Francisco on Sepulveda Boulevard at Crenshaw.

In addition to all the goodies there for dining and lurching, you'll find The Playmates every Tuesday through Saturday and they feature besides their own inimitable talents, Ivy Black on the sax and Betty Jane Burke on drums.

And Sam's choice prime rib or top sirloin at \$1.95 would be hard to beat the way Chef Frank prepares it.

Understand also they had a swinger there during Torrance Nite last week when Sam loaded everyone on the bus for Dodger Stadium and the game. So you might keep this in mind next time Sam puts one of those things together. They're always fun.

Stopped by the Jet Room Lounge recently? If you haven't you've missed some

fine talent in Bill Fulkerson over there.

Bill has a knack with people when it comes to getting them together. No one ever meets a stranger when Bill is punching those piano keys. To watch them having fun you'd swear (and some do but not often) they'd all grown up together yet they were total strangers to one another when they walked into the Jet Room.

When it comes to those ever-popular sing-alongs you can't top the entertainment here. And William's no slouch when it comes to his own particular brand of entertainment either. When he does his "Fulkersonisms" it rocks the joint. And Bill's been with owner-host Nick Cicciarelli for some time, too. Both here and in previous spots that Nick has operated in and around the area.

Swing on by there some nite soon and have just a whole bunch of fun.

Just received a telegram announcing an up-coming event for the Amigos Restaurants. This particular one will take place in Glendale but you can be sure it'll be representative of all Amigos Family Restaurants.

Being of Mexican origin, the Amigos are observing the big Mexican holiday, Cinco de Mayo, Monday, May 5, so it should be a swinger. And a hasta la vista to you, too!

Here's something a little different for the S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. (that's the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing of America, dum-dum!) coming up here Friday and Saturday at El Camino College Auditorium.

This one will be called "Barberlesque" and will feature a



EXOTIC . . . He's the creator of exotic jazz, Arthur Lyman who will open May 13 at Hop Louie's Latitude 20 Supper Club in Torrance. The group is currently appearing at Hop's other spot, the Trade Winds in Oxnard.

whole bunch of barbershop quartets, plus dancers and old time vaudeville sketches. The main feature will be the Hey Hey Chorus of the South Bay Chapter.

As an extra added attraction there'll be cute and diminutive Ellen Harris. She's an El Camino College teacher (you should be so lucky to get this one for a teacher!) and Dick Ferrin who was known at the age of five as a "tap dancing prodigy on the range Herbie; Marty Lair has the touch, too, he does.

This is French week at the

Royal Giraffe Restaurant in the Torrance Ramada Inn. Started Monday and goes on through the week, featuring everything French. It's called "La Vie Giraffienne" if you can figure that one out!

There's French decorations, French music and naturally, French foods and wines. And typically French is of course bouillabaisse. This is featured throughout the week at \$3 for the complete dinner.

The first one of these national celebration weeks that John Gregory scheduled was Fiesta Week, honoring Mexico, which

was a tremendous hit so John's decided to continue the policy.

Upcoming in the near future will be Italian Week and German Week.

You can't miss the Royal Giraffe right there at 4111 W. Pacific Coast Hwy., Torrance.

By the way, s'pose you know about that new Martini Hour they're putting on down there.

Runs from 5 'til 8 every Monday through Friday evening when Martinis, Manhattans, and all 'well' drinks will go for 65 cents a copy. In addition to this there'll be hot and cold hors d'oeuvres served nite.

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