

29 HELEN AND STAN'S CORNER

As "Mississippi Queen" by Mountain blares on the jukebox at this well-worn Garfield Ridge tavern opened in 1985 by Polish immigrants, municipal employees gather around the pool table and belly up to the wood parquet bar for bottles of Okocim and Zywiec beer (\$3.50) and shots of blackberry brandy (\$2). Polish highlander hats and axes hang above the bar, and the swinging doors leading to a small dining room are painted with folk-art gnomes. **Extra shot** The bar serves up tasty Polish chow, including pierogi, potato pancakes and a recent special of meatballs in mushroom gravy. 5960 S Archer Ave (773-585-6131). —JG

30 BERNICE'S TAVERN

We'd be inclined to describe this tchotchke-ridden, Christmas light-strewn watering hole as the archetypal cozy dive that makes you feel as if you're drinking in an elderly person's house. That is, if this Bridgeport bar weren't technically an octogenarian's actual home. Although Bernice Badauskas no longer tends bar (her sons Michael and Steve have taken over most of those duties), the eponymous matriarch resides in an attached unit in back and won't hesitate to come in after last call to let you know it's time to skedaddle. **Extra shot** Steve hosts a wacky version of bingo, dubbed "Stingo," Wednesdays at 9:30pm. 3238 S Halsted St (312-907-1580). —Jake Malooley

31 SOUTH SHORE INN

This shot-and-a-beer joint, located across the street from the Hegewisch South Shore Line stop, seems to have picked a date sometime around the midcentury and stuck with it. The grandparents of owner Dean Ubik bought the building in 1921 and it operated as a speakeasy during Prohibition, when "working girls" rented rooms upstairs. The tavern, last rehabbed in 1949, features sparkly gold vinyl booths and a gorgeous Art Deco bar. Bud Light and AmberBock are on tap (\$1.55 per pint), and vintage ads for the train line adorn the walls. **Extra shot** Check out a collection of black-and-white family photos on the wall, including pictures of Ubik's mom's bowling team from the '50s. 13611 S Brainerd Ave (773-646-0350). —JG

5 bars...worth a suburban jaunt

These overlooked watering holes outside the city limits are heavy on charm, light on pretense. By **Christina Couch**



CUT OFF Flight 112 in Elmhurst triples as a wine bar, hair salon and gallery.

34 THE BAVARIAN LODGE

Don't let this German hot spot's location on a dark street across from a Midas dissuade you. Inside are 36 draft beers, 150 bottle brews, surprisingly killer cocktails and damn fine German fare. While the Lodge is obviously beer-heavy, featuring a rotating selection of German and Belgian craft brews, meads and Trappist ales, its Dark and Stormy cocktail is one of the best in or outside the city. 1800 Ogden Ave, Lisle (630-241-4701).

35 LUNAR BREWING COMPANY

Authentic enough for hard-core beerphiles, grungy enough for rock fans, friendly enough for casual drinkers, this microbrewery is the perfect neighborhood bar. Featuring 60 bottled beers and 18 on tap, the bar releases new seasonal brews, many of which it created itself, every Wednesday—though the housemade cream ale and stout are available all year long. The place fills up fast during Lunar's periodic live-band nights, when rock and blues musicians take the stage. 54 E St Charles Rd, Villa Park (630-530-2077).

36 MACK'S GOLDEN PHEASANT

Hell yes, there's still one place in the Chicago area where you can sip \$3 mixed drinks and \$2 beers. This third-generation family-owned restaurant and bar, in business since 1948, was passed down by a former Illinois state game judge (and named after his favorite bird). It features taxidermed game birds

inside the bar and what used to be a working pigeon coop, a garden and koi pond out back. Don't miss the food, including roast duckling and hearty Austrian specialties. 668 W North Ave, Elmhurst (630-279-8544).

37 FLIGHT 112 WINE HOUSE

Get drunk, cultured and coiffed all at the same place. This wine bar/hair salon/art gallery boasts a wide array of organic and ecologically sustainable vinos, as well as a full-scale salon. Every Thursday, Flight 112 offers a glass of merlot and ladies' haircut special for \$29 (\$24 for men). Not in need of a cut? The full bar is open to anyone, as is the small menu of munchies. If you like what you drink, take home a bottle for 30 percent off. 112 W Park Ave, Elmhurst (630-758-0808).

38 THE MONTROSE ROOM

Partys flock to this bar inside the interContinental Chicago O'Hare Hotel for the bands, DJs, comedians and solrees. They stay for the badass cocktails. Concoctions like the Warhol (\$12)—a mixture of Mount Gay rum, pureed blackberries and raspberries, lime and simple syrup served in a glass made of ice—make it too easy to run up a steep tab. Before heading out, ask the bartenders to validate your parking. Otherwise, a \$5 parking fee magically transforms into an \$18 mood-killer. 5300 N River Rd, Rosemont (847-544-5300).

32 ALICE'S LOUNGE

When a bar has 4am hours, it's usually a sign of personal sorrow if you're there before midnight. Not so at Alice's, where karaoke veers from expected to epic beginning at 11pm (Tuesday, Thursday—

Saturday). Two very sweet older ladies (including the namesake Alice) serve cheap-enough beer to old-school locals and fixed-gear-transported hipsters bidding their time before their two minutes of stardom. **Extra shot** You have to

ring a doorbell to get in. Welcome home. 3556 W Belmont Ave (773-478-5975). —JK

33 WRIGLEYVILLE NORTH

Anyone who thinks Wrigleyville has denigrated into shopping-mall