



Shag Rag

Dedicated to the Preservation of the Carolina Shag and Beach Music

March, 2000

Keep on Shagging'

Vol. VII, No 3

President's Message by *Joan McKinney*

Pat Parrott is leading a new project that we hope will engage and entertain all of you. With your help, Pat and other volunteers will produce a book about the **NVSC in the '90s**...something we want to complete before the artifacts and memories of our club's earliest years slip away.

Pat's team will draw from the club scrapbook and from photos that you contribute. Pat's also designed a questionnaire that jogs our memories about Founders and Charter Members, the Classic, other parties, road trips, SOS and ACSC, our DJs, our Dance Instruction Program, our Dance Competitors, the Shag Rag, our charity activities...In short, everything we've done in groups or as individuals that collectively became the NVSC.

Other 2000 initiatives: a golf tournament during the CLASSIC weekend; outreach to the Carolina expatriates in our area; some new club "logo" products; and a 2000 Yearbook.... We'd like to launch a "hospitality" program for newcomers. (**INTERMEDIATE CLASS GRADUATES**, you'd be great in this job. Please look inside the newsletter for details)... And we're renewing friendships with other dancers. (**ALERT: MARCH 25 WORKSHOPS** with Rick and Maureen Little, followed by a **JOINT DANCE** that night with **HAND DANCERS**. Wear a special t-shirt expressing our friendship. See Dave Shipp or Sharon Salpini.)

There's even a push to get a Beach Music program on local radio. It's a longshot, but Heather Jennings is making inquiries.

These initiatives are possible because of an ever-willing membership and because the Board of 2000 has an easier job than the Boards of the '90s. The Founding Fifteen and the earliest Boards did the hard work of creating something out of nothing. With a very small workforce, they left - among many other things - a governing structure, a dance floor, the Classic, and a calendar-of-events that, for the most part, is still used today. The next few Boards had the tough task of transition. They dealt with two new realities: A small membership of mostly like-minded people had exploded -- almost overnight -- into a diverse membership of 400 people who had a lot of different priorities. And, while the club must always be "just for fun" at the membership level, at the leadership level it now imposes some of the obligations of a complex, small business.

Because our members are so active and because our early Boards had vision and our latter-day Boards had flexibility, the 2000 Board has inherited a club that's very sound. Our task is simply fine-tuning what's already in place. We have the great luxury of dabbling in some fun things to enhance what we inherited....Please turn inside to learn more about these initiatives. And expect to hear soon from Pat Parrott. Your stories and pictures belong in our collection. You've all given us a very rich history in a very short time. *Joan*

Coming Soon.....

Carolina Shag

National Competitors and Instructors
Rick & Maureen Little
will be here!

3 Shag Workshops on

Saturday, March 25th at Nick's

Special Lunch Menu Will Be Available at Noon

642 S. Pickett Street near Landmark Mall in Alexandria, VA - for directions call 703-750-8900

- 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 Deejays Dennis & Nancy Gehley!!

Clinton American Legion
Clinton, Maryland

8-12 p.m.

Cover Charge:

- \$8 - Members
- \$10 - Non-Members

CASH BAR

Everyone is Welcome to Attend!!

DIRECTIONS: From Highway in Virginia, cross the Nicholas Wilson Bridge; go to Rt. 5 South (Branch Avenue), to Woodyard Road - turn RIGHT. Go past FIREHOUSE. AMERICAN LEGION is on the LEFT.

To SIGN UP for PRIVATE LESSONS with RICK & MAUREEN LITTLE, call Janis Grimes - 703-536-7362. Brought to You by The Northern Virginia Shag Club and the Hand Dance Association

We're having a Party!



with the

Hand Dancers!!!



HDA

March 25, 2000

8:00 PM - 1:00 AM

NVSC

Clinton American Legion

\$8 Members of HDA & NVSC
\$10 Non-Members

DJ's: Dennis & Nancy Gehley, Denny Martin & Eddy Farmer!

Cash Bar available.

Directions: From Virginia, take I-495 East. Cross the WW bridge and take exit 7A onto Route 5 (South) Branch Ave. Go for approx. 3.5 miles. Turn right onto Woodyard Rd. Go for approx. 1 mile. Pass the firehouse and the American Legion is on the left.

FLASH!! Shag Workshop with the Pro's!... *by Steve Booth*

THE FIRST TIME I went to SOS, I stumbled into Ducks Too and went back to the dance floor. The first thing that caught my eye was a flat-top haircut in the middle of a drop spin and the flat-top's petite blonde dance partner. She floated as if on rollerblades while he executed the most perfectly outrageous leads and footwork. These were the first true Carolina-born shaggers that I had seen, and they still set the standard for me for absolutely beautiful and pure Carolina Shag styling. They were and are, of course, **Rick and Maureen Little** from Monroe, North Carolina.

For those of you who do not know them, Rick and Maureen Little have been dancing for twelve years and competing for ten years. They began their dancing career with lessons from Shad and Brenda Alberty. In their first year of competition, they were able to earn their way to professional status by winning three amateur and four novice contests. They have danced and placed in the National Shag Dance Championships in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina and the Grand Nationals in Atlanta, Georgia.

Rick and Maureen served on the National Shag Dance Team in 1997 and made appearances throughout North and South Carolina. They also had the opportunity to appear in Alabama's music video, "Shagging on the Boulevard." They have been the workshop instructors at Twisters Shag Club's Fall Cyclone for the past three years and have conducted workshops for the Association of Carolina Shag Clubs.

Rick and Maureen live in Monroe, North Carolina, where they teach group and private classes. They are still competing on the Competitive Shaggers Association circuit in the professional division.

On Saturday, **March 25th**, Rick and Maureen Little will be here to teach us how to Shag, the Carolina way.... **THREE** one-hour shag workshops will be held at **NICK's**, starting at 11 a.m. for the basics, followed by intermediate and advanced workshops. A special lunch menu will be available for workshop attendees. Private lessons with Rick and Maureen will be offered on Friday and Sunday morning -- to schedule a private lesson, **contact Janis at 703-536-7362, or Email janigrimes@starpower.net**.

If you are serious about learning authentic Carolina styling, I urge you to attend all three workshops.

NVSC DJ's Play at DJ Throwdown

March 3 Dennis Gehley at Ducks 12 Noon to 3 PM

March 3 "Shooter Dudes" Craig Jennings and Larry Jones at Ducks 6 PM to 9 PM

Help us be number 1 for the third year in a row!

Are you going to SOS? Would you like to be part of the Northern Virginia Shag Club's, **Marching Unit**, in the **SOS Parade on April 15?** If so please contact Joan Mckinney(703-971-7527) or Valerie Swiger (703-281-9193).

HIGHLIGHTS Board & General Membership Meetings in February

News from the **Feb. 8 Board Meeting** is dealt with in the President's Letter, and in the March Workshop and "Initiatives 2000" articles elsewhere in the newsletter. Here are some additional highlights from that Board discussion, and from the comments of members at the Quarterly Membership Meeting on Feb. 20.

TREASURY: Club operating account, \$2,132. Special account (the Classic), \$4,651. Charity account, \$2,525. (Does not include the \$13,000-plus raised at the Shagathon.)

BUDGET TASK FORCE REPORT: Club's biggest revenue sources: membership dues; profits from the shag workshops w/pro instructors and the post-workshop dances; income earned from attending ACSC and from prizes won at SOS. Biggest expenditures: the newsletter, an approximately \$2,000 subsidy to the CLASSIC weekend, Sunday Socials, the free Christmas Party.

LONGRANGE FISCAL ISSUES: Membership dues and the price of CLASSIC tickets have not increased. The CLASSIC raises approximately \$18,000 on its own, but does require the \$2000 subsidy.. Hotel costs (food, setup fees) are increasing, as are rental costs for party/dance facilities...The NVSC gives all of its profits from the weekly 50/50 raffle to Hospice of Northern Virginia, which is some \$3000-plus a year. Membership takes great pride in this initiative. However, it partly explains why we're somewhat constrained financially. Most other clubs use their 50/50 raffle tickets for club operating purposes.

We should evaluate several things: membership building and retention; fundraising projects that don't "nickel and dime" the membership to death, but that club members will enjoy (the Jack 'n Jill; new "logo" products; raffling a private lesson w/folks like Charlie and Jackie); raising dues and/or the CLASSIC ticket price (but the CLASSIC can't be priced much above the norm for weekend parties in the Carolinas); revising the 50/50 raffle policy. Corporate sponsorships: the CLASSIC GOLF TOURNAMENT is our first test, with proceeds shared with Hospice. Issues raised: would businesses sponsor a non-charity, purely dance function? We don't have a marketing staff; who'll do this and how? We're consulting w/shag clubs that rely heavily on sponsors.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: 7:30 PM, Monday, March 6 at Pamela Alfano's home in Arlington. Members very much welcome to observe, or to be placed on the agenda for discussion of your interests/concerns. For directions or to be placed on the agenda, please call Pamela (703)379-7992 or Joan (703)971-7527.

Shag Classes A Success! ... by Janis Grimes

Each week our **Wednesday night** classes are packed, and Nick's is jumpin' with excitement and new folks learning to shag. Our **FREE** shag lesson program has been instrumental in the growth of our club to over 400+ members, and we owe many thanks to our team of instructors who generously donate their time and energy teaching beginners and intermediate students each week.

Thanks to all of **our instructors** who have shared the joy of shag with many newcomers during the past year: Pamela Alfano, Steve Booth, Audrey Borja, Don Borja, Larry Boyer, Ruth Browne, Michael Browne, Dennis Gehley, Nancy Gehley, Janis Grimes, Donna Harrington, Rick Hendrix, Bill Hopkins, Craig Jennings, Heather Jennings, Vesta Jones, Liz Kestler, Jeff Kincheloe, H.K. Lee, Joan McKinney, Cathy Metcalf, Greg Owens, Patricia Parrott, Charlie Price, David Rodgers, Vaughn Royal, Beverly Sgroi, Melody Wayland.

Special thanks to David Rodgers for his steadfast attention to the details of scheduling instructors for the past two years.

FYI, our **FREE** shag lessons are there for everyone, and that means veteran members as well as new people. Everyone should feel free to join in these classes as often as you like, to brush up on your shag dancing.

Shag-a-thon 2000 *by Vesta Jones*

Oh you nay-sayers who thought I was crazy for setting our 2000 Shag-a-thon goal at \$10,000...listen up...I know the soul of it...and how our members reach inside to get energy and ideas for all kinds of projects...and work together to make them successes. And we did it again. At this point, not all the money has been turned in, but the pledges we are aware of so far will get us over the **\$13,000** mark for our year 2000 Shag-a-thon. I have spoken with Hospice and they are both impressed and appreciative.

I want to thank all of our members who danced...many for the entire 5 hours. **Jeff Kincheloe** was earning \$50/dance for some of his dances. Needless to say, we kept him dancing! Every dancer was an important piece of the success...but so were many others. A BIG thanks to the four deejays who donated their time, talent, music and equipment: Charlie Price, Nancy and Dennis Gehley, Gerry Scott, and Craig Jennings; to Linda Silbaugh for coordinating the "table workers": Norma Wark for working the Hospice and Club information table (and working wounded I might add...extra appreciation is due!) and Lisa Silbaugh and Mike Francella for working the dancer sign-in table; Gary Mann, Sam Martin, Linda Silbaugh, Rick Hendrix and Mike Francella for being our photographers; the food contributors: Jerry and David Rodgers, Heather Jennings, and probably others I didn't see put food on the table (it was really FULL of goodies for the dancers!); to Betty Abshire for bringing the food table necessities: napkins, cups, the big water jug (AND for keeping it filled.); to Val Swiger and Heather Jennings for doing the flyers and to Val for doing the sign-in rosters. I do hope I haven't forgotten anyone...oh yes...and a thank you to the Alexandra Gazette for helping to spread the word...and to our members who chose not dance for one reason or another, but came and supported us by watching and/or giving donations.

I'll give an update in the next newsletter of the final amount of contributions, and also the winners of 1st, 2nd and 3rd place prizes for both number of pledges and dollar amount of pledges collected. But so far, even though the totals are not in yet, I am impressed once again...have I said this before? This club continues to amaze me. Thank you all for your participation and support.

BIG THANKS to the Junior Shaggers

If you missed our Shag A Thon, you missed watching some wonderful Junior Shaggers. These kids came all the way from Virginia Beach and Richmond (with the help of their mothers and grandmothers) to help us raise money for Hospice. They were definitely show stoppers.

Junior Shaggers that attended the Shag A Thon:

Jac Crowder and Erin Olson
Scott Monger and Katie Gilbert
Brennar Goree and Amanda Tedesco
Cati Boulyou and Justin Poston

Northern Virginia Shag Club

Invites You to Join Us For Our Fifth Annual

CAPITAL SHAG CLASSIC

*Continuous Dancing
and Music by
Great Association Deelays*

WILKIE WHALEY
CRAIG JENNINGS • LARRY JONES

JULY 21, 22 & 23, 2000

Party starts 4 p.m. on Friday and continues on till 12 noon on Sunday

FREE SHAG WORKSHOP on Saturday

with National Shag Champions

Sam & Sarah West

First Annual Golf Tournament

Friday July 21st, For More Information Call Joe Cornish (703) 449-8449

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites
625 First Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

****Request Special No. Va. Shag Club Rate**

****Rooms \$79** (1-4 persons)**

Reservations: 703-548-6300

FREE SHUTTLE to and from National Airport / Metro

FREE ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT MENU * FREE POURS

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 \$2. Take a Chance on a FREE ROOM and 1 Weekend Pass!!

For additional information, call Vista at 301-765-0995 or e-mail vjones@vshag.com

NVSC's Benefit Golf Tournament

July 21, 2000

Northern Virginia Shag Club

will host a mixed golf tournament at Fort Belvoir in Alexandria, Virginia.

Registration at 6:30 AM, 7:30 shotgun start.

Both men and women are encouraged to play.

- Location:** Fort Belvoir Golf Course
- Cost:** \$65 per person
Includes greens fees, cart, lunch, prizes
- Format:** Shotgun Start, Captains Choice Scramble,
Mixed format
- Prizes:** Longest Drive Men/Women,
Closest to the Pin Men/Women
Lowest Team Score

Partial proceeds to benefit **Hospice of Northern Virginia**. The Hospice way of caring allows the terminally ill to live their final days to the fullest, as comfortable as possible, and usually in their own home. Hospice is concerned with the whole person, with emotional as well as physical problems and also with the needs of the family.



To sign up complete the bottom portion and return to: NVSC, Joe Cornish, P O Box 5522, Melean, VA 22103. If there are any questions contact: Joe Cornish 703-449-8449 or email nishje@netscape.net

**Are you part of a Foursome?
If YES—please list names in
your foursome.**

Name (last, first) _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

NVSC Golf Tournament July 21, 2000, deadline to sign up 6/16/2000.

