



Shag Rag

Dedicated to the Preservation of the Carolina Shag and Beach Music

February 2003

Keep on Shagging'

Vol. X, No 2

President's Message *by Pamela Alfano*

2003 is off to a good start for NVSC. Our first workshop of the year was a great success. Nine time National Shag Champion, Charlie Womble, was here to teach three exciting new workshops. Although we were disappointed that Jackie McGee was unable to be with us for health reasons, Charlie pulled it off without a hitch. Of course, we were all surprised to find out that Charlie, without Jackie, has a whole lot to say. Everyone agreed that the new format of the workshops -- with concentration on technique, instead of patterns -- was a good change and a "brilliant" idea. At the dance that evening, NVSC Junior **Amanda Tedesco** from Richmond, filled in for Jackie and danced an exciting demo with Charlie. Thank you Amanda! There was a fabulous turnout for both the workshops and the party. We had many out-of-towners in attendance, including NVSC members and guests from the Steel City (Pittsburgh), Richmond, and Delaware Valley. Yet again, NVSC members from Pittsburgh walked off with three of the four raffle items: the free private lesson with Charlie, the 50/50 and one of the two \$25 bar tabs donated by Ducks. Consequently, so that others might have a chance to win, we may have to consider banning the Pittsburgh group from buying any future raffle tickets! Special thanks to David and Jerry Rodgers for again hosting Charlie in their home, transporting him and coordinating his schedule, and to Betty Abshire and her helpers for putting together a wonderful buffet at the dance.

There are many exciting events coming up this year: the 2003 Shag-A-Thon to benefit Hospice, our third annual Margaritaville joint party with the Washington Ski Club, a club picnic, our spring shag workshop, the 8th Annual Capital Shag Classic, the NVSC Ten-Year Reunion Party and much much more. Stay tuned.

Here is a question for more experienced dancers. Do you recall when you first began to learn the Shag? You were probably struggling to learn the dance and get acquainted with the other dancers. You took the beginner class and wore a red dot. The DJ would then play the slower "red-dot dance" music for you to practice to -- while you stood around waiting for someone to take notice and invite you to dance. You may not have been comfortable asking more experienced dancers to dance. When someone finally asked you to dance, you were thankful. I remember and will be forever grateful to the more experienced dancers who danced with me as a beginner. That's why I try to return the kindness by dancing with less experienced dancers. Fortunately, most of our members are terrific about this, but there are still some who are not. I encourage you all to remember to ask the less experienced dancers to dance. It encourages them to continue to learn. Please give them positive reinforcement. It is only three minutes of your life. The more we encourage them, the sooner they will become experienced and accomplished dancers. Isn't that what we are there for?

Attendance at Nostalgia's has been good, but it could be better if YOU joined us. Hope to see you there and KEEP ON SHAGGIN'!

Shipp's Log by Sharon and Dave Shipp



We have lived on the **Grand Strand** for almost a year and what a year it has been. Anyone who has visited the Strand knows about the wonderful dancing and beautiful beaches. We just didn't realize how much goes on all the time! Let me back track a little to the end of last year.

December was extremely busy - party, party, party! The South Strand Shag Club held their Christmas party at a local restaurant in Garden City Beach and featured the Shakers. The OD Shag Club held their Christmas party at Fat Harold's with free pours (oh my!) and of course, good food. Ducks had two Christmas parties. The first party had absolutely fabulous food and drinks provided by Ducks and the second party had absolutely fabulous food provided by everyone who attended. Then there was H's Christmas party. Both Fat Harold's and Ducks hosted after Christmas parties. Then all the New Year's parties - every club on Main Street celebrated in some fashion. All of that and in only ten days - you think SOS is tough!

January, of course, was Mid-Winter and the OD Shag Club hosted a brunch at The Pad. Then there was the National Shag Championship held at the Attic in Myrtle Beach on January 24 and 25, and an Oyster Roast at the Boulevard Grill (best greasy burgers on the beach) sponsored by the OD Shag Club on January 25. Unfortunately because of time constraints for the Shag Rag, I do not know the outcome of the National Shag Championship but more to come.

Every Saturday night, the **South Strand Shag Club** has a party at the VFW in Murrells Inlet and every Wednesday the club provides lessons with Bill and Brenda Barber. Bill and Brenda just won first place in the Sophisticated Swing Division of the U.S. Open Swing Dance Championships in California.

Okay, now we're into **February**. There will be a Chili Cookoff at Ducks February 8. It is an annual event but this is the first one we will attend - tums beforehand. Now, if you plan to be on the Grand Strand Saturday, February 22, please stop by Fat Harold's. There will be a special party honoring Harold and the club for the honor of winning the Beach Club of the Year award at this year's Cammys. This one is going to be fun.

I can't tell you how hard life is for us. We miss our friends in the Northern Virginia Shag Club and we miss the changing leaves and yes, even the snow. We do, however, wake up every morning with the sun rising over the ocean, dolphins playing and pelicans fishing. Then we have to deal with the fact that we can meet and dance with the greatest shag dancers we've ever seen and listen to some of the best music we've ever heard. Okay, maybe life isn't that hard! Our decision to move to the Myrtle Beach area began a long time ago and was greatly influenced by the Northern Virginia Shag Club. Yes, we love the beach but when we started going to Blackies and realized how much fun we were having and realized we could then combine the two best things in our lives, well, there was no other alternative for us. So, thank you Northern Virginia Shag Club and all our friends who mean so much to us.

If you are visiting the Grand Strand or if you take the plunge as we did and move to the area, please give us a call. We would love to party with you. Our home phone number is 843-357-9918. Oh yeah, our names our **Dave and Sharon**. Until then, continue to enjoy shagging and enjoy your life as much as we do.

IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER:



If the weather is lousy and you think an Northern Virginia Shag Club event might be canceled, check the hot-line (703-960-4254) and find out the latest. If a decision is made to cancel or postpone an event, for any reason, the hot-line will be the first place that information is made generally available.

The hot -line is actually a Verizon voice, mail box, which means it can handle up to five calls at one. Feel free to call it often. As a rule-of-thumb for the Wednesday night dances, if the DJ thinks he make it, there will be no cancellation. Under normal conditions, the hot-line will contain, a hopefully, up-to-date information about future events - like who will be the DJ for the next Wednesday dance and what will be taught in the lessons.

DISCOUNTED 2003 SOS MEMBERSHIP CARDS

By Vaughn Royal

2003 SOS Cards are now available. "SOS" stands for "Society of Stranders", the organization which sponsors the two greatest 10-day adult shag parties in North Myrtle Beach, SC you could ever hope to attend. If you don't know what SOS is or are not sure why you might want to go, ask any NVSC member who's been around for a while. If you buy your 2003 card through SOS or in North Myrtle Beach, it will cost you \$35.00. You can save \$5.00 by purchasing a 2003 SOS card through NVSC *by February 25*.

Your 2003 SOS card will get you unlimited access without cover charge to seven participating shag nightclubs in North Myrtle Beach at SOS Spring Safari (April 25 - May 3), SOS Fall Migration (Sept. 12 - 21) and SOS Midwinter in January 2004, and admission to the live beach band performances of the Carolina Heritage Festival and SOS Beach Party (October 24 - 26). Many of the nightclubs offer free food during SOS to cardholders. If you haven't been to the Beach in a while, you may not know that the Boulevard Grill and Pirate's Cove are now both SOS clubs and require SOS cards for admission.

In addition, your 2003 SOS card includes a subscription to the *Carefree Times* magazine, discounts from several Beach retailers and restaurants, discounted SOS rental bookings through participating real estate agencies, and discounted admission to the Whispering Pines Nudist Resort (really). There is more information about the benefits of SOS membership at www.shagdance.com/membership.html.

DISCOUNTED 2003 SOS MEMBERSHIP CARDS

\$30.00, If Received by NVSC by February 25, 2003 (Normally \$35.00)

Make Check Payable to Northern Virginia Shag Club

Cardholders Must be at Least 21 Years Old

Mail to Northern Virginia Shag Club, P.O. Box 5522, McLean, VA 22103

Or Give to NVSC Treasurer, Dennis Gehley

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name _____ Male ___ Female ___

Address _____

City, State and Zip _____

Telephone _____ Were you an SOS member in 2002? Yes ___ No ___

**Inventory and status of Video Tapes as of 01/01/03
Nancy Gehley has possession of the Video Library**

Teachers	Tape Name	Tape No.
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

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 contact a board member.

THE WEB

NVSC

information:::www.nvshag.org

Shag Club Information:::www.shagdance.com



New Members in January

*Patti Agin, Brenda Atkins,
Barbara Schipper, Patricia
Caceres, Debbie Davis, Dutch
Delodoulco, JoAnn Funk, Ernie
Garcia, Walter Herrity, Donna
Hoffman, Russ Hoffman, Andrew
Kurta, Denise Kurta, Kelly
Moorhead, Sammi Scott, Amanda
Tedesco, Penny Weinhold, John
Wood*



Mary Camp has a granddaughter,
Haven Claire Donnelly, 7lbs 2 ounces,
20 ½ inches, born January 2, 2003.

Jerry Rodgers has a new grandson.
Vincent Arley born December 15th.



DJ's for February 2003

Feb 5 Dennis and Nancy Gehley
Feb 12 Charlie Price
Feb 19 Craig Jennings
Feb 26 Larry Jones

Happy Happy Birthday February Babies

<i>Robert Busey</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>JoAnn Hitzemann</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Shirley Baucom</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Kathy Stacy</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Dee Bassett</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Michael Reingruber</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Sara Brodsky-Sieman</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Sandra McGee</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Brenda Bishop</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>James Raney</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Eric Beaver</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Tom Romero</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>James Taylor</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>Phyllis Yarborough</i>	<i>21</i>
<i>Donna Larman</i>	<i>24</i>
<i>Chris Vann</i>	<i>24</i>
<i>Bernadine Fanini</i>	<i>25</i>
<i>John Wood</i>	<i>25</i>
<i>Marcia Conway</i>	<i>26</i>



Remember the five simple rules to be happy:

1. Free your heart from hatred.
2. Free your mind from worries.
3. Live simply.
4. Give more.
5. Expect less.

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

Feb 5	Leg Up Basic, Side Walk-up
Feb 12	Crossover Basic, Applejack
Feb 19	Kick Basic, Half Turn, Belly Roll
Feb 26	Pivot, Hug Pivot
Mar 5	Handshake Wrap Pivot, Pivot into Belly Roll



Line Dance Class Feb12 Advanced Shag Class Feb 29

Are you a member of a club, church or other organization which might be interested in learning about the Carolina shag? NVSC can put together dance demos, talks and special introductory shag lessons for other organizations.

For more information, contact our Dance Committee Chair, Heather Jennings, at hjennings@sentel.com or 540-775-5342.

