

Dedicated to the Preservation of the Carolina Shag and Beach Music

Vol. V, No. 6

Keep on Shaggin'

June 1998

From the President . . . by Vesta Jones NVSC SWEEPS SPRING SOS!!!

We had 52 members attending 1998 SOS Spring Safari; 2 new members joined while there, and one member renewed; Larry & Shirley Jones won First Place in the Smoothies Contest; and our club won First Place in the "Marching Troop" category... we were EVERYWHERE! Every club I went into at almost any time of the day or night (or wee hours) there would be NVSC dancers... and we were dancing with partners from all over the South.

We have come a long way! If you've read the infamous "Virgin Trippers" article about the girls who shared a van ad condo for 1996 Spring SOS (the first SOS for all five of us), you may remember our collective experience when we would tell our various dance partners that we were from Northern Virginia or Washington, DC ... "!!You mean y'all know how to shag way up there????" WELLL!!! This year, I was dancing at Fat Harold's one night... it was one of those dances that was "right on" ... and when we finished the dance (both of us panting and sweating...) he said, "You MUST be from Northern Virginia." I was pretty surprised and asked how he knew, and he said (to my deeeelight), "... 'Cause you women from Northern Virginia can really dance!!!" Thanks over and over again to our dance instructors, and to Blackie's and to our deejay... the combination is providing a reliable opportunity for us to learn and practice our shag skills.

We are on the shag map now, folks! People want to dance with us, they like our newsletter, they visit our club when in DC on business or vacation, well-known instructors and deejays look forward to coming to be with us... even the number of out-of-town members is growing. We are a group of friendly, fun-loving shaggin' folks... and once again, I want to say how glad I am to be part of it all.

-Vea for us!

THIRD ANNUAL CAPITAL SHAG CLASSIC

Continuous Dancing
Music by
Great Beach Music Deejays

JOANNE JOHNSON

LARRY JONES · CRAIG JENNINGS

June 26, 27 & 28, 1998

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NVSC WINS 1ST PLACE

MARCHIN' IN ITS FIRST S.O.S. PARADE

... by Ernest P. (for Powertools) Worrell

Yo Vem! Get your head outta that icebox or any other dark place you got it tucked away in and LISTEN UP, amigo. My head's just about to bust open with pride over this. It's not just a story, Vern, it's an epic. You should been there, 'cause it was shag history. You can tell your grandkids about this someday.

Return with me, compadre, to that glorious day in the sun, Saturday, May 2, 1998. Seems our good friends over there at the Northern Virginia Shag Club (NVSC) were down at North Myrtle Beach (that's in South Carolina, Vern, but don't get confused about that North-South thing). Anyway, the NVSC folks were down there at the Spring Safari gathering of those tens of thousands of folks who call themselves the Society Of Stranders (S.O.S. to you, too, Vern). And just who else do you think was fortunate enough to be there among the crowd on Saturday, shaggin' our feet, waggin' in heat, struttin' our stuff, can't get enough? Right again, Vern, me and Edna were not square, we were there!

So what do you think me and my shag queen see comin' right down Main Street about 2 p.m. in front of God, children, dogs, and other assembled beasts? We see a PARADE, Vern. And right smack dab in the middle of this parade, with old time cars and bikers and flags and an 18-wheeler pullin' a flatbed with people dancin' on the flatbed and shag music playin', bodies swayin', and Elvis comin' out of his coffin, we see the VERY FIRST NVSC PARADE ENTRY IN S.O.S. HISTORY, just struttin' down Main Street like they owned it. Vern, the sight was even more exciting to this old heart than that Viagra stuff. (Or so I'm told.)

Ms. Pauline Easby-Smith had this great idea of a marching juke box surrounded by NVSC folks holdin' big ol' records with classic shag tune titles on them. Lo' and behold, those NVSC folks had sure 'nuff convinced some fool to put himself inside this bee-yoo-tee-full hand-crafted cardboard juke box and dance around in circles for a couple of miles like a demented soul lost in the desert without his pith helmet. Kathryn Quattrone drove her red convertible at the front of the procession while Nancy Gehley rode in the back seat, waving to the crowd and taping the whole thing. Right behind them 15 shaggers shook their records and other stuff and tried not to be too embarrassed by that juke box fool up front. Never did get his name, but he looked a bit like club Treasurer Dennis Gehley. Only goofier.

For the record (get it, Vern - a little shag humor, "for the record"?), here's the breakdown of who did what to who in the back seat of whose car and how many times, parade-wise: Pamela Alfano - The We-She Shakes That Thing; Jerry Baker - Dream Love. Audrey Borja - Soothe Me; Don Borja - Rack Em Up; Bob Cahill - 60 Minute Man; Joan McKinney -Green Eyes; Pauline Easby-Smith - Meet Me With Your Black Drawers On; Valerie Henson - Lady Soul; Jean Jennings - Shake, Rattle & Roll; Vesta Jones - Crazy About Your Love; Bemis Locklear -Backed Up Baby; Rita Perrotti - Oh What A Thrill; David Rodgers - I Love Beach Music; Valerie Swiger - Fallen; Keith Teele - Just For You. That nice Bemis Locklear fella from Atlanta was so glad they invited him to march in the parade with them that he joined the Northern Virginia Shag Club that very weekend!

Like I was sayin' about the parade, Vern, when those NVSC folks passed the judges' stand, you could tell it was a magic moment in S.O.S. history. I mean to tell you, those judges' senses were struck as if by lightnin'. Their minds were flyin', their mouths were hangin' open, they were airin' out their brains tryin' to figure out how anybody could be that GOOD. When they finally finished computeratin' the results, they gave 1st Place in the Marching Troop category to Judgin' from many years of personal NVSC! experience as a very-table walkin' miracle myself Vern, it was just like a miracle: driver and camer. dudettes, juke box and record-holders, milkshake holdin' man John Mullen, strollin' photographer Bob Lutz who drove that juke box all the way from northern Virginia and back, even brother Dave Shipp who helped with juke box and record construction but couldn't make it to S.O.S. this time -- all God's children converted to winners before our very eyes. Lord, I already do believe -- don't waste no more grace on me!

Speakin' of eyes, it's a good thing no one told the judges about that juke box guy droppin' his trousers in the parking lot before the parade. THAT little incident was NOT a pretty sight, especially for all them sweaty little kids, knee biters and rug rats who kept peekin' underneath the juke box and laughin'. Let's just keep that part of the story our little secret, Vern. We wouldn't want anybody revokin' that \$100 prize those folks won.

Well, that's the way it was..... Chalk up "paradin' " as something else those NVSC folks sure know how to do First Class. Next time I might be writin' about their Annual First Class Party, the NVSC CAPITAL SHAG CLASSIC. Me and Edna will NOT be square we WILL be there. And remember, Vern: (1) keep your brain ventilated and (2) keep on shaggin'. Know what I mean?

WINNER -- Golden Keyboard Award!

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Music by
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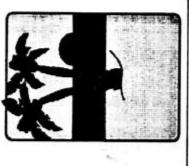
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7:00 - 10:30 Cook to Order Bresidast Sunday

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This is a park and party event that sells out early every year so get your ticket early.

All Attendees Must Be At Least 21 Years of Age

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Lunch (Workshop Attendees) Cocktalls in the Airtum Dance 8888

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Workshop Registration

Workshop Begins

10:00

Dinner and Dance

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Return this portion Hotel Reservations:

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1998 ACSC SUMMER WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

Columbia, SC

Address Adress Sdress Number attending ACSC Workshop. Shap Club Affiliation: Picase complete a separate Ticket Request and Release of Liability for each person and note all names on check,
Mail Request and Release and Payment to: VBSC, P. O. BOX 3098, VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23454-3098. Request must be maile Marms.
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Tickets for the Friday & Saturday night Dance: \$35.00 Friday & Saturday. \$16.00 Friday only, \$25.00 Saturday only. Mail check To: Brands Tomilin, 148 Village Farm Rd., Columbia, SC 29223. Make checks payable to Columbia Shag Club. Tickets will be held at the door.

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Alphabet Soup:

NVSC at ACSC in NC -- Say What?
... by Dennis Gehley

Vesta Jones, Valerie Swiger, and Dennis & Nancy Gehley traveled to Atlantic Beach, North Carolina, February 20-22 for the 10th Annual Winter Shag Blast sponsored by the Capital Area Shag Club, Raleigh, NC. The Blast was a party weekend combined with a quarterly business meeting (Winter Workshop) of the Association of Carolina Shag Clubs (ACSC). While Vesta worked much of Friday evening to prepare for the next day's ACSC halfday business meeting, Dennis, Nancy, and Valerie shagged into the wee hours and adjusted their attitudes with mass quantities of "California Sunshine," a secret elixir that produced magic results on the dance floor.

Vesta and Dennis attended the Saturday AM workshop. NVSC was one of 89 shag clubs attending the workshop, out of 129 ACSC member clubs in the U.S. Serious business included votes on amendments to ACSC by-laws (Vesta Jones, By-Laws Committee Dudette) and advance planning for SOS 2000 - the millennium! Vesta volunteered NVSC as a candidate to host the ACSC 1999 Summer Workshop. Vesta's presentation was so persuasive that Tom Varney from the Richmond Shag Club joined our NVSC right after the business meeting. (At least that was his explanation for giving \$15 to Vesta.)

Southern hospitality was warm throughout the weekend, partying was rampant Saturday afternoon and into the wee hours Friday and Saturday nights, Courtney's (club home of the local Atlantic Beach Shag Club) was so crowded with dancers that Vesta almost needed a crowbar to get through to the ladies room), and we all met many friends, old and new. Atlantic Beach is such a great place with such great people! So great, in fact, that when Valerie won a door prize of 2 free hotel nights and 2 free tickets to the Atlantic Beach Shag Club's Juke Joint Joust IV for March 20-22, but couldn't get away that weekend, Dennis and Nancy used the tickets for her. But that's another story for another issue. Look for those souvenir T-shirts from Courtney's on the NVSC dance floor!

Please Note: Members are encouraged to attend the next ACSC Summer Workshop coming up on July 10th-11th in Columbia, S.C. The ACSC Workshops are ALWAYS GREAT PARTIES, attended by shaggers from all over the South! See enclosed flier.

New Members in May

VELCOME, new members!! Cloyce Anders, Bemis Locklear, Judith Martin

Happy, Happy Birthday

June Birthday Babies:

- 3 Eva Graham
- 4 Vicki Tedesco
- 6 Jack Fitzgerald
- 6 Heather Jennings
- 7 Nancy Gehley
- 7 Sharon Salpini
- 9 Mary Frey
- 10 Ron Nicholson
- 13 Glenn Ball
- 15 Wanda Dodson
- 15 Beth Edmonston
- 17 Lee Antton
- 17 Mary Ferguson
- 20 Don Borja
- 20 H.K. Lee
- 20 Bonnie Nelson
- 21 Laura Monagle
- 21 Beverly Sgroi
- 25 Gwen Mandel
- 25 June Tomasko
- 28 Keith Abernathy
- 28 Bob Benoit
- 28 Bill Romedy
- 29 Fred Suthard
- 30 Linda Peterson
- 30 Ruth Rapson
- 30 Jeff Zaun

CONGRATULATIONS TO NVSC WINNERS IN SOS PARADE

... by Pauline Easby-Smith

We danced with our records and Dennis Gehley boogied down Main Street as a juke box. Passing the Judge's Box, they deemed us FIRST PLACE in the walking category. We had a large time!

Kathryn Quattrone led us, driving her red Saab convertible sporting our club banner, while Nancy Gehley sat looking pretty and taking pictures from the passenger's seat. Vesta Jones was crooning Crazy About Your Love (anyone we know?). By the end of the long walk Audrey Borja was crying Soothe Me, while Valerie Swiger said, "I've Fallen."

I want to thank everyone who participated in the parade and some who weren't there but helped out, **Dave Shipp, Don Borja** and **Dave Rapson**, who got all our cardboard. Participating in the SOS parade helped NVSC become better known in the shag world and bonded members together. Put your thinking caps on for the parade next April!

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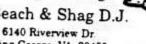
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