

# The History of the Little Owl

Geneva's oldest continuously operating restaurant and tavern was founded in 1920 by Egisto 'Tony' Lencioni. The restaurant was originally located in the Albertson building (117 West State) which was later occupied by Johnsons Cleaners.

Tony is also credited with giving The Little Owl its colorful name. The story goes that the name had its origin from a conversation Tony had with the White Owl Cigar salesman. The salesman, noting that the establishment had no name, and, seeing the possibility for a little free advertising suggested: "Tony, why don't you call the place The White Owl?" The proprietor responded in his broken English: "No, I tink I call et 'de Lettle Owl. The name stuck. It has remained The Little Owl ever since.

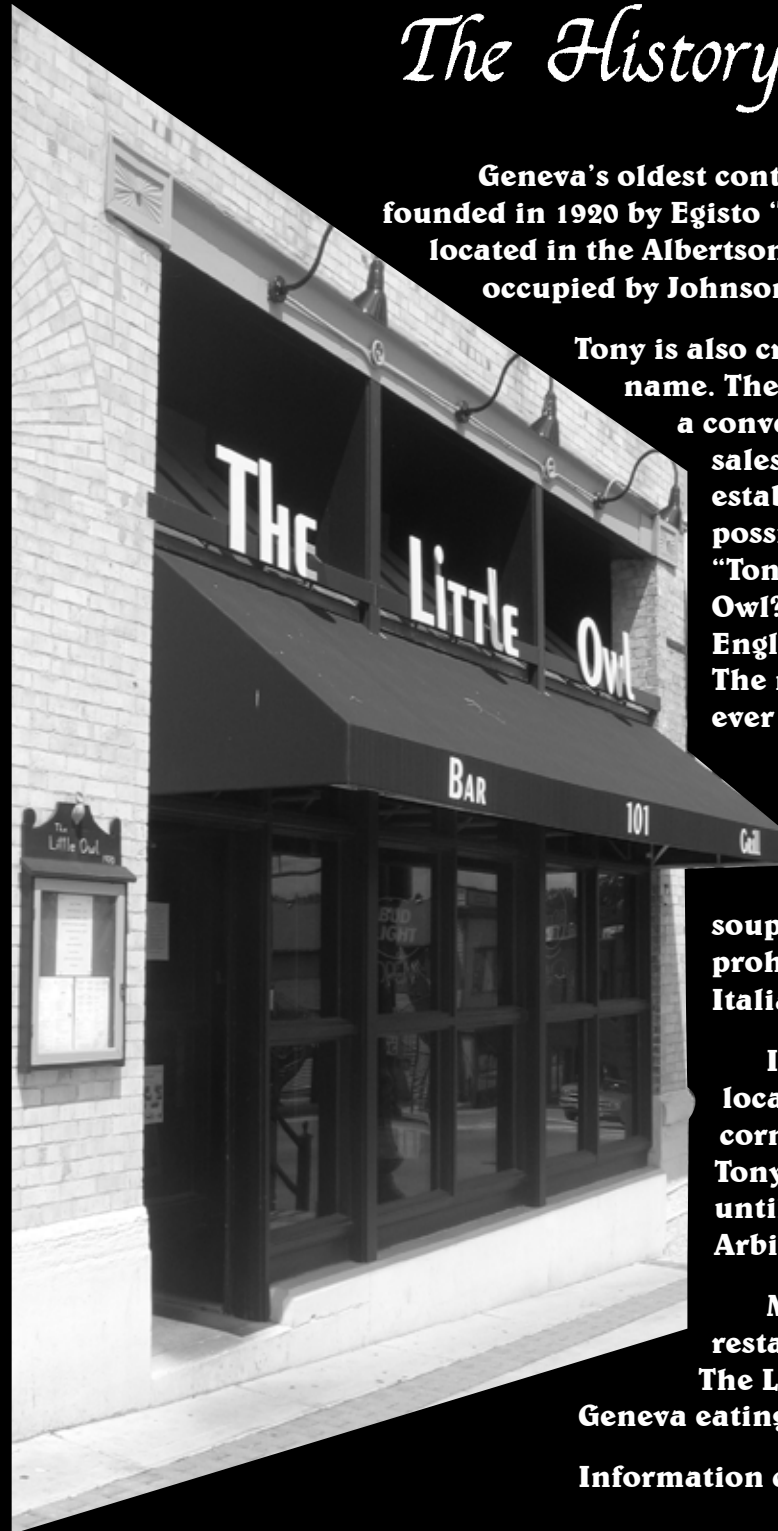
In 1926 the restaurant expanded and moved to the frame building next to the fire station (9 South First Street). Here the Lencioni's served homemade pasta and soups. It has also been reported that during prohibition it was possible to obtain homemade Italian wine, commonly referred to as "Dago Red."

In 1935 The Little Owl moved to its present location in "The Wrate Block" at the Northwest corner of State and First Streets (101 West State). Tony and his son Victor operated the business until 1947 when it was purchased by the Arbizzani family who still run it to this day.

Many years have passed and dozens of restaurants and taverns have come and gone but The Little Owl continues to be a landmark among Geneva eating and drinking establishments.

Information courtesy of *The Geneva Historical Society*

*Photos by C. Arbizzani*



[www.littleowlrestaurant.com](http://www.littleowlrestaurant.com)

Grill Hours:

Monday – Saturday 11:00 A.M. – 10 P.M.

Sunday Noon – 9 P.M.

Bar Hours:

Monday – Saturday 11:00 A.M. – 1 A.M.

Sunday Noon – Midnight

(630) 232-7994

CARRY OUT (630) 232-7223

## ☞ APPETIZERS ☜

### **Brushetta**

Fresh Italian veggie's, herbs, and spices served on grilled flat bread

**\$5.95**

### **Jalapeño Poppers**

Crispy battered deep-fried jalapeños stuffed with cream cheese.

**\$5.25**

### **Potato Skins**

Baked potato slices filled with cheese & bacon, served with sour cream

**\$6.25**

### **Sour Cream & Chive Sticks**

A cousin of the French fry, deep-fried with the flavor of sour cream and chives, served with ranch dressing.

**\$5.50**

### **Super Nachos**

Fresh tortilla chips piled high with cheese, chili, tomatoes, black olives, onions, jalapenos, sour cream, and guacamole.

**\$6.95**

### **Coconut Shrimp**

A delicious coconut based batter gives these deep-fried shrimp a touch of sweetness. Served with our honey lemon sauce.

**\$6.25**

### **Mozzarella Sticks**

Battered deep-fried mozzarella cheese with our marinara sauce for dipping.

**\$5.50**



### **Cheese Nuggets**

Bite sized nuggets of cheddar cheese, battered and deep-fried. Served with ranch or marinara.

**\$5.25**

### **Buffalo Wings**

Chicken wings smothered in our sweet & spicy wing sauce with blue cheese and celery on the side.

**(6) \$5.95**

**(12) \$8.95**

### **Onion Rings**

Beer battered deep-fried onions.

**\$5.25**

### **Bloody Mary Shrimp**

Jumbo shrimp grilled to perfection with a spicy Bloody Mary cocktail sauce.

**\$6.95**

### **Sampler Basket**

(Poppers, cheese nuggets, chive sticks, buffalo wings, onion rings)

**\$7.95**

### **Pizza Bread**

Garlic bread smothered with our marinara and topped off with mozzarella and oregano, then baked to a golden brown.

**\$4.95**

### **Grouper Tenders**

Tasty bites of grouper, deep-fried to a golden brown. Served with lemon and tartar sauce.

**\$6.95**

### **Deep Fried Mushrooms**

Battered mushrooms deep-fried to a golden brown. Served with ranch.

**\$5.25**



## ☞ BEERS ☜

### Bottled Beers

Amstel Light

Bass Ale

Becks

Bud Light

Bud Select

Budweiser

Clausthauler (non-alcoholic)

Coors Light

Corona

Corona Light

Dos Equis

Heineken

Killians Irish Red

Michelob Ultra

Mikes Hard Lemonade

Miller Genuine Draft

Miller Genuine Draft Lite

Miller High Life

Miller Lite

O'douls Amber (non-alcoholic)

Old Style

Red Stripe

Rolling Rock

312 Goose Island

### Draft Beers

Blue Moon

Bodington

Bud Light

Fat Tire Amber Ale

Franziskaner Weiss

Guinness

Miller Lite

Miller High Life

Samuel Adams

Stella Artois

## ☞ Soft Drinks ☜

(Free Refills)

Pepsi, Diet Pepsi, Cherry Pepsi, Mountain Dew, Sierra Mist, Diet Sierra Mist, Pink Lemonade

**\$1.50**

Root Beer

**\$2.00**

Adrenaline Rush energy drink

**\$3.00**

Orange, Grapefruit, Cranberry, Apple or Tomato Juice

**\$1.75**

Regular Tea or Raspberry Tea

**\$1.50**

Coffee

**\$1.50**

Milk or Chocolate Milk

**\$1.50**



## ENTREES

All Entrees served with choice of potato (baked, mashed, French fries, steak fries, wild rice) steamed vegetable and soup or salad.  
\* Does not include steamed vegetable or potato

### Canadian Walleyed Pike

Canadian Walleyed Pike sautéed or fried to perfection, served with tartar sauce and fresh lemon.

**\$15.95**

### Louisiana Jumbo Gulf Shrimp

These jumbo shrimp are deep-fried to a golden brown, served with our tangy cocktail sauce and fresh lemon

**\$12.95**

### Top Sirloin Butt Steak

10-12 oz. cut of Black-Angus beef, cooked to perfection

**\$11.95**

### \*Lasagna

Traditional style lasagna stuffed with ricotta cheese and topped off with our homemade pasta sauce and mozzarella. Served with garlic bread.

**\$9.25**

### Cajun Catfish

Our catfish is sautéed just right using Cajun spices to give this fish an extra kick, served with fresh lemon.

**\$11.95**

### ½ Fried Chicken

Leg, thigh, wing, and breast breaded daily and deep-fried to a golden crisp.

**\$10.95**

### Charbroiled Blackened Alaskan Halibut

Blackened on the grill, this Halibut steak is sure to please. Served with tartar sauce and fresh lemon.

**\$13.95**

### \*Spaghetti with Meatballs

Our spaghetti is smothered in our homemade sauce mixed in with Italian style meatballs. Served with garlic bread

**\$9.25**



### Robust Rib Eye

Tender 12-14 oz. Black-Angus cut of meat cooked to your perfection.

**\$16.95**

### Marinated Charbroiled Chicken Breast Dinner

Two Chicken breasts soaked in our special marinade, then charbroiled on the grill.

**\$10.95**

### Sea Scallops

Tasty scallops deep-fried to a golden crisp. Served with fresh lemon, tartar and cocktail sauce.

**\$12.95**

### Sauteed Lemon Pepper Tilapia

Sauteed just right in lemon pepper and herbs, this fish has a superb taste. Served with fresh lemon and tartar sauce.

**\$12.95**

## SIDES

Garlic bread	\$2.50
Dinner salad	\$2.95
French fries	\$2.50
Baked potato	\$2.95
Bowl of soup	\$2.95
Cup of soup	\$2.50
Chili	\$3.95

Children's menu available. Join our V.I.P. Club!

## SALADS

*Salad Dressings: French, Thousand Island, Ranch, Honey Mustard, Vinegar and Oil, Creamy Garlic, Caesar, Red Pepper Vinaigrette and Blue Cheese (.50 cents extra).*

### Chicken, Sirloin, or Shrimp Caesar Salad

Tossed crisp romaine lettuce, red onion, garlic croutons and our house Caesar dressing. Finished off with Parmesan cheese. Topped with chicken, steak, or shrimp.

**\$8.95**

### Chef Salad

Fresh greens, cheddar cheese, egg, cucumber, green pepper, tomato, ham & turkey with choice of dressing.

**\$7.95**

### Southwest Salad

Fresh romaine lettuce tossed with red onion, kidney bean, and cheddar cheese. Served on tortilla chips and topped off with our delicious marinated chicken. Finished with a spicy southwest dressing.

**\$9.95**

### Julienne Chicken Salad

Tossed iceberg lettuce, cheddar cheese, egg, green pepper, tomato, red onion, and our marinated chicken. Your choice of dressing.

**\$8.95**

### Soup & ½ Sandwich

Choose from ham, turkey, corned beef, or roast beef, your choice of bread, and the soup of the day.

**\$5.95**

### Soup and Salad

Your choice of soup and dinner salad.

**\$5.95**

### Healthy Meal

Our special marinated chicken breast served with wild rice and steamed vegetable.

**\$7.25**



## BASKETS

All baskets served with French fries and coleslaw.

### Fish & Chips

Two pieces of cod, deep-fried to a golden brown, served with tartar sauce, fresh lemon, and malt vinegar on the side.

**\$7.95**

### Popcorn Shrimp

A cluster of bite sized shrimp deep-fried to a crisp, served with cocktail sauce and fresh lemon.

**\$7.95**

### Chicken Tenders

Tasty chicken strips served with BBQ, ranch, or honey mustard.

**\$8.95**

### Wing Dings

Meaty chicken drumettes, deep-fried golden brown.

**\$8.95**

### Fried Chicken ( ¼ or ½ piece)

Leg & thigh or wing & breast ¼ ... **\$6.95**

Leg, thigh, wing & breast ½ ... **\$8.95**

## SANDWICHES

All sandwiches served with coleslaw, pickle, and choice of one: French fries, onion rings, steak fries, sour cream and chive sticks, baked potato, mashed potato, fruit, soup or dinner salad.  
\*pepperoncini peppers instead of pickle  
If sandwich does not come with cheese, add to any for 50 cents.  
Add Jardinière for 50 cents.

### Owl Burger

Our most famous burger, with grilled onions and American cheese on a toasted French roll.  
**\$7.95**

### Bacon Cheddar Owl Burger

Similar to the Owl Burger, we top this one with grilled onions, bacon, and cheddar cheese.  
**\$8.95**

### Quarter Pound Hamburger

Build your own burger with this one. Served with lettuce, tomato, and onion. Add bacon, cheese, BBQ sauce, blue cheese, grilled green pepper or onion. Add 50 cents per extra topping.  
**\$6.25**

### \*Italian Beef

Thinly-sliced Italian beef soaked in our aujus, then piled high on Italian bread. Great with mozzarella.  
**\$7.95**

### \*Italian Sausage

Italian spiced ground pork formed to a patty on toasted Italian bread.  
**\$7.95**

### \*Bolognese

One of our favorites. Italian beef or sausage topped with grilled peppers, grilled onions, and mozzarella. Served on toasted garlic bread.  
**\$8.95**

### \*Primo

Italian beef or sausage topped with mozzarella and spaghetti sauce. Served on toasted Italian bread.  
**\$8.95**

### Reuben

Choice of corned beef or turkey, swiss cheese, and sauerkraut on grilled marble rye. Thousand Island served on the side.  
**\$8.95**

### Marinated Chicken

Our own marinated chicken is served with lettuce, tomato, and mayo on toasted bun.  
**\$7.95**

### Wisconsin Flying Pig

Marinated chicken (flying), cheddar cheese (Wisconsin), bacon (pig). Hence the name. Served with lettuce, tomato, and mayo on a toasted bun.  
**\$8.95**

### Pulled BBQ Pork

Texas style smoked pork smothered in BBQ Sauce on a toasted bun.  
**\$6.95**

### Grilled Ham and Cheese

Thinly sliced ham with choice of swiss or american cheese on grilled white, whole wheat or marble rye bread.  
**\$7.95**

### Club Sandwich

Better be hungry for this one. Ham, turkey, cheddar cheese, bacon, lettuce, tomato, and mayo. Served on white, whole wheat, or rye bread.  
**\$8.95**

### Fishwich

A piece of cod battered and deep-fried to a golden brown. Served on a toasted bun with tartar sauce and malt vinegar.  
**\$6.96**

### BLT Wrap

All the makings of a BLT stuffed into a corn wrap.  
**\$6.95**

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## SANDWICHES

### Chili Dog

These jumbo-sized dogs are smothered with our homemade chili and served in a poppy seed hot dog bun.  
**\$6.95**

### Patty Melt

¼ pound hamburger patty on grilled marble rye with cheese and grilled onions.  
**\$6.95**

### Grilled Cheese

The all American grilled cheese. Served on your choice of white, whole wheat, or marble rye bread with American, Swiss, cheddar, or provolone cheese.  
**\$5.95**

### Beer Boiled Bratwurst

Grilled bratwurst topped with your choice of onion, sauerkraut, and spicy mustard.  
**\$6.25**

### Our Famous Hot Beef

Thinly-sliced Italian beef on white bread. Served with mashed potatoes, smothered in gravy.  
**\$6.95**

### Rib-Eye Steak Sandwich

Tender cut of Black Angus beef on a French role with grilled onions and spicy horse-radish sauce. Served with steak fries.  
**\$8.95**

### Pork Chop Sandwich

A classic sandwich, this tender chop is grilled and served with lettuce, tomato, and mayo on a toasted bun.  
**\$7.95**

### Pork Tenderloin

Breaded then deep-fried, this crispy tenderloin is served with lettuce, tomato and mayo on a toasted bun.  
**\$7.95**

