

Rathskeller Shows Long History Of Celebrities, Expansion, Success

Article By Joe Coltrane
Photos By Steve Adams

A mug of beer for five cents? And at the Rathskeller? You could have gotten that deal in 1948 when the "Rat" first opened for business, according to Philip Miller, the present manager.

You can't get beer for a nickel there anymore, but the Rathskeller still offers "the atmosphere in which a student can break away from his studies and live in a world away from reality for a while," said Miller.

"We've had a number of famous personalities eat at the Rathskeller," Miller added. "When Buddy Hackett ate here several years ago, one of the waiters asked him for his autograph. Instead of an autograph, he sat and wrote a poem for the waiter."

Big Personalities

Other personalities to visit the restaurant include Faye Emerson, Tyrone Power, the piano-playing duo Ferrante and Teicher, Al Capp and Burl Ives. "Hugh Hefner came in one night with a girl friend," said Miller.

When Theodore Danziger opened the Rathskeller in 1948, it consisted of just the "front" room, a cozy, low-ceilinged replica of a German old-world restaurant. The dark-pine walls, tables and benches inscribed with various famous quotes set the relaxed atmosphere for the restaurant.

"The other rooms have been added through the years," said Miller. "In the Train Room, or Metro, we tried to set a French atmosphere along with the feeling that you are in a train coach."

"The Cave, which extends right to the edge of Franklin Street, took about six months to dig out and make into a room," Miller said. "The Chicken Coop takes its name from the chickens on the wallpaper, one of the few wallpapers drawn by the New Yorker artist, Steinberg."

In the old days, the Rathskeller had a piano in the front room, and often had combos, accordion players, and frequent impromptu songfests, according to Miller.

"However, since that time," he said, "we've found that most customers want a quiet, secluded sort of atmosphere. We have a jukebox, but it isn't played a great deal."



The main dining area of the Rathskeller reflects the old world atmosphere of a German restaurant as started by Danziger.

"Our philosophy," said Miller, "is to give good service, serve good quality food, and keep a relaxed atmosphere. We have a very low rate of turnover of key personnel, cooks and overseers, and that probably helps us maintain both good service and high quality food."

The Rathskeller offers variations from the normal restaurant routine. For birthday parties, the waiters bring out the cake and give a rousing Rathskeller rendition of "Happy Birthday". "The customers like it, and our waiters enjoy it too," said Miller.

On St. Patrick's Day last year, students with real Irish names were given a free mug of beer. The Pizza Wheel, offering students a chance to win a pizza if they choose the right number, is placed on the sidewalk outside sometimes. "Little variations in routine like those help us, and it is fun for the students," said Miller.

"Dr. Bell, a popular Botany professor, once gave his final exam in the Rathskeller," Miller said. "Part of it had to do with the tasting of various foods, so he just gave the whole thing down here."

Senator Kefauver

People often stand in line to eat at the Rathskeller. "Several years ago," said Miller, "we got a call one Saturday night from a person, identifying himself as Senator Kefauver, asking for reservations for that night."

"Thinking it was just a student trying to get a priority reservation, and in keeping with our policy of no reservations on Friday or Saturday nights, our barkeeper told him that President Kennedy had reserved the whole place for that night, and turned this request down. When we looked outside later and saw Senator Kefauver standing in line with the rest of the people, we were somewhat embarrassed."

In 1948, the Rathskeller was mainly a drinking place, and the food served was less important. That has changed now, and perhaps the rhyme inscribed on the thick outer door best explains why:

"He who drinks, and drinks with grace is ever welcome in this place. But he who drinks beyond his share, is never welcome anywhere."



A view from the restaurant into the cooking area shows a modern kitchen where "good quality food" is the watchword.



The French room simulates a sidewalk cafe or restaurant, one of four different types of "atmospheres" in the Rathskeller.



The "Cave" or "Tavern Cavern" is reserved for couples only and has a totally different atmosphere from the other rooms.



Free Enterprise Systems Praised

Arguing the point that big government must be big in a free enterprise system, a Methodist College economist said here this weekend "Government is both versatile and energetic, playing many roles, some of them dual in nature."

Mrs. Evelyn Simmons addressed some 200 women attending the 12th annual "Spotlight on Women" conference, the theme of which was "You, Government and Changing Society."

The conference was held on the University of North Carolina campus.

The free enterprise system, with its system of rewards and penalties, is still the most efficient economic system yet devised, Mrs. Simmons said, but only with the aid of a strong government.

Government is presently playing five major roles, she said. Those of constable, umpire, chairman of the board, Robin Hood and the balance wheel.

And in each case government is playing the roles either because (1) the service is impossible for a free market to provide, (2) it can be produced more efficiently by government, or (3) private industry finds it unprofitable.

As constable, government becomes rulemaker and arbitrator to protect individuals, define and guarantee property rights and provide a legal and judicial system, Mrs. Simmons said.

As umpire, government must become the regulator, she said. It must stamp out monopolistic tendencies in big business, set rates and standardize quality when consumers have no alternate source of supply such as in public utilities, transportation and communication.

Government as chairman of the board becomes a resource allocator. National defense, to cost \$78 billion in the next fiscal year, is an example of this reallocation of a consumer good that cannot be provided by private industry, she said.

Mrs. Simmons said that government, as a redistributor of income, plays the role of Robin Hood. She cited the progressive income tax, based on ability to pay principles, provides the most powerful means of accomplishing redistribution objectives.

"We accomplish equalizing transfers in three ways," she said.

Dollar transfers with no strings attached go to individuals through such programs as old age assistance,

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New Type Of UFO

LONDON (UPI) — Flying Saucers? No, my dear boy, flying panties. Six pairs of panties — mini-panties to go with mini-skirts — flew out of John Stevenson's light plane recently as he was flying over southern Eng-

land with a consignment of women's clothing for a customer in Chatham. Just to be sure that no one got the idea some pantie-less Martians might be on their way, Stevenson promptly notified police of his loss.

Boy Paints

The Town Red

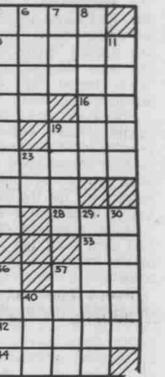
RACKNELL, England (UPI) — It was about as much explanation as one could expect from a boy of 14, the juvenile court judge acknowledged.

He had asked the boy why he stole an aerosol can of red paint and sprayed it on six cars, a road sign, a garage door, a fire hydrant, a number of lamp posts and a white fence.

"I was fed up at the time I did it," said the youngster. He was conditionally discharged when he agreed, with his parents, to pay the damages.

DAILY CROSSWORD

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| ACROSS | 2. Covers | 21. Celebrity |
| 1. Dressed | 3. Cuckoo | 22. Pro claims |
| 5. Fall | 4. Skiffal | 23. Plural ending |
| 9. Pine Tree State | 5. Introductory events | 25. Fish |
| 10. Chest sounds | 6. Song bird | 26. Percolates |
| 12. Apathetic | 7. Cheer | 27. Office boy's trip |
| 14. Underworld god | 8. Writing instrument | 29. Chooses a sword |
| 15. Chatter | 9. King with the golden touch | 30. Combat vehicles |
| 16. Cobalt | 11. Rocky | 35. Hospital employee |
| 17. Indefinite article | 13. Transom windows | 36. Pierce with |
| 18. Greek letter | 19. Lincoln Center specialties | 37. Search for |
| 19. French river | | 39. Greek island |
| 20. French pronoun | | 40. Regret |
| 22. Between middle and old age | | |
| 24. Smallest | | |
| 26. Old sailors | | |
| 28. Place | | |
| 31. Blunder | | |
| 32. — huh | | |
| 33. Music note | | |
| 34. Hesitation sound | | |
| 35. Insects | | |
| 37. Female fowl | | |
| 38. Overcome by fear | | |
| 41. Silly sarcastic | | |
| 42. Relatives | | |
| 43. Performs | | |
| 44. Waggers | | |
| DOWN | | |
| 1. Dog | | |



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