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Showing postings 1 - 10 of 10 in the thread: Hooker Hotel in the 50's.

Posting: Hooker Hotel in the 50's Poster: John Boudreau Date: 13 August 2007 9:33 PM	Posting 1
<p>I was born in '52, so too young to know what the place was like , but I'm curious about what sort of place it was because I was just reading an ad in the classified section of the 1955 phone book :</p> <p>" The New Hooker Hotel ...A friendly hotel in a friendly city ...Comfortable accomodations ...Good food prepared by our chef Wong Goon ...Dancing ...Shuffleboard in the bar ...Television nightly in our cocktail lounge ..."</p> <p>Sounds like it was a " hot spot " . Any memories you all would like to share ?</p>	
Posting: Re: Hooker Hotel in the 50's Poster: Dick Donovan Date: 14 August 2007 9:29 AM	Posting 2
<p>John, my memories of the hooker while growing up was the Chinese takeout that my father would get once in a while. I vaguely remember my father talking about well known actors/actresses staying/stopping by for food and drink. My father said he met Lou Costello there one time. I think in its day it was a very respectable and popular place for everyone. Not sure when it started its down hill slide but probably sometime in the early 60's or maybe even earlier. The other favorite of my father's was the Italian bar/restaurant on Valley st. Great speghetti and meatballs.---just remembered it was the Park Central Hotel.</p>	
Posting: Re: Hooker Hotel in the 50's Poster: John Boudreau Date: 14 August 2007 5:22 PM	Posting 3
<p>Thanks for the post . I vaguely remember the Park Central . When I was a kid my family NEVER ate out (big family , and my father preferred to spend his hard-earned money at the bars and K of C) . The only times I ever ate in a restaurant were when I spent the weekend at my friend Freddy Mondino's house in Columbia . His dad ran Art's Jewelry store on Main Street . Anyway , Fred's Mom used to take to eat at the Italian Garden on Friday nights every now and then and it was a big thrill for me . If memory serves the food was quite good , but then again I was not hard to please !</p>	
Posting: Re: Hooker Hotel in the 50's Poster: Ed Gervais Date: 15 August 2007 12:45 AM	Posting 4
<p>John:</p> <p>There wasn't anything "New" about the Hooker Hotel except the attempted hype from the Yellow Page advertising, which didn't do anything to raise the quality because the locals already knew it was hype.</p> <p>They did have great chinese food, but everyone went there for "take-out" because you would never bring your family into the denisons of darkness that prevailed within. I remember watching people picking up take-out at the end of the dimly-lit bar. The chef, Mr. Goon, would bring out the paper sacks filled with cardboard containers while the customers would carefully, and secretly, extract money from their wallets to pay him. There were always some of the out-of-town visitors who looked like they were straight out of casting for "Guys and Dolls" sitting at the back tables playing cards and looking busy. You want to know when heroin started flowing into town and where the center was located? You've come to the right spot and the first pushers were living right along side and behind the Hooker on Bank Street, across from the fire station.</p> <p>I have no idea if it is even standing today. If a building can be a main contributor to the demise of a city there was the culprit.</p> <p>Ed</p>	
Posting: Re: Hooker Hotel in the 50's Poster: Ernie Gesner Date: 15 August 2007 1:45 AM	Posting 5
<p>Ed, do you still own half the property in Sacramento? We still get up there once in a while as we breed, raise and race harness horses at Cal Expo.from my trainers ranch just north of Sacramento. We also have thoroughbred race horses that we race at the southern California tracks. We use to race the harness horses across the USA and Canada but now only race in California. It's just a hobby but we have a lot of fun with it.</p>	
Posting: Re: Hooker Hotel in the 50's Poster: vince cerreto Date: 16 August 2007 7:38 PM	Posting 6
<p>John, when you read the all new Hooker Hotel,what they did was made all the rooms into apartments. On the side walk level they made a bar and in the basement there was country Western band every Sat, night I think they were called the Gadabouts,they were pretty good. Before that it was my favorite pool Hall.The Hooker charged \$25 A week for an apt.It was sad to see thats where the</p>	

exchange of dope first took place right in front of the Hooker. Therafter it went down the tube.

Posting: Re: Hooker Hotel in the 50's
Poster: EVELYN Chalifoux
Date: 18 August 2007 4:44 PM

Posting 7

John

Is your Dads name also John? If it is I went to St. Mary's school with him and we were in the same class. I still can see your Grandfather's smile when he had the grocery store down Sodom. Always smiling. As for the Park Central they use to serve you an extra bowl of spaghetti sauce. Oh by the way Dick Phaneuf is my brother.

Posting: Re: Hooker Hotel in the 50's
Poster: EVELYN Chalifoux
Date: 18 August 2007 4:44 PM

Posting 8

John

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Posting: Re: Hooker Hotel in the 50's
Poster: EVELYN Chalifoux
Date: 18 August 2007 4:45 PM

Posting 9

John

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Posting: Re: Hooker Hotel in the 50's
Poster: John Boudreau
Date: 18 August 2007 5:03 PM

Posting 10

" Is your Dads name also John? If it is I went to St. Mary's school with him and we were in the same class. I still can see your Grandfather's smile when he had the grocery store down Sodom. Always smiling. As for the Park Central they use to serve you an extra bowl of spaghetti sauce. Oh by the way Dick Phaneuf is my brother. "

Yes , my father's name is John . He lives out on eastern Long Island now .

Grandpa B was a happy go lucky kind of guy and as I mentioned once before generous and kind . You could always tell when he was coming down Jackson Street in his car ...there'd be a line of cars a mile long in back of him ...he drove SO slow ! Grandma B was a tough old Canuck from Quebec , and lived to the ripe old age of 100 ! She made some dynamite chicken soup !