

## SOS

Most of you all know the Association of Carolina Shag Clubs (ACSC) purchased SOS in 1989, from Mr. Gene “Swink” Laughter. What some of you may not realize is that it was our own Dr. Phil Sawyer who encouraged ACSC to make the purchase. He saw a vision for SOS and my goodness look where we are today. We owe so much to Dr. Phil and to others who were very involved with ACSC during the time SOS was purchased: needless to say we have come a long way. SOS is a “for profit” corporation and the Company Store is part of this organization. If you visit [www.shagdance.com](http://www.shagdance.com) you will see everyone involved in the history of SOS and ACSC.

The SOS Board Members are elected by the Board of Advisors during the Winter Workshop; however, after 2015 the elections will be held during the mid-winter meeting. Two are elected one year and three elected the next with the next year being an off year. This voting procedure allows for continuity of the board. The SOS Officers are elected by the SOS Board.

We strive to perpetuate the dance, music, and culture that make up the shag. We also provide a framework for discussing, planning, and implementing activities at the beach for all stranders to enjoy. This includes providing information to and communication between shaggers, lounges, and associated organizations for the purpose of enhancing our shagging lifestyle.

Our SOS Board work very hard to maintain a good relationship between SOS and the City of North Myrtle Beach. President Ron Whisenant, ACSC Chairman Ken Akin and SOS Chairperson Helen Still meet several times each year with the City Manager, the Mayor and other officials in order to be assured that things continue to run smoothly. Since SOS officials work so closely with the City to obtain permits, arrange for the streets to be blocked off, trash pickup, etc., it is very important that we show our appreciation to these folks. We must continue to build and maintain these relationships. One way we show our appreciation is to the host a luncheon every Spring SOS for City officials and employees. The SOS and ACSC Boards serve food for all the city employees: policemen, firemen and sanitation workers during Spring SOS.

We also work to maintain good relationships and communication between SOS and our partner clubs and other businesses at the beach. Although we provide a good economical boost for the City of NMB, good relationships don't just happen. It takes continued communication and nurturing to make sure we continue to be welcomed. And as I've said many times, we should all show respect toward police officers; don't borrow trouble by disregarding the alcohol and litter laws and each of us need to set a good personal example. This will go a long way in our efforts.

We publish the Carefree Times in effort to keep you informed. We have a winter and summer mail out and we have one available at each Spring Safari and Fall Migration. We encourage you to not only advertise but to send in articles that would be interesting reading. All ads, articles, pictures, etc. should be sent to Janet Harrold at [janharrold1@sc.rr.com](mailto:janharrold1@sc.rr.com).

The Company Store is located on Ocean Boulevard next to the O.D. Arcade. The store's business hours are posted within the Carefree Times and also posted on [www.shagdance.com](http://www.shagdance.com). New merchandise will be available during Spring SOS, so come by and register for the drawing, look at the new items and take advantage of the huge sale that will be going on. The Company Store also serves as the official “Lost and Found” for items lost. The Company Store also provides a presence at North Myrtle Beach.

[www.shagdance.com](http://www.shagdance.com) is the official website for SOS and provides our members with the most update information on what is going on with our events, partner clubs, workshops, our local shag clubs, etc. Please remember that Shagdance.com is for your use. All the information there is to help you have valuable information at your fingertips. As a follow-up from the workshop meeting, any president who would like to add their spouse's name or significant other's name please send that information to Mary Gregory at [mgregory5@triad.rr.com](mailto:mgregory5@triad.rr.com). Also remember that we offer a place on the home page of the website to spotlight our shag clubs. If you would like to have your club in the spotlight please send that information to Mary as well.

Helen Still  
SOS Chairperson