

'Big Daddy' Makes The Scene

By Wallace Wood
Sentinel Staff Writer

Eric Nord, the "Big Daddy" of them all during the Beatnik heydays, is coming to town for good this weekend.

He's opening a "cultural center" called the "Loft" in "The Barn" in Scotts Valley Saturday noon.

It will be a weekend affair from here on out, Nord says, designed to develop local talent.

Nord and Kathy Jurcich, owner of The Barn, are refurbishing the former antique shop into an art gallery and meeting place. It is located just south of Santa's Village off Granite Creek road.

"I'm only more or less a coordinator," Nord says. "I feel there's enough interest in the community to have a place for people to express themselves in any art form they practice."

This means music recitals, poetry readings, play, and art shows in the avant garde style, according to Nord. "But it is open to anyone at all."

Though his coming has been a well-kept secret the past few weeks, the huge, soft-spoken man says he has been told there is considerable opposition to the Loft.

"I want to make it plain I intend to abide by the law and don't want to annoy anyone," he insists.

Nord's projects have never-

All Breed Dog Show, Obedience Trial Scheduled

The Santa Cruz Kennel club will present its 38th annual All Breed Dog show and Obedience trial, August 21 at Harvey West Municipal park.

All entries must be in by Monday, according to B. H. Markey, president.

Entry fees are as follows: first class in which a dog is entered, \$6; each additional class, \$3; specials only, \$6; obedience only, \$6; obedience as an extra class, \$3.

The show will open at 8 a.m. and judging will be concluded around 9 p.m.

Club officers, besides Markey are Maureen Segarini, first vice president; Frank Long, second vice president; Mrs. B. H. Markey, secretary-treasurer; Mary Long, assistant.

Members of the show committee are Fred Rule, chairman; Maureen Segarini, assistant; Floyd Van Selus, obedience; Lady Shaw, assistant; Mary Long, trophies; and Helen, Ingles, Frank Long, Don Shaw and Markey.

Yellowstone Park's 3772 square miles (three times the size of Rhode Island) contain more than 10,000 geysers, hot springs, pools, steam jets, and mud volcanoes.



Eric "Big Daddy" Nord, whose night clubs and coffee houses have become famous as havens for avant garde and members of the beat generation, will open a "cultural

center" to be called "The Loft" in the former Barn antique shop off Granite Creek road in Scotts Valley Saturday noon. Nord, who stands 6-7 and weighs 350 pounds, says

no liquor will be served and emphasizes his operation "will abide by the law." He says it will be open weekends and will develop talent of local artists, poets and musicians.

He helped open and operate the "Gas House," another controversial "cultural center" in Venice. That, too, was razed in a redevelopment project in 1961 that climaxed a determined opposition movement.

He has invited all local artists to bring their works to the opening and says "poets and preachers are welcome."

The operation will not involve the sale of alcoholic beverages and will be run strictly on a donation basis, he declares.

"Later, we may open a small coffee shop downstairs, if things go well."

If it were not for his size—six feet seven inches tall and 350 pounds heavy—Nord would not attract unusual attention among strangers.

He uses "hip" terms sparingly and says he has no patience with "beatniks," a group he de-

finances as "trying to fit in where they do not belong; a group that has nothing to offer to art or anything else."

Despite the controversy he has weathered, Nord's clean-shaven face is open and frank. As he talks, a tiny kitten wriggles happily into his oversize shirt and goes to sleep.

"I have never been convicted of any crime, and I don't intend to do anything illegal, he emphasizes. Though he was once arrested for operating the Gas House without an entertainment license, Nord says there was no conviction.

Santa Cruz was chosen as the location for his latest effort "because The Barn was available and because I like the area. I spent the last few years in Hawaii and the Virgin Islands in search of a location for an art colony—a living group which unfortunately is not possible here."

He says there is no connection between his operation and the Hip Pocket bookstore in Santa Cruz which also has gained an "avant garde" reputation.

Nord declares The Loft will

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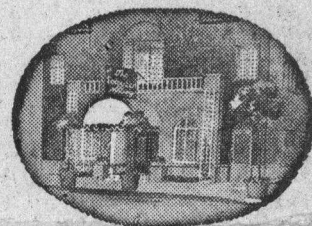
The large bohemian declares he does not even like applause, at least not polite applause, "because it is distracting and phony."

In enlarging on the difference between the beatniks and artistic bohemians, Nord says bohemians are simply persons "that like to live their own type of life. A lot of them happen to dress alike, but not deliberately."

The beatniks, on the other hand, "feel very much left out of something. So they wear beards and sandals like the bohemians, and try to write poetry—but they are just lazy bums. Everybody should contribute something even if it's not the best."

Eventually, Nord says he hopes some "friends," like comedian Woody Allen, will appear at the Loft for recitals.

"I don't know just yet how things will go. I'll make some plans when the group comes in for my opening this weekend."



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