



S.O.S.[®] Carefree Times

19 Summer 97

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

**Members of the Beach Shagger's Hall of Fame
Celebrate the birthday of Clarise Reavis
at the S.O.S. Grand National Dance Championships!!!**



S.O.S.
Carefree Times

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Message From the Editor

The S.O.S. Carefree Times is designed to promote shagging and shag music and to raise the enthusiasm for them. This publication is also to support and promote the A.C.S.C., S.O.S., and the individual clubs within. It is for and about our organizations and our events.

Our publication can only be as interesting as you, our readers, make it, so we solicit your assistance. We will always need pictures, feature articles, humor, short stories, poetry, etc.

This issue focusses on the Third Annual S.O.S. Grand National Dance Championships held on May 22-25, 1997 in the beautiful Renaissance Waverly Hotel in Atlanta. The bringing together of fast dancers from all over the country can be likened unto a religious experience for many a dancer.

All I can say is, "Charlie and Jackie, you done good!" The entire shag community should feel a great sense of pride for this gem of an event.

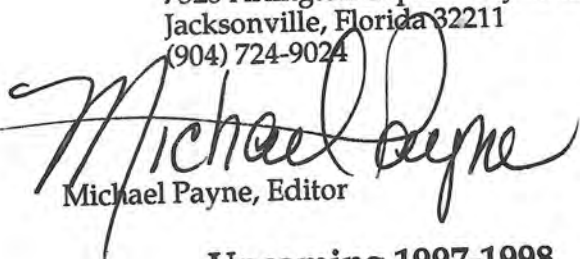
We welcome comments from you telling us what you think about current issues and what you would like to see in the future.

So, put your feet up, read the news and views in this issue ... and enjoy!

As always, please insure that I am on your newsletter mailing list.

Send all submissions to:

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7528 Arlington Expressway #806
Jacksonville, Florida 32211
(904) 724-9024



Michael Payne, Editor

Upcoming 1997-1998

S.O.S. Carefree Times Deadlines

Issue	Deadline	Distribution
Fall Migration '97	8 July	29 August
Winter Mail-out '97	15 October	15 December
Spring Safari '98	16 February	10 April
Summer Mail-out '98	18 May	15 July

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Thank you.

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1997 S.O.S. Grand National Miscellaneous Photos



Norman Aldridge & Leslie Melton



Joe Vieth and Emily Henkhaus



Charlie and Jackie



Michael Payne & Dianne Alexander



Barry Durand and Lisa Austin



The Savoy's



Don Bunn and Judy Eastwood



Randy Dorvin, Susie Beaver



Bill and Brenda Barber



Ron Christy, J. Malanosky



Snowflake and Heavy



John and Joan English



Sam West and Ellen Taylor

S.O.S. is special ... What makes it special?

by Phil Sawyer

As I read the monthly newsletters from the clubs around the Association, one thing is abundantly clear: S.O.S. is a special event. Very special. What makes it so?

Is it the people? Yes, yes, a thousand times yes. The finest people the world has ever known gather in the Spring and Fall because they know they will be amongst their own—people like them who like the same things, are upbeat, happy, carefree, good-timers, and are there for the party. The People are Number One.

The place? There is simply no other spot of ground in the United States that combines the things which make S.O.S. special than Ocean Drive—all of the clubs within one block ... plenty of affordable living space ... places to shop and eat ... the beach, ah, yes, the beach ... a city that loves us and is within driving distance of most of the shaggers. The Place is Number One.

The music? None finer. Over 100 of the finest beach music deejays in the country, most members of the Association of Beach and Shag Club Deejays, play hard-driving, hard-dancing beach music 15 hours a day. No matter when you are, S.O.S. is ready when you are. (Pardons to Delta.) The Music is Number One.

The floors? Dance floors with shaggers in mind. No ballrooms or convention centers. Just beach clubs. Clubs with beach stuff on the wall—clubs run by people who are shaggers and who understand shaggers. Floors worn well by generations of shaggers, past and present. The Floors are Number One.

The events? Designed for *you* as participant, not just as a spectator. Fun Monday, the Smoothies Contest, the Beach Run, the parade, the Hall of Fame Exhibition, the pavers, local and individual club parties. You're

not at S.O.S. to watch others—you are *the action!* The Events are Number One.

The trams? We love you, and we want you back forever. Hence, the trams! Don't drive to the party—ride. No parking to worry about and nothing to interfere with your party. They're fun. You can ride one around the circuit just for the hell of it. The Trams are Number One.

The Company Store? The official S.O.S. logo on all your sports needs—tee shirts, shorts, sweat shirts, caps, huggers, and much, much more. All with the official logo. All our stuff is priced with your budget in mind. The Company Store is Number One.

The food? Served daily in each of the clubs. A wide variety of wholesome and delicious buffets are there for you. Check the schedule, and you'll never have to spend your money for a meal. The Food is Number One.

The *Carefree Times*? All the shag news that's fit to print. Schedules of all S.O.S. activities. Discounts. Articles by the who's who of shag writers on music, history, personalities, and happenings. If you were lost at sea and had only one thing to read, the *Times* is it. The *Carefree Times* is Number One.

The beach? Forty-seven miles of pure white strand as wide as a football field at a low tide. The Grand Strand is unequalled anywhere in America and of immense importance to South Carolina. Shaggers and S.O.S.-goers love it for all the fun and games, the bikinis and hunks, the safe and sane surf, the fishing, and just sitting, sipping, and looking at the sunset or dawn. The Beach is Number One.

The local clubs? From Tampa to Virginia, from Atlantic Beach to St.

Louis, local clubs are the heart of what makes S.O.S. special. Fifteen thousand people—people who shag year round—people who love the music, the dance, and the life. They make up the core of S.O.S. Local Clubs are Number One.

There is so much to S.O.S. that it's impossible to name it all. But there is one thing for sure—there is nothing better, and it all adds *us!* S.O.S. is Number One.



Shagging greats fete shagging's greatest

(Cover photo)

Queen Clarice and Her Court

FIRST ROW LEFT TO RIGHT:

- 1 Pee Wee Teel
- 2 Peggy Burris
- 3 Susan Neal
- 4 Wanda Holiday
- 5 Judy Evans
- 6 Queen Clarice Reavis
- 7 Berta Lull
- 8 Marcia Johnson
- 9 Sandy Marshall
- 10 Margie Morris

SECOND ROW:

- 1 Jo McEachern
- 2 Lynda Carole Flynn
- 3 Judy Duke
- 4 Jeanie Pack
- 5 Ann Givens

(Continued on Page 5)

Secure your tag before you shag *avoid lost or stolen cards*

by Phil Sawyer

Quick, now! What do the following things have in common? Badges for the Masters, tickets to the final four basketball tournament, invitations to a State dinner at the White House, the winning ticket to the Georgia Lottery, and your S.O.S. membership badge.

Answer: They are all valuable and hard to replace.

Your S.O.S. membership badge is your admission to a little bit of paradise each Spring and Fall. With it in plain view, you can go to and come in and out of all of the participating clubs at the beach during S.O.S. You get valuable discounts at local merchants and restaurants, and you are recognized as one of the best-loved visitors to the beach during all the year.

So, something so valuable should be well protected. First of all, make sure you do not leave it at home. If you do, you'll waste the hours you could be sipping and shagging while you run around trying to get a replacement card.

Next, make sure your tag is securely pinned or tied to your clothes. It should be above the waist so the door people can see it easily. If you

use a plastic holder, please staple ortape the holder shut. Also, make sure the holder is firmly attached so that it will not pull or drop off.

The official S.O.S. policy is to not replace lost or forgotten cards at the beach during S.O.S. Believe it or not, there are among us a number of persons who will use this little ruse to gain free cards for themselves or for their guests. But we are not in the business of making people unhappy, so we do the best we can. But if you take care of your tag as you would a fifty dollar bill, you'll always have it, always get into the clubs, and save yourself and S.O.S. a whole lot of trouble.

So—secure your tag before you shag—don't lose it—and have a ball at S.O.S.!

Walk your heart muscle!

Heart patients, the spotlight is on you! Get your walk in and take part in the festivities during the 2nd Annual S.O.S. Beach Run/Walk on September 13, 1997.

This year we would like to pay tribute to so many of our shaggers

who have had heart surgery and heart-related problems (and their family members who love them so much) and are getting their prescribed exercise through walking.

All heart walkers will be recognized. And if the one-mile distance is not enough, you can walk, walk, and get your mile(s) in and then join in for the official walk and ceremonies afterwards. See you there!

Queen Clarice and Her Court

(Continued from Page 4)

- 6 Janet Morris
- 7 Ann Moore
- 8 Ellen Taylor
- 9 Jean Clark

THIRD ROW:

- 1 Bobbie Kellam
- 2 Billy Pack
- 3 Budy Kennedy
- 4 Mike Pace
- 5 Jackie McGee
- 6 Leon Williams
- 7 Franz Johnson
- 8 Norfleet Jones
- 9 Harry Hitopoulos

FOURTH ROW:

- 1 Arnie Webb
- 2 Roger Burris
- 3 Phil Sawyer
- 4 Chicken Hicks
- 5 Charlie Womble
- 6 John Teel
- 7 George Morris



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1997 Shell Award Winners



Favorite Male S.O.S. Dance Partner

Ed Evans, Greenville, SC

Presented by LeAnn Best — 1997 Shag National Champions — Presented by Michael Norris

Favorite Female S.O.S. Dance Partner

Judy Duke, N. Myrtle Beach, SC



Favorite Deejay

Butch Metcalf, High Point, NC

Presented by Sam West

Favorite Club Weekend Party

"Orange Squeeze" Beach Boppers of Orlando, FL

Presented by Phil Sawyer

1997 Shagging Icon Award Winners



Sandy Braddock, Tampa, FL
Presented by Phil Sawyer



"Speedy" Lewis
N. Myrtle Beach, SC



Larry Taylor
South Congaree, SC

The Shell Awards

These awards were created to recognize individuals, groups, clubs, and events in the shag community. Nominations have been made based on individual or group appeal and/or popularity and dedication to shag dancing and its preservation or to a form of dancing embraced by member clubs of the Association of Carolina Shag Clubs.

No specific credentials or other requirements are necessary to be nominated for a Shell Award—just a love of dancing and the music and a spirit of fun.

The nominees are selected by the community, and the nominations are placed on a ballot and voted on by the shag and bop community at large.

Shagging Icon Award

This award was created by the Association of Carolina Shag Clubs (A.C.S.C.) and the S.O.S. Board of Directors to honor individuals who have made outstanding and continuing contributions to the shag, to S.O.S., and to A.C.S.C.

There is no set number of awards to be given. The awards are made based on the following considerations:

Extent of involvement with the local shag club, S.O.S., or A.C.S.C. for at least five years; a written nomination and three seconds submitted to the S.O.S. Board of Directors; a three-quarters vote of the S.O.S. Board.

All nominated candidates' names remain in nomination for a period of five years.



Down Memory Lane

by Johnny Hammond

I was browsing through a book about singers and bands at the bookstore the other day when I came across the name Huey Smith. Here's what the printed word said:

"Huey Smith and His Clowns was an R&B, rock 'n roll group from New Orleans. They had a Top Ten hit in the late '50s titled *Don't You Just Know It*."

As I stood there with a fixed stare on the page and a feeling of bewilderment, I thought, Damn! Has it come to this? Two brief sentences. Just a minor footnote in music history. No! No way! Music lives forever. If they've forgotten, I'll remind them. If they never knew, I'll tell them.

I mean groups come, groups go, and groups fade away. But if there's any group or singer who has had any influence whatsoever on what we know as beach music, I'll try my very best to keep it jumping 'til the day I die.

Instead of what I consider to be a minor footnote, this is how it should have read:

Huey "Piano" Smith was one of the hottest R&B piano players to ever come out of New Orleans. He was second only to Fats Domino, and many think he was just as good. Huey's dad made arrangements for him to take lessons when he was about seven or eight. Huey would pocket the money and have his sister show him what she had learned when she came home from her lessons.

He was a quick study. One night when he was about 15, his buddy invited him over to hear a friend who played the guitar. This guitar player turned out to be Guitar Slim,

one of the best blues guitarists who ever held a pick.

Huey started earning his living the next night playing with Slim. He became a session man, backing some of the top names of the day. He was highly successful and in great demand. He backed such greats as Guitar Slim, Lloyd Price, Little Richard, Earl King (on the hit *Those Lonely, Lonely Nights*), and Smiley Lewis. It was Huey who provided the catchy introduction on Smiley Lewis' *I Hear You Knockin'*. He kicked off his solo career in 1953 with Savoy Records and *You Made Me Cry*, a very hard-to-find 45.

When Johnny Vincent formed Ace Records in 1955, the very first 45 released was *Little Liza Jane* by Huey Piano Smith. He was always trying to pick up catchy lines. He took a little bit of business from a Chuck Berry song line that said, "I got Rockin' Pneumonia sittin' down at a rhythm review" and kept working with it 'til he came up with one of the all-time greats in beach music—*Rockin' Pneumonia and the Boogie Woogie Flu*. This original version went to No. 5 on the R&B charts in '57. The one we hear at S.O.S. by Johnny Rivers was released in '72 and sold well over a million singles.

Before Huey could record this jewel, he had to form a group. Now, Huey was a top-notch piano player, but he wasn't that great when it came to singing and he was smart enough to know it. So the first person he hired was Bobby Marchan as his lead singer. The only female in the group was Gerri Hall, who later became one of Ray Charles' Raelettes. (The standard joke back then was that if you wanted to be a



Johnny Hammond

Raelette, you had to let Ray.)

Huey's main functions were to play piano, write the songs, and do the arranging. The next hit for Smith and His Clowns was the biggest they ever had. *Don't You Just Know It* hit the charts in early spring of '58 and rode high the entire summer. Man, I'm telling ya that was a real fun party song. *High Blood Pressure* was another of his records I really liked. It also came out in '58.

They were going on an R&B package tour with several other artists early in '59 to promote their latest hits. Just before they left, Huey and Johnny Vincent co-wrote a song, and Huey and His Clowns recorded it. It wasn't scheduled for release until they returned.

Meanwhile, Johnny had signed a new, young white artist who had never had a hit. Johnny knew this new song of Huey's couldn't miss, and he wanted to give it to the new kid. He thought if the new kid did it, he could get a share of a larger market.

When Huey returned and was told the news, he was furious. Not only did he lose the opportunity to record the song but he never received any royalties for writing or playing backup.

But there was nothing he could do. The way his contract was worded, Vincent had full control. So the vocals were lifted and the music stayed the same. The new kid did a voice over and wham! Instant hit. It sold over a million in singles alone.

(Continued on Page 28)

Charlie & Jackie

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| Female Double Under Arm Turn | Boogie Walk |
| Side Pass | Side Boogie Walk with Lean |
| Shag Pivot Breakaway | Funky Applejack |

TAPE 1

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| Pause Walk-up Arch | Pause Walk-up with Boogie Walk |
| Side Step Tuck | Arch with Male Turn |
| Barrel Ducks | Backwalk into Pivot |
| Arm Up Pivot | Side Spread |
| | Side Spread with Backwalk Away |

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SOURCE..... **S.O.S.**

1997 S.O.S. Grand National Masters Division Winners



First Place Winners

John and Pee Wee Teel, Raleigh, NC



Second Place Winners

Norfleet Jones and Sheila Bodie
N. Myrtle Beach, SC and Columbia, SC

Third Place Winners

Bob Myrick and Lynda Carole Flynn
Durham, NC and Charlotte, NC

1997 S.O.S. Grand National S.O.S. Division Winners



First Place Winners

Sam West and Sarah West, Hamlet, NC



Second Place Winners — Trey McCants & Jennifer Beaver, Charlotte, Statesville, NC

Third Place Winners — Ernie and Gail Holmes, Nashville, NC

Fourth Place Winners — Brent Key and Kellese Douglas, Dallas, TX

Fifth Place Winners — Bill and Brenda Barber, Surfside Beach, SC

Sixth Place Winners — Rick and Maureen Little, Monroe, NC



1997 S.O.S. Grand National Sandy Coley Scholarship Award Winner

Brad Kinard of Easley, SC

shown with benefactor, Jim Coley and family of Greenville, SC

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1997 S.O.S. Grand National Jr. Shag Division Winners



First Place Winners — Michael Norris and
LeAnn Best, Tarboro, NC and Clinton, NC



Second Place Winners
Norman Aldridge and Leslie Melton
Fayetteville, NC and Wilmington, NC



Third Place Winners
Grayson Smith and Jessica McAlhany
Marion, SC and Mt. Pleasant, SC

1997 S.O.S. Grand National Jr. Swing Division Winners



First Place Winners — Matt Auclair and
Megan McKechan, St. Louis, MO and Granite City, IL



Second Place Winners
Parker Kiehm and Tatianna Mollman
(City and state not available)



Third Place Winners
Will Yearty and Danielle Griffin
Odessa, FL

Contest and Judge Coordinator — Annie Hirsch

Judges

- MASTERS DIVISION — Sam West, Ellen Taylor, Don Bunn, Terry Columbus, Tom Woods
- CLASSIC DIVISION — Jack Carey, Mary Ann Nunez, Mario Robau, Jr., Sylvia Sikes, Mary Ann Bridges
- JUNIOR SWING DIVISION — Wayne Bott, Teddy Kern, Angel Figueroa, Debbie Ramsey, Dawn Blorstad
- TEAM DIVISION — Judy Duke, Sylvia Sykes, Mario Robau, Jr., Jack Carey, Barry Thigpen
- S.O.S. DIVISION — Bob Myrick, Pee Wee Teel, Mike Pace, Terry Columbus, Angie Powell
- JUNIOR SHAG DIVISION — Geoffrey Burdick, Jennifer Beaver, Brent Key, Joan English, Rod Hager
- STRICTLY SWING DIVISION — Wayne Bott, Judy Eastwood, Jack Carey, Beata Howe, Rod Hager
- CABARET DIVISION — Sharlot Bott, Mario Robau, Jr., Mary Ann Nunez, Teddy Kern, Robert Cordoba
- SHOWCASE DIVISION — Jack Carey, Mary Ann Bridges, Sharlot Bott, Teddy Kern, Lance Shermoen

1997 S.O.S. Grand National Cabaret Division Winners



First Place Winners — Angel Figueroa and Maria Torres, New York, NY



Second Place Winners
David and Sharon Savoy
Arlington, VA (not shown)

Third Place Winners
Barry Durand (not shown) & Lisa Austin
Rockville, MD and Birmingham, AL

1997 S.O.S. Grand National Classic Division Winners



First Place Winners
Wayne and Sharlot Bott
Huntington Beach, CA



Second Place Winners — Michael Norris & Debbie Ramsey Boz, Tarboro, Raleigh, NC

Third Place Winners — Tim Auclair & Michelle Wells, St. Louis, MO

Fourth Place Winners — Robert Cordoba & Melanie Roberts, S. Pasadena, Torrance, CA

Fifth Place Winners — Bill Cameron & Blake Hobby, Manchester, CT

Sixth Place Winners — Martin Parker & Michelle French, Huntington Bch, Anaheim, CA

1997 Jack and Jill Mixed Doubles Winners

First Place John Lindo & Lisa Kleitz
Second Place John Festa & Kimberly LeCavalier
Third Place Chuck Beaston & Hazel Mede

Fourth Place James Mulligan & Sue Canada
Fifth Place David Elliott & Kerry Frost

1997 S.O.S. Grand National Showcase Division Winners



First Place Winners
Barry Jones and Beata Howe
Chicago, IL and Richardson, TX



Second Place Winners — Steve Morris & Amy Walters Bicklein, St. Louis, High Rdg., MO
Third Place Winners — Kyle Redd & Sarah Drake, Fresno, Bakersfield, CA
Fourth Place Winners — Barry Durand & Lisa Austin, Rockville, MD & Birmingham, AL
Fifth Place Winners — Steve Neeren & Jennyrose Lisena, New York, NY
Sixth Place Winners — Steve Giles & Michaelae Flanagan, Dallas, TX

1997 S.O.S. Grand National Team Division Winners



First Place Winners
Boogie Woogie Trio
North Carolina, South Carolina



Second Place Winners
Midnight Motion
Maryland



Third Place Winners
Eight Is Enough
North Carolina, South Carolina

1997 S.O.S. Grand National Dewey Kennedy Scholarship Award Winner

Grayson Smith
with benefactors Norfleet Jones
and the daughters of Dewey Kennedy



1997 S.O.S. Grand National Strictly Swing Division Winners



First Place Winners
Mario Robau and Mary Ann Nunez
Houston, TX and Garden Grove, CA



Second Place Winners - Ramiro Gonzales & Sylvia Sykes, Addison, TX & Santa Barbara, CA

Third Place Winners - Tim Auclair & Amy Walters Bicklein, St. Louis, Maryland Hts., MO

Fourth Place Winners — Brent Key & Shea Carver, Dallas, TX & Mt. Holly, NC

Fifth Place Winners — Sam West & Ellen Taylor, Hamlet, NC & Edisto Beach, SC

Sixth Place Winners - Matt Auclair & Marie Salazar, St. Louis, High Ridge, MO

1997 S.O.S. Grand National Favorite Entertainer of the Year Winner



Favorite Entertainer of the Year trophy



Ramiro Gonzalez Entertainer of the Year



Ramiro and Sylvia Sykes get it on in Strictly Swing



Congratulations Michael Norris, LeAnn Best, and Sam and Sarah West on your wins at the Shag National Dance Championships and for your good showing on ABC's *Good Morning America* (in March) and at the opening of *Planet Hollywood* and *The All Star Cafe* in N. Myrtle Bch. (in April). And yes, dear readers, that is Bruce Willis in the middle!

Shaggers and Swingers...

The S.O.S. Grand Nationals: A shagger's perspective

by Mike Rink

Football has the Super Bowl. Baseball has the World Series. Tennis has Wimbledon. In fact, all forms of sport and entertainment have their ultimate showcase. The dance world is no exception—it has the S.O.S. Grand Nationals in Atlanta, Georgia.

The S.O.S. Grand Nationals event has been misperceived by many shaggers as a contest for swing dancers. The event does include competition. But the competition features several variations of dancing—all interesting, exciting, and fun to watch. And as you might expect, considering the dancing background of hosts Charlie Womble and Jackie McGee, the shag plays a major role in the competition the event includes.

Overshadowed by the high profile, competitive portion of this event is the 30 hours of big party, open dancing fun. The shag plays a major role in this, too. In fact, it reminds you of a typical first class shag event. The same people are there doing the same things and having as much or more fun than normal.

This was my second trip to



Mike Rink

Atlanta on Memorial Day weekend. Obviously, I returned because I enjoyed my first visit. When I was asked recently to write an article about this event, I immediately recognized that my challenge would be to convey details and impressions of an event that truly must be experienced to be fully understood. I hope the words that follow do some justice to what I am trying to describe.

You begin this experience the moment you arrive and check into the Renaissance Waverly Hotel when you ride up the glass-walled elevator to your luxurious room. After changing into your favorite dance attire, you head for the ballroom. You pass the tasteful event decor, wander through a group of vendors featuring all kinds of unique dance-related items, and step into the ballroom. The ballroom itself is an impressive sight. You quickly locate the table you have been assigned. It's your reserved spot for the entire event. Now comes the fun.

For three solid days you are witness to various dance styles being showcased during the competitive portion of the event. These competitive segments (usually lasting 30 minutes to an hour) are spaced in between the 30 total hours of open dancing. It is a great agenda. There is never a moment to be bored.

During your initial moments in this environment, your imagination might run wild, particularly if you are a novice dancer. Perhaps you fear you will not like the music. Wrong. You will enjoy it. After all, it is generally the same music you already know and love, and it is being played by shag deejays. You may even hear a few new tunes that you will just "have to have" in your collection. (A music vendor is right down the hall to help you.)

Perhaps you are worried that you will be stepped on or kicked once

you get on the floor. Wrong again. The dancers at this event are courteous and quite capable of maintaining control of their footwork. In fact, you are dancing among the best of shag and swing dancers. As a shagger, perhaps you are worried that you will be among the minority when you step out on the dance floor. Forget it. When the emcee asked the crowd at the last event how many of them were shaggers, the majority of the crowd responded.

Okay, so let's say someone of another dance style asks you to dance. Truly scary, right? Wrong once more. Common courtesy dictates that your new partner will adapt their style to something you are comfortable with, just as you would do the same for them. After all, no matter how you dance, the object has never been to make your partner look bad. The real fun of dancing is dancing *with* someone, meshing your styles into something fun and unique for both of you.

From my perspective, the shag and swing share some definite similarities. If you watch the swing dancers, you will likely see some mirror steps and male lead steps that look strikingly familiar. Perhaps they copied shaggers. Perhaps the shaggers copied them. More likely, the similarities are the result of simultaneous evolutions within both groups, much like the way a variety of scientists around the world are likely to make the same general discovery at about the same point in time.

As for differences, there is no doubt that the swing dance community places more emphasis on showmanship. The outfits swing dancers wear are more dazzling. Competitive swing routines also include frequent eye contact with the judges. And the music they dance to,

(Continued on Page 28)

meet in Atlanta

A great shagging, bopping, and swinging weekend!

by Craig Hutchinson

What a treat! Over eleven hundred dancers gathered to dance, party, compete, and spectate at the 1997 S.O.S. Grand Nationals in Atlanta, Georgia on Memorial Day weekend.

Some of the best of the best were there strutting their moves while everyone enjoyed life to the beat of the music. Swing, speaking generically, has come a long way as the U.S. National Dance. Since the 1920s and its Charleston origin, it has developed in many directions over the years to the beat of the music heard in the hearts of the American youth.

In the Southeastern region of the U.S., swing evolved into what is now called Carolina shag. In the Southwestern region of the U.S., swing evolved into what is now called West Coast swing. Shag and West Coast swing clubs across these regions continue to preserve, promote, perpetuate, and improve their individual and unique styles.

Thanks to the musicians, singers, and deejays across our land, swing, rhythm and blues, rock and roll, boogie woogie, and disco fill the

airwaves with fun and exciting music that begs for you to get up and start stepping, moving, twisting, wiggling, and shaking. And when you can join hands and swing with one of the opposite sex, what better way to step, move, shake, twist, and wiggle together.

A swing dancer is always in search of a new step, move, twist, shake, and wiggle, and watching others gives you inspiration to play and discover. I like that. (How can I work it into what I do? The contemporary shag and West Coast swing would not be the same again, leaving the classic shag and West Coast swing dancers in the wake.)

And what a weekend to watch it happening on the floor at the 1997 S.O.S. Grand Nationals. With Kenny Wetzel from the West Coast swing dance floors as Master of Ceremonies and disc jockeys Butch Metcalf, Ed Timberlake, Tom Hamrick, Terry Ellis, and Judy Collins playing the tunes until 5 am, it was a swing dancer's weekend in Heaven.

To watch the different styles in action and melding as partners exchanged and danced and partied was a wonderful sight. What an experience to watch man and woman smiling, laughing, and enjoying life!

One of the many highlights was shag and West Coast swing united in matrimony with the marriage of shagger Brent Key and West Coast swinger Kellese Douglas. Swingers enjoyed and celebrated the marriage festivities well into the early morning hours.

At the end of the weekend late Sunday night, the West Coast swing Juniors (Matt Auclair, Meagan McKeachan, Matt Diebold, Lisa Haug, Will Yearty, and Danielle Griffin) were in the corner with the shag Juniors (Norman Aldredge, Leslie Melton, Chuck Jenkins, Erin Wat-



kins, Grayson Smith, Jessica McAlhany, Michael Norris, and LeAnn Best) mixing it all up exchanging steps, moves, twists, shakes, and wiggles for us to enjoy in the future.

Charlie and Jackie traveled a long way during the last seven years promoting Carolina shag across the U.S. They have created a terrific annual swing dance event that showcases the diverse styles of swing in the heart of the Carolina shag region for the Southeastern swingers (Carolina shaggers, West Coast swingers, boppers, jitterbuggers, etc.) to enjoy.

Now, who put B.B. King's *Never Make a Move Too Soon* in the deck? Let's get back to the boards and start preparing for the 4th Annual S.O.S. Grand National Dance Championships.

Keep on dancing! — Hutch

Craig Hutchinson, teacher, competitor, judge, scrutineer, founder of the Potomac Swing Dance Club, Director of the Virginia State Open Swing Dance Championships, and author of "Swing Dancer," a swing dancer's manual, has been dancing since 1948 when he was six years old.

His lovely wife Lucy Renzi helps keep his dancing alive with all the rest of his students.



Craig Hutchinson

1997 12 Month Event Planner 1998

For A.C.S.C. clubs, Competitive Shaggers Association, and S.O.S. related events

JULY 1997 3-6 Summer Sizzle, Nashville, TN 11-13 ACSC Workshop, Charlotte, NC 11-13 SPA Contest, Greensboro, NC 11-13 Boogie Cruise 18-19 Junior S.O.S., N. Myrtle Beach, SC 25-27 Boogie & Bogey, S. Pines, NC 25-27 Shag Blast, Fayetteville, NC 30-3 Boppin' on Beale St., Memphis, TN	AUGUST 1997 7-10 Southern Exposure, Clearwater, FL 8-9 Peach Jam, Atlanta, GA 8-10 SPA Contest, Litchfield, SC 9 Chickin' Pickin', Gaston, NC 14-17 Geechee Blast, Sullivan's Island, SC 16 Reject Party, Statesville, NC 18-19 Junior Shag, Greenville, SC 22-24 Shag Blast, New Bern, NC 23 Golden Leaf Sizzle, Wilson, NC 29-31 SPA Contest, Fat Harold's, NMB, SC	SEPTEMBER 1997 5-14 Fall Migration, N. Myrtle Beach, SC 13 5K, 8K, 1-mile Run/Walk, NMB, SC 25-27 Boogie By the Bay, Tampa, FL 26-27 Memphis Mayhem, TN 26-29 SPA Contest, Myrtle Beach, SC
OCTOBER 1997 2-5 DJ Hall of Fame Weekend, NMB, SC 10-12 Shaggers Rendezvous 15-19 Move Across the River, Cincinnati, OH 17-19 SPA Contest, Weejuns, Irmo, SC 30-2 Beach Bash, Virginia Beach, VA 31-2 CSA Fundraiser, Harold's, NMB, SC	NOVEMBER 1997 1 Shag-Ween, Greenville, NC 5-9 Orange Squeeze, Daytona Bch, FL 7-9 Fall Cyclone, Twisters, Cornelius, NC 7-9 SPA Contest, Atlantic Beach, SC 14-16 Nat. Living Legends, Virginia Bch., VA 21-23 SPA Contest, Fayetteville, NC 27-30 Gobbler Bch Classic, Atlantic Bch, NC 28-30 Mixed Doubles, Ducks, NMB, SC	DECEMBER 1997 5-7 SPA/CSA Banquet, (tba)
JANUARY 1998 15-18 Mid-Winters, N. Myrtle Beach, SC	FEBRUARY 1998 TBA ACSC Winter Workshop	MARCH 1998 5-8 DJ Throwdown, N. Myrtle Beach, SC
APRIL 1998 24-3 Spring Safari, N. Myrtle Beach, SC	MAY 1998 TBA SOS Grand Nationals, Atlanta, GA TBA SOB Weekend, Panama City, FL	JUNE 1998 23-28 Boogie on the Riverwalk, Jax, FL TBA Sand Gnat, Jekyll Island, GA

Upcoming Event Details



JULY

- 3-6 **SUMMER SIZZLE IV** at the Regal-Maxwell House Hotel in Nashville, TN. Rates \$65 (1-4 persons), tickets \$30. Info: (615) 834-8506.
- 11-13 **ACSC WORKSHOP & PARTY** at the Oasis Shrine Temple in Charlotte, NC. Tickets \$35. Hotels: Hampton Inn \$69 (704) 548-0905; Marriott Courtyard \$65 (800) 321-2211; Holiday Inn (704) 547-0999.
- 11-13 **BOOGIE DOWN DANCE CRUISE**, three nights on the Starship Oceanic. Rates start at \$299. Info: (800) 788-4544.
- 18-19 **JUNIOR S.O.S.** in N. Myrtle Beach, SC. Info: Carol Jenkins (803) 222-4882.
- 25-26 **7th ANNUAL BOOGIE & BOGEY IN THE PINES** at the Holiday Inn on US 1 in S. Pines, NC. Rates \$50 (800) 262-5737. Tickets \$25. Info: Roger (910) 895-4872.
- 25-27 **EASTERN CAROLINA SHAG BLAST** at the Holiday Inn (Exit 49 of I-95) in Fayetteville, NC. Rates \$59 (1-4), (910) 323-1600. Tickets \$30. Info (919) 878-0552.

AUGUST

- 7-10 **SOUTHERN EXPOSURE '97** at the Belleview Mido Resort in Clearwater, FL. Rates \$72 (1-4), (800) 237-8947. Tickets \$25 until 6/1, \$35 after. Info: (813) 866-8999.
- 8-9 **PEACH JAM** at the Holiday Inn Central in Atlanta, GA. Rates \$55 (404) 873-4661. Tickets \$20 before 8/1, \$25 after. Info: Moe (404) 288-1191.
- 8-10 **SPA CONTEST** at the Island Beach Club in Litchfield, SC.
- 9 **8th ANNUAL CHICKIN' PICKIN'** at the Shrine Club in Gaston, NC. Tickets \$20. Info: Butch (704) 866-7055.
- 14-17 **GEECHEE BLAST '97** on Sullivan's Island, SC. Hotels: Red Roof Inn \$51 (800) 943-7663 (B242GEECHEE), Days Inn \$52 (803) 881-1800. Shuttles from hotels, tickets \$30 until June 1, \$35 after. Info: Judy (803) 821-7120.
- 16 **REJECT PARTY** at the Zodiac Club in Statesville, NC. Tickets \$15 until 8/2, \$20 after (incl. meals, workshop, and party). Info: Benny/Sanda Brown (704) 664-3756.
- 22-24 **TWIN RIVERS SHAG BLAST** at the Sheraton Grand Hotel in New Bern, NC. Rates \$70. Tickets \$40 before 8/1, \$45 after. Info: Helen (919) 514-9888.
- 23 **4th ANNUAL GOLDEN LEAF SHAG SIZZLE** at the Shrine Club in Wilson, NC. Info: Sandy Johnson (919) 238-6423.
- 29-31 **SPA CONTEST** at Fat Harold's in N. Myrtle Beach, SC.

SEPT

- 13 **5K, 8K, 1 MILE FUN RUN/WALK** during S.O.S. Fall Migration in N. Myrtle Beach, SC. Info: (888) SOS-3113.
- 25-27 **BOOGIE BY THE BAY** at the Hilton Hotel in St. Petersburg, FL. Rates \$72 (1-4), (800) 944-5500. Tickets \$25 until 9/1, \$30 after. Info: Sue Arab (813) 677-6743.
- 26-27 **MEMPHIS MAYHEM** at the Alchymia Shrine Temple in Memphis, TN. Holiday Inn Sycamore View rates \$65 (901) 388-7050. Tickets \$30 until 8/20, \$35 after. Info: Linda (901) 365-6488.
- 26-29 **SPA CONTEST** at the Beach Music Cafe in Myrtle Beach, SC.

OCT

- 10-12 **SHAGGERS RENDEZVOUS.** More info to follow.
- 15-19 **MOVE ACROSS THE RIVER** at the Drawbridge Estate in Ft. Mitchell, KY. Rates \$62, (800) 354-9793. Tickets \$20 before 9/15, \$25 after. Info: Paul (513) 489-4983.
- 17-19 **SPA CONTEST** at Weejun's in Irmo, SC.
- 30-2 **BEACH BASH** at the Cavalier Hotel Oceanfront in Virginia Beach, VA. Rates \$55-\$69, (757) 425-8555. Tickets \$50 until 8/31, \$60 after. Info: Bonnie Mabry (757) 486-2839.
- 31-2 **CSA FUND RAISER** at Fat Harold's in N. Myrtle Beach, SC.

NOV

- 1 **3rd ANNUAL SHAG-WEEN** at the Hilton Hotel in Greenville, NC. Rates \$59, (919) 355-5000. Tickets \$10.
- 1-8 **SOUTHSIDE IMPERIAL DANCE CLUB'S CARIBBEAN CRUISE** from San Juan on Norwegian Cruise Line's Windfall. Ports of Call include Aruba, Curacao, Tortola, and St. Thomas. Prices start at \$1100 including airfare, etc. Info: (800) 727-9577.
- 5-9 **8th ANNUAL ORANGE SQUEEZE** at the Ramada Resort - Oceanfront in Daytona Beach, FL. Rates \$44 (1-4 people), (800) 654-6216. Tickets \$25 thru 9/30, \$30 after. Info: Dave Beauchamp (407) 695-2995.
- 7-9 **SPA CONTEST** at Courtney's in Atlantic Beach, SC.
- 21-23 **SPA CONTEST** at Bucket's in Fayetteville, NC.
- 27-20 **GOBBLER BEACH CLASSIC** at the Jolly Knave in Atlantic Bch., NC. Tickets \$25. Info (919) 726-8222.
- 28-30 **MIXED DOUBLES CONTEST** at Ducks in N. Myrtle Beach, SC.

DEC

- 5-7 **SPA / CSA BANQUET**, location tba.

☆ **ATTENTION ALL FAST DANCE CLUBS** ☆

Your party or event can be listed (as far ahead as space permits) in this column at no charge. But you **MUST** get the information in on a timely basis to:
Michael Payne, 7528 Arlington Expressway #806, Jacksonville, FL 32211, (904) 724-9024

1997 12 Month Event Planner 1998

For all other activities outside the A.C.S.C. or S.O.S.

JULY 1997 3-6 Phoenix Convention, AZ 4-6 Chi-Town Boogie, Chicago, IL 4-6 Swing Blast, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 5-12 Herräng Dance Camp, Sweden 12-19 Herräng Dance Camp, Sweden 19-26 Herräng Dance Camp, Sweden 25-27 Dance Festival, Palm Springs, CA 26-2 Herräng Dance Camp, Sweden	AUGUST 1997 1-3 Swing Fling, Alexandria, VA 1-3 California W. C. Swing, Sacramento 8-10 Swing in the Rockies, Denver, CO 13-17 Holiday to Dance, Portland, OR 14-16 New Orleans Extravaganza 22-24 Summer Hummer, Great Gorge, NJ 28-31 Golden Gate Swing, CA 28-1 Rollin' On The River, St. Louis, MO 29-1 Labor Day Weekend, CA	SEPTEMBER 1997 19-21 Blues Festival, Cape May, NJ 21-28 Swing Cruise
OCTOBER 1997 3-5 California Boogie & Blues 17-19 Golden State Classic, CA TBA Virginia Swing Championships	NOVEMBER 1997 1-8 Swing Cruise (800) 727-9577 7-9 Reno Dance Vacation, NV 28-30 National Swing Championships, CA	DECEMBER 1997 27 Florida Fling, Ramada Inn
JANUARY 1998 2-4 Ultimate Dancer, Los Angeles, CA	FEBRUARY 1998 TBA Pres. Day Conv., Sacramento, CA	MARCH 1998 TBA Las Vegas Swings, NV
APRIL 1998 2-4 Circle of Friends, Avon Park, FL 3-5 American Swing Championships, NY 9-12 Easter Swing, Seattle, WA 24-26 California Swing Championships	MAY 1998 8-10 Classic '98, Chicago, IL	JUNE 1998 TBA Capitol Shag Classic, Alexandria, VA

Upcoming Event Details



JULY

- 3-6 **GREATER PHOENIX CONVENTION** in Phoenix, AZ. Info: (800) 598-2538.
- 4-6 **FOURTH OF JULY SWING BASH** at the Ft. Lauderdale Marriott North. Rates \$69 (1-4) code 4th of July Swing Bash), (800) 343-2459. Info: (954) 938-9749.
- 4-6 **CHI-TOWN BOOGIE** at the Ramada Congress Hotel in Chicago, IL. Rates \$85 dbl., (800) 635-1666 (code Chi-Town Boogie). Tickets \$45 until 1 May, \$55 after. Info: Virginia (708) 388-1356.
- 5-16 **HERRÄNG DANCE CAMP 1997** in Herräng, Sweden. Cost is approximately \$330; includes everything but travel and food. Info: The Rhythm Hot Shots, +46(8) 643-40-58.
- 12-19 **HERRÄNG DANCE CAMP 1997** in Herräng, Sweden. Cost is approximately \$330; includes everything but travel and food. Info: The Rhythm Hot Shots, +46(8) 643-40-58.
- 19-26 **HERRÄNG DANCE CAMP 1997** in Herräng, Sweden. Cost is approximately \$330; includes everything but travel and food. Info: The Rhythm Hot Shots, +46(8) 643-40-58.
- 25-27 **9th ANNUAL SUNDANCE SUMMER DANCE FESTIVAL** at the Palm Springs Riviera Hotel in Palm Springs, CA. Rates \$69 (1-4 persons), (800) 444-8311. Event info: (562) 92-DANCE.
- 26-2 **HERRÄNG DANCE CAMP 1997** in Herräng, Sweden. Cost is approximately \$330; includes everything but travel and food. Info: The Rhythm Hot Shots, +46(8) 643-40-58.

AUGUST

- 1-3 **4th ANNUAL SWING FLING** at the National Airport Hilton Hotel in Alexandria, VA, (703) 418-6800. Info: Barry Durand (800) SWING '97.
- 1-3 **CALIFORNIA WCS STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS** at the Radisson Hotel in Sacramento, CA. Rates \$70. Tickets \$79. Info: Bob (714) 894-5757.
- 8-10 **6th ANNUAL SWINGTIME IN THE ROCKIES '97** at the Holiday Inn at the Denver Airport, in Denver, CO. Info: (303) 220-7488.
- 13-17 **HOLIDAY TO DANCE CLASSIQUE '97** at the Jantzen Beach Red Lion Resort Hotel in Portland, OR. Package \$325 (dbl) incl. room, food, workshop, etc. Info: Pat Horne (509) 547-9647.
- 14-16 **2nd ANNUAL NEW ORLEANS SWING EXTRAVAGANZA** at the Radisson Hotel in New Orleans. Rates \$79 (1-2), \$89 (3-4), 3-day minimum stay, (800) 824-3359. Tickets \$45 before 7/14, \$50 after. Info: Bob/Vera Blake (504) 463-0307.
- 22-24 **SUMMER HUMMER N. ATLANTIC JACK & JILL O'RAMA** in the Seasons Resort & Conference Center in Great Gorge, NJ. Package rates start at \$155 per person, (800) 835-2555. Tickets \$84 before 7/22, \$99 after. Info: Bill (860) 648-9151.
- 28-31 **SWINGING BY THE GOLDEN GATE** at the Holiday Inn Golden Gateway, CA. Rates \$89 (1-4 persons), (415) 441-4000. Tickets \$70. Info: Louise DelCarlo (415) 668-9589.
- 28-1 **ROLLIN' ON THE RIVER** at Laclede's Landing in St. Louis, MO. Adam's Mark Hotel rates \$80 (dbl), (800) 444-2326. Tickets \$75 until 31 May, \$85 after. Info: Dan (314) 727-7909.
- 29-1 **8th ANNUAL SUNDANCE SWING DANCE WEEKEND** at the Buena Park Hotel in Buena Park, CA. Rates \$65 (1-4 persons), (800) 422-4444. Info: (562) 92-DANCE.

SEPT

- 19-21 **CAPE MAY BLUES & SWING FESTIVAL** in Cape May, NJ. Tickets \$99. Hotel and event info: (800) 64-SWING.
- 21-28 **CARIBBEAN SWING CRUISE** departing San Juan, Puerto Rico; ports of call: St. Thomas, Guadeloupe, Grenada, St. Lucia, Santa Domingo. Prices \$999-\$1149. Info: (562) 92-DANCE.

OCT

- 3-5 **CALIFORNIA BOOGIE & BLUES ALL STAR SWING WEEKEND** at the West Coast Bay Retreat & Marina in Long Beach, CA. Rates \$72 (310) 435-7676. Tickets \$55 by 8/1, \$65 after. Info: John (310) 530-0500.
- 17-19 **GOLDEN STATE DANCE CLASSIC II** at the Holiday Inn in Fullerton, CA. Rates \$64 (1-4 persons), (714) 992-1700. Info: (562) 92-DANCE.

NOV

- 7-9 **3rd ANNUAL RENO DANCE VACATION** at the Comstock Hotel/Casino in Reno, NV. Package \$179 ea. (dbl occupancy) includes lodging, workshops, dance, some food. Info: Betty (800) 647-0800.
- 28-30 **15th U.S. OPEN NATIONAL SWING DANCE CHAMPIONSHIPS** in the Disneyland Hotel in Anaheim, CA. Rate \$95 (1-2), (714) 778-6600. Tickets \$90 until 8/1, \$100 after. Info: (800) 537-8937.

JAN

- 2-4 **THE ULTIMATE DANCER SWING DANCE CHAMPIONSHIPS** at the Long Beach Convention & Entertainment Center in Los Angeles, CA. Info: Bill Sauer (561) 627-1940.

APRIL

- 3-5 **6th ANNUAL AMERICAN SWING DANCE CHAMPIONSHIPS** at the Sheraton Meadowlands Hotel in NY. Info: (800) 64-SWING.
- 9-12 **SEATTLE'S EASTER SWING** at the Doubletree Hotel (formerly Red Lion) in Bellevue, WA. Rates \$83. Tickets \$79. Info: Maria (206) 784-5501.
- 24-26 **8th ANNUAL CALIFORNIA SWING DANCE CHAMPIONSHIPS** at the Buena Park Hotel in Buena Vista, CA. Rates \$65 (1-4 persons), (800) 422-4444. Info: (562) 92-DANCE.

MAY

- 8-10 **CLASSIC '98** in Chicago, IL. Info: (773) 202-8776.

National Shag Dance Championships provide flawless dancing

by Lynn Northrup

Love was definitely in the air at the 14th Annual National Shag Dance Championships March 6-8 at Broadway at the Beach, but it wasn't goo goo eyes and the "mushy" type of love—it was the love of the dance, shag dancing, South Carolina's State Dance, and the love of the music.

Songs like *I'll Love You Always and Forever*, *Love Talkin'*, and *The Business of Love* were mixed in with *Eye Ballin'*, *Give It Up*, and *Oh, Oh Susanna*. But this was one time the love of the dance and the love of the music were so equal and perfect—so perfect to every move, to every step, to every smile.

Normally held at Studebaker's in the past, Burroughs & Chapin opened the doors of a now defunct Cactus Rose night club at Broadway at the Beach for the Nationals, which was a welcomed change with plenty of room for practicing, dancing, and more practicing.

The Nationals went "smoke free" this year, only allowing smoking outside on the veranda. While this upset quite a few, even the smokers could admit it was much more pleasant to sit in the smoke-free environment than in a smoke-filled room.

Thursday and Friday night 36 couples from the Juniors (under 21 years of age) to the Masters (a combined age of over 100) danced, trying to place for the finals on Saturday night; only 20 would make the cut.

Chris Ward of Loris only knew about shag dancing through his parents until about 18 months ago when he began taking lessons from Judy Duke, the dance instructor at Ducks. He never imagined that 18 months later he would be dancing in the

Nationals. Chris and his partner, Caroline Godwin of Fayetteville, N.C., were smooth, as if they were floating on the dance floor; however, dancing in the Junior Division, against the likes of LeAnn Best and Michael Norris, Kristin Leggett and William Greene, and Leslie Melton and Norman Aldridge, Chris and Caroline got to watch and cheer their friends on for the Saturday night finals. Chris will turn 21 soon and next year will enter into the Non-Pro Division of the Nationals.

Saturday night brought sweaty palms, nervous stomachs, cold shivers, and a lot of hugs. Each couple was introduced and then came the names of the 20 finalist couples that would each have two opportunities to dance their best for the evening.

Each couple was introduced and then came the names of the finalists, \$18,000 awaited those sweaty palms, and as butterflies flew around those stomachs, the first couple came on stage—the 1996 Junior and Best Overall dancers, Michael Norris and LeAnn Best.

Young—yes, talented—yes, flawless—yes. Every foot movement, every smile, every hand movement was flawless—a perfect dance. It brought people to their feet with their hands clapping high in the air, but this was the first dance—19 more had to follow.

Bill and Brenda of Surfside Beach began shagging after Hurricane Hugo, and this was their second time dancing as finalists. Bill is now president of the Competitive Shaggers Association, an association of dancers who compete throughout the year in SPA (Shag Preservation Association) events and non-SPA contests. Watching this couple on an



John and Pee Wee Teel,
1st Place, Masters Division

ordinary dance night, you would know they were good, so sure of themselves, but they absolutely shined Saturday night.

Ending the competition, everyone danced, waited, and spread around a lot of hugs and wishes of encouragement and hope. The lights dimmed, and the National Shag Championship Dance Team came on the main dance floor—their red, black, and white outfits and their red satin shoes sparkling.

These six couples danced every intricate step so totally perfect, in unison, that made everyone in the room stand up, applaud, and open their mouths in pure awe of these unique dancers. You could definitely tell why they have won the awards they have won and know they will win many more in the years to come.

When the lights were brought back up, everyone knew it was time for the winners to be announced.

(Continued on Page 23)

1996 S.O.S. Line Dance Champions

The Upbeats
from Charlotte, North Carolina



Front Row (left to right): Teresa Lambert, Johnette Nichols, Ginger Marr, Kim Marshall. Back Row (left to right): Becky Hamilton, Ann Sharpe, Dawn Bates, Tommy Beachum, Dianne Geer, Mary O'Rourke

The 1996 S.O.S. Fall Migration featured the premier of a new event—a line dance competition. Teams from Charlotte, Goldsboro, Greenville, Sanford, North Myrtle Beach, and Gastonia entered this first-ever competition, which began on Thursday, September 12, as teams began competing in the preliminary events.

More preliminaries followed on Friday, when the top six teams were announced that would compete in the finals on Saturday, September 14. By noon on Saturday, it was standing room only at the Spanish Galleon, where the finalists strutted their best in front of the judges and an enthusiastic audience while performing two dances each—a compulsory dance and an original line dance choreographed by each team.

The Upbeats from Charlotte, North Carolina—a team of nine women and one man—were un-

stoppable in their quest to win this premier competition, as they danced with exacting precision and did the all important: stayed in line. Their black tee shirts, abounding with glitter, were made by the members themselves, depicting what they all love—music.

If you just happened to be watching, you would never guess that one member of The Upbeats is very unique in that she is hearing impaired. Teresa Lambert can feel the beat of the music through her feet, giving her excellent rhythm and the ability to stay in step with the rest of her team members.

You can be sure this winning team will be returning to defend their title at the 1997 Fall S.O.S. Line Dance Competition.

Don't miss this year's competition. The finals are being held on Saturday, September 13. It promises to be another dynamic event!

National Shag Dance Championships

(Continued from Page 22)

... and the winners were:

Junior Division: 1st – Michael Norris and LeAnn Best; 2nd – William Greene and Kristin Leggett; 3rd – Norman Aldridge and Leslie Melton; and 4th – Brad Kinard and Nikki Kontoulas.

Non-Pro Division: 1st – Archie and Sheila Case; 2nd – Chris Lester and Mandy Holt; 3rd – Larry and Shirley Jones; and 4th – Jimmy and Sharon Brown.

Masters Division: 1st – John and Pee Wee Teel; 2nd – John and Joan English; 3rd – Bob Myrick and Linda Carroll Flynn; and 4th – Janet Harrold and Bill Young.

Pro Division: 1st – Sam and Sarah West; 2nd – Rod Hager and Dana Brown; 3rd – Bill and Brenda Barber; 4th – Jimmy and Cameron Caruso; 5th – Ernie and Gail Holmes; 6th – Rick and Maureen Little; 7th – Monty and Gail Simpson; and 8th – Wes and Sandra May.

Awards were also given for the **Best Buns** to Rod Hager and Janet Harrold and for the **Best Dressed** to Rod Hager and Dana Brown. But once all had quieted down again, the announcement all dancers were waiting to hear—the **Best Overall Dancers** of the Nationals—was made. As Michael Norris and LeAnn Best were announced for the second year in a row, everyone said, "I knew it," because they are young and talented, and they dance totally flawlessly.

The *North Myrtle Beach Times* congratulates the winners of the 1997 National Shag Dance Championships.

Reprinted from the *North Myrtle Beach Times*, March 20, 1997.

TURNING THE TABLES



News from the Association of Beach and Shag Club Deejays



Steve Baker, President, Association of Beach and Shag Club Deejays

Greetings from all the members of the Association of Beach and Shag Club Deejays. We now have members in twelve states. My, how we have grown.

I trust everyone attended Spring S.O.S. As you know, the parade is the highlight of the week. Our entry this year was nothing less than unbelievable. Our theme, The Ladies of Motown, left all the other entries at least two floats behind. As you may have guessed, the ABSCDJ float took top honors this year. Our ladies knocked the judges and the crowd off their feet!

Each year the ABSCDJs, along with a host shag club, sponsor an

Inland Throwdown. This weekend charity event has been very successful the last three years. Your club could help sponsor this year's event. Mike Lewis will be coordinating all the activities this year. Please give him a call at (919) 942-4498 for more details.

October 2-5, 1997 marks the Second Annual DJ Hall of Fame weekend. Fat Harold's will again be your host. The party will begin on Thursday for you early birds and continue through Sunday.

We will again have our popular Reverse Raffle. The Grand Prize of \$2500.00 will be awarded on Saturday night. Remember, only 250 tickets will be sold. Hall of Fame deejays will be playing your favorite tunes all weekend. Free food will be provided for you each day. On Saturday night a new member will be inducted into the DJ Hall of Fame. Mark your calendars now. Don't miss this party. Remember, it's free all weekend long!

If the ABSCDJs can help your shag or swing club in any way, please give us a call at (919) 676-2159 or E-mail me at odc@pipeline.com.

Thanks, — Steve Baker



The Ladies of Motown

Recommended Shag Deejays

David Sessoms
P.O. Box 58033 • Fayetteville, NC 28305
(910) 488-5603

Summie Davidson
2375 Jim McCarter Rd. • York, SC 29745
H (803) 684-9325 • W (803) 684-5068

James A. Hightower
200 Allison Rd. • Greenville, NC 27834
(919) 752-9640

My goal is to ensure you have a good time!

★★★ **Mike Rink** ★★★

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W (704) 875-5106 Huntersville, NC 28078

Larry Wall
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— For All Occasions —
(706) 554-4146
Waynesboro, GA 30830

Steve Baker
200 Sawmill Rd. • Raleigh, NC 27615
(919) 676-2159 Home
(919) 847-5283 Work
Member DJ Hall of Fame

Bob Brewer
789 S. San Gabriel Blvd., #B
San Gabriel, CA 91776
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704-932-1783 Res. 933-0807

"Hoss Man" Allen of WLAC, Nashville

An interview with Gerry Holland

After leaving Burlington, North Carolina and driving to Nashville last November in gorgeous, sunshiny weather, we awakened on Monday morning around 7:30 am to find stormy, rainy, miserable weather.

After a short walk to Shoney's beside our motel for the breakfast bar and three cups of coffee, we were now feeling a little better. (But it was still raining.)

You would not believe the buses unloading on Music Row that early to start their tourism and sightseeing.

At about 9 am we took a short walk to the WLAC studios to see a person that I had been waiting 40 years to see.

At around 9:30 am, I walked the one and only "Hoss Man" Allen; and after introducing myself, we sat down in the lobby of WLAC Radio for a little history for the shag world.

And this is how it went. — *Gerry Holland*

November 25, 1996

Gerry Holland: What was the original location of WLAC?

"Hoss" Allen: It was located downtown in the Life and Casualty Insurance building at 4th and Church.

GH: When did WLAC move to its present location?

HA: The station relocated to 10 Music Row in 1979.

GH: When did you start working for WLAC?

HA: I first started working for a station in Galletin, Tennessee, WHIN, in 1948, and after getting that station off the ground (it was a new station), I started working for WLAC in 1949.

GH: You were in the country music

capitol of the world, Nashville—how did this station start playing soul music?

HA: I would say that to the best of my knowledge, Gene Nobles just by accident started playing soul music in 1947, and it was so well-received that it just became a phenomenon! I think a great percentage of the public was hungry for it, and WLAC gave it to them.

GH: When did the station change the format?

HA: In 1978 we changed to black gospel music from 1 am to 5 am. The "Hoss Allen" show was on from 9 pm to midnight, and we had preaching every night.

GH: Would you consider that this was the station that pioneered R&B, soul, and gospel music?

HA: Gerry, there wasn't a doubt about it. You see, we were 1510 on the AM dial, and WCKY was 1520, so we were only 10 degrees apart from R&B to country. So when you were riding around in the jalopy, it was very easy to tune us in.

GH: Do you remember the time slots?

Seven generations ago, "Hoss Man" Allen's grandfathers came down the river in Nashville with the original settlers.

Hoss Man grew up in Galletin, Tennessee and is now 74 years young and still working at WLAC doing freelance advertising.

Some of you younger shaggers did not get a chance to hear his show on WLAC, but now you know something about it. Now, when you hear some of the "old" music, where the shag originated (and I'm talking '50s), think of Hoss Man Allen and WLAC, drink up, and dance to every note!

HA: Well, I came on first, then Gene Nobles and John R. came on later in the evening.

GH: I would think that Ernie's Record Mart and Randy's Music Shop had a great impact by making this music available through mail order and reasonably priced.

HA: Well, Gene Nobles was on for Randy's Music Shop, and Randy Wood had the Excello label, which he sold to ABC Paramount in 1956 for a sizable amount. And John R. was on for Ernie's Record Mart.

GH: What was the most exciting thing that happened to you in radio?

HA: I certainly think the most exciting thing that happened to me in radio was when I took over the Gene Nobles show in 1956.

GH: If you had to do it over again, would you do anything differently?

HA: I wouldn't change a thing!

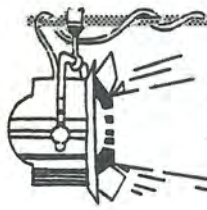
GH: I think you're right, because it couldn't have been any better. Hoss, I know your station has gone the way of talk radio and news, as most stations. But what do you think is the future for radio?

HA: Gerry, probably black hip hop or maybe jazz.

GH: Hoss, we have a dance along the Southeastern coast of the U.S. that we call the shag dance. It is very close to the swing with some of the same moves and steps. I would like to let you know that you guys and WLAC were most influential in getting the 'shuffle' sound of R&B songs that developed the dance from the jitterbug of the '40s to the smooth-flowing dance we now know as the shag!

I would also like to thank you for allowing me this time with you. To

(Continued on Page 28)



Spotlight on the

SOUTH FLORIDA SWING DANCE SOCIETY

The South Florida Swing Dance Society was formed in January 1992 as a not-for-profit social organization dedicated "for the preservation, perfection, progression, and promotion of swing dancing", and to satisfy the need for South Florida swing dancers to meet and have a common place to dance. When the club was formed, membership quickly grew to over 250 members. Jere Saylers was our first club president and served as editor of our newsletter "SWING TIME". Our monthly dances had a live blues band and a disc jockey and drew crowds of 450 dancers in the early part of August 1992. Two weeks later, on August 22, 1992, Hurricane Andrew destroyed South Dade County, and many of the club members lost their homes and all of their property. After the hurricane, many people left town and never came back.

Membership has taken several years to build back up to over 200 dancers. The current president is Jill Mann. Membership dues are \$25 per year. The club has one dance per month, and on Sundays we give swing dance lessons and dance at Spanky's Gang Clubhouse at the Golf Club of Plantation clubhouse in Ft. Lauderdale. The club newsletter is printed bi-monthly and has a circulation of 1,500. The club colors are turquoise, silver and black. The club motto is "Smile . . . come dance with us!" The South Florida

Swing Dance Society Hotline is 305-944-9917.



Due to the rich cultural mix in South Florida, the music at our parties is a mix of Big Band, 50's rock and roll, 60's Motown, some 70's classic disco, Latin music and contemporary Blues' and Beach music. The dance styles are as varied as the music, with most of the dancers doing East Coast Swing and a lot of West Coast and Push Swing dancers, some Carolina Shaggers, a few Lindy Hoppers, many Merengue and Salsa dancers and an occasional Hustle dancer, and the usual swing line dances of Electric Slide, Tush Push and the Charleston.

In 1995, the South Florida Swing Dance Society became members of the Association of Carolina Shag Clubs. Our dancers travel around the United States to swing dance events from Seattle to Phoenix, Dallas, New York, Jacksonville and Memphis; from Myrtle Beach

to Daytona Beach. We have entertained visiting members of other swing clubs passing through town from Seattle, Los Angeles, St. Louis, Atlanta, Jacksonville, Orlando and Tampa. When your travels bring you to sunny South Florida . . . smile come dance with us, ya'll.

We hosted our first national dance weekend on March 13-16, 1997 at the Ramada Resort Deauville hotel on beautiful Miami Beach. Imagine dancing by the pool to the best of Beach and Blues music of Judy Collins and Doug "the Gator" Levitas, visiting the historic art-deco district and our famous Ocean Drive. Over ten workshops were offered, with invited instructors including Jackie and Charlie Womble, Ramiro Gonzalez, Sylvia Sykes, Mike and Amber Cross, Gary Chaney, Randy Atlas, Susan McMahan, Johnny Permar, Mark Trainer and Bill Maddox. The ballroom is 25,000 square feet in size overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. We featured non-stop dancing and southern hospitality for the whole weekend with no competitions.

ATTENTION DANCE CLUBS!

Your club can be featured in an upcoming issue. Simply submit your typed article to me at the address on page 2, and I'll take it from there!

- Editor



BEACH RUN

SEPTEMBER 13, 1997



DISTANCE & COURSE: 5K, 8K and 1 Mile Fun Run/Walk
FLAT! FAST! USATF COURSE! Start/Finish on Main St. & Ocean Blvd., North Myrtle Beach, SC. Finish Line Results by Race Management Systems. Water Stations available on course. Refreshments and prize drawings during awards ceremony.

TIME: 8 am for 5K and 8K, 9 am for 1 Mile Walk

AGE GROUPS/AWARDS: Top 3 overall Male/Female (all 3 races). Overall not eligible for age groups. Certificates to all mile finishers. Top 3 M/F in 5K & 8K in age groups 11-14, 15-18, 19-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65 and over. (Note: 1 Mile will also have 10 and under age group.)
AWARDS, post race refreshments, prizes 9:30 at Race Headquarters, O.D. Arcade & Lounge.

PRE-REGISTRATION: Mail applications by September 6, 1997. Use address below*. Packet pickup and additional sign-ups available Friday, September 12, 3pm to 6pm at The Company Store/SOS Headquarters, 218 Main Street (1-888-SOS-3113).

RACE DAY REGISTRATION: 7:00-7:45 AM at Race Headquarters, O.D.Arcade, 100 S. Ocean Blvd., N.Myrtle Beach

ENTRY FEES: 5K & 8K \$12 Pre-Registered (Race day \$15); 1 Mile Fun Run/Walk \$8 Pre-Registered (Race day \$10). **WALKERS!** designed with you in mind.

***MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE To:** SOS BEACH RUN, PO Box 1988, Murrells Inlet, SC 29576. Local 803-651-4712. OR 1-888-SOS-3113 for more information.

Note: Any profits donated to charity. In coordination with Race Management Systems. Needed: 100+ VOLUNTEERS-persons interested, please fill out registration form (no fee) and sign as "Volunteer" in space provided. You will be contacted for follow up. The A.C.S.C. Shag Club with greatest participation will receive an award-Shag Clubs, here's your spotlight!



(S.O.S. BEACH RUN REGISTRATION-DETACH & MAIL FOR PRE-REGISTRATION)

IF VOLUNTEER, please circle "VOLUNTEER" and fill in below same as race entrant

Name: _____ 5K _____ 8K _____ 1 MILE _____
 Address: _____ Male/Female _____ T-Shirt Size(circle) S M L XL
 City: _____ (based on availability)
 Amount Enclosed: _____
 Phone: _____ Runner/entrant signature: _____
 Age: _____ Age as of Sept. 13, '97: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Fees: 5K & 8K \$12 until race day fee of \$15. 1 MI \$8 until race day fee of \$10.

EMERGENCY CONTACT & PHONE NUMBER: _____

WAIVER & RELEASE: In consideration and acceptance in the S.O.S. Beach Run, I and my heirs and assigns, waive any and all claims to which I may become entitled for injury and damage-and hereby release the City of North Myrtle Beach and S.O.S. Inc. and all other organizations, organizers, sponsors, representatives, their agents, and employees and any other persons assisting in putting on the event from any and all claims for damages or injury incurred by me as a result of my participation in or traveling to or from this event. I further state that I am in proper physical condition to compete in the 8K, 5K or 1 mile Fun Run. I also give my permission for the free and unrestricted use of my name and picture in any broadcast, telecast, or written account of the event.

The S.O.S. Grand Nationals: a shagger's perspective

(Continued from Page 16)

although often identical to ours, is generally played at a faster speed. Finally, swing dance routines are generally more acrobatic and physically challenging.

A shagger generally wears more "comfortable" clothes. He maintains a lot of eye contact with his or her partner, giving the impression that the entire world includes just the two of them and a moving interpretation of the music, lifestyle, and emotions that become part of a shagger's soul. Nothing else matters ... as long as both leave the dance floor with a smile. The shag can be upbeat and, at the same time, smooth and sexy.

Still, the unanimous appreciation of both dances by both groups is evident when the mixed crowd explodes with applause after various steps, styles, and routines are exhibited. The fact is that anyone wanting to watch or participate in the shag or the swing would appreciate the talent and abilities of both styles and could gain valuable pointers and insight from the more accomplished dancers of either style.

At some point in your partying, socializing, and dancing experiences, you have probably made the statement, "Now I've seen it all." (Take a second to think of what may have caused you to make that remark.) But until you go to the S.O.S. Grand Nationals, your comment cannot be true.

Seeing a group of junior shaggers and a group of junior swingers mix together and put on a dancing exhibition that is mutually appreciated and fun, witnessing a couple exchange wedding vows during a break in the dancing, or being part of the birthday celebration for Clarice Reavis are just a few of the S.O.S. Grand Nationals memories that prove my point.

To continue relating the experiences of the S.O.S. Grand Nationals would take many more pages than I have the time to write. So let me end with this: forget whatever images or stereotypes you may have imagined about this event. If you like music, dancing, entertainment, luxurious accommodations, and many other things that could only be found at the most ultimate, first class event, the S.O.S. Grand Nationals is for you.

Treat yourself to something you will never, ever forget. Do it once for the experience and so that you will understand some of the memories that I have tried to share. And don't be surprised if you learn a few new steps or meet some new friends while you are there or if you decide to return the following year!

Mike Rink is a member and past president of Twister's Shag Club, a deejay and member of the Association of Beach and Shag Club Deejays, and is currently the Vice Chairman of the Association of Carolina Shag Clubs.

An Interview with "Hoss Man" Allen

(Continued from Page 25)

think that I had listened to you in my teen years and to think that we have now met and had this conversation, you touched my life and made a difference!

What an interview—what a guy, Hoss Allen—and what a station, WLAC!

After a quick tour of Music Row, I was outta there! Been there, done that, and did not buy the tee shirt!

A special thanks to Margaret Richbourg for her information and

Down Memory Lane

(Continued from Page 8)

The song was *Sea Cruise* and it was the only hit Frankie Ford ever had.

This was the beginning of the end for Huey. He left Ace and started to drift from label to label. He recorded under several different names but nothing clicked.

He did manage to chart one last record in '62. He went back to Ace and recorded *Popeye*. This was at the time the dance craze was taking place, and, yes, there was a dance called The Popeye, which helped the record become a success.

Huey was bitter and disillusioned with the music business; and, after overcoming a serious drinking problem, he turned to religion. The last I heard, Huey Piano Smith was living in New Orleans and working as a janitor in a downtown drug store. He swore never to perform again.

I believe this great artist deserves to be more than just a minor footnote.

Johnny Hammond is a member of the Electric City Shag Club in Anderson, SC. This article was first published in their newsletter, "Shag 'N Tales," Feb. 1996.

the tapes of originals of the John R. radio program at WLAC in Nashville. Copies are available from Margaret Richbourg, 719 Albar Drive, Nashville, TN 37221. Everybody should hear the one and only John R.!

Postscript: Since the interview in November, I just recently received a letter from Hoss Allen's daughter. He has been in the hospital for two months, and we all wish him the very best.



Shaggers' Hall Of Fame



Brenda Alberty	Lynda Carol Flynn	Buddy Kennedy	Billy Pack
Shad Alberty	Hank Fulmer	Dewey Kennedy	Jeannie Pack
Burkley Altman	Johnnie L. Fulmer	"Spider" Kirkman	Eddie Page
Helen Andrews	Ann Givens	Sherbie Lancaster	Vee Page
Jack Armstrong	Betty Greer	Gene Jaughter	Betty Lou Parrott
Millie Arrington	Sue Hallow	"Bunk" Leach	Doug Perry
Mitch Barkoot	Janet Harrold	"Speedy" Lewis	Bill "Red" Pittman
Tom Barrineau	Carolyn Hedrick	George Lineberry	Charlie Porter
Dennis Beam	Chick Hedrick	Toby Long	"JoJo" Putnam
Burt Bennett	"Chicken" Hicks	Berta Lull	Clarice Reavis
Harold Bessent	Harry Hitopolous	Billy Mace	Domer Reeves
Larry Blake	Buck Holcombe	Louise Madden	Buzz Sawyer
Lorraine Blake	Bill Holler	Sandra Marshall	Phil Sawyer
Dot Dick Brader	Norman Holliday	Nick Mathis	Sandra Schwartz
Sumter Brawley	Wanda Holliday	Jo McEachem	Dennis Sides
Sandra Bryant	Rick Hubbad	Jackie McGee	Cadillac" Jack Smith
Roger Burris	Ann Huddle	Barbara McInnis	Connie Smith
Peggy Burris	Louise Hunhucker	Babs MacIntosh	Marilyn Smith
Nelson Burton	Bud Hunt	Clayton McManaway	"Bubber" Snow
Weezie Carr	Dottie Hunt	David Michael	Bobby Summerset
Betty Catron	Billy Jeffers	Eddie Monsour	Ellen Taylor
Jean Clarke	Wanda Jeffers	Kathryn Monsour	Frances Taylor
Dick Clay	Lamar Johnson	Ann Moore	"PeeWee" Teel
"Snookie" Crawford	Franz Johnson	Lacy Moore	Nick Theodore
Jim Davis	Marcia Johnson	George Morris	"Fiddle" Turner
Jim Dinger	Glenda Johnson	Janet Morris	Rufus Wactor
Dottie Driver	JoAnne Johnson	Margie Morris	"Wormy" Wall
Harry Driver	Bill Jolly	Lila Munn	Dick Webb
Judy Duke	Norfleet Jones	Susan Neal	Leon Williams
D.B. Evans	Betty Lou Jones	Harry Oliver	Vera Williams
Jean Ferguson	Betty Kane	Joan Owen	Charlie Womble
Louise Fidel	Bobby Kellam	Mike Pace	Betty Ziegler



Congratulations 1997 Inductees!!!



Faye Altman	Vickie Carter	Ellison Stokes	Carol Wactor
Al Cain	Julie Evans	John Teel	Arnie Webb

We lost a Hall of Famer in April of this year who was one of the founders of our dance. "Bunk" Leach will be missed by everyone who knew him. He was a teacher of the "Greats", a supporter of our dance, and an avid fund raiser for the Hall of Fame



Spread the Word...

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Blues Concert 1:00pm-5:00pm

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*www.shagdance.com is
your shag connection*

by Mike Rink

The Association of Carolina Shag Clubs (A.C.S.C.) and the Society of Stranders (S.O.S.) are making it easy for the many computer users among us to stay in tune with all the best shag information.

The Internet site, which has recently been registered and become active, is www.shagdance.com. As

Mid-Winter and S.O.S. event dates will be posted, as well as dates for events sponsored by the A.C.S.C. Full Member clubs. But all this is just the tip of the iceberg, as you will soon see when you connect to our home page. We want to expose the world to what we do and to the music and dance we all enjoy. The Internet offers us an opportunity to do this and to accomplish many other goals.

You will notice that throughout

Einstein visited Furman in the '40s

GREENVILLE, S.C. (AP) — Every picture tells a story they say. So it is with the black and white photograph of Albert Einstein strolling across the old Furman campus in the early 1940s.

The story it tells is this: Einstein was here. Not many people knew he ever set foot in South Carolina, let alone visited a school better known at the time for turning out Baptist preachers than scientists.

What the picture doesn't tell is what he was doing here. That was Furman employee Jim Stewart's job to discover. About a year ago Roger McKinney brought the photograph to Stewart, who works with publications at Furman.

The story behind the photograph, published in this spring's issue of Furman Magazine, goes like this:

Hans Einstein, Class of 1943, came to Furman from his native New York. By chance he discovered another Einstein in the Greenville phone book. Since he has a somewhat unusual name, Hans filed it under "small world" and dialed the number. He reached Hans Albert Einstein, son of the great scientist.

"He was with the city, a water engineer or something with the water department," recalled Hans Einstein, the Furman alumnus, now a doctor and medical director at Bakersfield Hospital in California.

When the famous Einstein came to visit his son, the student Einstein met him and in conversation discovered they were distant relatives.

Hans said he knows of at least two visits the scientist made to Greenville, adding that he found him to be "a very warm" person. But he noted, "He didn't make small talk. He really wanted to know what people were thinking and doing."

While here, Einstein expressed an interest in visiting the Furman campus. When news of his visit spread, it became something of an event, with everyone gathering in the chapel for a question and answer session.

Then there is the story of the silver-haired scientist lecturing in Professor John Sampey's class and another of when the late Harrison F. Edwards was working alone in a lab when Einstein wandered in and received a nickel tour. Stewart says exact dates for all this aren't known.

It was noted Einstein wasn't wearing socks on one occasion, leading to speculation he may have spent some time shagging at Ocean Drive in Myrtle Beach. Never mind that the shag hadn't been invented yet.

Perhaps Einstein was ahead of his time in more ways than one.

Submitted by Barbara Rankin. Reprinted from the "Gaston Gazette 5/5/97.



of this writing, the "Welcome" page is there. Soon (perhaps by the time you read this article) you will be able to find out anything and everything related to shagging, our organizations, and our events on our web page.

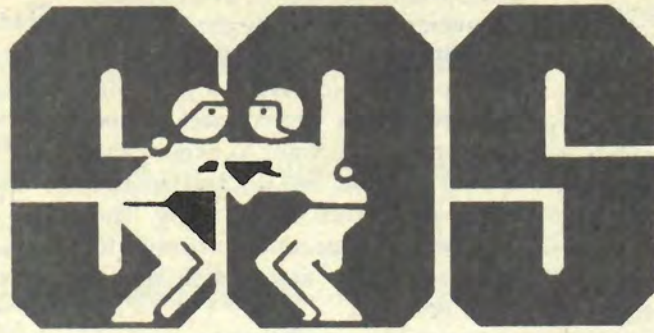
We are hoping that a full listing of shag clubs in the A.C.S.C. will help entice web site visitors to contact clubs in their local area and that this will help those clubs build their membership. We'll be working with the shag clubs to help them promote themselves, their activities, etc. in the immediate future. We even plan to make information on this site downloadable so shag club newsletter editors will have an easy way to include more news in their publications.

this article the word "our" is used. This site belongs to the shaggers and shag clubs. To make "our" site the best it can be, we need you to help out and provide input. Tell us what types of things that you or your club would like to see included. Let us know how the site can best serve you and make your visit to this web site informative and enjoyable.

An E-mail button on the first page offers a convenient way to give us your feedback, suggestions, offers of help, or information to be included. If you are not "connected" at home or at work, send items via regular mail to the A.C.S.C. Vice Chairman at 17219 Jetton Road, Cornelius, NC 28031.

Thanks and "happy surfing!"

The Premier Dance Event in the Shag and Swing World



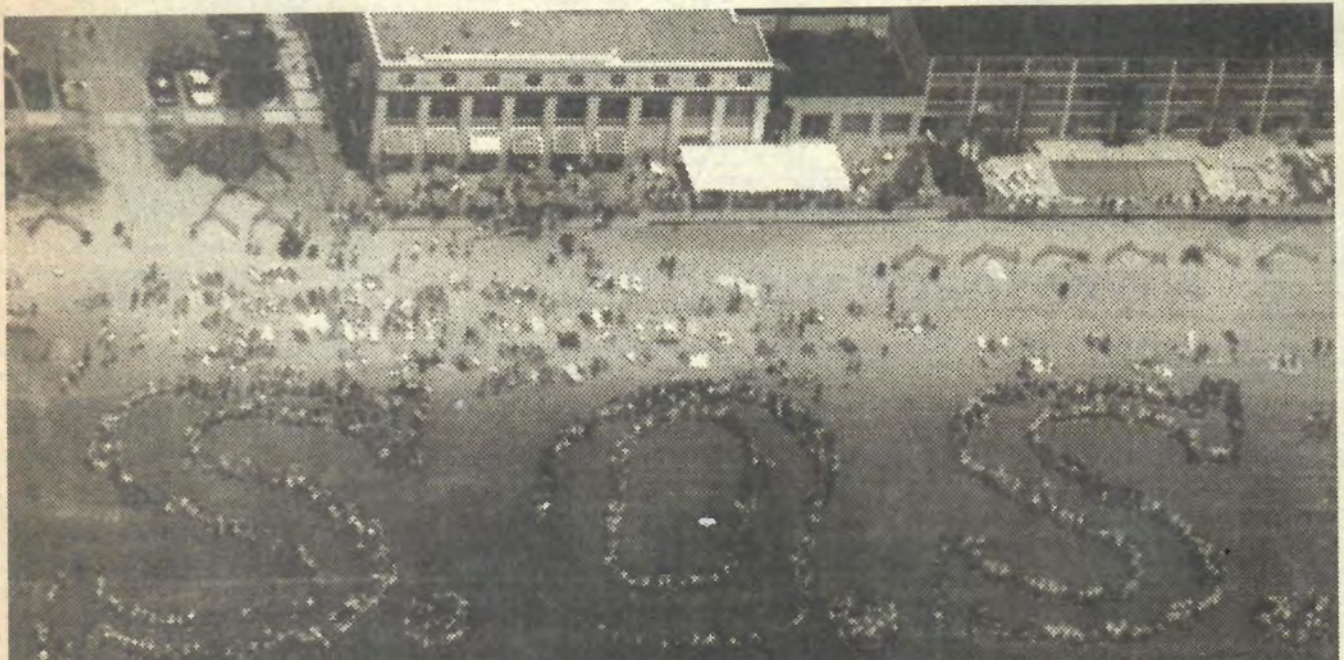
Fall Migration

September 5th thru 14th 1997
Line Dance Competition
The Inaugural "Fun Monday" event
The S.O.S. Beach Run
Hall of Fame Exhibition

&

Spring Safari

April 24th thru May 3rd 1998
Fourth Annual S.O.S. Parade
Smoothies Contest
Hall of Fame Exhibition



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