



Shag Rag

Dedicated to the Preservation of the Carolina Shag and Beach Music

July 2003

Keep on Shagging'

Vol. X, No 7

President's Message by *Pamela Alfano*

June was a great month for NVSC. The **Fifth Annual Shag A Thon to benefit Hospice of Northern Virginia** was a great success. We had a good turnout of members and we attracted a large crowd of interested onlookers at Springfield Mall. Our members danced while the DJ's played our favorite beach and shag tunes. Although our feet were worn out by the end of the day, we all had a fabulous time. I want to thank everyone who participated in the Shag A Thon by dancing, collecting pledges, setting up, bringing snacks, etc. Thank you to the NVSC DJ's, Craig Jennings, Nancy and Dennis Gehley and Gerry Scott, who generously donated their time. Most of all, I want to thank Vaughn Royal and Cathy Metcalf who organized the Shag A Thon. They made sure that every detail was attended to and that we had a wonderfully successful event.

In July, think about going to the **SPA/CSA-Sanctioned Shag Contest** for adults and juniors in Richmond. Most of the sanctioned shag contests are held in the Carolinas; this is the first sanctioned contest ever to be held in Virginia, even though in the last few years, Virginia has produced a disproportionate number of shag champions. The contest will be held at Visions Dance Club in Richmond, VA on the weekend of **July 11-13**. There will be great music, shag workshops with Charlie and Jackie, lots of open dancing and much more. You will also have an opportunity to see incredible dancing by some the best shaggers around, including some members of NVSC and NVSC Juniors. To see these talented dancers live in competition, you would normally have to drive much farther than Richmond. For more details, see the flyer in the Shag Rag.

The **Eighth NVSC Capital Shag Classic is July 25-27, 2003**. The tickets now cost \$80 each and they are going fast. If you have not purchased your ticket, what are you waiting for? There will be wonderful shag workshops with pro dancers Nikki Kontoulas and Jeff Hargett. Shag Icon Jan Weakley of the Virginia Beach Shag Club will teach a special line dance lesson. Guest DJ's Clyde Waller and David Sessoms and our NVSC DJ's will provide great music throughout the weekend. There will be free pours, a pool party, many hours of dancing and so much more. Of course, this party does not just happen. It requires a lot of effort from our dedicated members, and we are still looking for volunteers to assist with hospitality and the dance floor, to donate door prizes and in other areas. Part of the fun is being involved and getting to know your fellow members. Consider volunteering to help with the Classic. If you are interested in helping, please contact Valerie Swiger.

Did you know that the **NVSC website is being redesigned**? It is one of our most important communications tools, and brings many new members and guests to us. Vesta Jones, who maintains our website, has been working on the redesign. The new version should be up and running sometime soon. We have tried to include everything you could possibly need to know about shagging. Make sure you go to the website to see all the additional information it will contain.

Vaughn and I recently had the occasion to attend the **Richmond Shag Club Cruise Into Summer party**. It was a wonderful party with plenty of good food, free pours and great people. You may want to put the annual Richmond party on your calendar for next year. I know it will be on mine.

I hope to see you all at the Classic and, in the meantime . . . keep on SHAGGIN'!

SHAGGER OF THE MONTH

Betty Abshire

by Doodah

How does one describe a member of The Club who does it all, rarely asks for help, and does with such style and perfection? **Betty** joined the Club in May, 1995 and has been a member of the **Board** since 1997, constantly giving of her **time... advice... talent... and ideas**. She has taken on the role as **Head of the Social Committee** with the same zeal she does everything. With Betty in charge of most of our social functions, the rest of us can just relax and enjoy ourselves without giving any thought to how all of our events are "pulled off" with such apparent ease. Only her task is never easy! She coordinates, cooks, and displays a culinary dream each and every time... over and over again and with great aplomb. So next time you see Betty, and, for sure, every time we have a special event, **take a minute** and let her know **how much you appreciate** all her hard work and incredible talent. Better still, why not volunteer to help her, because she sure isn't going to ask.

Of course someone like this would naturally perform in the same manner in her "other" life. She is the proud and doting mother of 3 and grandmother of 4. In addition to all of her extra effort and time that she gives to the Club and her family, she is also a successful **Senior Mortgage Loan Officer**. You can recognize her by the pager and cell phone that have become additional body parts.

Topping off this **amazing woman** is a **zest for life**. Her fun loving spirit is present in all that she does. She is willing to try anything once. Rumor has it that although she is terrified of heights, she showed "true grit" and, while in Cancun, put Para Sailing on her list of accomplishments.

And as with all talented and creative people, she has her personal passions also. In addition to being an accomplished "shagger" her love for dancing has extended to the ballroom genre as well. It is also no wonder that her creative bent includes unique jewelry and an incredible collection of beautiful masks.

So, Betty, for all the **hours, days, weeks, and years** that you have so brilliantly devoted yourself to our Club, as well as for the **uniquely talented, creative soul** that you are, we not only salute you as **Shagger of The Month** but we **Thank You** from our eyes to our tummies for making The Northern Virginia Shag Club a cut above all the others and truly the most "social" Shag Club in the world.

TEN ALREADY

by Dave Rapson & Gary Salpini

We've reached a milestone. Ten years ago fifteen people got together and decided to start this shag club. With Dee Bassett providing the lead, we selected a name, collected dues, and off we went. Now a decade later, we continue as a successful club with nearly 400 members, financial liquidity, and an active calendar of events. All as a result of the participation of the members and their dedication to the club and what it represents.

With all this success it's time to celebrate. **A party is in order.** The officers and directors would like to extend an invitation to all members, past and present, to join us for the ten-year anniversary party on **Saturday, September 6th** at the Burke Volunteer Fire Department in Burke, Virginia.

If you're an active member, we'll see you there. If you haven't been active recently, it's a great opportunity to come out and renew old friendships. Either way, we want to see you there. Details, times, etc., etc., etc. will follow in the August Shag Rag and flyers will be available at Nostalgia's and the Coast Guard.

Denny Martin and Eddy Farmer are scheduled to DJ. Anyone who wants to help put on the show can see us to get on board.

FOUNDERS: Dee Bassett, Liz Kestler, Rick Hendrix, Debbie Nichols, Nick Nichols, Larry Camp, Keith Abernathy, Donna Harrington, Pauline Easby-Smith, Sherri Bassham, Ruth Rapson, Dave Rapson, Sharon Salpini, Gary Salpini, Pat Parrott.

New Members in June
Patty Brasseur, Eddy
Bunch, Isabelle Bunch,
Gloria Eaker, Ella Nunn

DJ's for July 2003

July 2 -- Dennis and Nancy Gehley

July 9 -- Craig Jennings

July 16 -- Jim Rose (guest)

July 23 -- Larry Jones

July 30 -- Gerry Scott



Congratulations to H. K. Lee and
Debbie Hewitt who were married
June 20.



Congratulations to Ben Homeyer
and Wendy Nipper who were
married in May.

Condolences go out to Marica Conway,
whose mother passed away June 17 and
to Gary Mann whose father passed away
in June.

Happy Happy Birthday July Babies

<i>Fred Whitman</i>	1
<i>Paulette Gosden</i>	2
<i>Sandra Feron</i>	3
<i>Mike Winters</i>	5
<i>Larry Winstead</i>	6
<i>Dale Fluri</i>	8
<i>Larry Boyer</i>	10
<i>Patty Brasseur</i>	10
<i>Bev Rudolph</i>	10
<i>Dan Ferguson</i>	12
<i>Joan Salvadore</i>	13
<i>Helga Taranto</i>	15
<i>Jean Whitman</i>	15
<i>John Seely</i>	16
<i>Tim Foster</i>	17
<i>Mary Camp</i>	18
<i>Mary Bailey</i>	19
<i>Doug Layne</i>	24
<i>Jerry Crews</i>	26
<i>Libby Ash</i>	27
<i>Dickie Gee</i>	28
<i>Vesta Jones</i>	29
<i>Vaughn Royal</i>	29
<i>Gary Salpini</i>	29

Thanks to **Cris Gaines** for the wonderful
Birthday Cakes she bakes.

New Email for Hello Shaggers
Valerievms@aol.com

SHAG CONTEST, JULY 11 - 12, 2003

The first "sanctioned" shag contest EVER in Virginia will be held this July in Richmond, VA. This will be a great weekend of fun with lots of open dancing, 50/50 raffle, door prizes, and two shag workshops on Saturday afternoon by National Champs Charlie Womble and Jackie McGee!!! Every effort is being made to make this first contest a success.

Of course, because this is the first year, it has been a challenge to obtain sponsors to help raise money to pay for the contest, so your **HELP IS NEEDED!** If you (OR YOUR BUSINESS) are interested in sponsoring the contest, please write to Heather Jennings at hjennings@sentel.com as soon as possible and she will make sure you get the appropriate sponsorship form. Sponsors of \$50 or more receive free entry to the contest!!! Corporate sponsors of \$500 or more receive 10 free tickets at a table in the ballroom and other benefits. Please contact Heather ASAP if you are interested in sponsoring.

THE SHAG-A-THON IS NOT OVER YET

By Vaughn Royal

It takes a lot of people to make a Shag-a-Thon. Last month, as in each of the last five years, NVSC undertook a major fundraising effort to support the work of Hospice of Northern Virginia, the Club's chosen charity. The Shag-a-Thon has been more successful than anyone thought when it was just an idea; so successful in fact, that other shag clubs have copied it as a way of supporting their charities.

In its first four years, the NVSC Shag-a-Thon raised over \$60,000 for Hospice of Northern Virginia, every dollar of which went directly to the charity, with not a penny coming out of donated dollars to pay for overhead expenses. Putting together the Shag-a-Thon requires the volunteer efforts and talents and time of many NVSC members, all of which are gratefully acknowledged. Those efforts and talents and time include the areas of public relations and publicity, making signs and graphics, providing music and sound equipment, donating snack items, cups, napkins, setting up, tearing down, registering dancers, answering questions for, smiling at and passing out information to interested shoppers, taking photographs, carrying and refilling water jugs and, yes, dancing for up to five hours on a hard tile surface! Thanks to Cathy Metcalf for the countless hours of work, which she put into this year's event. We are also fortunate to have the experience of those leaders of the Club who created the Shag-a-Thon and brought it so successfully through its first four years, leaving behind good records and suggestions for their successors on how to improve the event from year to year. Most of all, what makes the event work are the NVSC members who are willing to take the fundraising packets and go to their friends, relatives and co-workers, tell them about Hospice and ask for their support on behalf of this worthy charity. That is not always an easy thing to do. Thanks to you all for making it work!

Please turn in your pledge money to Cathy Metcalf or me by Wednesday, July 16th. You can mail your pledge money to NVSC, P.O. Box 5522, McLean, VA 22103, but do not mail cash. The Shag-a-Thon is over in terms of the dancing, but it is not over as far as fundraising is concerned. Try to collect the money which has been pledged, and remember that even though the dancing part is over, you can still make or accept donations, as we try to approach our fundraising goal of \$20,000. The money is needed by Hospice and will be put to good use.

