



SHAG RAG

Shag Dancer Newsletter



Dedicated to the Preservation of the Carolina Shag and Beach Music

Vol. II, No. 8

Keep on Shaggin'

August 1995

From the President - By Charlie Price

On Saturday, July 15, Donna, John and I attended the Summer Workshop of the Association of Carolina Shag Clubs in Fayetteville, NC.

The principal item of business was the election of new officers, and even though we do not yet have a vote (our new member probationary period will be up the end of this month!), the election was very interesting.

There was a groundswell of support among the delegates present for candidates other than those nominated by the ACSC's nominating committee. And, from the nominating speeches, and the candidates' remarks, it was obvious that many delegates felt that the national leadership had become too remote from the association's members. After the first round of voting, only one of the ACSC-nominated candidates - FOSTER McKINNEY - who was nominated for Treasurer, had won, and the two floor-nominated candidates for President were tied and had to go through a run-off election!

After all was said and done, your new ACSC officers are:
CHAIRPERSON - RON WHISENANT, Rock Hill Shag Club, SC (one of the three original co-founders of ACSC back in 1984, who served two terms as ACSC's first Chairman from '84-'85);
CO-CHAIRPERSON - MIKE RINK, Twister's Shag Club, Huntersville, NC (the founding President of Twister's Shag Club);
TREASURER - FOSTER McKINNEY, Columbia Shag Club, SC (SOS Corporate Treasurer from '89 to present); and
SECRETARY - LYNN NORTHRUP, Tampa Bay Beach Boppers, Clearwater, FL (Lynn is moving to Loris, SC next month!).

I can only say that I am very encouraged by the new slate of officers elected to run our national association. I was very impressed by their expressed desire to listen to the local clubs and their new ideas for managing ACSC, particularly its budget. (For those of you who are not aware, both the ACSC and SOS, a corporation wholly owned by ACSC, are substantial financial operations, together having an annual income in excess of \$500,000.00, most of which, after expenses, goes to charity!)

Keep on Shaggin' and see you at Deja Vu!

DANCE • SHAG • DANCE
TO
CAROLINA BEACH MUSIC
WITH
MYRTLE BEACH DJ
CHUCK WATTERS

alternating with Swing R&B by "the Gator"
Saturday, August 26th

Elks Lodge
Arlington Blvd., Falls Church, VA
*just outside the Beltway on Rt. 50 West
left side -- BIG FLAG*

SHAG WORKSHOP by Rick Hendrix*
at 7:30 p.m. -- before the dance (cost - \$3.00)
***1st Place Winner, Carolina Shag - 1994 Virginia State Open**

Sponsored by the Potomac Swing Dance Club

Non-members - \$12 admission to dance+ \$3 workshop
PSDC Members - \$10 admission to dance, includes workshop

Info: Craig Hutchinson - 703-698-9811

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

NEWS / INFO -- Contact: Janis Grimes, 202-737-2824; or 703-536-7362 - leave message.

Shorty's Second Excellent Adventure -- By Shorty George

"Hey," everyone! Well, ol' Shorty got hisself back on the road again with those famous NVSC party animals CHARLIE, DONNA, JOHN, KEITH, PAULINE and PHYLLIS for the Eastern Carolina Shag Blast in Fayetteville, NC, over the July 14th weekend. Truth be told, I think everyone was just a little subdued by the Heat, and the inability of the hotel's air-conditioning to cope with it (at least in the common areas like the ballroom and the hospitality suites). On the other hand, the music -- our music -- as always, was fantastic, with CHARLIE BYRD rockin' and a rollin' on Friday, and JUDY COLLINS wheelin' and a reelin' on Saturday!! I know I've said it before, but there is nothing -- absolutely nothing -- like a Southern Shag Blast, heat or no!

If you haven't been to a weekend before, go to one this Fall. Words alone cannot describe it. You have to experience it -- and feel it -- for yourself. If you like Beach Music and you like to Shag, there is nothing to compare with the rush you will get from walking into a dance hall where you literally feel the music pulsing in your body, surrounded by hundreds of friendly Shaggers having the time of their lives.

But don't take my word for it, make plans now to be there at one of the best the first weekend of this coming November -- Twister's Shag Club's Fall Cyclone V, at Mooresville, NC. But be careful, 'cause once you try one, you won't be able to stop!

Until next time, keep on walkin' that walk, and talkin' that talk! S.G.

Road Trips With Gypsies . . . by Donna Harrington

Alright! An invite to party, dance, enjoy dinner and, as a bonus, meet dancers from all the other Shag Clubs in Virginia (hallelujah!! Just what we've been hoping to do) and from several nearby N. Carolina clubs as well.

WHO'D MISS THIS EVENT?? NO ONE IN THEIR RIGHT SHAGGING SHOES, I'M SURE!!

Yet only a few NVSC members were able to be on hand (and on the dance floor) at rockin' STEPPIN' OUT when Virginia Beach Shag Club presented "It's A Shore Thing" on Sat., June 17th.

Mac McLaughlin, Pres., VBSC, introduced each visiting club and called its representatives to the floor for a "spotlight dance." Larry Camp, Valerie Swiger, Keith Abernathy and I tried our best to "do you proud."

NVSC was awarded a plaque (no, not for our dancing) for traveling the greatest distance to attend the event. Crazy!! It seems only a short drive when all that fun and friendship awaits upon your arrival. Just after the spotlight dimmed, our own Jerry Crews appeared -- can you believe he missed that chance to showcase his cool moves?

We delighted all evening to meeting and dancing with fellow Virginia Shaggers.

Sam Lewis and Shannon McGonegal shared the great news of their new dance location in Fredericksburg on Saturday nights. Let's visit!

Earl Robinson, Richmond Shag Club, is recovering so well from recent surgery. A double treat to watch him doing the dance as only Earl can perform it. Larry and Shirley Jones sent hello's to all from Richmond-way.

A large group accompanied David and Sharon Jones from Outer Banks Shag Club -- such a fun loving, party giving, great dancing bunch.

Boogie on the Bay Shaggers were glad to see us again following their successful Magic Maydays weekend.

There are some *hot new steps happening out there! Check out MAGIC, SANTEE, and the STEPPIN' OUT (**Remember -- we can swap and share new moves at our Sunday Socials -- the next one is August 6th, 5-9 p.m., Cool Hands Cafe!).

By evening's end folks were urging, "Let's do it again!" Hopefully, VBSC will be gracious enough to give us that chance.

So to Danville, Lynchburg, Martinsville, Roanoke, Fredericksburg, Richmond, and Portsmouth -- let's do it bigger and better in '96.

And to VBSC -- thanks for the pleasure of a stellar evening.

* *Swing lingo picked up in "Hotlanta."*

YOU CAN WIN!!
50-50 Drawing at Deja Vu
First Wednesday

VA BEACH Shag Club WINS Shell Award for BEST WEEKEND PARTY in the (Shag) WORLD!!!

JUST IN CASE you weren't in Atlanta at the S.O.S. Grand National Dance Championships over Memorial Day Weekend, and somehow haven't heard

CONGRATULATIONS to the Virginia Beach Shag Club (*our sponsor into the ACSC!*) for winning, by popular vote, the 1995 Best Weekend Party "Shell Award" for their Beach Bash -- and they were up against some very stiff competition from Columbia, S.C.; Jacksonville's Boogie on the Riverwalk; and Boppin' on Beale Street in Memphis.

Even though the Beach Bash is smaller (they sell out at 700 tickets maximum) than the larger parties in Memphis and Jacksonville (1,200+ partyers), anyone who has attended this wonderful party has experienced a very special weekend. The time, effort, care and planning put into this memorable event make it a "must" for many friends, who would not miss it.

The word is out officially now -- JACKIE McGEE and CHARLIE WOMBLE will be there this year, as guest dance instructors!!

The latest Bash Flash says that 456 tickets have been sold, so if you do not have your ticket yet, or your hotel room at the Cavalier Hotel, you should get your tickets and room NOW, before they're all gone . . . and they will be!

Happy, Happy Birthday ... 

August Birthdays:

- 5 - Larry Camp
- 8 - Candy Crouch
- 8 - Bill Smith
- 9 - Joy Sutherland
- 11 - Maurice Downing
- 17 - James Burke
- 18 - Darlene Smith
- 20 - Sandy Manoogian
- 22 - Sid Strawderman
- 23 - Suzanne Hutchinson
- 28 - Carol Montague
- 29 - Mona Sites
- 31 - Joey Griffith

Shagger Profile -- Sid Strawderman

Nickname: Siddo

Occupation: Builder

Birthday: August 22

Hometown: Richmond, VA

Marital Status: NO

Motto: I try to be the best I can be, every day

Dream: Get through Amateur and Novice to Pro

Inspiration: Waking up in the morning

Favorite Dance Tune: Some Like It Hot
by Eddie & the Cruisers

Bad Habit: Golf

Hobby: Golf

Luxury defined: Finding out that the air-conditioning works at the Ambassador during SOS!

Drink or Wine: Yes

TV Program: Matlock

Books at bedside: Anything by Tom Clancey

Last words: Would you like to dance?

SUNDAY SOCIAL

When: August 13th

Where: Cool Hands Cafe*

Time: 5-9 p.m.

Learn new steps -- intermediate & advanced

Cover: \$2.00

* New Dance Floor!

Directions: from Beltway in VA, take Exit 8, Rt. 50
Arlington Blvd. East to 7 Corners; Wilston
Shopping Ctr is on the left; Cool Hands Cafe is
located next to Boston (Chicken) Market, 6196
Arlington Blvd., Falls Church, 703-241-7511

Those Were The Days

The Car . . . by patricia parrott

After all these years, I still carry around the car key. The car, a 1959 Renault 4CV, black, four speeds, finally gave up the ghost after four years of me, three trips coast to coast, and life in four states. By that time, my husband, Frank, had taken off both doors and showed me how to push, run along side, hop in, and pop the clutch. Our mid-morning phone conversations went something like this: "Hello." "Hi, Frank." "Where's the car now?" It could have quit running rounding a corner, or directly under the light of a busy intersection. I'd never know, but it looked good! When it was newer, it resembled a little toy car. . . a relative had attached a large wind-up key to its trunk.

The car carried me through many experiences and created a few of its own . . . for which it received its due notice. On trips, we would often have everything that we could carry packed into every nook and cranny. Since the passenger side was pushed forward as far as it could go, it would be impossible to switch drivers. People passing us looked amazed to see me reach over to steer the car while he leaned back, eyes closed and resting . . . his foot still on the gas pedal. People also took notice to see me stuck on an incline, unable to move my foot from brake to clutch (I don't drive like that today).

Then there was the time I lost control on the PA Turnpike in a snowstorm, twirled around a few times and slid off backwards down the slope . . . braked . . . shifted . . . waited for traffic to clear . . . pulled back on the Turnpike, and continued on. I saw them watching when I had to get out of the car, hammer in hand, lift the hood, tap on the battery terminals . . . and repeat the procedure until the car started. And, yes, I guess to those who saw us, we looked kinda funny, barefoot, wearing shorts, digging the car's wheels out of a mound of snow . . . just seeking relief from Tucson heat below. Driving and shifting gears with three girls riding in the two front seats was a sight. . . Straw hat hanging from the antenna . . . it never occurred to us that the police might frown on that, but they did not see us. And, though I didn't see this myself, the thought of it makes me chuckle today . . . Frank pulling the car uphill, chain swung over his shoulder. . . friend, Jim, pushing from the back.

Yes, the car received lots of notice. . . but folks didn't see everything that happened. . . and though I'm sure it could talk if it wanted to, it never told. Neither did it ask how it survived me without a dent.

Oh No!!

CD's MISSING!!

**Johnie Johnson
Pattie Austin**

Left near DJ's booth at Deja Vu recently

Please contact Chris Pax, 301-972-0642

Thanks!

HUMOR CORNER

Alternative Definition of Health Terms

Vein	Conceited
Artery	The study of paintings
Bacteria	The back door of a cafeteria
Cauterize	Make eye contact with her
Dilate	To live long
Enema	Not a friend
Fester	Quicker
Hangnail	Coat hook
Impotent	Distinguished, well known
Labor Pain	Getting hurt at work
Morbid	A higher offer
Nitrates	Cheaper than day rates
Node	Was aware of
Outpatient	A person who fainted
Postoperative	A letter carrier
Recovery Room	A place to do upholstery
Rectum	Damn near killed 'em
Seizure	Roman Emperor
Terminal Illness	Getting sick at the airport
Tumor	More than one
Varicose	Nearby

* * *

FREE - Carolina Shag Lessons

Every Wednesday night at 7:30 sharp, FREE SHAG LESSONS are given by NVSC members at Deja Vu -- Blackie's, Commerce Street, Springfield. Dance afterwards to BEACH MUSIC from 8 - 11 p.m. Cover \$2.00. Call 703-971-4200 for directions.

New Members in July

Welcome, new members!! Pamela Archer, Glenn Jatten, Mary Davis, George Harmon, Louise Ingram, James Kirby, Joseph Laws, Allen Lebel, Mary Ann Lerch, Dave Shipp, Sharon Shipp, Louise Ware, Janice Yetman

VA STATE OPEN DANCE COMPETITIONS - OCT.

It's not too soon to start getting ready for the Virginia State Open Swing Competitions next fall, October 6-8, to be held at the Tyson's Westpark Hotel. There will be lots of open dancing, as well as very exciting competitions in several styles and classes of Swing -- including CAROLINA SHAG!!

LET'S GET SERIOUS about promoting our dance, and get some Shaggers entered into this competition -- which will be attended by dancers from all over this area, and from around the country. Do you want to help bring the dance we love to this area? Don't be shy -- DANCE FOR YOUR CLUB!

The entry fee for competitors covers your admission into all the dances for that weekend. For information, call Craig Hutchinson, 703-698-9811.

Come On! Get Over It, Get a Partner, Get a Grip, and SIGN UP!! Somebody's gonna Win -- will it be YOU??

The Shagmaster Says:

- Partners come, and partners go, but Shag is forever!
- Take SMALLER STEPS
- Work on your technique - PRACTICE, Practice
- *Keep on Shaggin'*

SHAGGER MAGAZINE

FOR ALL THE LATEST INFORMATION
ABOUT WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE SHAG WORLD

TRAVELING??

Call Hotline for location of nearest Shag Club!

For info and to subscribe, call:

SHAGGER HOTLINE -- 1-800-SHAGGER



SOS Fall Migration Sept. 8-17 in North Myrtle Beach, S.C.

It's that time of year again, Shaggers -- time to head for Fall Migration at Myrtle Beach, S.C., for ten full days of sun, beach, party, party, and dance, dance, dance as long as your feet and legs hold up!

For those of you who have not yet gone to S.O.S., it is the best time you could ever imagine. Where else would you find over 10,000 people dancing, partying and generally having a ball, in once place, at one time -- and all because of a regional dance called the Shag? That's right -- for ten days each spring and fall, Shaggers from all over the country flock back to Ocean Drive in North Myrtle Beach to celebrate and perpetuate the best party in the world -- S.O.S.

The Association of Carolina Shag Clubs hosts these events by the Society of Stranders (S.O.S.), named after the 35-mile stretch of beach along the South Carolina coast called the Grand Strand. Shag DJs keep the beach music euphoria going from 10 a.m. until *waaay* after midnight (*I've heard it goes on until 2 or 3 a.m. each night, but have not yet lasted that long, myself!*).

You will need an S.O.S. pass (cost \$35) to be able to go back and forth between all the clubs and lounges (last year we counted twelve (12) dance floors within a few block radius!). It is well worth the cost, believe it!

Come join the party at S.O.S. in Myrtle Beach -- Shag Mecca, a dancer's paradise.

From the Editor

Hey Y'all! Enjoying your summer? It's half over by now -- been to the BEACH yet?! Well, I for one *cannot wait* to get back to Beach, the Music, the People, the Dancing, the finest golf courses (*that's right, golfers!!*) -- I'm talking about MYRTLE BEACH, folks!

PLEASE NOTE: The next Board elections are coming up fast! **VOLUNTEER NEEDED** to be the next Newsletter Editor, beginning January 1996. **WHO WANTS THIS JOB??** Think about it, and contact any Board Member. *See ya Shaggin'*

