

July 2001

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



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
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Wednesday Night
Line Dance Lessons at
7:00 with Debbie Bliss

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 ,Columinist: Esther Scittarelli, Rita Polce

July 2001

in August. We knew each other in Jr. High. I was 14 then and he was 16 but now I finally got him and he is the best boyfriend a girl could ever have.
- by Sherry Nordella



**Robert "Bobby" Burns
A Mistress, An Addiction, and An Obsession!**

My buddy's sisters, Angela and Michelle, confronted me the other day. They said: "Where do you go all the time? Last Friday we were all playing volleyball on the beach and we even brought our girlfriend Monique for you, and you just left! And then Saturday we were having the cookout we all planned and we were all having a good time and then you just left again! And then how about Sunday? We were having dinner at my parents' house and then you suddenly vanished! We know you're not seeing anyone steady and yet we are beginning to wonder. For several months now you often just disappear. Monique thinks you have a mistress and we're beginning to wonder too!"

I looked at Angela and Michelle and figured I better tell them the truth. I said: "Listen and I do sort of have a mistress to be honest. I figured no one would understand. She is captivating, alluring, seductive, joyous, passionate, and even quite funny at times. She is my first love now and yet I figured no one would understand. And, if you want to know the full story, I also have an addiction and an obsession to go along with my mistress!"

Angela and Michelle couldn't believe what I was saying. But it was time to get it all exposed. I told them that I had a number of friends who had the same "problem" and we were all trying to hide it from others until we felt comfortable talking about it! But I also told them that there was nothing immoral about my mistress.....she is the safest any man could ever have.....she is my "Diamond Rodeo!"

Angela and Michelle looked rather surprised and began to laugh! They said, "You mean you run off to do Country & Western dancing!?" I said, "Yes! You guys always made fun of it and I knew growing up in Rhode Island very few people who loved it. When I was a little boy I used to do Square Dancing and all my friends thought it was a stupid thing to do. So to be honest, I longed to try the dancing at the Diamond Rodeo, but none of you would go. When we all went one night to Mardi Gras, you came into the Diamond Rodeo and made fun of the people dancing! How was I supposed to let you all know what I was

doing? Yes, I've hid a lot of my life from you guys and many of us in the Diamond Rodeo are not revealing our 'mistresses' to others!"

Then Michelle pushed me a little more about my life. She said: "Ok, but what about the addiction and the obsession you mentioned. Are you really addicted to something and do you really have an obsession?" My response was an immediate "yes!" I told them the truth: "Listen, my addiction is country music! Whether it's Toby Keith, Faith Hill, Tim McGraw, Leeann Womack, Brooks & Dunn, Alan Jackson, JoDee Messina, Patty Loveless, Diamond Rio, Kenny Chesney, Lone Star, LeAnn Rimes, Dwight Yoakem, George Strait, Clint Black, the Dixie Chicks, Shania Twain, Hank Williams, Jr., Trisha Yearwood, Brad Paisley, or whomever, I'm addicted! The music so often tells a story and makes me pause over and over again. When I hear Tim McGraw sing, 'I don't know why they say grown men don't cry,' I know I'm often close to tears. And then you guys started laughing at me when I started singing with Toby Keith, 'How do you like me now?!" Well, I love it and yes, I love other types of music, but that music speaks to me and my other 'addicted' friends!" Again, they both laughed at me and then Michelle said, "So, give us your obsession!" I said, "Ok, my obsession is Country & Western couple dancing! I'm still learning, but I love it! I love to feel the woman in my arms and do the steps with her. For me it's a form of communication and almost like therapy! I lose myself in the dancing and release my problems of the day. Four of my friends told me it's the same for them too. I guess my sweetest obsession, how-

ever, and perhaps even a challenge, is to find a permanent partner. But so many women have been so gracious and so willing to help me, and well, they're just great! I don't think you could meet a nicer bunch of folks than the people who do country dancing! I love it. And now you guys know the whole story!"

Surprisingly, Michelle looked at me and said, "You know, Bobby, I guess someone could really have a lot fun doing what you and your friends do!" I said, "Michelle, I never told your brother or anyone to get a mistress, have an addiction, or develop an obsession, but if you're going to hang with me and my friends at the Diamond Rodeo, you better embrace the music and start dancing. And who knows, maybe you'll meet that special someone as Toby Keith sings, 'You shouldn't kiss me like this, if you mean it like that, if you do, baby kiss me again!'"

- By Robert "Bobby" Burns

Editor's Note: Bobby wishes to thank everyone who has been so kind welcoming him and in helping him to dance. He especially wants to thank those brave women whose feet he may have stepped on a couple of times. He promises he will only get better! He also wants to thank the management and staff of Mardi Gras for their kindness and professionalism in running the entire complex. We are all grateful too.



"I'm sure you prefer non smoking."

WE'RE IN GOOD HANDS WITH GAIL MCKENNA!

In a word-she's just great! It's that simple! But then, again, she's a lot of things. Top notch for one! Pert, petite, golden locks and all, this all American country dance dynamo is enthusiastic and bursting with energy-possessing innate teaching talent and know how with regard to communication on the dance floor. True to her efforts, her precision instructionals delivered with poise and finesse inspire confidence, style, dance attitude, balance and proper foot work. To be sure we thrive on her teaching expertise! It goes without saying she was born to inspire and thanks to the quality with which she delivers..we don't miss a beat and for that we are grateful! An educated guess tells us one with so much to offer wears more hats than this one to be sure! On that note, word has it a serious commitment to a career in nursing to which she is fully dedicated commands her full daytime focus. So, yes! We're in good hands. No! We're in great hands with Gail McKenna. And-since one could never thank her adequately in person, may we do so in writing. From all of Diamond's country dance enthusiasts..is extended a sincere expression of thanks, praise, and confidence in Gail for all of her efforts which have not gone unnoticed!

Sincere thoughts ..
..written by Esther Scittarelli

his admirers. How could "Zorba the Greek" be gone from our lives? As I thought about this I came to one conclusion, anyone who leaves such an impression on so many people could never really die because they leave so much of themselves behind for us to remember.



Anthony Quinn

Imagine living to be 86 years old, having had three wives, fathering 13 children, and being so very young at heart. I listened as some of his older children were being interviewed about their father and each one of them showed such respect and love for the man who created them. They marveled at his intellect because much of his knowledge was through reading and grasping every bit of information he read and practicing it in his daily life. His love of the arts and his creativeness, through his paintings, just made his admiring public love and respect him all the more.

I also think of each of his three wives and how interesting it must have been being married to someone so versatile. No matter what ended his first two marriages I'm sure the children born of these relationships knew a father who loved each and everyone of them. It is sad that two of these children are very young and of course will not be able to spend growing

years with their father but I'm sure his present wife who bore these children will pass on his legacy and the children will feel pride when they think of their dad as they enter adulthood. His children have inherited many of his talents but it's hard to compete with a legend.

-Rita Polce July, 2001.



Chrissy Lemoi & Diane Southland

I was asked by Joe to write an article about country music and its impact in my life. I have always been a fan of country music and its lyrics. There are few people who cannot relate to some of the old ballads or new "pop" country songs. I incorporated line dancing several years ago and have found a "new family" in country music. During both of my pregnancies, I continued dancing. To this day, my daughters are listeners and dancers of country music.

- Diane Southland



People



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