

Men's Club Recent Events

BY HOWARD ARKIN



North Shore Towers Goes to Dinner

Having lived at North Shore Towers for the past two years, I have discovered that the main topic of conversation is food, specifically restaurant food. If Zagat were to resume publication of their restaurant guide, I'm sure that the residents of North Shore Towers would be more than happy to put their two cents in. With Northern Boulevard to the north and Union Turnpike and Hillside Avenue to the south, we have access to many of the finest restaurants as well as some of the most reasonably priced restaurants in Queens and Long Island.

The North Shore Towers Men's Club entertainment committee, led by Jerry Siegel, has chosen many great eating establishments for our club lunches and dinners. I would say that my favorite restaurant has

been Mizumi which is an Asian buffet in Little Neck. If you intend to go there I recommend you eat very little before you go so you have room to take full advantage. The prices are reasonable but the trip may cost you 3,000 to 4,000 calories! Another neighborhood favorite that cannot escape recognition is the Jolly Fisherman in the village of Roslyn. With a \$30 lunch special, the men's club has found its way there quite often. On many occasions the North Shore Towers presence is great enough to feel as though you are in the VIP Room.

I have found that club members often have differing opinions. A few days ago I was enthusiastically telling Harold Hershman how much I liked going to Bruce's in Great Neck and he whole heartedly disagreed. C'est la vie. One of our



clubs star critics is Al Sprung. Al is perhaps the only man who has sent his spareribs back to the kitchen at Pearl East not once, but twice, during the same dinner. Al can be tough! Last week I took an informal poll among the members regarding their restaurant preferences, both expensive and inexpensive. Too numerous to mention all of them, but two that appeared most often on people's lists were Toscano in Williston Park and Chef Wang in New Hyde Park.

I have to admit that I do not

think I would make a very good restaurant critic, illustrated by the fact that I like almost every restaurant that I go to. I am surprised by the look of astonishment on the faces of some people when I tell them that I frequent Burger King (using coupons) and have even been known to venture into White Castle. The next time that I mention either of these two establishments to someone I'll be sure to have some Digitalis on hand.

Before moving to North Shore Towers I lived close by in Hollis Hills. Much of my eating out was in diners, specifically the Blue Bay Diner and the Bayside Diner. If you're in the market for diner food these two are both worth the short trip. The next two club dinners are scheduled to be at Opa and Jonathan's. I hope to see you there.

The 2020 Super Bowl

On Sunday, February 2, 40 men, all members of the North Shore Towers Men's Club, started to gather in the Coleridge room in Building 3. The purpose of this gathering was to watch football and enjoy a meal with one another. Yes folks, it was Super Bowl Sunday! For the second year in a row Ben's Delicatessen was the recipient of the Men's Club catering contract. It was the desire of the club's president, Steve Auerbach, to keep costs at a minimum. Volunteers were requested to pick up the sodas, juices, water and numerous other items. The lucky volunteers turned out to be Bob Mark and myself. Steve gave us explicit instructions regarding the prices he thought we should pay. We thriftily purchased soda at Shop Rite (five two-liter bottles for \$5.00!) and decided to disregard the other prices Steve had told us to pay.

During the game I had the opportunity to speak to some club members about sports and asked them if they might have some recollections about their own athletic glories. Not too many

did, yet Jerry Mantell's stint in the Brooklyn Dodgers farm system and Rocco Lamanna's table tennis prowess were notable. Al Sprung did recall getting a winning hit in a Sunset Park playground softball game. Can we believe him? All that Ron Levin could remember was dodging cars in stickball games on Schenectady Avenue in Crown Heights in Brooklyn. A few of the men recalled a game called "Johnny on the pony." I'll let you google that one!

Approaching halftime, the men seemed to be losing steam and getting a bit tired. I figured that the halftime show starring Jennifer Lopez and Shakira might keep them going, but by the third quarter about half of them were back in their apartments. Too many comed beef and pastrami sandwiches can certainly take its toll! The game, however, turned out to be one of the more exciting ones in the Super Bowl's 54 year history. The Kansas City Chiefs managed to score 21 points in the fourth quarter setting an all-time 4th quarter scoring high and went on to defeat the San



Super Bowl LIV at NST

Francisco 49ers with a final score of 31-20.

The next Super Bowl will be played on February 7, 2021, in Tampa, Florida. The two big

questions that we won't know the answers to until then are, "What teams will be competing?" and "Can Iavaronne's wrest the catering contract from Ben's Deli?"

MEN'S CLUB SCHEDULE OF EVENTS- MARCH 2020

Breakfast at Buffy's every Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday at 9am

Thursday, March 5, 9pm, Buffy's Events planning committee meeting

Monday, March 9, 10:30am, Coleridge Lounge: Current events

Thursday, March 12, 7:30pm, Large Card Room: Keith Crocker talks about Lucille Ball and "I Love

Lucy" Guests welcome for \$5.00 payable at the door

Monday March 23, 10:30am, Coleridge Lounge: Current events Sunday, March 29, 7:30pm, Large Card Room: Bingo

Restaurants under consideration for March are Matteo's, Jolly Fisherman, Sangria 71 and Baci We will notify members when choices are made.