

# Getting Around

By ETHEL SIMMONS



## Peking duck a 3-course delight

Back in 1973 when President Nixon went to Peking, restaurateur Harold Hom introduced Mandarin and Szechuen dishes to the old King Lim's Garden in Oak Park.

According to Hom, he was the first restaurateur in the Detroit area to put the Mandarin and Szechuen (which is hot and spicy) dishes from northern China on the menu. He said most other Chinese restaurants in metropolitan Detroit have been offering the "chop suey" kind of cooking.

Hom said Cantonese dishes are basically bland, from the south side of China. Mandarin and Szechuen are both northern. Because of his wide

menu selection, "I'm the only place that serves international people (Oriental and Indian)," he said.

Now Hom has expanded his operations to include the New King Lim's in Auburn Heights, on the premises that housed Fred Goetzky's attractive Brass Brother, which closed.

HOM HASN'T TOUCHED the French impressionist wall and ceiling mural in the cocktail lounge.

"I fell in love with that picture a year ago," he said.

He also hasn't changed the dining room interior, resulting in one of the few Chinese restaurants around without an Oriental decor. However, he

plans to return to tradition with the design of a banquet room he is creating upstairs.

Among the Mandarin selections on the menu at New King Lim's is Peking duck, a three-course dinner experience. Service is for three and should be ordered a day in advance, but it's worth your planning ahead.

I dined on this delicious specialty while Hom joined me to explain how the dishes are prepared, served and eaten. The waiter, who asked if we wanted chopsticks, got a "no," from Hom. Hom is Chinese born but raised in America—he requested a fork.

When I asked for chopsticks, Hom agreed to join me. Needless to say, he handled them most adeptly.

PEKING DUCK MAKES good use of all the duck, with the first course an appetizer consisting of crisp squares of skin that have meat on them. These are served on one plate, and the accompaniment is scallion brushes in hoisin sauce.

You dip the skins in the sauce on your plate. Because they are hot and crisp, the skins are easy to appreciate.

The main course combines shredded duck with Chinese cabbage, bamboo shoots, Chinese mushrooms, peapod, cellophane noodles and stripped carrots. This is tasty and prepared without a cornstarch base, which Cantonese cooking uses.

The third and last course is soup, served from a bowl where the duck bone is displayed. In the broth are baby corn, straw mushrooms, green onions, Chinese cabbage, Chinese mushrooms and peapods. Hom said the soup clears the system of any greasy taste from the duck. It was refreshing.

New King Lim's, on Auburn Road between Opdyke and Adams, is open 11 a.m. to midnight, Monday-Thursday; 11 a.m. to 1 a.m. Friday; noon to 1 a.m. Saturday, and noon to 10 p.m. Sunday.

Hom said that because many people are unfamiliar with Mandarin and Szechuen foods, he tells them he will pick up the tab if they don't like the dishes. He hasn't had to pick up a tab yet.

The menu also includes Cantonese, as well as American, dishes. Carry-outs are available, too.

## Actor returns in 'Hope'

James H. Hawthorne, the University of Michigan Professional Theatre Program's (PTP) guest artist-in-residence, returns to Ann Arbor for the challenging role of Jack Jefferson in Howard Sackler's "The Great White Hope."

This powerful epic drama, the third guest artist show of the PTP season, will be performed at the Power Center for the Performing Arts, March 1-4 at 8 p.m. and March 5 at 2 p.m. only.

Hawthorne last appeared in Ann Arbor in the title role of Dr. Richard Burgwin's Power Center production of "King Lear" in 1973 and he will be directed again by Burgwin in "The Great White Hope."

Upon receiving his M.A. degree in theater from Michigan in 1973, Hawthorne proceeded to the west coast and has been active in theater and film since that time.

His film credits include "A Hero Ain't Nothin' But a Sandwich," "It's Your Decision" and "Tramping."

His many stage appearances include "The Statute" for the Los Angeles Actor's Theatre, Blue Heaven in "Slow Dance on the Killing Ground" and Mercutio in "Romeo and Juliet."

"The Great White Hope" is modeled loosely on the tumultuous career of American heavyweight boxer Jack Johnson, who in 1906 became the first black heavyweight champion of the world. The show transcends history to reveal, with excitement and eloquence, the wages of black success and individualism.

The play, completed in 1968, is considered the fifth play in theater history to receive all three of the highest American theater honors: The Pulitzer Prize, the New York Drama Critics' Circle Award and the Tony Award.

Tickets are on sale at the PTP Ticket Office in the Michigan League, Monday through Friday: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2-5 p.m. Tickets also are available through all Hudson's Ticket Outlets.

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