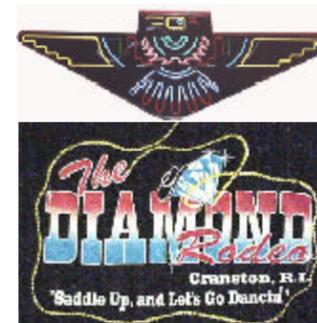


# January 2001

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <b>Sundays</b> <b>Joe Macera</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Line Dance Lessons	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Line Dance Lessons Cat Country Dance Party	<b>6</b> Line Dance Lessons
<b>7</b> Two - Step Lessons	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Line Dance Lessons	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Line Dance Lessons Cat Country Dance Party	<b>13</b> Line Dance Lessons
<b>14</b> Two - Step Lessons	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Line Dance Lessons	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Line Dance Lessons Cat Country Dance Party	<b>20</b> Line Dance Lessons
<b>21</b> Two - Step Lessons	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Line Dance Lessons	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Line Dance Lessons Cat Country Dance Party	<b>27</b> Line Dance Lessons
<b>28</b> Two - Step Lessons	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Line Dance Lessons		 <b>Fridays</b> <b>Gail McKenna</b>	 <b>Saturdays</b> <b>Joe Shutt</b>
Sunday - Two Step Lessons at 7:00 with Joe Macera Wednesday - Line Dance Lessons at 7:00 with Debbie Bliss Friday - Line Dance Lessons at 7:00 with Gail McKenna			 <b>Wednesdays</b> <b>Debbie Bliss</b>	Cat Country Dance Party Night Every Friday Saturday - Line Dance Lessons at 7:00 with Joe Shutt		



## SIDE - BAR COMMENTS

### Club Hours

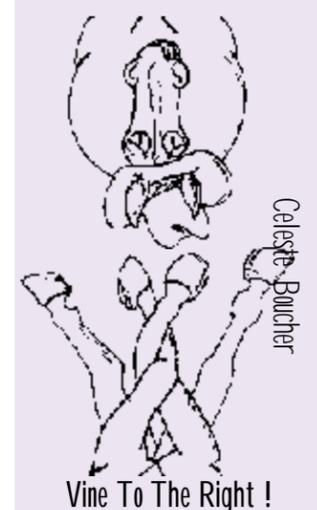
Wednesday 7 PM - 1 AM  
 Friday 7 PM - 1 AM  
 Saturday 7PM - 1 AM  
 Sunday 7 PM - 12 PM

## MARDI GRAS

1500 Oaklawn Ave.  
 Cranston, RI  
 (401) 463-3080

Fridays  
 Free Line Dance Lessons  
 with Gail

This newsletter can be  
 viewed on line at  
[www.mikeponte.com/mardigras](http://www.mikeponte.com/mardigras)



Diamond Rodeo Newsletter - Editor, Layout & Photos: Michael Ponte  
 Co-editor: Joe Macera

Writer, Columnist: Esther Scittarelli

January 2001

[interview](#) | [links](#)  
[bioGraphy](#) | [reviews](#)



**Lynda Lombardi**

Here's my story...  
 I hadn't really been out to clubs for a while until about 2 years ago when I started a New Year's resolution to try to control my weight by doing something I've done all my life and always enjoyed doing - dancing. I had lost 85 lbs. and I'm still striving to lose a total of 100 lbs. I started going to the "other" club in West Greenwich to learn how to line dance. That club wasn't very far from home. Although I liked doing that for a while, I stopped going because I felt like I didn't fit in. Then I heard about Swing lessons on Wednesday nights at Mardi Gras. I started going every week and I had a ball. There was a group of us that assembled every week and we were the "regulars" in that club for a while. More and more new people would come every week. When the band took their break, I would

walk over into the Diamond Rodeo to watch how the people danced. I enjoyed watching everyone having fun, but I didn't have an interest in country music. I enjoyed my swing dancing too much. Every week, I'd walk into the Diamond Rodeo on the band's break and I started liking the music and dance more and more. I've always listened to variations of music, but NEVER country music. As a professional drummer in an all-girl group in the early 70's, I had always liked the rock & roll music of that time. I was finally hooked when I went to the club's cookout at Goddard Park in August of 1999 when I seemed to be accepted by the crowd that goes on a regular basis. One of the "regulars" started teaching me all of the partner dances in between sets near the bar. I learned the partner dances I know in a matter of a few weeks. I didn't do any line dancing until later. I didn't have enough nerve to get on the dance floor all by myself, but I finally did. Even though I'm not as good a dancer as I wish I could be, I have a lot of fun. Even when I'm not asked to do a partner set, I enjoy watching the crowd from the sidelines. Peter sometimes even includes me in his renditions of a few of the songs. He's an absolute BLAST to watch!  
 Now, I'm hooked on country! It's the only music I listen to. I look forward to my 2 nights

a week at the club. It seems to give me a break from the everyday rat race and keeps me sane! Ha Ha. I've met some true friends here and I enjoy every minute I'm here. Well, that's my story.

Lynda Lombardi

NEW LYRICS TO  
 LET IT SNOW  
 LET IT SNOW



**Ilda Matteo**

LET US DANCE, LET US DANCE, LET US DANCE

OH THE WEATHER OUTSIDE IS FRIGHTFUL,  
 BUT THE MARDI GRAS' SO DELIGHTFUL  
 AND SINCE WE HAVE D.J. "JOE"

LET US DANCE, LET US DANCE, LET US DANCE

WE NEVER SHOW SIGNS OF STOPPING  
 AND THE DJ KEEPS US HOPPING  
 AND SINCE WE DON'T WANT TO LEAVE  
 LET US DANCE, LET US DANCE, LET US DANCE  
 ON - - - - W E D N E S D A Y  
 THERE'S DEBBIE BLISS

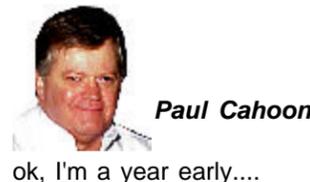
WE CAN'T ASK FOR MORE THAN THIS ON---FRIDAY'S THERE'S GAIL McKENNA SHE SURE MAKES A DANCE LOOK BETTER THEN JOE SHUTT AND JOE MACERA MAKE WEEKENDS A LOT MORE MERRIER THE TWO-STEP AND COTTON EYED JOE AND A BIT OF THE EL PASO

WHEN WE FINALLY LEAVE THIS PLACE WE KNOW WE ARE ALL IN GOOD SHAPE TO BE ABLE TO DANCE ALL NIGHT WE ALL SHOULD KISS JOHN READYS FACE

SO WHEN THE WEATHER IS REALLY FRIGHTFUL MARDI GRAS' IS STILL DELIGHTFUL SO IF YOU HAVE NO PLACE TO GO COME AND DANCE, COME AND DANCE- COME AND DANCE  
ILDA MATTEO

YOU KNOW YOUR GETTING OLD WHEN.....  
? The most important thing on your mind is cooking turnips.  
? You want to wish everyone a happy holiday, but forget which one.  
? You bend over to tie your shoes and they're not there.  
? You go to the "throne room" to read the paper.  
? You need mustache wax to keep your eyebrows from looking like corkscrews.  
? You sleep in your shirt so you save time getting dressed in the morning for your dentist's appointment.  
? You wake up, realize you're already half dressed, figure you can close your eyes for a second...and miss the appointment.

? To sew on a button, first threading the needle, you rest a magnifying glass against something and hold the needle and thread behind it so you can find the hole.  
? You get the thread into the hole, and sneeze.  
? Then drop the needle on the rug.  
? And can't find it.  
? Because you can't see.  
? So you move to go get your glasses, and step on the needle.  
? Because you don't have your shoes on.  
? Falling backwards into the "throne room" you remember you forgot to pick up the newspaper.  
? As you're going down, your face brushes against the tissue dispenser, spinning it, counterclockwise to your eyebrows.  
? Only now, when you hit, do you remember what holiday it is and give yourself a mental note to wish everybody a  
? MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR!



**Paul Cahoon**

ok, I'm a year early....



**Bob Butler & Crystal Hagemoser**

I started going to the club soon after I turned 21. I wasn't really into country music but my best friend Heather and

my brother Todd came to the Diamond Rodeo all the time so that of course is where I ended up.  
I started getting into the music and soon wanted to learn the dances but I was too shy to go out on the floor so Heather would teach me out on the patio. Once I learned a few dances, I felt more confident going on the floor and learning more.  
One night my brother brought a friend, Bob, with him. We started talking and after a few weeks, we started dating. I wanted to learn more dances. Bob taught me the couple's dances and I would teach him some of the dances Heather had taught me. Soon Bob started taking lessons here on Sunday nights and I would just get on the dance floor and learn a lot of the ones I didn't know. Now we know most of the dances but still try to learn a lot of the ones we don't know.  
I owe a lot to the club and my brother for bringing Bob and I together. We have had our ups and downs but in the long run, everything has worked out and we're happy.  
Written by:  
Crystal Hagemoser



**Joe Macera & Mary Mehaffey**

When I first started going to Mardi Gras, I didn't know how to two step. Joe took me out on to the floor and showed me the basics. He said it's ok to make mistakes. You learn

by taking small steps. I started two stepping two years ago. I do ok but I'm still learning.



Here is the picture of me and Naikita. She is a black and white husky. She's a very good dog. This picture was in the August 2000 issue of the Sun Rise. It's a free paper.

Mary Mehaffey

**Hello everyone from Music City!!**

I'm sure all of you are dancing up a storm (no pun intended). I've been doing a lot of dancing at the Wildhorse Saloon. It's a great place, and I've already become one the "regulars". This is my first try at choreographing a dance. We're going to teach it here, and I wanted to share it with all of You..

I hope You all have fun with this dance. You can email me and let me know how you like it or don't.. I'll keep in touch with articles in the newsletter every now and then. If You have any ideas about articles from Nashville. Let me know.. Keep on Dancing  
HARRY PRATT  
IMOK39@YAHOO.COM  
(See separate sheet for steps)

**Happy New Year?**

It's that time when our thoughts think back to the year that has passed and look forward to the year to come with great anticipation. When we look back are we pleased with everything we've done or do we wish we could change something? What we can't change we can learn from, what we can change will make this New Year much happier with fewer mistakes. What did we learn from last year? Don't lie and publicly deny anything we may have done. Our former president, Mr. Clinton, learned that lesson. You're never too old to marry a younger woman. Michael Douglas learned that lesson. In Florida they learned they must punch holes right through the paper, dimples don't work on an election ballot. Al Gore learned electoral votes count more than the people's choice. President elect Bush learned it's great to have a



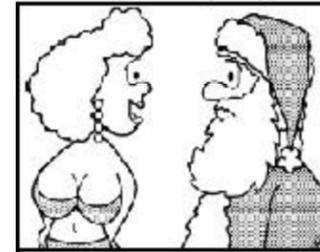
brother who is governor of Florida and also to have the U. S. Supreme Court on your side.  
Now it's time to mention New Years Resolutions. Some of us will join a gym. January is a great time to begin exercising and toning the body. Some will vow to make double payments on their Visa which they maxed out for Christmas presents. Some will just keep making the same mistakes they made last year and the year before. I know what most country music lovers and country dancers will do for the New Year they, will continue to go to the Diamond Rodeo in the Mardi Gras complex because they know they'll be able to keep their resolutions. Dancing helps the mind and body to relax and when you're relaxed you're happy and able to meet the trials of everyday life. So each week we'll meet and dance and be happy and face the New Year with a positive attitude. Ready or not here we come 2001  
Written by,  
Rita Polce  
12/20/00

**Cat Country's Tad Lemire and Brian Coburn host a limbo contest as part of the "Friday Night Dance Party".**



Limbo cool, limbo fine  
Ev'rybody gets a chance

Clap your hands it's party time  
Do the limbo dance



"Ok, but I need more than \$25 an elf this year."

If you would like to write an article for this newsletter, please see Joe Macera, Esther Scittarelli or myself. We will be glad to add it to a future issue.  
Happy New Year to everyone who help make this a safe and fun place to dance.  
Mike Ponte

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