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Summer 2009



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Spring is Here



Spring is Here

Spring is Here



S.O.S. President Ron Whisenant

At last! Summer has come along! It was a cold, wet Mid Winter, and many cloudy days before Spring Safari came along in mid April. The weather was sunny and windy during our SOS event. We had a large crowd in town, which somewhat

dispelled the fears of a weakened economy. I was concerned that our SOS family may have been impacted by the downturn, but the masses had made their annual pilgrimage to the "Shag Garden by the Sea."

On Monday evening several of the SOS Board attended the NMB council meeting to receive an award. The Mayor issued a Proclamation to SOS that whereas NMB was happy to have us use the community for our activities. The city recognized SOS for all that SOS had done in the community, and the contributions that SOS had made to the city. The Proclamation will be framed and hung in the SOS company store for all to view. Thanks to Janet Harrold for nominating SOS for the proclamation.

On Wednesday morning the air was filled with the smell of smoke, and ash clouds were filling the streets of Ocean Drive. Obviously, something was wrong. Then the news was reporting a wildfire in Conway, some twenty miles southwest of NMB. The wind currents had been very strong and gusting for several days. The worst possible time for a wildfire.

The wind helped push and spread a wildfire from Conway to Barefoot Landing. In one afternoon and evening the fire consumed many acres of land, and consumed or damaged one hundred(100) homes in the Barefoot Landing community. On some days the air quality was not desirable because of smoke and ash from the fire. However, by noon the wind would change and push the fire in another direction, away from the beach. The fire was not contained until mid week after all SOS'ers had gone home.

Thursday was somewhat frantic in nature, trying to see how best SOS could pitch in to help the city's firefighters and the people in Barefoot Landing who had their lives turned upside down. We called or visited all of our contacts in the NMB complex, to find out how we(SOS) could be of help. Finally, it was decided that we work with and through the American Red Cross, who had already set up temporary shelters for food, water, and basic necessities for those families that had been evacuated from their homes.

On Friday, The SOS Charitable Foundation made a contribution of \$10,000.00 to the American Red Cross. In addition to this action, a phone call to Jim Hern and Karen Callahan of Anget Water, they made a donation of two pallets of water was shipped to the Red Cross Center in Myrtle Beach.

Saturday was a proud day. Our 15th annual parade. A great turnout by the community to see the parade. A great effort by all of the shag clubs to make this the biggest and best parade ever. SOS had already spread the word that SOS would accept donations for American Red Cross during the parade. Two drivers in golf carts and two ladies to carry the buckets to those in the crowd making donations. What a great job and effort by all in the crowd street. You donated a sum of \$4470, which was rounded off to \$5000. At the awards ceremony in Fat Harold's, many of the winners in the parade gave their winners check back to the relief fund, and pledged to match their winnings. This generated an additional \$2500. All contributions totaled \$18,000 plus to American Red Cross. It's gotta make you proud to be a part of an organization like SOS.

In closing, have a great and wonderful summer. Be safe in your activities, continue to enjoy life, and share with one another the love we have in our hearts.

Ron



S.O.S. Chairman Hector Phifer

Howdy,

I am sitting here typing with one hand, and believe me, it ain't easy, but great writers must persevere. I am getting used to it now, and since I must write something for you to read this summer, I cannot let

you down, so here goes!!!

Over the years, so much has happened while I have been involved with SOS and the ACSC. There has been something every year since SOS was acquired by the ACSC that gives me so much pride to be a part of such a great group of people. You have raised large sums of monies every year with your shag clubs and community organizations which you donated to worthy causes, and in return, made you feel warm and fuzzy in your soul. There are many large companies and other organizations that raise money for worthy causes, but ask yourself, do they raise the amounts that the shagging world raises yearly on short notice! SOS has about 12-15,000 people and this doesn't include those who can no longer actively participate but still love the lifestyle.

I have a point to make here, and you should pat yourself, as well as your friends, on the back. After September Eleventh (9/11) when the Towers fell, many people called and said SOS FALL MIGRATION should be canceled. Well, we did not cancel, but instead joined forces with some local people and SOS members to put a fund raiser together selling tee shirts, etc. while the club owners raised monies on the dance floors. The amount raised was 50,000 to 60,000 dollars which part went to the RED CROSS and part went to the New York Fireman's fund. We understood the request for canceling, but we felt that our place was to have FALL MIGRATION so others could share their feelings about the tragedy with their shagging family. Well, that was something that I felt was a memory, and I will always cherish this about our family. Now you have done it again, but this time you did it in about one hour or a little more. When the wild fires hit Barefoot Resort and one hundred plus homes were either destroyed or damaged by the fire, we were getting ready for the parade on Saturday, someone made the suggestion to have some folks march ahead of the parade and raise money among the spectators. Boy! You did it again by raising \$4,700 PLUS and SOS Foundation rounded it to \$5,000. Then when the shag clubs that had participated in the parade went to Fat Harold's to see if their entry had won, those who did win won turned around and donated their winnings back to Red Cross fund raiser and matched their winnings too. The final count as of this writing is not complete because there is still money coming in, but there was \$3,500 from the shag clubs at this time. The total thus far is \$10,000 from the SOS Foundation, \$5,000 from the people in the street and \$3,500 from the shag clubs. Susan Harold, Vickie Harrison, Janet Harrold, Don David and I went to a North Myrtle Beach Council meeting and presented a check to the RED CROSS in the amount of \$18,500.00. Now say to yourself, "Ain't this the best group of humans to have as a family!!!!!! THANK YOU, THANK YOU SO MUCH.

I will close by saying that there is a lot more that can be said about our group, but we know as Americans freedom ain't cheap, and people sacrifice their lives every day for us, and the bond of life becomes more precious with our lifestyle and caring for our fellow man.

I love you all, and may God bless each day for you,

Hector

PS I had rotator cuff surgery 5-21 and that's why me writing with one hand. Doing fine though.



A.C.S.C. Chairman
Judy Vick

Greetings Everyone,

It's hard to believe we are in the middle of summer. I for one, am so happy to have this warm weather. Seems like winter and spring were really cold.

With summer comes our workshop in Jacksonville. The First Coast Shag Club has been working really hard to make this a special event. I hope you get this before the workshop. There's still room for everyone. Go to shagdance.com for info.

Seems like right after Jacksonville it will be time for Fall SOS in September. Don't forget FUN MONDAY AND FUN SUNDAY. Also, don't forget to buy your Fun Monday raffle ticket. You could be the big WINNER.

Support your local shag clubs and the clubs where you dance. They could be gone tomorrow.

I would like to thank everyone who donated to the RED CROSS for the victims of the fires in North Myrtle Beach. We raised over \$18,000.00. Way to go!

See you out,

Judy

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Without the help of everyone who contributed, this paper would still be Just Another Newsletter. Thank You!!



S.O.S.
Janet Harrold

September 11, 2009, which is the first day of SOS Fall Migration is just around the corner. So, therefore, you have about ten weeks to prepare for ten days of FUN!!! Fat Harolds, Ducks/Ducks Too, OD Cafe, OD Arcade & Lounge, and Pirates Cove being SOS member clubs always have so much entertainment, music, and food available for all of us...ten days is not enough time to do all that is provided for us. Of course, Fun Sunday and Fun Monday is something everyone looks forward to for great performers, shag clubs selling their wares and food, and don't forget to visit the sponsor tents to see what they have to offer you. There is always a huge crowd so have a great time and always be kind and considerate of your neighbor.

I have been fortunate that Don David has asked me to be the "head judge" for the SOS parade. That includes sitting on a real lifeguard chair with umbrella shading us from the hot sun (you know we might melt)....but it is the best seat in the house. The City of N Myrtle Beach kindly loans those to us and even delivers and picks them up after the parade. The shag clubs come up with the most unique themes, and the Hall of Fame has a huge turnout riding in the convertibles and other various vehicles. The judges get all kinds of goodies to encourage us to vote for them. It is always a difficult decision because all are great!

Vickie Harrison and her sweet husband, Paul, spend much of their time during SOS taking photos of the different events and smiling faces. So if you see a cute little blond or a good looking bearded guy with a camera, "smile" you are on candid camera!

Thank you for continuing to send photos, articles, and advertising/sponsoring so that the Carefree Times will continue to be a great coffee table book in your home.

Note the advertisers that offer specials all year if you present your SOS membership card. PLEASE visit them whenever you visit the coast. You can also visit the SOS website www.shagdance.com for any information regarding accommodations all year.

So please be have a great time, be careful, and remember the worker bees that work long and hard hours for us to have fun!!

Janet





ABSCDJ's
President
Jessie Griffin

Message from The Association of
Beach and Shag Club DJ's

WOW what a fantastic Spring SOS Parade! We enjoyed taking part in such a historical event. Our hats off to SOS parade chairman, Don David and his hard working staff. We threw out 500 "messages in a bottle" this year. I hope you were lucky enough to catch one. Joining in on the fun was our soon to be famous Hall of Fame Members, "The Booger Brothers" and their traveling show with gifts. Our great music was played by Hall of Fame Members Butch Metcalf and Steve Baker. Our parade chairman Eddie Anderson and his hard working staff did an outstanding job. We look forward to next year.

The ACSC Summer workshop in Jacksonville is around the corner and there's a great line up of DJ's. I will be holding a DJ Association mini meeting around 4:00 on Saturday in the main hotel lobby. Calling all DJ's -- let's get together for a short 15 minute meeting.

Save the date of the first weekend in March 2010 for our 19th Annual DJ Throwdown to be held at Ducks and Ducks Too. Chairman Steve Baker is already hard at work. Thursday night with the bands has a cost of 10.00. The rest of the weekend is FREE. We will have 60 plus DJ's spinning tunes. Come join us for the best party on the beach, next to SOS and Mid Winter.

Don't forget Junior SOS on July 14th-19th. Once again the Association of Beach and Shag Club DJ's is proud to be one of the sponsors during Junior SOS. Our members also donate their time playing music. Support your juniors as they are the future of this dance we love so much. Keep it alive!

As always thanks for hiring and supporting our DJ's. Check out our web site at: www.abscdj.com. You can also contact me at: gashagdj@aol.com

Keep on Shagging'

Jessie

SOS Photographer Vickie Harrison

vickharrsc@aol.com
843-503-9542



I am still trying to archive "OLD" photos of SOS on our website. If you have any "OLD" SOS photos please email them to me and I will add them to "Blast from the Past"

Vickie &
Paul

www.shagdance.com



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HELP YOUR LOCAL POLICE, HELP YOUR LOCAL FIRE DEPT, HELP YOUR FAVORITE CHARITY!!! HELP YOUR LOCAL SOS BEACH CLUB???? WHAT THE HECK DOES THAT MEAN...

By David Shaw, owner of Duck's & Duck's Too

Hello to all my fellow shaggers. It's time again to celebrate Spring by coming to the beach for the SOS 2009 SPRING SAFARI. I know that many of you are anxious to thaw out and get back out in the sun and have some fun partying and dancing and drinking some good ole suds and seeing all of your friends again while you are here in Ocean Drive (North Myrtle Beach...can't get use to that name).

Each SOS event brings thousands of shaggers in to the beach area where shagging began, some 25 years ago. During each SOS event, the "SOS" beach shag clubs here in O D look forward to all of you coming here, and especially coming to our clubs to shag and party. After all, that's our specialty, being here for shaggers only!!! In other words, being dedicated to shagging only...no other kind of dancing to make money to be able to stay in business and be here for you when you return to the beach to shag again.

Your question is...what's he trying to say. Simply, we need your support, in plain words...we need your money to stay "SHAG ONLY SOS BEACH CLUBS" for you. You say, "Well...we do that when we go out dancing..." and we say... "Fantastic, we love you, but, we need more help from all of you!!!" Why, because our expenses have increased like crazy over the past several years and we either must raise our prices, or get more business, or look at other venues of bringing in revenues to stay in the "SHAG ONLY" business.

SAD TO SAY, THE WHOLE COUNTRY IS NOT IN TO SHAGGING, I WISH THEY WERE, AND MAYBE SOME DAY THEY WILL BE, IF WE ARE STILL HERE WHEN THAT HAPPENS!!

You ask "What do the clubs need, what can I do to help???" Well, it's simple. There are several clubs who are AUTHORIZED "SOS" BEACH SHAG CLUBS and there are those who are not.

In order for us to stay AUTHORIZED SOS BEACH SHAG CLUBS, who honor your SOS CARDS, and let you come in to our clubs for no cost, we need you to support our clubs in return. How can you do that??? By patronizing our clubs as much as you can, not just during SOS events, but every time you come to the beach, come help us survive, come help us to be here for you in the future!!

During SOS events, the day time from 12 Noon through 5 PM are very slow for all SOS beach clubs. We also understand that you came to the beach to go out on the beach and get a "SUDS TAN" and then go out dancing later that evening. Well, most of you belong to an SOS Shag Club... right??? Well, we would love for your clubs to have a club party in our SOS Beach Clubs during those slow hours to help support us during the "slow times" of the days. It would help tremendously if several of the current, 99 Authorized SOS Association Member Clubs, would plan a party at each of these SOS AUTHORIZED BEACH CLUBS each day during each SOS event.

It would help to bring in much needed additional revenues to help us deter our ever increasing expenses being located in the beach/ocean area. I know that many of you have your club's parties in fellow shaggers homes and condos. Why not have them in YOUR SOS BEACH SHAG ONLY CLUBS and help all of us at the same time.

We offer both Duck's & Duck's Too for SOS Club parties, during the day time, during SOS Spring Safari and SOS Fall Migration. Those SOS AUTHORIZED BEACH SHAG CLUBS are here for you and need your support. As for Duck's and Duck's Too, we do not charge for the use of our facilities!!! We offer special happy hour drink prices, food prices, and we even supply the DJ's during your club parties!! Now fellow shaggers, IT DON'T GET NO BETTER THAN THAT!!!

I have been told that shaggers are cheap and want everything for free, or hardly nothing. I have not found that to be true. Shaggers are like everyone else (me too), we're savvy buyers, we just want the best deal we can find and if someone is willing to give it to us free, well, that's a no brainer...RIGHT!!! And, we as shaggers, have been spoiled by our shag clubs offering us free food, free shooters, free admission to bands, free this and free that, in order to bring us in to our clubs events.

I'm not bad mouthing the other NON

SOS BEACH CLUBS, they reap the benefits of SOS being at the beach and don't have to belong to SOS. But, we choose to be a major part of a wonderful gathering of shaggers, WE SUPPORT SHAGGING 100%, AND WE PUT OUR MONEY WHERE OUR MOUTHS ARE, and have offered our clubs to be an AUTHORIZED SOS BEACH SHAG CLUB for YOU!!

YOU PAID FOR YOUR SOS CARD SO THAT YOU CAN COME IN TO OUR CLUBS, SO WHY NOT PATRONIZE YOUR SOS BEACH CLUBS AND GET YOUR MONIES WORTH???? NOW THAT'S NOT BEING CHEAP...THAT'S BEING SMART!!!

Anyway, in closing, please discuss this with your fellow club members, your officers, and your board members, and before future SOS events, call or e-mail these AUTHORIZED SOS BEACH CLUBS and book your club's parties with us. In doing that, you will benefit from it in the long run...THAT I PROMISE TO YOU BECAUSE...WE'LL STILL BE HERE FOR YOU!!!

AUTHORIZED SOS BEACH SHAG CLUBS ARE:

1. Duck's & Duck's Too Beach Clubs
2. OD Arcade & Lounge
3. Fat Harold's Beach Club
4. Ocean Drive Resort/OD Cafe

Without these clubs here to support you, there would not be an SOS...please think about that. THANK YOU AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT! Party safely, have fun, enjoy your time at SOS, shag until your feet hurt so bad you can't stand up, and please, don't sneak out to your car and mix a drink or pour a beer into your cup and come back in to our clubs...now that's being cheap!!!!

A special "THANK YOU" to those SOS Shag Clubs who have had and are holding parties at Duck's & Duck's Too: Boppers Shag Club; The Carolina Shag Club; The Charlotte Shag Club; The Columbia Shag Club; The Daytona Beach Shag Club; O D Shag Club; Pittsburgh Area Jitterbug Club; Twister's Shag Club; Virginia Beach Shag Club, Walt Knabb & DJ Friends "Carolina Shag Dance Party"; Jerry Mullis's "All Charlotte Area Shag Club's Party".

Remember, Duck's & Duck's Too are available for any occasion, birthday parties, anniversaries, weddings, bachelor/bachelorette parties, company meetings and parties...HECK, even DIVORCE PARTIES!!!

WE LOVE YOU ALL, KEEP ON SHAGGIN SHAGGERS, AND KEEP COMING TO YOUR AUTHORIZED SOS BEACH SHAG CLUBS!!! WE'LL KEEP THE LIGHTS ON FOR YOU!!!!



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2009 EVENTS SCHEDULE

AAA SANCTIONED CONTESTS

Sept 4-5	Fat Harolds Labor Day	N Myrtle Beach, SC
October 2-3	Loafers	Raleigh, NC
November 6-7	Memories	Atlantic Beach, NC

NON-SANCTIONED CONTESTS

July 24-25	Bunk Leach Mixed Dbls/Thirstys 2	Greensboro, NC
August 14-15	18th Annual Eno Beach Shag Contest	Durham, NC
August 28-29	Chicken Hicks Memorial/Ducks	N Myrtle Beach, SC
August 30	Ducks Weekly Summer Finals	N Myrtle Beach, SC
November 26-28	Dewey Kennedy Mixed Doubles/Ducks	N Myrtle Beach, SC

SPECIAL EVENTS

July 14-19	Junior SOS	N Myrtle Beach, SC
August 22-23	Hall of Fame Foundation/SOS Golf	N Myrtle Beach, SC
September 11-20	SOS Fall Migration	N Myrtle Beach, SC
October 9-10	Shaggers Hall of Fame Induction	N Myrtle Beach, SC
November 11-15	Carolina Beach Music Awards	N Myrtle Beach, SC



For more info on the Hall of Fame Foundation Golf Tournaments www.halloffamefoundation.org



Donations Presented to Red Cross and NMB Department of Public Safety Explorers

The SOS Spring Safari was held in N Myrtle Beach from April 17-26, 2009. During that 10-day event donations of approximately \$20,000 was collected for the fire victims. During the SOS Parade a container was passed through the crowd and approximately \$5,000 was raised and the winners of the parade donated their prize money and matched that. The SOS Foundation donated \$10,000 and there are still donations being sent to help the fire victims.

Monday, May 1, 2009 @ 7:00 PM the donations that had been received at that time were presented to a Red Cross representative by Don David, SOS Board Member, during the N Myrtle Beach City Council meeting. A separate check for \$3,000.00 was presented by Hector Phifer, SOS Board Chairman and Susan Harrell, SOS Secretary, to the N Myrtle Beach Department of Public Safety Explorer's Post for all their participation and work for SOS. WBTW and WMBF television stations covered the occasion for "news at eleven"!!

Janet Harrold



Are you ready to party? We have two big parties planned for you coming up at the SOS Fall Migration. The parties will be on Fun Sunday Sept 13th and Fun Monday Sept 14th. On Fun Sunday we will have The Hip Pocket Band, Donny & Susan Trexler and the Craig Woolard Band. On Fun Sunday we will start the party at 1:00pm and go till 5:00pm on 1st Ave. beside The OD Arcade. We will turn around and party on Fun Monday on Main Street, O.D. We have to start the party early to get it all in. The party starts at 12 noon and goes till 5:30pm. We are going to be partying with The Holiday Band, Tommy Black & Blooz and Saffire the Uppity Blues Women. Don't miss it. Fun Monday has won 8, that is EIGHT Carolina Beach Music awards for the BEST EVENT OF THE YEAR!! Where else can you hear such great music FREE?!!

At this party you can also win some money if you want to. The odds are a lot better than the South Carolina Lottery. We are giving away a total purse of \$11,250.00. The 5 prizes are 1st \$7,500.00, 2nd \$2,000.00, 3rd \$1,000.00, 4th \$500.00, or 5th \$250.00. You only need to donate \$10.00 for each ticket. Please remember you can't win, if you ain't in.

I hope everybody had a great time at the 15th annual SOS Parade back in the spring. If you want to see some great pictures go to www.shagdance.com and look at all the pictures that our Official Photographer Vickie Harrison has posted under the photo header on the front page of our website.

I had a great time playing the 10ft tall Uncle Sam. I know there were a lot of pictures taken that day and if you would like to share them please send them to ncshagger88@yahoo.com. If your business or group needs to be noticed, I know a 10ft tall Uncle Sam will do that for you. So please pass the word along that you know how to get in touch with him.

Dwayne Baggett—SOS Board of Directors



The Lighting of the Tower

The idea was born in November of 2008. It was bounced off several of the SOS Board members resulting in some positive comments. So at our Mid-Winter board meeting we openly discussed the possibility of this really happening. We took a vote.....unanimous! Let's try to 'Light The Tower', our water tower with the famous dancers designed by Becky Stowe! This was going to be exciting!

Our first order of business was to meet with the city of NMB. Shortly after Mid-Winter Janet Harrold, Ron Whisenant, and I met with the City Manager and City Engineer to discuss with them our idea. We were well received, and after a somewhat lengthy meeting were all on the same page. Santee Cooper, our local energy supplier, has designed a light, picked out a location for a pole, and after numerous phone conversations here we are.

Here's what we have planned. On Friday night September 11th, the first day of Fall Migration at approx. 9PM, we will close off Main St. from Ocean Blvd. to Hillside Dr. 94.9TheSurf will be doing a live remote on the radio and internet (to be heard around the world) from the middle of Main St. between Duck's and Harold's. We want as many shaggers as possible to gather around the Surf Patrol van and help with the countdown. 10, 9, 8, 7..... This will be a memorable event!

We plan to keep everyone updated as this unfolds by way of 94.9TheSurf and 949TheSurf.com and our website ShagDance.com. Flyers will be placed in all of the NMB clubs as well. Commemorative T-shirts will be available for sale. Please mark your calendar and plan to take part in this one time special event. And I can literally say..."See you on the street!"

Don David--SOS Board of Directors

The *Charlotte Shag Club* invites you to its ...



Flashback 2009 Party

July, 23, 24, & 25



Smoke outside

"We will be celebrating our 25th Anniversary"

CSC Members: \$25 Others: \$35



Warm-up parties on Thursday & Friday nights at Lynn's. Food & raffle both nights.

DJ's: Thursday – Roy Childress; Friday – Gene Hensley

Big "finale" on Saturday night at The Extravaganza Depot. Free workshop at 4:30, large wooden dance floor, open bar from 5:30 – 7:30, delicious dinner of London broil, chicken and more, entertainment from 7:00 – 7:30, door prizes, and a raffle.

DJ's: Tommy Samole & Kyle Beam

Hotel: Sleep Inn (704-525-5005). Ask for Lynn's rate of \$60 per night. Free shuttle on Saturday night.

Contact: Patti Miller (704-510-1743)
(see flyer on our website: www.charlotteshagclub.com)

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Grand Ladies of the Dance

by David Smith

Unfortunately, there aren't very many of these grand ladies left. I'm referring, of course, to those wonderful women who were instrumental in the birth, growth, and development of the dance, our dance, born in the Carolinas and nurtured through the years by the many special guys and gals who were proud to be called, jitterbug, shagger, fast dancer, boogier, or whatever label one might choose to slap on them. The name is not important. The dance itself is unique, as are those individuals who have helped keep it alive and well through the years.

Many fine ladies have contributed to the longevity and well being of the dance. There have been far too many to mention here, but we are fortunate to have a few of them residing in the North Myrtle Beach area. These ladies deserve a special kind of respect, similar to that usually reserved for heroines, movie stars, and the like.

I recently had the pleasure of spending an afternoon with Louise Hunsucker at her home in Ocean Isle. Louise is the real deal, one of the many fine women who helped create the jitterbug lifestyle and contributed to the continuation and development of the dance. Although she is getting on in age, and her health has been rather fragile for the past several years, her spirit and personality are as lively and as colorful as ever. We sat at her dining room table and I listened attentively while she talked about the good old days.

Louise was born and raised in High Point, North Carolina. She learned to dance during the 1940's while still in junior high school. During the mid-forties, Louise spent a lot of time dancing at High Point Lake. She mentioned a few of her favorite dance partners during this happy time of her life. Tinker Kennedy, Bunk Leach, Rick Lyman, and Chick Hedrick were names that seemed to come easily to mind. She told me Chick was one of the best jitterbug dancers around before the shag ever even hit the scene. She talked about the Big bands and how popular they were all through the forties. Famous names such as Woody Herman, Tommy and Jimmy Dorsey, Harry James, Artie Shaw, and Benny Goodman played the big dances and festivals that were held in tobacco warehouses, armories, and other large facilities. Louise was able to attend

most of these dances and enjoy the music of these great bands when they barnstormed through North Carolina.

In 1948-49, Louise spent most of her summer months at Carolina Beach. She laughed as she told me that Pink Lightning Lipstick, Ship and Shore long sleeved blouses with French cuffs, short-shorts, and Mexican sandals were the attire of choice at Carolina Beach in those days. She says her Carolina Beach days were probably the happiest of her life. Her favorite dance spots back then were The Roof, The Ocean Plaza, and the Sugar Pot juke joints along the boardwalk. She fondly recalls Jimmy Cavallo and his band playing all the joints around the beach, including The Roof. In those days, Louise danced a lot with Harry Driver, Lacey Moore, Louie Madden, Bobby Hicks, Tookie Lee, Bunk Leach, and Rick Lyman.

In 1950, the Carolina Beach crowd began drifting over to Myrtle Beach. Louise made the change along with everyone else. The daily routine went something like this: Those who weren't working slept late and lazed around in the sun during the day. Everyone gathered at the pavilion early in the evening and danced until around nine o'clock. Then the crowd went down to Spivey's and Moody's Recreation Center which were separated by a small bridge, easy walking distance apart.

Her favorite dance partner in those days was Charlie Boone from Fayetteville. She also enjoyed dancing with Lacey Moore, George Lineberry, and Harry Driver. She always stayed at Ma Regan's, one of the more popular and less expensive rooming houses on the beach. Ma was a well known personality in those days, and notable jitterbugs such as Charlie Porter, Jimmy Dangler, Harry Driver, and Charlie Boone always stayed at Ma's place.

In 1954, Louise married Billy Ray Hunsucker from High Point. Billy Ray was a football and basketball star at Catawba College. He

and Louise were married some thirty years. She began to name her good friends and I had to stop her. There were far too many to list here. She mentioned Shirley Leach, Barbara Stephens (deceased), Margie Ingram Gloria Hayworth (deceased), Marilyn Smith (deceased) and Connie Fultz as close friends. She also mentioned Norfleet Jones as a good friend then and now. And, of course, there is also MiMi Benedict, the other subject of this article. Butch Metcalf's mother, Betty, was also a good buddy. Louise still teases Butch about changing his diapers back in the days when she used to baby sit him.

Louise kept dancing all through the 60's, 70's, and 80's. She fondly recalls the Susie Beaver Shag Explosions that were held in High Point on Friday and Saturday nights during the 80's. These were big dance events that included participants from all over North and South Carolina. Most of the shag clubs were represented and performed special dance programs. Turkey Martin was probably her main dance partner during these events, and Phil Pritchett was her favorite dance partner during the eighties.

Louise was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1996. She is also in Living Legends. We salute you, Louise Hunsucker, as one of the original Grand Ladies of the Dance.

Another Grand Lady is MiMi Benedict. She likes to refer to herself as a poor little barefooted country girl from Fuquay-Varina. (In case you wondered, Fuquay-Varina is about

fifteen miles from Raleigh, NC.) MiMi graduated from Fuquay High School and King Business School. She always liked music and showed an interest in dancing at a very early age. Her father was a night club entertainer and she spent lots of time in clubs, enjoying live music and watching him perform while she drank her Shirley Temples.

In 1944, she developed a sincere love for black music and the dance that seemed to fit it so perfectly. She began spending time at her uncle's house in Carolina Beach. She learned to dance, and by 1946 she was hanging out



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with the regular Carolina Beach crowd. She says she can still hear Wynonie Harris singing Good Rocking Tonight just as he sang it some 60 years ago. She recalls how the crowd sort of moved around from one juke joint to the next, dancing and having fun. She first saw Clarice Reavis upstairs at The Plaza and was thoroughly impressed with her beauty and style. She had no idea at the time that she and Clarice would one day be best of friends.

Most of the dance floors around Carolina Beach were made of concrete. MiMi danced for hours on end, wearing holes in the soles of her shoes, ignoring the blisters and swelling on and around her feet. She sometimes got in trouble because, when dancing, she lost all sense of time and often missed meals or got home much later than she was supposed to. Harry Driver, George Potter, Chick Hedrick, Chicken and Bobby Hicks were among her dance partners in those days.

When MiMi was about seventeen, she met Clarice at a Stewart's Lake dance in Raleigh. Clarice was married to Jimmy Cavallo, sax man, whose band provided the music that night. Bobby Wrenn was the drummer in that band. Clarice danced a lot that evening, putting on quite a show. MiMi was completely taken with her smooth, graceful style and originality. A lot of the steps done by women today actually originated with ladies like Clarice.

MiMi danced whenever and wherever the music happened to be. She had no car, but she was always able to hitch a ride with a carload of jitterbugs going somewhere to dance. It made no difference to MiMi whether they were going to some small, local joint or all the way to Myrtle Beach, as long as there was a dance floor and juke box waiting when they got there.

Around 1950, the Carolina Beach crowd gradually began moving over to Myrtle Beach. Spivey's, Moody's Recreation Center, and the pavilion were the dance places of choice at Myrtle. The in crowd sort of moved from one of them to the other, making the same basic rounds every night. The B&L was open after hours for those diehards who didn't get quite enough before two in the morning. Although MiMi was a little younger than most of the regulars, she hung right in there, dancing with Driver, Charlie Boone, and all the rest of the good dancers. In 1950, she and Mitchell Duke won a dance contest at Raleigh Memorial Auditorium.

In 1951, MiMi married Barry Marshburn. Barry was a good dancer, so she was able to continue dancing after their marriage. They danced at small, local juke joints, nearby lakes, spent time at Myrtle Beach when possible, and continued to enjoy the lifestyle. They were married for about twenty years and parented two children, a girl and a boy.

MiMi's best girlfriends through the years were Jean Allen Ferguson, Louise Hunsucker, Teresa Shedan, Joyce Lawson, Big Red, Peggy McCurdy, and Clarice Reavis. They were all very good dancers and kept a little friendly competition going among them all the time. There were no dance classes in those days. Everyone either made up his or her own steps or "borrowed" steps from someone else. Most people were very cooperative when it came to teaching someone a step. Usually, all you had to do was ask. Some people simply stole steps from the better dancers. The smart thieves would always make subtle changes in the step in order to give it a slightly different look.

Clarice and MiMi finally became inseparable friends just after the second SOS gathering in 1982. They maintained a solid friendship from that time on, traveling around the Carolinas together, just dancing and having fun. Clarice introduced MiMi to Phil Benedict, and they were married in 1996. Clarice exhibited keen judgment in pairing them up, because Phil and MiMi are simply perfect together.

Later, when Clarice was in her eighties, she asked Phil and MiMi to

each dancing at the assisted living rest home where she then resided. They taught there every Tuesday for nearly two years. The old folks really looked forward to their weekly lessons. Some were only able to go through the motions while leaning on a cane or walker, and a few were even in wheelchairs. MiMi says one ninety-five year old woman even called her children and proudly announced that she was finally learning to shag. She and Phil still recall how spiritually rewarding it was to bring a little joy into the otherwise empty lives of these lonely men and women.

Everyone in the North Myrtle Beach area knows and loves MiMi and Phil. MiMi is still a terrific dancer, smooth and graceful, capable of following anyone who can keep time. Phil, a smooth dancer in his own right, has gained somewhat of a reputation for dancing well with several ladies at once. You can usually find them at Harold's on Wednesday nights and the pavilion on Sunday afternoons.

MiMi was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2003. She is also a Living Legend. We salute you, MiMi Benedict, as one of the original Grand Ladies of the Dance.



2009 SUMMER CONCERT SERIES:

Enjoy an evening with family and friends listening to live family friendly music, picnicking and playing in the safe and fun environment of beautiful McLean Park. Bring a beach chair, blanket and non-alcoholic beverages. The North Strand Optimist Club will provide food and drinks for sale.

- July 17** - Mark Roberts and Breeze (Beach)
- Aug. 21** - Super Glide Band (60's to today)
- Sept. 18** - Craig Woolard Band (Beach)

2009 MUSIC ON MAIN CONCERT SERIES:

Journey to downtown North Myrtle Beach to get to know the area merchants in a relaxed and fun atmosphere. Delight in the sounds of a live band on Main Street from 5:30-7:30pm on the 1st Thursday of the summer months through September. Families are encouraged to come downtown after work or after a long day on the beach to experience the flavors of Main Street, listen to live music, shop and dance 'til you drop. Kick back and unwind in your beach on Main Street.

- Aug. 6** - Pantasia (Steel Pan Band)
- Sept. 3** - Andrew Thielen (Big Band)

Visit our website for more information at www.nmb.us or contact the North Myrtle Beach Parks and Recreation Department at 843-280-5570.

*Call the 'Rec Check Line' at 843-280-5570 ext. 1 for weather information pertaining to the concerts.



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Dining



Entertainment



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SUMMERFEST
Starts June 1
Fireworks every Monday
Nightly entertainers
Weekly parade





Charlie & Jackie
Production

Showcase

1. Arjay Centeno & Melissa Rutz
Dublin, CA & Walnut Creek, CA
2. Parker Dearborn & Jessica Cox
Spring Valley, CA &
Rancho Santa Margarita, CA
3. Jim Minty & Katie McCaslin
Edmonds WA & Renton, WA
4. Jason Miklic & Deborah Szekeley
Hebron, KY & Waltham, MA
5. TJ & Wendy Zito
Hoover, AL

Classic

1. Jordan Frisbee & Tatiana Mollmann
Long Beach, CA &
Santa Monica, CA
2. Kyle Redd & Sarah Vann Drake
Fresno, CA
3. Benjamin Morris & Melina Ramirez
Orange, CA & Woodland Hills, CA
4. Michael Norris & Kellese Key
Cayce, SC & Frisco, TX
5. Ronnie DeBenedetta & Brandi Tobias
San Diego, CA
6. Paul Warden & Catriona Wiles
London, England

Strictly Swing

1. Robert Royston & Melissa Rutz
Nyack, NY & Walnut Creek, CA

2. Kyle Redd & Tatiana Mollmann
Fresno, CA & Santa Monica, CA
3. Jordan Frisbee & Sarah Vann Drake
Beach, CA & Fresno, CA
4. Benjamin Morris & Jessica Cox
Orange, CA & Rancho Santa Margarita, CA
5. Michael Norris & Deborah Szekeley
Cayce, CA & Waltham, MA
6. Parker Dearborn & Brandi Tobias
Spring Valley, CA & San Diego, CA

Cabaret

1. The Willis Clan
Ashland City, TN
2. I Can't Help Falling in Love With You
Fort Walton Beach, FL
3. ALL THAT!
Myrtle Beach, SC
4. Ronnie DeBenedetta & Brandi Tobias
San Diego, CA
5. David Savoy & Jenya Goremykina
Arlington, VA
6. Closer (Aaron Burr)
North Myrtle Beach, SC

Team

1. Southern Fried with Junior Pride
Chesapeake, VA
2. S Factor
Dallas, TX
3. Shag Shack Shakers
Evans, GA

Masters Shag

1. Gene & Nancy Keen-Pope
Durham, NC
2. Dr. A. C. & Cathy Williams
Dunn, NC
3. Bill & Brenda Barber
Surfside Beach, SC
4. Rick & Maureen Little
Monroe, NC
5. Les & Marsha Rose
Greensboro, NC
6. Butch & Kathy Dukes
North Myrtle Beach, SC

Carolina Classic

1. Michael & LeAnn Norris
Cayce, SC
2. Sam West & Jessica McAlhany
Hamlet, NC & North Charleston, SC
3. Jeff Hargett & Nikki Kontoulas
Monroe, NC & North Myrtle Beach, SC
4. Joey & Jennifer Sogluizzo
Wilson, NC

5. Trae Anderson & Mandy Holt
North Myrtle Beach, SC
6. Craig & Heather Jennings
King George, VA

Junior Shag I

1. Jeremy Webb & Kayla Grainger
Lexington, SC & Youngsville, NC
2. Kolten Ellis & Eva Wellmon
Gaffney, SC
3. Ryan Boz & Julya Coggins
Franklinton, NC & Surfside Beach, SC
4. Steven Dallas & Abby Chrapliwy
Eden, NC

Junior Shag II

1. Justin Poston & Tory Robinette
Chesapeake, VA & Burke, VA
2. Brennar Goree & Torri Smith
Virginia Beach, VA & Murrieta, CA
3. Cody Edwards & Chase Forrester
Summerville, SC & Greenwood, SC
4. Casey Cooper & Krystal Bravo
Summerville, SC & Charlotte, NC
5. Will Dallas & Sydney West
Eden, NC & Hamlet, NC
6. Brady & Kalin Ellis
Gaffney, SC

Junior Swing

1. Brennar Goree & Torri Smith
Virginia Beach, VA & Murrieta, CA
2. Andrew Makowski & Jennifer Willis
Ashland City, TN
3. Justin Poston & Tory Robinette
Chesapeake, VA & Burke, VA
4. Jeremiah & Jessica Willis
Ashland City, TN
5. Brady & Kalin Ellis
Gaffney, SC
6. Casey Cooper & Krystal Bravo
Summerville, SC & Charlotte, NC

Jack & Jill Shag

(NON-PRO)

1. Kevin Byrnes & Cindy Black
2. Jim Hern & Dale Fluri
3. Kirk Bass & Joan Byrnes

Jack & Jill Shag

(EXPERIENCED)

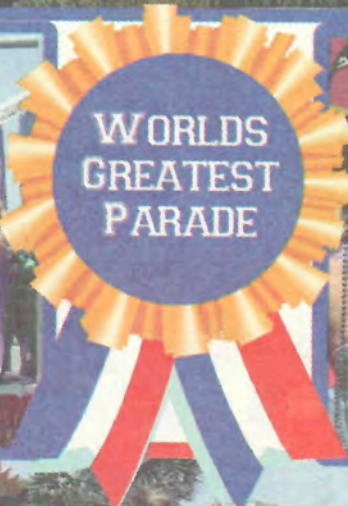
1. Joey Sogluizzo & Mandy Holt
2. Craig Jennings & Jennifer Sogluizzo
3. AC Williams & Heather Jennings



2009
Spring
50s

Skag
Club
Parties







94.9 The Surf Pro Dance Contest

The OD Arcade & Lounge has something for all dancers during SOS. 94.9 The Surf is sponsoring a **Pro Dance Contest** at the OD Arcade & Lounge during Fall SOS on Wednesday, September 16th. Sign up Noon until 1:45 pm • Contest will begin at 2:00 pm

Norfleet Jones and Elaine Harrington will be your Coordinators and your favorite DJ Butch Metcalf will be selecting the music. Judges and Prize monies to be announced.

Don't forget, the OD Arcade & Lounge also has the **Rookies Revenge Contest** on Tuesday, September 15th, sign up at 7:00 pm and dance at 8:00 pm and The **Smoothies Contest** on Thursday, September 17th, sign up at 1:00 pm and dance at 2:00 pm.



Shag-A-Rama 2009!



Boardwalk Beach Resort, Panama City Beach, FL

October 13-17, 2009

Guest DJ: Billy Waldrep
Guest Dance Instructors:
Kathy & Steve Day



Birmingham DJs:
Cliff Capps
Buddy Hayes
Larry Huff
Carl Simonetti

Tuesday and Wednesday Schedule for Early Arrivers *Smaller Group and Great Camaraderie*

- Tuesday**
- Sunset Beach Party and Evening "Beach Music Oldies Party" at the Hangout
- Wednesday**
- Beach Party and Afternoon and Evening Dancing at the Hangout

More Information at
www.beachshaggers.com
or Judy Larkins
larkins9494@bellsouth.net

Thursday, Friday and Saturday Schedule **Hospitality Room Available**

- Thursday**
- Free Basic Shag Lessons with Birmingham's **Sandy & Bob Dobbs**
 - Outside Dancing at the Hangout from Noon until Midnight
- Friday and Saturday**
- Free Shag Workshops with South Carolina's **Kathy & Steve Day**
 - Outside Dancing at the Hangout from Noon until Midnight
 - Inside Dancing in the Smoke Free Ballroom from 7 p.m. until Midnight

Sponsored by the Beach Shaggers of Birmingham

Fun Sunday

September 13, 2009

Come Be A Part Of The Best Party Weekend Of The Year..



Craig Woolard Band

1:00pm to 5:00pm
1st Ave. Beside The OD Arcade



The Hip Pocket Band



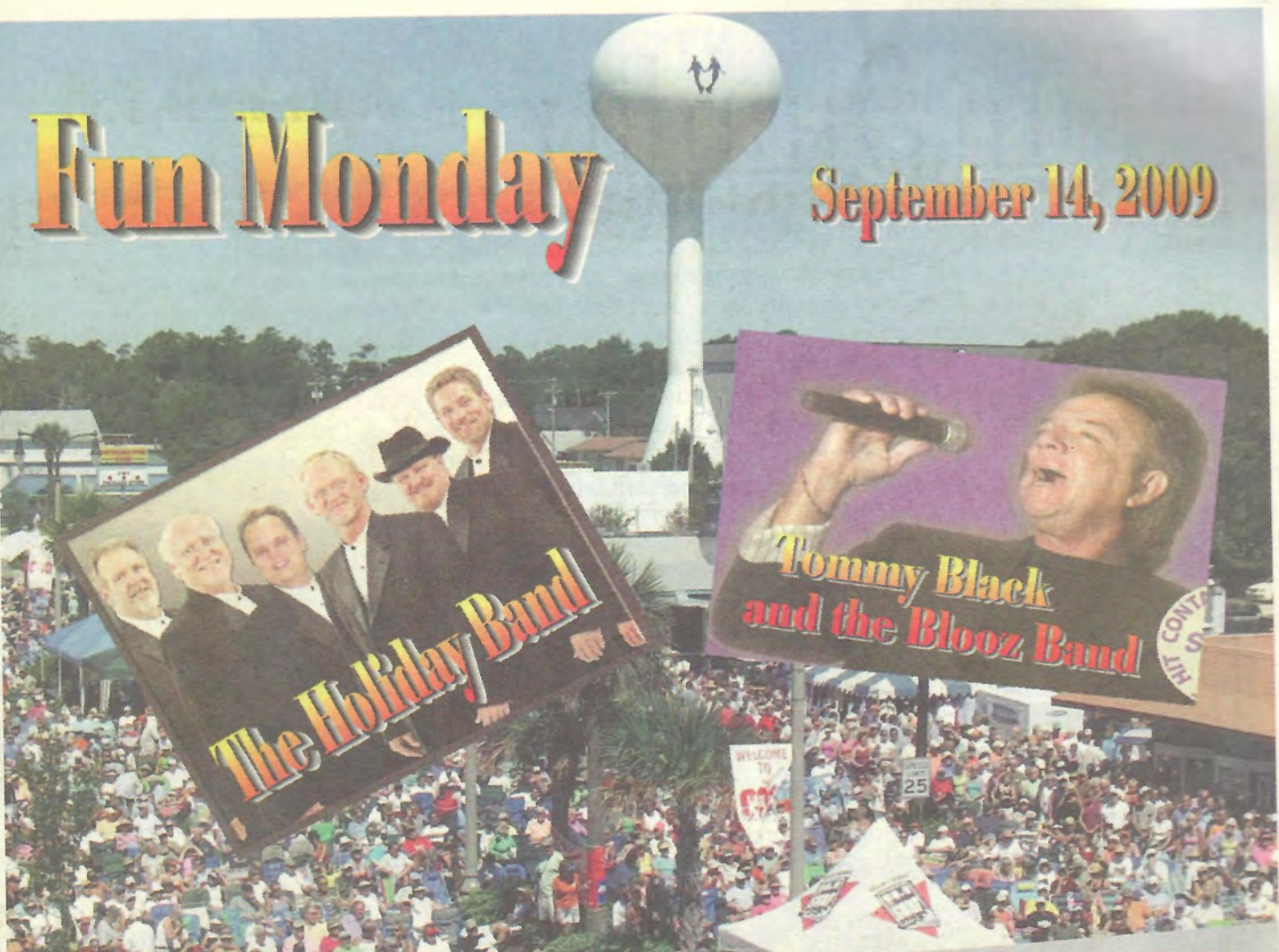
Donny & Susan Trexler



THE SHOE CENTER No Coolers Permitted

Fun Monday

September 14, 2009



SOS Fun Monday Drawing

- 1st Ticket Drawn.....\$7,500
- 2nd Ticket Drawn.....\$2,000
- 3rd Ticket Drawn.....\$1,000
- 4th Ticket Drawn.....\$500
- 5th Ticket Drawn.....\$250

12 pm to 5:30 pm
Main Street, O.D.



No Coolers Permitted

Fat Harold's Beach Club Host Annual Legends Inductions

Jan Morris - Chairman, Legends Committee

On May 15-16, 2009, about 300 members, nominees, and guests attended the reunion of a loosely connected family of people brought together by early memories of their beach experiences. Members range from the 1940's to more current times representing the different eras of development of this beach, and have been part of the "fast dancing" that evolved to what is now the "Shag"...SC State Dance.

Some were dancers, lifeguards, worked at the clubs, restaurants, frequent visitors, and some are now residents of the beach. They have in common a love of the beach lifestyle, music, and to enjoy life. Janet Morris, current chairman, is now requesting the stories from individuals including background data and their most poignant or funny outrageous memoirs of their times at the beach.

Entertainment for Friday included the Judy Duva Trio playing the classics of jazz, and Tommy Black performing "Shadow Shagging". Saturday, the event continued with DJ, Judy Collins during the evening. MC, "Beaver" Greenway introduced Harold Bessent's 2nd year of honoring those legend nominees who have gone before us and bringing them into full membership with their names engraved on The Legends Commemorative plaque.

Photos courtesy of Jack Thompson.



E.C. "Al" Powell, Wayne Floyd, Wilbur Miller, Ric Walden, Billy Cubitt, Summer Waite



Vanessa Tompkins, Phyllis Tiller, Dana Sawyer



Pam Brown, Rosalind Allen, Mary Lynn Myrick



Don Bunn, "Sassar" DuBose, "Suntan" Jacobs, Lionel Harvin, Paul Allen, Tommy White



Jane Bongardt, Sarah Walker, Nancy Ashburn -
not pictured: Bobbi Burton,
Mary Daniels, Betty Morelli

Now living in our hearts and minds...

Fred Anders - New Bern, NC
Dennis Brooks - Advance, SC
Carol Hampton Jones - Columbia, SC
Chris Kelly - N Myrtle Beach, SC
Moultrie Ladd - Myrtle Beach, SC
Jean Littlejohn Meyer - Charlotte, NC
Libby Nixon - N Myrtle Beach, SC
Perry Pitts - Charlotte, NC
Joe Thompson - Greenville, SC
Joe West - N Myrtle Beach, SC
Joan Nichols White - N Myrtle Beach, SC

2009 Living Legends - Male

Wayne Floyd - Myrtle Beach, SC
Wilbur Miller - Georgetown, FL
E.C. "Al" Powell - Chesnee, SC
Billy Cubitt - Roebuck, SC
Lionel Harvin - N Myrtle Beach, SC
Ric Shore - Lake Norman, NC
Charles "Sassar" Debose - Florence, SC
Summer Waite - Roswell, GA
Gene "Suntan" Jacobs - Longs, SC
Paul Allen - Greensboro, NC
Tommy White - Columbia, SC
Don Bunn - Raleigh, NC

2009 Living Legends - Female

Phyllis Tiller - N Myrtle Beach, SC
Dana Sawyer - Greensboro, NC
Jane Bongardt - Charlotte, NC
Bobbi Burton - Wilmington, NC
Mary Daniels - Calabash, NC
Sarah G. Walker - Florence, SC
Betty Chambers Morelli - Charlotte, NC
Pam Brown - N Myrtle Beach, SC
Mary Lynn Myrick - N Myrtle Beach, SC
Nancy Ashburn - N Myrtle Beach, SC
Vanessa Tompkins - Greensboro, NC
Rosalind Allen - N Myrtle Beach, SC

SHAG CLUB PAVERS

Powerful Symbols of Our Clubs and Our Dance

By: John Harper

At the 2008 Spring Safari, my club, the *Beach Shaggers of Birmingham*, dedicated its paver in front of Ducks Too. An unusually large group from our club made the long trek from Birmingham to North Myrtle Beach for the event. I was asked to make some remarks regarding the significance of our paver to us as a club. I said that I believed all the club pavers are powerful symbols of what shagging is all about and what Ocean Drive means to us all. Here are some of my thoughts on the pavers and on shagging in general.

To me the pavers are about recognition. A paver, by its very existence, is the recognition of what a club has achieved. No club was founded or continues to exist without the hard work of a core cadre of people who are passionate or even possessed about shagging. Most of these people were there in the beginning and remain with the clubs today. They served as officers and directors multiple times; they struggled through competition from other dances; they overcame the naysayers and club politicians within their ranks; and they dealt with host facilities who, among other things, thought we were too old or didn't drink enough. In short, these shaggers remained faithful to the dance and to the people who do it. Through their leadership, personal examples and dogged determination and lots of hard work, their clubs survived and prospered. The permanent pavers are a testament to their efforts.

The pavers on Main Street are also symbolic of every shagger's connection to Ocean Drive. Where would we be without O.D.? Although I did not grow up in the Carolinas, it seems clear to me that without the history of North Myrtle Beach and its music, the dance clubs located here, and the work of the Association and the S.O.S. Corporation, the current shagging "movement" – certainly many shag clubs – would not have been started or continue to exist. Most certainly, we would be far smaller in numbers and influence in the dance world without the connection to Ocean Drive. So in my view, we should never forget the connection. Without it, a shag club would likely be just another dance club – might as well be a cajun or ballroom dance club.

I think of the pavers as permanent symbols of how nearly all of our lives have changed because of shagging. For some of us, like me, it was a second chance to have a happy childhood. For others it was a chance to drop a few decades of mental age and do what they loved to do when they were much younger. For others, it was a "keep on, keeping on", meaning that they had never let go of their passion for shagging since they started doing it in their youth. For still others, shagging represented some "time for ourselves" after being devoted to family and jobs for so many years. Whatever a shagger's motivation, I can say this with certainty: I have *never* met a shagger who fell in love with this dance whose life was not forever and profoundly changed by the dance and the people they found in it. Not one!

When I think of shagging, I think of its uniqueness in the dance world. Why is this dance like no other dance? Although it can be "showy", its charm lies in its subtleties. It seems mostly done – certainly properly done – for the immediate enjoyment of the couple dancing it. I often think of what former Association President Bob Wood once told me about the shag. He said that properly done, shagging demonstrates how a Southern gentleman treats his lady. To me it represents that and more. I also see the dance as an endless series of three and a half minute love affairs between a man and a woman! Love affairs are not carried on for the on-looking crowd.

My final thought on shagging is this: *Always take care of this dance and it will always take care of you.* Without this dance, I would still be the "walking dead man" who wandered into Fat Harold's at the Pad in September 1989, but who found there a new, fun-filled and happy life. Shagging still takes care of me today and will do so all the days I have left. Over the last 20 years I have talked to hundreds and hundreds of shaggers and I know that in this belief I am far, far, far from being alone.

"Walk of Fame" Paver Dedications

O.E. "Butch" Lane

O.E.
"BUTCH"
LANE
August 19, 1956
December 21, 2008
"To Good Times &
Good Friends, See
You Around
Campus!"

Onnie "Butch" Lane was a big, gruff, bear of a man with a heart of gold. Whether it was a friend in need or helping with the "O.D. Locals" cook-outs, Butch was there. For his harem of local beauties, he was always there to offer a shoulder, a hug, or just an ear.

From Winnsboro, SC, Butch was a lifelong Gamecock fan, which he often described as an exercise in futility.

Butch loved the afternoon with friends at the Arcade, Deckers, or the Clubhouse having his beloved Velvet and water with a splash of gingerwith a Bud Light on the side.

He was an avid golfer who often said his handicap was his clubs. But his favorite good times were strolling the beach in his old straw hat rolling those Bocce Balls. As you walk that Bocce Ball court in the sky, just know that you are loved and missed.

See ya 'round campus, Your O.D. Local Buddies

Harold & Helen Beaver

Harold & Helen
BEAVER
1998 DJ Hall of Fame and
Teachers of the Dance
We remember and appreciate you
for your love and dedication to the
Shag Dancers and Beach
Music. Thank you
for these
memories!

For those of you who never knew the late Shag DJ Harold Beaver, you missed knowing one of the most gentle men. He was a legend in the shag world. He never met a stranger or had a bad word about anyone, and played the music we all love! He was inducted into the DJ Hall Of Fame in 1998, the National Living Legends in Virginia in 2000, he served as treasurer and president of the Association of Beach & Shag DJ's, and was always involved and supported the junior shaggers. Harold and his daughter, Jennifer, who is married to Joey Sogluizzo, the mother of Jo Leigh, who is three years old and is one of the upcoming junior shaggers, won the Father/Daughter National Shag Championship in 2001.

On April 24, 2009, during SOS Spring Safari, friends and family of Harold and Helen gathered at the OD Pavilion to dedicate a "Walk of Fame" paver in their honor. After the dedication everyone was invited to Blvd Grill where Harold had played many times during past SOS events.

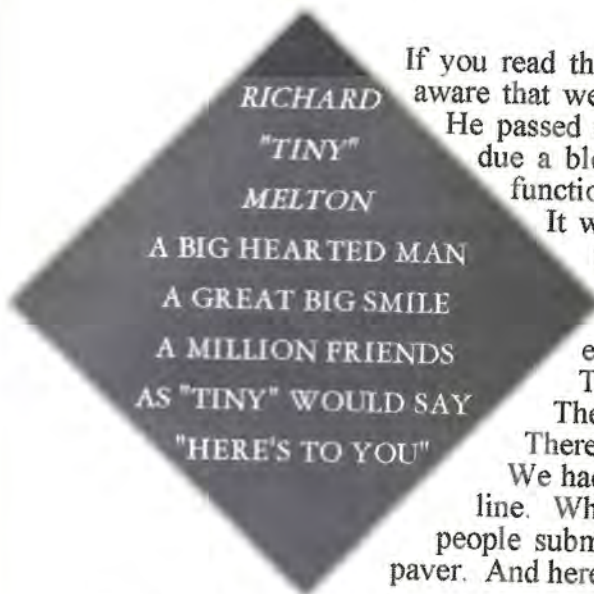
Many thanks to John Sloop, who organized the process to dedicate the paver, to Alicia Simpson, who never met Harold but the back bone of making this happen, and to Janet Harrold for putting up with us to get this done on time.

Harold and Helen were dear friends to many people. Harold's death in 2002 after a long battle with cancer left a big void for his family and friends.....his memory will remain with us for years to come.

Sharon Maxwell

"Walk of Fame" Paver Dedications

Paver dedication for Richard "Tiny" Melton... The Man With A Heart As Big As The World



If you read the Spring Safari 2009 Carefree Times, then you're probably aware that we lost a dear beach friend in Mr. Richard "Tiny" Melton. He passed away on July 17, 2008, after several months of failing health due a blood clot on his lung that severely hampered his respiratory function.

It wasn't long after Tiny passed away that the idea was spawned to have a paver placed on the sidewalk in memory of the ole rascal. The management at O.D. Arcade coordinated the fund raising, & it became evident fairly soon that there would be enough money to purchase one of the polished granite pavers for Tiny. Raising the money was easy.

Then came the tough part!!! What were we gonna put on it. There just wasn't room to say all the things that we wanted to say. We had to get the details into 6 lines with about 20 characters on each line. Whew, this was a lot tougher than raisin' money. A number of people submitted thoughts, and it eventually got fine-tuned to fit on the paver. And here's what we wound up saying:

Finally, it was all **really** coming together. Finding a place to put it was really easy. It was pretty much unanimous that Tiny's paver needed to be placed right next to the front steps at O.D. Arcade & Lounge, & by golly, that's exactly where it went. It was put in place the week before SOS Spring Safari 2009, & it sure did dress up the sidewalk. Tiny always had a way of dressing up a place, & the sidewalk was just a little brighter.

Then here came the email!!! When can we all get together & officially dedicate the paver to Tiny. Well, you'd think that would be easy with it being SOS & everything. **WRONG!!!** Of course a ton of people wanted to be there, but so many of us had conflicts of some sort. After all was said & done, it was declared that Thursday, April 23rd, at 5:00 pm would be the official dedication on the front porch at O.D. Arcade & Lounge.

Well, Thursday at 5:00 pm rolled around, & guess what? The porch was jammed with Tiny's friends & they spilled out onto the sidewalk & around the corner of the building. **EVERYBODY** showed up. I imagine ole Tiny had a pretty big smile on his face about that time.

The management at O.D. Arcade passed out a complimentary drink to each person there. It just happened to be one of Tiny's favorite concoctions. Not a problem because Tiny never drank bad tasting drinks. Quite frankly, a little sip of wine was about his favorite.

Several people stood up & offered some light hearted stories about Tiny, & how he had made a difference in their lives. Trust me, it was a moving experience. "Bigfish" yelled for the crowd to be really quiet for just a moment. He sort of looked toward Tiny's paver, & said, "Well, ole pal, what do ya think?" Apparently Tiny said, "Hey pal, I didn't heard ya". "Fish" then looked upward & said it again. "Fish" told everybody that Tiny said he really liked the paver & thanked all of them for coming out.

At that point, Tiny's best friend Marty offered up the ole rascal's famous toast that Tiny always liked to do. He said it just exactly like Tiny would have said it. It had to be pretty tough for Marty because the two of them were like brothers & shared a house at the beach. Then Marty said, "Hey pal, here's to you". We all held our glasses high & toasted the ole rascal.

Well ole pal, we still miss you a bunch, but we did send you off in high fashion. We were proud to do it. We'll stop by & see you at the paver from time to time. Maybe even bring you a little sip of wine. Take care ole pal.

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Following the signs to SOS

by Lloyd Pitzen

I hit the road for my first trek to an SOS event in North Myrtle Beach --the Fall Migration -- from my home in southeastern Virginia. On the road, time passed serenely as I was guided by the floating clouds on the Carolina blue canvas. The cruise control and my reclined posture refreshed my soles -- well needed down time for the ordeal I was about to put those poor soles through. My first inkling of being out of the proverbial box came when my preprogrammed radio station faded out.



As I got closer to North Myrtle Beach, I knew from the highway signs that I was on the right path.

As I traveled there, I conjured up expectations about the dancing. What I took with me when leaving, however, cannot be portrayed in pictures. And it was not the expected thoughts of being on the dance floor. Instead, it was the experiences I had when my feet were not in cadence.



Having frequented several shagging places throughout southeastern Virginia, I had become familiar with many faces (or should I say soles) of the locals -- some as unknown names, some as acquaintances, and others as friends. In North Myrtle Beach, I got to know these people much better. I got a glimpse past their soles and into their souls -- this is what matters.



I also befriended people from other regions. I journeyed there seeing myself as a member of a club with geographic bounds. Soon after I arrived, I felt part of a community that has no geographic boundaries.

In traveling back to Virginia after being immersed in an ocean of beach music all week, I played a newly purchased Craig Woolard CD several times. When I inserted

the CD, I realized it was time to come out of denial -- whatever the term may be for it, I am one.

(sign pictures are altered)



Thirsty's 2

Sanctioned Shag Contest

May 1 & 2, 2009

Pro-Division
First Place
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Novice Division
First Place
Casi Litaker & Brandi Lunsford

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First Place
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Photos courtesy of Mike Martin



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PARADE TALK



I was impressed.....seriously impressed! By now (15 years) I was sure I would begin to see themes and ideas being used again. Reruns if you will. I mean, there are only so many ideas out there, right? Well, apparently that is not the case. This year's ideas were again fresh, new, and amazing. The work that goes into these entries is so detailed and

time consuming, that one has to admire the commitment of the various clubs. Hats off to all!

We set a record again! Just over 1000 participants. I jokingly told the folks at the awards ceremony that if the parade continues to grow we may have to have the first half on Saturday and the second half on Sunday! But don't worry, I promise we will handle whatever.

We again had 2 super Grand Marshalls this year. First was our resident SOS Artist Ms. Becky Stowe. Becky has been delighting us with her shag prints for many years, and also having them grace the cover of our Carefree Times twice a year since the beginning. Becky, you are a lovely and talented person.....please don't ever stop! The second Grand Marshall was our very own Ted Bell, the mid-day deejay at 94.9the Surf (The Official Radio Station of SOS, I might add). Ted has been with The Surf for many years and has undoubtedly one of the most popular mid-day shows in the Carolinas, and also is quite popular on the internet. Ted, my friend, keep up the great work.....we will all be listening!

Many thanks to my 4 Judges: Ms. Janet Harrold, of the Carefree Times; Trish Brown, Sales Director at 94.9The Surf; Elaine Hunter, owner of the OD Arcade & Lounge (home of the Porch People); and Mr. David Shaw, owner of Duck's and Duck's Too (the old and the new). Janet is in charge each year of overseeing and compiling the scores, and she told me that it had never been this close. She had to re-count a numbers of times to make an accurate decision. Thanks Janet for another great job! And the envelope please:

BEST SHAGGING TROOP

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- 2nd. Coastal Shag Club
- 3rd. Society of Brunswick Shaggers
- 4th. Palmetto Shag Club
- 5th. Winston Salem Shag Club

BEST CLUB VEHICLE

- 1st. Birmingham
- 2nd. DJ Association
- 3rd. Lancaster Shag Club
- 4th. Lake Norman Shag Club
- 5th. Upstate Shag Club

MOST ORIGINAL THEME

- 1st. Monroe Shag Club
- 2nd. Eno Beach Shag Club
- 3rd. 3rd. South Strand Shag Club
- 4th. Sumter Shag Club

BEST SHAG THEME

- 1st. Burlington Shag Club
- 2nd. Class
- 3rd. Twisters Shag Club
- 4th. Rock Hill Shag Club
- 5th. Fasa



Congratulations to all the above. You once again did an outstanding job! We can now all slow down, sit back, and relax for awhile...wait a minute, what did I just say, relax? Not hardly, heck, we've only got 9 months to get ready for "Sweet Sixteen". "Let's git er done!" **Don David ...Your SOS Parade Chairman**



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- February 26-28
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- April 16-25
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- July 9-11
Summer Workshop
- September 17-26
Fall Migration

2011

- January - 13-16
Mid-Winter
- February - 25-27
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- April - 8 - 17
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- July 8-10
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- September 16-25
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Beautiful Story...

Makes you understand that things happen for a reason

The brand new pastor and his wife, newly assigned to their first ministry, to reopen a church in suburban Brooklyn, arrived in early October excited about their opportunities. When they saw Their church, it was very run down and needed much work. They set a goal to have everything done in time to have their first service on Christmas Eve.

They worked hard, repairing pews, plastering walls, painting, etc, and on December 18 were ahead of schedule and just about finished.

On December 19 a terrible tempest - a driving rainstorm hit the area and lasted for two days.

On the 21st, the pastor went over to the church. His heart sank when he saw that the roof had leaked, causing a large area of plaster about 20 feet by 8 feet to fall off the front wall of the sanctuary just behind the pulpit, beginning about head high.

The pastor cleaned up the mess on the floor, and not knowing what else to do but postpone the Christmas Eve service, headed home. On the way he noticed that a local business was having a flea market type sale for charity, so he stopped in. One of the items was a beautiful, handmade, ivory colour, crocheted tablecloth

with exquisite work, fine colours and a Cross embroidered right in the centre. It was just the right size to cover the hole in the front wall. He bought it and headed back to the church.

By this time it had started to snow. An older woman running from the opposite direction was trying to catch the bus. She missed it. The pastor invited her to wait in the warm church for The next bus 45 minutes later.

She sat in a pew and paid no attention to the pastor while he got a ladder, hangers, etc., to put up the tablecloth as a wall tapestry. The pastor could hardly believe how beautiful it looked and it covered up the entire problem area.

Then he noticed the woman walking down the center aisle. Her face was like a sheet. "Pastor," she asked, "where did you get that tablecloth?" The pastor explained. The woman asked him to check the lower right corner to see if the initials, EBG were crocheted into it there. They were. These were the initials of the woman, and she had made this tablecloth 35 years before, in Austria.

The woman could hardly believe it as the pastor told how he had just gotten "The Tablecloth". The woman explained that before the war she and her husband were well-to-do people in Austria.

When the Nazis came, she was forced to leave. Her husband was going to follow her the next week. He was captured, sent to prison and never saw her husband or her home again.

The pastor wanted to give her the tablecloth; But she made the pastor keep it for the church.

The pastor insisted on driving her home. That was the least he could do. She lived on the other side of Staten Island and was only in Brooklyn for the day for a housecleaning job.

What a wonderful service they had on Christmas Eve. The church was almost full. The music and the spirit were great. At the end of the service, the Pastor and his wife greeted everyone at the door and many said that they would return.

One older man, whom the pastor recognized from the neighborhood continued to sit in one of the pews and stare, and the pastor wondered why he wasn't leaving.

The man asked him where he got the tablecloth on the front wall because it was identical to one that his wife had made years ago when they lived in Austria before the war and how could there be two tablecloths so much alike?

He told the pastor how the Nazis came, how he forced his wife to flee for her safety and he was supposed to follow her, but he was arrested and put in a prison. He never saw his wife or his home again all the 35 years between.

The pastor asked him if he would allow him to take him for a little ride. They drove to Staten Island and to the same house where the pastor had taken the woman three days earlier.

He helped the man climb the three flights of stairs to the woman's apartment, knocked on the door and he saw the greatest Christmas reunion he could ever imagine.

True Story - submitted by Pastor Rob Reid who says God does work in mysterious ways.



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7:00 PM - until 12:00 Noon - 12:00 Midnight

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Saturday, August 8, 2009

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Kyle Beam

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This will insure that
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Be a part of Ocean Drive Beach history! Become the proud owner of a personally inscribed "Walk of Fame" paver. Pavers have been particularly popular with visitors to the area including shag clubs and shaggers from throughout the United States. With Main Street's designation as "The Birthplace of the Shag" and with the annual S.O.S. (Society of Stranders) events and local street festivals, thousands of shaggers have already purchased pavers as you will see when you arrive on Main Street in Ocean Drive Beach..

Pavers have also been popular with vacationers who find their way to North Myrtle Beach year after year and locals who want to share in the continuing growth and revitalization of Main Street in Ocean Drive Beach. In addition, they are great gifts for every occasion. With three sizes available, there is paver to fit every budget and need.

The revitalization of Main Street in North Myrtle Beach was started in the early 90's in affiliation with the City of North Myrtle Beach to help raise monies for the continued revitalization. The proceeds of the paver sales are used to continue to keep Main Street beautiful and an enjoyable place to visit.

Check or money order made payable to D.O.I.T. Please indicate desired location for paver to be installed

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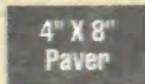
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INDIVIDUAL (4x8) – two lines of inscription with 13 spaces each line: \$100

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SOS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

The 2008 SOS Mid Winter Classic, Spring Safari and Fall Migration are in the history book. The year's events were fantastic! I am sure that you will agree, if you experienced any or all three events. If you didn't get to experience these great parties in 2008, you missed a three wonderful events.

You get three (3) great parties for only a \$35 membership fee. This is the best offer in the shag world. You get twenty four (24) days of great party times with old and new friends in the shag capital of North Myrtle Beach, Ocean Drive Beach, SC.

The SOS membership is a great present to give to someone you love, or someone that you would like to introduce to the dance world. Become a proud member of a great organization, join the SOS family. RENEW your SOS membership TODAY!

Ron Whisenant
SOS President

Make checks payable to and remit to: SOS PO BOX 37690 ROCK HILL, SC 29732

Name(s) _____ Email _____

Address _____

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Memberships () x \$35 = \$ _____

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