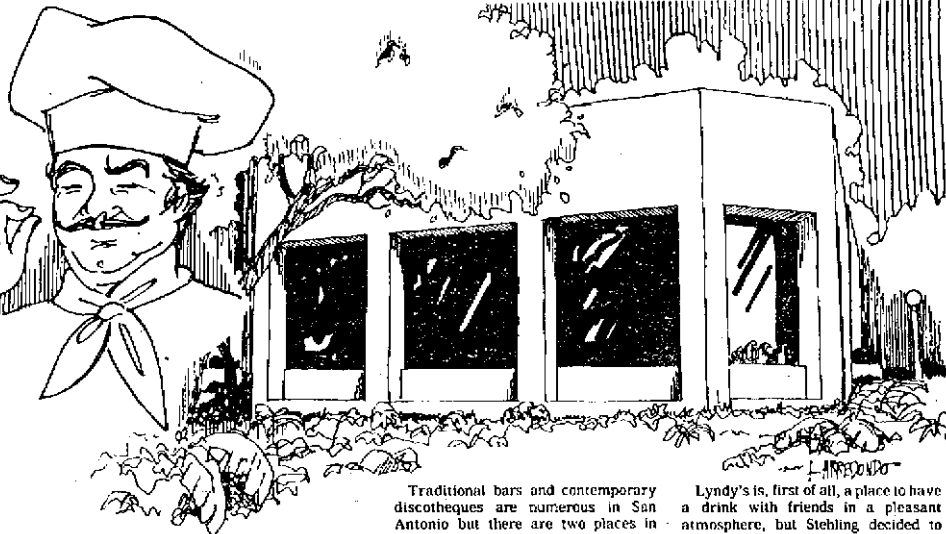
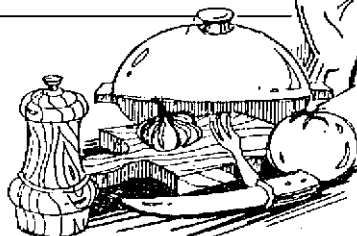


# Dining Out



## Chinese

**Hung Fong's** San Antonio's oldest Cantonese restaurant, the food is still some of the best in town. Prices are moderate, servings generous. Daily luncheon special usually less than \$2. Large menu. Notice the inter-linking American and old Chinese flags on the ceiling. 3624 Broadway, 622-9211. Sun-Sat 11-Midnight.

## French

**Abernathy's** Gourmet dishes, imported beers and vintage wines served in plush atmosphere. Two luncheon prices, \$3.45 and \$3.95. Dinner entrees range from \$5.25 to \$9.95. Bar Tues-Thurs 11-10, Fri-Sat 11-11. Mon lunch only. 6106 Broadway, 874-4541. Lunch Mon-Sat 11:2-3:30. Dinner Tues-Thurs 6-10, Fri-Sat 6-11.

## General

**Millard Fillmore Grammar School and Grille** The atmosphere is authentic 1930s schoolroom and the food is cooked like it was back in those days. No frozen foods, no frozen foods, old-fashioned French fries, chicken fried in a skillet. One of two authentic soda fountains in the area. Excellent food in an atmosphere found nowhere else in the world. Reasonable prices. Bar, 6180 Wurzbach at Evers Road, 684-8451. Mon-Sat 11-2:30. Mon-Thurs 5-10, Fri-Sat 5-11, Sun 11-10.

## International

**Argentine Steak House** specializing in beef cooked with special Argentine recipes. Also chicken, seafood, South American dishes, empanadas. Argentine artifacts. Patio. Reservations not necessary. 131 McCarty, Mon-Sat 5:30-10:30. 349-1293.

**El Mesen Latino** Some of the most unusual dishes in the city are found here. The specialties originate in Spain and Argentina, but "south of the border" Mexican food, seafood and seafood are also offered. Servings are usually extra large. Guitar player and singer on weekends. 2652 Broadway, 822-3009. Tues-Fri 11-2 and 6-10, Sat-Sun 11-10.

**The Loft** One of the most elegant restaurants in the area with a nice collection that cannot be matched in South Texas. Beef dishes, fresh seafood and Continental house specialties. The decor, service and food equivalent to the finest in the country. Set in charming country atmosphere. 1110 at Cascade Caverns Road, 698-2616. Wed-Sat 6-2, Sun 2-2. Dancing nightly. Reservations recommended.

## Seafood

**The Bayous** Shrimp, oysters, lobster, gumbo, crayfish, croûte and regular fish can be found here, where Louisiana-style cooking dominates. A couple of steaks are also offered. Appetizers such as oysters on the half and shrimp are served in the bar. Prices of appetizers and drinks are reduced during Happy Hour daily 4-6:30. No reservations, waiting times only on Fri-Sat. Prices range from \$3.95-12.95. 2612 Wagonwheel, north of Loop 410. 828-5736. Mon-Sat 11-11.

**Christies** This place has been around since the 1940s and in addition to all kinds of seafood dishes, you can also get steaks, ham, chicken and hamburgers. Bar. 3130 Broadway, 826-3261. Sun-Sat 11-10:15.

**Kangaroo Court** This River Walk restaurant re-sembles an English Pub. Salads are about all that are served in addition to seafood. Bar. 512 River Walk, 224-4821. Sun-Sat 11:30-11:30.

## Steak and Seafood

**Ichabod's** Steaks and fresh seafoods are specialties here, with steak and oyster dinner the hit of the house. King crab legs and fried oysters are an extra special. Try the well-stocked tray of fresh garden crunchies. The atmosphere is enhanced by ceiling fans. Guitar player and singer Full Moon-Barform, Wed-Sat 9-11, Fri-Sat 9-11. Wurzbach and Fredericksburg Roads, 690-1212. Cocktails daily at 4:30. Dinner Mon-Thurs 5:30-10:30, Fri-Sat 5:30-11.



Story by Elizabeth McIlhaney

Graphics by Luciano C. Arradondo

Photo by Harvey Belgin

Traditional bars and contemporary discotheques are numerous in San Antonio but there are two places in town that have all the plushness of a discotheque (without the loud music) and all the offerings of a bar, without the seediness and rowdiness often found in such places. Bombay Bicycle Club is one of these places; the other is Lyndy's Great Indoors.

Several years ago, while visiting in Northern California, Felix Stehling, a long-time bar and restaurant operator in San Antonio, discovered a new type of bar that was fast becoming the most popular type of place to go in the area.

These bars were called "fern bars" and could always be identified by their generous use of plants, big windows and living-room-like tables and sofas, quite a change from the usual darkened bar with hard stools and chairs, plain tables and smoky atmosphere.

Stehling decided to try one of these bars in San Antonio. His first attempt—which has proved to be very successful—was the Bombay Bicycle Club. Then about a year ago, Stehling opened Lyndy's at 5562 Fredericksburg Road.

He used lots of plants, plush furniture and big windows but he added a few innovations to the basic "fern bar" decor: stained glass windows, Tiffany lamps, antiques (such as old sewing machine tables), a train that runs in a circle above the bar and mounted animal heads on the walls.

Lyndy's is, first of all, a place to have a drink with friends in a pleasant atmosphere, but Stehling decided to also offer a few food items and as a result, Lyndy's is now a popular place for lunch, and late in the evening, for munchies with drinks.

There are the usual beers, wines and mixed drinks but also on the list are Margaritas, frozen and otherwise, fruit dacquiris and oh-so-delicious ice cream drinks: Banana Banshee, Brandy Alexander, Golden Cadillac, Grasshopper, Velvet Hammer and Amaretto Supreme. These are served in big frosty glasses with a straw and they make any socializing just a little bit rosier.

Hamburgers are the mainstay at lunch—big, juicy ones, plain or with cheese or chili or both; single or double. Soup, salad, apple pie and ice cream may also be ordered.

In the evening, in addition to all the hamburgers offered at lunch, there are nachos, a sirloin steak, omelettes, a big salad, nachos, chili, and strawberries or peaches with ice cream. Prices average about \$1.25 for hamburgers and everything is less than \$2, even the steak.

Happy Hour is 4-7 p.m. every day, when giant Margaritas are \$1 and lots of free nibbles are available.

If conversation is slow, the back of the menu has some interesting items listed that should get the comments rolling. But go see for yourself!

