



DONALD'S BOAT HOUSE NEWSLETTER

Volume 2 Issue 2
July 2010

Editor's Note

Welcome everyone to a very late issue of Donald's Boat House Newsletter. It comes with great pleasure to welcome you to yet another issue. This much anticipated issue comes packed with lots of reviews and first hand experiences from our friends over at WDWTravels as well as plenty of information regarding the Walt Disney World and Disneyland theme parks.

It comes with great pleasure to welcome a brand new staff member to Donald's Boat House, Michael Goldblatt. Michael is the webmaster and writer for City by City Review, which can be viewed at <http://citybycityreview.webs.com>, and we are very excited to have him with us. We look forward to reading what you have to offer Michael.

As always we will wrap up this issue with the attraction closures and refurbishments for the upcoming months to help you plan for your upcoming vacation. The summer months are here, so make sure to plan ahead to keep from having to wait for extensive amounts of time in the sun.

Last, but most certainly not least, please let us know what you would like to see in future issues. We are constantly striving to make this newsletter what you the reader wants to see. You can contact us many different ways with all of your compliments, concerns, suggestions, ideas, ect, by emailing us at Editor@DonaldsBoatHouse.com, or leaving us a voicemail at (407) 374-DBHN, that's (407) 374-3264, by sending us a message on twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/DBHNNewsletter>, or on Facebook at <http://tinyurl.com/DBHNFacebook>.

Stephen Champion
Editor

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Disney's Art of Animation Resort



Recently, Disney announced a new value resort coming to Walt Disney World, Disney's Art of Animation. Utilizing the space across the lake from Disney's Pop Century Resort originally set to be "The Legendary Years", Disney's 26th resort will consist of nearly 2,000 new rooms, a large majority of which will be family suites. Disney's Art of Animation Resort will be designed around four different animated movies, The Lion King, The Little Mermaid, Cars, and Finding Nemo, and will feature themed rooms in each of the different

wings. The pinnacle icon of Disney's Art of Animation Resort will be a 35 foot tall statue of King Triton from Disney's The Little Mermaid.

Look for this new resort to be fully completed and operational by the end of 2012 as ground will be broken this summer. As more information becomes available throughout this process we will be sure to update you with pictures and articles.

Captain EO Returns

A year after the passing of the King of Pop, Michael Jackson, the Disney Parks attraction starring his likeness has returned to the theme parks. Earlier this year, Captain EO returned to the Disneyland Resort in Anaheim, CA to rave reviews, and has now made its way throughout the world.



Captain EO opened at the Disneyland Resort Paris on June 12th, at Tokyo Disney on June 30th, and most recently replacing the Honey I Shrank the Audience show in Epcot on July 2nd.

Captain EO is a 17 minute 3D film experience starring Michael Jackson. The film tells the story of Captain EO and his crew delivering a package to the Supreme Leader of a rotting world. This show includes 2 songs written and performed by Michael Jackson, and was originally in the parks throughout the 80's and 90's.



Disney Cruise Line Reports

7 Night Cruise

Before December 12, 2009, I had never even stepped foot on a cruise ship. But I can say now it was one of the best vacations I have ever been on!

My daughter and I took the December 12-19 Western Caribbean Disney cruise. We left on Saturday, December 12 and headed out for a full week of fun in the sun!

Let me say first – the ship (the Disney Magic) was decorated BEAUTIFULLY for the holidays. There was a huge, beautifully decorated Christmas tree in the lobby so as soon as we stepped foot on the ship we could feel the festivity. Once we boarded we were directed as to where we could go to get some lunch. On our way to Parrot Cay we passed a huge, wonderful gingerbread house. The whole area smelled like gingerbread! It was wonderful!



After we finished our lunch at Parrot Cay (where there was enough food to feed an army, and feed them well!) we headed to our stateroom. We were in an inside stateroom on deck 6. We unpacked our belongings and then headed out for the lifeboat drill. From then on, we were on our own, which for my daughter and I meant a week of sun, fun, rest, and food!

Each night of the cruise, you have a preselected dinner time, as well as a specified restaurant to eat in. They also seat you with the same people each night, and you have the same waiters at each restaurant. We grew to love Francois and Luke! Also, Disney worked some kind of magic when matching us up with dinner-mates because we also grew to love our dinner companions! My daughter made friends with one girl in particular who I think she will be friends with for life!



Day 2 of our cruise took us to Key West, Florida. What a wonderful place to stop! We absolutely loved walking the streets of Key West, taking in the sights and soaking up the sun. I would highly recommend the key lime pie at the Blonde Giraffe. Perfection!

Day 3 was a day at sea, and my daughter's 11th birthday. There was so much to do on the ship that even if you never got off at a port you could never be bored!

And we are SO thankful for our personal navigators.

These little papers were our own personal planners for the entire cruise! We'd sit down with highlighters each evening and use our personal navigators to help us plan the next day's activities.

Everyone we encountered made a big deal about my daughter's birthday. When it



Disney Cruise Line Reports

turned midnight the night before her birthday, she was in the kids club. Everyone there sang Happy Birthday to her. When she returned for activities the next day, they all sang to her again. And on the evening of her birthday, all the servers in the restaurant sang to her and brought her a cake. She felt quite special.

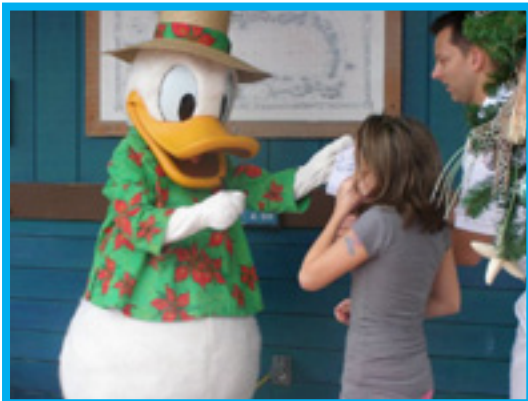
Day 4 was a stop at Grand Cayman. My daughter and I got off the ship and took a tour that took us through the town and out to “Hell” and to a rum cake factory. Our tour guide was friendly and knowledgeable and was able to share quite a bit of Grand Cayman history with us.



Day 5 was a stop at Cozumel. My daughter saw in our personal navigator that there was a Ron Jon surf shop in Cozumel so we had to go hunt that down. Let me tell you, it was easy to find but quite a hike from the port! I'd definitely recommend good walking shoes if you are going to go out on your own. We were able to get quite a few nice souvenirs in Cozumel.

Day 6 was another day at sea. We spent a lot of that day laying out and resting. And eating!

Day 7 was a stop at Disney's island in the Bahamas, Castaway Cay. What a beautiful island! My daughter was immensely impressed with the Flying Dutchman that was just off shore there. We took many pictures of it! While at Castaway Cay we had some great BBQ and did some shopping. Due to the weather (rain and wind) we didn't stay long on the island. This gave me time to do some laundry and start packing.



On the 19th we returned to Cape Canaveral. We were sent off with a wonderful breakfast and a lot of tears and goodbyes.

There is no question in my mind that we will be taking another Disney cruise. There were live shows each night, movies, games, activities, and so much wonderful food! We returned to our cabin each night

to find our beds made, and turned down for us, with little chocolates on our pillows. Disney quality and pride of service was everywhere you turned. This cruise will be counted as among one of the best vacations of my entire life.

By Sherry Lowe of WDWTravels



Disney Dining Plan

One of the best parts of any vacation is the food. And I love the food at Disney World. Hundreds of dining locations... thousands of menu items!

Before we get into the details of the Disney Dining Plan, let me give you the basics of food and dining at Disney World.

Types of Dining Options

Disney offers four different ways to get your food.

Table-Service Restaurants: You go in, are seated, order from a menu and a server brings you your food — well, a few are buffets. This includes all of these restaurant types as classified by Disney: Casual Dining, Themed Dining, Character Dining, Signature Dining, Special and Unique Dining and Dinner Shows.

Counter-Service Restaurants: You go in, order at a counter, pick up your food and take it to your table to eat it. It's just your basic fast food restaurant. Disney calls these Counter Service and Quick Service.

Quick Bite: These are walk-up outdoor kiosks with outdoor seating. They serve primarily snacks and beverages.

Resort Shops: Every resort has a gift shop with a grocery section. You can buy soft drinks, chips, packaged pastries, milk, bread and a few other basics. The shops at DVC resorts and Fort Wilderness have many more groceries — cold cuts, canned soups, and much more. The food courts in the Value and Moderate Resorts also have a nice selection of packaged foods and fruit.



Dining Plan Basics

Disney Dining Plans are available only as an add-on to a Disney World vacation package. Everyone in your party (that is, everyone staying in your room) must have the same ticket options and participate in the meal plan.

Every family has its own preferred way to eat on vacation. Some survive on snack foods and sandwiches. Others like burgers and pizza. Still others love having breakfast, lunch and dinner at table-service restaurants.

And just about every family wants to dine with the Disney characters during their vacation.



Disney Dining Reports

A few years ago, Disney came up with a plan that is kind of a “happy medium.” It’s called the Disney Dining Plan. Some people say that it was a trick to get more people to eat at the table-service restaurants. I say that it doesn’t matter why! All I know is that if you love food, it can be a great deal.

Walt Disney World offers three different dining plans, and two dining and more plans in 2010.

The Quick Service Dining Plan entitles each guest to receive 2 Quick Service or Counter Service (CS) credits and 2 Snack credits per nights stay.



EXAMPLE: Sunday to Saturday stay (6 nights) allots 12 CS and 12 Snack credits per guest age 3 and over. This plan also includes one Resort Refillable Mug per person good for unlimited refills of beverages at resorts only for the length of stay. Beverages usually include soft drinks, coffee, tea and hot chocolate.

The regular Disney Dining Plan entitles each guest to receive 1 Table Service (TS) credit, 1 Counter Service (CS) credit and 1

Snack credit per night’s stay.

EXAMPLE: Sunday to Saturday stay (6 nights) allots 6 TS, 6 CS and 6 Snack credits per guest age 3 and over. **NOTE:** This plan does not include a Resort Refillable Mug.

The Deluxe Disney Dining Plan entitles each guest to receive 3 meal credits and 2 snack credits per night’s stay. Deluxe meal credits can be used for either table service or counter service.

EXAMPLE: Sunday to Saturday stay (6 nights) allots 18 meal credits and 12 snack credits per guest age 3 and over. This plan also includes one Resort Refillable Mug per person.

Adult credits are assigned to guests age 10 and older. Child credits are for guests age 3-9. Children age 2 and under do not receive dining credits. Adult and child credits are not interchangeable. Children must order from a child’s menu at restaurants where one is available. However, generally speaking an adult is allowed to use an adult entitlement to order a children’s meal from the child’s menu.

One nice feature about the dining plans is how the credits can be used. Credits are not limited to your daily allotment, and you may use multiple credits per day. (As long as there are enough remaining credits of course.) Those on the Regular Dining



Disney Dining Reports

Plan or Deluxe Dining Plan can even choose to exchange two table service credits for a show or signature dining experience if they desire.

Signature restaurants requiring 2TS credits per person:

- Artist Point (Wilderness Lodge)
- California Grill (Contemporary Resort)
- Cinderella's Royal Table character breakfast/lunch/dinner with photo package (Magic Kingdom)
- Citricos (Grand Floridian)
- Flying Fish Café (Boardwalk Inn & Villas)
- Hollywood Brown Derby (MGM Studios)
- Jiko - The Cooking Place (Animal Kingdom Lodge)
- Narcoossee's (Grand Floridian)
- Yachtsman Steakhouse (Yacht Club)

Dinner Shows requiring 2 TS credits per person:

- Disney's Spirit of Aloha Dinner Show (Polynesian)
- Hoop-Dee-Do Musical Revue (Fort Wilderness)
- Mickey's Backyard Barbecue (Fort Wilderness)

If you want an all-inclusive package that includes more than just dining, Disney also offers the Premium and Platinum package plans.

Premium Dining Plan

\$164.99 per guest 10 and older

\$114.99 per child 3-9 years old

Platinum Dining Plan:

\$220.99 per guest 10 and older

\$154.99 per child 3-9 years olds



If you book either the Magic Your Way Plus Dining, Magic Your Way Plus Deluxe Dining, Magic Your Way Premium or Magic Your Way Platinum Package, you can add on the Disney Wine and Dine Plan.



Disney Dining Reports

The Wine and Dine Plan includes one bottle of wine per room per night of your stay. For example, if you have a five night package, you will be entitled to 5 bottles of wine.

When dining at a Signature Restaurant or when choosing Private In-Room Dining, two bottles will be redeemed.

You will make your selection from a designated wine list at select locations. This list will offer a variety of choices. The Wine and Dine Plan does not include Gratuity. It must be purchased for the length of your stay.

By Meg Kinnerk of WDWTravels





Disneyland - How It Began Part 1

As I prepared to write this piece I took time to research the initial idea of Disneyland, the plans and preparation that took place before it's opening on July 17, 1955 and the plans and preparations that still take place causing the Disneyland Resort to be a magical vacation destination for millions of visitors each year. I look forward to sharing with you what I've learned in my research and my 15+ visits to Disneyland.

**'To all who come to this happy place,
Welcome...'**

-Walt Disney



Disneyland was originally created from an idea that Walt had while spending time with his daughters each Sunday. He would watch his girls whirling on a beautiful carousel at a local park and imagine a place where children and their parents could enjoy a safe, clean entertaining experience together. He considered creating an amusement park adjoining his studio in Burbank with a train running around on a track around the park, a river, and a little Western street. Research was the key to Walt's success. He spent a lot of time visiting other amusement parks around the country to learn about them-what worked and what didn't. He spoke to children to ask them what they liked. Walt met with his designers. Ideas were discussed, plans were drawn up and soon Walt realized that the land near the studio was not large enough to contain all of the dreams he had for a family amusement park. He knew he needed a major piece of land since his research had helped to decide that his park wasn't going to be tiny. It was going to be big! More research; freeways, population growth, temperature differences, ten possible sites were considered, three were preferred. In 1954, more than 160 acres covered in orange groves, was purchased in the sleepy town of Anaheim, California.

Building Walt's dream, Disneyland, continued to grow.

To be continued...

By Terri Hawkyard of WDWTravels

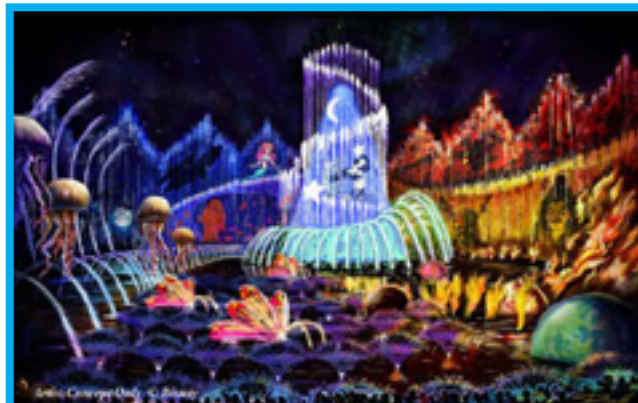


Disney's World of Color

A brand new, highly anticipated, state-of-the-art nighttime show is set to debut June 11, 2010 at Disney's California Adventure at the Disneyland Resort in Anaheim, California.

Disney's World of Color is part of the \$1 billion expansion that was first announced in fall of 2007 and will be complete in 2012.

Expansions that began with Toy Story Mania in 2008 will soon include Silly Symphony Swings, a re-theme to the classic swing ride formerly known as Orange Stinger in Paradise Pier. Later this year, a dark ride based on The Little Mermaid will be opening. Finally Carsland will open in 2012, an entirely new land that's based on the hit Disney-Pixar film Cars.



The World of Color extravaganza is similar to Fantasmic!, an already popular nighttime show at both Disney's Hollywood Studios at the Walt Disney World Resort and Disneyland. The lagoon was drained in November of 2008 and the water was refilled in November of 2009 in order to prepare for this show. The Paradise Pier lagoon will light up like never before with over 1,200 fountains that can shoot water up to 200 ft. in the air, a 380 ft. long mist screen that will protect your favorite Disney and Disney-Pixar characters, Disney music, fountains, lasers, fog, lights, and fire nozzles that can shoot flames up to 50 ft. in the air.

The concept art looks phenomenal, the practice videos are stunning, and I know that this show will be just as good, if not better, than Fantasmic! I can only imagine how cool this show will be when it opens up in a few weeks. You can't miss seeing the world's largest "water screen" nighttime show. The 25-minute show features narration based on color. It also weaves together different story lines from Disney films, promising adventure, danger, love, and of course a grand finale. Up to 9,000 people can view this show at once, but I would recommend holding a spot an hour or two before the show starts (like at Fantasmic!).



"World of Color" will be shown year-round at Paradise Bay. This show is the headliner of Summer Nightstastic! – a lineup of exciting, after-dark entertainment at the Disneyland Resort. Summer Nightstastic! will run from June 11 through August 29.

By Michael Goldblatt



Attraction Closures

Walt Disney World

The Magic Kingdom

- Main Street Electrical Parade Returns to the Magic Kingdom 6/5/10-8/14/10
- “Summer Nightstastic!” Fireworks Spectacular Performs 6/5/10-8/14/10
- “it’s a small world” Closed 8/1/10-10/22/10
- Wishes! fireworks and Spectromagic Return 8/15/10
- Walt Disney World Railroad will close for 3-4 months in 2010 to accommodate Fantasyland Expansion
- Mickey’s Toontown Fair Closes Permanently Fall 2010
- Goofy’s Barnstormer at Wiseacre Farm Closes TBA to be transformed into a Dumbo themed coaster
- The Many Adventures of Winnie The Pooh facade and Pooh’s Thoughtful Spot will be re-themed to the Hundred Acre Woods during a Refurbishment 2010
- Fantasyland Expansion Phase I (includes Cinderella, Aurora, Belle, and Ariel Realms, and Dumbo’s circus area) Opens 2012
- Fantasyland Expansion Phase II (includes Pixie Hollow) Opens 2013

Epcot

- Captain EO Returns 7/2/10
- Hacienda de San Angel Restaurant Opening Fall 2010
- “Via Napoli” Pizzeria/Restaurant by Patina Restaurant Group Opening Fall 2010
- Werther’s Original Candy Shop replaces Goebel Store in Germany Fall 2010

Disney’s Hollywood Studios

- The Twilight Zone Tower of Terror Adds “Summer Nightstastic!” Drop Sequences and Effects 6/6/10-8/14/10
- Toy Story Midway Mania! Closed 8/16/10-8/28/10
- Walt Disney: One Man’s Dream Closed 8/16/10-11/2/10
- Sounds Dangerous Starring Drew Carrey Closed; Operates Seasonally



Attraction Closures

- Muppet What-Not Workshop inside Stage 1 Studio Store Opens 2010
- Star Tours Closes 9/8/10
- Star Tours II Opens May 2011

Disney's Animal Kingdom Theme Park

- None

Downtown Disney

- Pollo Campero fast-food restaurant Opens Fall 2010

Resort Hotels

- Disney's Art of Animation Resort Opens 2012

Golf Courses

- Disney's Lake Buena Vista Golf Course Closed All Mondays 6/21/10-7/26/10
- Disney's Magnolia Golf Course Closed All Wednesdays 6/23/10-7/28/10
- Disney's Palm Golf Course Closed All Tuesdays 6/22/10-7/27/10
- Disney's Osprey Ridge Golf Course Closed All Thursdays 6/24/10-7/29/10

Disneyland/Disney California Adventure

Disneyland Park:

- Buzz Lightyear Astro Blasters Closed 6/19/10 – 6/23/10
- Star Tours Closes 7/27/10
- Roger Rabbit Cartoon Spin Closed 9/20/10 – 12/16/10
- Mark Twain Riverboat 9/27/10 – 9/30/10
- Main Street Vehicles Closed 9/7/10 – 9/30/10
- Newsstand Closed 9/7/10 – 9/30/10
- Village Haus Closed 8/30/10 – 12/19/10
- French Market Closed 9/13/10 – 9/17/10



Attraction Closures

- Haunted Mansion Closed to Install Holiday Overlay 8/30/10 – 9/16/10
- Space Mountain Closed to Install Ghost Galaxy 9/12/10 – 9/16/10
- Star Tours II Opens Spring 2011

Disney California Adventure:

- Toy Story Midway Mania Closed 8/30/10 – 10/10/10
- Pizza Oom Mow Mow Closing 9/7/10
- Catch a Flave Closed 9/7/10 – 9/16/10
- Corn Dog Castle Closed 6/1/09-3/24/11
- Souvenir 66 Closed 6/1/09-3/24/11
- Twilight Zone Tower of Terror FASTPASS Closed 4/10/10-8/15/10
- A Bug's Land/Hollywood Land Path Closed 4/19/10-8/15/10
- Mulholland Madness Scheduled to Close Fall 2010
- Buena Vista Street Construction Scheduled to Begin 2010
- Paradise Garden Grill Opens 2011
- Boardwalk Pasta and Pizza Opens 2011
- The Little Mermaid: Ariel's Undersea Adventure Opens 2011
- Cars Land Opens 2012



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