



# Shag Rag

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

October, 1999

Keep on Shagging'

Vol. VI, No 10

## October President's letter *by Vesta Jones*

Is this club great or what?!...and why is that????

We have so much fun...we try to have something for everyone...to keep everyone informed...to teach dance lessons (at multiple levels)...to have parties (little ones, medium sized ones and a BEEEG one) and workshops...to contribute to charity...to make friends. This is not magic...this is teamwork. It's what happens when a group of folks that love the dance and the music all pitch in to do something to make it work and to keep it alive.

And the reason this club has continued to grow is that there has been a wonderful mix over the years of members who have worked at many jobs, and brand new members who are eager...and old members who have not helped out yet (or in a long time) and are willing to pitch in. If many of us agree to help...just a little...then lots will get done.

Please remember that this year when one of our nominating committee asks you to run for the board, or the board asks you to take on (or help out on) a committee. It takes teamwork...and the willingness to make a commitment for a year...and the willingness to have a lot of fun and feel like you are doing your part to keep the club and the dance alive in northern Virginia.

Being involved also keeps the direction of the club moving in a direction you like...because you are involved in the navigating. And each year there are minor course corrections to keep the club energetic and vital...and yet still focused on the shag and the music we all love...it is the board that is responsible for these course corrections. Have an opinion? Get involved!...and then...

Let's shag!

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT NOVEMBER 1999 NVSC ELECTION

Each year in **November**, NVSC members elect **4 officers** and **5 directors-at-large** to serve as the 9 person NVSC Board for Directors for the following calendar year. All NVSC members in good standing(those who have paid dues for the current year) may vote. Members may vote either in person on election night or by mail-in-ballot.

Under current NVSC bylaws and operating procedures, a 7 member Nominating and Elections Committee, prepares a list of candidates for the 2000 Board and presents the candidates at a General Membership meeting. This years meeting will be held **October 27**.

Candidates presented have indicated that they are willing to:

Be nominated for an officer or director-at-large position

Have prepared a one-paragraph statement that explains why the candidate is qualified and why they want to serve

Have agreed to carry out both the general duties and the specific duties of the officer or director-at-large position if they are elected

Our bylaws require that candidates for the **Secretary, Treasure, and director-at-large positions** must have been a NVSC member for at least **one year**, and candidates for **President and Vice President** must have served on the Board for at least **one year**.

**The Nominating Committee is composed of:**

Valerie Swiger	703-281-9193
Bob Lutz	301-774-2297
Mary Camp	703-550-6468
Ruth Rapson	703-978-8656
Vaughn Royal	703-354-2463
Cathy Metcalf	703-690-2631
Norma Wark	703-451-4280

If you wish to Nominate someone or if you would like to run for a position on the board, please contact one the seven people on the Nominating Committee. Please remember that there are over 400 members in our club and only 7 people on the nominating committee. We are going to try and contact as many of you as we can, but if you will call us first it would be a great help. If you are online, email your nomination to [vms@olg.com](mailto:vms@olg.com).

We really want your input. This is your club. The Board should be composed of the people you think are the best ones for the job. Remember---we are an all volunteer club. We need people willing to give of themselves to help this great organization become even better.

<b>October 26</b>	Deadline for members to submit names to the Nominating Committee
<b>October 27</b>	<b>GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING</b> --Nominating Committee presents names to the members and accepts other nominations from the floor
<b>November 3</b>	<b>Ballot</b> appears in the <b>November Shag Rag</b>
<b>November 16</b>	All mail in ballots must received
<b>November 17</b>	<b>ELECTION</b> at Nick's
<b>December 1</b>	Election results announced(unless a tie-vote requires a runoff election)
<b>December 1</b>	Runoff election if necessary

Fun Monday Reverse Raffle Results: Two of our members, **Michael Browne** and **Kathryn Quattrone**, were \$50.00 winners in the reverse raffle drawing.

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### **Millennium Special Main Street Pavers**

If you are interested in a paver on Main Street to be part of the Northern Virginia Shag Club grouping, there is a Millennium Special... **15% discount** till the end of the year. Dave Shipp has information on the pavers.

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### **Fund Raisers for Capital Shag Classic**

We'll be starting soon to do some fund raising for the 2000 Capital Shag Classic. In order to beef up our special account, we'll need to raise some money throughout the year. One way we will do this is to raffle off various "**shaggy**" items and other interesting things. Beginning the first Wednesday in October, we will have "**little raffles**" that will be drawn that night (please note that this is **ADDITION** to the 50/50 we do to support Hospice of Northern Virginia.)

The item to be raffled that night will be displayed on the "**Club**" table and tickets sold throughout the night...usually \$2.00 for the small things. We will also be selling raffle tickets for a signed/numbered **Becky Stowe** print "Diner Juke Box". The drawing for that will be at the **Christmas Party**. Additionally, we have two **millennium** tickets available...**Vesta Jones** won the two tickets in a drawing at SOS and is contributing them to the club to use as a fund raiser for the Classic...details to come soon. (**THANK YOU VESTA**)

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Vesta Jones and Joan McKinney represented the Club at the ACSC meeting held at SOS (9:30 am Saturday morning...arrrrghhhh). There were 78 clubs represented by 121 people...this group in turn represented 14378 shaggers.

Many of those 14378 shaggers have been impacted by the floods in North Carolina as a result of Hurricane Floyd. The SOS/ACSC voted to contribute **\$10,000** to the flood relief fund of NC. We will be getting information on where we can go to learn how to help...that information will be available on the website shortly.

## BEACH NIGHT IN MANASSAS

by Gary Salpini

Legends is continuing to host the beach music party on **Friday** nights from around 6 PM to 10 PM, or later depending upon the crowd.

No cover, no minimum, traditional beach music and crossover favorites.

Happy hour until 9 PM with \$2 Budweisers, free mini-buffet, and alternating specials.

Occasional special entertainment by the Bomber Crew, the one armed coin counter, or Jerry.

See you there.

## Baby Contest!!!!!!! by Valerie Swiger



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

At our annual Christmas party, **December 11**, 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!!!!!!!!!!!!**

## Jackie and Charlie are Coming!!!!!!!

This weekend, **September 30 through October 3** Jackie McGee and Charlie Womble will be teaching shag lessons during the 1999 Virginia State Open Swing Dance Weekend.

Classes are as follows:

<b>Saturday 10:30</b>	<b>Beginning Shag</b>
<b>Saturday 1:30</b>	<b>Intermediate Shag</b>
<b>Sunday 10:30</b>	<b>Advanced Shag</b>

## 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:

<b>Charlie &amp; Jackie:</b>	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
<b>Sam &amp; Sarah West:</b>	Carolina Shag for Beginners (2) Basic Polish - Techniques in Basic Patterns (2)
<b>Ellen Taylor:</b>	Basic Technique
<b>Sy Creed &amp; Dana Brown:</b>	Learn to Shag
<b>Virginia Beach:</b>	Mirror Steps

*"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."*



## Shagger Profile---

**Name:** George Bogart  
**Occupation:** Attorney - US General Accounting Office  
**Birthday:** June 10  
**Hometown:** Newark, Delaware  
**Marital Status:** Married  
**Favorite Dance Tune:** "The Little Old Lady from Pasadena"  
**Hobby:** Running  
**Drink or wine:** Pinot Noir  
**Last Words:** "And now, Back to the Mantra"

## NEW MEMBERS IN September

Libby Ash, Jamie Callahan, Peg Connor, Joan Cormier, Betty Dinkle, Gini Fortunato, Joyce Goins, Patricia Heller, Faye Krizan, Lina Levesque, Roger Levesque, Jeff Levy, Laura Lightbourne, Gary Mann, Phbi Mann, Loretta Mathews, Alice McAndrew, Chuck McAndrew, George Rementer, Howard Templehoff, Charles Warren, Erik Wolf, Rose Wolf

## Intermediate Dance Steps for October

Oct 6 Tuck from a pivot, hesitation basic  
 Oct 13 Pivot, Side to Side Basic  
 Oct 20 Front prep with lean, Double Kick Basic  
 Oct 27 Duck Walk, Stutter Basic

## DJ's for the coming weeks:

Oct 6 Dennis & Nancy Gehley  
 Oct 13 Craig Jennings  
 Oct 17 Gerry Scott (Sunday Social)  
 Oct 20 Charlie Price  
 Oct 27 Larry Jones

## Happy, Happy Birthday October *Birthday Babies*

3 William Martin  
 3 Keith Teele  
 3 Cynthia Trueheart  
 3 Weldon Waites  
 8 Pamela Alfano  
 9 Isabelle Bunch  
 10 Ginger Tucker  
 12 Patricia Heller  
 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



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.

## COUNTING

"1 & 2, 3 & 4, 5,6"

We've all heard it a million times. Nothing is more important to the new shagger than counting steps. Rarely do experienced dancers even think about counting. There are a few gifted, great shaggers who could not count one of their steps if they had to. However, most of us with experience probably should count more often than we do.

Counting helps beginners understand the steps and feel the rhythm of the dance, all of which becomes programmed in their mental computers for a lifetime. Occasionally when I see new students of the dance really struggling, I always urge them to count and to count out loud, even when they are actually trying to dance to the music. It usually helps them over the hump.

Using the "1&2, 3&4, 5,6" method of counting helps new dancers understand that most shag steps are completed in six downbeats of the music, or multiples of six, even though the feet may strike the floor more times—eight in the basic, for example.

"To understand a downbeat" simply tap your toe in time with the music. Each time the toe strikes the floor, it has done so on the downbeat.

## Party

December 11, 1999



Mark your calendars, we will be having our annual Christmas Party. Get out those recipe books, this will be one of our wonderful cover dish dinners and a night of dancing.

Betty Abshire is in charge and will need your help. Please say yes when she asks.

## Happy Happy Birthday September Babies

- 2 Laura Marchisotto
- 2 Troy Taylor
- 3 Dawn Papas
- 3 Serena Thrower
- 5 Steven Mitchell
- 10 Mina Kennedy
- 13 Betty Abshire
- 14 Pete Campbell
- 15 Sandra Cangiano
- 16 Bonnie Mahoney
- 16 Gerry Scott
- 16 John Stanford
- 17 Patricia Canestra
- 18 Kathy Guckert
- 19 Edna Davis
- 20 Eddie Bunch
- 20 Michael Edmonsto
- 20 Cecile Rocek
- 21 Audrey Borja
- 21 Ralph Tedesco
- 22 Jacqueline Condakes
- 22 Jeff Levy
- 22 Erik Wolf
- 23 Arthur Curry
- 23 Valerie Henson
- 23 Leonard Shinn
- 24 Nancy Bailey
- 24 Mike Francella
- 26 Russell Gauber
- 27 Jamie Callahan
- 27 Loretta Mathews
- 27 Pat Parrott



My sincere apologies to all September Birthday Babies for leaving you out of the September Shag Rag.

Your Editor

## 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.

## Celebrate the Millennium At Ocean Drive

December 30, 1999 - January 2, 2000

Hurry!!! There are nearly 15,000 shaggers in the Association of Carolina Shag Clubs, BUT only 3000 tickets will be sold to this Once-In-A-Lifetime Event.

Enjoy four days of unlimited and exclusive access to the participating lounges located in North Myrtle Beach, SC. There will be blues and beach bands, street parties, big name entertainment and dancing in the clubs.

**Get your tickets now!!!!!!!**

Call 1-888-767-3113 or [www.shagdance.com](http://www.shagdance.com)

## 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 [PFParrott@cs.com](mailto:PFParrott@cs.com).

## 400 Strong

Inexpensive advertising to 400 people. *Do you have a business?* Would you like to advertise in our **Shag Rag**. We now have over 400 readers. Place a business card size advertisement for only \$5.00 per month or \$50 for a year.

If interested send business card and payment to:

Northern Virginia Shag Club  
P O Box 5522  
McLean, VA 22103

**E-MAIL How do you get on our  
Shagger Email list? Email me at**

**[vms@olg.com](mailto:vms@olg.com)**

## NICK'S NOT JUST A PLACE TO DANCE

Have you tried the burgers at Nick's? Or the salads? Or the chicken fingers? All this writing about food is making me hungry!!!! Just a reminder that before or after you take those Shag Lessons on Wednesday night you can get a good meal at a reasonable price at Nick's. And don't forget to tip. The servers work hard dodging us dancers to get us our orders. Have you ever thought about how hard it is to keep all the tabs straight when we are constantly on and off the dance floor and moving from table to table to talk?

