

# Rockin' Horse Tales



Summer 2001  
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Rhonda's Writin'

You can find us on the WEB at:  
[www.learn2dance4fun.com](http://www.learn2dance4fun.com)

Happy Summer!

With "that time of year" upon us, I have to admit I have found my passion (besides my family and the barn): I cannot stay out of the garden! Everything we planted last year has doubled in size and our yard is filling in beautifully. I have never "gardened" before and I can honestly say I am hooked. The recent area we landscaped is our private driveway. We put in railroad ties and a few plants that Darcy, our designer you could say, had given us from her own yard. Some other "garden enthusiasts" noticed our hard work and one day some plants showed up on our doorstep. Plants are still coming. A heart felt thank you goes out to the following people for so generously adding to our gardens:

Duane for the sunflowers and tomatoes  
Ellie for the beautiful pink plants by the front door to the barn.  
Darcy for so many plants I can't begin to name.  
Sunni for all the shade garden plants.  
Steve and Kathy for the yard art.  
Barbara W. for the London Pride plants.  
A Solo Squares member for the dahlia bulbs.

All of these plants are such a welcome addition to our home. Each time I look at the plants, now and in the future, I will always be reminded of you. Thank you!

**LEAVE ROOM IN YOUR GARDEN  
FOR ANGELS TO DANCE!**

This coming October we will have owned the barn for 3 years and I don't know where the time has gone. We felt in our hearts that taking this risk would be a good thing, but we never imagined we would be as blessed as we are. Back in April I received an e-mail from MUSIC.COM asking us if we would help promote "The Tractors" newest CD. We, of course, said yes and were told to expect from 10 - 20 CD's to hand out. We were shocked to receive 120 CD's to give out instead, along with posters, coupons, and guitar picks! **MUSIC.COM** contacted us later to say thank you, not only from our local area, but from the Nashville, Los Angeles and New York headquarters as well. All three offices have now heard of "The Rockin' Horse Dance Barn" and extend a big "THANK YOU" to everyone who participated in the giveaway.

We are getting ready for another needed "update" to the barn -- new windows. Ones with actual screens so this year we won't be eaten alive by mosquitoes. We also got started on the parking lot by making actual stalls to park in. We had 40+ railroad ties donated to us by Bruce Morgan and his Dad, which Dave cut in half and placed out in the parking lot as bumper stops. We increased our capacity from 55 to 75 cars. The last thing we are waiting for are two new light poles before we are able to remove the existing pole from the middle of the parking lot. We're hoping it won't be too long before the entire parking lot is finished. Thank you for being patient while we work out the bugs.

The newest addition to the barn is the coffee machine, located by the pop machine, in the back of the dining room. We have put coffee out for so many years, that we did not want to get rid of it all together, but we could not afford the expense of the grinds, cups, etc. We were going through 60+ cups a night, and having to throw out almost all of the coffee because people were instead using the cups to get water out of the sink. We are sure the addition of this machine will cut down on the waste and mess, providing fresh brewed coffee for those who drink it.

With the summer months comes heat (we hope) and with that heat, the barn temperature starts to rise. When you come to take a class, or to a dance, please remember to dress comfortably. Bring a sweater or light coat for the evening if you end up sitting, as the doors and windows will more than likely be open.

The greatest thing we have done in a long time happened on **Friday, June 22**. We had our first ever "Salsa night." Chips and salsa that is, not salsa dancing. I have never seen so many different types of salsa in my life! Store bought, home made, mild, hot. You name it, we had it here at the barn. But that was not all. We had planned on teaching this hot little salsa line dance, choreographed by a Canadian choreographer/instructor, Michele Perron. We were in Canada and had learned the dance "Singalongmysong" from her. We told her about our 'salsa night' plan and she offered to come to the barn and teach the dance herself! What a fantastic treat that was (Michele is known by many line dancers for "Smokey Places, 3 Cats cha cha, Madly off in all directions, and T.G.I.F.," just to name a few) It was the greatest night I have had in a long time! It took me 2 days to get the smile off my face. Look for our

## RECYCLE

We have separate bins at the Dance Barn for bottles or aluminum cans. If you can help, please throw them in the appropriate bin so we can take care of them.

Thanks for your help!

next "theme" night on **September 7th** when we do an "End of Summer Ice Cream Social." We'll provide the ice cream, we're asking that you bring a topping. I can't wait to see what you come up with this time. Other parties in our plan are a baked potato night, and a pasta night. We'll keep you posted with dates and times.

We offer swing dancing on Saturday nights for people to come and dance, practice and learn new moves. We are now expanding our format, starting in July:

7 - 9 Mostly East Coast, Jitterbug, Lindy & Jive

9 - 12 Mostly West Coast Swing

There will still be a variety of other music during the evening including: Cha-cha, Salsa, Country Western 2-Step, Fox Trot, Waltz, etc..

These dances will be EVERY Saturday in July and August (except July 7th). See the enclosed flyers for more information, or give us a call. We'll be happy to tell you more about it.

On July 25th, Dave and I will be married 9 years. On **July 27th** we are having a Hawaiian theme potluck dance and anniversary party. There will be no lesson that night as we are starting the potluck early. Come in your favorite beach/luau attire for our "costume" contest. Like last year, this will be a fun night!

I hope this letter finds you as happy as we are here at the barn. Hope to see you at the next dance or lesson soon. I'm off to the gardens .....

Until next time,  
Rhonda

Square Dancing with ISSASQUAHS & BRAVES  
Info. Dick Beham 425-392-3863  
Third Saturdays of the month Dances

Square Dancing with SOLO SQUARES & Bill & Pat Sigmon  
Info. Carol LaGasse 425-254-8760  
Sunday Lessons 4:00 - 6:00 • Dances 6:30 - 9:30