





S.S.S.[®] Carefree Times

Winter Mailout 2004

The official publication of the
Society of Stranders and Association of Carolina Shag Clubs



 S.S.S.[®] 
Carefree Times

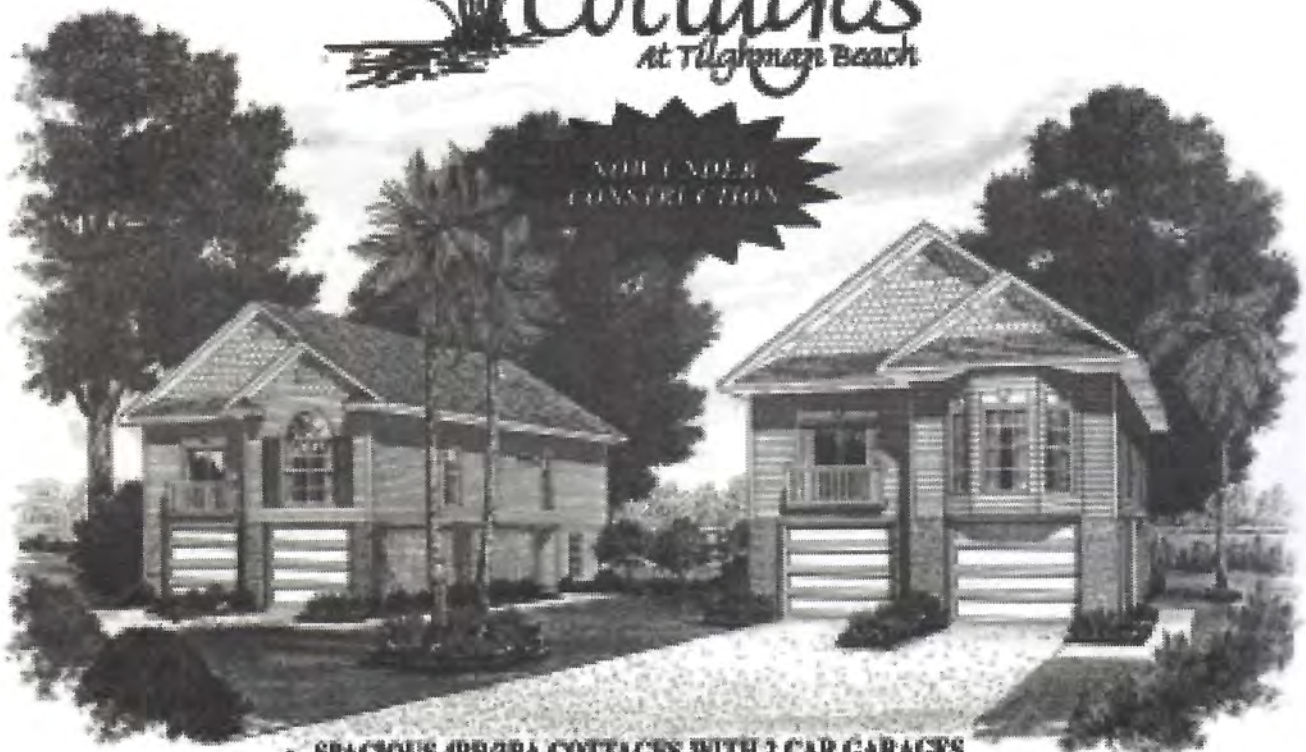
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Good Bye...

This will be my last issue as the Editor of the Carefree Times. I first proposed the newspaper look for the Carefree Times back in 1991...and the rest, as they say, is history. Larry Jones, in N. Myrtle Beach, will be taking over the duties as editor effective the Spring Safari edition.

I have met, and made friends of, many, many dancers since I started coming to NMB in 1985. For this I am grateful, and our friendships shall continue.



I do not have room to thank everyone individually who has contributed to the success of this paper, but their names appear regularly in the section titled *Staff* on this page. Without these wonderful writers and photographers, the *Carefree Times* would probably be no more than an eight page, photocopied newsletter!

Pictured with me is my fiancée and best buddy, Gloria Travassos, the talented artist who painted the two wall mural in Jacksonville's Club Savoy featured on the cover and on page 9.

Good-bye...and keep on dancing like no one is looking!

-Michael

S.O.S. Carefree Times Winter Mailout

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Happy Holidays!

Thanksgiving 2003 is history. I am sure everyone is stuffed with turkey and trimmings. Hopefully, you have either finished your Christmas shopping, or almost done. If not, you can give your friends and family the gift of fun and fellowship, a 2004 SOS membership. This will give them three great parties, MID WINTER, SPRING SAFARI, and FALL MIGRATION. This makes your shopping easy. You can order on line through shagdance.com, thru SOS clubs at the beach, or call 888-767-3113 to purchase by phone. The 2004 SOS membership will make a great Christmas present for the shag enthusiast.

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Murl and Cindy Augustine

It's that time again. I know that everyone has been holding their breath waiting to see what I will write. You guessed it, it will be short. It's the Christmas season and most shaggers will be going to many different parties. That's what we do. You will be buying gifts for loveones and friends. (SOS cards make great gifts) A special gift

A special gift would be to spend some time with the special people in your life and let them truly know you care.



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We have a new year before us and it is up to us to make it a great year. More than anything I would like to see SOS grow and everyone follow the rules. This year has been a year of talking, a lot of talking. Everything has been talked about so now is the time for action. The SOS board works hard trying to see that things run smooth. The SOS board wants your help and

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-Hector



News from the Association of Beach and Shag Club DeeJays

By Larry Edwards



Seasons Greetings from the Association of Beach and Shag Club DeeJays

Seasons greetings from the Association of Beach and Shag Club DeeJays and we hope you all have a joyous holiday! Our deejays are busy playing year-end shag club and business parties and getting ready for the big New Year's Eve events. When you're out having a good time just remember to be prudent with the adult beverages and take a designated driver if needed.

Our DeeJay's Association elected a new slate of officers at Fall S.O.S. with yours truly as President, Ted Whitlock - Vice President, Ken Emerson - Treasurer, David Sessoms - Secretary and Jerry Burrage - Sgt.-At-Arms. Congratulations to the new officers and thanks to our past officers for their hard work in the past year. They provided the groundwork for us to move forward and we are committed to continuing improvement in our organization.

from noon on each day the rest of the weekend and we've asked all of them

Congratulations also to our newest Beach DeeJay Hall of Fame inductees Phil Wells from Danville, VA and Roger Holcomb from Ft. Mill, SC. Also inducted as honorary members were Bo Schronce of the Fantastic Shakers and Leighton Grantham (posthumously) from Greenville, SC. Be sure and check out all the members of the Beach DeeJay Hall of Fame at Fat Harold's Beach Club; their pictures are located just inside the front door of Fat Harold's on the left wall.

On the near horizon is our 13th Annual DeeJay Throwdown to be held at Duck's from February 26th - 29th, 2004. The party starts with the Fantastic Shakers playing on Thursday night with cover only \$10.00 at the door (for non-DeeJay members). Over 40 deejays will be playing this year



Larry and Sally Edwards

to feature the best of R&B for your dancing enjoyment. Duck's will also put out free food each day and there will be a grand prize drawing on Saturday night at midnight.

For more info E-Mail me at shagarchives@tcdi.net or call Duck's at 843-249-3858. We hope you will try and attend our party.

Please check out our web site at www.abscdj.com and if you need help with getting a deejay or identifying that elusive song title you just heard contact one of our members. They're always ready to assist!


And Let's Dance!



Thought of the Day...

Do you realize that in about 40 years, we'll have thousands of old ladies running around with tattoos?

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A Picture Is Worth...

655 Words???

By Mike Rink, Twister's Shag Club



If I could draw, I would have submitted a cover for this Winter Mailout. It would be divided into two parts. The top half would show a huge crowd of shaggers dressed for a party. They would have all the typical party items like hats, noisemakers, champagne glasses, and more. The people would be holding signs that say things like "Thank You" and "Good Luck". The crowd would all be gathered outside the window of a residence. One of the people would be looking through the window, and motioning to the crowd trying to tell them to be quiet.

Printing equipment would be running in the background, and the man would be working away, trying to meet an upcoming deadline. These drawing would reflect the change in Carefree Times Editors that will take place after this issue.

Michael Payne has served the shagging community for many years as Editor of the SOS Carefree Times. The publication has been a staple within the dance community. As the top drawing indicates, we are all very grateful to Michael Payne for many, many years of service. Signs saying

ads, articles and photos turned in. This consistently leaves too little time to complete final preparations before the actual printing can take place. So, undoubtedly Michael, as the drawing would show, has found himself dozing at the keyboard on occasion after staying up endless hours trying to make up for lost time.

New Editor Larry Jones will certainly have his hands full as he takes over the job, again as my drawing would indicate. He will be swamped with new material, and new challenges. But, I am sure Larry is up to this task. He

into words instead of pictures. But even if I could, I would still include the following sincere statements. To my friend Michael, "Thank You" for all of your hard work. You've made the SOS Carefree Times what it is, and we are all in your debt. Perhaps now you will be able to enjoy a little more time on the dance floor, or doing other things you enjoy.

To my friend Larry, "Good Luck". I know that you will take our beloved publication to "the next level". You will have whatever support I can offer, and I am sure others

Unfortunately, the Editor is at the mercy of those who submit material for each issue. And most always, they are late getting their ads, articles and photos turned in. This consistently leaves too little time to complete final preparations before the actual printing can take place.

Why? Through the window you would see a man slumped over a typewriter keyboard, catching a well-deserved nap.

The lower drawing on the cover page would have a man in a modern office, with a huge stack of new orders and other papers on his desk. His computer screen would be filled with new email messages, and his phone would be ringing.

"Thank You" might express that sentiment, but they could never really say how much we appreciate the efforts Michael has put forth.

Only a fellow editor can relate to the amount of time it takes to put together a publication. Unfortunately, the Editor is at the mercy of those who submit material for each issue. And most always, they are late getting their

is experienced, and has access to all the latest equipment. Of course, he will still be at the mercy of his contributors (folks like me and you that submit items for each issue). But, we should be happy that someone as capable, devoted, and involved with the shag world (as Larry is) will be taking over as Editor.

Since I cannot draw, as I noted above, I've had to put all of these ideas

will be equally willing to help.

The torch is passed. May we all welcome this new opportunity, and support those who are helping us move forward, while thanking and never forgetting those who got us to this point.

Hats off to Michael and Larry. The shag world is fortunate to have both of you as workers, and as our friends.

Bobby Hatfield

of Righteous Brothers dead at 63

Thursday, November 6, 2003 Posted: 0800 GMT

KALAMAZOO, Michigan (AP) —

Bobby Hatfield, who with partner Bill Medley pioneered “blue-eyed soul” as the Righteous Brothers with hits like “Unchained Melody” and “You’ve Lost That Lovin’ Feeling,” died Wednesday night of undetermined causes at a hotel, his manager said. He was 63.

Hatfield’s body was discovered in his bed at 7 PM. EST, a half-hour before the duo was to perform at Miller Auditorium on the Western Michigan University campus, manager David Cohen said.

“It’s a shock, a real shock,” Cohen said during a telephone interview. Medley, who teamed with Hatfield 42 years ago, was “broken up. He’s not even coherent,” Cohen said.

Hatfield’s body was taken from the hotel about 10 PM. directly to Lansing, where an autopsy was to be performed, Joe Hakim, an executive with the Radisson Plaza Hotel in Kalamazoo, told the Kalamazoo Gazette.

Miller Auditorium executive director Bill Biddle told the audience at 7:05 PM. that the 7:30 PM. show had been canceled because of “a personal emergency of an unspecified nature.”

Hatfield had been sleeping most of the day in his room, Hakim said. When he didn’t answer a wake-up call about 6 PM., hotel staff and authorities entered the room and found the singer’s body.

The Righteous Brothers were inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame earlier this year.

Their signature 1964 single, “You’ve Lost That Lovin’ Feeling,” has been cited by numerous sources as the most-programmed song in radio history. Later 1960s hits included “Soul and Inspiration” and “Unchained Melody.”

Robert Lee Hatfield was born August 10, 1940, in Beaver Dam, Wisconsin. His family moved to Anaheim, California, when he was 4.

Hatfield organized singing

and instrumental groups in high school while helping his parents with their dry cleaning business.

An avid athlete, Hatfield considered a career in professional baseball but found his true calling in music — a love he pursued while attending Long Beach State University, where he formed a band and performed at bars and proms.

Hatfield teamed up with Medley in 1962 as part of a five-piece group called The Paramours. According to the Righteous Brothers Web site, a black Marine called out during one of their performances, “That was righteous, brothers!” They renamed themselves the Righteous Brothers before the release of their first album in 1963.

After splitting up in 1968, they reunited in 1974 and returned to the top of the charts with “Rock and Roll Heaven.”

“Unchained Melody” was featured in the 1990 movie “Ghost,” and a re-recorded version earned Hatfield and Medley a Grammy nomination.

-Willie C.



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By Gloria Travassos



Fat Harold Autographing
His Part of the Mural

S.O.S. IN RETROSPECT

A BRIEF HISTORY

By: Dr. Phil Sawyer

"S.O.S." "THE RAVEN IS ROLLING AND ROCKING OFF THE COAST. GET IN TOUCH WITH CAPTAIN EARL BOSTIC ABOARD THE FLAMINGO AND ASK HIM TO MEET US AT OAK TREE IN SEPT. (Signed) CAPTAIN WYNONNE HARRIS... JUNE 14, 1896."

The antique bottle was authentic. The message neatly printed on what appeared to be very old parchment was legible. The bottle was found and reported to several museums. The curators believed it and announced the find and the story soon made the National Wire Service. S.O.S. was hot national copy after a D.J. solved the riddle.

Thus, with a hoax and a hope, Gene Laughter, a former Life Guard and beach bum on Ocean Drive in the early fifties launched the first S.O.S. in the Spring of 1980. September 1980, the magic week-end finally arrived. The migration began and never stopped. They came by the hundreds. Billy Smith's Beach Party, Fat Jack's, The Afterdeck were packed. The Oak Tree Inn sold out early. Gene expected two to three hundred former Lifeguards, Stranders, and Beach Bums, but about 5,000 showed up. Ocean Drive hasn't been the same since, neither has any one who was at the first, never to be duplicated, experience.

S.O.S. continued but it's future in the early days was by no means certain. The format evolved.

At first there were contests and bands. Many of the Clubs had a cover charge. Clubs opened and closed. They changed hands from one season to the next. What was, suddenly wasn't. The city fathers didn't quite know what to make of or what to do with it. Encourage or prevent... support or squash. No one quite knew what to make of it.

Gene Laughter knew. He, more than any other one person knew the people, the music, the beach, and the potential of the brand new product he had suddenly become the guardian of. But the unbridled joy of everyone who attended told him one simple thing: **THIS IS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE ... KEEP IT GOING AND EVEN EXPAND!**

Thus, in September of 1981, S.O.S. II, and September 1982, S.O.S. III followed. Things were now well organized. There was a data base of members, regular publications, and organized and structured events. Membership cards replaced cover charges for entrance to the Clubs. The early Boogie Boat proved unworkable. Contests and

bands were eliminated. The D.J.'S took over. S.O.S. began to look like what we know it as today.

Throughout the mid to late 80'S, S.O.S. grew in strength and character. Shaggers and Stranders came back to Ocean Drive in the Spring and Fall by the tens of thousands for what everyone agreed was one of the finest parties for adults in the whole country. Everyone who ever had one grain of sand in his shoes agreed that S.O.S. was great for the Grand Strand, and to miss one was unthinkable. Fat Harold's, Duck's, Crazy Zack's, Harold's Across the Street, and the Galleon became shrines to which devout Stranders made pilgrimages many times each year.

Everything was good until 1988 and 1989 when the business interest at the beach became divided. Further, the originator, for personal and business reasons, could not continue to run S.O.S. The dancing space became smaller as the crowds grew bigger and larger. The competition became fierce, and the one thing that had kept it all going was uncertain.



Phil Sawyer signs the documents to assume the ownership of SOS for the ACSC, while Larry Taylor and others look on with pride..

In February, 1989, the **ASSOCIATION OF CAROLINA SHAG CLUBS** received an offer from Gene Laughter for the sale of S.O.S. The Board of Advisors discussed this at length at the Winter Workshop in Moresville, N.C. and without a dissenting vote approved the purchase of S.O.S. The discussion centered around the desire of the Association to bring unity to all elements involved and to assure that the kind of S.O.S. that we all loved so well would continue for many years to come.

Since there were scarcely six weeks until Spring Safari, the Interim Board plunged into the planning and organizing for that event. The Association ran our first S.O.S with

Continued on Page 28

What Women Want From Men...

This is a survey taken from 500 women ages 25-45 years old, single and married.

When a woman knows the pleasure of dancing in the arms of a man, it is next to impossible to settle for anything less unless he has an incredibly exciting career in which they can both experience unlimited financial freedom together or he is unbelievable in bed, or both. *Yes, it's true that according to this survey, Dance, Financial Success, then Sex rank in that order.* Of all the women surveyed, not one said she did not enjoy dancing in the arms of a man. To top it off, if he knew how to dance really well, then sex was the best she had ever experienced. All women agreed that sex is best when both man and woman are in love. In fact, 90% of the women said they could tell what kind of lover a man would be by the way he danced with her. They could tell his level of sincerity towards themselves by the way he danced with other women. Either he is a player, shy and passive or aggressive and uninhibited. Women do like to get dressed up and look their best when out on a date. Women love to be complimented about their appearance by their date. After all, there is always something nice a man can say that is complimentary about a woman any age.

Women love a man who has a certain level of refinement. For example, a man who is masculine but who also enjoys the arts as well. A man who is interested in becoming more than just his job and seeking more out of life than to just eat, sleep and work.

Music and dancing touches women in a very profound and unique way. It "stirs the soul" enabling her to let the every day problems of life seem less significant and help unlock the playful and sensuous side of her personality. What could be better than sharing that with a special man? The ultimate experience is dancing with a man and being romanced in a sincere way on the dance floor where the sexual pressure is off. Eventually, deeper feelings for each other evolve into intimacy, the ultimate dance dream come true. A Smart man learns how to dance because he knows that is where all the women are, out dancing. A very LUCKY man can meet that fabulous woman while out dancing, a woman who will eventually love and admire him. A SMART and LUCKY man recognizes a good woman when he finds her and continues to nourish the relationship with dance and romance.

Ten Qualities Women Look For In A Man (On and Off the dance floor)

1. Good leader on the dance floor who stays with the music
2. Neat, clean appearance and well groomed
3. Confident and self assured. Direct eye contact
4. Stable career, financial security
5. Sense of humor, quick witted and intelligent
6. Well mannered i.e.; opens the door, introduces you to his friends, good table manners, etc.
7. Physically fit. Keeps weight under control
8. Interested in what you have to say. A good listener.
9. Good in bed
10. Nice looking

Of all the women surveyed, all enjoyed compliments on their appearance, dancing ability, intelligence and cooking abilities (if they know how to cook). Women also said that they knew if a man was giving insincere flattery. It is like a sixth sense that women have. So men beware, only sincere flattery please.



Ten Qualities Women Do Not Like In Men

1. Men who can't lead and blame it on the woman
2. Bad breath or body odor
3. Cheap cologne
4. Cocky attitude, think they are "God's gift" to women
5. Lewd conduct on and off the dance floor
6. Men who wear clothing that went out of style 10-20 years ago
7. Cheap toupees. Invest in an expensive one or just go au' natural
8. Smokers and heavy drinkers
9. Unemployed loser types. They can dance but don't have a job, house or money
10. Dumb guys

Again, of all the women surveyed, 95% said they would put up with all the negative qualities (with the exception of numbers 2, 5 and 8), IF the man was a very good dancer.

Dance crazes of the Sixties...

The arrival of rock'n roll brought a major change to the social art of dancing. Although contact dancing with a partner was still as popular as always (naturally!) variations and speed became more frantic and less formalized. Non-contact dances and those that could be performed solo became ever more popular, particularly with The Mods. The styles and crazes changed with rapid regularity, in line with new records and the changes in musical styles and taste. The biggest and most enduring of these new dances was 'The Twist', pioneered in the States by Chubby Checker and a group called Joey Dee and the Starlites, where it was huge, to the point where national competitions were held. It found its way to British dance halls around 1961 with the Chubby Checker record 'Let's Twist Again' and its follow-ups. In the States, instructions for doing the Twist were enclosed with every record sold, advising "Imagine you are stubbing out a cigarette with both feet whilst drying your back with a towel", which pretty well describes it. No other dance craze really came close to it, despite the efforts of the television pop show 'Ready Steady Go!' which broadcasted its (almost) weekly 'new moves' section to a huge audience. Resident full-time dancers on the show were Theresa Confrey and Patrick Kerr who demonstrated new dances alongside 'members of the public' (chosen specially during their visits to the 'Sabre' club)

The 60s fad for new dances brought us such wondrous things as:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <i>The Frug</i> | <i>The Clam</i> |
| <i>The Fox</i> | <i>The Jerk</i> |
| <i>The Fly</i> | <i>The Wah-Watusi</i> |
| <i>The Stroll</i> | <i>The Ebb'n'Flow</i> |
| <i>The Freddie</i> | <i>The Walk</i> |
| <i>The Mashed Potato</i> | <i>The Surf</i> |
| <i>The Jitterbug</i> | <i>The Stop</i> |
| <i>The Hop</i> | <i>The Pogo</i> |
| <i>The Pony</i> | <i>The Limbo Rock</i> |
| <i>The Locomotion</i> | <i>The Shing-a-ling</i> |
| <i>The Turkey Trot</i> | <i>The Strand</i> |
| <i>The Monkey</i> | <i>The Continental Walk</i> |
| <i>The Madison</i> | <i>The Slop</i> |
| <i>The Bang</i> | <i>The Fish</i> |
| <i>The Shimmy</i> | <i>The Bug</i> |
| <i>The Loddy Lo</i> | <i>The Bunny Hop</i> |
| <i>The Carnaby</i> | <i>The Duck</i> |
| <i>The Bossa Nova</i> | <i>The Elephant Walk</i> |
| <i>The March of the Mods</i> | <i>The Penguin</i> |
| <i>The Swim</i> | <i>The Molecule a-go-go</i> |
| <i>The Hucklebuck</i> | <i>The Zizzle</i> |
| <i>The Bristol Stomp</i> | |
| <i>The Limbo</i> | |
| <i>The Climb</i> | |





The Year Was 1957

"I'll tell you one thing, if things keep going the way they are, it's going to be impossible to buy a week's groceries for \$20."

"Have you seen the new cars coming out next year? It won't be long before \$5000 will only buy a used one."

"If cigarettes keep going up in price, I'm going to quit. A quarter a pack is ridiculous.."

"Did you hear the post office is thinking about charging a dime just to mail a letter?"



"If they raise the minimum wage to \$1, nobody will be able to hire outside help at the store."

"When I first started driving, who would have thought gas would someday cost 29 cents a gallon. Guess we'd be better off leaving the car in the garage."

"Kids today are impossible. Those duck tail hair cuts make it

impossible to stay groomed. Next thing you know, boys will be wearing their hair as long as the girls."

"I'm afraid to send my kids to the movies any more.. Ever since they let Clark Gable get by with saying 'damn' in 'Gone With The Wind,' it seems every new movie has either "hell" or "damn" in it."

"I read the other day where some scientist thinks it's possible to put a man on the moon by the end of the of the century. They even have some fellows they call astronauts preparing for it down in Texas."

"Did you see where some baseball player just signed a contract for \$75,000 a year just to play ball? It wouldn't surprise me if someday they'll be making more than the president."

"I never thought I'd see the day all our kitchen appliances would be electric! They are even making electric typewriters now."

"It's too bad things are so tough nowadays. I see where a few married women are having to work to make ends meet."

"It won't be long before young couples are going to have to hire someone to watch their kids so they can both work."

"Marriage doesn't mean a thing any more; those Hollywood stars seem to be getting divorced at the drop of a hat."

"I'm just afraid the Volkswagen car is going to open the door to a whole lot of foreign business."

"Thank goodness I won't live to see the day when the Government takes half our income in taxes. I sometimes wonder if we are electing the best people to congress."

"The drive-in restaurant is convenient in nice weather, but I seriously doubt they will ever catch on."

"There is no sense going to Lincoln or Omaha anymore for a weekend. It costs nearly \$15 a night to stay in a hotel."

"No one can afford to be sick any more; \$35 a day in the hospital is too rich for my blood."

"If they think I'll pay 50 cents for a hair cut, forget it."

As the World Turns

Author Unknown

If we could shrink the earth's population to a village of precisely 100 people, with all the existing human ratios remaining the same, it would look something like the following.

There would be:

- 57 Asians
- 21 Europeans
- 14 from the Western Hemisphere, north and south
- 8 would be Africans
- 52 would be female
- 48 would be male
- 70 would be non-white
- 30 would be white
- 70 would be non-Christian
- 30 would be Christian
- 89 would be heterosexual

- 11 would be homosexual
- 6 people would possess 59% of the entire world's wealth and all 6 would be from the United States.
- 80 would live in substandard housing
- 70 would be unable to read
- 50 would suffer from malnutrition
- (ONE) 1 would be near death;
- (ONE) 1 would be near birth;
- (ONE) 1 (yes, only 1) would have a college education;
- (ONE) 1 (yes, only 1) would own computer.

When one considers our world from such a compressed perspective, the need for acceptance, understanding and education becomes glaringly apparent. And, therefore

...
If you have food in the refrigerator, clothes on your back, a roof overhead and a place to sleep, you are richer than 75% of this world.

If you woke up this morning with more health than illness, you are more blessed than the million who will not survive this week.

If you have money in the bank, in your wallet, and spare change in a dish someplace, you are among the top 8% of the world's wealthy.

If you can attend a church meeting without fear of harassment, arrest, torture, or death, you are more blessed than three billion people in the world.

If you can never experienced the danger of battle, the loneliness of imprisonment, the agony of torture, or the pangs of starvation, you are

ahead of 500 million people in the world.

If your parents are still alive and still married, you are very rare, even in the United States.

If you can hold someone's hand, hug them, or even touch them on the shoulder, you are blessed because you can offer healing touch.

If you hold up your head with a smile on your face and are truly thankful, you are blessed because the majority can, but most do not.

If you can read this message, you have just received a double blessing in that someone was thinking of you, and furthermore, you are more blessed than over two billion people in the world who cannot read at all.

As you read this and are reminded how life is in the rest of the world, remember just how blessed you really are!



For The Record...

"The troops returning home are worried. We've lost the peace, men tell you. We can't make it stick..."

Friend and foe alike look you accusingly in the face and tell you how bitterly they are disappointed in you as an American...

Never has American prestige in Europe been lower...

Instead of coming in with a bold plan of relief

and reconstruction, we came in full of evasions and apologies...

A great many Europeans feel that the cure has been worse than the disease...

The taste of victory has gone sour in the mouth of every thoughtful American I met..."

*-Life Magazine
January 7, 1946*

5 months after the end of World War II

Friendship's Doors...

By Carice Williams

*The keys that open friendship's door
Are in your hands and mine
There's a key called understanding
Fashioned from a rare design;
For this quiet understanding
That is passed from friend to friend
Is what makes a pleasant friendship
Keep blooming with no end.*

*There's another key most precious
That can open friendship's door;
It's called love and we must use it
Each day, more and more
For if we give ourselves all freely
Ever seeking for the best
Being blind to faults of others
Then true friendship's been expressed.*

The 3rd Annual SPA/CSA Reunion

A celebration of excitement, accomplishment, remembrance and music will commence on December 6, 2003, at the SPA/CSA Annual Reunion Party. This event will be hosted at Ducks and will feature music by Butch Metcalf, dancing, and an open bar commencing promptly at 9:00PM. This innovative event has generated a renewed friendship between dancers past and present and the Reunion committee hopes the event will continue to grow. Only with your presence can we achieve this, thus we sincerely hope you will commit to attending this year's event.

On Saturday at 12:00 noon, the CSA Board will provide a buffet luncheon and award ceremony at the Tidewater Golf Club and Plantation for CSA/SPA members. Buffet will consist of the following:

Tossed Salad
Caesar Salad
Fresh Green Beans
Broccoli & Cheese
Red Skin Mashed Potatoes
Stuffed Chicken Breast
Carving Station with Honey Baked Ham, Steamship round
Dessert

If you plan to attend the Buffet Luncheon and Award Ceremony,
please RSVP by November 13, 2003 so we can have an accurate count for the restaurant.

(Use the form enclosed with your invitation)

Guests of CSA Member's are welcome for the luncheon (the cost for a guest is \$21.00)

At 1:00 PM there will be a General Membership Meeting at the Tidewater for CSA Members only.

At 3:00 PM the 2003-2004 Board of Directors will meet at Tidewater.

The SPA/CSA Annual Reunion guest list is exclusively limited to Hall of Fame, CSA/SPA competitors past and present, SPA club owners, DJ's and CSA/SPA friends. Hall of Fame, CSA/SPA Members should receive an invitation during October. Those who do not receive an invitation by November, should notify Charlie or Wilda Strigo at the number listed below. There is no charge for attendance, but each guest will be asked for a minimum donation of \$10.00. All donations will be given to the Hall of Fame Foundation.

A limited number of accommodations are blocked at the O. D. Resort at \$49.00 per night for a weekend rate. To make reservations, please call 1-843-249-1436 or 1-800-438-9590 and ask to speak to Barbara Timmons. We suggest scheduling your accommodations as soon as possible since additional parties are booking rooms at O.D. Resort for the same weekend. If you have any problems with reservations, ask to speak to Barbara Timmons

Anthony Smeltzer will be our professional photographer on Saturday night

Directions to Tidewater Golf Club and Plantation:

From North Myrtle Beach, Highway 17 North to the Cherry Grove Exit. At top of ramp turn right (toward beach). At the first stop light take a left, go to the stop sign and turn right on Little River Neck Road. Go approximately 2.5 miles and the main entrance to Tidewater will be on your left. At gatehouse inform them you are attending a luncheon at the club and you will be given a guest pass.

Go straight thru the intersection at the gatehouse.

This will be Tidewater Drive, it will dead end in front of the clubhouse.

For additional information, please contact Charlie or Wilda Strigo at 1-828-884-4369, email address Strigoc@citecom.net or write to: P. O. Box 1432, Brevard, North Carolina 28712.



*Pictures By:
Sonny Brown*





*Pictures by:
William Toney*





*Pictures By:
Andy Anderson
& Dennis Beaudoin*





*Pictures By:
Carolyn Cloe*

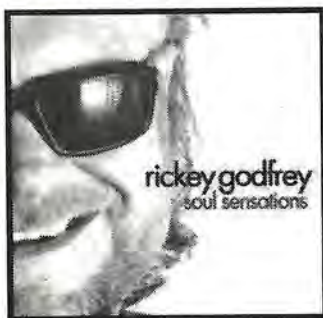


My Music or Yours

By Mike Little



Congratulations to all of the winners at the Carolina Beach Music Awards. And thanks for keeping our music alive. It was one great weekend and one great show.



In the stores now is the new Rickey Godfrey Band release, **Soul Sensations**. This new CD has the four smash hits previously released from various sources, those being the SugarBees' *Hold You To Your Promise*, *Give It To A Good Man* from Ripete's **Beach Party** and *Never Let You Go* from KHP Music's **Shut Up & Shag**, as well as *Can't Change My Heart* Ripete's **Beach Party 2**. The new release also contains *Come Home With Me* and *Hey Baby*, both of which are doing well in the Bop Market. According to Bobby Simmons of Bobby Simmons Records and keyboardist for the Rickey Godfrey Band, the main goal was to put everything in one package.

Remember when everyone related Eugene Bridges' vocal similarities to Sam Cooke? You will also relate Bill Coday's intro on *Back It Up And Put It There* to Cooke, which makes this number an even grater potential hit. It comes from Ecko Records' new release, **Take Me**. I was also impressed with *It Was A House Until You Made It A Home*. I guess it is sentiments that caught my attention with the Johnnie Taylor tribute, *If Johnnie Were Here Today*. There are



two versions of this John Ward-Raymond Moore penned song. This is definitely Bill Coday's best efforts since his 2000 **Memories** release from Ecko with *Moans, Grunts & Groans* and *When This Dance Is Over*.

Speaking of the late Johnnie Taylor who passed away several years ago, Malaco Records has released sixteen previously unreleased recordings of Taylor in **There's No Good**

In Goodbye. Each time Johnny went in for studio sessions for new album material, he would always one record one or more songs for future releases. All songs on this release come from those sessions, in fact, tracks ten through sixteen on the CD were recorded in 1999 during the sessions for his last album, **Gotta Get The Groove Back**, which was released by Malaco shortly before his death in May of 2000. *Take Me To The Mardi Gras* is the killer track from **There's No Good In Goodbye**. It will move quickly up the charts, probably taking the number one slot before it is over with. The song was written and previously recorded by Paul Simon (Simon & Garfunkle). When I first heard the song by Johnnie Taylor, I first thought I was listening to the late Johnny Moore of The Drifters' fame. This song, as you will note, is a duet with Johnnie's son Floyd Taylor, who added harmony vocals after his father's death. Interestingly enough, Malaco President Tommy Couch, Sr. discovered Johnnie Taylor while Taylor was singing at Malaco flagship artist Z.Z. Hill's funeral. Couch, Sr. signed Floyd Taylor after hearing

him sing at his father's funeral. Floyd made his debut into our music world recently with his *I'm Crazy 'Bout That Woman*. In addition to Floyd Taylor's voice being dubbed earlier this year to *Take Me To The Mardi Gras*, backing vocals by Valerie Kashimura and Freddie Young were also added. New Orleans arranger Wardell Quezergue, who had arranged the horns for the original Paul Simon session at the Malaco studios, was brought in to overdub the Mardi Gras horns by the New Orleans Onward Brass Band on Taylor's remake of the song. The result is sheer magic. Other notables on the release include *Crazy 'Bout You Baby*, which was written by Malaco songwriters Sam Moseley and Robert Johnson, who are artists in their own right. Remember *Call Me* from their 2000 Malaco CD, **Juke Joint**? You will be pleased with Johnnie's rendition of the classic, *She's In A Midnight Mood*, co-written by Ecko Records' John Ward and popularized by Ollie Nightingale. You will also like *Where Is Your Woman Tonight*. Give it a plus on the pitch control for smooth shagging or give it a minus for a great belly rubber. In

addition, there are two fabulous ballads on the collection, *If You're Lookin' For A Fool* and *I Reach For You*. The latter was written and produced by Frederick Knight, who also provided the keyboards and programming for the number. You may remember him from his 1973 classic, *I've Been Lonely For So Long*. **There's No Good In Goodbye** should be available everywhere and is a must.



Collectables is one great company to be aware of. They not only re-release some classic material but offer new material as well. It was this company that released Dion's **Deja Nu** several years ago with the hit *Hug My Radiator*. They now have released Dion's **New Masters** that contains a number of the classics from Dion & The Belmonts and Dion, the solo artist, that were re-recorded for this project. I first became interested in this project because of his version of *Rockin' Pneumonia And The Boogie Woogie Flu/I Wanna Get Close To You*. This song alone is worth obtaining the CD, however, I was pleasantly surprised with his interpretation of

Carl Perkins' *Blue Suede Shoes*. There is also a good remake of *Blue Monday*. I was extremely impressed with the updated version of Dion's classic *Love Came To Me*. Of all the remakes, which include *Ruby Baby*, *The Wanderer*, *Donna The Prima Donna*, *Drip Drop* and *Runaround Sue*, this by far the best. I'm showing my ignorance, but I never knew until acquiring this CD that Dion did a follow-up to *The Wanderer* with *Lovers Who Wander*. Dion, again, shows his song writing abilities with a ballad composed for his wife, *Behind Susan's Eyes*, and a stunning response to the terrorist attacks on September 11, *Come Heal This Land*. He treats the old songs like the classics they are, but with renditions that make them sound like new songs, thus the title, **New Masters**. Collectables has been around for a long time giving us a window to reach for the oldies. Give them a try at www.oldies.com. They even carry 45's on vinyl for those who have juke boxes.



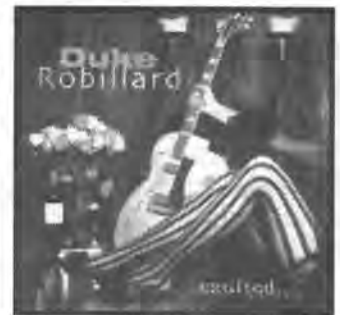
I recently wrote an article about Lavelle White and three other "Texas Soul Sisters". Antone Records and Texas Music Group

have released Lavelle's **Into The Mystic**, and already her rendition of *Soul Deep* is making noise. But that potential chart-maker is not the only song worth mentioning on the 12-cut release. Her own-penned *Computer Blues* should attract attention from music and dance lovers from all over. In the belly-rubbing department there are three tracks noteworthy, their being the Etta James' classic *At Last*, the Merle Haggard-Buck Owens penned *Today I Started Loving You (Again)* and her own *If (I Could Be With You)*. I was really impressed with the latter. It sounds the way they used to make them. Also included is her rendition of Edwin Hawkins Singers' *Oh Happy Day*. This CD is a killer.



It has been several years since we've heard from Eddy "The Chief" Clearwater. Well he's back ... on **Rounder Records**...and this time backed by America's most magnificent masked rhythm section ... the **Los Straitjackets**. *You're Humbuggin' Me* just may be the top pick from this 12-cut release entitled **Rock 'N' Roll City**, yet I was equally impressed with Eddy's

version of the Fats Domino classic *Let The Four Winds Blow*. *Hillbilly Blues* has a Chuck Berry feel to it, which I like very much so. For belly-rubbers, *Before This Song Is Over* fits the bill. But that's not all. *Old Time Rocker* is something I can relate to. Not just the words, but the music, also. This song may be a sleeper hit from the Rounder release. You can't tell it much in the above cuts, but on others, Los Straitjackets, who wear Mexican wrestling masks for appearances, bring their own mixture of Duane Eddy and the Ventures to the release.



Stony Plain Records has released Duke Robillard's latest, **Exalted Lover**. He is one of the founding members of **Roomful Of Blues**, as well as one of the guitarists that replaced Jimmie Vaughan in the **Fabulous Thunderbirds**. He probably has been one of our most overlooked artists, but his time is now. There are five, 5, strong cuts on this release and maybe more. Look for *Down Home Country Girl* to make the charts. And if you don't believe me, then try *Real*

Continued on Page 28

Most of you are older than 45, and most of you grew up at the beach or going to the beach several times a year from Easter until Labor Day. I would venture to say that the experience of being a frequent visitor to the beach taught you something about life. I can't say that it was the "best experience" a teenager could have had, because I made it thru Paris Island as a 17 year old (believe me THAT was an experience), but I can say being a jitterbug was a life-changing event.

Yes! I admit it! I was a "beach jitter" at Atlantic Beach, NC, in the late 50's and early 60's. Now the question is: Did I learn anything from that experience? Well, I have always said I did, but there are a few that disagree with me.

I learned that as I get older, my teenage years were a lot more fun to remember than to live thru again. Additionally, I was a lot "better dancer" than I was then and my future then was a lot brighter than it really was at the time. I guess age has its advantages, because now there aren't that many people left than can disagree with me.

What did I learn that I consider most important? Women! I know this is going to bring in the "editorial letters" to Michael Payne, however,



In the Sack with Money

by Jim Money

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



it's the truth and that's my story and I'm sticking to it! Now that I have made that monumental statement, I suppose you want me to back it up. I sort of feel like the late golfer, Payne Stewart, when he dressed in the "four-square" git-up complete with the Scottish hat. He said, "If you're gonna play golf in a git-up like this, you had better have the game to back it up!! Well, here goes what I have learned about women and how to handle them up front with honesty.

These are the rules of life from the male side of life, ala, learnings from being a beach jitter.

1. Crying to get your way is considered Blackmail!
2. Problem solving is my forte, sympathy is what girlfriends are for.
3. Anything I said 6 months ago is inadmissible. After 7 days my thoughts are null and void and can't be used against me.
4. If you think you look fat, there is a good chance you are....don't ask us!
5. You can ask us to do something or tell

us how you want it done, OK. Not both. If you already know the best way to do it, then just do it yourself.

6. If we ask what's wrong and you say "nothing" we will assume nothing is wrong. We probably know you are being dishonest, but it's not worth the hassle to confront you on it.
7. If you ask a question you don't really want an answer to, expect an answer that you really don't want to



Jim and Karen Money

hear. What's fair is fair!

8. You have enough clothes.
9. You have enough shoes.
10. Thank you for reading this; Yes, I know, I have to sleep on the couch tonight, but that's fine with me. Men don't mind that you know, it's kinda like camping out.

jim.money@vw.com
for the hate mail.

Mom!

Something is wrong with the Iraq inspection teams — they're all men!

How in the name of the United Nations does anyone expect men to find Saddam's stash? We all know that men have a blind spot when it comes to finding things.

For crying out loud! Men can't find the dirty clothes hamper. Men can't find the jar of jelly until it falls out of the cupboard and splatters on the floor — and these are the people we have sent into Iraq to search for hidden weapons of mass destruction?

I keep wondering why groups of mothers weren't sent in. Mothers can sniff out secrets quicker than a drug dog can find a gram of dope.

Mothers can find gin bottles that dads have stashed in the attic beneath the rafters. They can sniff out a diary two rooms and one floor away. They can tell when the lid of a cookie jar has been disturbed and notice when You want the job done? Call my mother.

2003 Pepsi Cola Carolina Beach Music Awards Winners...

Female Vocalist
Susan Trexler

Male Vocalist
Paul Craver

Favorite New Artist
Hack Bartley & Shuffle

Song of the Year
I'm Man Enough
Holiday Band

Group Album
Southern Soul Revue
Holiday Band

Solo Album
Let the Music Play
Paul Craver

Entertainer
Jim Quick

Smoothie
Where Do I Go
Bo Schronce

Compilation Album
Shut Up & Shag

Blues Song
Swamps of the Old Santee
Coastline Band

FM Radio DJ
Fred Rouse

AM Radio DJ
Ray Scott

Syndicated Radio Show
Coast to Coast Favorites
Fred Rouse

Blues Album
Down South Jukin'

Men of Distinction
Best Club

The Griffin Award
Fat Harold's
North Myrtle Beach, SC

Best Show Club
The Cecil Corbett Award
Thirsty's
Greensboro, NC

Producer/Engineer
Keith Houston for
Shut Up & Shag

Collaboration or Duo
Never Let You Go
Rickey Godfrey
& Andrea Keesee

Song Writer
Mike Taylor
I'm Man Enough

AM Radio Stations FM
WLWL WVCO

Club/Mobile DJ
Sain

Group of the Year
Holiday Band

Event of the Year
Triangle Beach Music
Festival

National Shag Song
New York City
Delbert McClinton

Michael Branch Award
Ripete Records

Instrumentalist
Butch Barnes
on Saxophone

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boulevard is as easy
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Turning the Tables

By Mike Lewis

Thanks For The memories, Next Time...

Four times each year we get to enjoy another issue of The Carefree Times, our own special publication, about our very intimate and private shag and beach world. Stories about our kind of people, our favorite places, our dancing and partying, our music. A zillion pictures, mostly alike, of us doing our thing, both there and everywhere else we do it. In The Carefree Times, much like The Smithsonian Magazine and others of its ilk, reminiscences abound, bringing back those days of yesteryear, and, wait—is the Lone Ranger here, too? Are we so far over the proverbial hill that all we can do is sit around and ‘member when? Have we looked into that fire and found that this is all there is?

Hell, no. This whole thing (life, friends, life) isn't in the final swirl, rapidly roiling downward toward a final flush. No way. If you don't believe me, just go on down to Spring SOS this year—2004, which you thought only happened in science fiction—and look around.

What you will see, in addition to several thousand temporarily friendly inebriates, clodhoppers, toe-tappers, cat-nappers, skirt-chasers, lost golfers and general degenerates—ain't they great?—is folks having a wonderful time making new memories of their own. Wearing that one especially goofy, revealing, tight, new, flashy, overpriced, unreal outfit. Trying that impossible step only a double-jointed junior or Charlie Womble on heavy Levitra could pull off. That fifth White Russian (there's a trolley, remember)? Going in the condo pool with those unsuspecting Canadians—their water is green already up there, isn't it? Twenty-seven old and new friends eating dinner at the Parson's Table, my wife hiding inside the ice machine in the men's bathroom, a tradition to surprise even the toughest SOS virgin.

Thanks for the memories, SOS—the brand new ones we make every single Safari or Migration, every single year, every trip to Ocean Drive. Being a member of this somewhat



Mike Lewis

unique fraternity (or sorority—hey, I'm in Chapel Hill) provides you and yours the opportunity to do, to be, to become, as you wish.

If you want to “Remember When,” then listen to Alan Jackson or The Earls or your favorite and shad a tear for your youth, your past, your “ups” and so forth. It's okay.

But then, get on with your life, friend. Come to SOS....it's still a cabaret, old chum, or a great cigar, a wonderful tune, an ice-cold beer, a step, a smile....

If the bed breaks, baby, I'll see you in the Spring (Safari)—either way.

-Mike Lewis
DJ Hall of Fame
(919) 942-4498
Chapel Hill, NC

The Pad

By Phil Sawyer

The Pad, the legendary joint that opened in 1955 became an institution in Ocean Drive Beach and was known far and wide by generations of shaggers, stranders, lovers of beach music and the coldest beer on the grand strand.

Built below a crash pad for life guards and stranders, dancers built a dance floor on the sand, and used old number 3 wash tubs for coolers.



The wash tubs were soon replaced by old surplus sale claw foot bath tubs, the juke box filled with the hottest music available from Charleston to

Virginia Beach, and the party people came by the hundreds. They left their names on the walls and politically incorrect graffiti, danced and drank beer the nights away, and probably did some other things they could not do back home.

Over the years, there were many ideas and a lot of talk about saving the Pad, but alas, since it was not built to “specifications” it could not be restored. It came down by demolition in 1994. The end of the Pad was indeed an end of an era. There will never be another one like it.

2003 Junior SOS

July 15th - 20, 2003

!! Mark Your Calendars Now!!

Date: July 16, 17, 18, 19, and 20

Place: North Myrtle Beach, SC

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...Junior Mixed Doubles Contest!!

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or ronalexander1@MSN.com

Jan Ashford Columbia, South Carolina 1954-2003

An anyone who ever saw, met, danced with or became friends with Jan Ashford would find it hard to forget her. She had the look, the presence, and the personality that left an ever lasting impression on everyone...and boy did she love to shag!

Born and raised in South Carolina, Jan was familiar with the shag from a young age, but really got serious about it and came to truly love and appreciate it approximately 25 years after taking lessons from Wanda and Norman Holliday, and then attending her first SOS. After that, Jan was hooked and took advantage of every opportunity to shag! In addition to frequenting the numerous and ever changing local shagger hangouts in Columbia, Jan became and remained active in the Columbia Shag Club, serving on its Board for three years, chairing the Door Committee, assisting with the Club's Newsletter, and serving in other capacities as needed. She was also an active member of the Palmetto Shag Club.

SOS, Mid-Winters and every other shag events frequently drew her to North Myrtle Beach. Most often she rented a condo at Tilghman's Beach & Racquet Club because it was within walking distance of all the shag clubs. To those good friends who stayed in the condo with her, she became affectionately known as our *Camp Director* because she was such a great coordinator of all the *who, what, when and where* aspects of our beach trips. Numerous other *road trips* to various out-of-town shag clubs events were also enjoyed by Jan and friends who traveled with her, and each trip was always a fun adventure!

Jan left us behind on her *last road trip*, but, with any luck, we'll join her again someday. In the meantime, we're sure that she's watching over us with her *signature smile* and tapping her toes, singing along with the shag tunes, reminiscing about the times of her life shagging and enjoying good times with friends.

Throughout the Bible's Old Testament, not much good is said about adultery. Turn to the New Testament, however, and there we are admonished to Love Our Neighbor!"
-I mean, go figure...

Favorite Things

*Maalox and nose drops and needles for knitting,
Walkers and handrails and new dental fittings,
Bundles of magazines tied up in string,
These are a few of my favorite things.*

*Cadillacs and cataracts and hearing aids and glasses,
Polident and Fixodent and false teeth in glasses,
Pacemakers, golf carts and porches with swings,
These are a few of my favorite things.*

*When the pipes leak,
When the bones creak,
When the knees go bad,
I simply remember my favorite things,
And then I don't feel so bad.*

*Hot tea and crumpets, and corn pads for bunions,
No spicy hot food or food cooked with onions,
Bathrobes and heat pads and hot meals they bring,
These are a few of my favorite things.*

*Back pains, confused brains, and no fear of sinned,
Thin bones and fractures and hair that is thinning,
And we won't mention our short shrunken frames,
When we remember our favorite things.*

*When the joints ache, when the hips break,
When the eyes grow dim,
Then I remember the great life I've had,
And then I don't feel so bad.*

Author Unknown

Why We Pay the Clubs a Floor Charge

A Brief History of the Revival of SOS

By Phil Sawyer

During the Spring Safari in 1989, when the Association acquired S.O.S., the only club at the beach that required the S.O.S. card for admission was Crazy Zack's, the Headquarters Club. Even during this event, non-S.O.S. members could pay a cover charge and be admitted to Crazy Zack's. In our first start from the gate, we finished last and lost thousands of dollars.

No other club on the beach required the S.O.S. card. In some places, there were even S.O.S. card burning parties. Zack's was empty, the other clubs packed. There was something almost festive about the demise of the once hallowed S.O.S.

After Spring Safari, Crazy Zack's entered into an agreement to serve as host for another party, The Grand Party, during the S.O.S. weekend; S.O.S. was left with no club which would require the S.O.S. card for admission. The Fall Migration was coming up in five short months, and we had no place to go.

To bring the event back to the level it had occupied for almost ten years, it was necessary to greatly enhance the value of an S.O.S. membership. As long as no club required the card who needed one? Believe me, we heard from

some members. Some even threatened to sue us.

In the summer of 1989, we opened negotiations with the major club owners at the beach. They were receptive because they too believed that their best interest was with the Association of Carolina Shag Clubs. To make the S.O.S. card a requirement all of the clubs had to be involved. At this time, the Spanish Galleon, which was the host club for Shag Time, had a large "door" of younger rock & roll and disco fans on Friday and Saturday nights and during the week. Young boppers, dressed to the nines, packed this place by the hundreds. In order to give up this "door" and bring the Galleon into the S.O.S. family compensation for the loss of income from this source was necessary. As the lawyers would say, quid pro quo.

Thus, S.O.S. agreed to pay the club an amount to compensate for the regular door revenue to make this club a shag club for S.O.S. and to require the S.O.S. card. The S.O.S. Board made agreement to treat all participating clubs using floor space as the determining factor, the agreements were signed and Fall Migration was a huge success, the beginning of what would be by today a

multi-million dollar success story.

Make no mistake, without this agreement in 1989, there would have been no Fall Migration, and S.O.S. would have been bankrupt and been a long lost memory. I don't have to tell you where the Association would be without the support of S.O.S. Many of the newer members of the Association would simply have sat around hundreds of bars on thousands of nights listening to ole timers talk about the way it use to be. "Boy, you should have been there....."

Now, because we saw fit to contract floor space with the clubs you have been there. You don't have to just hear about it. Incidentally S.O.S. has grown substantially each year since 1989, and the Association of Carolina Shag Clubs has moved from 30 to over 100 clubs in less than five years.

There have been other factors of course: Effective management, enlightened leadership, open administration of S.O.S. affairs and a strong commitment on the part of thousands of shaggers, stranders and lovers of beach music to an event that has almost holy overtones.

The club owners at the beach – indeed the entire community of North Myrtle Beach have now become partners in this spectacular event, which has no equal on the grand strand. At a

recent workshop in North Myrtle Beach, the Director of Public Safety praised the shaggers as the finest visitors who come to the beach and invited us back for many years to come.

We will continue to work with and promote our participating clubs, the clubs that worked with us hand in hand in hand, to establish S.O.S. as the premier dance event in the United States - and the largest adult beach party on the East coast. They are our partners in this fantastic happening.

We welcome the good will and cooperation of new clubs. We deeply appreciate the cooperation of all the interest of North Myrtle Beach.

S.O.S. will continue for years to come. Thousands of "yet to be" shaggers and stranders will come to love this event just as much as many of you, who weren't around in the early 40s, or people like me who were never a life guard or a "beach bum" in the late 40s or early 50s, have come to love it. S.O.S. is the personification of a way of life for which "a cold beer on a warm night with a hot date, and no plans for tomorrow, says it all.

It will stand.



My Music or Yours

Continued from Page 20

Live Wire. It, likewise, will appeal to dance and music lovers. I also like *I'll Never Be Free*. Duke teams up with Pam Tillis for this Dinah Washington classic. If you're wondering if Pam is kin to Mel, yes she is. She is the daughter of Country Music legend, Brother Mel Tillis. Speaking of duets, Duke also teams up with Debbie Davies for *How Long Has It Been*. The two obviously had a ball recording this track. Duke's vocal skills take the forefront on *Double X Daddy*, which opens with a piano solo accompanied by a walking bass line. You will like this Count Basie-style arrangement. **Exalted Lover** showcases the breadth of Duke's blues. He plays plenty of guitar on these tracks.



It has been almost ten years since Earl Thomas has given us any new material. The song, *Lost Alone*, from Shag Archives' **Hot Taw Mighty 3** was initially recorded in 1994. Memphis International has released Earl's newest, **Soul'd**, and included on the ten-track collection is a song that will catch on

quickly, that being *Look At Granny Run Run*. I played it in a club the other night, and it was well received and filled the floor. Other notable tracks include *I'm Broken Hearted* and *Midnight In Memphis*. Not only is Earl a notable singer, he is a talented songwriter. This is clearly evidenced by his *I Sing The Blues* popularized by Etta James. It is noteworthy that one of the songs Earl did not write on this album is Etta's *I'd Rather Go Blind*. Perhaps this is her way of returning the favor. Songwriting represents validation for Earl but performing and singing is at the core of his being. Against all odds, great soul music is back, thanks to Earl Thomas and **Soul'd**.

Until next time...

This article appeared in whole or in part in one or more of the following publications, The Beach Music Reporter

(www.beachmusicreporter.com) ABSCDJ Update, publication of the Association of Beach & Shag Club DJs and Rhythm & Blues Dee Jay News, publication of the National Association of Rhythm & Blues Dee Jays. Mike Little is a member of the Electric City Shag Club in Anderson, South Carolina. He hosted for 3-1/2 years The Saturday Morning Beach Party on WANS, 1280 AM in Anderson, which was rated by Arbitron as the highest rated AM show listened to and number three overall for that time slot.

S.O.S. IN RETROSPECT

Continued from Page 10

headquarters at Crazy Zack's. As in any first efforts there were mistakes, but we learned a lot. The bottom line is we brought it off, paid the bills, and made a little money. A lot of people worked long and hard and managed to have a good time doing it.

The Interim Board, with minor modifications became the Board of Directors of S.O.S. and Larry Taylor of Columbia was elected Chairman. The Board then elected Officers of the Corporation with Phil Sawyer, President.

The new Board and Officers discussed the goals of S.O.S. at length, and little has changed. Unity, crowd control, high class parties, responsible use of funds, permanence, and outstanding relationships with the North Myrtle Beach Municipal Officials and residents were then and are still our goals. We are proud to report that we have achieved all of these objectives.

S.O.S. continues unprecedented growth.

Many exciting features have been added. The unity and security at all participating Club doors, the trams, food, and expanded Carefree Times are S. O. S. initiatives. Funds from S. O. S. support local Club activities, the Association budget, The Mid Winter Classic, and charities. S. O. S. has just completed a \$100,000.00 gift to the Duke Foundation which supports the National Hospice effort. We have also established the S.O.S. Foundation to guide and direct future contributions.

The Enhancement Committee has given us Fun Monday which has added a significant dimension to our party especially now that it is a ten day affair, and who can ever forget our great S. O. S. Parades, now the biggest parades in North Myrtle Beach.

S. O. S. is now in its twenty third year. Many of us were teen agers when we began 'to dance and now OUR teenagers have teen agers. S. O. S. is confident of the future because "It Will Stand."

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Shagger's 10 Commandments

**1. Thou shalt do the basic step
and stay on time with beat of the music.**

2. Thou shalt respect all forms of fast dancing.

3. Thou shalt not take more space than is necessary.

4. Thou shalt look out for thy partner's safety.

5. Thou shalt not try to learn something new each dance.

6. Thou shalt dance with partners of all abilities.

7. Thou shalt not critique thy partner unless so asked.

8. Thou shalt be friendly and respectful to everyone.

**9. Thou shalt renew thy membership on time
and support thy club's activities.**



10. Thou shalt have fun!



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4392 (smokinjoedj@yahoo.com)



Dear Michael,

I picked up a gratis copy at Judy's House of oldies, and I was really pleased as I think it contains more than the usual measure of good and informative writing. As always, I enjoyed Phil Sawyers's contribution. As well, I learned much in the obit

article of Sam Phillips who was quoted "if you're not doing something different, you're not doing anything." I believe that is sage advice when it comes to any artistic endeavor. My favorite article was "Charlie's Place" by Frank Beacham, but "The Jitterbug Met R&B" by T. Edward Nickens was the first account of the transition of the faster dance, Jitterbug, to slower dance, Shag, which made complete sense, and which carries a stamp of historical veracity.

Congratulations! I still believe you still publish the best periodical for any form of swing dance in America.

-Alan Hall



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- '04 Spring Safari...April 23-May 2 •
- Junior SOS...July 9-12 •
- Fall Migration...September 17-26 •

2004 S.O.S. Membership Application

Name: (1) _____ Male Female

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: (Day) (_____) (Night) (_____)

Were you an SOS member in 2003? Yes No Are you a member of a shag club? Yes No

.....

Name: (2) _____ Male Female

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: (Day) (_____) (Night) (_____)

Were you an SOS member in 2003? Yes No Are you a member of a shag club? Yes No

.....

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