

S.O.S. Carefree Times

Summer Edition 2008

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S.O.S. President
Ron Whisenant



Hi Everyone! It is summer! It is hot! I hope that your summer plans, vacation, etc. are going well for you. As for Peggy and I, we have been on a roller coaster since Spring Migration. We were home for 11

ys, and then flew off to Rome Italy with 44 SOS friends to visit the Mediterranean Sea and the Greek Isles. A total of 14 ys. The finish was a 10 hour flight from Rome to Chicago, on onto Charlotte on a shuttle jet for a ninety minute flight. The flight was a roller coaster ride for sure. Peggy sat clutching my hand with eyes closed, and stating what the hell is he doing, referring to the pilot. Finally, she opened her eyes, looked at me and stated, "go up there and tell him to slow this damn thing down", or else. I'm tired of this s---. Thankfully, the pilot found the stable air for us to fly home. Peggy asked him if he was a pilot as we deplaned.

We saw some great things, some beautiful, historical areas, and how the other parts of the world live their daily lives. It was wonderful experience, but I can honestly say, there is no place in the world like the good ole USA. It is great to be back home, with my friends and family.

Since our return I have been busy with our golf tournament in Pinehurst, NC. The tournament will be history when you give your Carefree Times, but I am hopeful that we will have a short report on the activities and winners. Look for the information under the Hall of Fame Foundation report.

There are many shag club parties that you can attend this summer. I am sure that you can have several choices each weekend. Pick out one or two to enhance your summer enjoyment, Support you neighboring shag clubs. We have to stick together to stay strong.

The summer workshop will be hosted by Greenville's Carolina Shag Club. They are one of the shag clubs that was part of the founding of the Association of Carolina Shag Clubs. They will be holding the workshop on July 11-13th, and put on a fantastic party. We will be on down, or up, to Greenville SC.

In wrapping up this article, let me tell you that Spring Safari was magnificent. The weather was truly perfect, the crowds were tremendous, our fourteenth ACSC parade was fantastic in every way. The ACSC clubs have great imagination, outstanding execution of ideas, and deliver a performance second to none. It is an outstanding job by the ACSC clubs, Don David and his crew. Thanks to all that participated. Thanks, Don and crew.

Next comes Fall Migration, with Fun Sunday, and Fun Monday. The Enhancement committee has it all ready to go. I am sure it will be an outstanding show and performance again this year.

And then there is football. GO PANTHERS! I hope they can't stink it up this year. GO COCKS! Well I can hope can't I? Love You All,

Ron



S.O.S. Chairman
Hector Phifer

Howdy Folks,

As I sit here writing this article, I feel so humble and proud to be a part of such a great organization. The officers of the Association of Carolinas Shag Clubs and the SOS

Board members, present and past, have done a tremendous job in making us what we are today. These people work tirelessly to do whatever it takes to make the Association and SOS as great and as successful as possible.

Each year, without a doubt, we have become bigger and better. In the spring, our Spring Safari parade, thanks to Don David, his helpers, and especially all the shag clubs who continue to produce bigger and better entries, continues to grow. We have become the biggest and best parade in North Myrtle Beach. Then in the fall, with Fun Sunday and Fun Monday, Hollis Britt, along with his committee, and Judy Collins, who co-ordinates the entertainment, consistently bring in top performers for us, thus making this the largest street party at the beach. But without our shag club presidents and the Fun Monday committee selling tickets, we would not be able to survive. It takes money, and lots of it, to pay entertainers, hotel accommodations, stage rental..... Get the picture! So remember what's at stake if someone approaches you to buy a ticket, and you say "No". It could be bye bye spring and fall parties, and I don't believe any of you want this to happen. So buy those tickets and don't forget to give each committee person a humongous "Thank You" for their hard work and dedication. Oh yea, there is another part of our team that needs our thanks for their hard work, and they are Janet Harrold who organizes our Carefree Times for your enjoyment and information about our shag community, Vickie Harrison and her husband Paul who takes all the pictures at our events and parties, and there is Chris Jestes who runs our SOS web site so we can connect to everything that goes on in our Shag World. These folks also put a lot of time and effort in making our organization bigger and better.

And since I am on a roll for "Thank You's and Appreciations," I can't leave out our participating club owners. If you stop and think about it, there would be no SOS without them and their support. They set aside ten days twice a year, plus a weekend in January to allow us to meet and party. I don't think we could go anywhere and find club owners who would do that for a group of people who just want to gather and have a great time dancing to the number one dance music of the South, THE SHAG.

Have fun this summer, be safe, and remember to pray for our troops and country.

God Bless you all,

Hector



A.C.S.C. Chairman
Judy Vick

Greetings Everyone,

As you read this we are in the middle of summer looking forward to fall sos. The weather has finally turned hot and we are looking for ways to escape the heat.

I would like to remind everyone of Junior SOS coming up in July. This is a good family outing for everyone. Bring your juniors and come on down for a week end you won't forget.

This will lead up to fall migration in September. As usual, the enhancement committee has come up with some dynamite performers for Fun Sunday and Fun Monday. Bring your suntan lotion and chairs for a great time.

I would like to encourage everyone to support your local commercial shag clubs. Without these clubs you would have no place to dance.

The Fun Monday raffle tickets are now on sale. Help support Fun Monday by buying one or two. Who knows, you might be the big winner.

See you at the Beach,

Judy

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Without the help of everyone who contributed, this paper would still be Just Another Newsletter. Thank You!!



S.O.S.
Janet Harrold

September 12, 2008, which is the first day of SOS Fall Migration is just around the corner. So, therefore, you have about ten weeks to rest up for ten days of FUN!!! Fat Harolds, Ducks/Ducks II, OD Arcade & Lounge, and OD Cafe being SOS member clubs always have so much entertainment, music, and food available for all of us....ten days is not enough time to do all that is provided for us. Of course, Fun Sunday and Fun Monday takes up two days and as usual The Enhancement Committee has the usual great entertainers we always enjoy Remember the crowd last Fun Monday.... people were hanging from the buildings. Always be kind to your neighbor and careful when their is such a crowd.

I have been fortunate to judge the Spring Parade for the past several years. That includes sitting on a real lifeguard stand (no umbrella) that the City of N Myrtle Beach delivers just for the parade, which provides the best seat in the house. The Association floats always come up with the most unique themes, the Hall of Fame has a huge turnout from their group riding in convertibles, and all of the judges get lots of goodies to encourage us to vote for them. Kudos to Don David and his crew for all their hard work.

Vickie Harrison spends much of her time during SOS taking photos of the different events and smiling faces. Don't forget to search for yourself in one of the collages in this issue that she does for your enjoyment. So if you see a cute, blonde girl with a camera almost as big as her "Smile, you are on candid camera"!

Thank you for continuing to send photos, articles, and advertising so that the Carefree Times will continue to be a great coffee table book in your home. In this issue note that there are many specials advertised to make reservations for the Fall Migration, and please patronize all our advertisers and sponsors whenever you visit the coast.

Last but not least...thank you Joanne for your great work on the Carefree Times.

Janet

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ABSCDJ's President **Jessie Griffin**

Greetings from the Association of Beach and Shag Club DJ's

WOW! What a fantastic Spring SOS Parade. The weather was perfect, the crowds were great and we had a blast riding in the parade.

Not all of our members had to miss the parade as they were riding in the clubs. A special thanks to Fat Harold, "Mr. DJ Hall of Fame", who rode with DJ Hall of Fame Members. A big thanks to our member Fred Judge, owner of the great looking 1972 Cutlass in which I was riding along with the famous Shagging Bear. We hope that you liked the keepsake "message in a bottle" that we passed out to the crowd. You can thank our DJ Member Eddie Anderson for coming up with that idea.

Our hats are off to Don David, the SOS parade chairman, and any assistants he might have had for putting together such a great event. We look forward to next year.

Save the Date for DJ Throwdown on March 5 - 7, 2009 Ducks and Ducks Too. Check our website at www.ABSCDJ.com for any information you might need for DJ Throwdown or our members.

We look forward to seeing you at the beach and on the dance floors during Fall SOS. Remember, if you hear a song you really like, just check with all the great folks at DJ's House of Oldies before you leave the beach.

If there is anything we in the DJ Association can do for your club, email me at gashagdj@aol.com. Thanks for hiring and supporting our DJ's.

See you at the Beach!

Jessie



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On The Cover

I hope that you like the cover of the Carefree Times this issue. SOS wanted to dedicate this issue to 94.9 the Surf, the "Official Radio Station of SOS". 94.9 the Surf is a dedicated radio station that promotes our beach music, our dance and the SOS lifestyle that has become a way of life for many of us.

Harvey, Selene, and their dedicated staff, are very proud of the performance and format of the radio station 94.9 the Surf. They stream live music onto the world wide web, so that beach music enthusiasts can enjoy our music from anywhere in the world.

SOS is proud to be in a partnership with 94.9 the Surf. Together, we can accomplish many of our goals. Promoting great beach music, our local community, the SOS Beach Clubs, the SOS lifestyle will help us to perpetuate our state dance, Shag, and its music that we all love.

Thank you Harvey, Selene, and the 94.9 the Surf staff for a great job in broadcasting our beach music that we love so much. Check them out on www.949thesurf.com. Give them a listen for a great sound.

Ron Whisenant
SOS President

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ARTIST DON BORJA: *Labors of Love for Shag & His Country.*

Don and Audrey Borja were new to shag a decade ago, when Don designed a logo and turned it into a giant poster-board sculpture for the Northern Virginia Shag Club's annual weekend party. Don's such a low key and quiet man that, of course, he didn't tell his club that this was a gift from a nationally known artist.

Don is one of only two official sculptors for the US government. Possibly his best-loved work is a memorial to the lost Challenger astronauts. It's a sculpture of their faces, placed over the astronauts' shared grave at Arlington National Cemetery.

Don works for the US Army's Institute of Heraldry, which designs medals, seals, badges and monuments commemorating historic people, places and events. Don designed a relief-sculpture of Navy Vice Admiral James Stockdale, the longest held POW in Vietnam.

The sculpture is on a plaque that's presented to fleet commanders in the Pacific. Don's been called "the keeper" of the President's seal. He did the three-dimensional model for the oval-shaped White House seal that's seen on TV when the President speaks to the nation. The Pentagon also uses a Don-designed plaque for TV appearances by the Secretary of Defense and other military staff.



3D Plaque of White House made by Don Borja. President Bush speaking in White House Press Room.

Several years ago, Arlington Cemetery advised Don that his memorial for the Challenger crew was then its second most-visited site, behind only the eternal-flame memorial for President Kennedy.

Tell us about the memorial to the Challenger crew.

DON: "NASA gave me a box of photos to work with, photos of each of the seven astronauts who died.... I made precise molds, and a model of the sculpture. The surviving spouses all came to the Institute to give their blessings. All except the husband of Christa McAuliffe, because he was too distraught to deal with it, and he just gave his

blessing to whatever we could do.... The difficulty in respecting and work-ing with someone who's grieving is that they remember their loved one in so many different ways. Almost all of the spouses wanted me to give



Superintendent of Arlington Cemetery Mr. Costanza and Sculptor Don Borja.

their loved ones just a little more smile. I don't really like to do that sometimes, because I don't want to falsify anyone. But it was only a few little changes they were asking for, and I did a few things and they were all satisfied. That was very gratifying.... The former superintendent at Arlington told me that, because of the number of visitors to the memorial, they put in a walkway and put it on the tour bus schedule.. .. This has been a very proud and personal thing to me, to be able to do this for the families and also to be recognized in this way by our government.

What's the concept of your logo for the shag club? What inspired it?

Don: "Audrey and I had been in the Northern Virginia club for about a year and we went to the club's Capital Shag Classic party. It was maybe only the second Classic ever... I just thought the club needed something for the Classic, a logo for the Classic. I thought about it, and thought about it – what could best represent our club? And eventually it came to me that we are in Washington, DC, where it all happens. And all of us, we're all, "We, the people."

Don designed a backdrop that included the US Capitol, shaggers and an old 45 record. He made those as huge, three-dimensional components, covered in red, white and blue glitter. For the center of the piece, Don made a scroll that was lettered in old-fashioned script, like an unfolding Declaration of Independence. Don's message said: "We the people of the Northern Virginia Shag Club, welcome you."

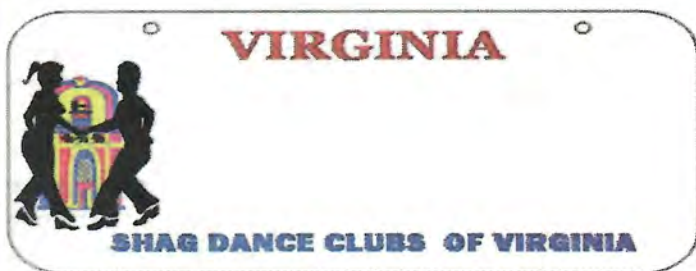
Don: "It took me about 3 months to make... It was so big I had to put it on the cover of my hot tub to work on it... It's made of plastic sandwich board. That's for the cutouts



of the Capitol and the dancers... The "We the people" scroll, that's like a window-screen material, a metal screen that's bendable and foldable. I covered that with plaster. And after arranging all the pieces, and after about 4 or 5 pounds of glitter – well, there we have it."

The finished product weighed 25 to 30 pounds. It was almost 6 feet tall and 4-and-half feet wide. Don thinks that, when the lights hit all that glitter just right, the logo appears to move and sway like a dancer wearing sequins.

Don: "When I got through with it, I was really pleased about it. I was so excited about shag. We were new to the club and so new to shag. It just became a labor of love. It was for the pleasure of it. Nobody asked for it. It wasn't requested by the Board or anyone. I just knew I was going to do it, and if nobody wanted it, I was gonna hang it in my house. ...Now, sometimes I look back on it and I think, well, what I can do with my hands, I would hope to do with my feet someday. I know I can do with my hands. But after 11 years of shagging, it's still getting the feet to execute."



You've done other art work for shag. A design, approved by the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles, for a proposed Virginia "shag tag." Audrey's earrings when she dressed up as DJ Joanne Johnson for the SOS parade. Tell us about those earrings.

DON: "The first thing you see with Joanne Johnson is her earrings, big earrings. So, it was easy for me to visualize much larger hoops. And I got these parakeets - little toy parakeets, like you can get at Michael's or one of those crafts' places – and I made some very large hoops and put the parakeets in the hoops. Then I attached them to earring clips, and it was a done deal. When the parade was over, Joanne tracked Audrey down and said 'I have to have those earrings', so we gave 'em to her."

Don and Audrey are volunteer instructors for the NVSC and Audrey has served on the NVSC Board. They're also co-founders, officers and instructors of the Battlefield Boogie Shag Club.

Don's logo will be on display again at this year's Capital Shag Classic on July 25 to July 27 in Fairfax, Va.

-- Joan McKinney, NVSC

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FIRST TRIP TO MYRTLE BEACH

I made my first trip to Myrtle Beach, without the burden of adult supervision, during the spring of 1952. I hitchhiked down from Greenville, S.C. with Jo-Jo Putnam and Les McDonald. We had no luggage, no place to stay, and, of course, we had no money. We had spent our last few dollars on a pint of "Old Rocking Chair" to get us through those long waits between rides.

I would have followed Jo-Jo almost anywhere in those days. He had been down to the beach a few times already and, to hear him tell it, you would think he was king of the jitterbugs. Joe was pencil-thin in those days, with a shock of blonde hair and a slight overbite. He was a very good dancer, and he had the kind of personality that you could not easily forget. Les, on the other hand, whose nickname was "Handsome Les" was, in fact handsome, did not dance at all, had a sullen, cynical countenance, and was usually too drunk to do anything more than have another drink. I was just a dumb, sixteen year old punk kid who wanted desperately to become a jitterbug.

Greenville had its share of genuine jitterbugs in those days. I'm talking about guys like Lamar and Charley Johnson, Bill "Sleepy" Timmerman, Irving "Creeper" Montgomery, Clayton McManaway, D.B. "Squirrel" Evans, Jack "Brainy" Childress, and Buck Holcomb. These guys not only talked the talk and walked the walk, but they could also boogie with the best of them. Jo-Jo could compete with most of them on the dance floor, but he was young and wild and did not run with their crowd. I idolized these guys and hoped to one day be just like them.

Actually, my only long range goals in those days were to become a good dancer, maintain my duck-tail hair style, own some tailor-made pants (with wide knees, pegged bottoms, welt seams, and up flap pockets), and master that cool way of talking to the women that all genuine jitterbugs seemed to have in common. Unfortunately, I was a long way from achieving my goals. I knew only a couple of rather simple dance steps that Sleepy had taught me, and I could not afford the price of a good haircut. My only pair of tailor-made pants had actually been tailored for Les McDonald, who

outweighed me by some forty pounds. He had sold them to me for the price of a pint of whiskey. They hung on my thin frame like a fat man's coat on a four year old. How utterly ridiculous I must have looked in those trousers.

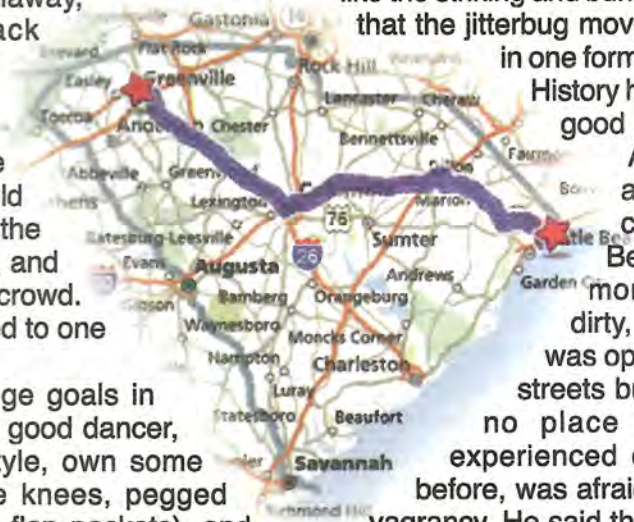
While we stood on the highway, waiting for rides, Jo-Jo entertained us by dropping names of colorful beach personalities and telling us tales of his many beach experiences. He spoke of legendary jitterbugs like Harry Driver, Charlie Boone, Jimmy Dingler, Nelson Burton, Bunk Leach, and others. He mentioned jitterbug queens like Weezy Rogers, Jean Allen, and Clarice. He rattled on, no-stop, his words painting rich and descriptive pictures of the beach crowd and their wonderful, carefree way of life. Although I would later come to realize that many of Jo-Jo's stories were either fabricated or, at best, greatly exaggerated, at that particular time in my life I was eager to believe anything he said, and I accepted these stories as sacred doctrine.

I think it is worth mentioning that, aside from my personal fascination with the jitterbug lifestyle and my dogged determination to embrace it, my inner feelings about the larger picture of this phenomenon went much deeper. Something deep down in my soul told me that the jitterbug thing ultimately held some genuine historical significance, that it would truly bring about a landmark change in our cultural pattern, and that it would definitely not be some mere passing fad that would come and go like the striking and burning of a match. I somehow knew that the jitterbug movement was going to be around, in one form or another, for a long, long time. History has proven me to be a pretty darn good prophet.

After going several hours without a ride, we finally got lucky and caught one that let us out at Myrtle Beach around three o'clock in the morning. We were tired, hungry, dirty, and broke. Absolutely nothing was open and there was no one on the streets but us. We had no place to stay, no place to go, and Jo-Jo, having experienced difficulty with the local police before, was afraid that we might get arrested for vagrancy. He said that the cops took great delight in arresting young jitterbugs who had no visible means of support.

Les complained about being hungry, and Jo-Jo eased our minds by promising that his friends who worked the food concessions in the pavilion would feed us. The only problem was, they wouldn't be open for four or five hours.

As we neared the pavilion, Jo-Jo told us about an old



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house that had been condemned and scheduled for demolition. It was on the corner, between the pavilion and the Eighth Avenue Grill, only half a block from where we were. Jo-Jo suggested that we slip in there and catch a few hours sleep. Had we been less exhausted, I'm certain it would have dawned on us what a brainless idea this was. We were just too damn wasted to give it any thought.

When we got to the cabin, we found "no trespassing" signs plastered all over the place warning us to keep out. As fate would have it, the front door had been left unlocked, so we went right in like we owned the place. There were a couple of old mattresses on the floor in one of the bedrooms, so we collapsed on them and immediately fell asleep. We had been asleep only a few minutes when we were rudely awakened by someone shaking us and shining flashlights in our eyes. Naturally, it was the Myrtle Beach Police. They routinely checked this place to make sure vagrants like us weren't sleeping there for free. They promptly cuffed us and drove us down to the station where we would remain locked up until court was held later that morning. Our cell was filthy, our mattresses even dirtier than the ones in the cabin, and several of the inmates continued to scream

profanities at each other non-stop. Our situation was quickly developing into a nightmare of gigantic proportions.

It seemed like an eternity before the police finally opened our cell, cuffed us, and took us off to court. As we entered that courtroom, my stomach was churning with fear and anxiety. To make a bad situation even worse, the judge recognized Jo-Jo and addressed him by name. It turned out that he had once tried and convicted Jo-Jo for drunk and disorderly. Like I said before, Jo-Jo is a character one doesn't easily forget. Then, to turn the screws even tighter, Chief Newton himself comes walking into court to testify against us. I knew then that we were probably headed for the dreaded Horry County chain gang.

The judge called for order and our trial got underway. Somewhere, far off in the distance, I could hear the faint sound of a voice reading the charges against us. I vaguely caught the words "vagrancy" and "breaking and entering," but my mind was reeling with other thoughts. How could I break the news to my family? What would my friends say? How could a skinny kid like me survive the Horry County chain gang? Life, as I had known it, was over and done with.

Chief Newton's gruff voice returned my attention to the business at hand. "Your Honor," he said, "I'll drop the charges against Jo-Jo and his buddies on one condition. When they leave this courtroom, they're to take their butts straight back to Greenville where they belong. And if they ever appear before you again, they're to go straight to the chain gang."

"You boys are fortunate the Chief's feeling charitable today," said the judge. "You would not find me so generous. You heard him. Now get the hell on out of here, and don't come back without money and a place to stay. Case dismissed."

My great sigh of relief could have inflated a tire. I was out of my chair and out on the street in a heartbeat, never once looking back as I hustled toward the highway that would take me home. I don't think I drew a full breath until I reached the sign that read "Conway 15 miles." As I assumed the thumbing position, I reassured myself that the beach trip I had anticipated was not gone and lost forever. Temporary postponement did not mean defeat. There would be other opportunities, and next time I would do things much differently. Although you can't be sure about anything, of this one thing I was more than certain. Never again would I go to the beach with Jo-Jo Putnam.

As I stood on that highway, the hot sun beating down on my face, I watched in shocked disbelief as Jo-Jo and Les crossed the road and headed toward Ocean Drive. Having figured this would happen, Chief Newton had already called the Ocean Drive Police and requested that Jo-Jo and friends be arrested on sight if they showed up there. Naturally, they were back in jail before the sun went down.

I hung around Greenville until the middle of summer, working construction for my uncle and perfecting a few new dance steps. I had a pair of trousers tailored to my own measurements, got a decent haircut, and returned to Myrtle Beach near the June to stay the remainder of the summer. You guessed it! The first thing I did when I got there was rent a room. Then I went out and found a job.

I would work at either Myrtle Beach or Ocean Drive from 1952 through 1959, and I can truthfully say that the fifties were a special time to be alive. I made a lot of good friends during those years, and many of those friendships are alive and well today. As for those friends now departed, they will live on in our hearts and minds forever.

This is my story. You have my word that I told it exactly as it happened. Jo-Jo and I talked and laughed about it just the other day.

David V. Smith



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A Poem About SOS

By Kristin Bullard
Twister's Shag Club

*Spring Safari is a lifetime event that no one should miss
Seeing shaggers float on the dance floor with bliss,
With drinks in their hands and sand in their shoes,
It might be the quickest cure for a case of the blues.*

*Whether you are having a burger at the OD Arcade,
Or curing a hangover by chugging Gatorade,
You will be completely surrounded by friendly cheer,
And an overwhelming amount of shooters and beer.*

*As a young SOS-goer, I try to take it all in;
The sounds, smells, and abundance of balding men
I found I learn best through observing and osmosis,
And I pray my dance partners do not have halitosis!*

*During SOS I did gain some valuable dancing tips
Like how to boogie walk without moving my hips,
The Cupid Shuffle can be done by any geek off the street,
And I can now belly roll without stepping on his feet!*

*I also learned the hard way of what not to do;
Like drinking on an empty stomach before noon,
The dance floor is always crowded closer to the stage,
And let's face it, no one looks good dancing in a cage!*

*So I'd like to thank the Twisters for educating me
And contributing to my delinquency with Long Island Iced Tea!
You were the highlight of my SOS vacation,
And you truly exceeded your "Fun Bunch" reputation.*



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* See Sales Associate for Details. Offer Expires April 27, 2008

Fun at HOTO's

By Janice Musgrove
 Twister's Shag Club

The first Friday afternoon of Spring SOS we went to hear Ray Scott doing his afternoon show at Harold's On The Ocean. We decided that was a great place to start our SOS fun. We were the only Twister members there, so I want to make sure you all know of this place to party. Ray did a great job of entertaining the crowd. People were even standing off the deck in the sand listening to the show. Ray had Tim Cashion as a guest for a record release of his new beach music CD "Beach Walking". You probably know Tim best for his song "Loving on Ocean Drive". He lives in Charlotte, is on the road with Grand Funk Railroad, but is also getting into beach music. He did most of the instruments and vocals on the new CD. We liked several of his new songs.

Another interesting thing happened during the afternoon. Ray told the story about Tim writing a beach music song for line dancing - it is called "The OD Glide".

Calabash Flash made up the dance. He taught it first at Fat Harold's during March. Calabash Flash arrived and taught the new dance to the crowd that afternoon. If you did not see Flash doing the dance during SOS you can Google "OD glide", find the link, and then see Flash teaching the dance.

Spring SOS

By Robert and Marilyn Wagner
 Twister's Shag Club

2008 was our very first SOS and what a great first to remember. We were like kids going from club to club and dancing in every one. We are still beginners but felt welcome everywhere. The door person at the Spanish Galleon recognized Robert the second day we were there and told us he knew which people knew how to have fun. We think that was because we laughed at ourselves so much, but maybe it had something to do with Tequila. Thanks go to TSC for introducing us to SOS, and to Mike Rink for playing good music for us.

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My First SOS

By Wayland Massengill
Twister's Shag Club

SOS... Save Our Ship? Same Old (fill in the blank)? Shag on Sand? Society of Strandors? The acronyms are numerous but the meaning is singular---Fun! This being my first experience with SOS, I leaned on my wife for information and then just rode out the experience to see what this was really going to be about. The first activity I participated in was our club's "Tea Party". Again I found it refreshing to meet more and more people that you just instantly like and click with, and of course, when the serving of adult beverages is taking place, hilarity soon follows. For example, watching older guys dancing with the young chicks and watching wives roll their eyes. It was easy to see that nothing was taken seriously. As I was serving ice tea at the time, I wondered if I should not be carrying nitro tablets and a defibrillator along with the pitcher of tea. Thankfully no coronaries took place and no frying pans came out of any wives' pocketbooks.

We then moved over to the OD Beach Club where Mike Rink was to be the DJ. As he spun the tunes I found it amazing to see both simplicity and complexity performed beautifully on the dance floor. Met lots of new people. Made some new friends. What a blast it was!

Then comes Sunday. After arriving on the Strand, strolling around, shopping (wives, Sloop Dog and I people watching), we circulated a bit and ended up at OD Beach Club again for the view of the ocean (full moon to be explained later). The music got started, shoes started sliding, and the atmosphere became charged. It was easy to tell that the night was going to be fun. A lot of dancing took place. We even gravitated out back to dance with both the rhythms of the music and the ocean.

Then Darth Vader came out of his shell. Darth Vader is the name assigned to the person who shall remain nameless who under the guise and methodology of "getting to know you better" covertly keeps your hand occupied with a full glass. All night long!

Though the course of the evening my limited dancing skills started disappearing and my motor and speech skills I assume hid in my back pocket somewhere. All the while Darth I suspect laughing insanely at the product of his ministrations. Needless to say everything was funny, everybody was beautiful, and I could have sworn that the moon howled at me.

The bottom line of my SOS experience is that it is a wonderful time with great people, even Darth, whom I hold personally responsible for having Monday morning coffee with cream and Roloids and dulling five razor blades shaving my tongue. Sadly we began the trip home.

What a blast! Can't wait for Fall Migration!



O.D. Arcade PORCH PARTIES

I love Beach Music, always have and I always will...and give me a little bit of Rock n' Roll, Country & Bluegrass and I'm in Heaven! That is what you get when Murl Augustine DJ's at the O.D. Arcade Porch Parties. Yes, I am a "Porch People" and love to play the tambourine, the fake guitar and sing along. Murl should be "DJ of the Year" for the great entertainment we have at the Porch Parties. Elaine, Chris and the Arcade crew join in to make it Fun..Fun..Fun! It's hard to pass by "The Porch" without joining in, that's why you see so many people along the sidewalk and street singin' and dancin'. The O.D. Arcade Porch Parties are a wonderful SOS event and lives up to the SOS saying "Good Times, Good Friends, and Great Memories"!

Vickie Harrison, SOS Photographer



The SOS / HOFF PINEHURST

GOLF TOURNAMENT

SOS/HOFF Golf Tournament in Pinehurst was held on June 7&8th.. The temperatures soared to 100+degrees, with heat indexes in the 105 range for the two days of the tournament. Seventy eight golfers braved the elements of heat and the tests that the golf course served up to them. It proved to be a great weekend for our fund raiser for the Hall of Fame Foundation.

When all was said and done, our benefit to the HOFF amounted to \$5000 plus. The players had a great time, as Murl Augustine had them dancing, singing, bidding against each other in an auction, and a great time was had by all, including the writer. I had "fuzzy head" on Sunday morning.

To all of the shag clubs who were hole sponsors, a great big THANK YOU. Harris Teeter, Foxfire Golf Club, and the many others, THANK YOU. To Ducks, Fat Harold's, Harold's on the Ocean, OD Café, and The OD Arcade, THANK YOU. To Al and MG Cain, THANK YOU, and to my fellow SOS Board members that took part, THANK YOU. A great event, with a lot of success.



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Ellen's Basic Workshop At SOS

By Jennifer Finney
Twister's Shag Club

We decided to join Ellen Taylor for her workshop on the first Saturday of SOS. There were maybe twenty people so the dance floor wasn't too crowded. Ellen is intimidating at first but has a way of making you laugh and feel at ease. Our own Frankie Johnson was helping her and the ladies with the girl's steps.

John and I both agreed no matter how many lessons you've had, it's always a good idea to work on your basic steps. Several things that Ellen taught stuck out to us:

- Don't bounce when you dance. (I had a problem with that because I use to swing dance)
- Don't take a huge rock step. (John and I need to work on that)
- Take small steps especially in your pivot turn.
- Men, don't bruise the ladies hand with your thumb.

There was so much more she taught. It was a great workshop, and we're looking forward to her next one!

Reverend Bubba D. Liverance

By Dan Musgrove
Twister's Shag Club

One of the highlights of the Record Release Party was a performance by Reverend Bubba D. Liverance. This event was held at the Spanish Galeon on the second Friday of Spring SOS. Who would have thought that a self-professed politically incorrect Auburn fan could write and sing such sweet beach music?

Bubba's debut album is "Let My Peoples Dance". There are several good shag tunes on the album, but everyone's favorite is "If You Can't Shag, Get Your Ass Out of Carolina". If you like gospel shag, you will like "Pearly Gates". If you are a pedigreed Southerner, you will appreciate "I'm Fixin' To" and "Mo Better". The entire CD can be heard at www.revbubbaband.com. Downloads are available for \$0.99 per song. Be sure to read Bubba's blog. He talks about being a first time visitor to SOS.

Fun Sunday

September 14, 2008

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September 15, 2008



SOS Fun Monday Drawing

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- 4th Ticket Drawn.....\$500
- 5th Ticket Drawn.....\$250

12:00 pm to 5:30 pm
Main Street, O.D.

2008 SPRING SAFARI SOS PARADE





PARADE TALK

Well, here it is the middle of summer. Now it's cook-outs, vacations, kids out of school, and for those of us who are fortunate enough, it's frequent trips to the beach! And of course I mean North Myrtle Beach. Is there any other? So much fun to be had!

Spring Safari is fading from our memory, and Fall Migration is beginning to loom ahead. PLEASE, someone slow all this down!!

OK, stop and backup. The SOS SPRING SAFARI PARADE this year was a winner, as they all are. Another 900+ participants! A "PAIR of SEVENS" was the theme, and the clubs handled it with ease, the ideas were fantastic. Everyone seemed to have had a wonderful time!

The Burlington Shag Club and the O.D. Shag Club have established dynasties. Each one has won in their respective categories for the last 6 years. Folks, this is a record that I predict will never be broken, they have made "shag history". Congrats to both clubs.

As far as I'm concerned every club was a winner. But alas, it has to be official. Our Judges this year were our beloved ELAINE HUNTER (OD Arcade and Lounge), BECKY STOWE (our resident SOS

artist), TRISH LANGLEY BROWN (Sales Director for 94.9 The Surf , the official radio station of SOS), and as always the head Judge Ms. JANET HARROLD (Hall of Fame, Living Legends, Dance Instructor, Editor of the Carefree Times, and all around great gal). Thanks to all of you!

The envelope please. And the winners are.....

Best Club Vehicle

2nd Place ~ Carolina Shag Club

Best Club Vehicle

1st Place ~ Rock Hill Area Shag Club

Best Shagging Troop

2nd Place ~ Society of Brunswick Shaggers

Best Shagging Troop

1st Place ~ O.D.Shag Club

Most Original Theme

3rd Place ~

Camden Lugoff Area Shag Society

Most Original Theme

2nd Place ~ Fayetteville Area Shag Assoc.

Most Original Theme

1st Place ~ Monroe Shag Club

Best Shag Theme

3rd Place ~ South Strand Shag Club

Best Shag Theme

2nd Place ~ Atlantic Beach

Best Shag Theme

1st Place ~ Burlington Shag Club

Thanks to everyone who participated in the SOS SPRING SAFARI PARADE. Without you we would have no parade, and that folks simply just can't happen.....See you on the street.

Don David
Your SOS Parade Chairman



MONROE SHAG CLUB WIZZARD

Lancaster Shag Club

2008 SOS PARADE & CEREMONY



Fat Harold's Beach Club Hosts Annual Living Legends Inductions

On May 16 and 17, 2008, a reunion of long-time beach buddies met to remember "the way it was", note the changes throughout their era, and to enjoy renewing old friendships. Friday, over 300 members, nominees and guests enjoyed the music of Ray Malack on keyboard, Bennie Hill on alto sax and Bobby Russell on guitar, followed by DJ, Judy Collins, who also played Saturday for the Induction and party.

Ray Malach plays with Bennie Hill as the Arlin Strader jazz trio every Monday night, 7 to 10pm, at the Prince Resort's 3500 Grill.

Owners, Harold Bessent and Kenneth McDonald with beach club staff, made sure there was plenty of smiles, along with tables filled with a variety of hearty meat, veggie and fruit trays, etc. Many filled the dance floor, others gathered around tables to catch up with each other, some coming back after many years..

This year was a special one in that it was the first year that a Special Living Legends Commemorative Plaque was originated by Harold to honor all of the deceased nominees that members had nominated over the years, and bring them into full membership. As many family members or significant others that could be found were invited to stand – in for their particular person during the recognition program. At the top of the Legends Commemorative plaque was inscribed, "Living in our Hearts and Minds". Names were called, friends and family came forward, followed by playing Tommy Black's new recording, "Shadow Shagging". This plaque listing each name will hang on the wall at Fat Harold's Beach Club stage, along with the other Legends brass plaques listing all the "Living Legends". This sets a precedent in that all qualified nominees will at sometime be guaranteed their spot on that wall.

Saturday's inductions included honorary inductees Nick Theodore, Greenville, SC; Barbara Bessent, North Myrtle Beach, SC; Betty and Jimmy Reaves, Little River, SC; and Charlie True, Swansea, SC. Honorary titles are given to those who have accumulated votes over the years.

Women inducted were: Judy Waites Mathis, North Myrtle Beach, SC and Columbia, SC; Jennifer Wattenbarger, North Myrtle Beach, SC; Vivian Shoup McFarland, Columbia, SC; Linda Holler George, Charlotte, NC; Sharli Drew, North Myrtle Beach SC/Charlotte, NC; Sissie Snow McAlister, Hemingway, SC; Dee Powers Cochran, High Point, NC and North Myrtle Beach, SC; Audrey Rich, Charlotte, NC; Cecilia Tyner Sill, Pinehurst, NC and Florence, SC; Brenda Clark, North Myrtle Beach, SC.

Men inducted were: Bayles Mack, Fort Mill, SC; David Smith, Windsor, CA/originally Greenville, SC; Gene Brantley, Columbia, SC; Bill Drew, Charlotte, NC and North Myrtle Beach, SC; Rick Shackelford, Columbia, SC; Dickie Adkins, Fort Mill, SC; Jimmie Mills, Columbia, SC; Mike Osborne, Kannapolis, NC; Ronnie Duggins, Winston-Salem, NC.

Special thanks goes to those who have given their effort to make this event fun and (almost) running smoothly. Beaver Greenway, as MC, who kept the program going at a fast and humorous pace; Shirley and Doug Heller, responsible for food service, Justin at the bar service, and the Legends registration committee, Della Johnson, Maxine and Tootie Brown, Connie Nordman Fultz, Louise Hunsucker, Shirley and Scurry Hazel, Cindy Collins, Judy Rodes and volunteers Mimi and Phil Benedict. Benedict, Jerry Morris and Fritz Eckhardt, who snapped pictures Friday and Saturday for the Legends 2008 CD and subbed for Jack Thompson until he could be present to take group pictures. Group pictures can be ordered by calling Jack Thompson at 843-626-3194, or CD's by calling Jan Morris at 843-361-9869.

Not pictured in the group photo were: Nick Theodore; Betty and Jimmy Reaves; Charlie True; Mike Osborne; Ronnie Duggins; Dee Powers Cochran; and Cecilia Tyner Sill.

Article written by Jan Morris, Legends Committee Chairman.



Living Legends Inductees, L to R: Bayless Mack, Judy Waites Mathis, Brenda Clark, Dickie Adkins, Davis Smith, Linda Holler George, Sharli Drew, Bill Drew, Audrey Rich, Gene Brantley, Jimmie Mills, Jennifer Wattenbarger, Sissie Snow McAlister, Vivian Shoup McFarland, Barbara Bessent, Rick Shackelford.

Also see list of deceased nominees taken into membership and honored in the new Legends commemorative plaque on page 26.

Living Legends Commemorative Plaque "Living In Our Hearts & Minds"

Shirley "Shaker" Baker
Harrell Baldree
Greg Bell
Robert Bell III
Ann Bessent
Bill Braswell
Linda Kaye Burrage
Honorable Carroll Campbell
Walter "Scrapper" Carswell
Ralph Cecil
Donna Collins
John English
Franke Epps
Bryan "Speedy" Floyd
Smiley Foster
Bobby Free

Billy Gage
"Bud" Grice
Bill Griffin
Jim Harris
Sam King
Betty Beam LaVene
Robert "Bob" Lewis
Beth Mitchell
Henry Moody
Dave Moore
Jimmy "Greasy" Moore
Joyce Moore
Paul Nance
Rufus Oates
David "Pappy" Poston
Jimmy Small

Richard Smart
Bobby Solomon
Mitchell "Mit" Starbuck
Bishop Strickland
Cal Strickland
Danny Strube
Bum Taylor
Larry Taylor
Dick Tysinger
Ann Vereen
Joan Nichols White
Tommy Wolfe
Jon Worrell
James "Oogie" Wright
George Yarborough



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www.nvshag.org



"Friends"

In the past few years many of us have lost family and friends that will forever have a special place in our hearts. Carole J. Jones, left us May 14, 2008, and what a special lady she was.

Carole was blessed with more than some and chose to share selflessly with those less fortunate many times in her life. I was sent a note that she wrote April 18, 1995, stating her feelings for her life and after she left us to continue her life in spirit peacefully. After I read this I felt that if we all had just a few of her feelings to share while we are here....our hearts would be lighter.

To Remember Me: At a certain moment a doctor will determine that my brain has ceased to function and that, for all intents and purposes, my life has stopped. When that happens, do not attempt to instill artificial life into my body by the use of a machine. And don't call it my "deathbed". Call it my "bed of life" and let my body be taken from it to help others lead fuller lives.

♥ Give my sight to a woman who has never seen a sunrise, a baby's face or love in the eyes of a man.

- ♥ Give my heart to a person whose own heart has caused nothing but endless days of pain.
- ♥ Give my blood to the teenager who has been pulled from the wreckage of his car, so that he might live to see his grandchildren play.
- ♥ Give my kidneys to one who depends on a machine to exist from week to week.
- ♥ Take my bones, every muscle, every fiber and nerve in my body and find a way to make a crippled child walk. Explore every corner of my brain. Take my cells, if necessary, and let them grow so that someday a speechless boy will shout at the crack of a bat and a deaf girl will hear the sound of rain against her windows.
- ♥ Burn what is left of me and scatter the ashes to the winds to help the flowers grow. Do not have a funeral, but a party at my house, with my money. If you must bury something, let it be my faults, my weaknesses and all my prejudice against by fellow man. Give my sins to the devil, give my soul to God. If by chance, you wish to remember me, do it with a kind deed or word to someone who needs you, experience more real moments. If you do all I have asked, I will live forever.

Carole Jones....Rest In Peace!



Be a part of Ocean Drive Beach history! Become the proud owner of a personally inscribed "Walk of Fame" paver. Pavers have been particularly popular with visitors to the area including shag clubs and shaggers from throughout the United States. With Main Street's designation as "The Birthplace of the Shag" and with the annual S.O.S. (Society of Stranders) events and local street festivals, thousands of shaggers have already purchased pavers as you will see when you arrive on Main Street in Ocean Drive Beach.

Pavers have also been popular with vacationers who find their way to North Myrtle Beach year after year and locals who want to share in the continuing growth and revitalization of Main Street in Ocean Drive Beach. In addition, they are great gifts for every occasion. With three sizes available, there is paver to fit every budget and need. -

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INDIVIDUAL (4x8) - two lines of inscription with 13 spaces each line: \$100

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CORPORATE (16x16) (Diamond Shape) - may be engraved with logo/inscription. An 8 1/2" x 11" black & white. Camera ready design needs to accompany order. \$600 (Inscription available with eight lines each with 26 spaces per line).

Check or money order made payable to D.O.I.T. Please indicate desired location for paver to be installed

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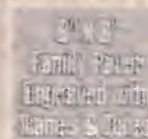
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The Main Ballroom

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Please attach the following:

1. Most recent copy of your high school or college transcript
2. An original essay (1,500 words minimum) describing:
 - a. Your long-term education plan and life goals;
 - b. The reason you chose the college, technical school or university you plan to attend;
 - c. Why you think the shag dance has spanned three generations; and,
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Please send completed application, transcript and essay, to arrive no later than May 1, 2009, to:
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To donate, get information or a scholarship application, go to www.halloffamefoundation.org





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July 4
94.9 The Surf
Live w/Ray Scott
July 5
Sea Cruz 4-8
July 6
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July 11
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Live w/Ray Scott
July 12
Surf & Sand 2-6
July 13
Holiday Band 1-5
July 17
Greg Moseley 4-8
July 18
94.9 The Surf
Live w/Ray Scott

July 19
Steve Pethel 2-6
July 20
Sea Cruz 1-5
July 24
Mark Roberts & Breeze
4-8
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Live w/Ray Scott
July 26
Surf & Sand 2-6
July 27
Greg Moseley 1-5
July 31
Holiday Band 4-8

August 1
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Live w/Ray Scott
August 2
Steve Pethel 2-6

August 3
Coastline 1-5
August 7
Sea Cruz 4-8
August 8
94.9 The Surf
Live w/Ray Scott
August 9
Surf & Sand 4-8
August 10
Holiday Band 1-5
August 14
Greg Moseley 4-8
August 15
94.9 The Surf
Live w/Ray Scott
August 16
Steve Pethel 2-6
August 17
Sea Cruz 1-5
August 21
Coco Loco 4-8
August 22
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August 23
Surf & Sand 2-6
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Greg Moseley 1-5

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4-8
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Live w/Ray Scott
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Sea Cruz 2-6
August 31
Craig Woolard Band 1-5

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As you can imagine, keeping the roster for the association is a monumental task. Please send all updates to:

SONNY BROWN - ACSC Secretary
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(704) 895-9501 • rbrown1703@bellsouth.net

This will insure that your club information will always be correct.



MOVING??

Because we mail via bulk mail, if you move and don't tell us or if your address is incomplete, you will not receive your mail-out SOS Carefree Times issues.

Please fill out this change of address form and return it to:
Pat Smith, 407 Ivy Circle, Anderson, SC 29621
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Your Carefree Times is as good as you make it. Please send articles & pictures of your club events & activities. We are also looking for special interest stories dealing with the music or the dance.
Thank You for making CFT a success!



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SOS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

The 2007 SOS Mid Winter Classic, Spring Safari and Fall Migration are in the history book. The year's events were fantastic! I am sure that you will agree, if you experienced any or all three events. If you didn't get to experience these great parties in 2007, you missed a three wonderful events.

You can plan now, for SOS 2008. The dates are as follows:

Fall Migration • September 12 – 21, 2008

You get three (3) great parties for only a \$35 membership fee. This is the best offer in the shag world. You get twenty four (24) days of great party times with old and newfriends in the shag capital of North Myrtle Beach, Ocean Drive Beach, SC.

The SOS membership is a great present to give to someone you love, or someone that you would like to introduce to the dance world. Become a proud member of a great organization, join the SOS family. RENEW your SOS membership TODAY!

Seasons greetings,
 Ron Whisenant
 SOS President

Make checks payable to and remit to: SOS PO BOX 37690 ROCK HILL, SC 29732

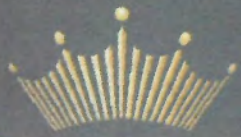
Name(s) _____ Email _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

AE/MC/V _____ Expire _____

Memberships () x \$35 = \$ _____



Budweiser



BUD LIGHT

2008

July 11-13
Summer Workshop
July 18-20
Junior SOS

September 12-21
Fall Migration.
September 14
Fun Sunday
September 15
Fun Monday

2009

January 15-18
Mid-Winter

February 20-22
ACSC/SOS Winter
Workshop

April 17-26
Spring Safari
April 25
SOS Parade

July 10-12
Summer Workshop

September 11-20
Fall Migration
September 13
Fun Sunday
September 14
Fun Monday

2010

January - 14-17
Mid-Winter

February 26-28
Winter Workshop

April 16-25
Spring Safari

July 9-11
Summer Workshop

September 17-26
Fall Migration

2011

January - 13-16
Mid-Winter

February - 25-27
Winter Workshop

April - 8 - 17
Spring Safari

July 8-10
Summer Workshop

September 16-25
Fall Migration

2012

January - 12-15
Mid-Winter

February 24-26
Winter Workshop

April 20-29
Spring Safari

July 13-15
Summer Workshop

September 14-23
Fall Migration

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