



Arlington Tavern partner Diego Barbieri, Trevor Zellet, chef Ron True, Skye McGinnes and Cody French

owns the world's biggest private super yacht, looks like he has been forced to carry out some urgent extensions after Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid launched a bid to regain the title.

It was only two years ago that Abramovich bought his 557-ft-long vessel, *Eclipse*, and stole the crown from the sheikh's 532-ft yacht, *Dubai*.

But, in the wake of rumors the Arab tycoon is having his boat extended to recapture the title, Abramovich has perhaps, not surprisingly, booked his boat in for a refit in a Barcelona, Spain shipyard.

The mega-yacht, which cost a reported \$1.6 billion, is currently moored in the harbor, where it is covered with tarpaulin and scaffolding while the secret work is carried out by Marina Barcelona 92.

Around 70 crew members are needed to operate the vessel, which has nine decks and can accommodate 30 guests, and is just one of five Abramovich owns, including *Titan*, *Sissurro*, *Luna* and *Umbra*.

It costs \$50 million annually to run and a single re-fueling costs around \$650,000 a time.

Last summer it was hired out for \$2 million a week...

#### Tales from the Tavern Opening

An eclectic crowd gathered at the Arlington Tavern on West Victoria Street for the opening party hosted by chef Ron True and his fellow investors, Diego Barbieri, Cody French, Trevor Zellet and Skye McGinnes.

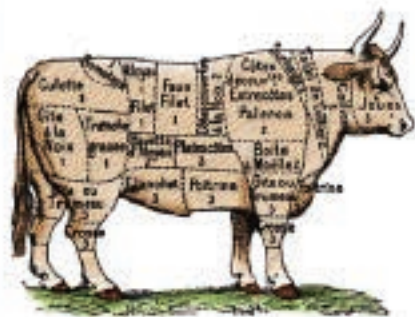
Ron, who formerly worked at the Biltmore as well at eateries in New York, San Francisco and Philadelphia, describes the menu as "simple American cuisine with a gourmet twist."

Checking out the newly decorated nosheteria, the former site of Epiphany, were KEYT-TV reporter John Palminteri, documentarian Sam Tyler, Jr. and Anna Karina Nunez...

**Sightings:** Former presidential candidate John Kerry on his cell phone outside the Stonehouse at the San Ysidro Ranch... Bob Harper of NBC's *The Biggest Loser* at Olio e Limone... Rocker David Crosby ordering up a Reuben sandwich at Three Pickles on East Canon Perdido

Pip! Pip! for now

Readers with tips, sightings and amusing items for Richard's column should e-mail him at richardminerals@verizon.net or send invitations or other correspondence to the *Journal*.



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