



## Nino's Bay, A New Café

By Cathy Tyson

There's a new family friendly restaurant in town in the space formerly occupied by Calypso in Orinda's Theater Square. Nino's Bay is a restaurant, bar and grill that features a variety of pasta dishes, veal and chicken entrées along with classic salads and sandwiches and a few grilled items. On a sunny day the outside tables are a great way to catch some sun and enjoy lunch. It's a family affair with chef/owner Nino Garcia and Maria, his wife providing courteous, attentive service.

My husband I had dinner there on a recent Saturday night. A distressed corrugated metal bar, a remnant from Calypso days, fills the back wall. Our cocktails arrived promptly and perfectly made. Conveniently located just around the corner from the theater, movie patrons might wish to enjoy an adult beverage prior to their film. The large flat screen TV is a nice touch for sports fans. Nino says he is hoping to get a couple of additional televisions in the near future.

Our efficient waiter, not Maria on this particular visit, brought absolutely delicious light flaky, croissant style breadsticks to our table with a smile.

Dinner choices include pasta dishes from fettuccine primavera, linguini portofino and the penne bolognese, which I had. A gener-

ous serving of pasta with Italian sausage, ground beef, onions, mushrooms, garlic in a marinara sauce, arrived on a lovely plate. It could have used a little extra salt that was oddly enough a bit too generous in my date's veal piccata. Prices for the pasta dishes range from \$12.95 to \$13.95.

Sautéed dishes include two chicken preparations, piccata and marsala, and a veal scaloppini in addition to the veal piccata. Each of these comes with choice of soup or salad, mashed potatoes or rice and vegetables. All are priced around \$13.95. Grilled salmon and steak, at \$16.95 and \$19.95 respectively, are the most expensive items on the menu. Soups, salads, sandwiches, side orders and a trio of desserts round out the menu.

Overall the restaurant is functional; the outside tables and efficient service not to mention burgers and fries, make it family friendly for a casual night out. It was only open for three weeks when this reporter stopped in. Perhaps the kitchen is still working out a few kinks, but overall the food was fine, cocktails great, laid back atmosphere and reasonable prices make it worth a try.

Lunch 11 – 2, dinner 5 – 10 Monday through Saturday. Sunday open for lunch 10 – 3.

Summer Special Shrimp Cocktail

**\$3.95\***

Must present coupon!

\*through September in Petar's lounge or patio only. Not good with any other coupons, discounts or promotional offers.

**Petar's Restaurant**  
is located in the heart of Lafayette at  
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Petar's is open for lunch Monday through Saturday from 11:30 to 4:00 and open for dinner nightly.

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Dine In, Take Out, and Catering	Mon.-Sat., 11am-8pm 74 Moraga Way, Orinda (925) 258-9049	Kids Menu
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**What:** An Afternoon Tea  
**When:** Saturday, September 29, 12:00 - 2:30 pm  
**Where:** Orinda Masonic Lodge, 9 Altarinda Road, Orinda  
**Who:** Hosted by Diablo Star, Order of the Eastern Star

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Ladies of all ages, (12 and over) are most welcome. Our Afternoon Tea will be "steeped" in fun. There will be culinary delights, desserts and teas to savor. There will be a live and silent auction, as well as lovely custom jewelry and fashion accessories available. What a great opportunity to shop early for the Holidays!

Eastern Star is a charitable non-profit organization and member of the Masonic Family. We volunteer many hours for community services and fund raising. This enables us to complete our charitable work. One of our many projects is to gather and hand craft infant wear. Last year we delivered over 90 beautiful layettes

## It's Tea Time!



to the CC County Regional Hospital for distribution to newborns and mothers who are in need.

We appreciate your support for this endeavor and look forward to meeting you. Tea dress is encouraged. Tickets are \$23 per person. You may call 925-285-7242 or 510-582-9074 for information or to register by phone, using a Visa or Mastercard. Mail-in registration by check is also available.

Seating is by reservation only, due by September 25