



Shag Rag

Dedicated to the Preservation of the Carolina Shag and Beach Music

August, 2000

Keep on Shagging'

Vol. VII, No 8

AUGUST President's Letter by Joan Mckinney

I'm in a post-Classic frame-of-mind - a kind of glow. What a nice bunch of people showed up to work, then to party and shag, then to tear down and pack up for next year. You - our workers and our guests, our DJs, our instructors, our entertainers - you were just spectacular.

How spectacular was obvious by early Thursday night.... Some **45 volunteers** swarming all over the hotel...Slipped out for an hour or so (the intrusion of Real-world Work), and when I returned Vesta intercepted me in the lobby and said "**You won't believe this. It's done.**" It was - floor down, stars and banners on the walls, record racks and gold trim sparkling in the lobby -- and it was barely 9:30.

A very few random thoughts:

IT PAYS TO LOITER: Hangers-on in the ballroom Thursday night ended up in Kathryn Quattrone's room for margaritas and shagging. A dozen hangers-on in the parking garage Sunday afternoon ended up at Vesta's for pizza and breaking into the Suggestion Box... good brainstorming on what worked (almost everything) and how we might do better next year. (Rodger Woodson insisted that every suggestion he pulled out of the box said the same thing: "Your wonderful event could be improved only by providing more dance time with Rodger.")

MY PERSONAL-FAVORITE FROM THE SUGGESTION BOX: "Charge more money."...

RECURRING REQUESTS: some food at midnight, and fruit at breakfast. We'll inquire, but much depends on what the hotel will charge us for extras....

DEARLY MISSED: Jerry and David Rodgers, as David recuperated from surgery.

A FEW IMAGES THAT STUCK: At the golf course, Valerie Swiger under a tree and reading a book, as she monitored the hole-in-one contest. Only known instance of Valerie getting a four-hour stretch of peace and rest... Bob Lutz and that sparkle shirt, joined by those Pittsburgh sparklers, Rob and Joey. A trio of glitter red, silver and blue... Sam West's slow shag at 2 AM with Sheila Purkey. The man has soft, soft feet --- feet in love with the floor.

I REALLY MEANT IT: Vesta met with the hotel staff immediately after last year's Classic, and lived the 2000 Classic every day for a year. Valerie and Heather Jennings had no official titles and often worked unseen, even to other Classic personnel. But one or the other backstopped Vesta on almost every detail of every function or sub-function of the Classic... Please give these three ladies a special "thank you." Joan.

FUTURE EVENTS: September 9th joint dance with hand dancers... Special NVSC afternoon parties during
OS: first Saturday at Ducks, second Saturday at Boulevard Grill...**October 14th** workshop with guest instructors TBA.... **December 9th** Christmas Party, with lesson by Keith Abernathy and Donna Harrington.

FIFTH ANNUAL CAPITAL SHAG CLASSIC - A HUGE SUCCESS

by Vesta Jones

Once again our Classic was a wonderful party. By Sunday at noon we had 268 happy faces and 536 aching feet dragging themselves homeward. I hardly know where to start thanking people. Please understand there is no order of importance in the way folks are thanked here. EVERYONE deserves a blue ribbon, a gold medal and top-billing.

As I said Saturday evening, a great party is a great party because of all the people that are there. But also for the shag world, the music and the floor are BIG pieces of the satisfaction puzzle. Thanks to Craig Jennings for putting together a team of deejays that provided a variety of music that kept us dancing and the floor packed all weekend. It is a real challenge to satisfy the music tastes of 268 different people. Thanks to Bonnie Mahoney and her floor team for an amazing retrieval and installation, then removal and storing of our wonderful dance floor, all in record time...what a TEAM...what a TEAM LEADER!!! Thanks to Gary Mann, Val Swiger, David and Jerry Rodgers for the cleaning and repainting of our wonderful logo that is the center-piece of our floor and again to Don Borja for the awesome Capital Shag Classic artwork (although we had to revive Don when he looked up on Sunday and saw his masterpiece swinging by one wire while well-intended maintenance staff "helped" take it down. arrrgghh)

The ballroom was spectacular the entire weekend, truly a magical site thanks to Pamela Alfano and her decorating helpers. She had them organized into tasks and the room was transformed also in record time. It was dazzling.

Linda and Lisa Silbaugh, our hospitality team were two of the most organized, hard-working people I have seen in a long time. The hospitality team is responsible for handling the registration desk (keeping it staffed, keeping the records, as well decorating it), the NVSC vendor table (keeping all the money straight for the various raffle, koozie and shirt sales as well as staffing it and hawking our wares), designing and getting the program printed (thanks to Larry and Shirley Jones for another fine job on that), the wristbands, getting the fans ordered, putting together the "goodie bags" (decorating them and "stuffing them").and heaven knows what else, they deserve a special pat on the back!

The entertainment on Friday and Saturday nights and the Jack-n-Jill on Saturday afternoon were all a big hit. Everyone enjoyed them, thank you Janis Grimes-Booth once again for pulling all that together and for getting first-rate instructors for our workshops, how can it get any better than Sam and Sarah West??? (actually Sarah West-Kemp, et al now.)

AND...our hospitality suite, always a big favorite, kept its status as high-on-the-list. Jerry and Andrea Crews, Larry and Mary Camp once again planned and produced 2 terrific free pours. It's always wonderful to have Marty Lipman from Virginia Beach helping to tend bar and refill drinks, truly "naturals" at being hosts, all of them. Having "Cooter" Douglas from Ducks was special and sponsor money from Ducks and Fat Harolds was a big help. Once again, Betty Abshire did her remarkable job of providing top notch food for the group.(Betty, how many boxes of pasta does it take to make pasta salad for 300 people?) She even had fresh fruit in the hospitality suite on Saturday morning for those folks who needed something other than what was offered in the breakfast buffet.

Joe Cornish and Laura Lightbourne put on our First Annual Capital Shag Classic Golf Tournament, and by all accounts did a terrific job. It was also a huge success, even had to turn some golfers away in the last days before the event. They had over 65 golfers participate, and I heard nothing but wonderful things about it.

All of you who donated door prizes, thank you, it was a typically first-class group of door prizes.

Fifth Classic...continued

Thanks to Dennis and Nancy for their Capital Shag Classic line-dance lesson...folks are still loving it and wanting to take it back to their clubs. An additional note of appreciation to Dennis and Nancy for all the technical support they provided for the Jack-n-Jill, contributing to it's success.

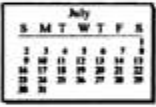
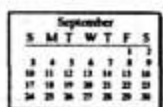
And last, and perhaps most important, I want to thank Val Swiger and Heather Jennings. Val works tirelessly (well maybe NOT tirelessly, but certainly unendingly) behind the scenes handling all the registrations, mailing out the information packets, mailing out confirmation letters, handling refunds and questions, making decorations, making signs, making comment cards, dj request cards, "I met you at." cards, and anything else any of us asked us for, the registration list in many ways.

And Heather....how can we thank you enough for working so hard last year to find this wonderful facility to host our Classic. You worked long and hard for months, tangled with the board, negotiated with several hotels, renegotiated a new regular date for the Classic. You planned an amazing event last year, building on previous experiences (John Belt, Charlie Price and Val Swiger's), but also putting in place a fool-proof "formula for success" for our Classics, this year and years to come. Thank you again.

And thank you to **EVERYONE** who helped and who attended, it takes us all to make

August 2000

Monthly Planner

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|---|---------------------------------|---|---|
|  | | 1 8:00 PM Coconuts, Clinton,MD | 2 7:30 PM FREE- Shag Lesson | 3 8:00 PM Galaxy, FC | 4 6:30 PM Legends, Manassas <i>Swing Fling</i> | 5 <i>Swing Fling</i> |
| 6 DANCE COMM JANIS <i>Swing Fling</i> | 7 7:30 PM Board Meeting | 8 8:00 PM Coconuts, Clinton,MD | 9 7:30 PM FREE- Shag Lesson | 10 8:00 PM Galaxy, FC | 11 6:30 PM Legends, Manassas | 12 |
| 13 8:30 PM Vienna Grill | 14 | 15 8:00 PM Coconuts, Clinton,MD | 16 7:30 PM FREE- Shag Lesson | 17 8:00 PM Galaxy, FC | 18 6:30 PM Legends, Manassas | 19 8:00 PM VIRGINIA BALLROOM |
| 20 8:30 PM Vienna Grill | 21 | 22 8:00 PM Coconuts, Clinton,MD | 23 7:30 PM FREE- Shag Lesson | 24 8:00 PM Galaxy, FC | 25 6:30 PM Legends, Manassas | 26 |
| 27 8:30 PM Vienna Grill | 28 | 29 8:00 PM Coconuts, Clinton,MD | 30 7:30 PM FREE- Shag Lesson | 31 8:00 PM Galaxy, FC |  | |

**Easter Seals Virginia
Presents
Concerts to Central Park
2000**

For all of our members living south of the beltway or for those who like to drive long distances, Easter Seals presents a series of inexpensive concerts in Central Park, not the one in New York, but the one in Fredricksburg. Take **I-95 South to Route 3 West, turn right** at the first light, go straight and you will see the stage on the right. Cost **\$5.00** for anyone over 12, **\$1** for ages 6 to 12, and **free** to all those under 6.

Dates and Bands:

| | |
|-----------|---|
| August 3 | Band of Oz |
| August 10 | TFC |
| August 17 | Bill & Ammon-- The Original Rhondels |

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 **Nancy Gehley** to check out video, or call her at 703-451-6764 OR EMAIL her at ngehley@aol.com.

More Winners in Clarksville

We wish to congratulate **Rodger Woodson and Karen Garmon Harper** on their **2nd Place** win in the non-pro division. **Good going !!!!!**

Intermediate Dance Steps for August

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Aug 2 | Stutter Basic,; Boogie Walk; Side Pass with Back Walk |
| Aug 9 | Back Prep; Sugar foot |
| Aug 16 | Crossover Basic, Applejack |
| Aug 23 | Kick Basic; Belly Roll, Half Turn |
| Aug 30 | Shag Pivot |

Advanced class August 16 and September 13.

E-MAIL:: How do you get on our "Hello Shagger" Email list?

Have you checked out our WEB page lately???? NVSHAG.ORG

Premier Shag Clubs Contest *by Janis Grimes*

August 23rd at Nicks ::: 9:00 PM

At the ACSC meeting during Spring SOS, a very unique Shag Contest was proposed..... a contest composed of **amateur dancers** from each shag club in the ACSC. **Dancers must be a member of a shag club, and can represent only one shag club, cannot have danced in the Shag Nationals or the Grand Nationals, including Juniors who have aged up, and no Novice or Pro SPA/CSA dancers.** Amateur Division CSA dancers will be allowed to participate. This will be the first of an annual event, and all shag clubs have been asked to help make it a successful and important event.

It will work like this: Each club will have their own Shag contest (**tentative date for our contest August 23rd**) before the end of August, and then send their **1st and 2nd** place winners to the Premier Shag Contest Prelims and Finals in Myrtle Beach, S.C. The contest will be held at the O.D. beach and Golf Resort on Ocean Drive in North Myrtle Beach. **The Prelims will be held November 3 & 4. The Finals will be held December 8 & 9, 2000. Special room rates** for these two weekends are **\$49 per night -- ask for the special Premier Shag Clubs rate, and make your reservations early!!**

The contest will be judged by Olympic style judging, 1 through 10, with seven categories: Smoothness, Repertoire, Togetherness, Degree of Difficulty, Execution, Keeps the Beat, and Showmanship. The winners will be chosen by two dances in the Prelims and two dances in the Finals. Cash prizes will be given to the finalists.

Our club would like to participate in this special, and very unique, Shag Contest. If you are interested in representing NVSC at the first Premier Shag Contest in North Myrtle Beach, please contact **Janis Grimes** at 703-536-7362, or email janigrimes@starpower.net. **Do It Now!!!**



August 19---Dance to Beach Music with Jerry Canada

Sponsored by the Virginia Ballroom and Janis Grimes this dance will be held August 19, from 8 to 11:30. Cover charge is \$10.00. A FREE beginner shag lesson will be held at 7:30. The Virginia Ballroom is located at 8442 Lee Highway, Merrifield, VA.

To get to the Virginia Ballroom, take 495 to Route 50 West, go to Prosperity (I believe it is the 3rd traffic light) turn right, go past the side of the Merrifield post office, at the intersection of Prosperity and Lee Highway, turn left, the Virginia Ballroom is immediately on your left on the second floor. For more directions call: 703-641-1400.

THANKS from Pamela Alfano

The 2000 Capital Shag Classic was a huge success and everything went smoothly. The food was plentiful, the floor was expertly reconstructed and the music kept everyone moving and on their feet. Having attended all five Shag Classics given by our Club, I can honestly say that this one was absolutely the best. Putting on such a fabulous party required the efforts of many of our Club members on numerous aspects of the event. I would like to extend special thanks to the many members who decorated the ballroom and the hospitality suite before the party, and who took down all of the decorations after the party. These dedicated workers are too numerous to mention here (and I would be embarrassed if I missed anyone), so suffice it to say that I am grateful to all of you who helped with decorations throughout the weekend. I received many compliments on our first-class decorations. They helped to create the warm and friendly atmosphere which made the party such a success. **Thank you again for your hard work.**

LOGO ITEMS FOR SALE: For \$20, the new shoe bag that was a sellout item at the SOS Company Store. Nice-sized, durable, leather-look bag will have NVSC logo and a very convenient outside pouch for money, keys, makeup, etc.. See Robbi and Gary Mann. Also, as a service to members (no profit to the club), our vender, Scott, will embroider the club logo on your personal items -- your own shirts, for instance. Cost to you will be about \$6 or \$7. We have to send a *minimum order of 10*. Please see Pamela.

Swing Fling August 4-6

TOP SHAG INSTRUCTORS-----\$10 per workshop

Swing Fling at Sheraton Premier Hotel in Tysons Corner, Virginia.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5:

11 AM: Sam & Sarah, Intermediate Together Steps

NOON: Charlie & Jackie, Shag Patterns for Swing

SUNDAY, AUGUST 6

11 AM: Sam & Sarah, Intermediate

NOON: Charlie & Jackie, Cool Signature Moves

1 PM: Bill & Brenda Barber, Beginner/Intermediate



CHECK WEBSITE for last-minute schedule changes: www.5678magazine.com/swingfling.

Swing Fling Competition

Shaggers can compete at Barry Durand's, Swing Fling, August 4 - 6.

There will be two Shag Divisions, Pro and Rising Star. In each division there will be only one couple on the floor at a time and you will be asked to supply your own music. If you are interested in competing pick up a Swing Fling Flyer or check out www.5678magazine.com/swingfling.

SHAGGERS & HAND DANCERS

..PARTY, DANCE, PARTY, DANCE..

SATURDAY

SEPTEMBER 9, 2000

sponsored by

Northern Virginia Shag Club

Md. Va. DC Hand Dance Association

GREAT DJs

Eddy Farmer, Denny Martin,

Jerry Canada

\$10 club members. \$12 non-members

Includes!!! Light food. Wine. Beer. Soft Drinks.

7:30 PM: Hand Dance Lesson. 8 PM to Midnite: Dancing

Springfield VFW (703)541-3140

Take 495 to I-95 South, exit 166A (Newington/Ft. Belvoir). Get into left lane, turn left at stoplight on to Newington Rd. Follow Newington Rd. under one-lane bridge. Go about 1/8 mile, take a hard left (almost a U-turn) on to Cinderblock Rd. Go about 1/2 mile (past Fairfax Water Authority), turn right on Hillpark. (You're now in an industrial complex). Go to the end of Hillpark, turn left on Kincannon. VFW is on right. Park anywhere.

