



Shag Rag

Dedicated to the Preservation of the Carolina Shag and Beach Music

April 2002

Keep on Shagging'

Vol. IX, No 4

President's Message by Pamela Alfano

March was a very exciting month for NVSC. Many of our members competed at the National Shag Dance Championships in Myrtle Beach. Not only did they compete, but they showed everyone that there are, in fact, many very accomplished shag dancers in Virginia. The NVSC competitors were Heather and Craig Jennings, Rodger Woodson, Kari Jones, Adam Sheppard, Amanda Tedesco, Tori Robinette, Justin Poston, Grant Garmon and Brennar Goree.

Congratulations to all of our champions:

Grant Garmon and Leslie Melton - 1st Place Junior II

Amanda Tedesco and Kirk Bass - 2nd Place Junior II

Kari Jones and **Adam Sheppard** - 3rd Place Junior II

Tori Robinette and **Justin Poston** - 2nd Place Junior I

I was fortunate to be there to see these people dance. They were awesome. I am proud of each and every one of you. For those of you who did not get to see the competition live, we will soon have the tape at Nick's for everyone's viewing pleasure.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! On April 6, we will be hosting **Bill and Brenda Barber**. Bill and Brenda were among the fabulous pro division dancers who competed in the National Shag Dance Championships. They are also extremely talented instructors who will be offering three workshops at Nicks -- beginner, intermediate and advanced. The more advanced dancers should also consider taking the beginner workshop. It will present a good opportunity to work on your technique, but these workshops are not just for experienced dancers. Even if you have just started learning to shag, you can learn a lot in a beginner lesson from professional instructors like the Barbers. In the evening there will be a party at Jaxx where you will be able to show off your steps and to get better acquainted with the Barbers. The cover is \$12 but NVSC will be picking up half of the cover charge for all members and NVSC Juniors. Our own Gerry Scott will be the DJ. As if that is not enough, there is an added bonus -- the Coastline Band will be performing. You will not want to miss this NVSC event. For further details, see the flyer in this edition of the Shag Rag.

GREAT NEWS! Nick has lowered food and drink prices! Effective immediately, domestic and imported beer has been lowered by \$1.00 and food prices have also been decreased. This is only for the shaggers who meet in the back room. Come out and take advantage of these reduced prices. This is a wonderful goodwill effort by Nick, but if we do not take advantage of the lower prices, the prices will go back up. Remember, it is a privilege to have a regular meeting place. To make sure that we continue to have this meeting place, we need to support our Club and the nightclub which hosts us. So join us and show your support by ordering food, a beer or a soft drink, on Wednesday evenings. We have a good crowd with many new faces, but it could be even better. What we really need is you to make it great. See you soon. And... KEEP ON SHAGGING!

The Northern Virginia Shag Club

Presents a
Shag Workshop and Party
Featuring

Bill and Brenda Barber

Saturday
April 6th



Bill and Brenda Barber are residents of Surfside Beach, South Carolina. They are among the most well known of all professional level shaggers! They have placed 2nd in the National Shag Dance Championships, are two time members of the National Shag Dance Team, and are two time points winners of the Shag Preservation Society.

Private lessons from Bill and Brenda are available!!
Please contact Heather Jennings at 540-775-5342.

Workshop

Nick's Nightclub and Restaurant
642 South Pickett Street
Alexandria, Virginia
Phone 703-751-8900

Beginner: 11:00 a.m.— Noon
Intermediate: 1:00 p.m.— 2:00 p.m.
Advanced: 2:15 p.m.— 3:15 p.m.

Cost: \$10 per workshop for NVSC Members
\$15 per workshop for non-members

Free lessons for Junior Shaggers!

Special Lunch menu with GREAT FOOD
from Nick's!

Special Dance Presentation
from
Bill and Brenda
Saturday Night at JAXX!!

DANCE SATURDAY NIGHT

To live Beach and Shag Music
From

The Coastline Band

At the

JAXX Nightclub & Concert Hall

6355 Rolling Road
West Springfield, Virginia 22152
703-569-5940

Doors Open at 7:00 PM

Cost: \$ 6 for NVSC Members
\$12 for Non-members

- Free Shag Lesson from Brenda Franklin at 7:30
- JAXX offers a full restaurant menu including steaks, burgers, and bar food.
- Shaggers under 21 are invited but must be accompanied by a parent.

Directions to JAXX: Take Virginia's I-95 to exit 169 in Springfield, which is Rt. 644 west, Old Keene Mill Rd. Take Old Keene Mill Road for 7 stoplights, to the intersection of Roiling Road. Take a left on Rolling Road and then your first left into the Carpetland Shopping Center (at the Mobil gas station). JAXX is located directly behind the Mobil station

“Why should I take a private shag lesson?” *By Heather Jennings*

I am asked this question often by members of NVSC. “After all,” most of them reason, “I’m not a competitive shag dancer. Why would I need a private lesson?” Well... it turns out, the reasons are actually numerous. If you have ever thought to yourself during a group lesson, “geesh I wish they’d slow down” or “I really want to ask a question about that, but I’m too shy!” or the ever popular “darn, I was talking/eating/drinking/sleeping when they went over the step and now I’ve missed it. I wish they’d do it again!” then you have some excellent reasons to consider private lessons. Private shag lessons provide a one-on-one teaching experience that cannot be gained through group lessons or via video tapes. In a private lesson, you can proceed as fast or as slow as you like and ask as many or as few questions as you want.

“But our guest instructors are soooo goood!” I’ve heard. “What will I gain from a private lesson with them?” Well... while some of our guest instructors may be good enough to have you believe they were born shagging, I honestly don’t believe that any of them truly were. Which means, of course, that they all started out in the same place as the rest of us: 1) in a beginner shag class, 2) learning shag from a friend, or 3) picking it up at a beach music festival while balancing a beer in one hand and their partner with the other! In other words, they started at the beginning, have gotten to where they are over time, and have a wealth of information to share. During a private lesson you can ask for tips on shag technique, new mirror steps, or whatever you like. When you take a private lesson, you’ve HIRED your instructor so you’re in charge!

“But I’ve taken all of the classes at NVSC...isn’t that enough?” Absolutely. Our dance committee teaches a great program of shag fundamentals and more advanced steps. However if you’ve ever caught yourself thinking, “geesh I’m bored with these steps” or “why can’t they teach different steps in the intermediate classes?” then you may want to consider a private lesson. As a shag club we can only offer so much in our structured classes. For those who have reached a plateau with their dancing or simply want “more, more, more”, private lessons can be the answer!

“Okay,” you might be saying... “you’ve convinced me. I want to take a private lesson! How do I do it?” Well...luckily, this April, we have another pair of excellent shag teachers, **Bill & Brenda Barber**, coming for a workshop and they will be offering private shag lessons while they are here. So how do you get a private lesson with them? Well, it’s simple! All you have to do is sign-up! Call me at home at 540-775-5342 or e-mail me at hjennings@sental.com and I’ll put you on schedule. I can’t promise that you’ll be dancing like Bill & Brenda following your lesson, but after a few beers at the next beach music festival, you’ll definitely have fun trying! And that’s what shag is all about: fun!

Would you like to volunteer?

A dance demonstration will be held on **May 18**, at the Riverdale Elks Club from 1 to 6 PM. The dance demo is being put on for a group of handicapped dance students and a group of ladies from a retirement home, that love to do line dances.

There will be demonstrations by some of the best dancers in the area. Many forms of dance will be demonstrated.

If we have members that would like to participate in this event, please contact **Pamela Alfano** at 703-379-7992 or 202-414-9312. We need to know as soon as possible because a program is going to be prepared and each dance couple needs to submit a write up about their dance accomplishments.

We wish to announce the marriage of
Shirley Morton
and
David Baucom

New Members March

Maria Anton Butler, Kathy Ciro, Doug Layne,
Ann Reza, Agnes Westerfield, Pat Wirth

DJ's for April

April 3 **Craig Jennings**
April 10 **Charlie Price**
April 17 **Dennis and Nancy Gehley**
April 24 **Larry Jones**

Sincere condolences to *Ann West* whose mother passed away in March and to *Joe Cornish* whose sister died recently.



Congratulations to **Vesta Jones**, whose second grandchild, Mackenzie Anna Caswell was born, March 1, 2002.

And to **Sharon Waites** whose first grandchild was born in January.

Happy Happy Birthday April Babies

- 1 **Dick Wagner**
- 1 **Sam Martin**
- 2 **Dallas Campbell**
- 3 **Laura Lightbourne**
- 5 **Robert Sweredoski**
- 5 **Linda Terry**
- 7 **Carey Cannon**
- 7 **Chris Robinette**
- 7 **Kitty Senge**
- 8 **Keith Eckert**
- 10 **Beth Enders**
- 11 **John Katon**
- 12 **Michael Arones**
- 12 **Joe Herrick**
- 12 **Kathryn Winstead**
- 13 **A J Nowaskey**
- 15 **Jennifer Luzietti**
- 15 **Sandra Winfrey Putze**
- 17 **Pat Seward**
- 18 **Michael Fortunato**
- 20 **Vickie Duplissey**
- 20 **Joyce Jones**
- 21 **Donnie Varney**
- 21 **Mark Woodfork**
- 22 **Brenda Kenney**
- 22 **Rita Perrotti**
- 23 **Ian Parkes**
- 25 **Joan Byrnes**
- 27 **Bonnie Torguson**
- 30 **Bill Pell**

General Membership Meeting
April 10, 2002
At
Nicks

NVSC EVENTS

Please mark your calendar.

Details will be provided as we get closer to the event.

April 6	Workshops with Bill & Brenda Barber and Dance
June 1	Joint NVSC/Washington Ski Club Margarita Party
June 22 or 23	Picnic at the Mann's
July 26-28	Capital Shag Classic
September 6	Pre-SOS Party
October 5	Fall Workshops and Dance
December 14	NVSC Holiday Party

Yes, folks it's time again for SOS!!!

April 12-21, 2002

Some of our newer members may be wondering... what in the world is SOS and why is everyone going?? Well... to put it simply... **SOS is BEACH WEEK** for adults. But really... SOS is so much more... it is going HOME. Home to "the beach", the home of the shag... and of course, when I say "the beach" I mean North Myrtle. Is there another?

SOS is about friends and dancing, and partying and dancing, and hanging out on the beach and dancing, and eating (when you get a chance) and dancing. Are you getting the picture?? SOS is a **FABULOUSLY FUN SHAG** event!!! It's a **TEN** day affair that happens twice a year.... once in the spring known as "Spring Safari" and once in the fall known as "Fall Migration." Thousands (yes thousands!!) of shaggers make the semi-annual pilgrimage to the beach to party, relax and of course shag! There is continuous dancing, multiple shag workshops, free food, a tram service and much more! It really is an awesome event. If you have never been, I strongly encourage you to attend sometime. You won't regret it!

Of course, if you're planning to go to Myrtle Beach, whether this is your first time or tenth time, a great source of info about SOS is right at your fingertips! Check out the ACSC web site - in particular, the <http://www.shagdance.com/sosspring2002events.htm> page. It lists all sorts of activities that will be occurring during the week such as shag lessons, tram service schedule, SOS company store times, and **MUCH** more! And don't forget, once in Myrtle, to pick up your copy of the SOS newspaper, the Carefree Times. It includes all the detailed info you need for the week! See you at the beach! (Don't forget your SOS card!)

Line Dance Lessons during SOS

Line dance lessons will be held at OD Beach Club from 11-1 on the following dates:

Friday	April 12
Saturday	April 13
Sunday	April 14
Thursday	April 18
Friday	April 19
Saturday	April 10



Going to SOS???

Join the NVSC for TWO FREE POUR parties during SOS Spring Safari 2002!!!



Party #1 -- Ducks Too

Saturday, April 13th

4-6 pm

DJ: Larry Jones



Party #2 -- Boulevard Grill

Saturday, April 20th

4-6pm

DJ: Junkyard Dogs

**NVSC members receive FREE drinks during
FREE pour time OR
Until the money runs out!**

**Don't forget to wear your NVSC
Or Classic T-Shirt!!!!**

