



Carefree Times



Winter Mailout 2001



THE OFFICIAL
PUBLICATION
OF THE
SOCIETY OF STRANDERS
AND
THE ASSOCIATION OF
CAROLINA SHAG CLUBS

S.S.S.
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PO Box 37690
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ANN M SIGMON
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Michael Payne
S.O.S. Carefree Times
5477 River Trail Road N.
Jacksonville, FL 32277-1114
(904) 745-0448
Fax: Same (Call first)
soscftimes@aol.com

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S.O.S. Carefree Times Winter Mailout

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Staff

Editor, Design, Layout: Michael Payne

Typesetter: Michael Payne

Some Photos: Courtesy of Bill Kelly, Carolyn Cloe, Dan Williard @ shaglight com, Dennis Beaudoin, Andy Anderson, Bob (Slick) Lewis, John Wilson, William Toney, Ronny Downer, Nancy Bartholomew

Cover Photo Art: Jane Koon, from the internet

Advertising Sales: Janet Harrold (843) 249-4667

Distribution: Pat Smith (864) 226-0626 (Evenings)

Contributing Editors: Phil Sawyer, Hector Phifer, Ron Whsienant, Murl Augustine, Johnny Hammond, Alex Starr, Jim Money, Tom Barrineau, Ronny Downer, Carol Worrell, Steve Baker, Ed Evan, Spencer Wall, Michael Payne, Kay and Mike Anderson, Ronny Downer, Don David, Tanya Rylee, Brenda Moore

S.O.S. Carefree Times Upcoming Deadlines

<u>Edition</u>	<u>Ad/Copy Deadline</u>	<u>Distribution</u>
Spring Safari '02	March 1	April 5
Summer Mailout '02	May 24	June 21
Fall Migration '02	August 1	September 6
Winter Mailout '02	November 15	December 13



Hector & Carolyn Phifer



Message from the Chairman of the S.O.S. Board

Fall Migration, 2001, will be an event that all of us will remember. Just a few days earlier, our lives changed drastically, but we did not let the events of September 11 destroy us. I know there were some concerns over whether we should have Fall Migration, and I respect those who chose to stay home, but I believe the decision to continue with the Migration was the right one. Though we were all saddened by the loss of lives, we rallied together and raised thousands of dollars for the victims' families.

After all, isn't that what we're all about -fun-loving people who will do anything to help those in need??

As for the events of Fall Migration, my hat is off to the Enhancement Committee for a job well done. The Womanless Beauty Pageant, the S.O.S. Beach Run, and the entertainment from Jerry Butler, Keisa Brown, and the Holiday Band were outstanding. Because of the committee's hard work and dedication, Fun Monday won another, much deserved Cammy

Award. It doesn't get any better than that!! Congratulations to each of you!

The Holiday Season is upon us, and I know that all of you are making big plans. Just remember those who are less fortunate, pray for peace, and hug those you love.

Have a safe and joyous time, and I will see you at Midwinter.

-Hector

Special Dates to Remember

Mid-Winter January 17-20, 2002	Junior SOS July 18-21, 2002	SOS Spring Safari April 25- May 3, 2003
ACSC/SOS Winter Workshop February 22-24, 2002 Charleston, SC	SOS Fall Migration September 13-22, 2002	ACSC/SOS Summer Workshop July 11-13, 2003 Greenville, SC
SOS Spring Safari April 12-21, 2002	- 2003 -	Junior SOS July , 2003
ACSC/SOS Summer Workshop July 12-14, 2002 Charlotte, NC	Mid-Winter January 17-19, 2003	SOS Fall Migration September 12-21, 2003
	ACSC/SOS Winter Workshop February 21-23, 2003 Greenville, NC	

Message From The S.O.S. President

Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas everyone. 'Tis the Holiday Season, and time for us to be thankful for all that God provides for us. It is a time for sharing, and enjoying friends and family. A time to reflect on what we have endured thru the past few months, and this year 2001. Year one of the new century.

We have witnessed recession, with many jobs lost. We have survived high gas prices in the early summer months. We have witnessed an attack on our freedom by terrorists, and an awakening of kindred spirit, to prevail all assaults that have been assailed upon us. It is through these hard times, uncertain times, and times of distress that bring us to depend on our faith in

God, our friends, and our families to get us through these troubling times. It was a time for us to join together, and put others needs in front of our needs.

SOS came at a bad time in our country's attack from terrorism, but out of the emotions of anger, guilt, and dismay, many SOS attendees donated time and monies to the Rescue and Relief Fund in New York City. A donation of \$28,000.00 was made to the Red Cross from T shirt sales, and a donation of \$17,000.00 to the Fireman and Police Departments of NYC. I was so proud to be to be associated with you. I am proud of the SOS community, for answering every challenge that has confronted us. You are a special group of people



Ron and Peggy Whisenant

that embrace life, and take life's challenges, and responds in a positive way. SOS is a great organization. I am proud to be a member.

2001 was a year of trials and tribulations. Remember to pray for peace in this holiday season. And remember that Jesus Christ is the reason that we celebrate Christmas, and life.

Merry Christmas all, and have a safe holiday season.

-Ron Whisenant

Fall SOS... An Event to Remember

By Carol Worrell

Among tears, fears and a camaraderie that was astounding, the 2001 Fall Migration began. There were so many mixed emotions going into SOS, but by the end of the ten days, shaggers came together with a greater appreciation of our freedom and the great U.S.A. D.J.s were spectacular, each one bringing the crowd to their feet while holding hands, with a prayer in their heart and a tear in their eye as patriotic songs rang through out the clubs.

A new Ms. Fun Monday, Chuck Parrish, representing the O.D. Shag Club, won the coveted crown for

2001. The "beauties" in the contest were talented and free-spirited as they entertained the crowd.

Fun Monday, under the direction of the SOS Enhancement Committee, presented the crowd with a fantastic line-up on entertainment. Rob Rio led off the morning activities with Billy Scott and the Prophets following. Keisa Brown *Burned All Bridges* as she jumped from the stage to the pavement, in stiletto heels, to be in the midst of eager fans. The "Ice Man," Jerry Butler, soothed the audience with his melodious voice as he sang some of his big hits Due to the recent terror-

ism, the entertainers added songs such as *God Bless America*, and other favorites that has everyone singing alone with hand raised in unity and support.

A new event, "Showcase Your Talent," was added in place of the line dance competition. This raw talent filled the Spanish Galleon with laughter and cheers as representatives from the O.D. Shag Club portrayed Tina Turner's *Rolling on the River*, while Shangri Sluts and La were outstanding with their renditions of *Leader of the Pack*, complete with angel wings. Tommy Beacham, formerly of the three time Line Dance Champions, Upbeats, did a tap routine acappella. SASS, from the Sanford/Chatham Area carried away the first annual Talent Award as the world famous Tams.

Continued on page 6



Murl and Cindy Augustine

Message from the A.C.S.C Chairman

I guess it's time for me to write more words of wisdom. You got to be kidding! We have the Christmas holidays coming up and I want to wish all of you a Merry and Safe Christmas. I hope you get everything you deserve. After Christmas we have a million New Years parties to go to. Just pick one and go. If you are having a problem with gift selections go to shagdance.com and click on the company store and

pick out some special SOS gifts.

Mid Winter at North Myrtle beach is also just around the corner. The Mid Winter tickets have been passed out to the club presidents, so make sure you get yours and come party with us. Warning....if you are not a member of a shag club in good standing with the A C.S.C. and try to use a ticket to enter the clubs it will make a loud vulgar noise.

Hope to see you soon somewhere in the SHAG WORLD smiling and shagging. Take care and remember to let your family and friends know that you care about them.

-Murl Augustine

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News from the Association of Beach and Shag Club DeeJays

By Steve Baker



Greetings from the 300 plus members of the Association of Beach and Shag Club DJs. How many of you know we have members in 16 states? Hard to believe, isn't it? It's been a fast 10 years since our inception. I would like to thank all of the Association of Carolina Shag Clubs for supporting the ABSCDJs by using our members for all of your events.

We are saddened to report the loss of a fellow member, Russell Perkins from Williamston, NC who passed away unexpectedly. Please contact Mike Lewis, ABSCDJ Chaplain at beachdj@email.unc.edu if you would like to make a contribution to the charity Russell was involved with.

Fat Harold's Beach Club hosted the DJ Hall of Fame weekend on October 4-6, 2001. The Coastline Band kicked off the party on Friday night and as usual had the joint rockin'. Saturday night the party continued with Larry Edwards, Ed Timberlake and Ron Arey providing the music. Four new members were inducted into the Beach Music DJ Hall of Fame. Robbie Vogt, Honorary Member; John Swain, Posthumous Member; and Ed Timnberlake and Ron Arey as Regular Members. As a member of the DJ Hall of Fame, this is the crowning moment for a DJ.

Our next event will be the 11th Annual DJ Throwdown at Ducks, Ocean Drive, SC. Please note the dates: February 28th, March 1, 2, 3rd, 2002. This year on Thursday, Febru-

ary 28, 2002, The Embers and The Shakers will kick off the weekend with a night of fabulous music. (Please see our full page ad). Cover charge will be \$10 at the door. Doors open at 8 p.m. Music begins at 8:30 pm. The rest of the weekend will be free to all. Music will be provided by 40+ DJ's. There will be free food on Friday, Sat. & Sunday at 1p.m. Saturday, March 2, 2002, we will have our charity drawing at midnight. Maybe you will be the lucky winner!

During our meeting during Fall SOS, our members unanimously voted to donate \$1,000 to the doctors at the Shrine Hospital who are providing care to the victims of the WTC disaster. In addition, several of our members have been asked to play charity events for this cause.

If the ABSCDJs can help with your Shag Club regular functions or special events, please give me a call at 919 676 2159 or email me at SBAKER4@nc.rr.com.

Keep on dancin'

Steve Baker, President
Member DJ Hall of Fame

**11th Annual
DJ Throwdown
February 28-
March 3, 2002
at Ducks**



Time To Remember

Continued from page 4

At the competition, shag club members were asking for applications for next year. \$200 was raised for the New York Relief Fund during this event.

The Beach Run was reinstated under the direction of Dr. Jim Troxel. This event should continue to grow each year. Tides were favorable and allowed participants to actually have a Beach Run. The Enhancement Committee wishes to thank all the sponsors: Anquet, Shoe Center, All About Travel, the club owners, the DJs, and all the S.O.S. card holders that have faith in the security provided by local law enforcement...and to all the shaggers with the ability to come together in the face of adversity to enjoy the music and dance of the shag scene while opening their hearts and pocketbooks to help the New York Relief Fund. In the words of Martin Luther King Jr., "You only need a heart full of grace and a soul generated by love." How evident this was during Fall S.O.S.

Thank you for your support and God bless America, the land that we love!

-Carol Worrell
Talent Review Chair & Recording Secretary
Enhancement Committee Member
Hollis Britt, Judy Collins, Bill Rice, Shirley Ward, Rosemary Partee, Dwayne Baggett



DUCKS



DUCKS Too

Presents the

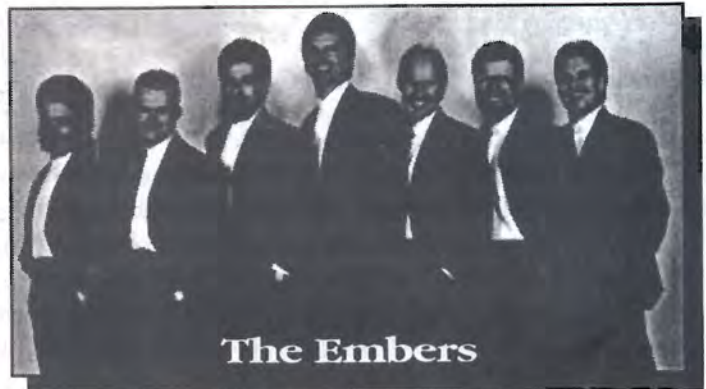
11th Annual DJ Throwdown

February 28th - March 3rd, 2002

Featuring Two Great Beach Bands



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DOWN MEMORY LANE

By Johnny Hammond

The other night I watched a very enlightening program on the entertainment channel "E." It was *The True Story of Marvin Gaye*. I remember Gaye and the big hits he had in the 60's and 70's. I knew his father had killed him but not much else.

I discovered there was a dark side of the Gay family, Marvin was born Marvin Pentz Gay, Jr. Marvin, Sr. was a very strict preacher man. He had a small, rundown, old storefront church that had a cross between Pentecostal and Jewish congregation. He contributed little to the household and upkeep of the family. Marvin's mother worked as a domestic and was the main breadwinner.

Marvin wasn't allowed to listen to any kind of music except gospel until he was a teenager. He then decided he wanted to be a crooner like Sinatra, Nat "King" Cole and his idol Perry Como. He loved Como's laid back style.

His father's fierce authoritarian stance and failure as a minister gave added dimension to Marvin's rebellion. He also came home one day and found his father dressed in his mother's clothes. This was something that bothered him the rest of his life.

He excelled in choir and glee club but didn't make much progress in his studies. He quit school at 17 and joined the Air Force. Less than two years later he was honorably discharged and joined The Markees, Billy Stewart's backup group. They were later hired by Harvey Fuqua to be the new Moonglows. When Harvey sold his recording label to Barry Gordy, who owned the hot new Motown, Marvin went with Motown.

In 1961 Marvin added the "E" to his name and Barry Gordy started him as a backup singer and drummer. He had become distraught over his father's cross-dressing and the fact that his last name was Gay. Something he had been kidded about all his life.

Change was coming because Marvin Gaye was a fresh new face that was loaded with talent. He also had an immediate attraction to Gordy's sister Anna. They were married and Anna became his inspiration and his chief motivator. She was also 17 years his senior.

Marvin's first real success came in '62 with "A Stubborn Kind of Fellow" followed by "Hitch Hike" and "Pride and Joy." Marvin co-wrote his first three songs, a feat no other Motown artist had ever done, not even Stevie Wonder. After those three songs, others wrote every single, except one. That is until 1971.

Marvin could take a so-so lyric and turn it into a mega hit. He just had a talent for interpretation. Smokey Robinson helped create some of Marvin's most compelling hits. "I'll Be Doggone" being the first to top the R&B chart. The next was "Ain't That Peculiar," which was strongly influenced by Bill Doggett's '56 hit "Honky Tonk." "I Heard It Through The Grapevine" was his first to hit No. 1 on the R&B chart and the Pop Chart.

As Motown's leading sex symbol he was paired with Mary Wells for the '64's pop hit "What's The Matter With You Baby," then with Kim Weston for '67's R&B hit "It Takes Two." The duet concept didn't reach full fruition, however, until he was teamed with the fantastic Tammi Terrell in 1967. They



were "sho nuff" hot. Honey chile I'm telling ya they had six top ten hits including "Ain't Nothing Like The Real Thing" and "You're All I Need To Get By." Both went over the top in '68.

Nearly four years after Tammi's death, Marvin teamed with Diana Ross for an album, but it was unable to recapture the magic he had with Tammi. They were the kind of team Brook Benton and Dinah Washington were a few years earlier.

The 1973 sexual tour de force "Let's Get It On" became his biggest selling album. After that, his music became increasingly experimental and the hits were less frequent.

After Tammi's death Marvin's personality changed and he became withdrawn. Not only did his marriage to Anna fall apart; he had become hooked on drugs.

Having chronicled his bitter divorce in the 1979 double-disc album "Here, My Dear," Gaye was at last free from Barry Gordy's company and by 1982 he was free from Anna.

On a summer night in '83 during the last concert of his life, he sang several songs he had made popular with his magical partner. Then stepping to the microphone he asked for a big round of applause for Tammi. He said, "I know she'll hear you." On that night Marvin's voice alone would've carried to wher-

Continued on next page

ever she was.

After several years of steady decline and being branded as undependable Marvin Gaye returned to LA to live with his parents. There on April 1, 1984, after one final argument with his father he was shot to death. Some said it was because he was defending his mother but the autopsy revealed cocaine was present at the time of death. Marvin, Sr. was found guilty of manslaughter. A tragic ending for everyone.

From The Electric City Shag Club's November Newsletter.

Crowd Pleaser



The first annual "Showcase Your Talent" contest was held at the Spanish Galleon on Sept. 22 at Fall Migration SOS 2001.

SASS (Sanford Area Society of Shaggers) and CASA (Chatham Area Shaggers Association) combined their talents and 6 members took the floor as the "Mighty Mighty Tams" performing "Be Young, Be Foolish, Be Happy". After competing with three other shag clubs, they brought the house down and were chosen the winner's of the competition. They were presented with the "Crowd Pleaser" award for their outstanding performance. Pictured are The Tams: Left to Right (bottom row) Vicki West (Joe Pope), Robert Parks, Wes May, (back row) Steve Cox, Billy Deese and Shorty Cash.

Submitted by: Spencer Wall



...A Politician's Viewpoint

Michael Payne

There's a story about a publisher of a specialty dancing newspaper in a small southern town who had the unadulterated gall to ask a local politician, during a re-election campaign, how he stood on the issue of shaggers using whiskey during SOS. What a horrible question to ask this southern politician, because he's damned if he does and damned if he doesn't! He will divide the entire community no matter how he stands!

But, being a slick politician, he handled himself like a champ when he wrote to the Editor thusly;

"Sir, I had not planned to discuss this controversial question at this time, but far be it for me to side step any issue, regardless of the nature and regardless of the results, but, I want to be sure that I understand your question, sir. If, sir, when you say whiskey, you mean that devil's brew, that poisonous scourge, that bloody monster that defies innocence, dethrones reason, creates misery and poverty and takes the very bread out of the mouths of babes; If you mean that vile drink that topples Christian men and women from pinnacles of gracious living into the bottomless pit of despair, depravation, shame, hopelessness, and destroys homes and families, creates orphans and deprives the community in general..."

"Sir, if that's what you mean by whiskey, I want you to put into your newspaper that I promise my constituents that, if I'm re-

ected I'll fight to destroy this demon with all my strength and efforts!"

"But, on the other hand, when you say, whiskey, you mean that oil of conversation, that philosophic wine and ale which is consumed when good fellows get together, puts a song in their hearts, laughter on their lips and contentment in their eyes...sir, if you mean that blessed substance, which enables a poor man to embrace the few little pleasures on this earth and forget, if only for a moment, the great heartaches and trials and tribulations of this world...Sir, if you mean that medicinal spirit that puts a spring into an old man's step on a cold, frosty morning, if you mean that nectar of the gods, the sale of which puts untold millions of dollars into our treasury to care for our little orphan children, aged and mamed, builds great highways, schools, hospitals, and makes this world a great place to live..."

"Sir, if that's what you mean by whiskey, I want you to put in your newspaper that I promise my constituent, if I'm re-elected, that I'll fight to protect this essence of divinity with all the strength I possess!"

"Sir, now that I have answered your inquiry without an ounce of equivocation, I think that you should, in all conscientiousness, put into your newspaper that I'm a man of convictions and I shall not compromise!"



Kay and Mike Anderson

So, Ed...



.....what's this shag dance all about? Supposedly the first words uttered by Mike to Hall of Fame DJ Ed Timberlake late in 1992.

You see, it all began when I tried to make a cowboy out of Mike. We took a week off from work to clean the garage to have a place to teach him the two-step. Well, after 2 hours one afternoon we both were so frustrated that Mike declared - "We're gonna learn a real man's dance"! Oh really, I'm thinking. He found an ad in the paper for a six-week course in shag being offered by the Harrisburg Park & Recreation Dept. and taught by Mr. Farrell Watts from Kannapolis, NC. The first night we learned the basic - the song we practiced was Happy Ever After - EVERYBODY loves that song, right? Not Mike (in the beginning anyway), his comment was and I quote "What kind of song is this, there's no @#*?/ beat to this song"! About now I'm getting concerned - if he can't hear the beat in this song what in the world kind of song does he think has a beat??? We continued to attend classes; in fact, I think we went through three sessions with Farrell. Bless his heart, every time he came by Mike he would look at his feet then up at him and just shake his head and walk off. We thought it was hopeless, but the Friday night after the first lesson we showed up at the Hilton in Charlotte - Fessor Hook was the DJ - don't you know we got right in the middle of them!

We first met Ed & Bonnie Timberlake at a little place called Oa-

sis in Charlotte. One side was a little dance floor, the other side was the restaurant. Ed claims Mikey was real concerned about the blackened catfish fingers instead of the dance. We had seen Ed over at Smiley's (formally Groucho's). Groucho's was "the" place to shag in Charlotte. The very first time we went there (prior to lessons) we opened the door, looked in, saw three people standing at the bar staring back at us. We looked at them, then at each other and proceeded to shut the door. The next time we went we were braver (and even more dense). We heard a song (didn't know it was Earl Bostic at the time) we liked and saw only one couple on the floor. Well, we carried our brave selves out on the floor and commenced to dance to that Bostic song, unbeknownst to us that the other couple on the floor was none other than Shad and Brenda Alberty! We wondered why no one else was dancing but those two - hey, we didn't know a shag icon was at the other end!

We went to our first SOS in the fall of 1993 at Ed's urging and have not missed one yet. I remember it particularly because we went down in my new 1993 convertible, 5-speed, 5.0, white on white Ford Mustang. Yes, I was a hot mama. My tag was Shag Pony. Mike was to get a red/camel top convertible Mustang later on with the tag name Shag Mule. DJ Randy Rowland gave these names to us while we were in Charlotte. We would enter Hideaways (formerly Smiley's) and Randy would always say, "here comes the Shag Pony with her Shag Mule".

You see, I always loved Mustang Sally and would always request it, hence Shag Pony.

We have become smarter about SOS. We no longer go out at 1 noon and stay out till 2 or 3 in the morning. No more sitting on the side of the bathtub at the Bel-Air, soaking our feet, drinking Jack Daniels and eating an egg sandwich! Along with the dancing and seeing old friends, one of my favorite things at SOS is the Smoothies contest. We compete since 1994 until last year when we finally won it. Now it is time to give others a chance.

Ed and Bonnie are the reason we began to dance competitively. They constantly told us "you need to be competing". So the first contest (1994) we entered was Rascals, which was located in Salisbury. We had some tough competition; we had to dance against our very own instructors Farrell and Patti! I don't know what the judges were looking at but we actually won, \$800.00 in gifts and prizes (a ring and a gift certificate for some tires, WHOOPEE!). In October of 1995 we danced our first CSA/SPA contest (CSA - Competitive Shagger Association - dancers/ SPA - Shag Preservation Association - club owners) at Weejuns in Irmo, SC. This particular contest we will always remember, not because we came in second but we took our dog JoJo (no, he is not named after JoJo Putnam!) with us that weekend. Mike got up one morning and took JoJo out for a walk; a group of shaggers were outside in

circle talking and Mike went over to join in. That was the first mistake; the second was to let JoJo around everyone. He went to each person-looking at them, finally got to Wayne's council, looked at him, and yes, proceeded to raise his leg and shoot both of Wayne's pant legs!! Needless to say we didn't take him with us anymore and Wayne is still speaking to us!

We thought we were on our way, first CSA contest and second place, piece of cake; we'll be pros in no time - NOT!!! We spent a year dancing as amateurs then spent 4 long years as novice (did I say 4 long years?). Finally - thank the shag angels and a lot of hard practice on our part - we made pro in June of 2000 at a great club in Greenville, SC called Lockers. We also celebrated our 10-year anniversary that weekend. I know had a good time - I was ready for the wet T-shirt contest that never happened! Mike made me go inside to try off. Bummer!

We began teaching 3 or so years ago in our home in Cary, NC. We didn't charge for the first few months just to see if we could teach. We now teach privates 3 nights a week and group lessons on Wednesday nights at Loafers Beach Club in Raleigh, NC. We have taken lessons from some of the best instructors, Farrell Watts, Patti McElroy, Trae McCants, Rick & Maureen Little, Wes & Sandra Lay, and Susie Beaver and currently take instruction from Sam West. I love going to Sam because I can do a step and ask Sam - how am I doing? His response is a wink and "You are fine, yay -- now, Mike", I call it my Sam x.

We have taken something from every instructor and have come up with our own style of teaching. We have learned how important techniques are to the dance and to the confidence of the dancer. We have done various workshops for the Capital Area Shag Club in Raleigh, the Northern

Virginia Shag Club, Boppers Beach and Boogie in Charlotte and teach at the Cardinal Club in Raleigh twice a year for their Seafood 'N Shag night. We like to teach lead/follow with male and female steps that can be used no matter who you dance with.

Shag has become a way of life for us. We truly love the music, the dance, and more importantly we have met so many new people and made new friends through this dance called shag, not to mention it is something we enjoy doing together as a couple. We thank Ed and Bonnie for giving us the encouragement to begin competing and getting involved with shag.

We have evolved our love of shag into our own business called Carolina Shag, Inc. and we have developed our own website www.carolinashag.com. Mike has even started doing the DJ thing from time to time.

So, Ed ... what's this DJ'ng all about?

Mike and Kay Anderson are both from North Carolina, Mike from Apex and Kay from Charlotte. They began shagging in 1992, began competing in October of 1995 and turned professional in June, 2000. They are members of the Competitive Shaggers Association and Capital Area Shag Club. Mike is a member of the Association of Beach and Shag Club D.J.'s. Mike is a service manager with Avaya and Kay is retired from AT&T. They have 3 sons, one daughter and currently live in Cary, NC.



Dance...
Like nop one is watching!

E-Address Protection

By Ed Evans

As you may know, when/if a worm virus gets into your computer it heads straight for your email address book and sends itself to everyone in there, thus infecting all your friends and associates. This trick won't keep the virus from getting into your computer, but it will stop it from using your address book to spread further, and it will alert you to the fact that the worm has gotten into your system.

Here's what you do: first, open your address book and click on "new contact" just as you would do if you were adding a new friend to your list of email addresses. In the window where you would type your friend's first name, type in !000 (that's an exclamation mark followed by 3 zeros). In the window below where it prompts you to enter the new email address, type in WormAlert. (If it tells you this is not a valid address just say yes to add it, or ok). Then complete everything by clicking add, enter, ok, etc.

Now, here's what you've done and why it works: the 'name' !000 will be placed at the top of your address book as entry #1. This will be where the worm will start in an effort to send itself to all your friends. But when it tries to send itself to !000, it will be undeliverable because of the phony email address you entered (WormAlert). If the first attempt fails (which it will because of the phony address), the worm goes no further and your friends will not be infected.

Here's the second great advantage of this method: if an email cannot be delivered, you will be notified of this in your Inbox almost immediately. Hence, if you ever get an email telling you that an email addressed to WormAlert could not be delivered, you know right away that you have the worm virus in your system. You can then take steps to get rid of it.

Where We Go To Dance...

Sorted by City

(This informaton was taken from the SOS Web Site.
Changes/comments should be directed to: <http://www.shagdance.com/info/where.html>)

- | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|
| Aiken, SC
(CSRA)
(Tues, Thurs, Fri)
<i>Holley House</i>
(803) 648-4265 | Beckley, WV
(Beckley Shag Club)
(Saturday)
<i>Desoto's</i>
(304) 253-7464 | Columbis, SC
(Palmetto/Columbia)
(Tues, Fri, some Sat)
<i>Cracker Jack's</i>
(803) 731-5692 | (FASC)
(2nd Tues & one Sat)
<i>Wheeler's</i>
(910) 677-0055 |
| Albermarl, NC
(Salisbury/Lake Tillery)
(Sunday)
<i>Harmanco's</i>
(704) 463-7605 | Birmingham, AL
(Beach Shaggers)
(Tuesday)
<i>Charkie Mac's</i>
(205) 956-7245 | Columbus, Ga
(ShagPlus)
(Wed, Sat)
<i>Al Who's Place</i>
(706) 327-1500 | Florence, SC
(Tri-City)
(Wednesday)
<i>Teddy's</i>
(843) 665-4555
(Saturday)
<i>Diamond Mine</i> |
| Alexandria, Va
(N Va Shag Club)
(Wednesday)
<i>Nick's</i>
(703) 751-8900 | Boone, NC
(Boone Shag Club)
(Tuesday)
<i>Meadowbrook Inn</i>
(828) 295-4300 | Cornelius/Lake Norman
(Twister's/Lake Norman)
(Friday)
<i>Holiday Inn</i>
(704) 892-9120 | Folly Beach, SC
(Islander Shag Club)
(Thurs thru Sun)
<i>ISC Clubhouse</i>
(843) 588-9095 |
| Anderson, SC
(Electric City)
(Wednesday)
<i>Uptown Lounge</i>
(864) 225-9522 | Burlington, NC
(Burlington Shag Club)
(Friday)
<i>Masters</i>
(336) 227-5541 | Danville, Va
(Danville Shag Club)
(Friday)
<i>Stratford Inn</i> | Fort Mills, SC
(Rock Hill Shag Club)
(Friday)
<i>Ramada Plaza</i>
(803) 548-2800 |
| Asheville, NC
(Mountain Shag Club)
(Wed)
<i>Best Western Motel</i>
(828) 258-0091
(Sun)
<i>Holiday Inn Air</i>
(828) 684-1213 | Charleston, SC
(Charlston Shag Club)
(Tues thru Sat)
<i>J.B. Pivots</i>
(843) 571-3668 | Dillion, SC
(Pee Dee/Dillion Co)
(3rd Sat)
<i>SandCastle</i>
(843) 774-0337 | Garden City, SC
(Garden City Shag)
(1st & 3rd Sat)
<i>Montana's</i> |
| Atlanta, GA
(ShagAtlanta)
(Saturday)
<i>Marriott Lounge</i>
(770) 394-6500 | Charlotte, NC
(Boppers)
(Tues, Sun)
<i>Boppers Bar/Boogie</i>
(704) 537-3323 | Dublin, GA
(Shamrock Shag Club)
(1st/3rd Thurs)
<i>Elk's Club</i>
(Thurs)
<i>Paddy's</i> | Goldsboro, NC
(Sugarfoot)
(Tuesday)
<i>Best Western Motel</i>
(919) 658-9515 |
| Atlantic Bch, NC
(Alt Bch Shag Club)
(Wed, Fri, Sat)
<i>Memories</i>
(252) 240-7424 | Charlotte, NC
(Charlotte Shag Club)
(Thursday)
<i>Valentino's Rest/Bar</i>
(704) 523-7200 | Dunn, NC
(Williams Lake)
(Fri & Sat)
<i>Club Faces</i> | Greensboro, SC
(Greater Triad)
(Sunday)
<i>The Clubhouse</i>
(336) 856-9555 |
| | Chattanooga, TN
(Choo Choo Shag Club) | Durham, NC
(Eno Beach Shag Club)
(1st & 3rd Sat)
<i>Ye Ole Tavern</i>
(919) 493-5957 | Greenville, NC
(Eastern NC Shag Clu)
(Wednesday)
<i>Equestian Club</i>
(252) 830-8900 |
| | | Fayetteville, NC | Greenville, SC
(Carolina Shag Club)
(Wed, Fri, Sat)
<i>Docker's</i> |

(864) 234-9099 High Point, NC (Greater Triad) (Saturday) <i>Big E's</i> (336) 890-7745	Lugoff, SC (CLASS) (Tuesdays) <i>Plums Lounge</i>	Releigh, NC (Raleigh Shag Club) (Sunday) <i>Shuckers</i> (919) 481-1877	(Savannah/Coastal Empire) (Monday) <i>Holliday Inn</i>
Hilton Head Isl, SC (Hilton Head Shag) (Friday) <i>Crowne Plaza Hotel</i> (843) 681-2832	Martinez, GA (CSRA) (Saturday) <i>Shag Shack</i> (706) 863-7462	Richmond, VA (Richmond Shag Club) (Tuesday) <i>Razzels</i> (804) 330-0007	Shelby, NC (Shelby/Rutherford) (Friday) <i>Days Inn</i> (704) 482-6721
Jacksonville, FL (First Coast Shag) (Wed & some Sat) <i>Marriott Hotel</i> (904) 296-2222 (Tues & Fri) <i>Club Savoy</i> (904) 745-7725	Mt. Olive, NC (Sugarfoot) (Wed, Fri) <i>The Brokerage</i> (919) 658-9515	Roanoke, VA (Roanoke Valley) (Tuesdays) <i>Windham Hotel</i> (540) 563-9300	Statesville, NC (Statesville Shag Club) (2nd Friday) <i>VFW</i>
Holly Ridge, NC (Causeway) (Fri & Sat) <i>Sonny's</i>	Nashville, TN (Music City) (Saturday) <i>Maxwell House</i> (615) 259-4343	Rockingham, NC (Sandhills) (2nd Sat) <i>Richmond Pines CC</i>	Sumpter, SC (Sumpter Shag Club) (Every Other Fri) <i>Legacies</i> (803) 469-7800
Johnson City, TN (Mountain Empire) (Monday) <i>Holiday Inn</i> (423) 282-4611	New Bern, NC (Twin Rivers) (Sunday) <i>Oar House</i> (252) 633-2006	Rome, GA (Seven Hills Shaggers) (1st, 3rd, 5th Tues) <i>Elks Club</i>	Tampa, FL (Sun Coast /TBBA) (Sunday) <i>Borderline</i> (813) 935-5339 (Tues & Fri) <i>T-Bones</i>
Knoxville, TN (Smokey Mountain) (Sunday) <i>Holiday Inn</i> (423) 693-1011	Outer Banks, NC (Outer Banks Shag) (Monday) <i>Holiday Inn</i> (252) 441-6333	Rutherfordton, NC (Rutherfordton) (Saturday) <i>Legal Grounds</i>	Wilmington, NC (Cape Fear Shag) (Thurs, Fri, Sat) <i>Corvette's</i> (910) 392-5293
Lake Wylie, SC (York Shag Club) (1st/3rd Saturday) <i>Local Motion</i> (803) 831-0037	Portsmouth, VA (Boogie On The Bay) (Sunday) <i>Holiday Inn</i> (757) 393-2573	Salisbury, NC (Salisbury Shag Club) (Tuesday) <i>Rock Hill Boat & Ski</i> (704) 633-0251	Winston-Salem, NC (Winston-Salem) (Wed, Fri) <i>The Inn</i> (336) 765-6670
Long Beach, NC (Fri, Sat) <i>Shucker's</i> (910) 278-4944	Pawley's Isl, SC (South Strand) (Wed, Fri) <i>Mingo Moe's</i> (843) 235-0422	Sanford, NC (SASS) (3rd Fri) <i>VFW Post</i> (919) 776-1432	Virginia Bch, VA (Virginia Bch Shag) (Wed, Fri) <i>Steppin' Out</i> (757) 425-8815
	Raliegh, NC (CASC) (Tues, Fri, Sat 7 days) <i>Loafers/Reds</i> (919) 821-1489/876-7337	Santee, SC (Orangeburg Area) (Wednesday) <i>LT's</i> (803) 478-7424	Savannah, Ga



2001 Event Planning Calendar 2002

December 2001 15 Christmas Party, Rome, GA 31 New Years Eve Party, Cornelius, NC 31 New Year's Eve, Rocky Mt, NC 31 New Year's Eve, B'ham, AL	January 2002 4-6 Islander Winter Classic, Hilton Head SC 17-20 Mid Winters, NMB, SC 25-26 Shag & Golf Party, Columbia, SC	February 2002 1-3 Foothills Winter Boogie, Lake Hickory, NC 22-24 ACSC/SOS Winter Work Shop, Charleston, SC
March 2002 28-31 Smoky Mt Boogie, Gatlinburg, TN	April 2002 12-21 SOS Spring Safari, NMB, SC 	May 2002



December 2001

Dec 15: Christmas Party in Rome, GA. Hosted by Seven Hills Shaggers. Ticket cost - \$5.00. All proceeds of party go to the Hospitality House of Rome. Party Contact - Jan Carter 706-232-0202 or carter@roman.net

Dec 22: Greater Triad Shag Club Christmas Party in Greensboro, NC. Hosted by the Greater Triad Shag Club. Located at the Bur-Mil club. Free to members. DJ Rockin Ron Russ. Contact Vickie Chambers, 336-765-3031 or email mmadrin@hotmail.com.

Dec 31: New Years Eve Party in Cornelius, NC. Hosted by Twisters Shag Club. Party held at the American Legion Building. All wood floor, munchies, and a champagne toast included. Call the 24hour hotline (704) 892-9044 for details, email tscnews@aol.com, or visit us on the web at www.GoShagging.com.

Dec. 31, 2001: RMASC New Year's Eve Party in Rocky Mount, NC. Hosted by the Rocky Mount Area Shag Club. Ticket price: \$35/couple, \$20/single. (Ticket sales cut-off date: Dec. 15, 2001). Location - Holiday Inn-Gateway Central, 651 N. Winstead Ave., Rocky Mount, NC. Hotel # 242-937-6888 (Rooms \$59.95 ask for RMASC rate.) DJ Charlie Byrd, Heavy Hors d'oeuvres, "4" cash bars open, party favors, Champagne toast at 12:00. Contact Ruby Viverette 252-977-1543 or email shagbl@aol.com.

Dec. 31, 2001: New Year's Eve Party in Birmingham, AL. Hosted by Beach Shaggers of Birmingham. Tickets are free for members, \$10.00 for guests. Location: Roebuck Elks Lodge (804 Gadsden Hwy.) Party begins at 8:00 pm; Cash bar, hors d'oeuvres, champagne toast to the New Year, and midnight breakfast. DJ - Glenn Walls. Contact Tom Hampton, 205-871-7766 (work), 205-856-0041 (home),

tom@msai.net

2002

JANUARY 2002

January 4-6, 2002: Island Winter Classic VII in Hilton Head Island, SC. Hosted by Hilton Head Island Carolina Shag Club. Weekend tickets \$45/person before Dec 1, \$50 after. Dinner Sat. night. Midnight breakfast buffet. Hospitality Suite Fri & Sat. DJ's Gary Bass, Judy Collins, Jay Nelms, & Terry Ellis. Free shag workshops Sat. with John & Joan English & Dwight Langley & Annette Johnson. Hotel: the Crowne Plaza Resort Oceanfront (1-800-334-1881 for special room rates.) For more information contact Terry or Mary Handegan at 843-689-3343 or send e-mail to shaggers2002@aol.com, or Pat Hughes 843-681-2832 shaggypsy@aol.com. Smoke Free Ballroom.

Jan 17-20: Mid-Winter in North Myrtle Beach

Jan 25-26: Columbia Shag Club Weekend Invitational Shag and Golf Party in Columbia, SC. Hosted by the Columbia Shag Club. Tickets \$40 prior to 1/1/02 and \$45 after that date. Location - Hotel Stadium Center, 1100 Key Rd., (behind Williams Brice Football Stadium). Come help us celebrate the Columbia Shag Club's 20th Birthday. Party theme is "The Roaring 20's". Come dressed in 20's attire. Dinner provided by the Columbia Shag Club on Friday and Saturday nights. Free pour Friday 6 PM till Midnight. Cooter's Shooters and Juwandas and Screw Drivers Saturday night 6 PM till gone (there will also be a cash bar Saturday night). Free Shag workshop by Wanda Holliday and Jo Jo Putnam Saturday 2-3 PM. Door prizes. Huge dance floor. Great DJ's: EZ (from Beach, Boogie and Blues Radio 93.1 in Columbia), Butch Davidson - DJ Hall of Famer; David Adams, and Dave Daniel. Golf on Saturday. Contact: Julie Trent 803-782-1347 jbtrent1@yahoo.com

FEBRUARY 2002

Feb 1,2,3: Foothills Winter Boogie XV in Hickory, NC. Hosted by Lake Hickory Shag Club. Location: Holiday Inn Select (828-323-1000). For room reservations, call local number only, and ask for "Market code 2-BOG, Foothills Winter Boogie Rates." Tickets \$30/\$35 after December 31, 2001. DJ's Harold Beaver, Norman Mills, Clyde Waller, & Jim Waye. Hors d'oeuvres, snacks, beer served during party. Sunday breakfast included in cost of ticket. Ellen Taylor workshop Saturday morning (not included in cost of ticket.) Fund raiser for Camp Kemo includes money raised by 1/2 & 1/2 drawn on Saturday night. Contact Ann Sigmon, 828-324-6122.

Feb 22-24: ACSC/SOC Winter Workshop in Charleston, SC.

Myrtle Beach

MARCH 2002

March 28-31, 2002: Smoky Mountain Boogie (Fourth Annual) in Gatlinburg, TN. Co-Hosted by the Smoky Mountain Shaggers and Atlanta Swing Dancers. Tickets \$35.00 (\$45.00 after 1/1/02) This event has sold out the past two years. GET YOUR TICKETS EARLY. Free workshops, Fantastic Vendors. DJs: Wilkie Whaley, Butch Metcalf, Doug & Sandy Brown, Rich Kopels. Hotel - Glenstone Lodge (formerly Days Inn) (Hotel # - 1-800-362-9522. Contact Bill Hughes 865-947-0494 or email metaltiger@mindspring.com

APRIL 2002

April 12-21: SOS Spring Safari in North Myrtle Beach.

July 12-14: ACSC/SOS Summer Workshop in Charlotte, NC

SEPTEMBER 2002

Sept 13-22: SOS Fall Migration in North Myrtle Beach.

NOVEMBER 2002

Nov. 1-3: The Twelfth Annual Fall Cyclone. 704-892-9044 (24 hr hotline) or email fallcyclone@aol.com

2003

JANUARY 2003

Jan 17-19: Mid-Winter in North

FEBRUARY 2003

Feb 21 - 23: PUTTIN' ON THE GLITZ - ACSC Winter Workshop 2003 in Greenville, NC. Hosted by Eastern North Carolina Shag Club. Hotel - Hilton. Contacts: Fred Tetterton (Chairman) 252-707-2877 (wk) , 252-321-1134 (h), fred.tetterton@dsm-group.com, and Kathy Harrington (Co-Chair) More details will be provided as the event gets closer!

April 25-May 3: SOS Spring Safari in North Myrtle Beach.

July 11-13: ACAC/SOS Summer Workshop in Greenville, SC.

SEPTEMBER 2003

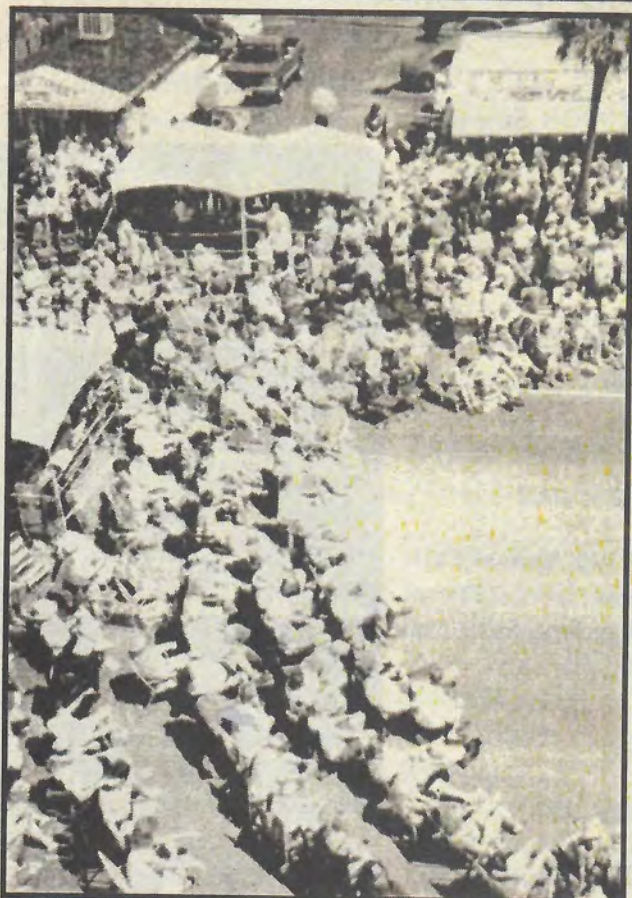
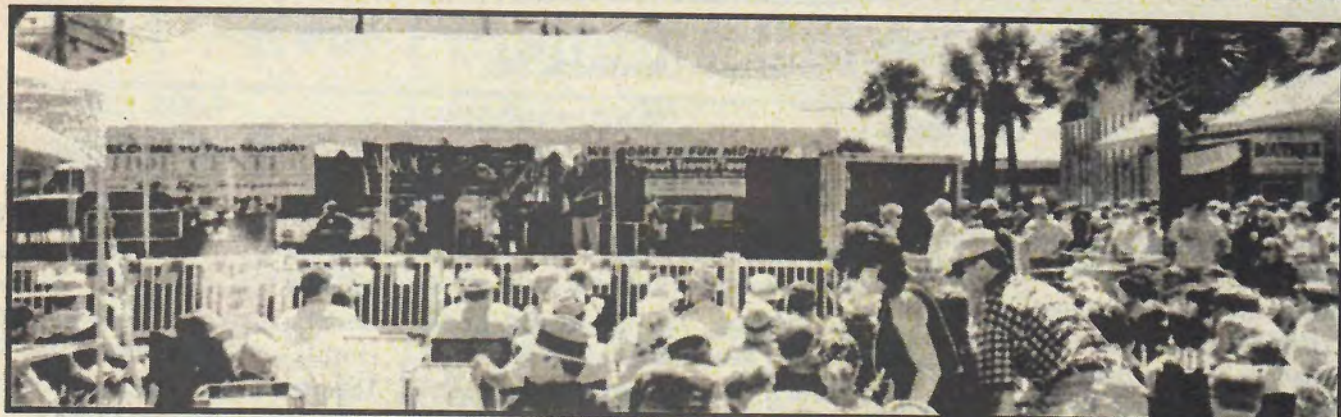
Sept 12-21: SOS Fall Migration in North Myrtle Beach.

Attention Shag Clubs...

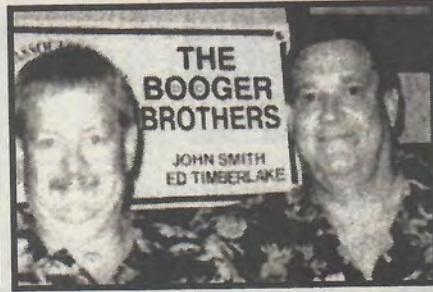
Don't see
your club's event listed?

The *Carefree Times* gets it's event information from the Official Web Site for the S.O.S. and A.C.S.C., located at:
www.shagdance.com

...And, S.O.S. gets that information from you. Please insure that you submit your club's information on a timely basis. It is, after all, free advertising!









National Shag Dance Championships

By: Tanya Rylee

March of 2002 will mark the nineteenth year of the National Shag Dance Championships in Myrtle Beach. It is second in "consecutive years running" for any swing dance event in the U.S.A, and only behind three months of the U.S. Open Swing Dance Championships

The Nationals number of contestants grew to the point that a preliminary had to be held earlier. This year's prelim will be Friday and Saturday, January 25 & 26, 2002, at The Beach Place at North Kings Highway. The finals will be Thursday – Saturday March 7-9, 2002.

This year's contest aside from crowning Masters, Professionals, Non-Professional and Junior Champions will celebrate ten years of the contest's dancing ambassadors – The N.S.D.C. Dance Team. The team of six or seven couples has represented shag and the



Sam West and Jackie McGee
2001 Overall Champions

Nationals from California to New York with stops in Tennessee, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia. This year their premiere performance was at the Shaggers Hall of Fame in October and followed by Virginia's "Living Legends", the Cammy Awards, the U.S. Open in Disney World, and the Beach Ball

Classic in Myrtle Beach.

The elite group National Overall Champions have run from Jackie McGee (ten times) & Charlie Womble (nine times) in 1984 to Jackie McGee & Sam West (four times) in 2001. Other winners have included: Dana Brown Barton & Sy Creed; Melissa Sharp-Calibresse; Sara West Kemp (two times); and LeAnn Best & Michael Norris (four-time winners).



2001-2002 N.S.D.C. Dance Team
(Front row L to R: Erin Olson, Cameron Caruso, LeAnn Best; Back Row L to R: Grant Garmon, Joey Sogluizzo, Jimmy Caruso, Nikki Kontoulas, Leslie Melton, Jennifer Beaver, Jac Crowder, Jeff Hargett, Michael Norris)

Parade Talk

By Don David

The past months since 9-11 have been nothing short of a nightmare. It's still hard to believe that all this has happened. So much destruction in lives and property on both sides. Yet we Americans "must" and "will" continue on with our daily lives. It's always been that way. Go forward and think American. Thus, on a lighter note, what's more American than a parade? Yes indeed, it's time to start planning and scheming once again.

April 20th is not that far away. I've already had clubs contacting me as early as October concerning the event. So it appears another "biggie" is in the making.

Please make note of a change. This year's parade will start at 1pm instead of 2pm. I've had many people asking if the time could be moved up due to all the drop-ins, cookouts, and free food beginning around 5pm. So be it.

This year's Grand Marshall has been entertaining us for many years and is very deserving of the honor. Therefore I am proud to announce that the 2002 SOS Parade Grand Marshall is none other than _____. Opps!, I best keep it to myself. At least a little while longer.

Make your plans--Sat. April 20th
1pm

See you at the parade!
Don David
SOS Parade Chairman



2002 Junior SOS

July 18th - 21, 2002

(Not all details have not been worked out but here is a start.

Further details will be posted on: www.shagdance.com. Click on Jr Shaggers)

Place: North Myrtle Beach, SC

Participating Clubs: DUCKS, Boulevard Grill, OD Arcade, and Fat Harold's

We expect over 400 Juniors!!
More than 20 Free Junior Dance Workshops!!

- Junior Mixed Doubles Contest!! •
- Juniors Only Dance Party one night!! (no adults) •
- Thursday and Friday Night Dances. Over twice as much free dance time than last year!! •
- Sunday Gospel Hour and Brunch / Farewell •
- Junior SOS Volleyball Tournament and Other Beach Activities!! •
- Gifts and Prizes •

What is Junior SOS anyway????

The Junior SOS is a shag dance party weekend for young people under 21. The event is held in the Ocean Drive area of North Myrtle Beach, SC. Several of the adult shag clubs open their doors and hearts to the Juniors for this weekend and always work with us to make the weekend great for the kids. If you are not familiar with North Myrtle Beach, all of these shag dance clubs are within about 200 yards of each other and the beach.

There are two primary goals for the Junior SOS:

1. Give the Juniors that already dance a chance to have fun and a chance to help others learn to have fun shagging.

2. To increase the interest in and encourage shag dancing among new young people and their parents.

Junior SOS exposes a lot of youngsters and their parents to the dance-for the first time. The entire event is planned to focus on making sure the first time shaggers and beginner level dancers can have fun and have every opportunity to learn to dance. The weekend is crammed with dance workshops, fun contests, beach activities, general dancing, food, music, and a Sunday morning devotional. All with new and old friends. We usually have young people there from eight to ten states. All ages and all levels of dancers join in. More and more are coming down

for the entire week before Junior SOS.

Junior SOS is organized and put on by the Junior Shag Association. The primary financial sponsor is the Association Of Carolina Shag Clubs, but the event would not be possible without the adult shag clubs, dance club owners, shag DJs, dance instructors, parents, and other individuals making generous donations of money, time, prizes, and services.

If you have questions about Junior SOS or about the Junior Shag Association, please e-mail them to Ron Alexander 803-222-4317 (home) 704-551-5454 (work) ronalexander1@msn.com.

"Boodlin"

By: Ronny Downer

In my heart there is a place and time to which I return when I hear those sweet tunes we called "Carolina Beach Music". As a teenager in Charlotte, 1965, I found that the inner compass of all teenage hormones pointed to Myrtle Beach, S.C.

Every Early Spring, we would cut class on a Friday, doing our best to stealth principal Jo Foster's radar. (I loved her so. She always knew.) We would then meet up with more beach bum wannabees from Harding and West Meck at the Bar-B-Que-King on Wilkinson. Then we would caravan to the beach in anything with wheels; baring that, our thumbs. We all chip in for gas and then were on our way except, for the stop at Joe's beer store at 34th and The Plaza beside the Shamrock Drug store; This was the only place in town that would sell to under age buyers, if you bought by the cases only.

We saw our first Red-Dot Store when we reached the South Carolina line. By law, advertising of beer and liquor was verboten. So, sandlapper ingenuity set in and we painted round Coke signs red. Thus the universal symbol for
B E E R !

We stayed at "Gore's Cabins" in Windy Hill for \$4 bucks a

night (bout 10 to a cabin) even though we had to walk through the swamp to get to them. We also stayed at the pink lady, O.D., or anywhere we could lay our weary heads after a long night of Jocularity.

This was when Corbetts place "The Beach Club" up on 17 was the mecca where you could hear Curtis Mayfield and the Impressions, The Tams, The Drifters, Sam & Dave, Coasters... "Nirvana" for a gawky teenager looking for "Wemen" (southern vernacular for women). We were in awe of hometown dancers.... Domer Reeves, Tommy Downer, Denny Smith, Cathy Rhodes, Joanna Cherry, Brenda Richards, Libby Spainhour, Jimmy, Tommy & Johnny Beachum, Winfred Rollins, Barron English, Peggy Nance, D. McCorkle, Joe Butler, Billy Dowless, Johnny Maness.

Eventually we made it up to the Pavilion, on the pier, along with many other young people from all over the Carolinas. It was there as, I listened to "Just One Look" by Doris Troy, that I saw Brenda for the first time. By the power of the PJ we had been drinkin' at Gores, I hamana hamanaed over to her and asked her to dance. My hormones were now at optimum range. It was like magic. She was beautiful. "Yes, Yes Oh....What A Thrill". We

floated over floors, smoothed by years of sand coated loafers, holding hands, smiling hearts pounding with a heady sea breeze and moonlight. Brenda was from Charleston. She was surreal. We walked out on the pier as I hoped for a kiss. Seems like the final song was always "Save The Last Dance For Me". We went in and danced like nobody was watching.

I'll never forget the scent of her hair. I walked her back to her motel where we sat out on a swing and she taught me the fine art of "Boodlin". Boodlin, she explained, is kissing softly and holding hands. I walked back to the Pavilion like a first grader kissed by a beautiful teacher. Went back the next morning but she was gone. I never saw her again. It was a big ol blister on my heart. Yet whenever I think on these things or hear "Just One Look" I am swept up in these memories like a wave of a Carolina beauty and innocent times and dancing the shag and of course "Boodlin".

Ronnie, from Paw Creek, NC, can be reached at: Ronnyd25@aol.com



SHAG

IS IN GOOD HANDS

by Alex Starr

The future of Shag dancing couldn't be more secure as was apparent at the Shad Alberty Memorial Winter Classic dance festival held Feb 25-27 in Charlotte North Carolina. This Event was held again Jan 12-14, 2001. Event directors Sam West and Shad's wife Brenda Alberty along with event coordinator Lisa Austin West hosted this first annual Shag and Swing event and especially promoted the Junior Shag division. And what a show. From pre teen to young adult these kids could dance. And talk about friendly. They were always there to ask you to dance or to politely agree to dance with you when asked.

This event was held to create a Shad Alberty scholarship fund in memoriam to one of the greatest shag dancers of all time... the late Shad Alberty. Shad and Brenda had always influenced the youngsters and been a teacher to most of the best shaggers ever and through their students now teachers, even affect the young shaggers of today. At this event one young person was selected to win the Shad Alberty scholarship based on writing an essay on what Shag dancing has meant to them. Grayson Smith won the award with a most inspiring work.

I had the pleasure of talking with some of the young shaggers and found out why they are attracted to this original American dance, born on the beach, and brought to the dance clubs in the Carolinas, Virginia, and much of the South East. Kirk Bass (14) and Chelsea Cooley (16) have been dancing together since November but have 6 and 8 years of shag dancing respectively. When asked why they got to-

gether Chelsea explains, "I have been looking for a partner that would take it seriously enough to go to the shag nationals, and I think I have found him". Kirk and Chelsea have fun practicing their dance hobby and like to compete, but it's like a family they have with the other juniors. They all seem to get along. What's even better is that the Shag Juniors have been influenced lately by West Coast Swing dancers while still maintaining their love of traditional shag.

I really like Swing" says Chelsea, "and I have been trying to pick up on it." Kirk adds, "I see it as two different styles that get along and I like to see how they evolve" Chelsea has been watching the swing dancers and really sees the differences between swing and shag. "Shag is really like a more conservative way of dancing" says Chelsea, "I have been trying to learn some swing but I'm not sure..... (she laughs) it's a looser sexier style." Kirk chimes in, "she's not good at that stuff" (they both laugh) These young shaggers say that there is a nice camaraderie between the shaggers and the swingers as the swingers try to learn shag footwork and the shaggers are stealing swing turns. "I'm trying to become more comfortable switching between shag and swing so I can dance with more people at these events" says Chelsea.

Whether it's swing or shag, its good for today's youth to have such a wholesome hobby - couple dancing. Kirk and Chelsea were fortunate to have parents that dance and helped to peak their interest in shag. Other kids don't have dancing parents so may not get exposed to this sport. Kirk and

Chelsea say that they try to interest their school friends by bringing them along to a dance or a class and letting them watch. "Once they see it," says Kirk, "they like it. It takes practice to become good, and some of the kids probably wouldn't practice." Chelsea says that some of the really great shaggers scare other kids away, "They see Michael Norris and LeAnn Best dance and they say "oh I could never do that. But how do they know until they try

Ashley Shearin and Jason Justice have only been dancing together for about 2 years. Their parents were the motivation for them to take up shag but they are adamant about trying to get their friends into their hobby. "I take my videos to school and show them in class. They like to watch me and others dance." Says Jason. Ashley says her friends have come to a practice, watched, but none of them have really picked up on it." Jason feels that once you get the basic down there's no real trouble in it."

These kids think the way to promote shag or swing is to keep it interesting, don't let it get old. "A lot of people are starting to dance to more current music" says Jason while the current hit "Smooth" by Carlos Santana plays in the background to a room full of shaggers and swing dancers.

One of the top dance events in the nation is the Grand National Dance Championships. GNDC is the brainchild of Charlie Womble and Jackie McGee, themselves many time national shag champions and US Open classic swing champions. Over 1500 people flock to Atlanta Georgia over

memorial weekend each year to Swing and Shag to their hearts content. Charlie says, "One of the events we feature is the Junior Shag which gives them a chance to be exposed to all the swing world as well as other shaggers. And we also have a scholarship for junior shaggers. We give away money toward college. Two of our judges, Norfleet Jones and Cooter Douglas down at Ducks have done a lot to help raise money for that scholarship. They have had events to get contributions as well as the shaggers hall of fame and we will be giving away \$2500 in scholarships this year."

Charlie tells us that there has always been quite a good interest from

When asked what he feels about mixing shag and swing, Charlie says, "anything that keeps the kids interested in partner dancing is good. It gives us (shaggers) a shot at them, it gives West coast swingers a shot at them, it even gives Retro Swing (Lindy) a shot at getting them hooked on a particular style of dance or on all styles. Even things like the Gap commercial had a wide appeal. Now, if there is an interest in any kind of swing. Its good for all of us. Most of the time when you talk about Juniors you think kids, and of course you associate the word adult with "older". But what about the "young adults", in their 20's and 30's. These

olds. You need to keep an infusion of youth into these dances."

When considering the music that the juniors dance to it covers the spectrum. You can hear Hip Hop to old classics. Latin to rhythm and blues. These kids like it all. Charlie says, "If you can get these young adults to see the juniors dancing to some of the older music, say that I like, it gives these young people a different perspective on some of the more traditional shag music. Of course, the opposite is true too, I am a strong believer that you need a variety - music of today and the music of yesterday. It shouldn't be all one or the other. I'm not going to like every song that these kids dance to, but after watching them, I may have a better appreciation for their music by seeing them dance my traditional shag to it. It works both ways."

After experiencing a weekend like this, I have a much better appreciation of not only the talent of these shag juniors, but the class, quality upbringing, and genuinely positive attitudes that shag dancing has helped instill in them. I would wish the rest of the dance community could promote juniors the way shag has. Our world would become a better place by taking kids off the streets and onto the dance floors. If you would like to see some great Junior shaggers, the Grand National Dance Championships in Atlanta is in May. www.charlieandjackie.com or 770-512-7848.

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Grant & Leslie

the juniors in competitive dancing. Usually they dance until they get into college and then they find other interests. "Recently," explains Womble, "there is a group of shaggers that are still dancing into the college years. Some of them will be over 21 and graduating from college, and we hope they stay a part of it." Charlie tells us that there is some teaching that goes on in the schools, especially in South Carolina. After all, Shag is the state dance.

people seem to be forgotten. Womble says, "This is where we need to work. To get an appeal to the young adults. These are people that also have jobs and can spend some money going to events. They can travel and dance more than the kids can. I think that the juniors we have in their late teens do add a marketing plus to attracting these young adults. By seeing the fun that they have, and the "hip" music that they sometimes dance to, maybe we will appeal to more of the 20-30 year



In the Sack with Money

by Jim Money



Dedicated to the Preservation of
the Shag, Beach Music & Legend Stories

'WE WERE A CLUB AND WE DIDN'T EVEN KNOW IT!

Norfleet Jones! You all know him, probably just since he became a bar owner at Ducks, but I have known him since we were teenagers. Norfleet and I were not close friends, but we were always in the same places at the same time, mostly at the Pavilion at Atlantic Beach or some tobacco warehouse in Faison or a lake in Raleigh. Norfleet hung more closely with Doug Perry and Shad Alberty, while I hung with Bobby Parker, Bobby Mason (owner of the Pavilions) and several other summertime dancers/drinks that traveled the dance circuit. My wife, Karen, listened to the stories and said, "In other words, you guys were a club and you didn't even know it."

Up until September 2001, I had not been to SOS since Gene Laughter sold it, about 1985. I called Norfleet and told him my wife and I was on our way because she had never met him and to her he was a figment of my imagination. She had met Doug Perry but not Norfleet, and she wanted to go to the beach to see a few of my friends of the past 40 plus years, like Norfleet, Peter Outlaw, Bob Griffin, Tank Nelson, et al.

If anyone had ever told me that Norfleet Jones would utter words that would bring tears to my eyes, I would have told them they were crazy, but that's exactly what happened. When Norfleet showed up at Ducks and hugged me, He said, "Welcome Home, Jim", then he hugged Karen and said, "Honey this is Jim's and my home and when you come here, we hug!!" Those words, Welcome Home triggered a throat constriction and I had to look away so the tears in my eyes didn't show. Norfleet Jones, who would've thunk it!!

Doug told me that Norfleet lost Doug's bedroom set, his Marine Corps seabag, a soap dish from Japan and Norfleets mamas recipes, plus an old pair of my weejuns that were hung on the wall of the Pavilion by Bobby Mason in 1962. That's the last time he will use Jo Jo Putnam as a lawyer in a divorce suit. Both of them showed up at the courthouse drunk and Jo Jo actually thought he was an attorney, and what's worse Norfleet was so drunk he believed him!

The moral of this story is simply this: "When you stay away from home for a long, long time,

expect to have a tear or two in you eye if an old friend hugs you and utters the enigmatic words, "Welcome Home." And lastly, you don't have to turn away to hide those tears, your friends will understand. Thanks, Norfleet, I needed that, and my wife Karen now knows you really exist.

A smile for You...

Submitted by Tom Barrineau

Smiling is infectious;
You catch it like the flu,
When someone smiled at me today,
I started smiling too.

I passed around the corner
And someone saw my grin
When he smiled I realized
I'd passed it on to him.

I thought about that smile,
Then I realized it's worth,
A single smile, just like mine
Could travel around the earth.

So, if you feel a smile begin,
Don't leave it undetected,
Let's start an epidemic quick,
And get the world infected!



Old Glory



I AM THE FLAG
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Submitted by Ron Whisenant

*My name is Old Glory.
I used to fly atop the world's
tallest buildings, but for today.
Today, I fly at half-mast
in honor of those Americans who
were taken on
September 11, 2001.*

*I will continue to stand watch
in America's
halls of justice.
I will continue to
fly majestically
over institutions of learning.
I will continue to stand guard
with the power of united strength.
Look up and you will still see me.*

*Those who attack our shores,
Cannot make me fall.
I stand for peace,
honor, truth and justice.
I stand for freedom.
I am confident.
I am proud.*

*When I am flown
with my fellow banners,
my head is a little higher,
my colors a little truer.
I bow to no one!*

*I am recognized
all over the world.
I am saluted.
I am loved -
I am revered.
I am respected -
and I am feared.*

*I have fought in
every battle
of every war
for more then 200 years.*

*I was flown at
Valley Forge,
Gettysburg,
Shiloh
and Appomattox.
I was there at San Juan Hill,
the trenches of France,
in the Argonne Forest,
Anzio,
Rome
and the beaches of Normandy,
Guam.
Okinawa,
Korea
and KheSan,
Saigon,
Vietnam know me,
I was there.*

*I led my troops,
I was dirty, battle worn and tired,
but my soldiers cheered me
And I was proud.
I have been burned,
torn
and trampled
on the streets of countries
I have helped
set free.
It does not hurt,
for I am invincible.*

*I have been
soiled upon,
burned,
torn*

*and trampled
on the streets
of
my country
by those who would
tear me asunder.*

*But I shall overcome
for I am strong.
I have slipped the
bonds of Earth
and stood watch
over the uncharted
frontiers of space
from my vantage point
on the moon.*

*I have borne silent witness
to all of America's finest hours.
But my finest hours
are yet to come.*

*When I am torn into strips
and used as bandages for my
wounded comrades
on the battlefield,
Or when I lie
in the trembling arms
of a grieving parent
at the grave of
their fallen son
or daughter -
I am proud.*

**MY NAME IS OLD GLORY
but my strength
is in the American heart.
LONG MAY I WAVE.
DEAR GOD IN HEAVEN,
LONG MAY I WAVE !**



Becky Stone
Becky Stone

"UNITED
WE STAND"
SEPTMBER 11, 2001

Clayton "Peg Leg" Bates

The Dancing Man

*"Do you folks mind if I introduce myself to you?
I am the fastest dancing man in town.
Just give me half a chance and I shall prove that this is true
when I swing this peg leg all around.
I have only one leg to use, but to me it's as good as two.
Folks, my name is Clayton "Peg Leg" Bates to you.
I am always syncopating and doing something new.
When I start to sing it, music fills the air.
But when I start to swing it, you will think that I am Fred Astaire.
I'm glad that I am this way.
For I feel good and I'm knocking on wood as long as I can say,
'I mix like fantastic, but with hot gymnastics...
I'm 'Peg Leg' Bates the best one-legged dancing man'"*

Peg Leg Bates, in "Long John Silver Dance, 1948



The Story of Clayton "Peg Leg" Bates

Born in 1907, Clayton Bates lost his leg in a cotton-gin accident at the age of 12. Since the age of five, he danced for nickels and pennies in Barber shops and on the streets of Fountain Inn, South Carolina. Bates' tap dancing career spanned more than 71 years. He traveled around the world three times, appeared more times than any other artist on the Ed Sullivan television show, and gave two command performances before the King and Queen of England.

"My mother told a white lie about my age to get a job in that cottonseed gin," Bates said, referring to the accident that took his leg." She was very religious. She had prayed and asked God to help her decide whether I should work there or not." Bates wanted to earn enough money to buy a suit he could wear to dance in the Mount Carmel Fair.

"She looked up in the sky and said, 'Oh, goodness, I have misunderstood the Lord.'" Bates said, "But she didn't misunderstand the Lord, because that was when 'Peg Leg' Bates was born."

Bates' mother almost fainted when she saw his leg after the accident. His leg was amputated on her kitchen table. When he awoke after the operation, his mother was crying. She said, "I hate to tell you, but you've only got one leg,"

according to Bates. "I said, Oh mother, don't worry about it. I will find a way to support you."

Undaunted, Bates taught himself to dance on a crude, wooden leg whittled by his Uncle, Whit Stewart. And he supported his mother for the rest of her life by dancing

When he was only 14, he began dancing in amateur contests, local carnivals, country fairs, with minstrels and on Vaudeville. After dancing in Negro theaters throughout the country, Bates eventually came to the old Lincoln and Lafayette theaters in New York City.

He signed for the show *Parisian Nights* with Moms Mabley and John Hugins for \$75 a week. By the second week, his pay was raised to \$200. In the *Blackbirds of 1928*, he worked with Mantan Moreland, Lloyd Mitchell and Blue McAlister. They were booked as the *Four Bar Men of Harlem*. Bill "Mr. Bojangles" Robinson was also in the show and he insisted that Bates, Moreland, Mitchell and McAlister appear after his act. They were such a sensation, he felt that they were too tough an act to follow. Soon the famous Mr. Bojangles and Bates became close friends and Bates learned many new routines.

Bates went on to develop his own style, making 20 different appearances on the *Ed Sullivan TV Show*. His signature step was the Imitation American Jet Plane, in which he would jump five feet in the air and land on his peg leg, with his good leg sticking out straight behind him.

In 1951, Bates and his wife Alice, opened the Peg Leg Bates Country Club in

Kerhonkson, N.Y., creating a Catskill resort for Blacks in a then segregated America. A former dancer whom Bates had met in Harlem, Alice was the "brains" of the team, while Bates was the "personality" and financier. After Alice died in 1987, Bates decided to close the hotel and retire in 1989.

Not one to stay inactive, Bates continued to live by the creed that one must do all they can to bring joy and happiness wherever needed.

Clayton "Peg Leg" Bates bowed from life with the same flair that he had in life. He passed away on December 6, 1998, on his way to church at Mt. Carmel AME Church in Fountain, S.C..

Editor's Note: This article was submitted by Phil Sawyer, who found it in a mailout from The Peg Leg Bates Foundation, a Non-Profit 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization incorporated in 1977 to raise funds, sponsor programs and build a statue of Clayton Bates. The \$100,000 statue and the rest of the programs are being funded by Contributions from individuals, corporations and churches throughout the Golden Strip area of South Carolina and from other communities across the nation. Individual bricks, with donor names inscribed may be purchased for a donation of \$250. Please send contributions to: The Peg Leg Bates Foundation, P.O. Box 1143, Fountain Inn, SC 29644. Information: (864) 297-1645, (864) 232-9190, or (864) 862-2267.

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