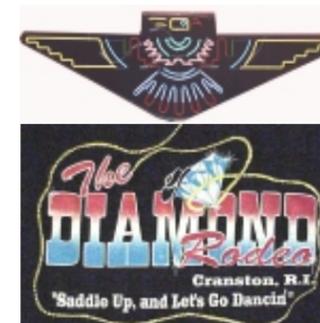


WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			Line Dance Lessons		Line Dance Lessons Cat Country Dance Party	Line Dance Lessons
Wednesday-Line Dance Lessons at 7:00 with Gail McKenna Friday - Line Dance Lessons at 7:00 with Gail McKenna Cat Country Dance Party Night Every Friday Saturday - Line Dance Lessons at 7:00 with Gail McKenna					Wednesdays, Fridays & Saturdays Gail McKenna	



Mike and LuAnn stand on the second level as I take the photo from the lower level..



Side - Bar Comments

Club Hours
 Wednesday 7 PM - 1 AM
 Friday 7 PM - 1 AM
 Saturday 7PM - 1 AM

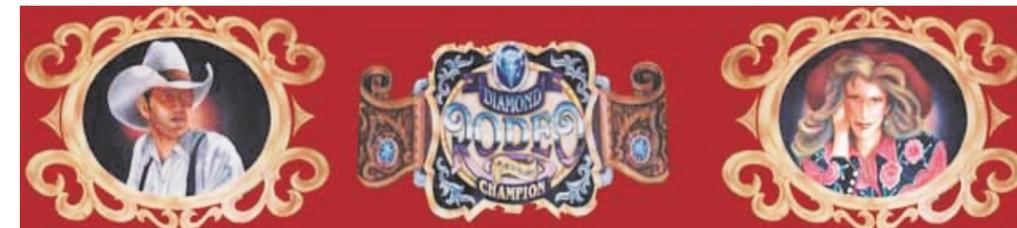
MARDI GRAS
 1500 Oaklawn Ave.
 Cranston, RI
 (401) 463-3080

Wednesdays
 Fridays
 Saturdays
 Free Line Dance Lessons
 with Gail McKenna
 7 - 8 PM

This newsletter can be viewed on line at
www.mikeponte.com/mardigras



Quick Quick... Slow Slow



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

January 2003

interview links
 biography reviews

My wife Susan and I were very happy to visit with Mike and LuAnn Grafe a few weeks ago. As you can see by the photos they are in the process of building a new home in West Greenwich, Rhode Island. Mike and LuAnn have both taken a part in it's design. Mike is a structural engineer and is president of C.A. Pretzer Associates, Inc. This leads me to believe that the house will be as strong as it is beautiful.



This opening where Mike and LuAnn are sitting will soon become a patio door located in their master bedroom. It will allow them to walk out to a deck that spans the rear of the house.

The home is being build in a beautiful wooded area of the town just a few miles from exit 6 on Route 95. Being from Massachusetts, I am always amazed at just how wooded parts of Rhode Island are. The lot is large enough for LuAnn to keep her horse, Allee happy and still have room for her two boys to race their dirt bikes.

Word has it that Cat Country's own Sam Stevens also goes back there hunting from time to time. Many ribbons and awards are proudly displayed in their present home, a tribute to her hard work and talent in the art of horsemanship. It's always a pleasure to see this energetic couple walk in the club on Fridays. Two hard working people who have met and fallen in love right here at the Diamond Rodeo. Mike and

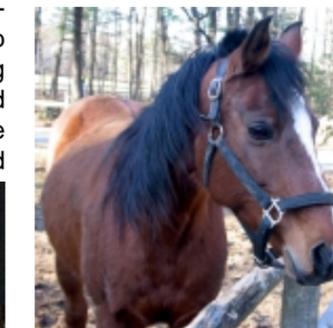
Yet I know LuAnn is not afraid to get under that beautiful Ford Expedition to change the oil if she has to. It's a pleasure to see them unwind here at the club. And when DJ Joe Desio says he wants to hear some noise he knows he can count on them to help liven up



LuAnn with horse, Allee and dog, Sarah.



Lu Ann and Mike, just enjoying the Friday night out.



Allee takes a pose of her own the Friday night party. Sue and I both enjoy seeing them on Friday nights and are pleased to be able to call them friends.

LuAnn always show up looking great in their country attire.

Thanks for the tour Mike and LuAnn and for sharing your life with us.

Mike Ponte

I had written an article for this publication 2 years ago and so I thought that this time I would send all of you a personal belated Christmas Present from myself instead. I wrote this poem with all the lovers and newlyweds who met and kiss under the mirrored saddle while dancing at the Diamond Rodeo. And so it is to them that I dedicate this poem. Hope you like it. Happy New Year



Janice A. Sauco
THE KISS

There was magic on the dancehall floor in the Diamond Rodeo that night, Where we kissed and the lights flickered over you and over me.
The fire in me reached to touch the spark in you,
As we danced there in a place where the lights bounced off our swaying bodies,
And we kissed under the mirrored saddle in the Diamond Rodeo that magical night.
As we slow danced there and I breathed in your intoxicating cologne,
Deliciously intertwined, we kiss again,
And the lights flowed over you and they flowed over me,
And absorbed our sadness and expelled our pain,
And we kissed as the lights flickered and the slow music played.
I felt the floor moving beneath my feet,
Felt the lights playing through my body,

Tasted your sweet lips, and breathed your aching soul into mine, and the music disappeared from my ears,
As we kissed each other alone on the dancehall floor that joyous night.
I heard the melody's sweet words again,
Heard the sighing of the gentle love song,
As your tender kiss warmed my body.
And it was awesome, seductive and stunningly beautiful,
And we kissed once more beneath the disco lights in the Diamond Rodeo.

Janice A. Sauco



Hello to all

I hope everyone had a great holiday. I am still hoping that the weather cooperates and gives us a few BIG snow storms, I'm talking blizzards or close to it. I did miss my calling in life.....forecasting the weather is my most popular hobby. Having a computer helps me of course to read the United States and European models and looking at other things to make my own prediction. I was quite amazed by the water levels at the Scituate reservoir this past summer with the water lines and rocks that I have never seen. That's why snow is good in a way; it seeps in the ground slowly. As I stated, the more the merrier. Let's face it, weather effects everyone daily from what you do for a living to Wall Street.



William O'Brien

Another favorite hobby is communications; I have been a licensed ham radio operator since 1980. To get my novice license required me copying 5 words per minute Morse code and electronics theory questions. A couple years later, I went to the Federal Communications Commission in Boston where I copied 10 wpm Morse code and took an electronics theory test and got my General Class license, which permits me to use other ham radio bands that I couldn't use with the novice license. My ham call sign is w1pro. I worked 6 years in radio as a radio disc jockey in the Dayton, Ohio area. I had a very successful morning show, I worked the midday, drive time, evening and overnight shifts at other radio stations in the Dayton area. FM radio is ok but I prefer the AM band. I like to challenge the AM band at night and listen to distant stations out of state. It's amazing how the weather affects the atmosphere at night. For example, on a clear cold night, you can hear 890 WLS in Chicago. One night driving home from the Diamond Rodeo, I listened to a radio station in Wheeling, West Virginia and it was broadcasting the Jamboree in the Hills country concert, which was cool. My favorite country group is Brooks and Dunn followed by Montgomery Gentry. One of my favorite male vocalists is Alan Jackson and he has a hell of a band. My other interests include snow skiing, feeding the birds (quite a few bird feeders out here) but I will recommend using only black oiled sunflower and if you feed suet, get it from the meat dept. where ever you shop. It looks and feels yucky but it's only fat. The birds love it. I like doing just about everything. Hockey is my favorite sport. I played hockey for 6 years on a city league. Base-

ball is another. I played ball at the old Kinney field in Warwick. I can't stand basketball. A big thanks to all who make this newsletter happen. Just a reminder, Joe Macera is always looking for people to write something, big or small. Writers, lets keep this newsletter functioning. And remember, you can email your article directly to Mike Ponte, you know, the guy who takes all the great pictures you see in the newsletter. Big thanks to Gail McKenna. She is very dedicated to teaching line dances and she wants to see you learn them, but you have to get on the floor, sitting on a bar-stool is not going to work. If you mess up, laugh it off like we do and start again. Remember, practice makes perfect. So, I want to see you on the floor dancing and having fun. "END OF DANCE"

William O'Brien



Jason Giorgi, a Diamond Rodeo regular proudly serves us all.

I just received an email from and old friend, Jason Giorgi a few days ago. I last saw him at the club on Friday December 6th just before he was to travel overseas for active duty. Jason is now stationed at Prince Sultan Airbase, Saudi Arabia.



Jason Giorgi

Jason is with the 143rd Security Forces Sq. from Quonset, RI. Jason tells me he has been with them for 1 1/2 years now. He said "It's not bad here, they really take care of us and so far I am enjoying it." "Please tell everyone @ the club I said Hi and I miss you all. Proudly, Jason Giorgi

Jason's Email address is:
363ESFSSFEM282@PSAB.AF.MIL

Mike Ponte



Yes, you have seen these worn and they look and feel damn good, now you can wear a "Dance with Gail" t-shirt, only \$12 dollars. See Gail McKenna or Bill O'Brien. Sizes S, M, L, XL, XXXL.



Gail McKenna



Front



Back



Rick was also up from Florida visiting a few weeks ago. Rick also keeps up to date with the club's activity by way of the internet. You can reach Rick at: Hotdad36@yahoo.com

Mike Ponte



Walter is one of the club's great employees. Thanks goes to all of them for keeping the club a safe and orderly place to have fun.

There's that ringing sound again. Should we answer this time?

People



Paul Cahuny, a long time friend of many pays us a visit. Paul moved to Florida a year or so ago. He came up for the Holidays and I was pleased to see him again. Paul reads the newsletter on-line and also looks at the photos posted on the web. He routinely corresponds with several Diamond Rodeo patrons via email. You can reach him at: Cahuny@webtv.net

Mike Ponte

Disc Jockey
Weddings, Anniversaries, Birthdays
Corporate Parties, Holiday Parties,
Banquets, Reunions, Nightclubs

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