



**A.C.S.C. MEETING MINUTES  
2014 MID WINTER CLASSIC – O. D. CAFE  
NORTH MYRTLE BEACH, SC  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 2014**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Ken Akin called the Association of Carolina Shag Clubs Mid Winter meeting to order at North Myrtle Beach, SC on Saturday, January 18th at 10:00 AM. Ken introduced the A.C.S.C. Board Members, S.O.S. Board Members, S.O.S. Officers, Glenda Brown, Past President Pin Chairman, Mary Gregory Webmaster, and Vickie and Paul Harrison, S.O.S. Photographers. Ken noted that Dr. Phil Sawyer couldn't be with us this weekend.

Ken asked if there were any additions to the Agenda. There were none. Ken introduced John Gilstrap (Vice President of SOS) as the Parliamentarian of the meeting. John will go over the rules of the meeting and By Laws of the ACSC. John stated that we will have an open meeting and once the topics have been discussed only members will participate.

**II. WELCOME NEW PRESIDENTS**

Ken asked for a show of hands of the new Presidents. Ken welcomed the new Presidents.

**III. MINUTES FROM 2013 FALL MIGRATION**

Sonny noted that there were two sets of minutes and an amendment for the 2012 Summer Workshop. The Amendment was added to the Summer Workshop minutes per Mike Rink's request. The Board of Advisors was asked to approve to defer the approving of the Summer Workshop minutes and Amendment until this meeting. Sonny asked for a motion to approve the Summer Workshop minutes and Amendment. Motion was made, seconded and passed. Sonny noted that there were the minutes from the 2013 Fall Migration meeting. Sonny asked if there were any additions or corrections to the 2013 Fall Migration minutes. Hearing none a motion to approve the minutes was made and seconded. Minutes approved.

#### **IV. TREASURER'S REPORT**

Allen noted that there are some clubs that have not cashed their \$400.00 checks. They are Fayetteville, Hilton Head, Music City Bop Club and Smokey Mountain Shag Club. Allen asked that you check your packages from Fall SOS and if you can't find it, let him know. Allen noted that if you haven't paid your dues, they are due by the Winter Workshop in Columbia.

The final Treasurer Report for the ACSC had a Beginning Balance as of January 1, 2013 of \$17,679.55, Net Receipts of \$39,005.02, Total Expenses \$40,939.40 leaving a Balance as of December 31, 2013 of \$15,745.17. Allen asked if there were any questions on the Treasurers Report. Hearing none a motion to approve the minutes was made and seconded. Minutes approved.

#### **V. A.C.S.C. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Ken gave his Chairman's Report.

- Ken called up Phyllis Drake, Chairman, and Judy Bennett Co-Chairman to give the ICON report. Phyllis gave a brief history of how the ICON'S are selected. Judy noted that from 1995 to 2005 the ICON'S were selected by the ACSC and SOS Boards. In 2005, Judy Vick and the Boards formed an ICON Enhancement Committee. This year there are 20 nominees that 9 ICON Committee members will chose and vote on 5 nominees at the 2014 Winter Workshop. Ken noted and stressed that the ACSC/SOS Board has no influence on the selection of people to get an ICON Award.
- John Carpenter reported for RuthAnn Steen with the Gaston Shaggers on her visit to the Shelby Shag Club. John Carpenter read her report on her visit to Shelby. RuthAnn recommended that they be voted into the ACSC. Ken asked for a motion to accept the Shelby Shaggers in the ACSC. Motion seconded and passed.
- Ken called up Cecil Martin, President Palmetto Shag Club. Palmetto will host the 2014 Winter Workshop in Columbia, SC. Cecil reported that they had already sold 300 tickets at the host hotel have been booked. Cecil reported that there are hotels near the host hotel. Ticket prices go up to \$75.00 on January 31<sup>st</sup>. Palmetto Shag Club presented \$500.00 to the Ellen Taylor Foundation and \$500.00 to the Hall of Fame Foundation. Nick Mathis came up and thanked Palmetto Shag Club for their donation. He noted that Eddie Monsour was the Executive Director and he was also. Eddie couldn't be there today. Nick also noted he was one of the founders of the first shag

club, Columbia Shag Club started in 1981. Nick thanked Palmetto Shag Club and noted that the HOFF is an organization of “friends helping friends”.

- Ken also noted that at the 2014 Winter Workshop there will be an election for (three) 3 SOS Board seats. Ken noted that he is in the process of forming a Nominating Committee that he will announce at the workshop in Columbia. The Nominating Committee is for the Association election in July.
- Ken noted that we are at the point in the Agenda where four (4) items were requested to be on the Agenda. These 4 items requested will be for public discussion. At that time public discussion will be closed and then only members allowed to speak that are representing their shag club.
- The first item is the Board’s decision to stop giving the Beach Shaggers Hall of Famers life time membership cards. Ken noted that he had 2 speakers (one from each side of the issue) and that they would be given 1 minute to speak. The Parliamentarian ruled that if only 1 person wanted to speak then they should be given 10 minutes. Ken asked Bob Wood to identify himself and the club he was representing. Bob identified himself representing ShagAtlanta. Bob went over some history and that in 1989, SOS was bought. Bob listed multiple members of the Hall of Famers. Larry Davis President of the Greater Triad Shag Club spoke about his respecting the Hall of Famers and this issue should be decided by the Shag Club Presidents. Tom Barrineau spoke on his involvement with the shag world and the Hall of Famers. Tom said that some Hall of Famers were old beach bums that loved to dance and would like to continue recognizing them.
- Ken said that the public discussion is closed. Ken opened the floor for discussion from the shag club President or club representative.
- The chair recognizes Lester Stokes (ShagAtlanta). Lester asked the Board of Directors why they made the decision concerning the life time award so that the Presidents can make up their mind. Lester stated that the clubs need an answer as to why the Board of Directors “did what they did” before the shag club presidents make a decision and vote. Lester asked that everyone in the Hall of Fame receives a lifetime membership to SOS. Ken stated that was true. Lester asked if we have a competing organization with lifetime membership called the ICONS. Ken stated that was true. The Board is going to tell us

why they acted the way they did and then it will be up to us to express our opinions and make a decision.

John Gilstrap spoke as the Past President of Danville Shag Club. He was designated by the President of Danville Shag Club as the spokesman of their club. He stated that the Board decided that it should be those who have made significant contributions to local shag clubs, ACSC or SOS. He stated that nothing was taken away or honor that has been bestowed on HOF was removed by the SOS Board. John quoted directly from the HOF website and Shagattack website. He stated that the websites states that Shagattack Hall of Fame, Inc. is operated and controlled by a four (4) person, self perpetuating Board of Directors known as the Executive Board. He stated that his understanding was that “perpetuating” is forever. John noted in his research there were several Hall of Fames. One website has 664 members listed representing several HOF organizations and Shagattack HOF has over 300. John summarized that the Board of Directors are simply establishing a procedure for new lifetime membership into SOS. Any Hall of Fame inductee can get a lifetime membership into SOS by being nominated by their shag club for contributions to their shag club, ACSC or SOS to receive the ICON award.

Mike Rink, President of Twister’s Shag Club stated that John Gilstrap had alluded to the selection process for the nationally recognized Hall of Fame and apparently there are errors in that. Mike stated that there are some HOF Board Members present and asked if they could be allowed to speak to elaborate on their selection process. John stated that he didn’t make any accusations he read directly from their Hall of Fame website. Ken appreciates what Mike had said and noted that the public discussion was over. Mike then stated he felt there was an unwillingness to admit some facts. He stated that in looking back at the notes, he feels we are looking at some punishment. He stated that because of some supposedly inappropriate behavior, we are taking away an award that was rightly given to people for 30 years. Mike stated that the Hall of Famers have done so many good things over the years. He stated that Gene Laughter started giving the lifetime memberships. Mike quoted from Gene “The Hall of Fame played a role in SOS’s success and I made a commitment to the Hall of Fame. My intention was that it was a permanent arrangement and the existing Board should honor it. My word was my bond. “... Mike stated he felt that this was a contract and what we need to continue and make sure it happens from now on. Please vote to make this happen.

Cecil Martin, President of Palmetto Shag Club stated he respectfully disagreed with Mike Rink. He does not feel that this is a contract. SOS was a corporation that was sold. He feels the SOS Board has every right to make changes. He stated that the Hall of Fame is a very good organization but he doesn't think that SOS should continue giving them the gold cards (lifetime memberships). He too felt that an inductee into the Hall of Fame can go through the process of getting an ICON award and receive a gold card.

Joan Kimbo, President of Burlington Shag Club stated she felt anyone receiving a lifetime membership should have to go through the same process to get an ICON award. If the Hall of Fame inductees would like a gold card, they should have to go through the same process that a president of a shag club member goes through for the ICON selection. The criteria and forms can be found on [www.shagdance.com](http://www.shagdance.com).

Dave Olszewski, representing Savannah Shag Club stated that the last 5 or 6 years, the worst economical crisis in our nation's history. During this period, SOS splurged in large measures because of the hard work of our SOS Board members, whom we elected. He expressed his concerns for all social media, emails, etc. that have been posted and passed around that have hurt our lifestyle and love of the dance. He stated that if someone doesn't like what the Board is doing, then run against them. Everyone has an opinion and you deserve one. Do what you've got to do from your heart. Vote for what you think is right. Let's keep the good people in place and let them do their thing. We voted for them to do their thing.

John Gilstrap, the parliamentarian called for point of order. He suggested that the discussion henceforth be based upon a motion put before the floor.

David Bushey with Northern Virginia asked the SOS Board if there were any financial reasons for making the to discontinue giving the lifetime membership. If not, why not? What is the value of those cards that are no longer being handed out? It is his understanding that the 92 clubs do not own SOS. ACSC owns SOS. We do not have a vote on what SOS does, we can influence them. We vote for those directors, but we do not have a direct influence, we have an indirect influence Dave turned it back over to the Chairman... Again, Parliamentarian John Gilstrap called for a point of order. He stated that there needs to be a motion about lifetime memberships. If no motion, then we need to go to the next item on the agenda.

Stephen Long, President of Boogie on the Bay made the motion to support the decision of the officers of SOS/ACSC in the decision on who gets lifetime membership cards. Motion seconded. Any discussion?

Ron Whisenant stated he would like to discuss how the vote came to the Board that being the comments about inappropriate behavior being brought to the Board for the third (3) time for discussion. It had been discussed previously mainly because a change had taken place within the Hall of Fame organization. It changed owners or one had passed away. SOS had attempted to buy Hall of Fame to bring it under the umbrella, help make it stronger and perpetuate it. After the passing of Chick Hedrick, the issue came up again to the Board. The inappropriate behavior issue came out about not showing gold cards at the door and asking a 100 years old grandmother get out of a reserved seat at Fat Harold's for a Hall of Fame event. These were some of the issues brought to the Board. But, the reason was, we were at a point where Chick Hedrick had passed and the Hall of Fame had been given to the ShagAttack group, however that is done. The Board felt that it was the appropriate time to take action to change the procedure for distributing gold cards. In 1994, Bob Wood started the ICON Award to which Ron was one of the first recipients. Ron stated that he along with Dr. Phil Sawyer and Ken Hudspeth formed the Association in 1984 so he (Ron) has been around for awhile and knows what he speaks. I don't know the Hall of Fame sides as well as I should. He expressed that the Board wanted to take the gold cards to the ICONS. For a bit of history and fact, Ron stated that Gene Laughter did not start gold cards. He gave away annual paper cards to his friends that he wanted to have them. Phil Sawyer created the gold cards. He did this so he did not have to give the people on Swink's list a card every year. He made the gold card and told them it was a lifetime membership. He stated that he felt there were some great changes that could be made for this dance, the music and organization. If we all work together, maybe we can accomplish this. He stated he was proud to be on the Board of this organization.

Ken asked for discussion on the motion only. If no motion, then we need to go to next thing on the agenda.

Larry Davis, President of Greater Triad Shag Club said his club has discussed this issue and it has been on the internet. He stated that it has been discussed a lot today and a vote of the Presidents here should be taken. It was noted that there was a motion on the floor.

Jerry Anders, President, Smoky Mountain Shaggers called for the question.

Mike Rink stated that Robert's Rules clearly say that as long as there are people in the assembly that want to talk, you cannot call for the question until everybody has had an opportunity to talk.

Parliamentarian John Gilstrap stated that Robert's Rules of Order clearly states that if the majority of those would like to have the question called, they can. He stated that the Chair needs to ask the members if they are ready to vote on whether to vote on the motion to call for the question. Motion carried.

The motion was to support the SOS Board decision on not giving a gold card to the Hall of Fame. Ken asked all Representatives (that signed in) to stand up. Ken asked Ronnie Gregory to give him a count Ken changed the procedure and had everyone sit down and would do a roll call. Ken stated that of the 81 clubs in attendance, 66 voted yes, 7 voted no, 4 abstained and there were 4 no vote. Motion approved. Next item on the agenda is Expenses and other financial questions. Ken explained we would follow the same procedure as before with a ten (10) minute discussion. He opened the floor for discussion. Bob Wood, who requested this item be placed on the agenda, had no comment.

John Gilstrap requested that we hear from, our legal council to explain the relationship between ACSC and SOS. Ken called on Lance Boozer from Columbia, SC. Lance said he was going to explain about several organizations that you are a part of, SOS and ACSC. Lance has looked over a lot of documents, purchase agreement and stock certificates that were done a long time ago. SOS was originally incorporated in 1982 by Gene Laughter. Upon its founding, there were 1000 shares of stock. Those stocks were only issued to Gene Laughter. He was the sole shareholder in 1989, there was a stock transfer and a purchase and that was ACSC purchasing from Mr. Laughter the 1000 shares of SOS stock. The corporate entity, ACSC, became the sole shareholder of the 1000 shares of stock. The clubs are members of the organization that owns the stock. They are the Board of Advisors. They elect the ACSC Executive Committee and the five (5) SOS Board members. Each club has one (1) vote. Therefore, you, the Board of Advisors, elect this Board to act on your behalf and make decisions. If you are not happy with some of the Board's decisions, you can run for election to the Board. Lance stated he would be happy to answer any questions.

Audrey Borja, President Battlefield Boogie Club asked how the voting worked in reference to the business. John explained that you are the Board of Advisors for ACSC. All ACSC business should be

approved, recommended and voted on at the ACSC meetings. You do not have the same privilege except electing your representatives to SOS. Audrey then asked if there was a threshold for spending without input from the membership. John explained that the ACSC By-Laws that, you the Board of Advisors, give the day to day operations to your four (4) elected Officers, Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer for ACSC finances. The President, Ron Whisenant represents the vote for the SOS Officers. John Gilstrap, Vice Chairman of SOS has never been on a Board that scrutinizes spending more than this Board. Since 1989 SOS has contributed to ACSC \$1,603,347.00. That's a pretty good return on your investment. He explained the financial obligation SOS has to the beach club owners. Since 1989, SOS has paid the club owners \$1,578,000.00 in floor space rental, \$400,000.00 in food allowance and \$800,000.00 in commission on card sales. This is a total to club owners of \$2,778,000.00. The expenses have increased by about 8%. This Board has adopted a new procedure for reimbursement of expenses. Instead of each Board Member turning in a reimbursement sheet, the Treasurer determines how much is reimbursed. This is based upon mileage on Google maps. SOS does generate a lot of revenue, but this Board uses it discreetly, wisely and does not waste it. They have never paid for anyone's trip to Anaheim, CA. He stated that these types of expenses did occur in the past, and this Board stopped it. In closing he stated that you have a good board and they are working hard for you.

Ken Akin, Chairman, stated that public discussion has ended. Motion was made to move on to next item on agenda. Motion approved and carried.

#### F. ACSC Elections.

Why the elections should not be held at Mid-Winter.

Ken explained that these are the SOS Board seats that are elected at the Winter Workshop. Ken opened the floor for discussion. Mike Rink stated that he felt that most people came to discuss the first bullet point, Lifetime Memberships. Mike stated he would like to make a motion that the last three (3) bullet points have three (3) committees formed from volunteers from this organization to look at it in the essence of time so we don't have to continue all of this today. The motion is: In the essence of time, three (3) committees of volunteers from this organization are formed to look at these bullet points, one (1) committee per point, and report back with their decisions or findings. Motion was seconded. Discussion – It was stated by Joan Kimbo and several club representatives that they would like to see these issues discussed now and resolved.



Chairman Akin called for the question. By a show of hands, motion was defeated.

The meeting was back in order for discussion on holding the elections at Mid Winter. Bayne Hayes, Florence Shag Club asked for clarification of elections. Ken explained that the ACSC elects the Board seats. The discussion is the SOS Board seats that are elected in February by the ACSC Board of Advisors. Rick Wilson, Carolina Shag Club in Greenville, NC asked about the nomination process and if the procedures were on the website. Ken explained that the elections of the SOS Board seats were done at the Winter Workshop. Nominations are taken from the floor and voted on at that meeting. In 2015, the Winter Workshop will be combined with Mid-Winter in January. Ken stated that he announces the board seats that are open in September at the Fall Migration ACSC meeting. Anyone wishing to run for a Board seat can campaign from September until the election at the Winter Workshop. Each candidate will be nominated from the floor. Their name will be placed on the ballot and voted on. It is up to each candidate to campaign. With no other discussion, Ken announced that the public discussion is closed.

Cecil Martin, President of Palmetto Shag Club made a motion to continue the process as it is today. Motion was seconded. It was open for discussion that the question was asked if the elections would take place in 2015 at this meeting. Ken stated yes, but the meeting will be held upstairs in a larger room. It seems that the majority of Presidents take office after January 1<sup>st</sup>. Most past Presidents do inform the incoming presidents of what is going on. There was a suggestion that the candidates be nominated at Mid-Winter and elected at the Winter Workshop. But, beginning in 2015 we no longer have that separation. It was suggested that we revert to the Board of Directors of ACSC to potentially not definitely, potentially change the By-Laws to allow a formal campaign season rather than the current informal season.

John Carpenter stated that he has kept a record for the past several years of new Presidents. For 2014 only  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the new presidents are new and  $\frac{3}{4}$  remain. He stated he felt it was fair to keep the elections as is.

Ken announced that the public discussion is closed. Floor is now open for club representatives. Mike Rink stated that John had made a good point. This is about information and the transfer of information. Sometimes when you have a business, you don't always make decisions because you have too, but because there is a potential benefit. If there is a potential benefit to something, and there doesn't seem to be anything going against it, you go that direction. In this case we have ACSC Officer Elections in July. Mike stated he felt the SOS Board elections should be held then because the membership here, new or old Presidents, have had the

opportunity at that point to become accustomed to meetings, understand the organization and to meet the people. He stated that Mid-Winter, when everyone is coming here to party, is not the time to make decisions that will impact our organization for 3 years.

Parliamentarian John Gilstrap made a point of order. ACSC is discussing SOS. Your elected officers are elected in July. You do not indicate in ACSC by-laws when you elect SOS advisors. That is in the SOS by-laws which you cannot change. You can make recommendations to the Board; you cannot change an SOS by-law. A suggestion was made to have Mary Gregory put the information on the candidates on the website. Ken stated that would be considered.

Chairman Akin called for the question to vote on the motion. With no opposition, motion approved

#### G. Term Limits

Chairman Akin opened the floor for public discussion. Should there be term limits for the ACSC and SOS Board members and Officers? Lester Stokes as a point of information, would like to know who or why this was put on the agenda before it is discussed? Ken stated that the person that requested this item to be put on the agenda had left the meeting. With no discussion, public discussion is closed.

Tommy Samole, President, Lake Wiley Shag Club made a motion to leave this bullet point and move on to the next item on the agenda. Motion seconded. There was no discussion and motion was approved.

### **VI. A.C.S.C. VICE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Robin welcomed all new Presidents and thanked the outgoing Presidents. She asked that all new Presidents meet after the meeting to receive an orientation packet. Robin thanked the Savannah Shag Club for their kindness and generosity they have given to the Eastern North Carolina Shag Club. As many of you know, 2 ENCSC members were involved in an accident and hospitalized in Savannah.

### **VII. S.O.S. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Helen Still gave an update on the fall project in North Myrtle Beach. On February 3<sup>rd</sup>, they will begin digging up Ocean Blvd. and hope to be finished April 25<sup>th</sup>.

Don David stated that due to the construction on Main Street, the parade route will probably need to be changed this year. Don stated we will have the same

staging areas, go up Main Street, turn right on Hillside Dr. and turn left on 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. (by the OD Arcade) and right back onto Ocean Blvd. The Theme for the parade is: *The Last Parade of the Second Decade*.

Helen Still stated that she has sat on other boards before and this board works for you like no other board she has work with. You members make it worthwhile. We love what we are doing and we try to keep in touch with you. If you have questions, there is never a question you can ask that we will not give you an answer. Helen explained how SOS took over “SOS at Sea”. She stated there was another issue that she wanted to clear up. She was asked by Mike Rink to sit in our (SOS) Board meeting. This was in 2011. He called and announced to Helen that he was going to sit in on this meeting. The more she thought about it, she thought this was not right. Why would she allow him to sit in when she wouldn’t let the rest of the Board of Advisors sit in the Board room? There are a lot of issues discussed in the Board room that are sensitive. She explained to Mike that you the Board of Advisors, elected the people you wanted to represent you in that Board room. That is the reason he was not allowed in the Board room.

Ron Whisenant gave his a report of card sales and deposits for 2013.

Foster McKinney stated that Dr. Phil Sawyer sends his love to everyone and he hopes we can solve all the issues we are here for. He stated he has been with the Association for 25 years. ACSC owns 100% of SOS stock of which he showed the original stock certificate, to be put in our permanent file. SOS is a C corporation, for profit. The ACSC was chartered as a non-profit corporation in the State of South Carolina. We do not have tax exempt status. He explained the financial statement that was in the packet.

## **XI. ADJOURN**

Ken asked if anyone would have a problem if we would forego the item, Club Party Info. Ken asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion seconded and approved. .

Meeting adjourned at 1:13 P.M.

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A.C.S.C. Secretary