



## 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.

## Successful Luau in Moraga Island

By Sophie Braccini



Hawaiian dancers and musicians perform on-stage

Photo by Sophie Braccini

On the evening of Saturday the 25th, Moragans coming out of Safeway noticed unusual activity on the field of the old Moraga Ranch, usually so peaceful. A large crowd of colorful people of all ages was gathering. The Luau of the Chamber of Commerce of Moraga was starting and as the event sold out, twenty of those who didn't buy advance tickets were turned away.

Guests were immediately transported to a Hawaiian luau; charming Hawaiian girls were adorning them with flower leis, an Hawaiian gifts store was setup. Teen volunteers from Scout Troop 212 and Campolindo High School were prepared to serve the hungry crowd.

As people settled in, Jenny Boyd, President of the Chamber of Commerce of Moraga, started the formalities by welcoming everyone and thanking volunteers and sponsors for their support. Ken Tom, the Vice-President of the Chamber, then took the stage as master of ceremony and manager of the Luau. In previous years, the Chamber organized a Stampede that usually attracted about 160 people. So when Tom set the bar at 450 attendees for the Luau, many thought it a very ambitious

target indeed. Tom thanked everyone who showed up to make the evening a rousing success and presented a description of the night's entertainment and the traditional food offerings.

Beautiful dancers performed in Hawaiian costumes, including little girls (Keiki) who were as graceful as their mothers. A traditional fire dance garnered much applause. The crowd was treated to more fun when men from the audience were invited to perform on stage and learned to execute interesting hip rolling movements.

The raffle was a highly anticipated part of the evening. The grand prize was a 5-day trip for 2 to the famous Waikiki Beach Marriott. The winner was Teresa, daughter of the owner of the Reflexion Skin Care and Hair Salon in the Rheem Shopping Center. The mother of 2 young children was thrilled and plans to use the prize sometime during the winter.

The next day, Steve Angelides, the Chamber's treasurer, tallied the results of the Luau. He is pleased to report that the evening was a success and that the Chamber will be able to further support projects such as the Merchants Fair and the Shop Moraga First program.

What: An Afternoon Tea

When: Saturday, September 29, 12:00 - 2:30 pm

Where: Orinda Masonic Lodge, 9 Altairinda Road, Orinda

Who: Hosted by Diablo Star, Order of the Eastern Star

## It's Tea Time!



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

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 \$25 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

## Camping With Your Horse For A Good Cause

By Cathy Tyson

Members of the Tilden-Wildcat Horsemen's Association (TWHA) and the Metropolitan Horsemen's Association hosted a 100-mile trail ride last week to benefit bay area trails. Now in its fifth year, East Bay Trails and the Bay Area Ridge trail will receive all proceeds raised by the event. Riders spent four days in the hills above Orinda and Moraga in Tilden, Sibley, Huckleberry, and Redwood Parks and at the Upper San Leandro Reservoir, according to Morris Older, TWHA Member Secretary.

Organizers worked diligently to arrange for breakfast, lunch and dinner for the riders along with hay, carrots and water for the horses. The plan is to ride a hundred miles over six days or about fourteen to eighteen miles per day in small groups. Benefit planners have thought of everything, including evening entertain-

ment for tuckered out riders. The evening program included a harp concert, naturalist talks, a veterinary presentation, cowboy music and dancing and some cowboy poetry. About 65 riders participated this year, some from as far away as Los Angeles and the Sierras.

"Its truly extraordinary," opines Older, "the East Bay Trails are considered to be among the best urban trail system in the country. In the midst of the depression, 1932, Alameda County decided to institute a parcel tax to create the East Bay Regional Park system. They were visionary." On Wednesday of last week, riders and their trusty steeds were crossing on these trails, right above the Caldecott tunnel.

For more information see website, www.twaha.org or www.ridgetrail.org. Donations still gratefully accepted.



left to right: Debbie Poscoe, Martha Mikesell, Adda Quinn, Lynda Martinson

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LAMORINDA's Restaurants			
•• updated September 5, 2007 ••			
<b>American</b>			
Bistro	3287 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	283-7108	
Chow Restaurant	53 Lafayette Cir, Laf	962-2469	
Hungry Hunter	3201 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	938-3938	
Quiznos	3651 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	962-0200	
Ranch House	1012 School St, Mor	376-5127	
Terzetto Cuisine	1419 Moraga Way, Mor	376-3832	
The Cheese Steak Shop	3455 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	283-1234	
<b>BBQ</b>			
Bo's Barbecue	3422 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	283-7133	
<b>Burger Joint</b>			
Flippers	960 Moraga Rd, Laf	284-1567	
Nation's Giant Hamburgers	400 Park, Mor	376-8888	
Nation's Giant Hamburgers	76 Moraga Way, Ori	254-8888	
<b>Café</b>			
Express Cafe	3732 Mt. Diablo Blvd #170, Laf	283-7170	
Ferrari-Lucca Delicatessens	23 Lafayette Cir, Laf	299-8040	
Geppetto's cafe	87 Orinda Way, Ori	253-9894	
<b>California Cuisine</b>			
Gigi's	1005 Brown St., Laf	962-0882	
Metro Lafayette	3524 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	284-4422	
Shelby's	2 Theatre Sq, Ori	254-9687	
<b>Chinese</b>			
Asia Palace Restaurant	1460 B Moraga Rd, Mor	376-0809	
Chef Chao Restaurant	343 Rheem Blvd, Mor	376-1740	
China Moon Restaurant	380 Park St, Mor	376-1828	
The Great Wall Restaurant	3500 Golden Gate Way, Laf	284-3500	
Hsiangs Mandarin Cuisine	1 Orinda Way #1, Ori	253-9852	
Lily's House	3555 Mt. Diablo Blvd #A, Laf	284-7569	
Mandarin Flower	581 Moraga Rd, Mor	376-7839	
Panda Express	3608 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	962-0288	
Szechwan Chinese Restaurant	79 Orinda Way, Ori	254-2020	
Uncle Yu's Szechuan	999 Oak Hill Rd, Laf	283-1688	
Yan's Restaurant	3444 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	284-2228	
<b>Coffee Shop</b>			
Millie's Kitchen	1018 Oak Hill Rd #A, Laf	283-2397	
Squirrel's Coffee Shop	998 Moraga Rd, Laf	284-7830	
Village Inn Cafe	290 Village Square, Ori	254-6080	
<b>Continental</b>			
Petar's Restaurant	32 Lafayette Cir, Laf	284-7117	
Vino Restaurant	3531 Plaza Way, Laf	284-1330	
Duck Club Restaurant	3287 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	283-7108	
<b>Hawaiian Grill</b>			
Lava Pit	2 Theatre Square, St. 142, Ori	253-1338	
<b>Indian</b>			
India Palace	3740 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	284-5700	
Swad Indian Cuisine	3602 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	962-9575	
<b>Italian</b>			
Giardino	3406 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	283-3869	
La Finestra Ristorante	100 Lafayette Cir, St. 101, Laf	284-5282	
La Piazza	15 Moraga Way, Ori	253-9191	
Mangia Ristorante Pizzeria	975 Moraga Rd, Laf	284-3081	
Michael's	1375 Moraga Way, Mor	376-4300	
Mondello's	337 Rheem Blvd, Mor	376-2533	
Nino's Bay	#2 Theater Square, Ste. 153, Ori	253-1327	
Pizza Antica	3600 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	299-0500	
Postino	3565 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	299-8700	
Ristorante Amorora	360 Park St, Mor	377-7662	
<b>Japanese</b>			
Asia Palace Sushi Bar	1460 B Moraga Rd, Mor	376-0809	
Blue Ginko	3518 A Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	962-9020	
Kane Sushi	3474 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	284-9709	
Niwa Restaurant	1 Camino Sobrante #6, Ori	254-1606	
Serika Restaurant	2 Theatre Sq #118, Ori	254-7088	
Tamami's Japanese Restaurant	356 Park St, Mor	376-2872	
Yu Sushi	19 Moraga Way, Ori	253-8399	
<b>Jazz Dinner Club</b>			
Joe's of Lafayette	3707 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Laf	299-8807	
The Orinda House	65 Moraga Way, Ori	258-4445	
<b>Mediterranean</b>			
Alex's	2 Theatre Sq #105, Ori	254-5290	
Oasis Cafe	3594 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	299-8822	
Per Tutti Ristorante	3576 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	284-5225	
<b>Mexican</b>			
360 Gourmet Burrito	3655 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	299-1270	
El Charro Mexican Dining	3339 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	283-2345	
El Jaro Mexican Cafe	3563 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	283-6639	
La Cocina Mexicana	23 Orinda Way, Ori	258-9987	
Mucho wraps	1375-B Moraga Way, Mor	377-1203	
Baja Fresh Mexican Grill	3596 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	283-8740	
Celia's Restaurant	3666 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	283-8288	
El Balazo	35180 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	284-8700	
Maya Mexican Grill	74 Moraga Way, Ori	258-9049	
Numero Uno Taqueria	3616 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	299-1333	
<b>Pizza</b>			
Aladino's Pizza	3614 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	283-6363	
Mountain Mike's Pizza	504 Center St, Mor	377-6453	
Pennini's	1375 Moraga Rd, Mor	376-1515	
Round Table Pizza	"361 Rheem Blvd.", Mor	376-1411	
Round Table Pizza	3637 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	283-0404	
Village Pizza	19 Orinda Way # Ab, Ori	254-1200	
Zamboni's Pizza	1 Camino Sobrante #4, Ori	254-2800	
<b>Sandwiches/Deli</b>			
Bianca's Deli	1480 Moraga Rd # A, Mor	376-4400	
Europa Hofbrau Deli & Pub	64 Moraga Way, Ori	254-7202	
Gourmet Bistro Cafe	484 Center St, Mor	376-1551	
Kasper's Hot Dogs	103 Moraga Way, Ori	253-0766	
Noah's Bagels	3518 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	299-0716	
Orinda Deli	19 F Orinda Way, Ori	254-1990	
<b>Singaporean/Malaysian</b>			
Kopitiam	3647 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	299-1653	
<b>South American</b>			
The Patio Tapas and Restaurant	960 Moraga Road, Laf	299-6885	
<b>Steak</b>			
Casa Orinda	20 Bryant Way, Ori	254-2981	
<b>Tea</b>			
Patisserie Lafayette	71 Lafayette Cir, Laf	283-2226	
<b>Thai</b>			
Amarin Thai Cuisine	3555 Mt. Diablo Blvd # B, Laf	283-8883	
Baan Thai	99 Orinda Way, Ori	253-0989	
Royal Siam	512 Center St, Mor	377-0420	
Siam Orchid	23 Orinda Way # F, Ori	253-1975	

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