

# S.O.S. Carefree Times

## '87 S.O.S. Dates Set

**1987 SPRING SAFARI ...**  
**APRIL 2, 3 & 4** Complete info sent  
with '87 S.O.S. card.

**1987 FALL MIGRATION ...**  
**SEPT. 16, 17, 18 & 19**

**We will start processing '87 S.O.S. membership renewals Dec. 1**  
 As you probably know, S.O.S. memberships are for the calendar year and all 1986 memberships expire on December 31, 1986. Your 1987 membership includes both the Spring Safari and the Fall Migration. We start all over again on January 1st and future issues of the newsletters will be mailed only to those who have renewed their memberships. The earlier you renew the more you'll benefit! So ... this is **YOUR RENEWAL NOTICE**. Please fill out the enclosed renewal application and renew **NOW** and don't miss a single issue of the **CAREFREE TIMES!**

**Ho! Ho! Ho! You can give S.O.S. memberships as CHRISTMAS GIFTS!**  
 Should you wish to give an S.O.S. card as a Christmas gift let us know and we'll mail the **MEMBERSHIP CARD** to your recipient along with a **XMAS** gift announcement from you.

## Flotsam and Jetsam ...

Looking back at the '86 Fall S.O.S. Migration, things couldn't have gone much smoother. My hat is off to Mayor Dick Hester, the City of North Myrtle Beach and particularly the N.M.B. Police Department! The cooperation shown by the city and the police is deeply appreciated and I believe the relationship between the city and S.O.S. has been vastly improved. Mayor Hester and I met a few days prior to the S.O.S. and I applaud and commend Mayor Hester for his spirit of cooperation. Since the city took a common sense approach to our gathering, I feel that we too have a responsibility not to openly and flagrantly violate the statutes of the city of North Myrtle Beach. North Myrtle Beach has a law against the open public display of spirited beverages and I urge you to respect this in the future. We have asked for a more lenient approach by the police. In order to achieve this we must also cooperate with them. Please don't walk around on the sidewalks and streets carrying a drink in your hand. We've asked to be treated as adults ...*let's act the part!*

*A few 1986 S.O.S. highlights ... B.M.I. awards to Kays Gary and Jerry Bledsoe for their roles in getting the S.O.S. off the ground ... Hall of Famers exhibition at Bushes ... Fat Harold's organization ... Crazy Zack's music and air conditioning ... Afternoons on Fat Harold's front deck ... Old friends and new faces ... Butch Davidson's music selection ... Sand Flea's Living Legend Awards ... Red Hughes' D.J. set-up on Fat Harold's rear deck ... The perfect weather ... The upgraded S.O.S. shirts ... The fun of it all!*

## **REPEAT OF A SELL-OUT!** Beautiful '86 Migration Shirts

Many of you have written about ordering the S.O.S. shirts that were sold at the Fall Migration. We sold out of everything in sight! We're now going back to press on a **LIMITED QUANTITY** of a couple of the shirt models. *We will not reprint any t-shirts as only a small quantity was printed for the collectors and we guaranteed no more would be sold. T-shirts will be printed in very small quantities in the future.*

**The 1986 S.O.S. shirts offered below are on a one-time basis. Order yours NOW!**

**White V-Neck**  
 S.O.S. logo on front  
 graphics on back.  
 m, l, & xl only  
**\$15 + \$2 postage & handling**

**Hot Pink Collared Shirt**  
 S.O.S. Migration embroidered  
 on front. Generously sized.  
 s, m, l, & xl sizes  
**\$25 + \$2 postage & handling**

**S.O.S. Staff Visor**  
 Kelly green with white lettering.  
 one size fits all.  
**\$5 + \$1 postage & handling**

**Order from: S.O.S. SHIRTS, P.O. Drawer 505, Denver NC 28037**  
*Make check or money order to: S.O.S. SHIRTS*

**S.O.S. Accommodations Discounts**  
*Condos have been blocked off and special discounts for S.O.S. members for the Spring Safari and Fall Migration. Upon your '87 S.O.S. membership renewal, you will receive S.O.S. Reservation Certificates entitling you to reserve an S.O.S. condo and receive the special discounts. Reservation will be by certificate only and you will get the certificates upon renewal along with your 1987 membership card. These accommodations will be booked up fast ... first come, first served ... Renew now!*

## BULLETIN BOARD

*(Note to Shag Clubs and Beach Clubs: Put us on your mailing list ... keep us posted on your schedule and we'll pass the word along in future issues of Carefree Times.)*

### Tidewater Shag Club 1st Birthday Bash!

A Biggie ... T.S.C. now has 846 members and still growing! January 23rd - 25th at Fat Roger's (formerly Calamities) Beach Club in Virginia Beach ... Bargain Weekend Package available ... food, shaggin,' Super Bowl 'n' fun! For reservations, more info and details contact: *Fran Bingley / 7024 Gail Dr. Norfolk VA 23518 / (804) 857-0065*. Cut-off for reservations: January 10th.

### Richmond VA Shag Club Formed ...

Weekly Wednesday night gathering at D.J's Lounge at Holiday Inn on Midlothian Trnpke ... for more info call: *Fran Bingley at (804) 857-0065*.

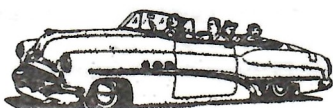
### April 30 - May 3rd ... Sand Flea Beach Club Package Trip to the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival!

I've personally attended the N.O. Jazz Festival for some ten years running and it's an annual pilgrimage that I would never want to miss! You talk about fun! And great music ... blues, gospel, cajun, jazz, rhythm and blues ... lots of big names ... and great chow! Now you can attend with a group of shaggers and save some big bucks, too! This one is an absolute MUST! More info in January.

### Dates for Jacksonville Beach Music Festival Changed to May 14-16.

The J.B.B.A. bash will be held at Jax beach this year instead of the river. A full week-end of parties and fun! More info in January issue of Carefree Times!

**'87 S.O.S. Yearbook.** Maybe, and then again, maybe not. I indicated that the '86 yearbook would probably be the last ... and it may. The yearbook is such a gigantic chore and drain. My intentions right now are to *try to get one out*, however. If I just don't run into any black clouds or time-consuming snags, I'll give it a shot on a best efforts basis. *Just don't hold me to it!*



## 1953 ... 33 Years Ago.

### Top 10 in Rhythm and Blues from Billboard

1. He Treats Your Daughter Mean- Ruth Brown
  2. Shake a Hand..... Faye Adams
  3. Hound Dog..... Willie Mae Thornton
  4. Crying in the Chapel ..... Orioles
  5. The Clock ..... Johnny Ace
  6. I Don't Know ..... Willie Mabon
  7. Good Lovin' ..... Clovers
  8. Baby, Don't Do It ..... Five Royales
  9. Help Me Somebody ..... Five Royales
  10. Please Love Me ..... B.B. King
- Other R&B tunes that gained popularity on the S.C. beaches during the summer of '53:*
12. Crawlin'..... Clovers
  13. Let Me Go Home Whiskey... Amos Milburn
  17. Soft..... Tiny Bradshaw
  18. Red Top..... King Pleasure  
*(I'm still looking for a copy or tape of Red Top)*
  21. Honey Hush .....Joe Turner
  25. 1 Scotch, 1 Bourbon, 1 Beer-Amos Milburn
  27. Mercy, Mr. Percy .....Varetta Dillard
  29. Money Honey .....Clyde McPhatter  
Rot Gut .....Wynonie Harris

### Top 10 R&B Artists:

1. B.B. King
2. Clovers
3. Lloyd Price
4. Ruth Brown
5. Roscoe Gordon
6. Dinah Washington
7. Dominoes
8. Fats Domino
9. Joe Turner
10. Earl Bostic

*In 1953 R&B was getting hot! Larger radio stations started devoting some air time to this new black musical art form. A few of the better known Southern radio station D.J.'s of the times: Okey Dokey, Poppa Stoppa and Ernie the Whip of New Orleans; Zenas Daddy Sears ... Atlanta; Larry Doc Jive Shields ... Savannah; Sherman Blues Johnson ... Meridan; Hy Davis ... Jackson; Gene Nobles and John R. Richbourg ... Nashville; Moolah ... Memphis; Flip Forrest ... and Ack-Ack Ackerman ... San Antonio.*

### Top 10 on the Lucky Strike Hit Parade

1. Song from Moulin Rouge ..... Percy Faith
2. Vaya Con Dios ..... Les Paul & Mary Ford
3. Doggie in the Window..... Patti Page
4. I'm Walking Behind You ..... Eddie Fisher
5. You, You, You ..... Ames Brothers
6. Till I Waltz Again with You . Teresa Brewer
7. April in Portugal .....Les Baxter
8. No Other Love ..... Perry Como
9. Don't Let Stars Get in Your Eyes ...P. Como
10. I Believe ..... Frankie Laine

## Silver Lining Search ...

*Epilog* by Gene Laughter

Nomini Bay. You've never heard of it I'm sure. It's a small picturesque bit of protected water just off the Potomac River by Stratford Hall, the majestic plantation home of Lighthorse Harry Lee and birthplace of Robert E. Lee. A few miles to the east lies the Chesapeake Bay.

Around the bend, on the seven mile wide Potomac, huge 90-foot cliffs front the river and contain rich deposits of miocene epoch fossils - the remains of marine animals and fish that once teemed in an ancient prehistoric sea some 12 to 18 million years ago.

Giant 60-foot extinct sharks, which were the predecessors of today's *great whites*, once dominated this inland sea and these sharks fed on whales. Saucer-size shark's teeth erode from the Stratford and Nomini cliffs occasionally and wash up on the river beach. Fossil whale and porpoise vertebra are common.

Prior to the S.O.S. this quaint area was my constant week-end stomping ground ... and collecting and identifying these fossils was my primary avocation and hobby. I spent many happy years hiking and canoeing the wide Potomac in this part of Virginia - roaming the sandy beaches and searching for miocene fossils.

And then along came the S.O.S. and my interest in this hobby waned ... along with any spare time for this pleasurable pursuit.

I hadn't been back up there in six years. Not until the weekend before S.O.S. VI that is. I rode up to the Potomac for a couple of days to get away from the pressures - to relax. I traveled along the Potomac ... through my beloved Westmoreland Country and aimlessly rambled through the backwoods roads.

I was sitting in my car, parked in a grove of peach trees that was at the end of a lonely country road - studying a map, trying to plot my way back to Highway 3 for the hour ride home to Richmond.

A pickup truck stopped and the driver politely asked, "You lost?"

"Not really," I replied, "I just don't know exactly where I am."

"Whatcha lookin' for" the truck driver inquired.

"Oh, I'm just riding around. Maybe someday I'll find a week-end place 'round here," I casually answered.

"I'm a builder and there's a three story log cabin down the road from my house. I built it and built it well. The



owner only lived in it a week and then he went broke. The cabin's now owned by the bank. It's just been sitting there at the end of this dirt road for a year or so - on an acre right on the water. Maybe you ought to follow me and take a look at it."

That was on a Sunday. The day before Labor Day. Three days later, on the following Wednesday, I had concluded my negotiations with the country bank and this secluded log cabin was ours.

Once again fate had guided me by the hand.

It's desolate here in this part of the Northern Neck of Virginia. There aren't many weekenders like us. Mainly just the rugged individualists and watermen who have inhabited this part of the country for three centuries. Hard working, proud, honest folk who make their living on the water. Quiet, strong, weathered people who lead a simple life ... without meetings and rushed decisions and neckties and attache cases and pretense.

Deer often wander into our new back yard. Swans silently glide on the glass-like water in front of the cabin deck. Rockfish nestle in the marsh weeds by the bulkhead. Bald eagles stand sentry in the tall pines 'round the bend. Oyster boats work quietly in the morning mist across the bay. The view is beautiful, panoramic and serene.

Late at night the colorful lights of my antique 1947 Rockola jukebox ripple and reflect on the quiet waters of Nomini Bay and the sounds of 50's R&B intertwine with the harmonic music of nature.

In the future should you phone me in Richmond on the weekends regarding S.O.S., chances are no one will answer. We'll be at the cabin. My phone number there? *There is no phone!* I'll be incommunicado from Fridays through Sundays. Sorry ... it's simply time to slow down a bit.

The black storm clouds are slowly disappearing over the faint, far horizon across the Potomac River.

*There are now blue birds over the white cliffs ...*

### S.O.S. Carefree Times

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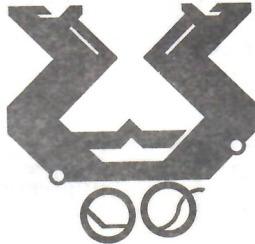
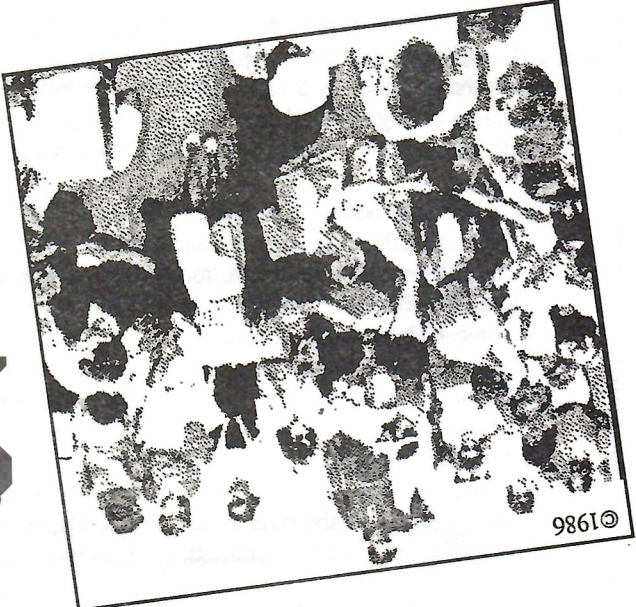
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S.O.S. - P.O. Box 8343, Richmond VA 23226  
(804) 741-1926 ... After 6 pm - Mondays - Thursdays



Here We Go Again ... One Mo' Time!

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