



Shag Rag

Dedicated to the Preservation of the Carolina Shag and Beach Music

October 2002

Keep on Shagging'

Vol. IX, No 10

President's Message *by Pamela Alfano*

I cannot believe that this is my tenth President's Letter and there are only two more to go. Although my term is almost over, there is still a lot to do. As you are probably aware, while we are trying out Cecilia's in Arlington, the Search Committee is actively seeking viable alternatives for our regularly scheduled Wednesday evenings. If you know of a place which might suit our needs, please give the information to any of the Board members to follow up. We will give NVSC members an opportunity to discuss the various locations under consideration and to voice their opinions. Rather than conduct this discussion at any of the places which are being considered, we will have the discussion at the Coast Guard Anchorage Club on Friday, October 18, at 7:30 PM. I would encourage you to attend so that we can make an informed and appropriate decision on a permanent Wednesday night dance location. If you wish to attend, please be there promptly. We want to start at 7:30 and conclude quickly so that we can then get to dancing. Also, for security purposes, please bring a picture ID with you to gain access to the Coast Guard facility.

While on the topic of Wednesday nights, have you ever thought about the reasons we faithfully turn up on Wednesday nights? Besides our love of this dance, the answer would be the opportunity to be with friends. There is nothing to compare with the warmth of friendship. It is an important part of what keeps us returning week after week. I would like to remind you of when you first discovered NVSC. Remember the first time you ventured out on a Wednesday night? You probably knew no one and might have felt alone or left out, but then someone came up to you and asked "Is this your first time here?" The next thing you knew, they were introducing you around and asking you to dance. Then, suddenly, you were included in the group. I am asking that you continue to do the same for the new people who are constantly discovering us. If you see a new face, please introduce yourself. If you see someone who is new to the dance, ask them to dance. The more friendly we are, the more likely they are to return. The more often they get to dance, the better dancers they will become. And isn't that what this dance and NVSC are about?

I understand that the pre-SOS party at the Anchorage Club was a huge success. Unfortunately, I was under the weather and unable to attend, but the party went on just the same. Out on the deck, Dan Ferguson started the party rolling while Andi Crews and Jewell Pradier took charge of the food. Then, everyone moved inside to be entertained by our rocking DJ's Dennis & Nancy Gehley and Gerry Scott. Thank you to everyone who contributed to making it yet another great NVSC party.

Fortunately, I was able to recuperate in time to attend the SOS 2002 Fall Migration at Myrtle Beach. I am now recuperating from SOS. NVSC hosted our traditional free pours - at Ducks Too and the Boulevard Grill -- which were attended by many of our members. As usual, SOS was a fabulous party. I had nine glorious days of dancing and visiting with friends. When not dancing, being a spectator is another wonderful thing to do. There is always an incredible array of talent to be seen in the clubs of Myrtle Beach. It doesn't get any better than that.

President's letter continued

Our next exciting event is the NVSC workshop with National Shag Champions Michael Norris and LeAnn Best at Fort Myer on Saturday, October 5th, followed by a dance that evening. You will not want to miss this opportunity to learn from and experience two of the best shaggers around. For those of you who are not familiar with Michael and LeAnn, I can guarantee you will be amazed by their incredible talent. So please put it on your calendar and remember to bring a photo ID to get on the base.

Elections are fast approaching. Our Nominations Committee is looking for good candidates to run for the 2003 Board. If you are interested, there is a description of each Board position (Officers and Directors at Large) within this newsletter, along with an application for submission to the Nominating Committee. If you require any further information regarding the responsibilities or duties of the Board, please do not hesitate to discuss it with any of the current members. If you are still interested, fill out the application and submit it to our Nominating Committee Chairwoman Valerie Swiger. I encourage you to get involved and KEEP ON SHAGGIN'.

Don't throw away your 2002 SOS card yet.

You can use it for free admission to the Carolina Heritage Festival and SOS Beach Party in North Myrtle Beach, SC. October 25-26, 2002. The event will be hosted by the North Myrtle Beach Chamber of Commerce and SOS. There will be live bands in the SOS nightclubs Friday and Saturday nights. For more information, call the SOS Hotline 1-888-767-3113 or see the SOS web site, <http://www.shagdance.com/importantdates.htm>

In addition, your 2002 SOS card may also be used for admission to North Myrtle Beach SOS nightclubs for 2003 SOS Midwinter (January 17-19, 2003).

Virginia State Open *by Janis Grimes*

Junior Shaggers **Adam Sheppard** and **Kari Jones** wowed the crowd again this year at the **Virginia State Open Swing Dance Championships**, winning the **Junior Shag Division**, AND the **Overall Junior competition**,which means an **ALL EXPENSES PAID TRIP to the US OPEN** in Anaheim, California, in late November.

This is the third Overall win for Kari Jones, and the second Overall win for Adam Sheppard. They are awesome dancers, with classic shag styling.

Justin Posten and **Tory Robinette** also danced in the junior shag division, and were a smash hit, with smooth styling and precision footwork.

These two young juniors are on the road to become champions one day! We are so very proud of these wonderful young shaggers, who represent our dance and our community with class and elegance.

The Northern Virginia Shag Club
Presents A
Shag Workshop and Party
With Pro-Shaggers
Michael Norris & LeAnn Best

**October
5th**



Michael and LeAnn finished "Best Overall" and won 1st place at the Professional Level at the 2002 National Shag Dance Championships! They are also 6 Time National Junior Shag Championship winners!

Security Note for this Event

Due to current events and increased security, all attendees must be prepared to present picture ID at the Fort Myer entry gate.

Workshop
Fort Myer

Community Activities & Visitors Center
228 McNair Road, Bldg. 405
Fort Myer, Virginia 22211-1199
Phone: 703-696-3470

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

Beat the clock and bring your lunch or visit grill next door!

Private lessons with Michael and LeAnn are available. Please contact Heather Jennings at 540-775-5342 to make arrangements.

**DANCE SATURDAY
NIGHT**

8:00 p.m.— Midnight
At

Fort Myer

Community Activities & Visitors Center
228 McNair Road, Bldg. 405
Fort Myer, Virginia 22211-1199
Phone: 703-696-3470

DJ: Billy Waldrep from Roebuck, SC
Cost: \$10 for NVSC Members
\$12 for Non-members

Directions to Ft. Myer: From Northern Virginia: Take I-395 to exit 8A Washington Blvd, Route 27 North. Take Washington Blvd North to Fort Myer exit on right. Go thru gate and turn left at 1st stop sign onto McNair. The Community Center is several buildings down on your LEFT. Parking lot on the right.

**Juniors Receive Free
Admission to Both Events!**

**This is a non-smoking BYOB
Event!**

A Note of Thanks From Shirley Jones!

One never knows how many friends they have until they are in need. This thanks goes out to all of my friends from the Northern Virginia Shag Club that either said they would help me out by dancing in the Handicap Mixed Doubles and/or were (?) lucky enough (?) to have their name called and actually danced.

For those of you who don't know what a **Handicap Mixed Doubles** is, your name is put into a hat and when your name is called, you don't know who you are going to dance with, what your music will be or what your "handicap" is going to be. It could be that you are blind-folded, you may have to wear combat boots, you may have to dance with shoes on the wrong feet, you may have to dance with swim fins on your feet with swimming goggles and a snorkel . . . you get the message.

Our club can be proud of the fact that we are a bunch of fun people that really come forward for a friend. Who knows? You might even come in second, behind Sam West!! **Just ask Vaughan Royal for details!!!**

FROM "THE RHYTHM 'N BEACH NEWS"

CHARLIE BYRD UPDATE !

While Charlie is having a rough time battling cancer, it is not as bad as some have reported. Friends have had extensive visits with reviews of old times. When Charlie gets tired, they leave or he falls asleep. Our thoughts and prayers go out to him and his family. I know in talking to various industry people he is a well respected person and everyone wishes him well.

For a list of radio stations that play this music and so much more The Rhythm 'N Beach Network <http://www.beachshag.com>

CAMMY (Carolina's Magic Music Years) AWARDS - MYRTLE & NORTH MYRTLE OCT 8-10

You better hurry and get your tickets!! A fun filled weekend with great parties and another great Cammy awards show. I can't tell you enough.... check it out.... <http://www.cammy.org>

BAND and STUDIO NEWS.....

Ripete is working on a new CD "Beach Party" - Bill Lyerly, Coastline, Steve Bassett, Sugarbees, Holiday, Gary Bass and others. I do not know of the proposed release date.

Ollie Woodson (formerly of the Temptations) has a new CD out - I am waiting for a promo - will get back to you on it.

From Forevermore... Russell Thompkins (of Stylistics) has re-done "Just Like We Never Said Goodbye" and it should get some action. Even better..... Chris Biehler has nailed the classic Stylistics sound with a fantastic tune by Russell, called "Jealousy" from the CD "A Matter of Style". The Showvanistics are taking care of some Jimmy Reed biz with their medley "Bright Lights, Big City/Baby What You Want Me To Do" and trivia queen, Susan Trexler has a tune called "Whole Lotta Me" that you will enjoy! This will be released Sept 17th - Don't know the title.

Debbie Dobbins is back in the beach biz!! Her new tune "Cool" written and produced by Bill Bradford will be a favorite for smooth steppers!!

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From Larry Boyer, Communications Chairman:



- 1) The NVShag Club has a **"Hotline"**, 703-960-4254. By dialing this number and selecting the Hotline mail box you can hear information about coming attractions - like the next Beginning and Intermediate lessons, the next major shag club sponsored event, or possibly, last minute cancellations. Any messages left in the hotline mail box will not be heard. **If you want to leave a message for the club, there is a mail box for that purpose at the same number.** Messages left in the shag club mail box will receive attention, but likely not a rapid response.
- 2) The Club also uses an **auto-dialer phone tree system** to keep you informed about special events. It automatically dials a list of numbers and delivers a recorded message to whoever answers, person or machine. Included in the calling list are all member phone numbers with **703, 202, 301, 240 or 571** area codes that can be dialed from the Alexandria area without needing a 1 prefix. If you are outside this calling area and still want to be informed about the phone tree messages, then you may want to make an arrangement with a friend in the calling area willing to pass along to you important messages.
- 3) During the message, you can make it **repeat** by pressing your **"star" key**. We use this system about 2 or three times per month for important announcements and reminders. Messages are delivered mostly during the day and never before 10 AM or after 9 PM.
- 4) If you would like to be removed from this list just leave a message in the shag club mail box asking your number to be removed from the phone tree list.

Intermediate Dance Steps

Oct 2 Back Prep, Sugarfoot, Tuck
Oct 9 Stutter Basic, Boogie Walk, Funky Applejack
Oct 16 Hesitation Basic, Pause Walk-up
Oct 23 Forward Sailor Basic, Pivot, Arch
Oct 30 Leg Up Basic, Side Walk-Up
Nov 6 Crossover Basic, Applejack

Line Dance October 9 Advanced Shag Class October 16

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING OCTOBER 30

**Inventory and status of Video Tapes as of 9/25/01
Nancy Gehley has possession of the Video Library**

| <u>Teachers</u> | <u>Tape Name</u> | <u>Tape No.</u> |
|--------------------------|---|-----------------|
| Charlie & Jackie | Mirror Patters/Male Lead, Tape 1 | 1,25 |
| Charlie & Jackie | Mirror Patterns, Tape 2 | 10 |
| Charlie & Jackie | Lead and Follow, Vol 1 | 2,21 |
| Charlie & Jackie | Basic Variations, Vol 1 | 3,9,18 |
| Charlie & Jackie | Basics Plus (2) | 7,8,26 |
| Charlie & Jackie | More Basics Plus, Vol 1 | 15,36 |
| Charlie & Jackie | More Basics Plus, Vol 2 | 16,19 |
| Charlie & Jackie | Female Footwork | 17,20 |
| Charlie & Jackie | Male Lead, Vol 1 | 22 |
| Charlie & Jackie | Workshop Notebook, Vol 1 | 23 |
| Charlie & Jackie | Workshop Notebook, Vol 2 | 24 |
| Sam & Sarah West | Carolina Shag for Beginners | 11,14 |
| Sam & Sarah West | Basic Polish-Techniques in Basic Patterns | 12,13 |
| Sam & Sarah West | Pivot Variations | 29 |
| Sam West/Sarah West Kemp | Fancy Male Leads | 30 |
| Sam West/Sarah West Kemp | Together Steps, Vol 1 | 31 |
| Sam West | Dance Technique for the Male Shagger, Vol 1 | 28 |
| Sam West | Dance Technique for the Male Shagger, Vol 2 | 34 |
| Sam West | Together Steps, Vol 2 | 35 |
| Sam West | Learn to Spin, Vol 1 | 32 |
| Sam West | Learn to Spin, Vol 2 | 33 |
| Sy Creed & Dana Brown | Learn to Shag | 5 |
| VA Beach Shaggers | Virginia Beach Mirror Steps | 6 |
| | SOS Parade | 27 |

Video tapes are available to all **CLUB MEMBERS**, for a refundable deposit fee of \$25.00. Borrowed videotapes should be returned **within a week**. If a videotape is not returned with 30 days, your deposit may be used to purchase a replacement without notice.

NVSC LOGO ITEMS by Libby Ash

Have you noticed the NVSC logo items that club members are proudly displaying? These items are available to everyone. We have the following:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| NVSC T-Shirts | \$12 |
| Classic Embroidered T-Shirts | \$15 |
| Shoe Bags | \$20 |
| CD Cases | \$10 |



The CD Cases and Shoe bags are in stock but the shirts are by special order. If you are interested in purchasing any of the above items, please let me know. You can find me at Nick's most Wednesday evenings.

THE WEB

NVSC

information:::www.nvshag.org

Shag Club Information:::www.shagdance.com



