



# Shag Rag

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

September, 1999

Keep on Shagging'

Vol. VI, No 9

## It takes all kinds... by Vesta Jones

The people in this club continue to amaze me because of the variety of skills and the willingness to help out in the best way they can. This morning several brave (and some hung over) souls gathered at the Holiday Inn in Alexandria, to move our dance floor from Gary Salpini's trailer to storage space the hotel is allowing us to use. And I want to thank all who helped... Gary and Sharon, Dennis, David, Joan, Val, HK, Vaughn, Mike (a VERY new member), and Don. Once again, though, I was impressed with the floor itself. Gary Salpini designed and built the floor for us, and it is a dance floor to be envied. He has coordinated the installation and removal of it, repaired and replaced panels, transported it to and from storage... and we appreciate it.

The success of our shag club is a result of the combination of all of our skills and energies... builders, floor sweepers, deejays, database folks, decorators, party coordinators, workers, lifters, movers, storage space volunteers, partiers, bartenders, writers, parade participants and costumers, travelers, dance instructors and competitors, workshop planners, 50/50 sellers, flier makers and printers, greeters, smilers, dancers, ticket sellers, friend-makers, photographers/filmers, web siters, editors, planners and doers... the whole club gives generously of their time and talents where and when they can... and reach into their pockets to make contributions when they see a need and can do it.

It's a good thing we don't all have the same skills. I can build a web site, lift floor panels, run a meeting, but could not build a floor, cook for over 100 people, design a dance instruction program or deejay... thank you all for being part of this group and for doing your part to make it work. Thank you... thank you.

## Judy Duke Workshops

September 11, 1999

at

Nick's

Beginner	11AM
Intermediate	1PM
Advanced	2PM

Cost: \$10 per lesson for Members  
\$15 per lesson for Non-members

*Nick's will be offering a special lunch menu for workshop attendees at a special price. Please do not bring food or drink into the restaurant.*

## PRE SOS Dance

with

MD DC Hand Dance Association

September 11, 1999

Location: Springfield, VFW  
Time: 8 to Midnight  
Cost: \$10 for members of both clubs  
\$12 for non-members  
DJ's: Denny and Eddy and Craig  
**FREE---Wine and Beer--Light food**  
(until the keg runs dry) 1

**JUDY DUKE WORKSHOP SEPT. 11th**  
*by Janis Grimes*

It's **SEPTEMBER!** -- and we are in for a treat! National Competitor and Shag Instructor **JUDY DUKE** will be with us on Saturday, September 11th, for three shag workshops (Beginner, Intermediate, and Advanced), and a dance party that night at the Springfield VFW.

Judy lives and teaches shag in North Myrtle Beach, and is a member of the Shag Hall of Fame. She is in constant demand as an instructor, and we can learn a great deal from her about shag basics, and the finer points of technique and styling. Put it on your calendar now -- **Saturday, September 11th** -- dance party that night -- you won't want to miss this!!

**Baby Contest!!!!!!** *by Valerie Swiger*

Do you have a picture of yourself, as a wee little person?

At our annual Christmas party, to be held in December, we would like to have a "**Baby Picture Contest.**" Pictures of "US" as little ones will be displayed on poster boards, a number will be assigned to each picture and when you arrive at the party you will be given a "**guessing**" form and a pencil.

Your job is to guess "**the identity**" of each picture. A prize will be awarded to the person that identifies the most pictures correctly.

Please find a baby picture of yourself, print your name clearly on the back and give the picture to **Valerie Swiger**. (Wait until you see mine, no one will figure it out.) ALL pictures will be returned to their owners after the party. Start searching those old photo albums.

**This will be such FUN!!!!!!!!!!!!**

**Part of the Shag Circle...** *by Steve Booth*

Did you know that the NVSC has a record/music producer in our midst? A lot of our new shag club members may not know that there is a Washington native who has dedicated his work efforts to the musical side of the dance world. A long-time member of the Northern Virginia Shag Club, **MARC FISHER** now lives in Florida most of the year, but stays in close touch with our club, through the newsletter and his many friends here.

Music is the basis of all the diversity of dance in our area -- but to shaggers, none is more important than our beloved R&B/beach music. Beach music CDs are an essential part of the unbroken circle in the preservation of beach music and shag dance.

Thankfully, producers like Marc, through his Beach Bag label, continue to produce and distribute dance compilations of beach music, in many cases prepitched to fit our style of dance. Two of Marc's latest releases, **Blues on the Loose**, and **Full Measure of Blues III**, feature a solid combination of classic R&B, neo-disco, and contemporary blues. Blues on the Loose even showcases Lulu's and NVSC shaggers -- the front and back covers were shot at Lulu's (at Blackie's; our home base of several years at the time of its release.).

Best of all, Blues on the Loose (check out "**Statesboro Blues**" and "**See About Me**"), and Full Measure of Blues III (check out "**Think**" and "**She's Sixty**") are available through our own music vendor, **Gerry Scott**, at Nick's on Wednesday nights, as well as Judy's House of Oldies in North Myrtle Beach.

So, get the latest mix of great shag/dance music from a club vendor, and from our very own producer, Marc Fisher! Everybody wins!



We wish to announce the engagement of **Janis Grimes** and **Steve Booth**, we wish them many years of happiness

## Shag Leads

*Monthly Tips on the fine art of Shagging  
by John—a Beach Shagger of Birmingham*

### *Dancing on the Diving Board*

“Dancing on a diving board” is another one of the basic principles of shagging, related to last month’s topic, “Dancing in the Slot.” There we said that dancing in the slot means that the partners dance up and back in a very straight line when doing the basic step. The triple steps and rock step are all done within a very narrow vertical space.

As we noted, over the years shag has “straightened out” and lateral movement in the basic has been dropped. This contributes to the dance’s smoothness and subtlety that is uniquely shag.

“Dancing on a diving board” means that when executing turns the partners stay close to each other... so close that they could actually execute the turns on the narrow width of a diving board. And of course, they dance up and back in a slot, as they would have to if they were dancing on a diving board.

Nowhere can this be illustrated better than in the simple female turn. On the “1 & 2” the couple should be “back to front” (female’s back to the male’s front) in a close parallel position. Each person ends up on the other person’s spot on the floor. Done properly, this turn could easily be executed on a diving board!

Until next month, *keep on shagging.*

**Stop by the Company Store during SOS, chances will be sold for Millennium Party Tickets.**

*“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’s accountant.”*

## SHAG TAPES FOR LOAN

To help you practice your shag moves, we have the following tapes, that are on loan to 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

**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.

## E-MAIL

1. Are you getting the “Hello Shagger” emails?
2. Do you want to be added to the Northern Virginia Shag Club’s email list?

If the answer to number 1 is **NO**, and you have supplied us with your email address, then I have probably entered the information incorrectly. To correct my error, **please email me.**

If the answer to number 2 is **YES**, **please email me.**

Where ::::::::::: **vms@olg.com**

## THE ROOKIE SHAGGER

HI, I haven't written anything for the Shag Rag in awhile, been on the road since my last article. It's been a **HOT summer** and I am not just talking about the weather. Starting back in June, a five day party in Jacksonville, Florida called the "**Boogie on the River Walk**". Shaggers from everywhere, great DJ's led by Jerry Munson, boat rides, best dance floor I have ever experienced and a real wonderful group of people, especially the TAMPA Group, we could learn alot, about how to party from them. This is an event I will put on my calendar every year.

Next, "**The Pig Picking in Roanoke**", the pork was hot, the Demo was hot, Clyde Waller and Harold Beaver were the DJ's, Brad Kinard and Jennifer Beaver did a work shop and a Demo, a good time was had by all. One negative comment, "many members of the sponsor club left early, every night and left the party in the hands of us, their guests" that was not so hot and the local DJ on Friday night wanted to leave early but we would not allow him to leave before the scheduled time on the flyer.

On to "**The Shag Workshop in Burlington NC**", another great event and some of my friends from all over North Carolina were there and they restored my faith in shaggers and their ability to party and dance until the wee hours of the morning. TWO dance floors and one smoke free room. Harold Beaver again was one of the DJ's and I personally danced until my feet said "**Either you stop now or you can walk home on your ELBOWS**". I borrowed that from a waitress in Hampton named Theresa.

The Capital Shag Classic, **WAS A CLASSY CLASSIC**, Heather Jennings did a great job, and all those people that were mentioned in the August Shag Rag, did a super job. VESTA AND HEATHER wrote how wonderful and successful the classic was. They thanked about a dozen or so people for the effort they put out for this wonderful event. I would like to thank all those not mentioned, some of the people I saw who gave that little extra and maybe didn't get noticed. This was a total club effort and everyone should be proud of what the NVSC accomplished, that wonderful weekend in July. Three cheers for Heather and everyone who helped to make this one of the best events I have attended since I started dancing again.

On to "**The Boogie On the Bay in Hampton Virginia**", Portsmouth Shag Club sponsored it. The Hotel was full of nostalgia and history. The DJ's were different and the food was great. The Portsmouth Club was a great a host and I was so proud of my fellow NVSC members because 20 or more were still there having fun and dancing into the early morning hours. **Keith and Donna** did one of the work shops and **Judy Duke** did the other, learning was the order of the day on Saturday. **Judy Duke**, Keith and Donna were always teaching, through the whole weekend and we all remarked how much energy they created during this rather hot weekend at the Chamberlain Hotel, on the point where the Hotel Staff was wonderful.

I am afraid I will loose my rookie status soon but I will always be grateful for the lesson's learned along the way and how really wonderful all of you are in this thing called **THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA SHAG CLUB**.

The Rookie Shagger

### **JUDY DUKE IS COMING**

to teach Shag Workshops

**September 11th**

Mark your calendars

## Looking for a place to stay in North Myrtle Beach?

Lewis Realty	800-334-3390
Ocean Beach Resorts	800-334-5016
San A Bel Oceanfront Condo	800-387-7714
N Myrtle Beach Realty	800-999-9803
Grand Strand Resorts	800-367-6515
Elliott Realty	800-525-0225
Comfort Inn NMB	800-494-4489

## Not just another Dance Club

Each shag club within the Association of Carolina Shag Club's chooses a charity to support. **Our charity is the Hospice of Northern Virginia.** If you were wondering why, at almost every event we have, we sell **50-50 chances**, it is raise money for the Hospice of Northern Virginia. This wonderful organization helps thousands of people and we want to help them.

So next time someone asks if you would like to buy a raffle ticket, spend generously. **One** chance is a **dollar**, **three** chances **two dollars and seven** chances **five dollars**. **Half** the money goes to the **Hospice of Northern Virginia** and the other half goes to the winning ticket.

## 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 703-7246 or email PFParrott@cs.com.

## SOS-----WHAT IS IT?????????????

This is a question that I asked four years ago. If you grew up on the east coast of United States you are probably familiar with the term "beach week". It is a popular event for high school students. A week at the beach to celebrate the end of the school year.

Well, SOS is "beach week" for **adults**. 10 full days of dancing, sun and friends. There are nine bars in a three block area of North Myrtle Beach that open their doors to thousands of Shaggers twice each year, **April and September**. You buy a **yearly SOS Badge**, cost **\$35.00**. You carry it with you from bar to bar and this eliminates the cover charges. You dance as much or as little as you want. You have a chance to take Shag lessons from the top shaggers. You are even offered free food, at some of the bars, if you are at the bar when they are offering it.

**First** thing upon arrival to North Myrtle Beach, get an **SOS Badge**. You will see tents set up on Main Street that sell the badges. *(During January and February, this club sells the badges for a discount.)*

**Second:** pick up a SOS Newspaper, this is a newspaper written about SOS, in it you will find a list of the classes, competitions and "free stuff".

**Third:** put on your most comfortable dance shoes and start having fun.

### What do you need for SOS:

- Place to stay
- Sun Screen
- Comfortable dance shoes
- Comfortable cloths
- SOS Badge



**PS** You might want to throw in a little Epson salts or a good foot massage cream, we may be adults but we can party as hard and as long as most high school students.

## Shagger Profile---

**Name:** Beverly Sgroi  
**Occupation:** Health Program Analyst  
**Birthday:** June 21  
**Hometown:** Baltimore  
**Self Portrait:** Good natured; easy going; fun loving; sentimental; romantic  
**Motto:** Do unto others....  
**Dream:** To own a place at the beach; return trips to Italy  
**Bad Habit:** Chocolate, anything chocolate (well, almost anything)  
**Hobby:** Dancing, gardening  
**Favorite Dance Tune:** Too many to list  
**Luxury Defined:** Enough money to travel wherever, whenever  
**Drink or wine:** White Zinfandel  
**Books by bedside:** Under the Tuscan Sun  
**Last Words:** Ciao! A piu tardi

## NEW MEMBERS IN August

Rob Baen, George Bogart, Judy Burkhart, Barbara Hester, Ray Jones, Laura Marchisotto, Linda McAndrew, Sandra Morrell, Stephanie Powers, Sheila Purkey, Bill Schechter, Gail Taylor, Gil Taylor, C Tran, David Walker, Nikki Walker, Sandra Winfrey

## Intermediate Dance Steps for September

Sept 1	Duck Walk; Stutter Basic
Sept 8	Back Prep; Sugarfoot
Sept 15	Pivot; Crossover Basic
Sept 22	Belly Roll; Kick Basic

## DJ's for the coming weeks:

Sept 1	Dennis & Nancy Gehley
Sept 8	Jerry Canada
Sept 15	Larry Jones
Sept 22	Gerry Scott
Sept 29	Craig Jennings
Oct 6	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 September Birthday Babies

3 William Martin  
 3 Keith Teele  
 3 Cynthia Trueheart  
 3 Weldon Waites  
 8 Pamela Alfano  
 9 Isabelle Bunch  
 10 Ginger Tucker  
 12 Billy White  
 13 Sharon Shipp  
 14 Rana Holland  
 16 Dean Hipps  
 18 Jeannie Pope  
 19 Sandy Shecter  
 19 Linda Silbaugh  
 19 Jake Willingham  
 20 Mark Rollings  
 20 Jeannie Sorsdal  
 21 Buddy Hicks  
 21 James Magness  
 22 Martha Raynor  
 22 Walter White  
 23 C Tran  
 24 Marilyn Barstow  
 24 Dave Shipp  
 24 Gil Taylor  
 25 Barry Holt  
 26 Paul Able  
 26 Nick Nichols  
 28 Gregory Chambers  
 30 Louise Pyles  
 31 Sherri Bassham  
 31 Richard Sullivan



Belated birthday wishes to Jean Sellers,  
July 15.

Congratulations to Betty Abshire on  
her new grandson Miles Waite, July 31,  
7lbs 14 ozs.

Condolences to Dallas Campbell on the  
death of his mother.

