



Shag Rag

Dedicated to the Preservation of the Carolina Shag and Beach Music

February, 1999

Keep on Shagging'

Vol. VI, No 2

President's Message---by Vesta Jones

Every year, third weekend in January it's "Mid-Winter"

But - What is it?

Mid-Winter is really a party given by the ACSC to show appreciation for those that have contributed to and supported our clubs and been members all year long...no charge for admission, great DJ's and music, and free food, usually on Saturday, and on Sunday morning in some clubs.

And there's also an ACSC Meeting - and yes it's still at 9:00 A.M. on Saturday! And yes, any member of our club can attend any ACSC meeting...all are welcome (particularly if you volunteer to help with something!) However, each club only gets one vote, regardless of the number of members in attendance at the meeting. I'm never sure if the 9:00 A.M. time of the meeting is to make sure those folks that are there are TRULY dedicated, or if they don't want to interfere with the dance time later that day (which is a good thing!) And it's a great way to meet others in a relatively quiet setting who are also interested in shagging, keeping shag alive and in making a contribution to do that.

In addition to presenting numbers of clubs and club members represented at the meeting, they also announce how much has been contributed to charity by the clubs. This year 60 full member clubs and 8 subscriber clubs were in attendance, representing 10,295 shaggers... and the total \$\$\$ for contributions was \$195,650 - an average of \$3261 per club. Our contribution to Hospice last year of \$2000 was a wonderful start to increasing the average.

This year, under the guidance of Heather Jennings, we hope to do even better! Our jump-start on this will be our First Annual Shag-a-Thon on February 6 at Springfield Mall. Come and participate! Dance and raise \$ for our charity...if you cannot be present, support one of our club members who is dancing that day...and if you can be there and you don't want to dance, we always need volunteers for the day. Come, let's work on it together...we can make a real difference...it's what our club does so well!

1ST Annual Northern Virginia
Shag Club

Shag-A- Thon

February 6, 1999

12 Noon until 5:00 PM

at

Macy's Court, Springfield Mall
Springfield, VA

- Prizes for participants!
 - Refreshments and Snacks galore!
 - Great music by NVSC DJ's!
- All proceeds from this event
benefit

HOSPICE OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

Participants are asked to raise money through
pledges.

To register yourself and receive a pledge sheet call:

Heather Jennings 540-775-5342

or

Vesta Jones 301-765-0995

1st Annual NVSC Shag-A-Thon! *by Heather Jennings*

On **February 6th** at Springfield Mall, the Northern Virginia Shag Club will sponsor the first annual Shag-A-Thon! The primary purpose of this event is to raise money for the club's charity, the **Hospice of Northern Virginia**, however by sponsoring the event at Springfield Mall, we also hope to promote the dance we love and attract new members to the shag club.

So, how does this Shag-A-Thon work? First - **sign up** on any Wednesday night prior to the event. After signing up, you will receive a **pledge sheet**. Take the pledge sheet to as many friends, family and coworkers as possible and ask them to "**sponsor**" you for this event. By sponsoring you, they agree to pay a certain amount for each dance you have during the event or they may choose to make a flat donation. (Note that the Shag-A-Thon is *not an endurance event* - you may dance as many or as few dances as you like.) Have each sponsor fill out the pledge sheet with their name, address, and pledge amounts. Please try and get as many pledges as possible! Prizes will be awarded to those collecting the largest amounts!

On the day of the event, **bring your pledge sheet** (and your dancing shoes!) to the Shag-A-Thon. When you arrive at the Shag-A-Thon you will be given a "**Pin On**" number - then **DANCE, DANCE, DANCE** and have fun! As you dance, one of our club members will note your number on a participation sheet in order to count your dances. The first Wednesday after the event, your pledge sheet will be returned to you with the "**Balance Amount**" calculated for each sponsor. (number of dances * amount per dance). Then return to each sponsor, collect the pledged amount, and turn in your pledge money to the club by **Wednesday, March 3, 1999**. **ALL proceeds** from the event will be given to **Hospice of Northern Virginia!!** It's that simple!!

So please, if you're interested in participating in this event, come see me (**Heather Jennings**) at the table next to the DJ booth any Wednesday this month! Thanks so much and see you at the **Shag-A-Thon!**

When The Music is Playing... *by Janis Grimes*

The music hits you, and your heart skips a beat... It's physical, a jolt to your psyche and your very being. Suddenly you're young again, and filled with zest.

Whether entering a beach club or a ballroom or just driving down Main Street in North Myrtle Beach, expectations rise, adrenaline starts to flow... and you look for friends - both old and new.

I realize now that I always feel youthful and energized whenever I return to the Scene, just as I did in my younger days.

The scene is set when the music plays... friends come into view, and a joyful sense of playfulness fills the air.

Dancers with awesome talents appear on the dance floor to the delight of onlookers, who are mesmerized by their mastery of deceptively difficult steps. Every time it's the same, like starting fresh - the same sense of excitement and delight, the same anticipation of fun - a whole realm of infinite variety, just waiting to be sampled like a big box of chocolates.

Beach Music is, without a doubt, the best music in the world. There is a huge variety of heart-thumping rhythm & blues available these days, and we've all got our favorites. Tour the Great Southeast - let your deejay know what you'd like to hear!

*Reprinted from the winter edition of the SOS Carefree times.
Congratulations Janis!*

General Membership Meeting
February 10, 1999



NVSC Suggestion Box

Received recently was a suggestion that the club consider moving it's dance location to Nicks. The author of the suggestion went on to specify reasons that this would be a good thing.

Response: Due to the concerns about the disruption to our dance location (and therefore our dance night and workshops) that may result from the "Mixing Bowl" (I-95/I-495) construction (scheduled to begin Feb. 1999) an Alternative Locations Committee was formed (Dennis Gehley, Chair). Their charge was to look for other places for us to dance during this time. There will be an article in this newsletter about the results of their search. Thank you for your suggestion, Nick's is certainly a thoughtful choice.

Should NVSC Dance Weekly Somewhere

Other Than At Blackie's???

by Dennis Gehley

In view of the road and interchange construction that will begin in and around Springfield in 1999, a number of club members asked NVSC officers and Board members to consider alternative locations for our weekly Wednesday night dancing, other than at Blackie's. In response to those concerns, the NVSC President established an Alternative Locations Committee, and I agreed to serve as Committee Chairman.

The NVSC officers and Board members are unanimous in their opinion that a decision to move our weekly dances from Blackie's to any other location should be made by all the club members, not just by the nine Board members.

Blackie's has been home to the NVSC for over 3 years, has served us well, and has helped us attract new members. Blackie's has a large and well lit parking facility, has allowed us to hold all day workshops and advanced dance lessons on Sundays, at no cost to the NVSC and has kept the cover charge at \$2.00.

In searching for a new location the factors that we need to consider are: [1] a central, relatively accessible location; [2] a hardwood dance floor with sufficient room for lessons and dancing; [3] a bar and, if possible, food facilities; [4] free, no-charge use by the facility for our monthly Sunday socials and quarterly all-day workshops; and [5] a safe, well-lit parking lot.

We researched, took referrals and visited several other establishments with the basic requirements. One business establishment in Alexandria, Virginia, is aggressively seeking to host dance clubs on a regular basis. That establishment - Nick's Restaurant and Nightclub - is about 3 miles away from Blackie's. I have visited Nick's several times in December and January to observe dance activities during the week and on weekends (as have several other board members and club members.)

Although there may be other facilities "out there" that meet the five factors cited above, at this time Nick's is the only establishment that we are aware of that meets or exceeds all of the criteria. We recommend that our members consider Nick's as an acceptable alternative to Blackie's as the future home for our shag club.

Please let us know your opinion. Call **Dennis Gehley** at 703-451-6764 or **Vesta Jones** at 301-765-0995 or Email **Val Swiger** at vms@olg.com. Also a show of hands will be taken at the general membership meeting at Blackies on **Wednesday, Feb 10**. The final decision will be announced that night.

Dennis M. Gehley
Chairman, Alternative Locations Committee

ROOKIE SHAGGER:

THE HOLIDAYS WERE WONDERFUL FOR THE Rookie Shagger AND FRIENDS. WE WENT TO FIVE XMAS PARTIES, INCLUDING THE *NORTHERN VIRGINIA SHAG CLUBS*. WE DANCED MANY HOURS TO GREAT BEACH MUSIC AND PROBABLY HAD TOO MUCH TO EAT.

WE SPENT NEW YEARS EVE IN *PETERSBURG, VA* AT THE *STEVEN KENT NEW YEARS EVE PARTY*. WE HAD A GREAT TIME. THANK YOU, IRMA AND JOE, FOR A SUPER NEW YEARS EVE PARTY. WHAT A WONDERFUL GROUP OF PEOPLE WE MET. THE FOOD WAS GOOD, THE MUSIC WAS GOOD AND THE ENTIRE EVENING WAS WELL ORGANIZED. WE MADE SOME NEW FRIENDS IN THE *RICHMOND/ PETERSBURG* AREA AND WE HOPE THEY INVITE US BACK AGAIN.

ON 1/1/99 WE GOT INTO OUR CARS AND WENT TO *N. MYRTLE BEACH* AND CONTINUED THE HOLIDAY AT *DUCKS, FAT HAROLD'S* AND THE *BOULEVARD BAR AND GRILL*. THE WEATHER WAS IFFY BUT WE WENT ANYWAY. SOME OF OUR FRIENDS WERE ALREADY THERE WE COULDN'T ALLOW THEM TO PARTY ALONE.

WE DANCED ALL NIGHT FRIDAY TO *BUTCH METCALF* AND *SID PRUITT*, TWO VERY GOOD DJ's. LATER THAT NIGHT WE WENT TO *FAT HAROLD'S* AND WHO WAS THERE BUT *JOAN, DALLAS* AND *PAMELA* DANCING AND HAVING FUN.

VISITED *CHARLESTON* ON SATURDAY FOR A BRIEF BREAK BUT BACK TO *DUCK'S* FOR MORE DANCING AND SAW MANY HARD-CORE DANCERS. WE ALL TALKED ABOUT *MIDWINTER* AND AS WE SAID OUR GOOD-BYES ON SUNDAY, WE KNEW WE WOULD BE BACK IN NINE DAYS.

THIS Rookie Shagger IS TAKING LESSONS FROM EVERYONE WHO IS WILLING TO TEACH ME.

(THANKS *PAMELA, H.K., STEVE* AND *JANI*) I'LL DEVELOP MY OWN STYLE AND NEVER FORGET TO THANK ALL OF YOU WHO INTRODUCED THIS ENTIRE HAPPENING TO ME.

THE ROOKIE SHAGGER



Board meetings are held each month and are open to any and all members who wish to attend. Unless put on the agenda, attendance is for observation, not participation. Since board meetings, at this time, are at board members homes, please alert the secretary (*Kathryn Quattrone*) if you are interested in attending.

Thank You

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
FEBRUARY 10, 1999**

Shagger Profile---

Name: Thomas G. Jones
Nickname: Tom or TJ
Occupation: Consultant
Birthday: November 26
Hometown: Hickory, North Carolina
Martial Status: Divorced
Self Portrait: Practical, conservative, quiet
Motto: Live Free or Die
Dream: A country home to share with a loving woman.
Inspiration: Courageous people of conviction and principle
Bad Habit: Procrastination
Hobby: Horses, Harleys, Dancing, Fitness Activities
Luxury Defined: Add a barn, stables, horses, to the "Dream" above.
Drink or Wine: Absolute Martini, very dry, 3 olives
TV Program: History, Discovery, CNN

Books at bedside: "Meditations from the Road" and "A Father's Book of Wisdom"

Happy, Happy Birthday

February *Birthday Babies*

1 Robert Busey
3 Mary Atienza
4 Ray Harris
6 Dee Bassett
6 Carol Vann
7 Sara Brodsky
7 Sue Harris
7 Sandra McGee
7 Phyliss Swart
8 James Raney
8 Charles Stringer
10 Eric Beaver
17 Olivia Estep
17 Colin White
18 Fred Fritz
19 Jim Taylor
20 Carmie Mazzan
23 Carl Kapraun
23 John Yarborough
24 Beverly Jones
24 Chris Vann
25 Judy Martin
27 Brenda Smith

Intermediate Dance Steps for February

Feb 3 Crossover Basic; Shag Pivot
Feb 10 Kick Basic; Female Turn into Side-by-Side; Belly Roll
Feb 17 Side Pass; Boogie Walk; Boogie Train
Feb 24 Tuck from a Pivot; Hesitation Basic

Talented Members

Have you heard *Sandra Feron* sing?
Check out the Terre E. Mare Restaurant
February 21, from 8:00 to 9:00
Restaurant located on Route 50, near
Montgomery Ward's
in Falls Church, VA

NEW MEMBERS IN January

Donna Barker, Larry Bess, Lisa Brachman, Judy Burke, Kyle Fornash, Laura Fornash, Karen Geibel, Ken Haltenhoff, Fran Harris, Tim Hathaway, John Horn, Marjorie King, Susan Krause, Steven Mitchell, Nancy Newman, Carol Reber, Jon Ross, Marty Smith, Caryn Southworth, Dave Townsend, Weldon Waites, Charlie Wood, Barry Zeeberg

Our sincere condolences to Jim Taylor on the death of his mother and to Joan Mckinney on the death of her brother.

February 24, deadline to save \$5.00 on SOS membership.

Forms for your 1999 SOS memberships are available on the club table every Wednesday night. Buying your membership through the club gives you a \$5.00 discount. Return the completed form with a check for \$30.00, made payable to NVSC, to Dennis Gehley and in a very few weeks you will receive your new SOS card. **SOS, HERE WE COME!!!**

Lost and Found-----4 pairs of glasses and 1 pair of sunglasses(all generic) are at the club's information table.

For members Only

Are you shy? Would you like to practice your dance steps in the privacy of your home.

Instructional Shag Videos — are the answer.

The club will loan you a video for one week, for a refundable \$10 deposit.

Videos by: Charlie & Jackie; Sy Creed & Dana Brown; Ellen Taylor, Sonny & Judy Carver and VA Beach Shag Club Members.

A small charge of \$5 for each additional week is required.

See Patricia Parrott to check out video, or call her at 703-35-8906.

ADVANCED LESSON; PRACTICE; SHARE STEPS - 5:30 SUNDAYS

by Janis Grimes

The practice session at Lulu's EVERY SUNDAY starts at 5:00, with an **Advanced Lesson** at 5:30, beginning **January 3rd**.

This is a time to practice and share steps, and also a time to work with junior shaggers, from 5-7 each **Sunday**.

The cost for the **Advanced Lesson** is \$5 per person (which will go into our club treasury); **EXCEPT** that *juniors and young adults* (through age 25!) are encouraged to learn and practice for **FREE!**

Everyone is welcome to learn, share and brush up on their dancing.

February 10, 1999

General Membership Meeting

Plan on attending this important meeting of the Northern Virginia Shag Club. The meeting will be held immediately following the dance lessons at 8:15. All members encouraged to attend.

Committees

Our recently revised by-laws require that each standing committee have **three members**. The following is a list of the committees and their chairpersons. Please review this list and if you are interested in becoming a member of a committee contact the chairperson.

Social	<i>Betty Abshire</i>
Dance	<i>Janis Grimes</i>
Music	<i>Craig Jennings</i>
Charity/Fund Raising	<i>Heather Jennings</i>
PR/Promotions	<i>Joan McKinney</i>
Web Site	<i>Vesta Jones</i>
Newsletter Liaison	<i>Kathryn Quattrone</i> <i>Valerie Swiger Editor</i>
Membership	<i>H. K. Lee</i>
Alternative Dance Sites	<i>Dennis Gehley</i>
Club Shirts	<i>Dennis Gehley</i>
Communication	<i>Kathryn Quattrone</i>

March 5, 6 and 7

The Steel City Boogie Club, those wonderful, fun loving people who attended our Capital Shag Classic in mass--are **having a party**. Many of our club members have already sent off for their tickets. Don't miss out. 200 tickets have already been sold. If you need information or a ride or a roommate contact *Valerie Swiger* at 703-281-9193 or *vms@olg.com*. She'll try to put you in touch with others that are going.

ACSC Spring Parade at SOS will be April 24 at 2:00

If you are interested in working on this, contact **Joan McKinney (703-971-7527)** ... don't forget we won **FIRST** place in the marching division last year. In addition to loads of fun, it meant a nice first place check towards our treasury, a nifty trophy and a bit of notoriety for our very own "**Juke on the Loose!**" See our website for pictures www.sbolnet.com/shag.


BULLETIN BOARD



Internet Services
<http://www.sbolnet.com>

Vesta Jones
vjones@sbolnet.com
301-765-0995



Craig Jennings 
Beach & Shag D.J.

6140 Riverview Dr.
King George, VA 22485
Member of Association of Beach & Shag Club DJs
E-Mail: cjennings@dalgren.tsc.com
Phone: 540-775-5342

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Owner

Valerie Swiger
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703-281-9193 or e-mail vms@olg.com.

February 6, 1999-----Shag-A-Thon, 12 Noon to 5PM, Macy's Court, Springfield, VA.

February 10, 1999-----General Membership Meeting, Blackie's, immediately following dance lessons.

February 13, 1999----Joint Valentine's Day Dance

Hand Dance Association and the Northern Virginia Shag Club

Morningside VFW, 8:30- 12:30, Cost \$8.00 members/\$10 non-members. Music by Denny and Eddy. Shag Workshop at 7:30.

OTHER LOCAL REGULARLY SCHEDULED DANCING

Every Sunday: Advanced Shag Lessons, Blackies, 5-7 PM, lesson at 5:30, cost \$5.00

Third Sunday of every month: February 21, 1999--Sunday Social at Nick's, Pickett St., Alexandria, VA 2-5PM, \$2.00 cover

Fourth Sunday of each month: MD DC VA Hand Dance will host a dance, Decoy Lounge at the Colony South Hotel, RT.. 5, Clinton, MD
Hand Dance Lessons 3-4PM, dancing 4-8PM

Sundays: Vienna Tap & Grill, 146 E. Maple, Ave., Vienna, VA \$10 WCS Lessons, 6:00 - 8:00 then dance till 11:00, or \$8.00 includes dance & drinks 8:00 - 11

Tuesdays: Best in Beach Music w/Denny and Eddy, Coconuts, Crofton, MD; information 301-261-3366

Wednesdays: FREE SHAG LESSONS 7:30, Northern Virginia Shag Club, Lulu's Blackie's, Springfield, VA; information 703-971-4200

Thursdays: Galaxy, Hillwood Ave., Falls Church, VA, 8:00 - 11:00, Kenny Roesel; \$5.00 cover.

Fridays: Beach Music Night at Nick's, S. Pickett, Alex., VA 7:30- 11:00, DJ Charlie Price. \$3.00 door (info 703-751-8900)

Saturdays: Oldies Music Legends, Manassas, VA 6:00 - 10:00 Beach & Shag Music

Saturdays: Bethesda Swing Dance, 4916 St. Elmo Ave., Bethesda, MD Cost \$7 Dance from 8:30 to Midnight

Out of Town Shag Events

First Sunday: Shag at Stepping Out in Virginia Beach, VA. Lessons 4-5 PM, food, dance 5-9 PM

Sundays: Shag at Visions in Richmond, Holiday Inn at Koger Center, 7-10 PM

Tuesdays: Richmond Shag Club dances at RAZZLES Lounge, Best Western, 9848 Midlothian, Tnpk, 804-330-0007.

Wednesdays: Shag at Stepping Out in Virginia Beach, VA, lessons 7-8 PM, dance 8-12PM

February 5-7, 1999-Foothills Winter Boogie XII, Lake Hickory Shag Club, Ann Sigmon 828-324-6122

February 26-28, 1999- ACSC Winter Workshop and party, North Myrtle Beach, SC

February 26-28, 1999- Capital Area Shag Club's Winter Shag Blast, Sheraton Atlantic Beach, SC

March 5-7, 1999- Boogie in Burgh, by Pittsburgh Steel City Boogie Club, Jerry Kovach 412-825-0301

March 25-28, 1999- Smoky Mountain Boogie, call Betty Ladwig (423) 539-2275

For more events call 1-800-SHAGGER or the Southern Shagger web site or Shagdance.com or check out the Northern Virginia Shag Club web site www.sbolnet.com/shag

Shag Rag editor, Valerie Swiger.

Please send information to:

NVSC

P O Box 5522

McLean, VA 22103

e-mail vms@olg.com

