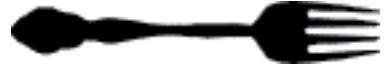


# Portage Park Palates *Jill & Jan*



No one is more surprised than me. I never even thought to review the Burgundy Restaurant at Austin and Irving **Park Road**. One of our PPNA members said it was their go to diner place of choice. And, just like that, we decided to give the Burgundy a try. We were out on a Saturday, having finished the garden club meeting, and going to the winter farmers market at Portage Park Field house. We went over to the Burgundy to see what we were missing. The place is a typical diner with booths in one room with a long counter service area, and then another room with two booths in the window and tables on each side of a long dining room.

Our waitress greeted us and took our drink order. The bus boy brought our drinks and water as we looked the menu. There was plenty of hustle and bustle as the waitress and bus boy kept everyone happy. It was Saturday afternoon, so they were busy. We opted for a ham off the bone on rye special, and I had a turkey club sandwich. It came with soup, and the choices were chicken noodle and navy bean. I love navy bean-and their version was rich and hearty. My counterpart had the chicken noodle and it was inhaled. The sandwiches were the real thing. My turkey club had real turkey. I had to take half of it home and enjoy it the next day.

The ham sandwich was large as well, with thick sliced ham on rye with cheese. The sandwiches came with fries. The bus boy refilled our drinks. The sandwiches were both \$6.99. We decided to review the restaurant for the palates column, because there must be a few people out there that haven't tried it recently, and we wanted to get the word out that this place is the real deal.

So my palates partner and I met at the Burgundy on a balmy spring evening a few days later. I wanted to get the review in April newsletter, so we got it together with no time to spare. We also had one other dining partner. It was quieter than Saturday with only one booth taken. We settled in and ordered drinks and looked at the menu. I mention the turkey club had real turkey, and that was it. Turkey club it was. Our other dining partner ordered roast turkey dinner, with choice of potato and dressing, gravy, vegetable and cranberry sauce for \$9.99. They both came with soup-choice of vegetable or chicken noodle. They both opted for chicken and there was a bread basket to share with soft rolls and butter and crackers. I opted for a skillet breakfast, since it is served all day. I had the meat skillet, meat was ham chunks with onion and crisp potatoes and cheese, topped with two sunny side up eggs, which, when poked with a fork, rained yellow goodness over the skillet. It came with choice of toast and jelly. I loved it and ate most of it. In fact, we all ate until we were stuffed. My palates partner thought the turkey club was very good, and loved the real turkey. And our other dining partner made quick work of the turkey dinner. There is a specials list as you walk into

the first dining room, but it is also in the menu. When we were winding down, the police came in to eat. Turns out, they frequent the place. That is always a good sign. We couldn't even think of dessert. But, no doubt about it, we will be back.

The Burgundy is located on the south east corner of Austin and Irving-5939 W. Irving Park Road. There is street metered parking or you can take the #80 Irving bus or #91 Austin. Their hours are 6:00am to 10:30pm seven days a week. And you can order take out by calling 773-283-4114. This restaurant does not deliver. I wanted to get the waitresses name, to include in this article, but my mouth was full. I'll get it next time.

*Once a month we will be eating at a restaurant in the Portage Park area and writing an article that will appear in the newsletter about the visit. Our visits are anonymous to the owners – so we do not receive special treatment. We are also paying for our own meals. If you are interested in joining us please contact us at [atcommunications@portagepark.org](mailto:atcommunications@portagepark.org). We will notify you of the location of the restaurant. Our requirements are that you do not notify the restaurant; we will divide the check up evenly, share dishes and offer opinions for the review. An article about the restaurant will appear in the following PPNA newsletter. If you have a favorite restaurant you would like to suggest, please send your suggestions to [communications@portagepark.org](mailto:communications@portagepark.org).*