



# SHAG RAG

## Shag Dancer Newsletter



Dedicated to the Preservation of the Carolina Shag and Beach Music

Vol. II, No. 5

Keep on Shaggin'

May 1995

### From the President - By Charlie Price

Thanks to each and every one of you for your continued support. It has now been slightly more than two months since we moved to DeJa Vu, and I am happy to say, it is a rockin' place every Wednesday night! We've got our original DJ - Bert - back, a great wood dance floor, and still the friendliest, nicest group of people around. For those of you who haven't been to DeJa Vu yet, come check us out. As somebody said recently, I'll bet you can't stop with just one! And, for those of you who haven't been to the Club lately, we miss you -- so come on down and shake that thing!

Help your Board to keep your Club a growing and dynamic organization. Let us in on your thoughts and ideas -- after all, this is your Club, and it will only be as good as each of us is willing to make it. Please remember, your ideas and suggestions are always welcome -- particularly from our new members. Don't be shy! Just let any Board Member know. Feel free to contact any of us in person, or use the phone numbers in the box below -- that's why they are there.

Keep on Shaggin', and see you at DeJa Vu!

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#### NVSC Officers and Board Members

President	Charlie Price	790-0783
Vice Pres.	Donna Harrington	356-6035
Treasurer	John Belt	914-8744
Secretary	Patricia Parrott	591-4113
Board Mem.	Pauline Easby-Smith	759-4478
Board Mem.	Janis Grimes	536-7362
Board Mem.	Rick Hendrix	425-0006

### NOTICE!! Members Only!

#### Membership Roster Now Available

The NVSC Membership Roster is available to Members Only for \$2.00 to cover the cost of printing. You may obtain yours from the Membership Chairman at our regular Wednesday Shag night at DeJa Vu, or request one to be sent by mail: Send \$2.00 to P. Parrott, 12234 Fort Buffalo Circle, Fairfax, VA 22033.

The roster is provided so that members can communicate regarding Shag events, share rides, etc. It is not to be used for solicitation of any kind.

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### FREE - Carolina Shag Lessons

The weather has been downright depressing, but Shaggers are still Dancin' at the Beach (*in spirit at least!*), every Wednesday night at DEJA VU, 6710 Commerce St. in Springfield--on the left side of BLACKIE's. Call 703-971-4200 for directions.

**FREE SHAG LESSONS - DEJA VU at 7:30 sharp every Wed. night.** Beginner and intermediate steps are taught by NVSC members. Take advantage of this FREE opportunity to learn to Shag, the Carolina way!!

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## The Roving Shag Reporter . . .

RSR was spotted last week, in a frantic (but *fabulous*) flurry of fancy footwork -- where else, but at Duck's in N. Myrtle Beach.

We consider this to be an Excused Absence ..... as SOS is Priority # 1 for Shaggers, who flock back to Shag Mecca, a Dancer's Paradise, each spring and fall.

Look for RSR's rambling report on S.O.S. Spring Safari at Myrtle Beach -- next month!!

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## To My Shag "Family" -- by Donna Harrington

In the past several years of my life, when I didn't seem to be being dealt a "winning hand," I have been reminded of the incredible value and importance of caring, meaningful friendships.

How fortunate I have been to gain a wealth of priceless friendships through our Shag Club!! Your expressions of concern and sympathy for me and my family upon the recent death of my Mother were both touching and supporting.

Individually, your cards, phone calls and warm hugs have heartened and strengthened me. Thank you for allowing me to share my sadness with you; it's not so difficult when others help carry the load.

The bouquet of spring flowers was exquisitely lovely! I took it to my Father's house in McLean to share with all of my sisters, brother, nieces and nephews and family friends. It reminded us all of the promise of spring, the rebirth and regeneration of the Earth. So, too, my Mother's love is never-ending -- it will continue to nourish and guide those she cared for -- it will live in my heart and my memory always.

Thanks for sharing my tears, as well as my smiles.

Fondly, Donna

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## Farewell Juanita

Juanita McNamara has moved to Cordova, Tennessee. All the best wishes to you, Juanita -- stay in touch, and come back to see us!

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## GOLDEN KEYBOARD AWARD WINNERS

Last month, I ... (*tsk*) ... neglected to mention that there were TWO Shag Rag Golden Keyboard Award winners: PATRICIA PARROTT, for her **Medical Alert** article; and our new columnist, SHORTY GEORGE, for **Shorty's Excellent Adventure**. Congratulations, PAT and SHORTY!!

Honestly, with the excellence in writing that we've been seeing lately, we may have to host a Golden Keyboard Awards Gala Event!

Readers, Writers -- are you out there?? Submit your articles to Janis -- *well* before the end of the month, please. *Thanks!*

## Happy, Happy Birthday . . .

### May Birthday Babies:

- 1 - Raili Tate
- 2 - Bob Beard
- 5 - Rick Mesmer
- 6 - Alvina Mayer
- 11 - Ron Toms
- 15 - Juanita McNamara
- 18 - Donna Harrington
- 20 - Joan McKinney Campbell
- 22 - Patricia McMillan
- 22 - Lily Orlando
- 28 - David Blanco
- 29 - Michael Getsey
- 30 - Tom Lufkin

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## Road Trips With Gypsies . . . By Patricia Parrott

A hard-core group of Shaggers gathered at St. Alban's School on Saturday night, Apr. 15th, after -- (*phew!*) -- searching the lovely school grounds to locate top floor trophy room. This was the North Carolina Alumni Association Spring Beach Bash. We enjoyed informal dancing on a beautiful floor to great beach music, light snacks, good socialization, sharing steps and fun.

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## Wanna Play? You Gotta Pay . . .

Now that we've had a few weeks to adjust and settle in to our new location, it seems timely to mention a "fact of life" that sometimes seems to escape us.

In the last month, we have heard the sad news that two sister Shag Clubs have lost their dance floor on Sunday nights from lack of participation. The Fredricksburg Shag Club has lost the opportunity to dance at the Underground on Sunday nights, but has moved to another location on Wednesday nights. And the Richmond Shag Club, which regularly meets on Tuesday nights, has given up the use of Razzles on Sunday afternoons, due to lack of support by the membership. RSC will, however, host a Sunday Social at Razzles on the 3rd Sunday of each month, beginning on May 21st.

We are very fortunate to have our lovely new "home" at Deja Vu. It is large enough to accommodate many, many more Shaggers and friends; it is in a good location, and is easy to find; they have gone out of their way to accommodate us -- plans in the near future include refinishing and expanding the already large wooden dance floor; Wednesday nights are dedicated to our Shag Club and Beach Music, even though we are not large enough for a "private party"; and, the cover charge is only \$2.00. That is a small price to pay in this D.C. metropolitan area to enter a dance club with such a pleasant environment where you can socialize and dance with great people.

Other dance clubs in this area charge a much higher cover -- \$5 or even \$10 is not unusual. They have to, in order to stay in business! It seems that serious dancers generally do not drink enough to support the establishment that is supporting their activity. But it is not necessary to buy alcohol, if you don't want to drink and dance. Buy soft drinks, or juice -- they stock a variety of juices at the bar that are delicious and healthy. Go early and buy dinner or a light snack. Blackie's is an excellent restaurant, and they'll serve you right at the bar!

The important thing to remember is to buy something -- anything -- to pay your share toward keeping that dance floor. The bartender and the DJ are there working to earn a living! They are not volunteers who are there just to hang around with us. Please remember to thank them with a tip, and SPEND MONEY.

A dance floor represents a large investment that must earn a profit, or it will cease to exist. Blackie's has to make a profit to stay in business, that's a "fact of life." If all the income is being generated by the CW's on the "other side," and the Shaggers are not spending enough to make it worthwhile to open

Deja Vu, pay a doorman, a bartender and a DJ -- guess what will happen?

Support your Club -- come on out on Wednesday nights to Shag and party with your friends at DEJA VU. And remember, if you wanna play, you gotta pay.

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## Shagger Profile -- Valerie Swiger

*Occupation:* Automobile Financing

*Birthday:* November 8th

*Hometown:* Miami, Florida

*Marital Status:* Divorced

*Motto:* Never make the same mistake twice

*Dream:* To travel with someone who is good company, doesn't get upset if they get lost, and can dance

*Bad Habit:* Too many to name

*Hobby:* Reading, dancing, gardening, home repairs

*Luxury defined:* A long walk on a beautiful day

*Drink or Wine:* Bourbon and coke

*Books at bedside:* Any murder mystery

*Last words:* Try to find something good in people and adverse situations

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## New Members in April

Welcome, new members!! C.W. and Linda Arthur, Dickie and Jean Carr, Maurice Downing, Mary Ferguson, Sally Riskin, Phyllis Schulte, Latrelle Shaw, Mary Taylor and Edward Valaer.

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## Treasurer's Report - By John Belt

Thanks to each of you -- your support for NVSC t-shirts and our 50-50 Drawings has helped to increase our treasury. Ideas for fundraising, anyone? Contact John - 703-914-8744.

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**NOTICE! Members Only!!  
NVSC Shag Video Library  
SHAG VIDEOS NOW  
AVAILABLE**

Instructional Shag videos are now available ON LOAN to members only wanting to brush up on their Shag steps. The Club will loan you a video for one week, FREE OF CHARGE. A refundable \$10 deposit permits you to view the tape for one week. A small charge of \$5 for each additional week is required.

LARRY CAMP has generously agreed to be the Keeper of the Tapes. Larry is available at Deja Vu on Wednesday nights, or call him at 703-823-0282.

**Speaking of Parties . . .**

**A Weekend of Magic . . .** by Donna Harrington

Boogie on the Bay's annual event, "Magic Maydays" is one fantastic weekend romp, and the chance to do it again is fast approaching! You can purchase tickets for the May 19-21 fun-time using the form in this newsletter.

The club has constructed its own dance floor and KEITH ABERNATHY has purchased a section for his fellow members of NVSC -- pack your magic markers to sign your name and memorialize your visit with this outstanding and friendly club.

REMEMBER: Magic Markers ..... Magic Maydays!!

P.S. Word is out that you can learn an exciting new set of "moves" if you are where the action is May 19-21!

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**AND THE WINNER IS . . .**

CONGRATULATIONS to DAVE RAPSON, who won the Club's Raffle Prize of TWO FREE S.O.S. TICKETS and TWO FREE NIGHTS in MYRTLE BEACH!!!!

The 50-50 Drawing will be held the FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH.

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**\*MAY is Committee Sign-Up Month\***

Your opportunity has arrived to become a mover and shaker! Board Members will have forms on Wednesday nights at Deja Vu throughout the month of May, so you can select your own personal favorite way to contribute to the fun and growth of this fantastic Club of ours. Create some waves (as in ocean/beach); get in on the action!!!

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**REMINDER: TIP the Bartender and DJ!**

Susan Davis, the bartender at Deja Vu, does so much for us every Wednesday night. With her smiling face and competent service, she keeps us well supplied with our favorite beverages so we can concentrate on the "serious" business at hand -- Shaggin' and having a great time!! Those delicious snacks on the bar are personally supplied by Susan for us to enjoy. Let her know how much we all appreciate her generosity -- show her that Shaggers are generous too!!

Also, remember BERT NELBACH, our DJ, who keeps us Shaggin' to the best in Beach Music each week. We are very fortunate to have Bert with us again. If it weren't for Bert, we'd still be singing the "Wait -- I Have A Shag Tape In The Car, We Can Play That Blues."

A little generosity goes a long way. We cannot expect to dance and party for nothing. When you support those who provide us with a place to meet and dance each week, you are supporting your Club.

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**The Shagmaster Says:**

- You ain't SEEN Shaggin' if you ain't been to MYRTLE BEACH -- Shag Capital of the World!!
- Volunteer for a committee -- Support Your Club
- *Keep on Shaggin'*

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**LOOK!**

**Shaggers Network**

**Place your ad here**

Business card size - \$5 for one month/\$50 per year

Contact: John Belt, 703-914-8744

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



**NORTHERN VIRGINIA SHAG CLUB**

N.V.S.C.  
P.O. Box 5522  
McLean VA 22103

NEW ( )      RENEWAL ( )

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
ANNIVERSARY DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

FOR STAFF USE ONLY:

AMOUNT PAID \_\_\_\_\_  
CARD # \_\_\_\_\_  
CASH \_\_\_\_\_ CHECK \_\_\_\_\_

\$15.00 FOR ONE YEAR MEMBERSHIP  
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO NORTHERN VIRGINIA SHAG CLUB, INC.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
                LAST                                  FIRST                                  NICKNAME

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
                STREET/P.O. BOX                                  CITY                                  STATE                                  ZIP CODE

HOME PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

BIRTHDATE \_\_\_\_\_

SPONSORED BY \_\_\_\_\_

WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO SERVE ON ONE OF OUR COMMITTEES?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

THIS INFORMATION IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE. BY MY SIGNATURE, I AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE RULES AND BY-LAWS OF THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA SHAG CLUB, INC. I UNDERSTAND THAT MY MEMBERSHIP MAY BE REVOKED BY THE CLUB AT ANY TIME IT MAY BE DEEMED NECESSARY. THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA SHAG CLUB, INC. WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY ACCIDENTS, PERSONAL INJURY OR LOSS OF ANY PROPERTY DURING ANY CLUB FUNCTION.

\_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE      DATE

CHRISTMAS IS COMING  
and so is

THE  
BOOK



Did you know, the Shag can trace its roots back to twelfth century Western Europe? Do you really understand how the dance evolved, who nurtured and saved the Shag? Why does the legend live? These questions can only be answered with a stroll down memory lane. You have to step into history and travel toward the present day light of a social phenomenon. This book illuminates the legend of the Shag in well written words and poignant pictures. The writer is Bo Bryan, winner of the

Normad Magazine fiction award. The text will be hard bound 9x12 inches, with over a hundred photographs, black and white and color. Collector's editions will include the published autographs of many famous dancers. First run copies will be numbered and signed. Reserve your collector's editions now. They will not be available in book stores. S.O.S will hold your deposit. You can not lose. If you'd rather not settle for a regular edition, such as will be available in stores this spring, you must confirm your reservations now.

The price of regular editions will be the same as this collector's beauty. Make your check payable to "S.O.S BOOK". One price includes text, postage and handling, \$48.69, per copy. Clip the coupon and mail with your remittance to: Dr. Phil Sawyer, P.O. Box 4688, Columbia, SC. 29204

NAME	_____
ADDRESS	_____
CITY, STATE	_____
ZIP	_____



Presents Their Third Annual

**MAGIC MAYDAYS**

Come join your friends, meet new ones and dance the weekend away

Plenty of good food, good friends, good music and dance, dance, dance.

**May 19, 20, 21, 1995**

Association of Beach & Shag Club D.J.'s  
David Jones, Calvin Holmes, Ron Arey & Don Ruth  
*Guest Dance Instructors*

**Door Prizes  
Raffles  
50/50**

**Chesapeake Holiday Inn**

725 Woodlake Drive, Chesapeake, VA 23320  
RESERVATIONS: (804) 523-1500

**REQUEST BOOGIE ON THE BAY RATE**

Rooms \$57.00 Double / Suites \$75.00 Sleeps 6  
Registration \$40.00 (\$45.00 After May 1)  
*space is limited and no one day passes*



**Club Banners  
Welcome**

**Park N Party**

**Hospitality Room  
Free pours**

For additional information, call (804) 488-9327 or (804) 399-5355

**Registration: BOTB, P.O. Box 3291, Portsmouth, VA 23701-0291**

<b>Name</b>	_____	<b>Phone</b>	_____	<b>Club</b>	_____	
<b>Address</b>	_____		<b>Phone</b>	_____	<b>Club</b>	_____
<b>Name</b>	_____	<b>Phone</b>	_____	<b>Club</b>	_____	
<b>Address</b>	_____		<b>Phone</b>	_____	<b>Club</b>	_____

