

CHICKEN FRIED STEAK - IT COULD HAVE BEEN

SOME OF LAMESA'S HISTORY

On that cold, windy day James D. Perkins didn't know that he was about to create perhaps the worlds tastiest dish. Perkins was known to his friends as Jimmy Don, and was a short order cook in a local Lamesa eating establishment (It could have been B. Inman's Cafe, located just north of the Northeast corner of the Court House in Lamesa.) Like many great discoveries, the invention of CHICKEN FRIED STEAK was an accident. Perkins had very little formal education, and he was also hard of hearing, so when the waitress turned in an order for "chicken, fried steak", Perkins misunderstood her to say, "CHICKEN FRIED STEAK". Not realizing that the waitress wanted an order of Chicken AND an order of Fried Steak, and not caring to admit that he had never heard of CHICKEN FRIED STEAK, he decided that the steak was to be cooked like chicken. So, he rolled a piece of steak in flour and milk and fried it.

THE REST IS HISTORY

B. Inman's place became the most popular establishment in West Texas ... (This is fact).

After Perkins decided that the best way to serve CHICKEN FRIED STEAK was with French Fries and Cream Gravy, people came from all over the State to dine on the dish destined to become a STAR in the Texas Culinary Firmament. The fame of CHICKEN FRIED STEAK became a beloved staple of a Texan's diet. Perkins is a forgotten name in history, and Inman's Cafe long since replaced by modern buildings, but their creation lives on. Any restaurant with any class at all has CHICKEN FRIED STEAK on the menu. IT IS A DELICACY TREASURED BY GOURMETS THE COUNTRY OVER.

As Lamesa celebrates her 75th Birthday, fond memories of this LAMESA CREATION arise in every Oldtimer. Past Mayor Bob Crawley once observed that "The worst I ever had was wonderful " In fact, it has become so popular that a favorite saying among CHICKEN FRIED STEAK lovers is that there are only three kinds of CHICKEN FRIED STEAK: GOOD BETTER and WHOOOEEEEEE.



PRESENTED BY:

THE PHEASANT RESTAURANT