

## NEW ORLEANS NOSTALGIA

Remembering New Orleans History, Culture and Traditions

By Ned Hémard

### ***Hors d'oeuvres* of New Orleans**

True or False? In the fifth season of *Bonanza*, Hoss Cartwright encounters a man claiming to be the famous buccaneer, Jean Lafitte, who later complains that Hop Sing's coffee needs chicory. If you, dear reader, are unsure whether or not this is utter poppycock, discover the truth in my article entitled "Bonanza in the Big Easy".

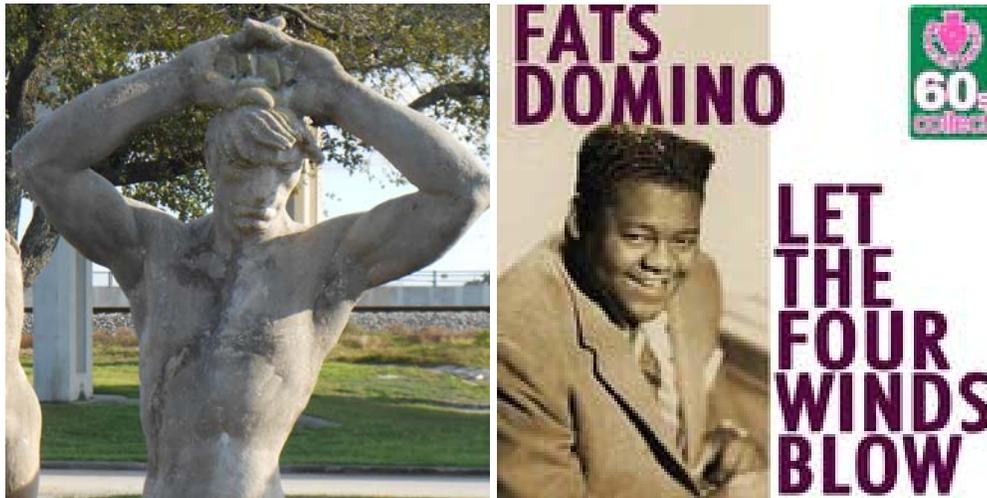
*Hors d'œuvres* are those wonderful offerings served before the main courses of a meal. The phrase in French means literally that which is "apart from the (main) work". Below are a few *hors d'œuvres* to whet your appetite for the more extensive *entrées* available for your enjoyment in the archives.

- 1) *Pompano en Papillote*, the dish created at Antoine's, was named for a Brazilian balloonist. Who was he and how was this aviation pioneer also responsible for the wristwatch for men? See "Hot Air".



1901 Vanity Fair caricature of the man who inspired *Pompano en Papillote*

- 2) The Sazerac is named for the brandy that is no longer used in making the famous cocktail. The brandy was substituted years ago with rye whiskey. See "Trails of the Cocktail".
- 3) On July 26, 1896, the first permanent theater in the United States, dedicated exclusively to showing motion pictures, was located at 623 Canal Street in New Orleans. See "Vitascope Hall".
- 4) Minit Records, which brought us Ernie K-Doe, Irma Thomas, Benny Spellman and Allen Toussaint, acquired its name after Joe Banashak noticed the "Meal-A-Minit" restaurant sign while driving down Airline Highway. See "Minit Made".
- 5) Which First Lady of the United States defended a well-endowed male statue by sculptor Enrique Alf rez? See "Let The Four Winds Blow".



*Enrique Alf rez statue and Fats Domino, both from the waist up*

- 6) Were the *Chandeleur* Islands so-named by Pierre Le Moyne, Sieur d'Iberville, because they resembled "a huge chandelier" or because he named them on the eve of the Feast of Candlemas, which the French called *La F te de la Chandeleur*? See "*La F te de la Chandeleur*".
- 7) Is it true that the Boston Club of New Orleans was named for a card game? Early and noted members included Judah P. Benjamin, known as "the brains of the Confederacy", who was the second Jewish senator in U.S. history and served as Confederate Secretary of State. See "Mercers and Pattons".
- 8) The name for the area of New Orleans known as Gentilly is a corruption of Chantilly, the celebrated estate of the Cond s in France, not for the Gentilly that is a commune in the southern

suburbs of Paris, France. See "Genteel Beginnings".

- 9) The word beignet, New Orleans' popular doughnut, comes into the language from the Old French *buigne* meaning "bump, or lump". See "*Beignet ... Done That!*".

Enjoy these articles, and please remember I welcome your comments.

Sincerely,

**NED HÉMARD**

New Orleans Nostalgia  
"*Hors d'oeuvres* of New Orleans"  
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