

# Travels with Bubba & Bonnie

# Pete Best Rocks!

By Helen Marketti



We get recommendations from time to time about special restaurants in the area, sometimes they are good, others not so good. The lady that suggested Ski's Polish-American Restaurant will be topping my gratitude list for many weeks to come. Ski proudly proclaims you don't have to be Polish to eat Polish. This is "Comfort Food" at it's finest.

Ski's is located at 5834 Monroe St. in Sylvania. It's in a strip mall between Monroe and Alexis near Major Magic's Pizza and the Pharm. Call 'em with reservations or questions at 419-882-1199. They are open Monday through Saturday 11am till 8pm and closed on Sunday. The lunch menu is served until 3pm. (Note: The Czarina (Duck Soup) is only available on Friday and Saturday.)

We walked into the bright red and white dining room and were greeted by a smiling young person. It was a Saturday about 5pm and we were seated quickly. The walls are decorated with pictures of many famous folks with Polish ancestry such as Pope John Paul II, Loretta Switt, Bobby Vinton, and many more. The tables were close enough that we could easily observe what other folks were eating. One delightful looking appetizer was a cranberry sauce with cream cheese and walnuts. They were

out of Sauerkraut balls but that gave us one more reason to return for more good Polish Food as one gentleman had me thinking with this order of Dill Pickle Soup, potato pancakes, Kielbassa and sweet and sour cabbage. The Queen Goddess chose the Ski's Polish Platter. Ski claims it contains all the dishes that made Busia's house special. Kielbassa, Pierogi, Galabki, Chicken, mashed potatoes, and sweet and sour cabbage a delightful salad of greens and rai-

sins and mizeria (creamed cucumbers). I chose the Kluski z kapusta i klopsiki. It's an old Polish dish made with cabbage, noodles and sour cream with caraway seeds topped with little meatballs in savory gravy. I too had the salad and house dressing and chose the red beets for my side dish. Hold your fork the best is yet to come...

Dessert has always been the best part of a meal in any Polish home I've visited. Ski's Busia has taught them well. The homemade chocolate mousse pie was light and airy, yet decadent with chocolate flavor. Thank God we shared this huge piece of Divine pleasure.

We noted a number of folks picking up food to go. One young fella dressed in a maize and blue sweatshirt had ordered five dozen Pierogies and two banana cream pies. They do offer the sweet and sour cabbage, the salad dressing, pies, cakes, breads, and Chrusciki to go. Yes, you can get the Czarina to go by the quart.

Well folks we were a bit over budget, dinner, beverages, dessert, sales tax, and a generous gratuity were just under \$40.00. Our server, Angie, made this a special evening. We noted, unlike many food service employees, these young folks all seem to be happy, and full of hustle. If you go to Ski's Polish-American restaurant before we return tell 'em Bubba and Bonnie sent ya.

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1) Pete Best

memory. So when an opportunity presented itself to see one of them in person, you bet I was on the telephone quick, fast and in a hurry to order my tickets.

On Wednesday, October 3, 2007 I had the wonderful opportunity of seeing Pete Best and his band performing at a club called, The Winchester in Lakewood, Ohio. For any-

one out there who may not know who Pete Best is, please allow me to clue you in before reading on. Pete was the original drummer for The Beatles before Ringo Starr. Pete was with them during their formative, early beginning years when the group was testing

their limits (if there were any...), finding "their sound", establishing a large and growing fan base while playing gigs throughout Liverpool, England and Hamburg, Germany. Now back to my story...

Upon arriving at The Winchester we checked in with a friendly staff person at the door who skimmed over the seating chart and happily told me that our reserved table was the best seat in the house as we were "front and center" as the saying goes. How that happened must have been left to rock and roll fate and I appreciated our incredible luck.

I have been a Beatle fan since junior high. Even though I am a "second generation" fan I have nearly every Beatle event, song and anecdote committed to

The opening act was the Johnny Philco Band. They rocked the house and got the crowd going. They performed some of their own songs as well as some regular rockin' favorites.

Once Johnny Philco's band completed their set there was a brief few moments to spare and before you knew it Pete Best and his band took the stage. He and his band played songs that Pete was a part of during those early Beatle days and believe me its a stockpile of tunes that would surprise you!

The band was incredible and rocked The Winchester for nearly two hours. Flashbulbs were going off in every direction, screaming fans and dance floor crowds all enjoying the sounds of Pete Best and his band. Watching him was an fantastic experience.

Here, in person, was someone who played an important role in the story for the most influential rock band in the world. When the performance was over and they took the their final bows and applause I was disappointed that the evening had to end. Time went so fast that I could not believe that two hours had gone by.

It was announced at the end of the their performance that Pete would sign auto-

graphs. As the line of fans started to form, with many clutching their memorabilia for Pete to sign, I was disappointed with myself for not having brought something with me as well. I could have brought my DVD documentary on Pete but I left it at home. I did stand in line, however, and humbly held out my ticket stub for him to autograph. He did so with a warm smile and I managed to say that I really enjoyed the show. After words we walked to the car and headed back home secure in knowing that my rock and roll experiences had just gotten even better!



Left to right: Roag Best on drums (Pete's younger brother!), Paul Perry and Pete!

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