



# SHAG RAG



## Shag Dancer Newsletter

*Dedicated to the Preservation of the Carolina Shag and Beach Music*

Vol. III, No. 4 *Keep on Shaggin'* April 1996

### From the President - By Charlie Price

I hope that everyone had as good a time as I did at our St. Patrick's Day party on March 17th. Thanks again to everyone who contributed to making this party a smashing success.

Speaking of parties, on the last weekend in June (28-30) we will be hosting our FIRST Annual "Capitol Shag Classic" at the Howard Johnson Hotel on Rte. 1, just outside the Beltway in Alexandria. With the incredible efforts of JOHN BELT everything is coming together, and I have no doubt that this party will be the first of many, many memorable "Capitol Shag Classic" weekends. The hotel has recently been totally redecorated, and I can personally guarantee that the rooms are spacious, clean, and very tastefully decorated. Our special rate is \$50 per night, and each room can sleep up to four (4) people! Please bear in mind that there will be a limited number of tickets, so reserve your tickets and rooms early, and make a special effort to encourage your friends at other shag clubs to join us. Remember, the earlier you make your reservations, the better we can plan the party.

Thanks also to KEITH ABERNATHY and DONNA HARRINGTON for volunteering their time and talent as teachers at our Sunday Socials during March. Keith will be returning home to Boogie On The Bay by the end of this month and, although I know we will continue to see him up here from time to time, his regular presence, advice and counsel will be sorely missed.

Finally, if any of you have any ideas concerning how we can improve the Club or make it work better, please, please, talk to any member of the Board. Remember, this is your Club, and with your help we can make it a club that we can all continue to enjoy and be proud of.

SEE YOU AT DEJA VU AND KEEP ON SHAGGIN'

### POP QUIZ

Do You Know. . . .

WHO submitted the winning design for our club LOGO? Answer on a following page .....

News/Info -- please contact:  
Editor: Janis Grimes, 703-536-7362  
Co-Editor: Trelle Shaw, 703-768-7424



### SOS Spring Safari April 12-21 in North Myrtle Beach, S.C.

It's that time of year again, Shaggers -- time to head for Spring Safari 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 been to S.O.S., it is the best time you could ever imagine. Where else can you find 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 --SOS.

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 without charge between all the clubs (last year we counted fourteen (14!!) dance floors within a few block radius!). It is well worth the cost, believe me!

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

NVSC Officers and Board Members	
President	Charlie Price . . . . . 790-0783
Vice Pres.	John Belt . . . . . 914-8744
Treasurer	Bill Hopkins . . . 410-730-2714
Secretary	Valerie Swiger . . . . . 281-9193
Board Mem.	Janis Grimes . . . . . 536-7362
Board Mem.	Rick Hendrix . . . . . 425-0006
Board Mem.	Patricia Parrott . . . . . 435-8906
Board Mem.	Chris Pax . . . . . 301-972-0642
Board Mem.	Fred Whitman . . . 301-816-2941

## Behind The Scenes

by John Belt

Let your mind's eye wander -- picture "our Pres" Charlie Price, shirt sleeves rolled up, washing potatoes, coring cabbage; Debra Williams in over-sized sweats playing Lorena Bobbitt on carrots; Fred Whitman "bad back" and all, moving tables, chairs, decorating. Vesta Jones "said her prayers" before she jumped in and became the "Mess Sgt." Donna Leibowitz "Tickets please, -- no ticky, no food." Bonnie Niblack, Pauline Easby-Smith -- aprons on making their special dips; Janis Grimes putting those little "sausage bickies" on the table; Debbie Nichols "shake that thing" doing the 50/50 raffle; Keith Abernathy doing his thing "up together, back; triple in place; rock step"; Craig Jennings, Ken Roesel -- Mr. DJ, Great Music -- spinning the best; Lee "Smilely" the bartender saying "You killed one keg -- need another" and Red's thanks, you had to be behind the scene to know him, I was. They were saints, one and all. Happy St. Patty's Day! P.S. Fred, did you find your shoes?

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CONGRATULATIONS to LARRY and SHIRLEY JONES, who placed 2nd in the NATIONAL SHAG CHAMPIONSHIPS in Myrtle Beach -- Non-Pro Division! They have put VIRGINIA on the map at the Nationals!!

**FOR RENT:** Nice CONDO in N. Myrtle Beach: 2 BR, 2 Baths, 4 blocks from Fat Harold's, 2 blocks from Ocean. Sleeps 6. Swimming pool, washer/drier. (SORRY--not available during SOS!) CANVASBACK -- Contact Beachcomber Realty, 800-334-3798. thru

ANSWER to Pop Quiz: LIBBY HENDRIX submitted the design for our club's LOGO. Cool.

Spring  
by Henry David Thoreau

"It is so long since I have heard it  
that the shady, soaking, rushing  
sound of the rain on the shingles  
is musical. . .

The sound soaks into my spirit,  
as the water into the earth,  
reminding me of the season when  
snow and ice will be no more,  
when the earth will be thawed  
and drink up the rain  
as fast as it  
falls."

\*\*\*

## New Members in March

WELCOME, new members!! Ann Cook, Marcia Conway, John Gitzen, Kent Edie, Ernie Marchand

\*\*\*

## SHAG The Dance Legend

A book has been put together about the history, the music and the life of the dance that we all love so much. It's a fascinating, beautiful hard bound, coffee table quality book with pictures, biographies and general nostalgia about the dance, how it began, its evolution -- and the near death and resurrection of the Shag. *I could not put it down!!*

If you are interested in the history of your dance this is a must read. By ordering through our club, we make \$4 per copy -- the book will be on display every Wednesday night at Deja Vu.

If you're interested in this priceless artifact, see JOHN BELT at Deja Vu on Wed. night!

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## Road Trips With Gypsies...

by Janis Grimes

MYRTLE BEACH, March 8-9 -- Fortified with snacks, fruit, rice cakes, Tostitos and bottled water, four shaggers from Northern Virginia headed out Friday afternoon for Myrtle Beach, SC, to attend the National Shag Championships.

According to one source, the ladies were not allowed to drink anything on the way down there, allegedly hastening the trip by a couple of hours. The ladies reported that they were able to survive this hardship by consuming juicy naval oranges along the way; however, they vowed to get even on the return trip.....

SEVEN HOURS later, the group arrived in time to see three preliminaries on Friday night, and then went back to Ducks for more dancing. A tribute that evening to Brenda & Shad Alberty was touching and memorable. Brenda was there to accept the "Promotion of Shag" Award, along with her daughters. They announced that Shad had been able to see most of the filmed tribute before he passed away.

A highlight of Saturday night was watching Richmond shaggers LARRY & SHIRLEY JONES take 2nd place in the Non-Professional Division, their first time in the finals!! Congratulations to Larry and Shirley -- they have put Virginia on the map at the Nationals!! The Awards Presenter for the evening was the one-and-only FABIAN (!), who looked reasonably well preserved as he was autographing programs. (We were *this close* to Fabian, but neglected to get a picture or an autograph -- although eye contact was made with him...)

The *most* incredible dancing by juniors was witnessed on Saturday night at Ducks, after the competition was all over. GRAYSON SMITH and MICHAEL NORRIS put on quite a show, with Grayson as the leader..... Don't we wish we had *that* on tape! Michael Norris and LeAnn Best had just won the Best Overall Shagger award -- the first time juniors have won the Overall. Michael and LeAnn are the same kids who stole the show a few years ago at the Virginia State Open when they were younger and shorter!

Having taken control of the vehicle on Sunday, CHRIS and JANIS drove most of the way home. Notably, the trip back was a record-setter, with the gypsy van arriving in Falls Church in just SIX and ONE-HALF hours! (Yes, speed limits may have been exceeded, but we had to make up time for getting lost in Wilmington due to Mark's errant

directions, given while asleep.) BILL drove the last leg, leaving MARK being chauffeur-driven the entire way home, happily napping most of the way. (Well, you have to sleep sometime!)

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## Shagger Profile -- Marc Fisher

*Occupation:* Beach Music & Swing Disk Jockey

*Birthday:* January 14

*Hometown:* Washington, D.C. area

*Marital Status:* Single

*Self-Portrait:* Fundamental intimacy with music and friends

*Motto:* "What is not sought in the right way is not found" -- A quote from the "I Ching" I love.

*Dream:* Beach music becomes the rave of the Riviera

*Inspiration:* Music with feeling and soul

*Bad Habit:* I make comparisons at times

*Hobby:* Listening to music under the headphones -- at the seashore or at home

*Luxury defined:* Same as the above

*TV Program:* The old Sergeant Bilko Show

*Drink or Wine:* Icy pure water

*Books at bedside:* The "I Ching" (book of changes)

*Last words:* "A secret once told is no longer a secret."


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**Looking For a Place to Stay During SOS?**

## CONDO For Rent!!

Condo at Myrtle Beach -- During SOS!  
Call Dave Shipp *Hurry! It won't last!!*  
Home: 703-569-9032 Work: 703-914-0102





# Happy, Happy Birthday

## April Birthdays:

- 1 - Betsy Millspaugh
- 1 - Renee St. James
- 2 - Dallas Campbell
- 2 - Doreen Martin
- 5 - Nancy Krooth
- 5 - Ron Reid
- 6 - Dewain Hammond
- 7 - Judy Lance
- 7 - Kitty Senge
- 8 - Chris Pax
- 8 - Marsha Popp
- 9 - Sally Vlick
- 12 - Barbara Novak
- 13 - A.J. Nowaskey
- 17 - Barbara Stopanski
- 22 - Rita Perrotti
- 27 - Bonnie Torguson

### FOR MEMBERS ONLY

#### Membership Directories

New membership directories are available to MEMBERS ONLY for just \$2.00. Copies available at Deja Vu each Wednesday night.

### NATIONAL SHAG DANCE CHAMPIONSHIPS VIDEOS

1988-1995 - \$30 each

Specify year and send check to:

Stages Video Productions, Inc.  
917 Broadway  
Myrtle Beach, SC 39577

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### NEED INFO

ABOUT MYRTLE BEACH /  
ANYTHING SHAG?

CALL 1-800-SHAGGER




## Capitol Shag Classic

June 28, 29, 30, 1996

We will host our FIRST Annual Weekend Party, CAPITOL SHAG CLASSIC, June 28, 29, 30, at the Howard Johnson's on Rt. 1 in Alexandria. Mark your calendars and look forward to a great weekend with ACSC DJs, continuous music and dancing, heavy hors d'oeuvres on Friday night, Breakfast and Dinner buffets on Saturday, a Continental breakfast on Sunday morning, and FREE POURS during the weekend.

We will have Shag Workshops taught by competitive shaggers, and some very exciting exhibition dances and entertainment. We also have vendors coming in from out of town with an assortment of music, clothing, shoes, and jewelry.

**ROOMS will be blocked and available to shaggers for only \$50 per night (1-4 persons)!! Yes, you heard right!! CALL NOW to reserve your room at this special rate - 703-329-1400.** The hotel is very close to historic Old Town Alexandria, and the Nation's Capital, so we expect to SELL OUT, with enthusiastic attendance from many out-of-town friends!



### FREE - Carolina Shag Lessons

Every Wednesday night at 7:30 sharp, FREE BEGINNER SHAG LESSONS are given by NVSC members at Deja Vu -- in Blackie's, Commerce Street, Springfield.

Dance afterwards to BEACH MUSIC by BERT NELBACH from 8 - 12 p.m. Cover \$2.00. Call 703-971-4200 for directions.

## You Can Win!!

50-50 Drawing at Deja Vu

First Wednesday

# SUNDAY SOCIAL

**EVERY SUNDAY!!**

**DANCE TO BEACH MUSIC**  
7 - 10 P.M.

**INTERMEDIATE LESSONS**  
6 - 7 P.M.

WITH SPECIAL GUEST INSTRUCTORS

**\$5 CHARGE**  
**FOR EACH LESSON**

AT  
**DEJA VU**

**\$2 COVER**

**YOU DO NOT NEED A PARTNER**

**LEARN NEW STEPS!!**



## Shagging Tips

- Listen to the Beat of the Music, and Step On The Beat.
- Shag is danced on a slot in a back-and-forth movement, not in a circular movement. Imagine that your hand is on a post and you're moving toward and away from it.
- Take SMALL STEPS for better control.
- Body movement is basically from the waist down, with knees slightly bent. Do not bounce; glide -- as if on skates.

\*\*\*

## The Shagmaster Says....

- You want to learn Shag?
- It looks easy, but it's not . . .
- Remember --
- Attitude
- Posture
- Style
- Presence
- Practice, practice, practice
- Shaggers Do It With Their Feet!

\*\*\*

## The Roving Shag Reporter

CONGRATULATIONS to our member from Richmond SID STRAWDERMAN and LINDA MINTON on their recent engagement! We hear that wedding bells will ring in June...

Also, thanks so much to Sid & Linda for coming up here and teaching that great intermediate shag lesson at our Sunday Social on March 24th. They are one of our favorite shag couples -- some of the best dancers in Virginia!

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## AND THE WINNER IS ... \$\$\$

JERRY CANADA was the lucky winner of the 50-50 at our St. Patrick's Day Party! It was great having Jerry and Sandy with us, and we hope he'll join us -- soon and often!



## From the Editor.....

**STILL NEEDED:** CPA, tax attorney, or anyone otherwise equipped to give help and advice on filing our club tax return. Please contact BILL HOPKINS or CHARLIE PRICE.

*Life has its details....*

Do you have an idea, a suggestion, a thought? Would you like to place an ad, write an article, a column, your Shagger Profile? Just let me know, okay?

*See ya Shaggin' .....*

# The Virginia Beach Shag Club 1996 Beach Bash!

October 24th, 25th, 26th & 27th

Cavalier Hotel on the Beach

Schedule of Festivities (Be Prepared to Party!!)  
(Detailed Schedule Will Be Available At Registration)

\*\*\*\*\*

Wednesday: 'Jump Start Party' at 'Steppin Out'

★ GUEST DJ'S ★

(To Be Announced)

Thursday: 'Get Acquainted Party' at the Cavalier

Friday: AM Mixed Golf Tournament (Entry Fee to be Announced)  
Hospitality Room With FREE Food and Drinks  
Free Dance Lessons  
Dance to DJs On Our 3000 Square Foot Floor  
'Shag-O-Ween' Costume Party With Prizes

★ GUEST DANCE INSTRUCTORS ★

★ CHARLIE WOMBLE ★

AND

★ JACKIE MCGHEE ★

Professional Shag  
Dancers/Instructors

★ NATIONAL CHAMPIONS ★

Saturday: AM 'Free Pour/Continental Breakfast  
MORE DANCING!!  
FREE Buffet Lunch  
STILL MORE DANCING  
Full FREE Buffet Dinner (Menu Includes Marinated London  
Broil, Chicken and Seafood Casserole)  
SHAG 'TIL YOU DRAG!

Sunday: Full FREE Buffet Breakfast in Beautiful Orion's Roof  
Overlooking the Beach  
'Use up the Booze Free Pour'  
Dance 'Til 2 PM with your LAST OUNCE OF STRENGTH!

★ Special Womble Workshop ★  
Sunday afternoon - Details TBA

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**NO ONE UNDER 21 YEARS OF AGE ALLOWED - THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION**  
Tickets are \$50.00 through August 1st and \$60 thereafter. **TICKETS ARE LIMITED!**  
No single day or night passes. **MAIL YOUR REQUESTS EARLY - No refunds will be given**

For Hotel Reservations Call the Cavalier Hotel at 1-800-446-8199 or 804-425-8555  
(Please state that you are attending the Va. Beach Shag Club 'Beach Bash')

Room Rates	Ocean View	Ocean Front
1 or 2 Persons Per Room	\$53 Per Day	\$69 Per Day
3 Persons Per Room	\$66 Per Day	\$82 Per Day
4 Persons Per Room	\$82 Per Day	\$94 Per Day

For Further Information Contact:  
Susan Williams (804) 422-3486  
Roger Elling (804) 481-2398  
Pete Aldridge (804) 495-6920

If you are interested in participating in the  
Golf Tournament on Friday morning, please  
contact:  
Dick Russell (804-424-6117)

Detach Here

Detach Here

### SUBMISSION OF CHECK AND CONFIRMATION REQUEST

Complete a separate request for each attendee. Only two confirmations will be given per check. **PLEASE PRINT**

Name (Last, First) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Your Shag Club \_\_\_\_\_

Do You Hold an Office?  Yes  No If Yes, Which Office? \_\_\_\_\_

No Refunds - Not transferable except through VBSC Registrar  
Make Check Payable to VBSC and mail to VBSC, PO Box 3098, Va. Beach, VA 23454  
Include a self-addressed stamped envelope to receive your confirmation.  
**ALL REQUESTS MUST BE MAILED!**

**Northern Virginia Shag Club**

Invites You To Join Us For Our **FIRST** Annual

**CAPITOL SHAG CLASSIC**

Brent Key & Shea Carver

Larry & Shirley Jones

Featuring Great ACSC DJs

**Norman Mills and Jerry Canada**

Free Pours

Along with our local favorites

Vendors

Door Prizes

Eddy Farmer, Marc Fisher,  
Craig Jennings, Burt Nelbach, Ken Roesel

Continuous  
Dancing

**June 28, 29, 30, 1996**

Raffle

Registration desk opens at 4 p.m. on Friday  
Party's over at 2 p.m. on Sunday

50/50

**ALL YOU CAN EAT MENU**

Friday Night - Heavy hors d'oeuvres - Sweet & Sour Meatballs; Chicken Drumettes; Veggie and Cheese trays; Finger Sandwiches

Saturday Brunch - Scrambled Eggs, Bacon, Cereals, Fruit, Breads, Juice, Coffee

Saturday Dinner - Steamship Round of Beef; Chicken with Mushrooms in Savory Sauce; Potatoes Au Gratin; Mashed Potatoes; Green Beans Almondine; Glazed Carrots; Salad; Breads; Assorted Desserts, etc.

Sunday Continental Breakfast - Assorted Pastries, Breads, Cereals, Coffee, Juice

**Howard Johnson Hotel**  
5821 Richmond Hwy., Alexandria, VA  
Reservations: 703-329-1400

**\*\*Request Special N. VA. Shag Club Rate  
Rooms \$50\*\* (1-4 persons)  
Beltway Exit #1, Rt. 1 So.**

Advanced Hotel Reservation Cut-off May 28

*Near Historic Old Town Alexandria and the Nation's Capital*

Weekend Tickets \$40  
Space is Limited; NO DAY PASSES

3023  
CONF NO.

Tickets will be held at the check-in desk -- Include a self-addressed, stamped envelope to receive confirmation

Tickets \$40 - checks payable to NVSC

Mail to: N. VA. Shag Club, PO Box 5522, McLean, Virginia 22103

Name (Last, First) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Your Shag Club \_\_\_\_\_  
Do You Hold an Office? Yes No If Yes, Which Office? \_\_\_\_\_

For additional information, call (703) 425-0006 or (703) 914-8744

