

# Wild game highlights dinner; Chinese feast has 9 courses

By Ethel Simmons  
staff writer

Chef Milos Cihelka and partner Reid Ashton of the Golden Mushroom in Southfield brought more acclim to the restaurant known for its gourmet meals, with the presentation of two wild game dinners recently.

Held the last two Mondays in February, the feasts featured wild game delicately prepared by the master chef and served along with fine wines for each course. Every appetizing dish was enhanced by eye-appealing touches that made them works of culinary art.

Before the meal on the first Monday, guests slipped Taltlinger, Brut N.V., champagne or Scharzhofberger, Kabinett 1982, white wine. Appetizers served from a buffet table included mallard pate, smoked salmon, wild mushroom torte and fole grausate with port wine. The menu for the meal Feb. 17 began with a rich game consommé, followed by warm salad with bits of lobster. The main course paired slices of roast venison loin in creme fraiche sauce, with spätzles, and slices of roast pheasant, with asparagus.

LARGE PORTIONS of two zesty cheeses, sage blue and bucheron, were the next course. Then, raspberry sorbet and fresh fruit followed. A chocolate Autumn Leaves Torte was the dessert course, followed by Demitasse, Mignardise.

Other special wines included Chardonnay, Louis Latour 1982, with the salad; Chateau Lafite Rothschild 1982,

## table talk

with the entree; Zinfandel Grigich Hills 1981, with the cheese; Franboise-Grand Reserve, to drink or pour over the fruit served with sorbet; and Chateau Filhot 1981, which arrived with the torte.

Final selection was a choice between Jannau-Grand Fine Armagnac or Remy Martin V.S.O.P. Cognac for a brandy finish.

The following Monday, an entirely different menu was presented, highlighted by the main courses of antelope leg and duck breast. Each dinner was limited to 40 guests and was a sell-out at \$85 per person.

ANOTHER FESTIVE meal highlighting February was a nine-course dinner, marking the Chinese New Year, served eight evenings, Feb. 8-15, at the Oceania Inn at Meadowbrook Village Mall in Avon Township.

Nine courses are offered because the number 9 in Chinese means good luck. Owner Paul Leung said the celebration has been an annual one at the restaurant, which has been open 11 years.

The Chinese New Year's Dinner, moderately priced at \$8.95 for adults, \$3.95 for children, included soup (Gaiheum Beancaole), appetizer (Wor Tip, pan fried dumplings), and a main course with seven different dishes.

There also was coconut pudding for dessert.

Most interesting dish in the main course was the Nest Platter, containing meat and vegetables in a nest made with noodles. The nest itself is edible. Another ingredient in the platter is shrimp toast, which the manager, Don Gin, described as "the Chinese version of a potato chip."

Also especially delicious was the Lemon Chicken. Pieces were thin, very lemony tasting (the sauce is lemon-pineapple) and delicate. Other main dishes included Peking Ribs, Seafood Beancake Szechuen style, described as hot, although it did not taste extremely so; Tender of Beef Chinese style; Mo Shu Pork with Mandarin pancake, and Young Chow Fried Rice.

A Chinese beer, Tsing Tau at \$1.75 a bottle, was available, as well as cocktails and other beverages.

Two performances of the traditional Lion Dance were given nightly, to the accompaniment of firecrackers. The fearsome creature ventured its way from the mall outside the restaurant into the dining room.

This is the Year of the Tiger — one of 12 signs in the Chinese zodiac — and anyone born in 1986, 1974, 1962, 1950, 1938, 1926, 1914 and 1902 supposedly has tiger traits: aggressive, brave, surfeited, vain and stubborn but affectionate and protective.



GARY CASKEY/staff photographer

## Pairing food and wine

Tim Mayer of Birmingham, wine consultant for the Kingsley Inn, pours a sample for Layla Zawideh, marketing manager (left), and Ramsey Zawideh, general manager, during a private tasting at the restaurant in Bloomfield Hills. Mayer will conduct a wine appreciation work-

shop, open to the public, with classes beginning Sunday, March 16, or Monday, March 17. The fourth session features wines and foods — all entrees prepared by the Kingsley chef, Dennis Lindinger. Course fee is \$275. For more information, call the Kingsley at 644-1400.

## Chamber Players looking for name

The next concert in Renaissance City Chamber Players' "Romantic Gems" series will feature the first Michigan performance of "Signs of Life" by contemporary American composer Russell Peck.

Also included will be the well-known Serenade for Strings by Dvorak and the seldomly performed Rondo in A for violin and orchestra by Schubert. Viva-

di's Concerto for Four Violins in B

The performances will be at 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 11, at Oakland University's Varner Hall, 8 p.m. Friday, March 14, at the First Baptist Church in Ann Arbor and 8 p.m. Saturday, March 15, at Orchestra Hall. Tickets may be purchased by calling 62-MUSIC anytime. Major credit cards accepted. The, Renaissance City Chamber

Players are still looking for a new member, and the deadline for the search has been extended to March 25. The winning entry will receive a full season pass for two to any and all concerts during the 1986-87 season produced by Renaissance Concerts Inc. Plus, the winner will receive a \$100 gift certificate good at the Golden Mushroom Restaurant. The number of entries is unlimited.

Send suggestions to: No, We Are Not Playing Renaissance Music Contest, Renaissance Concerts Inc., P.O. Box 8010, West Bloomfield, Michigan 48304.

## Auditions announced

The school of the Chicago City Ballet will hold auditions for its summer session, July 7 to Aug. 5, 1-4 p.m. Sunday, March 9, at Varner Hall, Oakland University, Rochester.

Dancers auditioning should be 11-18 years old and have had one to two years of dance instruction.

For information on the school or the auditions, call 312-988-4233.

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