



Shag Rag

Dedicated to the Preservation of the Carolina Shag and Beach Music

July, 1999

Keep on Shagging'

Vol. VI, No 7

Northern Virginia Shag Club

CAPITAL SHAG CLASSIC

Continuous Dancing
Music by
Great Beach Music Deejays

LARRY EDWARDS

CRAIG JENNINGS • LARRY JONES • BRAD KINARD • CHARLIE PRICE

JULY 23, 24 & 25, 1999

Registration desk opens at 4 p.m. on Friday
Party's over at 12 noon on Sunday

!!!SPECIAL ATTRACTION!!!
FREE SHAG WORKSHOP on Saturday

with
Brad Kinard & Jennifer Beaver

FREE ALL-YOU-CAN-BAT-MENU & FREE POURS
Friday Evening - Hors d'oeuvres and Late Night Snacks
Saturday Morning Full Breakfast; Saturday Night Dinner Buffet
Sunday Morning Continental Breakfast

!!!New Location!!!

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites **Request Special No. Va. Shag Club Rate
625 First Street **Rooms \$69** (1-4 persons)
Alexandria, Virginia 22314 Reservations: 703-548-6300

FREE SHUTTLE to and from National Airport / Metro
In the Heart of Historic Old Town Alexandria, Near Mount Vernon and the Nation's Capitol!

Smoke-Free Ballroom

****Hotel Discount Rate Reservation Cut-Off June 22nd!! No Exceptions!!**

Weekend Tickets \$55 Until June 22nd, \$60 After That
Buy Your Tickets Early!

RAFFLE - For only an extra \$1, Take a Chance on a **FREE ROOM and 1 Weekend Pass!**
For additional information, call Heather at 540-775-5342 or e-mail h Jennings@netnet.com

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

Tickets \$55 - Please make checks payable to No. Va. Shag Club
NO REFUNDS AFTER JUNE 30TH

Name(s) (Last, First) _____
Address _____ Primary Shag Club _____
City, State _____ No. of Tickets _____
Phone _____ Return Amount \$ _____

Return to
Northern Virginia Shag Club
P.O. Box 5522
McLean, Virginia 22103

For additional information, call Heather Jennings at 540-775-5342 or e-mail h Jennings@netnet.com

July President's Letter by Vesta Jones

oooooh my goodness...it seems like we are barreling toward the Classic with ever increasing speed...at this point in time (June 21, 1999) we've sold 175 tickets...and they're coming in at an ever-increasing rate.

This is WONDERFUL.

And the committees are really kicking in ... Heather is overall coordinator, David Rodgers is coordinating hospitality, Joan McKinney is doing decorations, Janis and Craig have done their dance/music thing respectively ... if asked to pitch in, please say yes. If everyone does a little bit, all of us will have a great time, and the party will be a huge success...again.

We have a lot of folks coming from out-of-town and other local dance clubs...if you see faces you don't recognize, please go say **WELCOME** and tell them who you are. It is this very trait of our club that has earned us the reputation as a warm and friendly crowd...and PLEASE remember to do the same thing on Wednesday nights at Nicks. Remember how you felt when you were the new kid on the DC shag block? Take a few moments away from the familiar faces and your comfortable group of friends...go introduce yourself to someone you don't know, ask their name and tell them we are glad they came to shag with us.

Oh yeah...and ask 'em to shag... (that means you, too, ladies!) ... even if you think your level of dancing is not equal to theirs in any direction, remember it is the invitation they will remember. Making someone feel welcome always makes me feel good...try it!

ATTENTION SHAGGERS *by Janis Grimes*

Here is your chance to take a **PRIVATE LESSON** with the fabulous -- and I mean fantastic -- **Brad Kinard**, and/or **Jennifer Beaver!!!** They will be here for our Capital Shag Classic weekend July 23-25th, and will be offering private lessons at the hotel.

Cost: \$25 per hour for either Jennifer **OR** Brad
\$40 per hour for **BOTH** Jennifer & Brad together

They are one of the hottest and most accomplished young shag couples in the **WORLD**, members of the National Shag Team, National Shag Champions, winners of many many contests, and are extremely creative and cool. **SIGN UP NOW** for a private lesson during that weekend, I am keeping a list. If you are serious about learning SHAG, you should not miss this opportunity to learn from one or both of these kids.

Call Janis Grimes at 703-526-7362 or email me at janigrimes@aol.com; I will work out the times later.

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 703-318-7246 or email PatParrott@aol.com.

Capital Shag Classic *by David Rodgers*

ADS in the Capital Shag Classic Program

If you would like to place an ad in the program that will be given to all attendees of the Classic, contact **David Rodgers** at 703-239-8978. Prices for the ad space are: \$30.00 for a full page, \$20.00 for a half page and \$10.00 for a quarter page.

Door Prizes for the Capital Shag Classic

We need door prize donations to give out at the Capital Shag Classic. To donate a door prize contact **David Rodgers** at 703-239-8978 or bring your donation to Nick's any Wednesday night. Past donations have included bottles of wine, shag videos, beach music CD's, shag dance T-shirts, etc. Please support your club by making a door prize donation.

Promotional Items

We need donations of promotional items to include in our "goody packet" which will be given out to each Capital Shag Classic attendee when they check in. Examples of items would be: pencils, pens, pads of paper, candy, gum, key chains, etc. If you have anything you can donate to go in the packets, please contact **David Rodgers** at 703-239-8978.

Thanks for your support of the Northern Virginia Shag Club.

VOLUNTEERS and CAMARADERIE

by Joan Mckinney

WRITING/BROADCASTING/GRAPHICS/ ADVERTISING

Our new Promotions/PR Committee is looking for these skills. Contact: **Sharon Marsh** or **Joan McKinney** (703)971-7527.

Shagger Profile---

Name: Michael B. Francella
Nickname: Mike
Occupation: Service Advisor
Birthday: September 24
Hometown: Washington, DC
Martial Status: In between
Self Portrait: Too sensitive for my own good
Motto: Don't look back
Dream: Happiness
Inspiration: Successful People
Luxury Defined: Country estate with all the trimmings
Books by bedside: Bible
Last Words: The Weather is Here-Wish you were Beautiful (Jimmy Buffet song title)

NEW MEMBERS IN June

Marty Corso, Tonda Corso, Dan Droze, Speedy Dunn, Kent Edie, Helga Flory, John Schafer, Martha Shayda, Paul Shayda, Barbara Wegman

Condolences go out to Dennis Gehley on the death of his father and to Jimmy Harley on the death of his father.

Intermediate Dance Steps for July

July 7	Duck Walk, Stutter Basic
July 14	Back Prep, Sugarfoot
July 21	Pivot, Crossover Basic
July 28	Half Turn, Belly Roll, Kick Basic

DJ's for the coming weeks:

July 7	Dennis & Nancy Gehley
July 14	Craig Jennings
July 21	Charlie Price
July 28	Craig Jennings
Aug 4	Dennis & Nancy Gehley

Do you have a favorite song? Ask your DJ to play it. It's awfully difficult to hear over the music so you might want to write it down.

Happy, Happy Birthday

July Birthday Babies

- 1 Fred Whitman
- 3 Sandra Ferony
- 4 Jim Smith
- 6 James Baird
- 6 Larry Winstead
- 7 Amy Hardison
- 8 Linda Harrill-Price
- 9 Earl Robinson
- 10 Larry Boyer
- 13 Joan Salvadore
- 14 Susan Krause
- 15 Martie Leonette
- 15 Helga Taranto
- 17 William Devenney
- 17 Tim Foster
- 17 Carol Reber
- 17 Marty Smith
- 18 Mary Camp
- 22 Donald Cook
- 23 Charlie Wood
- 24 Bill Tucker
- 25 James Kirby
- 26 Jerry Crews
- 26 Diane Eppinger
- 28 Dickie Gee
- 29 Vesta Jones
- 29 Vaughn Royal
- 29 Gary Salpini
- 30 Loella Lutz
- 31 John Eastes



"The Internal Revenue Service notified NVSC on April 19, 1999, that we have been accepted as a non-profit social club exempted from paying Federal income taxes. Anyone interested in reviewing NVSC's application and supporting documents provided to IRS, the IRS exemption letter, or the club's annual Form 990 to the IRS, please contact the club Treasurer."

Bring in the Millennium---Only 3000 tickets will be sold to the Millennium party in North Myrtle Beach. Tickets are \$75.00 per person, **BUT** if purchased through the Northern Virginia Shag Club, price is \$70.00.

SO SORRY

Well, Northern Virginia Shag club gave a new meaning to "No Frills" Saturday night at the Springfield/Lorton VFW. "No Frills" was intended to mean chips & sodas, however, no air conditioning also was part of the "no frills". It seems as if the management came in early Saturday AM and cut it off and Willie did not come on duty until 5 PM. By then the damage with the heat had been done. A room that size is impossible to cool down in such a short time. As an apology they charged us half of the usual fee and PROMISED that it would not happen again.

It is not easy to find a large, inexpensive place to dance. I hope those who suffered through the heat will consider giving them one more shot, or if you have a place that might be a substitute, I will be glad to investigate. Our next "No Frills" is August 14th.

We need a large space like this VFW for our Christmas party because of the volume of attendance, but for smaller functions we could use a smaller place.

I really appreciate the support of the ones that were there. The ladies had not one bit of makeup left, but the men danced with us just the same. The coolest place was in the bathrooms, but there wasn't enough room in there for the DJ and us to dance.

Thank you for your consideration.
Betty Abshire, Social Chairman

SHAG TAPES FOR RENT

To help you practice your shag moves, we have the following tapes, that can be rented by **members** of Northern Virginia Shag Club:

Charlie & Jackie: Mirror Patterns/Male Lead, Tape 1
Mirror Patterns, Tape 2
Lead and Follow, Vol 1
Basic Variations, Vol 1 (2)
Basics Plus (2)
More Basics Plus, Vol 1
More Basics Plus, Vol 2
Female Footwork

Sam & Sarah West: Carolina Shag for Beginners (2)
Basic Polish - Techniques in Basic Patterns (2)

Ellen Taylor: Basic Technique

Sy Creed & Dana Brown: Learn to Shag

Virginia Beach: Mirror Steps



Congratulations to **Shannon and Sam Lewis** on the birth of their son, **Daniel Thomas Lewis**, born May 22.

Congratulations to **Fred Fritz** on the birth of his first grandchild **Maggie Katherine Colson**.

FAIRFAX COUNTY FAIR

June 12, about 30 members of the Northern Virginia Shag Club, demonstrated our dance to hundreds of people at the Fairfax County Fair.

It was a wonderful way to advertise our club and the dance we love. Thanks **Vesta** for taking the time to make the connections necessary so that we could be there. Thanks **Nancy and Dennis** for the fine music that you played, with the limited equipment. Thanks to our **DANCERS**, to the ones that danced as a group and to those brave couples who put on individual demonstrations. *You made us proud.*

FLASH---SHAG DIVISION AT SWING FLING *by Janis Grimes*

Attention Shaggers! There will be a new **RISING STAR SHAG DIVISION** at Barry Durand's **Swing Fling**, held at the Sheraton Premiere the weekend of **July 30th**. Here's your chance to experience the thrill of competition-- it is scheduled for Friday night, July 30th, at **8 PM**:

DON'T BE SHY!! Come on out and help show off our dance! We need NVSC members to represent our club at this event, AND to support and cheer for our dancers!

ALSO, we hear that **CHARLIE and JACKIE, SAM and SARAH WEST, and MICHAEL NORRIS** will all be here at this event, so it will be a golden opportunity to take some shag lessons from the stars!

There will be a **regular Shag Division at 9 PM**, Friday night and we expect to see another dazzling display of awesome Southern Shag Talent!!! Plan to be there!

Further details will be available on Wednesday nights at Nick's or contact **Janis at 703-536-7362** or email **janigrimes@aol.com** or contact Barry directly at **Swing97@aol.com**.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE *by Betty Abshire*

The social committee has formed a sub-committee to develop a better relationship with people just beginning to enter the shag world.

Jimmy Harley and Kitty Senge are the co-chairs. Their responsibility is to solicit two club members each, making a total of four, to dance and talk to newcomers. The foursome will work two consecutive weeks. Each two week period the foursome will change.

We are experiencing a lot of interest, however, some people only come a time or two and then are discouraged and do not return. It is our mission to change that and have our reputation grow as being the most friendly SHAG club on the east coast.

When Kitty and Jimmy ask you to participate, please don't turn them down. After all, it is only for two weeks and you know what?!!, you might get to like it and become a welcoming committee yourself without a nudge.

Thanks for your help.

DO YOU KNOW WHERE THE CLASSIC IS?

We seem to have some confusion. There are two Holiday Inn's in Old Town Alexandria.

Our **CAPITAL SHAG CLASSIC** is at the Holiday Inn at **FIRST AND WASHINGTON STREETS**. This is at the **NORTH END** of Old Town.

Directions from all directions are available on the information table Wednesday night or email **vms@olg.com**.

WANTED: Lots of volunteers! *by Heather Jennings*

The **4th Annual Capital Shag Classic, July 23-25**, is just around the corner.

Also, for those who may not know, the Northern Virginia Shag Club owns its own dance floor which is used during the Classic. This floor must be put down on Thursday night (July 22) in preparation for the weekend event and then taken apart and loaded back up for storage on Sunday (July 25). We are in need of volunteers (big, strong ones are good, but all help is accepted!!) to help with the floor assembly/disassembly.

If you'd like to help with the **dance floor**, please contact **Gary Salpini** at **703-425-2848**. Thanks again and see you shaggin'!

WE ARE REAL LUCKY

by Jimmy Harley

I want to share this with everyone who lives and dances in the Washington/Baltimore/Northern Virginia Metro Area. Fast Dancing people; Hand dance, Shag, Swing, Bop or Jitterbug whatever your style, this article is addressed to all of you!

Please read and think about **Dance**, how important it is to **YOU**? I was listening to people during SOS and they were commenting how lucky we are, to have so many dance events and Four Great Dance Organizations in our part of the world: HDA, DC Hand Dance Club, NVSC and the Potomac Swing Club.

These folks, who were envious of us, live in towns where they have two, maybe three dance events all year. We sometimes have three events the same night. We are fortunate to have hard working people, in the past, present and hopefully the future who care about Music and Dancing, because of their efforts, we all benefit, have places to socialize and dance at least three times a week, I am referring to **OUR BOARD MEMBERS AND OUR DJ's**.

We all need to realize how lucky we are, My friends, Rick & Helga, Ned & Jean , Mike & Beth , Joe & Brenda , Pat & Jimmy, Abbey & Rick , Valerie & Bob, Dallas & Joan, Heather & Criag, Kathryn Q and Little Diane do, some of their comments are "I belong to all the clubs, support all four clubs, like the people in all the clubs and I stay out of the politics, I have fun and love the music, lets dance, show me that step again, lets belly Roll, Where is the Band of OZ, did you ever think you would be doing this at our age, we are really lucky ". When we are together the smiles on their faces tell it all. They care about the Dance and the ability to still be able to enjoy something they have done for a long time. Everyone should try to support the club or clubs you belong too, the people who do most of the work in those clubs and try to coexist .

Instead we are very critical of the Board Members and the DJ's in all four clubs. We need to stop and think, "What would it be like if they all QUIT? What would the consequences be? Maybe, nothing to do or no where to dance because of fighting, backstabbing and the constant complaining.

WE, myself included, need to stop, step back and realize how lucky we are. I spoke to some of the DJ's: Charlie Price, Dennis & Nancy, Denny & Eddie, Craig Jennings, Tommy D and Jack, they all agree that, when the floor is full of dancers, they are doing a good job and that taking requests is important. They all promised to try harder to please us. We must support them and all the places we dance or we will loose them. (HOLLYWOODS, SPURS, COLONY SOUTH, NICKS, STUDEBAKERS). I don't care if we all agree, in fact lets agree to disagree but please do not destroy this wonderful opportunity for us to enjoy the one common thing we have, **DANCE** and the ability to do it frequently. **HAVE FUN AND ENJOY THIS TIME OF OUR LIVES.**

JUDY DUKE IS COMING

Shag Hall of Fame member and National Living Legend, Judy Duke will be here

September 11th, to teach Shag Workshops.

Mark your calendars

Private lessons can be set up by calling Janis at 703-536-7362 or email janigrimes@aol.com

