

Home-style cooking returns to the PAC

By Sam Bari

The dining room at the Portuguese American Citizen's Club at 138 Narragansett Ave. has returned to home-style, family-oriented cooking, says Holy Ghost Society President Joe Medeiros.

"We tried hiring outside management to run the dining room as a gourmet restaurant and it didn't work out," Medeiros said. "Our customers and members enjoyed home-style cooking for years and that's what they want, so that's what we're giving them, and they like it," he added.

"Right now we're open for lunch and dinner five days a week from Wednesday to Sunday, with a limited soup and sandwich menu on Monday and Tuesday. We'll be opening the dining room for lunch and dinner seven days a week starting in May until the end of the year. And the bar is always open," he said.

Medeiros went on to say that the PAC has been successful serving generous portions of good hearty fare at reasonable prices, and since the club returned to that policy, it has been operating in the black. He emphasized that the team running the PAC and the adjoining Holy Ghost Hall are responsible for its success.

"Once a month we all get together and have a meeting to talk about every area of the operation," Medeiros said. "Everybody is encouraged to speak up, offer suggestions and give input. I have to give the employees credit for working so well as a team to make things happen." He said that the present



Bartender Terrie Storey, Holy Ghost Society President Joe Medeiros, and vice president and assistant treasurer Joan Dupee behind the bar at the PAC.

Photo by Sam Bari

team has been together for two years, although some employees have worked at the club for over a decade, and one has worked for

the PAC for over twenty years.

Medeiros also gave credit to vice president and assistant treasurer Joan Dupee, treasurer Elsie

Medeiros, and secretary Linda Hill for their efficient managerial skills and for keeping projects on budget. "I watch the pennies and the dollars take care of themselves," Dupee said.

In addition to the home-style cooking and children's menu, we'll soon be adding more Portuguese dishes like chourico and chips, chourico peppers and onions, Portuguese marinated steak, and of course, Portuguese soup, Medeiros and Dupee said with enthusiasm.

Dupee also said that they have been able to upgrade the dining room and kitchen now that the club is making money. All the funds that the PAC generates go back into the club to pay expenses and make upgrades. The Holy Ghost Hall however, operates as a non-profit entity that uses the money collected from rent and catering

to contribute money to the scholarship fund and other worthwhile pursuits. The Holy Ghost Hall is available to the public for weddings, birthdays, business meetings and other social events.

The PAC also likes to be involved in the community, Medeiros said, noting that the Jamestown Community Band uses the Holy Ghost Hall to rehearse every Tuesday night.

Holy Ghost Society offers scholarships

The Holy Ghost Society will award two scholarships to graduating high school students who live in Jamestown. Students must be of Portuguese heritage. Applications, which are available at the Jamestown library, must be completed and returned unfolded in a large envelope postmarked by May 15.



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