

Northern Virginia Shag Club, Inc.

SHAG RAG

Shag Dancer Newsletter



Vol. I, No. 8

Keep on Shaggin'

October 1994

From the President - By Dee Bassett

Dear Members:

A recent article in another Club publication posed the question, "Are you the kind of member that joins a club and then sits back and enjoys the amenities?" I'd say our members would say, "NO."

I repeatedly get calls from members with offers to help with all areas of our growth. From Gary and Sharon, as they develop and track our membership; Dave and his constant effort to find the best dance space; Eddy, who came up with our Membership Cards; Rick and Libby, getting shirts; Donna, telling everyone she meets about our Club; Larry, with lessons; Janis, with a real amenity, our "Shag Rag." Need I go on? A very special thanks to all of our membership for sharing your time and talents. As we grow, I would hope each of us, seasoned or new, might not have time to see who doesn't, but thank those who will. All gifts are different!

NVSC Officers and Board Members

| | | |
|------------|------------------|----------|
| President | Dee Bassett | 569-9793 |
| Vice Pres. | Debbie Nichols | 323-8665 |
| Treasurer | Dave Rapson | 978-8656 |
| Secretary | Libby Hendrix | 425-0006 |
| Membership | Sharon Salpini | 425-2848 |
| Newsletter | Janis Grimes | 536-7362 |
| Events | Donna Harrington | 356-6035 |
| Board Mem. | Larry Camp | 823-0282 |
| Board Mem. | Gary Salpini | 425-2848 |

Treasurer's Report - by Dave Rapson

Our Club has \$ 461.94 in the bank. There are a few first-edition t-shirts available. See Dave or Libby for large sizes only. Luggage tags available - see Eddy!

WE'RE OFFICIAL!

ACSC Votes to Accept NVSC at SOS in Myrtle Beach, SC

Our Club was voted in to the Association of Carolina Shag Clubs at Myrtle Beach, S.C., during Fall SOS, and we are now an officially accredited ACSC Shag Club! Also, we have the somewhat dubious distinction of being the northern-most shag club in the Association!

We all owe a great deal of THANKS to DEE BASSETT, who has worked so hard for such a long time to get the Club to this point. Were it not for all of her efforts, both obvious, and also the behind-the-scene work, we would not have progressed so steadily to this point.

Dee's leadership and initiative have been crucial to the growth and development of our Club, and so, MANY THANKS to you, Dee!

DANCING At CHAMPIONS

Our field trips on several Tuesday nights to CHAMPIONS in Fairfax have been enlightening and fun. They love having us, AND they play our Beach Music!!

The LARGE WOODEN DANCE FLOOR is elevated, well lit, and has mirrors at one end! The back bar is spacious, with ample floor space to practice off to the side. We will be going to Champions again to try out the wood, and hope you will join us the next time!

Directions: Rt. 29 west, past Fairfax Circle -- It's on the right -- you can't miss it! 10090 Old Lee Highway. 7:30-10:30 - Tuesdays - sometimes

NEWS / INFO -- Contact: Janis Grimes, 202-737-2824; or 703-536-7362 - leave message.



LIVE, From MYRTLE BEACH - S.O.S.!!
-- By Our Roving Shag Reporter

You didn't see me, but I was there, and I saw you! As small as a fly on the wall, I was hiding and lurking around Myrtle Beach SOS Fall Migration '94. *I Heard It Through The Grapevine* that John was at Fat Harold's *Dancin' To The Music* with his *Sweet, Sweet Darlin'*, Pauline. I heard that he mouthed *Rescue Me*, and then said outloud, *That's Enough For Me*. He took the *Alligator Walk* out of there, but he was seen at other *Smoky Places* having a *Real Good Time*.

I observed Eddy with his *Boppin' Shoes* on, and his *Mojo Workin'*, looking to dance with two *Hard Hearted Women* or one *Jazzy Lady*, acting like a regular *Party Time Man* and *Girl Watcher*. He said, *"If This is Heaven, I wanna stay ..."* But, alas, he had to *Drive It Home* early, and was last seen on Friday.

For some people, Friday night was *Just Another Lonely Night*, but not for Larry C. and Jim T. They had their *Backfield In Motion* while *Coolin' Out* at Fat Harold's and Ducks dancing with *Carolina Girls*. Their facial expression portrayed a wish to *Hold Back The Night*. Late in the evening Larry was spotted escorting two very attractive ladies into Zack's. He appeared to be having *Some Kinda Wonderful* good time. But, where were Bill S. and H.K., I wondered.

Donna arrived late in the week, but she *Walked Right In* and got *Smack Dab* in the midst of things. She made up lost time. She and Pauline looked like they were having a good time socializing with a *Hoo Doo Man* at Tilghman's Pool Party. They sampled the *Love Potion No. 9*, had a little *Nip Sip* and a taste of *White-Port-Lemon-Juice*. They obviously had decided to *Be Young, Be Foolish, Be Happy*, and *That Is Why* they had such fun.

Jim N. was at Tilghman's Pool Party, too. He was everywhere. He was on the beach, and at Ducks with his camcorder. He was seen at Judy's House of Oldies, and yes, *Deed I Do* remember seeing him *Shaggin'* in O.D.'s, the Pad, Fat Harold's, Ducks and Ducks Too. I saw him, Eddy, Pat and Janis taking lessons from Jackie and Charlie, learning the "Funky Applejack, Push Belly, and the Funky." You should ask them to show you what they learned. *Shame, Shame* on them if they don't remember the steps.

Armed with new *Shaggin'* shoes, Janis and Pat set about *Searchin'* to capture the correct attitude, posture, style and essence of Carolina Shag. *Barefootin'*, they hobbled home, dipping feet and *Hot Legs* in the cool ocean surf, smiled upon by the *Carolina Moon*. Janis *Took More Than A Minute* shopping for seashells, and Pat heard *Hey, I Know You* more than once. I think she saw many friends from Virginia Beach.

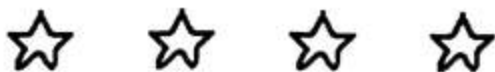
I thought I would *Shout* and *Fall To Pieces* when they were "ducked in Ducks." I shared their amusement over two dazed golfers from Ohio going *Blind, Cripple and Crazy* wandering around outside Fat Harold's, wanting to know, "Is something going on here?!"

Debbie and Nick were dancin', romancin' and partyin' with friends . . . mostly on the deck at the pool . . . boy, there was a *Whole Lotta Shakin'* with a *Diddy Wah Diddy* and a *Dinky Doo*. They cooked a big pot of stew with a funny name . . . something like Frogmore. It looked delicious . . . I wish I could have tasted it, but I dared not reveal myself from my hiding place.

I've Been Hurt Before, but I'd have been A *Mess of Blues* had I never spotted Dave and Ruth or Gary and Sharon . . . But lo, there they were in Ducks. They were looking good! They weren't doing *Too Much Foolin' Around* and weren't misbehavin', as some others might have been doing. *May I* remind you that I never saw Bill or H.K.

Though our Club has a distance to travel and we're small in number, all in all, there was a good representation of NVSC membership. But, I wondered, where were Bill and H.K.? Do you suppose they met a *Kidnapper*?

I was one of the last to leave the *City Full of Memories*. *I Love Beach Music* and Carolina Shag, and I'd like to stay longer, but I've *Got To Give It Up* because *Tomorrow Is A Comin'*. My greatest pleasure was not just in watching you from my hidden perch, but also in watching the Old-Time Dancers, the Hall of Fame Exhibition Dances, and the very young dancers, who really put on a show. I'll never forget Ellen Taylor with her elegance, and Jo-Jo Putnam with a Hop, and a Skip, and a Leg Around the Fanny. *I'm Ready* to do this again *Any Day Now*. How about you?



VA STATE OPEN - Oct. 7-8-9

As you may already know, CHARLIE WOMBLE and JACKIE McGEE will be here Oct. 7-8-9 for the 1994 VIRGINIA STATE OPEN SWING DANCE CHAMPIONSHIPS to be held at the Tyson's Westpark Hotel on Columbus Day weekend, October 7, 8 and 9. They will teach beginner and intermediate C. Shag workshops on Saturday, October 8th, and (!) they have agreed to teach a special Shag workshop for us at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, 9th October at Randy's Lounge.

There will be plenty of open dancing before and after the competitions, and ROC SARLO from Va. Beach Shag Club has agreed to come and play some Beach Music for us!

Instructional videos by Charlie & Jackie will be available to purchase at this event -- you can save the cost of postage!

See enclosed information -- you should not miss this!

Let's Celebrate!

YES!! We are now Sanctioned Members of the Association of Carolina Shag Clubs!

LIGHT LUNCH BUFFET - 1-3 p.m.

WHEN: Following our "special" Shag Lesson with Charlie & Jackie on Sunday, Oct. 9th (11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.)

WHERE: Randy's Lounge
Westpark Hotel, Tyson's Corner

WHAT: Dance to the Beach Music of
D.J. Roc Sarlo from VA. Beach!!!

EAT, MIX & MINGLE
GREET PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS
ENJOY!!

\$6.95 - Lunch Buffet
RSVP by Wed., Oct. 5th
Pauline: 759-4478
Donna: 356-6035

Speaking of Parties . . .

GET READY for the VIRGINIA BEACH Shag Club's 1994 Shag Blast weekend to be held at the beautiful Cavalier Hotel (on the ocean!) the last weekend in October. This is The Premiere Shag Weekend of the Season (after SOS, of course!). It's Halloween weekend, so you can wear a costume, if you want to (it's not required -- some will, some won't).

You should already have your tickets and reservations for this weekend, because the word on the street is -- that it is SOLD OUT! Many of our NVSC members will be attending, and we will let you know how much FUN it is! More on this event next month!

HEY!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

For Birthday Celebrations: On the last Wednesday of each month we celebrate the birthdays of our members. Please volunteer to bring a cake, cookies (or whatever you want -- bought or baked). Call SHARON SALPINI (425-2848) or RUTH RAPSON (978-8656) if you would like to volunteer. (We need volunteers starting THIS MONTH!)

Telephone Tree: We need a volunteer to set up a telephone tree for special events. If you would like to do this, please call SHARON SALPINI (425-2848) and she'll tell you what you need to know.

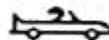
Happy, Happy Birthday . . .



October Birthdays:

23 - Don Garris
26 - Nick Nichols
31 - Sherri Bassham

GOOD-BYE, LARRY.....



FAREWELL to LARRY BOYER, our great teacher, dance partner and friend, who is going to Harvard for a year (!) in connection with his job as a research physicist at the Naval Research Lab. We will miss you, Larry -- hurry back to us!



In Search Of . . . Shagger Profiles

I hate to admit it, but -- the Shagger Profile file seems to be . . . misplaced. ?? It's probably around here somewhere, but ... *maybe some of you can relate to this?*

Well, anyway, (*believe it or not!*), several of these profiles were turned in completely filled out -- but WITHOUT A NAME! Yes!! So, I was going to start asking around (*tactfully, of course*) to find out Who was Who ("*What did you say you do for a living?*" "*Where are you from?*").

NOW, however, I will just say, **To All Of You Whose Profiles Have Not Yet Appeared In This Publication:** Would you *please* submit ANOTHER -- *perhaps updated, and With Your Name* -- Shagger Profile, for the Shagger Profile file (a form is included with this newsletter). Thank you. (I am not kidding.)

* * *

Shagger Profile -- Janis Grimes

Nickname: Jani

Occupation: Assistant to the Chairman

Birthday: January 9th

Home town: Falls Church, VA

Marital Status: Divorced, with children

Dream: Beach property and Someone to share it

Inspiration: Mikhail Baryshnikov. (I am the original member of the That Man Moves Like A Big Cat Fan Club.)

Motto: Do your best; Try not to hurt anyone; Help if you can; Have fun; Pass the torch...

Bad Habit: Being late -- we all have 24 hours; but some of us need more!


Hobby: Dancing; gardening; theater

Luxury defined: Backyard swimming pool

TV Program: News, and comedy

Books at bedside: An assortment of laughs and wisdom

Last Words: Not yet!



Shagging Tips

- Listen to the Beat of the music, and Step On the Beat.
- Shag is danced on a slot in a back and forth movement, not in a circular movement. Imagine that your hand is on a post that you're moving toward and away from.
- Take SMALL STEPS for better control.
- Body movement is basically from the waist down, with knees slightly bent.

SOME FURTHER LEARNING TIPS:

1. Learn in small doses; don't expect to learn everything at once. Be patient and kind to yourself, and give yourself time to learn. Don't make unreasonable demands on yourself or your dance partner. Dancing is fun, and learning should be fun, too!
2. Take notes, and review them later the same evening. Practice by yourself (yes, alone!), and go over new steps in your mind --you'll progress much faster if you do.
3. Measure your progress against your own previous performance, not against the couple dancing next to you, and especially not competitors!
4. Get used to practicing without feeling embarrassed on the dance floor. People are watching the better dancers anyway, so don't sweat it!
5. Don't scold or argue with your dance partner; it does not lead to making progress. Keep things in perspective and "light."

* * *



Carolina Shag Lessons

FREE SHAG LESSONS at 7:30 sharp every Wednesday night given by NVSC members. Our volunteers do a good job of teaching beginner and intermediate steps, and you should take advantage of this FREE opportunity to learn to Shag, the Carolina way! *You Can Do It!*

* * *

New Members in September

Welcome, new members!! James Baird; John Belt; Dallas Campbell; Sandy Davis; Jose Garcia-Frias; William Hopkins; Joan McKinney; Rick Messner; Debra Mullins; Christina Pax; James Raney; Darlene Smith; Debra Williams.



THE DANCERS ARE COMING!

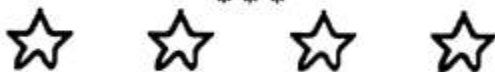
S.O.S. Grand National Dance Championships -- in Atlanta, GA. Memorial Day Weekend 1995

Get out your calendars, Shaggers, and plan to attend the FIRST ANNUAL S.O.S. GRAND NATIONAL DANCE CHAMPIONSHIP, sponsored by (yes!!) CHARLIE and JACKIE in Atlanta, Georgia, over Memorial Day Weekend NEXT YEAR, May 26-29, 1995!!

There will be LOTS of Open Dancing, as well as seven divisions of competitions (including JUNIOR Carolina Shag!!), with \$25,000 in prizes to be awarded! Also, Workshops, Special Awards and Dance Exhibitions that will leave you BREATHELESS from watching!

This weekend function will be attended by dancers from all over the country, so mark your calendars and plan to be there to support this fantastic event which will promote Carolina Shag on a Grand scale!

Details are on the enclosed flier, and you will be hearing about this again (and again!).



ATTENTION SHAGGERS

SONNY AND JUDY CARVER!!

FLASH -- LATE BREAKING NEWS:
There is a possibility of a workshop for our shag club with the Fabulous SONNY and JUDY CARVER (!!) in December! YES!! And, if they come up here to see us, maybe our favorite junior shagger, BRENT KEY, will accompany them! And, there was a whisper that World Champions Sy Creed and Dana Brown might come along, too STAY TUNED!!

The Bones of Every Organization

There are Four Main Bones
in every organization . . .

The Wish Bone

Those wishing that someone would do something about the problem

The Jaw Bone

Those Doing all of the Talking
but Very Little Else

The Knuckle Bone

Those Who Knock Everything

The Back Bone

Those who Carry the Brunt of the Load
and Do Most of the Work

(Which Bone Are You??)

Reprinted from Sun Coast and Richmond Shag Club Newsletters

NVSC LUGGAGE TAGS

Special Thanks to EDDY FARMER!! We can now order NVSC LUGGAGE TAGS for \$5.00, a unique way to raise funds for our Club. See Eddy for your NVSC luggage tag!

The Shagmaster Says:

- Keep your Attitude Up
- Take SMALLER STEPS
- Plan to attend Mid-Winters, and/or Spring SOS!!
- *Keep on shaggin'*



From the Editor

HEY, Y'all! What's happening? Where have YOU been? Well ... remember to let me know, okay?

Some of us have been to SOS, and CANNOT WAIT to get back there to the Beach, the Music, the People, the Dancing -- our own Reality! (Sigh...)

Want to write an article; a column; an ad; your Shagger Profile? Call me, Call me, Call me! Remember This is, after all, YOUR Newsletter! *See ya shaggin'*

**SHAGGER PROFILE - You don't have to answer every single question,
but please do your best!**

Name:

Nickname:

Occupation:

Birthday:

Hometown:

Marital Status:

Self-Portrait:

Motto:

Dream:

Inspiration:

Bad habit:

Hobby:

Luxury defined:

Drink or wine:

TV Program:

Books at bedside:

Last words:

Please Complete and return to:

Janis Grimes
7006 Lee Park Court
Falls Church, VA 22042

