

The Huntsville Times

DINNER TALK

What would you order if you came back to this restaurant?



From left:

Brenda Gideon

"I would like to try the breakfast menu on my next visit. Lunch was great."

Angela "Angie" Manus

"I would order my favorite things: the wings plus the Cajun pintos. If my diet will allow it, I'll add the blueberry biscuit."

Eileen Broady

"I would like to try the grilled chicken salad or maybe the chicken tenders with red beans and rice. The blueberry biscuit had a good flavor of blueberry and frosting."

Sheila Moon

"I would get the wings, red beans and rice and pintos."

Virginia Harper

"I would order the same thing – fried chicken – maybe with different fixings just to try something different."

Michael Bouvier

"I would have wings, dirty rice and a sweet potato pie. I thought the service and appearance of the food along the serving line was excellent."

Julie Terrell-Bouvier

"Probably I'd try the chicken sandwich, as others we ate with had them, and they looked delicious. It was all good."

Bojangles': Return stirs excitement

By MIKE KAYLOR
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News of a new Bojangles' Famous Chicken 'n Biscuits restaurant brought back memories for Angie Manus. She wondered whether the wings, the dirty rice and Cajun beans were as good as she remembered them from 25 years ago.

The company's publicity releases claimed that this would be the first Bojangles' in Alabama, but Manus knew better. She had worked at Bojangles' on the eastern end of University Drive in Huntsville when she was fresh out of high school. That was around 1981.

So a letter from Manus made her the obvious choice as a guest critic to rate the new Bojangles' when it opened again on University near the University of Alabama in Huntsville campus. She invited a group of friends and co-workers along to reminisce.

Bojangles' operated in Huntsville in the early 1980s during a growth spurt for the North Carolina-based chain. But the success apparently came too quickly, and the company was forced to cut back and reorganize.

Finally, it has returned to Huntsville. The wings have a seasoned batter that



Patricia Miklik Doyle/Huntsville Times

Bojangles' two-piece dinner with rice and pintos.

customers remember from long ago, but they're not spicy hot. The meat is tender and moist.

Neither the Cajun-style chicken, pintos nor gravy is heavily spiced, but they have just enough chili and cayenne flavor to awaken taste buds.

The breading is delightfully crisp and not at all greasy.

Garden salads with fried or grilled chicken cost \$3.99, and chicken dinners cost \$4.39 for a two-piece, \$5.29 for three pieces and \$5.89 for a four-piece meal.

A dinner consisting of three wings costs \$4.39, and each of the dinners includes one side dish, a biscuit and iced tea. Sandwiches, too, are served

with a drink and side for \$4.49.

Customers order and pay at one end of the serving line, and the food is ready when they arrive at the other. The operation seems fine-tuned.

Probably the best thing on the menu is the cinnamon biscuit, served as a dessert or breakfast treat. Just as good for those who like blueberries is the Bo' Berry biscuit. A sweet-potato fried pie is also quite tasty.

Bojangles' serves breakfast biscuits beginning at 5:30 a.m. daily. They are stuffed with steak, country ham, bacon, sausage or egg and cost from 85 cents for a jelly biscuit to \$1.79 for sausage and gravy.

Manus and her friends – eight people in all – ate lunch on a Friday for barely \$50 total. They found the classical music playing in the background rather intriguing. And no one had to clean the tables before they left.

Bojangles' is fast food with a relaxed atmosphere.

Bojangles' Famous Chicken 'n Biscuits

Where: 4323 University Drive
Phone: 895-3317

Hours: 5:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday-Thursday, drive-through open until midnight; 5:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday-Saturday, drive through until 1 a.m.

Alcohol: No Smoking: No

Typical Entree Price: \$4-\$7

Ambiance: Casual fast food
Ratings: 4 very good, 3 good, 2 average, 1 fair

