



# Shag Rag

Dedicated to the Preservation of the Carolina Shag and Beach Music

January, 2000

Keep on Shagging'

Vol. VII, No 1

## January President's Message *by Joan Mckinney*

I'm not officially your president until January 10th, the next Board meeting. That's my story, anyway, and it means I can stretch out something that we Washington-area folks experience close-up with every change of administrations: **the Transition.**

I've been using my Transition to ponder the implications of this historic shag club election. You do realize, don't you, that you've committed history: elected the Northern Virginia Shag Club's **first married president.** This is precedent-making stuff. ... Not the presidency. We've done THAT before. I speak, of course, of the shag club's first **First Spouse.** Completely uncharted waters. Virgin territory. (Actually, no one's accused Dallas of virginity in a very long time.... But I digress.)

So. I've really been struggling with how to define the first **First Spouse's duties.** The role models are not helpful. I'd settled on the Nancy Reagan model: fixed gaze of adoration in the direction of the president. But when I floated that past Dallas, the return gaze fell somewhat short of adoring.... Dallas would look dippy in the Rosalynn Carter big-bow blouse (actually, she looked kinda dippy in it); and while he'll tolerate the occasional other-man shag partner, **Big Dal's** just not inclined toward Hillary's particular brand of marital generosity..... Possibly, just possibly, Dallas is our Betty Ford. She is a dancer, and at least she used to drink.

**Finally I asked Dal: how DO we define your role?.** And he said (and this is a true quote): "Why don't you just finish your term, and we'll see how I did?" That's what FDR had in mind when he said that, in any crisis, America is saved by the calm of its people, and their sense of humor. *Perspective, it's called. Dallas has it.* He sometimes applies it to the NVSC. It's Dallas' "**You People**" rule.

In the past few years, Dallas regularly has surrendered his living room to Board meetings and his dining room to shag lessons... sensibly removing himself to the TV room and a cold beer. And when the Board meetings edge toward midnight, and the shag lessons turn into demonstrations of 22 different ways to execute the Pivot, Dallas emerges from the TV room to apply the **You People Rule.** He says: "**You people are taking this w-a-a-a-y too serious.**" Which the first First Spouse absolutely will not do. He will not take the shag seriously. It offends his sense of what the dance is all about... which means that he will help me remember what the NVSC is all about: our music, our dance, our friendships.

So congratulate yourselves on a presidential selection that's at least half right. While the president has her flaws, the **First Spouse** is supremely qualified. ... Now let me close my first president's letter on a couple of serious notes. I very much appreciate your votes, and please participate generously in our 50/50s because Dallas will be running for the Senate in New York.

# IT WAS A WONDERFUL PARTY!

by *Betty Abshire, Hospitality Chairman*

Anyone that did not attend our Christmas party missed a GREAT time. The food was WONDERFUL, the music HOT and the crowd full of energy. We had 106 who got in free, 10 paying guests and the DJ & his assistant. The success of the party is directly related to the contributions of our members. The dishes were almost too numerous to sample all - thanks to all of you who contributed. The most inspirational thanks goes to *Linda Silbaugh* and her decorating committee - they transformed an "ugly duckling into a swan". A special thanks to *Cris & Jeff Gaines* who arrived early and took on the set-up for the bar and food table. They were assisted by *Gini & Mike Fortunato* and *Linda & Chuck McAndrew* as well as several others. It is wonderful to see new members jumping in to help. Little do they know that once we realize they are willing to help as well as being very capable, that we will be asking them again & again.

It is recommended that you mark your calendar for the second Saturday in December 2000, that is the date of our next Christmas party, come join in the fun.

## Northern Virginia Shag Club donates another \$4000.00 to the Hospice of Northern Virginia at the annual Christmas Party!

### PRIVATE LESSONS WITH CHARLIE WOMBLE & JACKIE MCGEE

by *David Rodgers*

If you're interested in becoming a better shagger, then sign up for private lessons with Charlie & Jackie while they are here to teach workshops for our Club.

Charlie & Jackie will be offering private lessons at David & Jerry Rodgers' house in Fairfax Station on Thursday, Friday, and Sunday (Jan. 6, 7, & 9). Cost of the lessons will be \$60.00/hour with either Charlie OR Jackie and \$85.00/hour for BOTH Charlie & Jackie together. Charlie & Jackie won the National Shag Championships nine times and they were the U.S. Open Champions in 1996. They are fantastic instructors and all of us can learn a lot from them.

**SIGN UP NOW** for private lessons during that weekend. Don't miss this opportunity to take private lessons from Charlie & Jackie. E-mail **David Rodgers** at [rodgersd3@aol.com](mailto:rodgersd3@aol.com) or call him at (703) 239-8978 to put your name on the list. Times for lessons will be assigned based on the order in which requests for lessons were/are received.

### 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, for **one week**, for a refundable \$10.00 deposit:

- 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  
Male Lead Vol 1  
Workshop Notebook Vol 1 & 2
- 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

See **Patricia Parrott** to check out video, or call her at 703-318-7246 or email [PFParrott@cs.com](mailto:PFParrott@cs.com).



# Coming Soon.....

1996 U.S. Open Champions  
9 Times National Shag Champions  
Shag Hall of Fame Members

**Charlie Womble & Jackie McGee**  
*will be here!*

**3 Shag Workshops on**  
Saturday, January 8th at Ft. Myer Community Center

Beginner	11 a.m. - 12 noon
Intermediate	1:00 p.m.-2 p.m.
Advanced	2:15 p.m.-3:15 p.m.

Cost:

Members - \$10 per workshop

Non-Members - \$15 per workshop

## ***DANCE SATURDAY NIGHT!***

with Beach Music DeeJay **BUTCH METCALF!!**

**Ft. Myer Community Center**

8-12 p.m.

Cover Charge:  
\$10 - Members  
\$12 Non-Members

**BYOB\* -- Light Snacks and Mixers Provided**

*\*Ft. Myer is a military base - no alcohol sales are permitted*

**Everyone is Welcome to Attend!!**

**DIRECTIONS:** From the Beltway in Virginia, take Rt. 50 East toward Arlington to the Washington Blvd/Pentagon exit; go South to FIRST EXIT on RIGHT (Court House Rd/Fort Myer Exit). Turn LEFT on Court House Rd., then LEFT on 2nd street to Fort Myer. Go through the Gate, turn LEFT at FIRST STOP SIGN on McNair, to Community Center on the LEFT. Parking lot on the right.

To schedule PRIVATE LESSONS w/Charlie & Jackie, call David - 703-239-8978

*Brought to You by The Northern Virginia Shag Club*

## Shagger Profile---

**Name:** Rodger B. Woodson  
**Nickname:** You don't want to know (I've been called lots of things)  
**Occupation:** Home Builder  
**Birthday:** March 25  
**Hometown:** Roanoke, VA  
**Marital Status:** Divorced  
**Self Portrait:** Giving and a good listener  
**Motto:** Be the best you can be  
**Dream:** To be able to do the things I want  
**Inspiration:** Susie Beaver  
**Favorite Dance Tune:** Any Smoothie  
**Bad Habit:** Are you kidding????????  
**Hobby:** Shag and golf along with running and weight lifting  
**Luxury defined:** That would be my "Dream"  
**Drink or wine:** Fresca  
**TV Program:** Ally McBeal  
**Books at bedside:** Tom Clancy Novels  
**Last Words:** I gave my best!

## NEW MEMBERS IN December

*Samba Ba, Bettye Glover, Dora Howard, Betty Kealey, Karen O'Malley, Lin Romero, Tom Romero, Chris Tant, Hugh Tant*

## Intermediate Dance Steps for January

Jan 5 Crossover Basic; Applejack  
 Jan 12 Kick Basic; Half Turn; Belly Roll  
 Jan 19 Pivot  
 Jan 26 Hesitation Basic; Hug Pivot; Tuck from Pivot



## DJ's for the coming weeks:

Jan 5 Dennis & Nancy Gehley  
 Jan 12 Craig Jennings  
 Jan 19 Charlie Price  
 Jan 26 Larry Jones  
 Feb 2 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 January Babies

1 Jeannie Albaugh  
 1 Jan Coleman  
 1 Jimmy Iliffe  
 2 Gary Holmes  
 2 Sam Lewis  
 4 Nancy Newman  
 6 Norma Wark  
 7 Marianne Graves  
 7 Phyllis Schulte  
 9 Janis Grimes  
 9 Craig Jennings  
 11 Lorraine Busey  
 13 Teresa Debates  
 14 Ruth Browne  
 14 Marc Fisher  
 14 Gay Harris  
 14 Richard White  
 15 Ron Fisher  
 16 Pauline Easby-Smith  
 18 Edwin Batchellor  
 20 Roger Levesque  
 21 Liz Kestler  
 23 Charles Price  
 24 Donna Larman  
 25 Cris Gaines  
 26 Tonda Corso  
 29 John T Price  
 30 Margie Bryce



*Congratulations to Mary Atienza on her retirement and may she and her husband Remy be very happy in their new home in Antioch, TN.*

*Congratulations to Linda Terry on her retirement and relocation to Macon, GA.*

*Congratulations Sharon Marsh and Weldon Waites on their recent marriage November 27.*

## **Get your SOS Memberships and SAVE**

Buy your year 2000 SOS memberships through the shag club and save \$5.00 (up until March 1, 2000.) Dennis Gehley has the applications. Fill them out, give cash or a check (\$30.00) made out to NVSC to Dennis, and soon you will receive your 2000 SOS membership card in the mail...wooHOO! Let's SHAG!!!

## **How about a lesson with Charlie and Jackie???**

For \$5.00 you can buy a raffle ticket for an hour lesson with Charlie and Jackie. The lesson will be on Sunday, Jan. 9 in the afternoon. The winning ticket will be drawn at the "Charlie and Jackie" party Jan. 8. If the winner is not at the party (for some inexplicable reason), Vesta will call them on Sunday morning to give them the good news. Buy more than ONE TICKET!!! An hour lesson with the two of them costs \$85.00...and all the proceeds (after we pay the \$85.00) goes to help pay for our 5th Annual Capital Shag Classic.

## **SHAG-A-THON coming soon!**

Dance with us at Landmark Mall on Feb 12 to show your support for Hospice of Northern Virginia. Get your pledge forms from Vesta. Ask your friends, relatives, neighbors, co-workers to make a pledge to support Hospice of Northern Virginia. If for some reason you cannot be there on Feb. 12, you can still collect pledges as a flat donation. We have a lofty goal and it is for a very worthy cause.

## **Important Dates**

**January 8, 2000**

**Jackie and Charlie Shag Workshops & Dance**

**February 12, 2000**

**Shag-A-Thon - raising money for Hospice**

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

**Email Valerie Swiger at [vms@olg.com](mailto:vms@olg.com)**

# RETIREMENT *through the eyes of a Child*

After spring break, a teacher asked her young pupils how they spent the holidays. One child wrote the following:

We always use to spend the holidays with Grandma and Grandpa. They used to live here in a big brick house, but Grandpa got retarded and they moved to Arizona. Now they live in a place with a lot of other retarded people. They live in a tin box and have tricycles and wear name tags because they don't know who they are anymore. They go to a building called a wrecked center, but they must have got it fixed, because it is all right now. They play games and do exercises there, but they don't do them very well. There is a swimming pool too, buy they all jump up and down in it with their hats on. I guess they don't know how to swim.

At their gate is a doll house with a little old man sitting in it. He watches all day so nobody can escape. Sometimes they sneak out. Then they go cruising in their golf carts. My Grandma used to bake cookies and stuff, but I guess she forgot how. Nobody there cooks, they just eat out. And they eat the same thing every night, Early - Birds. Some people can't get past the man in the doll house to go out. So the ones who do get out bring food back to the wrecked center and call it pot luck. My Grandma says my Grandpa worked all his life to earn his retardment and says I should work hard so I can be retarded some day too.

When I earn my retardment I want to be the man in the doll house. Then I will let people out so they can visit their grandchildren.

## 2nd Annual NVSC Shag-A-Thon! *by Vesta Jones*

On **February 12th**, at Landmark Shopping Center, the Northern Virginia Shag Club will sponsor the second 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 Landmark Shopping Center, 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.** Vesta has the sign up sheets, they are available each Wednesday. After signing up, you will receive a **pledge sheet**. Take the pledge sheet to as many friends, family and co-workers 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. (*This 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!

On the day of the event, bring your pledge sheet and your dancing shoes and dance, dance, dance. This event raised over **\$8000.00** for the **Hospice of Northern Virginia** last year and we hope to raise even more this year. If you can't dance that day, come by and cheer your fellow dancers on.

If you are interested in participating in this event, contact **Vesta Jones** at **301-765-0995** or **vjones@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? 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?

