

Spot Checking

Food ★ Fun ★ Frolic
By Bill Whitman

Beach-Beat Bistros

And in that department there's bound to be plenty to write about in and around the South Bay area along the beach beat for some beautiful dining-out days and evenings now that the nice weather has apparently set in... we hope!

So what better place to start than on Western at Torrance Blvd. in Torrance! Here now is one of the most attractive spots we've seen in some time. Done in the black and red with touches of gold and white for relief, C. J.'s Restaurant and Cocktail Lounge, offers you a smart and swank club yet warm and friendly, with its step-up-step-down effect and with small grouping-type rooms off the main room encircled with white bannister railings as partitions.

The dance-floor is no postage stamp size and live music is furnished nightly for your

dancing and listening enjoyment by Oscar McLollie and the group.

Proprietor Art Hae and Manager Ellie S. Allen have brought to Torrance a comparatively new and exciting room in C.J.'s that's designed to present dignity and conservatism to the area, offering an 11-3 luncheon period Monday thru Saturday featuring a Merchants Special daily.

Some may recall that during the last few weeks of Jack's by the Track's, it developed into the topless operation. Well both Allen and Hae want it definitely

known, this is out. (Not the girls — the operation!).

"The girls are dressed — and dressed the way waitresses should be dressed," says Ellie Allen. "We want dignity personified here at C.J.'s and we'll still do business."

And with the type operation they have over there at C.J.'s, there's no reason in the world for them to do nothing BUT business. With that Sunday nite deal from 5 'til 8, they should be swamped — it's an "all you can eat" spaghetti bit for the low, low price of fifty cents. Now how's that grab you! Right in the billfold, huh?

Get by there so on and enjoy a really fun nite.

Ran into ace-mixologist Ken Decker last week at Filippone's and we watched the dexterity with which Ken's fellow mixologist, Bill handles a poor soul who's

"over-trained" a bit. Makes them feel important yet keeps them strictly in line.

Incidentally, Ken says to 'watch that door-knob in the mens room — it's a gas!'

Bob Close is blasting off with some gigantic plans for his Chat Room on Avalon and 223 St. (That's East) in Torrance.

He's got a live 4 piece swingin' outfit there every Friday and Saturday nite and these cats'll play music that'll please any and all kinds of peoples. Y'like to polka (like square dancing)? Well they're ready, willing and most able to accommodate you. Or for the swing buffs — or the sweet and slow stuff — yes, even for you rock friends, they've like, got it!

The Chat Room Combo consists of Gil on lead guitar, Cliff handling the vocals, Paul on drums, and all under the able direction and leadership of Joe on the steel guitar as well as vocals.

Then if you should get too steamed up from wotn dancing efforts, take a short stroll over to the warm and friendly billiard parlor where Dotty and Carole will keep the "coolys" coming.

The Mira Costa Hi Auditorium in Manhattan Beach'll be the scene on Friday and Saturday, the 6 and 7 of next month, of some way out barbershop music like you've never heard before.

It's Barbershop Blackouts featuring such famous quartets as The Sidewinders, The Salt Flats, The Manhattans and the Bunster Freely Quartet, all champs in the quartetism field. And don't forget the So. Bay Chorus.

That address is 701 S. Peck Ave. and curtain time will be 8:15 for you barbershop buffs for two bucks, two and a half and three, although the general admissioners can crash for one fifty.

Now let's see if we can get this thing straight! Seems the Interstate Hosts Inc. paid out something over a million \$ to L.A. Dept. of Airports for concession rental last year.

and just the other day presented an additional \$10,440 as part of a profit-sharing agreement. (M-m-m-m, now let's see, how can we get in on that "profit" department?)

Well, it works this way. The operating agreement is based on percentages of gross sales as well as a ten year minimum guarantee of over eleven million bux. That answer your question?

The Interstate prexy, Hulse S. Lokey presented the \$10,440.13 check (we'll take the 13c to go towards greens fees.) to president of the Board of Airport Commissioners, A. M. Rochlen at a recent special meeting.

Ran into an old friend of ours down at The Tea House one nite last week while enjoying some of Rose and Louie's seafood specials for the Lenten season and what happens? We wind up at the "Meinecke Manse" partaking of (as Mrs. Meinecke put it "pot luck") a repast you old (and we do mean OLD) WW2 vets would never believe!

Remember the offering the mess sergeant used to serve you on an average of 3-4 times a week? And he presented it to you on a shingle? well... that's right. It's exactly what we got!

But with his background in service, plus the fact he has the Fortune Room in Gardena, the "shingle" business was something else again.

What Lon Meinecke does to that "stuff" we'll never divulge (for one reason, we don't know!) but it sure didn't taste like that other "stuff," and if they decide to put that on the menu at the Fortune Room, they'll make nothing but money. Come to think of it... Rose and Louie could possibly make something out of it, Cantonese style for The Tea House. (Must talk with them soon!!!)

That's an extremely interesting menu they've got down there at the Village Inn—228 Avenue I in Redondo Beach... BOTH sides of the menu — the price side as well as the entree side!

As you no doubt know, it's a seafood and meat house now and you can ramble through such goodies as lobster tail, a seafood plate, chicken, pork chops, BBQ prime rib and the ever popular filet mignon, and with a price range from two and a quarter up to \$4.65.

Why, y'know you can even have a way-out steak sandwich, a meal in itself for two and a quarter (a house specialty, by the way). And then for the true gourmet the Steak and Lobster combination for four and a half is hard to beat.



CHAT ROOM COMBO... Appearing every Friday and Saturday nite at Mr. C's Chat Room are Gill Wilson, Cliff Lytle, Paul Vincent and Joe Richmond, left to right, making with "the music to please everyone."



CHEF'S SPECIAL... Hulse S. Lokey, Interstate Hosts prexy of restaurant concession operators at L.A. International Airport, signs giant, family-size check which was presented to Dept. of Airports as part of profit-sharing agreement. Accepting is Rolling Hills general manager, Francis Fox, and vice prexy of Interstate's Airport division, Walter Clark, Jr.

And if you're in the mood for the kiddies—bring 'em along and you'll get six-bits knocked off your bill for anything they order! (Don't know how Danny, Manny and Don come out on a thing like this 'cause from our observation, these little moppets can stow away a lot of groceries.)

And speaking of Don, what's all this we hear about him leaving the fold for "down-under" or some such out-of-the-way place? Wonder if Don realizes that the grass is NEVER greener in the other fella's yard! But, h m m... come to think of it... maybe it is! Must keep in touch with this cat. Fraps he knows something WE don't know.

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