



Spot Checking

Food ★ Fun ★ Frolic
By Bill Whitman



Three Going on Four

That's the story this week at Rose and Louis Song's Tea House Restaurant on Crenshaw Blvd. in Torrance. Yes, it is hard to believe that the Tea House will be observing its third anniversary this coming Saturday nite but none the less, it's true and over the past three years this friendly little bistro has made many people happy and have built some strong friendships. This, plus satisfying the longings of many an innerman with some of the best Cantonese cookery in the southland.

The intimate little cocktail lounge in the rear has also contributed greatly to the success of The Tea House through the combined efforts of such personnel as Manager Ronnie, his able assistant and day man Larry Gelle and the cute and efficient Nayomi, deliverer of exotic elixir.

So plan on joining the whole gang down there Saturday nite and have some fun. They'll all be there—Tosh, Ralph, Bob, Wayne, Metz, Chico, the whole bunch of 'em, laughin, and scratchin'. And even The Defuentes Bros. for your musical entertainment. Y'all come!

By the way, that's got to be the wildest "shower" on record that they held last week for Mr. Yantzee and Mrs. Fancy Pants. No, no, it wasn't held at The Tea House but we were informed of it there last

week. In fact, we received our invitation with the traditional RSVP footnote.

Hostesses for the occasion were Paula Dusbabek and Pat Jenkins at 23503 Leyte Drive in Torrance. You see, the proud father-to-be is... a dog! Oh yes... Mrs. Fancy Pants is also a dog! May they have a whole bunch of "litter" ones!

Thought we better get this in here today as the upcoming show out at the Carousel Theatre in West Covina is only booked for a one-week stand.

It's Jimmy Dean who millions of plain folk think is the "nicest fella in show biz today."

He opens next Tuesday, the 12th, along with his special guest stars, the lovely Lennon Sisters.

Now maybe you didn't know this but this Jimmy guy is one of the biggest recording stars in the country today and you'll probably remember him best for his recording of "Big, Bad John."

He's had quite a fabulous career for a little old guy from Texas who struggled long and hard to get where he is today, having done singles as well as worked with a band on numerous occasions.

His big break came in the mid-50s when he was signed for the "Morning Show" for CBS. Next there was a Saturday afternoon show and a five-a-week program from New York City.

Sir James has done guest stints as host on the "Tonight Show" and finally "The Jimmy Dean Show" all his own.

Should be quite a week out in West Covina so get your reservations nailed down pretty soon.

They've got some solid stuff coming up for you at the Music Center's Pavilion and currently, through this Sunday, it's the American Ballet Theatre. And here's something bet you didn't know; that 13 of the members of this group are Californians.

For instance, Cynthia Gregory and Karen Brock are both from Los Angeles, while Camille Crosby hails from Huntington Park and Christine Sarry is a Long Beach soloist.

Three others from L.A. are Elizabeth Lee, Nancy Robinson, and Kasana Wojcik. Then "up the road a piece" from central and northern California comes Paula Tracy, Terry Orr, both soloists, and Zola Dishong, Betsy Erickson, Robert Gladstein and Rosamond Lynn, all members of the corps de ballet. So who says California lacks culture! Indeed!

Guest artists Erik Bruhn and Carla Fracci will repeat their two-act "Giselle" this



COUNTRY & WESTERN... And they're known as Mr. and Mrs. Country Music—Johnny and Jonie Mosby, who are booked into Shipwreck Joey's spot at the corner of Figueroa and B Street in Wilmington for a one nite stand March 24.

comong Sunday matinee, with "Concerto" the companion piece.

David Blair's opulent new production of "Swan Lake" complete in four acts, will be seen for the last times at the matinee and evening performances this Saturday, so you better hurry!

While we're still on the Music Center Pavilion kick, there's a one nite stand coming up on March 15 you would not miss if you enjoy a truly beautiful soprano voice.

She's Anna Moffo who has starred in opera companies of the Metropolitan, La Scala, Berlin, Rome, Vienna and Munich plus pursuits other than opera.

She has her own weekly TV show in Rome where she and her husband live, appears regularly as a guest star on television in this country and her most recent engagement was on the Mike Douglas Show.

In addition to all this she still finds time to record for RCA Victor, her latest album being "La Radine."

Miss Moffo is well known as a picture star in Italy, too, her latest successful effort being "La Traviata" which is playing throughout Europe and in New York City.

So remember, that's Friday evening, March 15.

By golly, and still they

come! Awards for the Pen and Quill Restaurant in Manhattan Beach, that is!

The International Gourmet Society intends to present this famous restaurant with their coveted Gold Statue Award, according to General Manager Pat O'Daly.

This fine beach city diner house was recently honored by the Gold Pennant Gourmet Society for cuisine and service, and you can take it from here, they don't just hand these awards out hit or miss. A lot of inspecting, dining, sampling, and just good plain deep thought go into the presentation of these awards.

It's certainly a tribute to Executive Chef Kris Erlanson and truly qualifies the Pen and Quill Restaurant as a must on your dining-out list.

Imagine John Pietromonaco has a hard time making up his mind just which is his calling—pianist or impresario.

As you must know, John is currently featured nite during cocktail time in the Trophy Lounge of the International Hotel but now has launched himself on a new career.

For openers, he's booked the high International Ball-

room at that hotel for Friday evening, July 19—for a ball! Music for both dancing and concert will be provided by the "tallman" himself, Stan Kenton and his 18-piece orchestra. This should be a real treat 'cause Mr. Kenton is probably one of the last of the really big bands left from the old era of big bands.

We mention this now so far in advance because it'll probably be a sell-out event, particularly in view of the price for the show. It'll be ten dollars per couple and reservations are being taken on a first come basis so if you want to get in on a "r-r-really big shoe" pick up a 'phone and make that call. It's 671-3996. Should be a worth-while evening for young and old alike.

These two fine artists will be appearing for ONE NITE ONLY on that Sunday evening so make your plans accordingly.

These two standout performers come to Shipwreck Joey's with quite an impressive background that has

discovered they're planning big things for this Wilmington folk and country spot. Currently it's Bill Obbard and the Rhythm Masters nite. That's not all, Ruth, Ike, and Joey have some elaborate plans for the future in the way of bringing in featured artists for your entertainment. Recording artists of the western and country variety opening with Mr. and Mrs. Country Music themselves Johnny and Jonie Mosby, March 24.

Not only are they road artists but have also managed to slip in a few TV appearances as well, such as the "Midwest Hayride" and a Jerry Lewis Special, along with Dick Clark's Bandstand and Melody Ranch.

For three years in a row, The Mosbys were voted in the top five in the nation in Billboard, Cash Box, and Record World popularity polls.

Should be a grand ole time on March 24th, so come on down. It's easy to get to Joey's, Harbor Freeway, off at B&C Street off ramp and you can't miss it when you reach Figueroa. There she sits!



JET SET CLASS... If you're looking for class you'll find it at the Jet Room Lounge and in particular behind the huge piano bar in the name of Ruthie Thomas, shown above "toiling" at the tool of her trade. Ruthie plays three nites a week.

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