



Photo by Matt Love

The Pitchwood Inn is in Raymond, Washington.

A GLIMPSE INSIDE

An occasional feature by MATT LOVE

Pitchwood Inn

The entrance to the Pitchwood Inn in Raymond, Washington, seemed rather drab, uninviting. More utility shed than saloon. It didn't exactly scream: great dive bar stocked with "Cannery Row" characters!

Nevertheless, I had time to kill before a gig at the library, so I walked inside. I learned long ago not to judge a dive bar by its cover.

Thirty minutes later, I left the Pitchwood with a serious case of literary vertigo; I could not believe what I had just seen because in my long years of chronicling the cultural life of Pacific Northwest coastal taverns and bars, these images were firsts, and many quite inexplicable to me:

- A 16-point buck on the wall;
 - A blue neon sign advertising oysters;
 - Ice in the gleaming metal urinal in the men's bathroom;
 - The ability to check into one of the Pitchwood's motel rooms — right at the bar — while sipping a double Malibu Rum;
 - Onion rings so thick they resembled the bracelets worn by Pharaoh Ramses (Yul Brynner) in "The Ten Commandments";
 - People actually eating a whole plate of these onion rings;
 - At least 30 former Korean and Vietnam-era Marines and their wives drinking beers, bloody marys, gin and tonics and even one Jack Daniels and lemonade;
 - A poster advertising a performance — in the Pitchwood — by the semi-legendary punk-country-rock band The Supersuckers.
- I nearly threw out my neck doing a double take when I saw the poster. Over 20 years ago, I saw The Supersuckers open a show for Social Distortion in Seattle. I nearly went deaf from the experience. How in the world this band could be headlining a show in Raymond, Washington, in winter was beyond my comprehension. These dudes must be in their 60s by now! Who says rock is dead? No one in the Pitchwood.

Matt Love is the author/editor of 14 books, available through nestuccaspitpress.com

COLUMBIA BAR

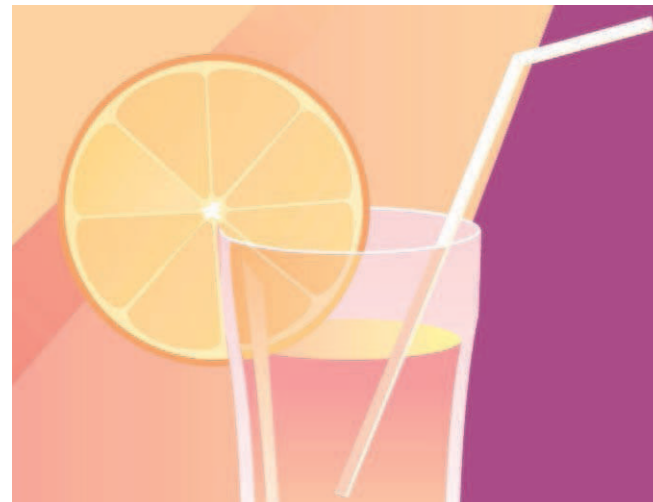
Irish Iced Tea

By RYAN HUME

The middle of March offers much more than just the Ides. While St. Patrick's Day is a recognized national religious holiday in Ireland, commemorating the death of the island's most famous patron saint in what's roughly clocked at 461 AD, the celebration in the U.S. tends to center on the culture and contribution of the large Irish diaspora swept to our shores and deeply immersed in our melting pot.

With this in mind and a Pogues song trapped firmly between my ears, I decided to check out The Irish Pub at McKeown's, an over-21, down-the-road satellite of the established restaurant on the corner of Holladay Drive and Broadway in downtown Seaside. Like all the best pubs, The Irish is essentially a neighborhood joint kept awake by the personalities of its bartenders and patrons.

Since leprechaun hats and green beer are the rue of street cleaners everywhere, I



would implore you to hang up that emerald Mardi Gras necklace and try this non-traditional concoction instead.

Not your usual green tea, this cocktail is essentially a slightly carbonated, Irish whiskey-based margarita. Amazingly, the prominent flavor of the Jameson hides behind the melon liqueur, a la Long Island-style. It's a nice reminder, too, that no matter what day we are celebrating, no culture is stagnant, and we're all in this together. Sláinte!

Ingredients

- 1.5 to 2 ounces of Jameson Irish Whiskey
- 1 ounce melon liqueur, such

- as Midori
- 1/4 ounce triple sec
- 1/4 ounce simple syrup
- Sprite
- Ice
- Orange and lime wheels for garnish
- Wee Irish cocktail flags for flair (optional)

Directions

Add whiskey, melon liqueur, triple sec and simple syrup into a cocktail shaker. Shake with ice until cold.

Spill, ice and all, into a high-ball glass. Top off with Sprite, garnish with citrus wheels and tiny flag if using.

—Recipe courtesy of Darian Neilson, The Irish Pub at McKeown's, Seaside



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