



Shag Rag

Dedicated to the Preservation of the Carolina Shag and Beach Music

November, 2000

Keep on Shagging'

Vol. VII, No 11

The President's Message

Results are tabulated for October's survey on the SOS Moral Dilemma: Does shag etiquette apply to DGs (Drink Golfers)?.. It was no contest: by 2 to 1, you said DON'T DANCE WITH THEM. (Of course, by press time, there were only three responses, so there's a slight chance this isn't a scientific poll.) The lengthiest response (and the most brilliant, I must say) came from **Dennis Heath**. Dennis is an NVSC member who lives in Florida. Veteran SOS'ers will remember Dennis as our original Fat Harold in the 1999 SOS Parade...**Dennis' main point:** the real breach in etiquette is to get drunk and lurch around the dance floor, so "no one has an obligation to dance with such a person. There is no moral dilemma here." Dennis asks, "Where are the strong, independent women that I have seen in the NVSC?" (I told you this was brilliant stuff)... Dennis says he wouldn't shag with a drunk lady, unless he had some other kind of shagging in mind. "But I don't think that is the intention of any NVSC ladies when they mistakenly think they are obligated in some fashion to dance with individuals. Ladies with this mindset are letting themselves be taken advantage of... **Tell the strong, independent NVSC women to speak up and to ditch the sweet Southern belle image of the 1800's. You've come a long way, Baby!**" Yes we have.. and that long trip has led us to our dear friends, the strong and independent and modern MEN of the Northern Virginia Shag Club.

Now, on to that boring ol' business stuff: some highlights from the last two Board meetings and the Oct 15th Sunday Social/Membership Meeting... Total members: **395**. More than a dozen new members joined during the Susie Beaver workshop weekend... The Board and some Dance Committee members are systematically investigating several dozen facilities for nice (nicer?) places to hold Saturday dances. Problems encountered to date: many rent for \$1,000-plus. Many (including Ft. Myer) are booked almost solid a year in advance. Some don't have sit-down tables, but we're working on that...

Jeff Kincheloe will chair **Shagathon 2001**, set for **February 10th** at Landmark Mall...

Linda Silbaugh will chair **2001 Capital Shag Classic**.

November is for **Thanksgiving**, especially for our October workshop/Sunday Social weekend... I don't mean "success" on the balance-sheet, although, yes, we did cover all expenses even AFTER giving away lunch at the workshop and beverages on Sunday.. I mean the other successes: Generous (and private) contributions of time, money and housing, so that we could properly host Susie Beaver and her entourage, and we could take care of our out-of-town NVSC members who so loyally travel long distances to our events.. The hard work and long hours that we received in return from Susie & assistants, a talented company that included our own **Rodger Woodson, Earl Robinson and Beverly Jones**... The willingness of so many NVSC dance instructors to attend (and pay extra money for) ALL of Susie's classes - even Beginner - so that they could polish their own teaching skills. ..The fact that **Betty Abshire** ONCE AGAIN assembled her corps of often-unseen volunteers who gave us the Saturday-night dance and a generous food table, on a lean-and-mean budget... The friendship that was in the air Saturday night... And the positive, HELPFUL way that people expressed themselves during the membership discussion Sunday...**Love you all. Joan.**

Running For President

Heather Jennings

I have been a member of the shag club for five years and been a board member for the past two years: a Director-at-Large Board member in 1999 and Vice President during 2000. In 1999, I chaired the Charity/Fundraising committee and in that position initiated the first NVSC Shag-a-thon to raise money for our charity, the Hospice of Northern Virginia. In 1998 I chaired the Hospitality committee at the Capital Shag Classic and in 1999 I chaired the entire 4th Annual Capital Shag Classic, initiating our move to the Holiday Inn in Alexandria. This year while serving as VP, I have chaired the Promotions committee, assisting the Social, Dance and Classic committees in promotion of all their events. I have also been an active member of the Dance committee for several years. If elected, I hope to continue contributing to the club and will work diligently to promote the NVSC and the shag.

Running for Vice President

Pamela Alfano

As a member of the NVSC for over four years, I have been involved in many of the activities and endeavors of the Club. I have been on the Board now for over a year serving as Secretary and then Director-at-Large. I have assisted the Decorating Committee on numerous occasions and chaired the Decorations Committee for the 2000 Shag Classic. I am currently an active member of the Dance Committee and Chairman of the Charity/Fundraising Committee. If I am elected as Vice President, I hope to continue to further assist the Club in promoting and preserving the Carolina Shag.

Running for Secretary

Craig Jennings

I have been a member of the shag club for five years and served as a Board member for the past four years: a Director-at-Large Board member in 1997-1999 and Secretary during 2000. During that time I have chaired the Music committee each year. The primary responsibility of this committee is to schedule DJ's for all NVSC events (parties and our weekly Wednesday night dances). In addition, I have handled music duties for the Capital Shag Classic for the last four years, been a member of the Dance committee since 1997, and provided music as a club DJ since 1996. I enjoy serving on the Board and would like to continue to contribute to the club and to promote beach and shag music.

Running for Treasurer

Dennis Gehley

I joined NVSC in 1996 and have served as Treasurer from January 1998 to the present. If re-elected, I will continue to make sure that all club receipts are deposited promptly and that detailed records and receipts are kept for all expenditures. In 1998 I prepared the club's application to the Internal Revenue Service for non-profit status and have prepared the club's annual information return to IRS for 1998 and 1999. I have developed a thorough understanding of the club's financial history from its meager beginnings in 1993 and 1994. I particularly enjoy being the Treasurer for an organization that spends approximately \$25,000 for its annual birthday party (the Capital Shag Classic)! I also enjoy working with current and former club officers and directors and fellow club members to continue NVSC's reputation as a first-class social club. When I am not number crunching for the club, I also have a lot of fun being a NVSC DJ with Nancy and being a member of the Dance Committee. I would welcome the opportunity to serve another year as your Treasurer.

Director at Large
Vaughn Royal

I have been an active member of the Club for about 2-1/2 years, during which time I chaired the Audit Committee for two years, and served on the Music Committee, the Dance Committee, the Charity and Fund Raising committee, the Nominating and Elections Committee, and some of the committees which produce the Capital Shag Classic. I have particularly enjoyed teaching the dance, attending a variety of local and out-of-town dance events, and the friendships made. If elected a Director at Large, I hope to make a contribution to the continued growth and development of the Club, and to build upon the strong foundation created by the Clubs founders and previous Boards in its short, but successful, history.

Director at Large
Chris Gaines

I have been a member of the club since February of 99 ever since taking lessons from Janis through the Fairfax County Recreation. I have met some wonderful new friends and had many a good time. I am seeking a position on the board because I want to become more involved in ensuring that everyone continues to have fun and NVSC continues to promote shagging as well as our charity, Hospice of Northern Virginia.

As far as my qualifications go, I am well organized, energetic and am not afraid of rolling up my sleeves and "getting the job done". I am an innovative thinker and always willing to try something new. I make decisions quickly without studying things to death. I am not a great shagger yet, but I do have a MS in engineering and have managed several multi million dollar Federal Contracts. I also was the head of 2 Federal Contract Technical Evaluation Panels for EPA.

I hope that you will elect me so that I can give back some of what you have given to me. Thanks for your consideration!!!

Director at Large
Betty Abshire

I have served on the Board of Directors for the NVSC for the last four years. In addition to participating in helping the Club run smoothly and acting as a liaison between club members and Board officers, Board members are required to chair a committee. I chair the social committee. The job is comprised of seeking facilities to hold social functions and orchestrating food for the occasion. In addition to social functions(all but the Classic) the social Chairman is responsible for seeing that new members feel welcome. Neither of these functions can be done by just one person--there are many who are willing to help. The job has been very rewarding, I enjoy organizing our social functions and the opportunity it gives me to meet new people.

I would be honored to serve on the 2001 Board, if I am elected.

Director at Large
Larry Boyer

I joined the shag club in 1993 and have served on the dance committee for the past couple of years. As an active member of the Shag club, from it's beginning, I want to do my part to help it continue to grow and develop activities that benefit all members.

Director at Large
Laura Lightbourne

I have been a member of the Northern Virginia Shag Club, since October 1999. Co-chaired the First Annual Capital Shag Classic Golf tournament, assisted in installing our dance floor at the classic and helped with decorating. Being on the board would be a great way to get more involved and meet more of the members. I'd like to serve the Shag Club in anyway I can. It would be fun to learn about the inter workings of the shag club and all of it's committees. I can organize well.

Director at Large
Michael Fortunato

I have been a member of the Northern Virginia Shag Club, since July 1999. I have served on the Audit Committee. I feel that I can contribute ideas to this great Northern Virginia Shag Club, I am committed to the club. In the 15 months since we joined, Gini and I have only missed three Wednesdays. I have several ideas I could contribute to make the club run smoothly. Plus, Gini and I enjoy shagging.

Director at Large
Michael Browne

Ruth and I joined the club in 1994. Before 1994, we were members of the Richmond Shag Club. I am currently a member of dance instruction committee, and serve as a substitute instructor.

My attachment to beach music and the shag started as a young kid growing up in a small North Carolina town. Even before my teenage years, I can remember the older kids playing beach music at the local YMCA pool. There was always a crowd of cool older kids hanging out by the lifeguard booth playing beach music on an old record player as we splashed around in the pool. Later in high school, we traveled to Winston-Salem to see bands like the Embers, and other beach bands perform at The Guard and Uncle Sam's nightclubs. Although I have loved beach music since my early days, I never learned to shag until about 1987. I regret we did not have shag clubs like the Northern Virginia Shag Club, who promote the shag and beach music, as I was growing up.

"Why do I want to serve on the Board?" you ask. I feel we should all appreciate and not take for granted what we have here at our Northern Virginia Shag Club. I believe we have one of the best, if not the best shag instruction classes in the association. We are fortunate to have a place like Nick's that lets us come in and take over for one night a week, many clubs do not have this opportunity. We have a number of active DJs who provide a variety of music for us all to enjoy. We have a very active membership that makes our club one of the best in the association. I would like to work as a member of the board to continue the growth of our club, the enjoyment of "beach music", and to perpetuate the traditions of the Carolina Shag as a social dance for everyone both young and old.

Director at Large
Linda Silbaugh

I joined the NVSC in March of 1998. I have served as the chairperson of the decorating committee for the 1999 and 2000 Christmas Party, Hospitality chairperson for the 2000 Classic, committee member for the 2000 Shag A Thon and have agreed to Chair 2001 Capital Shag Classic.

Having been an active member of the NVSC for three years, I have enjoyed its activities tremendously and have appreciated the level of effort that goes into making each event as effective as possible. As a board member I believe I could gain a wider perspective on and greater insight into the interaction of various committees, and contribute to the overall success of the club. Personally, I would like to be able to see "the big picture" and understand how each member's role is integrated into a smooth operating whole, known fondly to all of us as the Northern Virginia Shag Club.

NOVEMBER 29

Voting night at NICK'S *by Valerie Swiger*

The election of the 2001 Board of Directors will take place the night of November 29, at Nick's. If you cannot be present to vote, you can vote by mail. You will find a ballot in this Shag Rag. Remove from Shag Rag, circle up to five (5) names in the Director at Large section, SIGN, fold, seal, stamp and mail.

Ballots must be received by November 28, to be counted.

Winners will be announced as soon as your nominating committee can count the ballots. All mail in ballots must be signed to be counted, those voting in person will be marked off the membership roster, no one will see ballots except the nominating committee, ballots will be destroyed after winners have been announced.

You must be a current member to vote.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES?

November 25

Myrtle Beach Night--a musical salute to the great R & B music that makes Shaggers and West Coast Swingers such great cousins. Hosted by the Potomac Swing Dance Club.

Place: Ft. Myer Community Center
Time: 8:30
Cost: \$10 (members PSDC and NVSC and active duty military)
\$12 (non members/non active duty military)

Beginning West Coast Swing and Beginning Shag Workshops at 7:30

Lessons: \$3 (members PSDC and NVSC and active duty military)
\$6 (non members/non active duty military)

DJ's: Craig Jennings and Doug "The Gator" Levitas



DJ's

Nov 1 Dennis and Nancy Gehley
Nov 8 Craig Jennings
Nov 15 Charlie Price
Nov 22 Gerry Scott
Nov 29 Craig Jennings
Dec 6 Larry Jones

November 2000

Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 7:30 PM FREE Shag Lessons	2 8:00 PM GALAXY, FC,VA	3 6:30 PM LEGENDS	4
5 8:30 PM VIENNA GRILL	6	7 8:00 PM Coconuts, Crofton,MD	8 7:30 PM FREE Shag Lessons	9 8:00 PM GALAXY, FC,VA	10 6:30 PM LEGENDS	11
12 8:30 PM VIENNA GRILL	13	14 8:00 PM Coconuts, Crofton,MD	15 7:30 PM FREE Shag Lessons	16 8:00 PM GALAXY, FC,VA	17 6:30 PM LEGENDS	18 <i>Charlie & Jackie in Richmond</i>
19 8:30 PM VIENNA GRILL	20	21 8:00 PM Coconuts, Crofton,MD	22 7:30 PM FREE Shag Lessons	23 <i>HAPPY THANKSGIVING</i>	24 6:30 PM LEGENDS	25 8:30 PM FT MYER DANCE
26 8:30 PM VIENNA GRILL	27	28 8:00 PM Coconuts, Crofton,MD	29 7:30 PM FREE Shag Lessons ELECTION NIGHT	30 8:00 PM GALAXY, FC,VA		

Dear Northern Virginia Shag Club:

Words can't describe the gratitude I have for the Northern Virginia Shag Club for the support they have shown to my son Brennar and his partner, Kari as well as the other juniors coming up. These children truly are part of a new wave in our beloved Shag Community.

As we head to California to represent VIRGINIA and SHAG, we will remember how NVSC encouraged our children by allowing them to be a part of their club. Where else can our children go and get "floor time". I have been remiss in thanking you for allowing the kids to come to your summer party and including them with a demonstration. I certainly hope in the future that some of the other shag clubs will follow your lead!

With praise, admiration and gratitude,

Cindy Goree
"Brennar's Mom"

Thanks for your help

I wish to thank Melody Wayland, Dan Ferguson, Speedy Dunn, Rob Creedon, Norma Wark and Liz Kestler for being on the nominating committee.

Thank you,
Valerie

