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Lorraine Eaton writes about food and spirits for The Virginian-Pilot. Look for her stories in www.hamptonroads.com/flavor



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Want to get lucky? Take a chance at Burton's Grill

So a couple of weekends ago I attended a birthday celebration for "Miss Jane" Braithwaite. Upon entering her gorgeous home, each guest was presented with \$1,000 in gambling chips.

They came in handy because almost every room in the house had been converted into a gambling haunt - roulette, blackjack - you name it and there was a way to waste that grand.

I spent some time at the table playing 21, but then, there's no delicate way to say this, I had to pee. I was doing pretty good so I said, what the heck, and pushed all of my stacked chips forward for a single bet. And I won. Sheesh. What are the odds of that?



Anyway, I've just learned that you can gamble for dinner at Burton's Grill next week. The possibility of free fine food. Sounds like fun to me! On Tuesday at **Burton's Grill** in Virginia Beach you can order up a meal and when the bill comes, have the server toss a coin for a chance to get it free.

Common sense says that you have a 50-50 chance of calling the toss correctly. But since common sense and mathematical reality rarely align in my brain, I checked the web. Indeed, several sites confirm that you will have a 50% chance of a free meal! Or, if you are a pessimist, a 50% chance that you'll have to pay. If you want to do some virtual coin tossing to test it, click [here](#).

Burton's always has interesting features on its seasonal menus. Right now, they're mixing up Virginia Honey-Crisp Martinis (\$9) made with Spirits of the Blue Ridge vodka (distilled just up the street in Virginia Beach), honey from Apis Farms, Captain Morgan rum, garnished with a fresh honey-crisp apple from the Eastern Shore. For dinner, they're serving up locally caught fish over creamy risotto with fresh corn, snap peas, shrimp and crabmeat, topped with a delicate lemon butter sauce.

But you have to make reservations by Monday (422-8970.) And chances of getting a table are better if you call early - don't need a mathematical mind for that one. Remember, alcohol, tax and 20% gratuity not included.