

Support the Sponsoring S.O.S.  
Fall Migration Beach Clubs!

S.O.S.

Fat Harold's, Crazy Zack's,  
Bushes at the Beach and the Pad

# Carefree Times™

## S.O.S.™ '86

©1986



**Ocean Drive, U.S.A.**  
The Beach Music Capitol of the World!

This (above) is what the graphics on the back of the *official S.O.S. Fall Migration™* Shirts will look like.

This is a reduced sneak-peek at the art that will go on the back of the shirts. The actual version will be silk-screened in navy blue and preppie green on white shirts. The small, new S.O.S. Fall Migration logo will be screened on the shirt front. There will be several types of very *limited edition* S.O.S. shirts: a t-shirt, a v-neck with banding and a collared, button-front shirt. Also, by popular demand, we will have an "S.O.S. Staff" visor available for purchase this year. These items will be available at the participating S.O.S. clubs. The quantities of all shirts is *very limited*. If you really want one, or collect 'em, we suggest that you not wait 'til late in the week, but purchase yours early to be assured we don't run out. *The prices will not be reduced at week's end!*

Prices: Visor ... \$5, T-shirt only 150 to sell! \$10,  
V-neck shirt ... \$15, Collared shirt ... \$20

"RUSH!!!" ... Why me? Why am I always the one that must rush? This thought came to me on August 15, the last day we accepted S.O.S. memberships by mail. The mail box was crammed. Some folks even sent their applications by Federal Express and Overnight mail at \$10.75 and up for postage. Almost all applications were marked "Rush!!!" I'm a little thick. I don't understand. These stragglers have had eight months to renew or join and we come right down to the wire ... it's the eleventh hour ... *and they want ME to rush.* Oh, well. Rush I will. *I guess it comes with the territory ...*

**A Few Rooms Available for S.O.S.  
Special Rates for S.O.S. Members at  
Carolina Surf Motel ...**

2501 N. Ocean Blvd. (by old Sonny's Pavilion at Cherry Grove). 1 br with sofa-bed (sleeps 4) \$55. 2 br with sofa-bed (sleeps 6) \$69. Telephone: 249-3576. If you haven't got a room yet, call Carolina Surf **now!**  
*New. On the beach. Very nice and Plush.*

**Dr. Gary, I presume ...**

*Over the years Kays Gary, columnist with the Charlotte Observer, has written numerous columns on my misdeeds, pranks, the S.O.S., etc. As a result we have become phone pals but have never met. Kays will be attending the Fall Migration for the first time this September. Kays (along with Jerry Bledsoe) was instrumental in making the S.O.S. a reality. Without him it wouldn't have come to pass.*

*It will be a great honor to finally say, "Dr. Gary, I presume," shake Kays' hand and buy him a drink!*



**FALL MIGRATION PROGRAM INSIDE**



# S.O.S. Carefree Times™

## **On-the-spot S.O.S. Renewals and Guest Memberships at the FALL MIGRATION**

Many of you have been phoning about this. We had fewer last-minute renewals than expected and, therefore, will have on-the-spot S.O.S. memberships available at the participating beach clubs: **Wednesday night at Fat Harold's. Thursday afternoon at Fat Harold's and the Bushes. Thursday night at Fat Harold's and the Bushes. Friday and Saturday (noon 'til 7 pm) at Crazy Zack's, Fat Harold's, and the Bushes.**

## **LAST-MINUTE ACCOMMODATIONS BULLETIN - SPECIAL S.O.S. RATES**

**Cabana Terrace** ... out of state: 1-800-845-0666  
S.C. residents ... 249-1421

**Xanadu I, II & III**- out of state: 1-800-772-6636  
S.C. residents call collect ... 272-3662

**Holiday Inn North**- out of state 1-800-847-9700  
S.C. residents ... 272-6153

**Little River Inn** .... out of state: 1-800-334-2076  
S.C. residents ... 249-5488

**Crescent Towers I, II and West and NMB Golf and Tennis Resort** ..... Call collect: 272-1770

*Tell all the above you're with the S.O.S.*

## **Official '86 S.O.S. Fall Migration Logo**

Designed by *Sand Flea* Living Legend, Malcolm H. Snedley, IV. Snedley, a noted graphic designer, was kind enough to design our '86 logo (we'll have a different logo for each Fall Migration in the future). This logo will appear in our yearbook, *Beach Roots*, on printed material and on the official S.O.S. shirts.

## **1987 Renewal Info** ... Please don't renew now.

Not just yet. A renewal form will be in your next issue of *Carefree Times* and we'll start servicing renewals in December and handle S.O.S. membership cards for those wishing to give them for Christmas presents. Give us a break ... **PLEASE** renew during the bleak, cold, dismal winter months prior to March. It's not so bad sitting at the computer then. But come spring ... it's torture bring cooped-up every weekend, entering membership data while looking out the window at the budding trees and the other children outside playing ... beckoning for me to join them in a game of kick-the-can. It's even worse than having to practice piano during the afternoon sand-lot football games. *More renewal info next issue* ...

## **S.O.S. Storm Warnings ...**

Don't forget your S.O.S. card! No tickee ... no laundry! If you lose it, you'll have to re-join. **Another warning:** *The NMBPD has gotten zealously tough. Don't risk carrying a cup outside any of the clubs ... even if it contains a Pepsi. You may have to pay dearly!*

## **Flotsam 'n' Jetsam ...**

One of my favorite Dee-jays has always been Butch Davidson of Columbia. He now has his own beach club... Butch's ... 3612 Covenant Rd. in Columbia. Congratulations, Butch! *Just returned from O.D. from a weekend of setting-up S.O.S. - Observation: Some of you guys seem to have forgotten "who brung you to the dance." This is a slow season for the clubs. There are too many slices being taken from the diminishing beach music pie. Real blood-letting is taking place. Harold Bessent has hung in there with the beach music crowd for many years. And when the smoke settles ... he will be a survivor. Harold's prices are a tad higher, granted. They should be. His rent and overhead on the ocean by the Great Mother, the ocean, is a lot higher ... enough to gag a maggot! The total \$ difference for an entire evening of partyin' isn't much. Let me tell you something. Harold Bessent has been loyal to the shaggers for many years. It's time you guys show a little loyalty to him. Why? 'Cause Harold "brung you to the dance," that's why. And he'll still be at the beach when others have closed their doors. Desktop Publishing is the new buzz-word in the personal computer world. The trend has even been written up in magazines like Time and Newsweek. It all sounds so very new ... setting type on a computer and publishing a special-interest newsletter. Hell, we've been Desktop Publishers for years now and didn't even know it! *If this issue looks, and reads, a little disjointed it's because it was written and put together a bit at a time. We'll have our regular features back in the next issue.**



## **S.O.S. CAREFREE TIMES**

*Published six times each year as time and mood allow.*

Gene Laughter ... Editor,  
Publisher, Stamp-licker  
and go-fer.

S.O.S. Carefree Times is published expressly for members of the S.O.S. and is not available by subscription.



**Final Edition Before the S.O.S. Fall Migration™!**

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# FAT HAROLD'S BEACH CLUB

*ON THE OCEAN!*

*BY THE SEA!*

## FAT HAROLD'S WELCOMES S.O.S.ers

TO O.D. FALL MIGRATION VII

*We've got fun times planned for YOU ...*



*WEDS. AFTERNOON 'TIL 7 PM*

**HAPPY HOUR  
PRICES**

FOR S.OS. EARLY BIRDS!

*THURSDAY AFTERNOON*

**HAPPY HOUR  
PRICES**

FREE HORS D'OEUVRES &  
DRAFT BEER AT 3 PM

*FRIDAY AFTERNOON*

**HAPPY HOUR  
PRICES**

FREE HORS D'OEUVRES &  
DRAFT BEER AT 3 PM

*SATURDAY AFTERNOON*

**S.O.S. Cookout**

Good menu ... a full meal!

Free Cookout and  
Free Draft Beer at 5 pm

*SUNDAY AFTERNOON*

**BON VOYAGE  
PARTY**

NOON 'TIL 1 PM ...  
Free Liquid Sunshine!

*Harry Driver ... M.C.*  
Hall of Fame Shag Exhibition at 2 pm

Continuous Play THURS., FRI., & SUN.

**SHAG VIDEOS**

On Giant screen TV in  
Fat Harold's Game Room

- SHAGGERS' HALL OF FAME
- 30 MIN. SC-ETV FILM "SHAG"
- NEW YORK SWING SOCIETY

OPEN EVERY DAY AT NOON ... BEACH MUSIC DEEJAYS DAY 'N' NIGHT!

S.O.S. NEWCOMERS ... CHECK-OUT OUR OCEAN FRONT DECK, DANCE FLOOR AND BARS!

**FAT HAROLD'S BEACH CLUB**





*Fri. and Sat. til 7 pm & Fri. Night 1 am til 6 am ...*

# 25c Draft Beer

## (\$2.50 Pitchers!)

*FRIDAY AFTERNOON - 2 pm - til ? ... "Pre-Hazel" Old Timers' Pool party! Butch Davidson-DJ*  
*SATURDAY AFTERNOON - Shuckin' 'n' Jivin' with Jo-Jo Putnam Pool Party. Inside too!*

- Lots of dancin' and party space!
- Cool
- Beautiful Outside Deck and Bar
- Nautical Atmosphere
- Loads of Free Parking for Crazy Zack's customers
- Beach Music Day and Night during S.O.S.

*DO NOT CARRY CUPS OF BEVERAGES OUT THE DOOR ... IT'S AGAINST THE LAW!*

*S.O.S. RENEWALS AND MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE AT CRAZY ZACK'S!*

## The Pad

The Beach Music Shrine Since '55

### Wednesday Night ...

Meet your beach buddies for tall tales 'n' lies.  
Bushes and Pad.

### Thursday Afternoon ...

**Free Liquid Sunshine** from noon - 1 pm.  
Bushes and Pad.

### Thursday Night ...

**S.O.S. Warm-up Party.** Get your shaggin' team in shape! Free draft beer 8 pm - 9 pm.  
Bushes and Pad.

### Friday Afternoon ...

**Free Fish Fry** for S.O.S.ers! Bushes and Pad at 2 pm. Happy Hour at Bushes and the Pad noon - 1 pm.

### Friday Night ...

**S.O.S. Training Party** starts at 8 pm.  
Bushes and Pad.



## the BUSHES

At The Beach

### Saturday Afternoon ...

*Harry Driver-M.C.*  
1 pm - Shaggers' **Hall of Fame Shaggin'** Exhibition at the Pad. (Group photo of all Hall of Famers at 2:15). Scheduled group photos of Shag Associations and S.P.A. Beach Clubs.  
*See schedule posted at Bushes and the Pad.*

### Saturday Night ...

Boogie at the Bushes ... Party at the Pad!

### Sunday Afternoon ...

**Free Liquid Sunshine** from 1 pm - 2 pm at the Bushes and the Pad. **Shaggers Ltd. Party** 1:30 at the Bushes ... all S.O.S.ers invited. S.O.S.ers Farewell Party at the Pad.

### The Perfect S.O.S. Memory ...

Group photo of your Shag Association or S.P.A. Beach club with the Pad as a back-drop. See schedule posted at Bushes and Pad. Get your own group together for a photo. Details at Bushes.



## THE PROGRAM

### The Big Four Exclusive S.O.S. Fall Migration Beach Clubs:

- 1. Fat Harold's ... S.O.S. SHAGGERS HEADQUARTERS CLUB!** Fat Harold's will cater to shaggers and will be the *shaggin' hub* of S.O.S. activity for the weekend. *Exclusive S.O.S. members only parties on Friday and Saturday afternoons until 7 p.m.* and a \$5 per person cover charge for non-S.O.S.ers at night.
- 2. Crazy Zack's ... S.O.S. CO-HEADQUARTERS CLUB!** Lots of free parking for S.O.S.ers ... Lots of space too ... inside and out ... and beach music galore! Open all night except Saturday. Open Sunday. *S.O.S. members only during the day* and cover charge for non-S.O.S.ers at night!
- 3. and 4. Bushes and The Pad ...** Bushes will cater to all age groups ... and the Pad will cater to the "oldies." *S.O.S. members only during the day* and a \$5 cover charge for non-S.O.S.ers at night after 7 pm.

### S.O.S. Fall Migration Menu of Musical Madness

Only the Strong Survive ...

Weds.

Wednesday night - 9 til ? at Fat Harold's - *Early Bird's Party*

This is one of the *best parties* of the Migration as it's not too crowded! *S.O.S. Memberships available.* The real hard-core Early Bird's will be there Tuesday night too. (Some of us may even gather at Harold's on Sun. and Mon.)!

Thurs.

Thursday noon - Official start of the S.O.S.! *Let the music and dancing begin!*

We will start passing out free S.O.S. yearbooks at Fat Harold's. One per couple please! Have your SOS card! *Early Bird Survivors' Party* at Bushes and the Pad ... *Free Liquid Sunshine noon 'til 1 pm.*

Thursday night - 10 pm at Fat Harold's - *S.C. Shag Logo Unveiling and Award*

The State of S.C. held a design competition for the official logo for the state's official state dance, the Shag. The winner will be announced and the new logo unveiled! Lt. Governor Mike Daniel will present the award. Many state and local dignitaries will be present. A short, interesting, history-making ceremony that you will not wish to miss! *S.O.S. memberships available at Fat Harold's Thursday night.*

Thursday night - 8 pm at Bushes - *SOS Warm-up Party.* Free draft beer at Bushes and the Pad - 8 'til 9

Fri.

Friday Afternoon - 2 pm 'til ? at Crazy Zack's - *Pre-Hazel Pool party* ... with Butch Davidson

as DJ ... outside deck gathering of the Beaver Boys, Robert's Pavilion gang, Spivey's crowd, Myrtle Beach Pavilion crowd, old beach bums and all pre-Hazel folks for an entire afternoon return to those thrilling days of yesteryear!

*(Kim Laughter Summers will be on the door and have S.O.S. memberships available.)*

Friday Afternoon - Noon at Fat Harold's - *Beach Music Reunion*

Friday Afternoon - 2 pm-Bushes & Pad - *Free S.O.S. Fish Fry! Happy Hour from noon 'til 1:30!*

Friday night - 8 pm - at Bushes at the Beach - *S.O.S. Training Party*

Friday night - 8 pm - at Crazy Zack's - *Beach Music Bash*

Friday night - 8 pm - at Fat Harold's - *The Beach Beat Goes on ... and on ...*

Sat.

Saturday Afternoon - 1 pm at Crazy Zack's - *Shaggin' 'n' Pool party* ... with Jo-Jo Putnam as DJ

Saturday afternoon - 1 pm at the Pad. - *Introduction of Sand Flea Beach Club's Shaggers Hall of Fame* and a *Shaggin' Exhibition* by the Hall of Famers. (2:15 - Group photo to be taken of Hall of Famers).

*(Group Photos of Shag Associations and S.P.A. Clubs at Pad. See schedule to be posted there.)*

Saturday afternoon - 3 pm at Fat Harold's - *B.M.I. Achievement Award* to be presented to renowned newspaper columnists Kays Gary and Jerry Bledsoe by Stan Catron. *Also, Sand Flea Beach News Living Legends Awards.* To be followed by a *Lindy Hop Exhibition.* *S.O.S. Membership cards available.*

Saturday afternoon - 5 pm at Fat Harold's - *Free cookout 'n' Draft Beer for S.O.S.ers only.*

Saturday night - All Big 4 Beach Clubs - *Shuckin' 'n' jivin'* 'til 2 am when the law makes us quit!

Sun.

Sunday afternoon - Noon 'til 1:30 pm at Fat Harold's - *Bon Voyage Party with free Liquid Sunshine ... S.O.S.ers only!* 2:00 - *Hall of Famers' Shag Exhibition.*

Sunday Afternoon - 1 pm at Crazy Zack's - *Beach Music party*

Sunday Afternoon - 1:30 at Bushes- *Shaggers Ltd. Party (all S.O.S.ers invited) & Farewell Party at the Pad ... Free Liquid Sunshine from 1:00 'til 2:00 pm.*

Sunday night - Hangers-on Final Hoo-rah at all Big 4 Beach Clubs ... One mo' time!

Every afternoon ... S.O.S. Deck Parties (inside parties too) at Fat Harold's and Crazy Zack's and S.O.S. inside-outside parties at Bushes and the Pad!

Part Time Party Band at the Galleon Fri. & Sat nights. \$6 cover for non-S.O.S.ers. \$3 for S.O.S.ers



*The Official S.O.S. Sponsoring and Participating Beach Clubs ...*

**Fat Harold's, Crazy Zacks, Bushes and the Pad.**

Without their continuing support over the years, S.O.S. wouldn't be a reality at O.D. - we would be elsewhere. These clubs have been loyal to our group and have stuck with beach music policies through good years and bad. Give them your support during S.O.S. ... Visit all of the participating clubs and let them know that we appreciate them!

# Ocean Drive, U.S.A.

*The Beach Music Capitol of the World!*



## S.O.S Fall Migration VII <sup>TM</sup>

- Beach Music • Shaggin' • Cookouts • Fish Fries
- Deck Parties • Happy Hours • Hall of Famers
- Beach Music D.J.'s • Beach Parties • Tall Tales
- Short Shorts • Fine Frames • Exhibitions
- Exhibitionists • Sunshine • Seafood • Moonlight
- Ol' Buddies • New Friends • Beer • Booze
- Bikinis • Ocean Breezes • Memories • Legends
- Love • Laughs ... *S.O.S. Members migrate here annually from 27 states to enjoy all of these things one mo' time!*

### **S.O.S. DeeJays... the Finest!**

#### **FAT HAROLD'S...**

Dr. Bo Lee	Chip Bellamy
Mit Starbuck	Skipper Dukes
Mike Lewis	Ronnie Gardner
Butch Davidson	Bob Bullard

#### **Crazy Zack's...**

Jack Moore  
Jo-Jo Putnam  
Butch Davidson  
Johnny Walker

#### **Bushes and the Pad**

Ray Clemment  
Gary Bass  
Jo Ann Johnson  
Butch Metcalf





## In search of the silver lining

Everything came up roses for so many years. The good life. The Laughters couldn't have asked for more.

And then *along came 1986* and things started going down the tubes. Gigantic, menacing dark-black clouds have hovered over my family's heads for six consecutive months with no signs of letting up. Believe me - this eventually takes its toll ... both physically and emotionally.

You really don't need ... nor want to hear about my problems. These problems are somewhat part and parcel to the planning and execution of the S.O.S., however, as they have consumed my time and head ... allowing so few hours for S.O.S. logistics this year.

First there was the sudden, unexpected death of our son-in-law, Phil Summers, in March. Many of you knew Phil and our daughter, Kim. Phil was my right arm when it came to running the S.O.S. show.

In May, our family was just getting things somewhat back in order when my wife, Nadine, discovered that she had breast cancer. This resulted in worry, medical consultations, a couple of hospital stays, plus a summer of daily radiation treatments which forced us to cancel our annual summer O.D. vacation ( I normally spend my O.D. vacation pinning down the details of the September S.O.S. party).

Now the S.O.S. yearbook is the real bear. *It's a killer.* Countless days and nights go into design, typesetting, cropping photos, mechanical paste-up and press preparation.

In mid-July we had settled down again and I had just started on the yearbook when yet another bomb dropped.

Our daughter, Leslie Ellmore, was rushed to the hospital with a rupture that resulted from an ectopic pregnancy. An emergency operation was performed ... and then the *real problems* began. A cascading series of complications dominoed and threw her into intensive care for an extended stay and another more major abdominal operation was necessary. Nadine and I practically lived in the intensive care waiting room for two solid weeks - deeply concerned about Leslie's very life and limb. It was an absolute nightmare.

Unfortunately these were the same two weeks that I had blocked off for completing the S.O.S. yearbook. I quickly had to decide between either desperately throwing together the yearbook or totally aborting the project. I opted to go the former route. The bottom line is: *there will be a yearbook*, though it's a hastily done product. There will not be *nearly as many photos* as we

(or you) would have liked. I took most production shortcuts known to man and purposely reduced the amount of photographs in the book to save on cropping time. It was this ... or no book.

I'm now frantically trying to put the S.O.S. party together. Many Migration details will not be wrapped up as neatly as they should. Some things will slip through the cracks. Other items will not be buttoned down. Come the Fall S.O.S., I do hope that you will *understand*.

The quality of the writing that replaced some of the photography pages in our '86 S.O.S. yearbook, *Beach Roots*, is absolutely superb, however. We were fortunate to get *Kays Gary*, columnist for the *Charlotte Observer*, to write an exclusive article for us... "The way we were before the music stopped." Also *Stan Catron* wrote an interesting flash-back story about the time he was on the cover of *Life* magazine, dancing the Lindy hop. *Billy Holliday* gave us permission to reprint his article, "Shagging," which ran in the *Myrtle Beach Magazine* this spring. Many of you have already read it, but many more have not. We also reprinted *Bill McDonald's* exciting 1980 account of the first Fall Migration.

*Beach Roots* may be the last yearbook that S.O.S. will publish. The yearbook has become too big an undertaking for one person. It's an absolute monster! We may expand the newsletter, *Carefree Times* and run photos in most issues of this publication instead. This is another subject for another day, however. We'll see.

Nadine has recently pleaded with me to give up the S.O.S. endeavor (obsession?). S.O.S. has become an albatross with an insatiable appetite that literally gobbles up huge chunks of my fleeting spare time. In tough times like these working on the S.O.S. just may be one of the few things that has allowed me to maintain even a *thin thread of sanity*. And there remains a final personal challenge. I would like to see the S.O.S. through its 10th Anniversary in 1990. After that, who knows ...

Now ... the good news! *Kim is fine. She'll be working at the Fall Migration. Nadine is doing great. Leslie is out of the hospital ... on the mend and, after a couple of months, will be back teaching school. Nadine and I are taking a needed rest and three-weeks vacation come September S.O.S. - to try to sort things out, get our heads back together, and lose those black storm clouds!*

If the Laughters can just manage to get through the balance of 1986, hopefully:

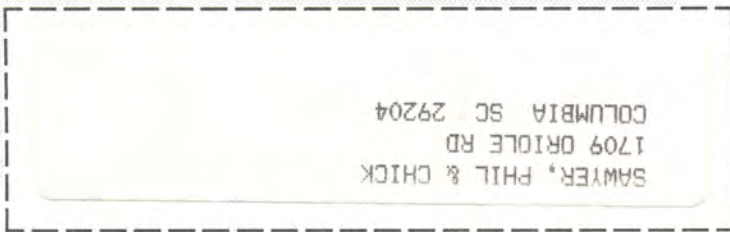
*"There'll be blue birds over the white cliffs of Dover, tomorrow, just you wait and see."*

G.L.



THE PROGRAM... S.O.S. Fall Migration VII ...

Final Edition Before the Migration!



FIRST CLASS



FIRST CLASS



S.O.S. Carefree Times™  
P.O. Box 8343  
Richmond, VA 23226

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**Two Free '87 S.O.S. Memberships with Rental of S.O.S. Condo -**

**Unit B-1 (4-Brs) of ocean front Island Dunes Between October 15 and March 31.**  
That's \$30 off for a weekend! 2 free S.O.S. membership cards for any weekend, or week, with the condo rental. If you have a group renting the condo, you can split the savings between you and decide who will get the 2 membership cards. Lewis Company will give you a certificate upon check-out entitling you to the free S.O.S. cards.

Call Lewis Co.toll - free: 1-800-334-3390

Island Dunes at 1019 S. Ocean Blvd. & 11th Ave. S.\*  
\* (The street that runs from the ocean to Don's Pancake House)

**2 Free 1987 S.O.S. Memberships with Rental of this Condo!**