

From the Hayloft

LOS GATOS, CA

***** May 1998 *****

FROM THE OUTGOING PRES

The travelers have returned and, as much fun as it is to travel, it's good to be home. We drove the RV to Phoenix, then went airborne to Mazatlan, Mexico for a week of square dancing, sight seeing, and joining in the fun of Mardi Gras. Did you ever square dance in a pool with your clothes on??? We did.

Upon our return to phoenix, we headed east to Mesa where we met up with nine other couples from the Rafter Rockers. After two weeks of square dancing, hiking, exploring, shopping, and of course eating, we left for the Bakersfield Fiesta. . . a truly fun weekend of dancing.

What can you say, without repeating yourself, about Circus Circus? It is, without a doubt, one of the best plus hoedowns there is. The combined Club effort to put it all together for a most successful party is commendable. Thanks to all of you, and a special thanks to Lenny and Glenn for the overall organization of the event, and to Tasha and Lee for keeping up the tradition of a well organized kitchen.

There are a couple of issues the Board has discussed that effect all of the club members. One is incorporation. In these times, we feel incorporation is important as a safeguard to protect the individual club members from being sued. Every member of a non-incorporated organization may become a litigant in the event of a lawsuit. To incorporate requires filling out various forms and filing them with the Secretary of State. The filing fee is \$30.00. Since we already have our Federal and State tax exemptions, the incorporation papers should be easily obtained.

The Club By Laws are in the process of being up-dated, primarily to remove verbiage that no longer applies. When this task is completed, the proposed changes will be submitted to you for approval.

We want to thank the outgoing board members for a job well done, their support, sense of humor, and dedication. Each one did their duty efficiently and productively. It has been rewarding to work with such a great group.

The new board, with Lenny and Glenn as President, have taken over and we wish them the very best. I know they will get the same support and cooperation that you gave us.

It has been a great year and we have enjoyed serving as President.

Again, THANK YOU ONE AND ALL. Don't forget to support the local dances . . . they are fun and they need all the support they can get.

Frank & Bettey

CALLERS CORNER

Dear Rafter Rockers,

Well we seemed to have bounced around this last month and the end is probably not in sight as we will have to go to our summer home shortly.

The 4th weekend in April saw a divided group of Rafter Rockers as some went to Reno and some went to the West Coast Jamboree. I'm sure that all had a good time wherever they wound up.

May 1st was my uncle's 85th birthday so I made a trip to Montana to celebrate this event and for a proposed "Pow Wow", however due to a death on the reservation that week, the Pow Wow was cancelled and we settled for a birthday dinner with about 80 guests. It was nice to see old friends again.

From June 20th thru July 4th Chris and I will be vacationing. The 1st week, on

a cruise to Alaska with Jerry Junck and our family and friends, then on to Arlee Montana for the celebration of the 100th Anniversary Pow Wow. This being the event that it is, they Do Not cancel for any reason.

Until next time,
Ken

BAKERSFIELD FIESTA via MESA ARIZONA

On February 28th, a 7-rig RV caravan of intrepid Rafter Rockers set out for Mesa Arizona with intermediate stops at Bakersfield and Indio. This jolly group, comprised of the Barnes, Berrys, Buschs, den Broeders, DePalmos, Marshalls, and Wilsons, rolled into Mesa on March 2nd and were greeted by Frank & Bettey who had already gotten spaces assigned so that we were all located pretty much together. A day or two later we were joined by the Boyles and the McClellands to bring our headcount to an even 20. Some of the group had spent time in Mesa in previous years, but for many of us it was the first time, and we were mightily impressed. The square dance opportunities were nearly unlimited. There are 29 RV resorts in Mesa/Apache Junction that offer square and/or round dance classes, workshops, and dances, with levels running from mainstream to C3. On a typical day, you had the choice of two or three workshops in the morning, more workshops in the afternoon, and six to eight different dances at night depending on what

levels you dance. Also, the lineup of callers was quite impressive and included Daryl Clendenin, Randy Dougherty, Dee Dee Dougherty Lottie, Wade Driver, Bob Fisk, Bill Haynes, Jerry Junck, Dan Nordby, and Mike Sikorsky. On Friday nights, Randy Dougherty even served root-beer floats at his dance.

In addition to dancing, the group (individually and sometimes collectively) found many other activities and areas of interest to pursue. This included hiking (in Lost Dutchman State Park, Utery Park, and South Mountain Park), golfing (the resort where we stayed had both 9 and 18 hole courses), swimming in the two resort pools, visiting downtown Phoenix and downtown Scottsdale, visiting Frank Lloyd Wright's "Taliesin West" the famous architect's personal residence and architectural school that he started building in the desert at age 70, visiting the beautiful Boyce Thompson Arboretum, visiting the ghost towns of Goldfield and Tortilla Flat, and, of course, shopping, shopping, and shopping - (you're likely to see some of the ladies in long "broomstick" skirts and fancy new tee-shirts). With all of this activity we had to maintain our strength by sampling the local cuisine. Two restaurants that come quickly to mind are the "Landmark" where, after you have finished with the salad bar, you have to take your entree home in a doggie bag; and the Mining Camp Restaurant that serves huge platters of food family style, and where one of our group is suspected of eating one whole platter of ribs by himself - is that true Ron? But

the meal I enjoyed most was the outstanding tri-tip barbeque and potluck that we had at our rigs.

We were also visited by two ex-Rafter Rocker couples - Jerry & Judy Smith who many of you will remember, and Chris & Roberta Baert who were RR's many years ago before they moved to Arizona. Jerry & Judy, who now live in Tucson, joined us at an A2 dance and they have obviously kept their dancing skills up.

Needless to say, many of us will likely go back to Mesa again next year, and the reason for writing this is to try to interest some of you in joining us.

From Mesa, we travelled to Palm Springs for more swimming, golfing, hiking, and shopping before going on to Bakersfield for the Bakersfield Fiesta.

The Fiesta was, as always, an outstanding square dance weekend with some 2577 people and 520 RVs participating. The crowd was kept dancing by callers Bob Baier, Mike Kellogg, Darryl Lipscomb, Mike Seastrom, Gary Shoemake, and Bronc Wise. The Rafter Rockers made a good showing with the Henrys, Nichol/Fosters, and Sandler's joining 9 of the couples coming from Mesa. Frank and Betty again took on the duties as wagonmaster, and did a fine job of getting us all situated together in a good location. A great time was had by all, and we encourage more of you to put this event on your agenda for next year.

NEW LIFETIME MEMBER

It was with great pleasure that we honored Jean Jones with a Life Membership to the Rafter Rockers.

Over the past 14 years, Jean and Tom were extremely active members in the club. They served as President and Vice President besides serving on numerous committees and being Square Heads for a number of years. They helped host the annual Rafter Rocker's Yacht Club Sail. The "sailors" would sail to Treasure Island Cove for a pot luck lunch and fun on the bay. This activity lasted about five years.

Besides owning and operating the Dance Store, Jean found the time to make Barn Dresses and Patchwork Skirts. She has made and donated two skirts for Circus Circus and one for the Silent Auction for a number of years.

We certainly appreciate all the support she has given to the club.

Thank you Jean

KING CITY (West Coast Jamboree)

Well, the Rafter Rockers survived another windy weekend in beautiful downtown King City. The dancing was great and so was the company. Kenny and Gloria's "guard goose" kept watch over all of us. Glenn got his tires aired up and Frank got rid of an "itsy, bitsy spider". We do have one complaint - our designated "Tall Boy" did a great job controlling the rain, but he forgot to

pray about the wind. Oh, well, we are a hardy bunch and the breeze didn't keep any of us from overeating at the potluck. Thanks to the DePalmo's for allowing us to use their private patio and to all of you who helped set up and clean up. Really think Jerry and Joan could have shared some of their beautiful garden flowers! Oh, yes, Phyllis has been designated the official "horsey doors" chairman of the potlucks. I won't even mention that a few of the female gender found time to shop!! We'll do it again next year.

Bob and Judy

Treasurer Thank You

Bob and I want to thank all of you for your support and cooperation for the past three years. We enjoyed serving as Treasurer and got to know so many of you. I must admit that it was nice to come dance last week without loading up the trunk. Again, thanks!

Judy Hogan

SILVER STATE FESTIVAL

Of the numerous festivals Anna May and I have attended, the 1998 Silver State Festival (held in Reno on 4/23-26) ranks as one of the top 2 or 3. The organization, the special programs, and the calling was outstanding. Can you imagine dancing to Jerry Story and Bronc Wise doing a fast fast moving duet and Johnny Preston and Tony Oxendine having a contest to see who could out do the other. Even the Trail In dance and the Sunday morning dance had the largest

crowds we've ever seen. In addition to all of this, they conducted a one hour Team Madness contest in which one clogging club and 5 square dance clubs sang and danced special humorous country routines (it's the first time I saw what happens when a guy doesn't put the seat down!!). The winners got \$100.

The organization for this event was superb. In addition to the specially laid wooden floors, they had separate halls for mainstream, plus, A1, A2, round dancing, clogging, and country. Ken Kenmille and Jerry Junck were the featured callers for those still able to make the after party. The lucky list of attendees included the Kenmilles, Boyles, Murphys, Masons, Malstroms, Goerings, Szekers, and Symons. In addition the Marshalls "of Grass Valley" and the Van Straatens joined us for this outstanding dance event.

Van Symons, Wagonmaster

PARTY NIGHTS

In March, it was the "wearin' of the green" as we celebrated St. Patrick's Day, and then in April things took a big turn for the worst as everyone showed up looking like hobos. As it turned out, the "Hard Times" party scheduled for April 15th, was really hard times since we were turned out of our school. However, not to be thwarted, we just moved the party to the next week. A BIG THANKS to squares 6 and 7 for organizing the two party nights, and of course thanks to all of you who provided goodies for the occasions.

RAFTER PROFILES

ROCKER

MEMBER

Hey Gang, you're falling down on the job. After reading "Profiles" on the Symons, Bloods, and Murphys in the last Hayloft, we thought we would be getting lots of inputs from you giving your own profile sketches, but we only have one to publish in this issue. We still think that this is a good way to get to know each other better - SO HOW ABOUT GIVING US AN INPUT.

DON & JEANNE WILSON

Don and Jeanne went through the Rafter Rocker class of 1980 and joined the club in 1981. About a year later they started Honey Wolfson's A1/A2 class and upon graduating danced for about a year with the Wheeler Dealers (Mike Degmetich's A2 club), before joining Honey's Acey Deuceys. They even tried their hand at C1 with Bill Davis but found that dancing three nights a week (not counting Hoedowns) was a little much, especially with the concentration required for C1.

They have served the Rafter Rockers as Treasurer, Activities Chairman, Historian (12 years), Hayloft (3 years), and Square Head, and the Acey Deuceys as SCVSDA Delegates. In addition, Jeanne has made a number of things for the club including Rafter Rocker aprons, windsocks, and earrings (as gifts for outgoing President, Silent Auction, etc.) and the big Rafter Rocker flag (actually a complete re-make of an existing flag).

The Wilsons have three children (two girls and one boy) and four grandchildren (three girls and one boy, ages 6 to 10), and are fortunate enough to see them fairly often.

In addition to square dancing, they both greatly enjoy travel, and have been in nearly all of the countries of Western Europe, and have taken cruises to the Carribean, through the Panama Canal, and to Alaska. On the domestic front, they have traveled in their motorhome through most of the western states and western Canada. They also have a cabin in the Sierras (near the town of Arnold on Hwy 4), that they use for cross country skiing in the winter and just enjoying the mountains in the summer. Both like to hike, and Don goes backpacking whenever he gets the chance.

Don retired from Lockheed in 1992 where he had been Director of Data Systems Engineering. Since retirement he has done volunteer work helping build houses for Habitat for Humanity, and is currently a volunteer for Friends of the Saratoga Library. Jeanne also does some volunteer work, but her real loves are working in her yard and flower gardens, doing various crafts, and making her own greeting and thank you cards.

BARN DRESS FOR SALE

For Sale: One Rafter Rocker Barn Dress, size medium (12 to 14), price \$50. If interested see Anna May Symons.

RAFTER ROCKER SCHOOL-USAGE & EVENTS CALENDAR

May 6 Union
May 13 Fisher
May 20 Fisher
May 27 Union Silent Auction

June 3 Union
June 10 St. Francis Cabrini
June 17 St. Francis Cabrini

Rafter Rocker Board

President	Glenn & Lenny Weber	356-6113
Vice-president	Hugh & Jobie Berry	867-4860
Secretary	Bob Eggers & Marie Fowler	252-7544/379-1124
Treasurer	Robert & Ester Burton	225-3115
Hayloft/Historian	Don & Jeanne Wilson	252-3148
Membership	Don & Jean Arndt	997-3440
Activities/Liaison	Bill & Beth Barnes	356-7900
Hospitality	Fred & Carmen Rios	(650) 964-7811
Publicity	Anne and Richard Sandler	244-5896
Class Liaison	(This could be You)	
Supplies	Kenny Nichols & Gloria Foster	226-8145
Party Decorations	Walt Seebach & Carol Simcock	267-1424
<i>Activities</i>	<i>Karl Dancer & Jane - 725-7315</i>	

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