

SOS Carefree Times

2026 Fall Migration Edition



SHOE CENTER

by Rachel

EST. 1978

CUSTOMER APPRECIATION SOS FALL MIGRATION Concerts



18
SEP

RICK & LESA

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

23
SEP

RIVERMIST

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

25
SEP

THE SHOWBOAT BAND

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Fall Migration
SOS
Specials

9/18 thru 9/25

- 10% off any sale shoe with the purchase of a full priced shoe
- Buy more than 1 full priced dance shoe, get \$10 off each pair
- \$10 off any Vaneli
- Dancing Ponies men's all leather loafer – \$75
- Bass all leather loafers – \$75

CANNOT COMBINE OFFERS ON THE
SAME SHOE.
OFFER MUST BE REDEEMED AT TIME OF
PURCHASE.

SHOE CENTER

by Rachel

EST. 1978

EXCLUSIVE
men's all leather
loafer:
Carolina Drift



VANELI™

Leather bottom
flat for women





SOS President Robin Morley

Welcome to North Myrtle Beach ~ Shaggers Paradise

Dear SOS Members, Welcome to beautiful North Myrtle Beach, our very own Shaggers Paradise! We are so glad to gather once again for 10 unforgettable days filled with dancing, sunshine, fellowship, and memories made with old friends and new. Each time we come together, we celebrate more than music, and we celebrate the spirit, tradition, and joy that make our dance community so special.

Whether you are stepping onto the dance floor for the first song of the day or sharing stories long after the music fades, you are part of what keeps this tradition alive. Thank you for being here, for supporting one another, and for

working together to keep our dance thriving for generations to come. Let's make these 10 days a celebration of friendship, sunshine, laughter, and the love of shag dancing.

Please come enjoy the music on Fun Sunday and Fun Monday. Our beach bands will be making a joyful noise as they entertain us each day. Welcome, enjoy every moment, and we'll see you on the dance floor!



ACSC Chairman Candy Long

Hello to each of you! As we countdown the days until cooler weather, we also countdown the days until FALL MIGRATION! Neither can come soon enough for me....lol! A lot has happened since Spring Safari and I am ready to create new memories with all of you! If you made it to the Summer Workshop, you know that it was a BLAST! Take a minute to read the article in this CFT. By all means, the theme "WE'RE BACK" lived up to expectations! The SOS Board hosted the weekend and could not have done a better job! Thanks to everyone who had any part in the planning, executing, and enjoying the times we had together! Mark your calendar for July 8 – 11, 2027 for the next workshop with Carolina Shag Club in Greenville, SC. Be talking with your club to see if you would like to be the next host in 2028! Planning begins early!

I always like to take this opportunity to say thank you so much for allowing me to serve you! It is my honor to be ACSC Chairperson and I am forever grateful! As always, please give me a shout if I can help with anything at all, or if you have ideas or questions about ACSC! We are all here for the same reason, to preserve and promote The Carolina Shag! Your input is always expected and appreciated!

Let's have some fun!!! Candy



SOS Carefree Times Editor Janet Harrold

WELCOME TO THE ONLINE SOS CAREFREE TIME

VIEW IT ON WWW.SHAGDANCE.COM AND SOS FACEBOOK

We get thousands of hits daily from folks looking to see what is going on prior and during SOS events, checking for accommodations, entertainment, shopping, and restaurants...you will find all right here!!

It has been a very HOT summer but just think not far for the cool Fall and "2026 SOS September 18-27 with Fun Sunday, September 20 and Fun Monday, September 21 with great entertainment planned which is posted for you on this site. The clubs are preparing for your visits and while you are here PLEASE visit

our advertisers if you need anything at their business, present your SOS card and some will give you a discount. SOS Cards are sold at all SOS Clubs and the SOS Company Store which is located next to OD ARCADE. Please present your card for entry into each SOS Club.

Thank you to all the advertisers that made the SOS Carefree Times in existence since SOS began the Carefree Times. THANK YOU for keeping SOS alive and kicking...so put on those shagging shoes and ENJOY 10 FUN DAYS!!!!



SOS V. President Dwayne Baggett

I hope that you have had a good summer, and ready for some great music and a lot of shagging in NMB. Fall Migration is here and filled with a full ten days of great DJ's playing your favorite dance music. The dance floors around the beach will be filled with fun loving shaggers. Grab your dance partner and find yourself a spot on the floor. The main events for Fall Migration are SOS Fun Sunday at the O D Arcade on Sunday afternoon 1 till 4 featuring Jim Quick and the Coastline band, and Fun Monday on Main Street 12 till 5:30 pm featuring three top bands: North

Tower, The Tams, and The Swingin' Medallions. Entertainment in the street all afternoon with a drawing for the winning raffle tickets. You will be entertained and have a chance to win the grand prize. Make sure you have your raffle ticket. The purchase of a raffle ticket gives you an opportunity to win and continues to support the Enhancement Committees efforts to continue this premier event during SOS Fall Migration. The rest of the week will be filled with dancing, shag club parties, beach parties and more. Check out the schedules in the online Carefree Times on shagdance.com or SOS Facebook page. The memories and friendships that we make while at SOS will last a lifetime. Our dance, music and lifestyle are alive and well. We are very fortunate to be able to spend ten days with friends doing something that we all have in common. The Carolina shag is so much more than a dance, it's a lifestyle. Let's keep "Living the ShagLife". Please support your local ACSC shag clubs, this is truly the base of our organization. Enjoy yourself while at SOS. Please stop in the Company Store where you will find our Collectable 2026 SOS Fall Migration T-Shirt and other SOS branded merchandise and other vendors as well. Be sure and visit the North Myrtle Beach Museum while you are here. So many great things to do while visiting NMB! Please while you are here, enjoy our advertisers if you need anything and some will give a special discount if you present your SOS Membership Card. SOS Membership cards are sold at every SOS Club and the SOS Company Store! You can buy your SOS Membership card with a credit card at the SOS Company Store 102 S. Ocean Blvd. right beside the O.D. Arcade. We hope to see you out and about with a smile on your face and some dancing in your feet.

Sincerely, Dwayne Baggett, SOS Vice-President



SOS Board Chairman Ronnie Gregory

Greetings Fellow Shaggers!

If you thought SOS Spring Safari was big, this year blew the doors off. The SOS Parade lit up the streets, the memories came flooding back, and the energy was absolutely electric. And just when we thought the summer might slow down, July hit us with something we haven't had in ages — a Summer Workshop in Columbia, SC hosted by the SOS Board. It wasn't just good... it was *legendary*. Packed rooms, nonstop fun, and an ACSC Meeting that actually had people excited to learn. Ask anyone who was there — they'll tell you they didn't want it to end. And guess

what? We're not done. Greenville, SC is already gearing up for the next ACSC/SOS Summer Workshop in 2027, and you're going to want to be part of it.

Fall Migration is racing toward us, and it's time to get your plans locked in. If you haven't been to SOS in a while, this is your moment. Come back, reconnect, dance, laugh, and make the kind of memories you talk about for years. And while you're in North Myrtle Beach, remember — respect the rules, respect each other, and keep the good vibes rolling. Fun Sunday and Fun Monday are back again, and they're guaranteed crowdpleasers. Big energy, big turnout, big fun.

And here's your challenge: step up and help support our charities. Grab Fun Monday Tickets, sell them, buy them, and maybe even snag one of the prizes. Show some love to our SOS Clubs and the SOS Company Store while you're at it.

Most importantly — our dance survives because *you* keep it alive. Every step, every lesson, every night on the floor is part of preserving it for the next generation. Don't just dance it... defend it. Until Fall Migration arrives, stay safe, stay active, and enjoy every minute of your summer.

Ronnie Gregory, SOS Board Chair

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***Thank YOU to all of the
Contributors to our SOS
Carefree Times!***

***Without the help of
everyone who contributed,
this publication would
still be Just Another
Newsletter!***

2027 ACSC ICON AWARD NOMINATIONS



November 1st is the deadline for Clubs to submit nominations for the 2027 ACSC ICON Award. The nomination form (Rev. 06-25-23) can be found in the President's White Book or on the SOS Website- www.shagdance.com. Nomination packets may be hand-delivered to Novelene

Powell during SOS at the ACSC meeting on Saturday, September 26, 2026. Those submitted by mail must be postmarked no later than November 1, 2026. For questions, contact Icon Committee Chair, Novelene Powell at npowell09@aol.com



**2026
Fall SOS
Schedule**

DJ Schedule Front Back

Wednesday, Sept. 16

6pm Jay Kinlaw Roger Holcomb

Thursday, Sept. 17

2pm Keith Williamson
7pm Darrell Gaither Chuck Weaver

Friday, Sept. 18

1pm Jay Kinlaw Chigger Woods
5pm Dennis Brumble Norman Mills
9pm Buck Crumpton Bill Harper

Saturday, Sept. 19

1pm Jimmy Buffkin Norman Mills
5pm Buck Crumpton Glenn Pridgen
9pm Darrell Gaither Chad Farlow

Sunday, Sept. 20

1pm Glenn Pridgen Bobby Vaughn
5pm Roger Holcomb Bill Harper
9pm Gene Sistare Phil Long

Monday, Sept. 21

1pm Ken Jones Chigger Woods
5pm Tammy Hare Bill Harper
9pm Glenn Pridgen Adam Holmes

Tuesday, Sept. 22

1pm Jimmy Buffkin Craig Jennings
5pm Jim Rose Bill Harper
9pm Jimmy Buffkin Adam Holmes

Wednesday, Sept. 23

1pm Dennis Brumble Tammy Hare
5pm Ken Jones Phil Long
9pm Roger Holcomb Bill Moore

Thursday, Sept. 24

1pm Ken Jones Keith Williamson
5pm Jim Rose Phil Long
9pm Roger Holcomb Bill Moore

Friday, Sept. 25

1pm Dennis Brumble Virginia DJ's
5pm Bill Moore Jim Rose
9pm Eddie Anderson Glenn Pridgen

Saturday, Sept. 26

1pm Jimmy Buffkin Shag Showdown 1:30
5pm Darrell Gaither Vinyl Party 3:30
9pm Buck Crumpton

Sunday, Sept. 21

2pm Darrell Gaither
6pm Jay Kinlaw

*Club Opens
11am everyday
during SOS*

**Shag
Workshops
Charlie Womble
&
Jackie McGee**

**See Separate
AD for their
Fall Schedule**

Shag City Grill

**Try our World Famous
Bologna Sandwich**



**Open Daily
11 am**

Event Schedule

Wed., Sept 16

Jump Start Party
Free Hot Dogs 6pm

Friday, Sept. 18

Too Much Sylvia 2-6

Saturday, Sept. 19

The Castaways 2-6

Sunday, Sept. 20

The Featured Attraction
Band 2-6

Monday, Sept. 21

Fun Monday

Tuesday, Sept. 22

The Embers 2-6
N. Va. Shag Club 3-5

Wednesday, Sept. 23

Jim Quick & Coastline 2-6
Free Chicken Bog 6:00 pm

Thursday, Sept. 24

Winston-Salem Shag Club 12-3
Rivermist 2-6
Rock Hill Shag Club 5-9

Friday, Sept. 25

Virginia Clubs 1-4
Gary Lowder &
Smokin' Hot 2-6

Saturday, Sept 26

Shag Showdown 1:30
Vinyl Party 3:30
HOF Exhibition 4:00

Sunday, Sept. 21

Jim Quick
& Coastline 6-10

Bye Bye Party!

***Schedule subject to change without notice**

2026 SOS Fall Migration

100 South Ocean Blvd. (843) 249-6460

Grill Opens 11am

SOS CARDS ON SALE DAILY



Fall DJ Schedule

FRIDAY, September 18

12-4 Billy Fanning
4-8 Buck Crumpton
8-til Tommy Samole

SATURDAY, September 19

12-4 Ron Teague
4-8 Tommy Samole
8-til Gene Hensley

SUNDAY, September 20

12-4 Billy Fanning
4-8 Gene Hensley
8-til Furman Dominick

MONDAY, September 21

12-4 Buck Crumpton
4-8 Larry "Bigfish" Calhoun
8-til Dana Grubb

TUESDAY, September 22

12-4 Gene Hensley
4-8 Butch Davidson
8-til Larry "Bigfish" Calhoun

WEDNESDAY, September 23

12-4 Craig Jennings
4-8 Gene Hensley
8-til Furman Dominick

THURSDAY, September 24

12-4 Craig Jennings
4-8 Furman Dominick
8-til Glenn Pridgen

FRIDAY, September 25

12-4 Gene Hensley
4-8 Bobby Vaughan
8-til Johnny B

SATURDAY, September 26

12-4 Kenny Loftis
4-8 Dana Grubb
8-til Glenn Pridgen

Patio/Porch DJ Schedule 12-4

Friday, September 18

Saturday, September 19

Sunday, September 20

Monday, September 21

Tuesday, September 22

Wednesday, September 23

Thursday, September 24

Friday, September 25

Saturday, September 26

Live Remote Ray Scott/Riptide

FUN SUNDAY (1-4)

Glenn Pridgen

Furman Dominick

Ron Teague

Dana Grubb

Dana Grubb

Buck Crumpton

4-8

Ron Teague (3-8)

Johnny B

Ron Teague

Ron Teague

Glenn Pridgen

Johnny B

Johnny B

Furman Dominick

Ron Teague

Special EVENTS

Tuesday, September 22 8 pm

ROOKIES REVENGE (sign up 7pm)

Wednesday, September 23 2pm

OLD SCHOOL CONTEST (sign up noon)

Must be 62 years or older

Thursday, September 24 2 pm

SMOOTHIE CONTEST (sign up noon)

Shag Club Parties

9/19 Sat.- Burlington Shag Club 4-6pm

9/20 Sun.- OD Shag Club Brunch 10am

9/24 Thurs.- Palmetto Shag Club 4:30pm

9/24 Thurs.-Upstate & Mountain Shag Clubs 5pm

9/25 Fri.- Lake Norman Shag Club 3pm

BEST BURGERS ON THE BEACH

Lunch and Dinner Specials Monday - Friday



Charlie & Jackie Join Us at Fat Harold's

\$10 per person

9-10 Time Overall National Shag Champions
Members of the Shaggers and Swing Dance Hall of Fame



Sat. Sept. 19	11 am	Ladies Only
Sun. Sept. 20	11 am	Lead Follow
Mon. Sept. 21	10 am	Basic, Male & Female
	11 am	Turn, Start Pivot & Whip
Tues. Sept. 22	11 am	Easy Footwork Together
Wed. Sept. 23	11 am	Male/Female Combo
Thurs. Sept. 24	11 am	Easy Smooth Combo
Fri. Sept. 25	10 am	Showoff Step
	11 am	Ladies Only

**"J" Collection - Shoes Available
Everyday 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM**

OD ARCADE LOUNGE
The Biggest Little Bar in Town
NORTH MYRTLE BEACH, SC

Yes Oh Yes, It's SOS!

**Fall Migration
CAROLINA SHAG WORKSHOPS**
with *Ashley & Tobitha Stewart*
★ at the OD ARCADE & LOUNGE ★

\$10.00 PER PERSON

We'll teach it — you'll dance it —
ALL IN ONE DAY!

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST **10:00AM**
LEAD FOLLOW PATTERNS FOR ALL

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22ND **10:00AM**
CHANGING UP YOUR BASIC FOOTWORK

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23RD **10:00AM**
FUN TOGETHER STEP - "OD"
(YOU CAN DO IT TOGETHER OR AS A MALE/FEMALE LEAD)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24TH **10:00AM**
GETTING OUT OF A CLOSED POSITION

**GREAT MUSIC
GREAT PEOPLE
★ GREAT DANCING! ★**
See You there!

COME LEARN • HAVE FUN • DANCE THE DAY AWAY!

SAM & LISA WEST
**FALL SOS
SHAG WORKSHOPS**

UPSTAIRS IN THE OD RESORT BALLROOM
\$10 PER PERSON/PER CLASS

**SPECIAL WORKSHOPS
6:00PM**

THURSDAY - SEPT 17
INTERMEDIATE
MALE AND FEMALE STEPS

TUESDAY - SEPT 22
ADVANCED TOGETHER STEP

THURSDAY - SEPT 24
ADVANCED COMBINATION

**EVERYDAY WORKSHOPS
FRI. SEPT. 18 - SAT. SEPT. 26**

11:30 BEGINNER
BASIC STEPS

12:30 ADVANCED BEGINNER
EASY SOCIAL PATTERNS

1:30 INTERMEDIATE
TOGETHER STEPS,
TURNS & SPINS,
MALE & FEMALE STEPS

**LINE DANCE
Classes**

LEARN A NEW DANCE
CHOREOGRAPHED BY LISA WEST
TO ELVA'S LANGLEY'S

**2:30
SATURDAY 9/19
SUNDAY 9/20
WEDNESDAY 9/23
FRIDAY 9/25**

\$5

BOTTOM OF YOUR BOOTS

A MORE DETAILED SCHEDULE OF CLASSES
WILL BE AVAILABLE AT SAMANDLISA.COM
AND SAM AND LISA'S SHAG PAGE
ON FACEBOOK



WORKSHOP SCHEDULE
with *Steve Balok*
and *Myers Floyd*
at
Duck's BEACH CLUB

Saturday Sept 19th
11:00 - Lead Follow
12:00 - Making your basics flashy

Sunday Sept 20th
11:00 - Combo Step
12:00 - Building Footwork

Wednesday Sept. 23rd
11:00 - Prep Steps
12:00 - Connection Class

Thursday Sept. 24th
11:00 - Male & Female Footwork
12:00 - Perfecting your Pivot

Friday Sept 25th
11:00 - Building Footwork
12:00 - Changing your 5&6

Saturday Sept 26th
11:00 - Lead Follow (Downstairs)
12:00 - NO CLASS

*We are looking forward to seeing you at
our workshop's during SOS Fall Migration*
Steve & Myers

Show SOS Card for an Extra Discount



Gone COASTAL Carts
N. MYRTLE • SURFSIDE
PAWLEYS • GEORGETOWN

VERDI EPIC ICON
CLUB CAR ATLAS HONOR
ALSET DACH



Happy 250th America

2026 ACSC Fall Workshop
Saturday~September 26
10am
*Meeting held in Spanish Galleon
OD Resort - Ocean Blvd.*

**Join your ACSC (Association of Carolina Shag Clubs)
Leaders at our FALL Meeting**

2026 SOS Fall Migration ~ September 18-27

FUN SUNDAY

September 20, 2026

1PM to 4PM

1st. Ave., Beside the OD Arcade



MC

Ray Scott



Raffle tickets will be sold for the Drawing on Fun Monday

1st Ticket Drawn \$5,000 ~ 2nd Ticket \$1000

3rd Ticket \$500 ~ 4th Ticket \$250 ~ 5th Ticket \$250

SPONSORS FOR FUN SUNDAY
OD ARCADE MGA TRAVEL
SHAG LIFE
INTERNATIONAL CAFE

NO COOLERS PERMITTED

SOS Fun Monday

September 21, 2026

12 PM TO 5:30 PM, Main Street OD



MC Ray Scott

SOS Fun Monday SPONSORS:

SOUTHERN THREADS ON MAIN

Fun Monday Drawing:

**1st Ticket Drawn \$5,000 ~ 2nd Ticket \$1,000
3rd Ticket \$500 ~ 4th Ticket \$250 ~ 5th Ticket \$250**

MY DEAR FRIEND KEN AKIN

Ken Akin, a creditable man of many strengths. His character, charisma, charm, were definitive. He was kind, brave, clean and reverent, right out of the Boy Scout manual. He was always well-dressed, in colorful attire, acquired from his experience in fine men's clothing. Always organized, thoughtful, helpful, caring and willing to make the best of any situation. His love for life, family and country was ever present in his thoughts and actions. Doing and giving all that was required was his mantra.



Ken was a member of the Central Savannah River Area (CSRA) shag club. He and his wife Janice represented their shag club by attending the festivities, parties, multiple shag club events and our magnificent SOS events. We met while attending one of the many shag dances held around the state of South Carolina. We became fast friends. As time evolved he and I became officers in the ACSC/SOS Board where our friendship bonded. We worked as a team on many projects, spent many hours together in committee and board meetings, with social time together. I learned a lot about him, his character, his values, things of interest, his views on current events. He was someone to admire for his achievements in personal goals, his medals won in the senior Olympics, his ability to ride a bike for twenty-five miles or more in one outing. His participating in the Iron Man competition which required three segments of physical endurance, swimming, biking and running of equal distances in a timed period start to finish and running twenty-six-mile marathons speak of his dedication to accomplishment.

As a leader in the shag world, Ken brought those same skills and devotion to become an officer in the ACSC as Vice Chairman in 2006. He became Chairman in 2014-2022 and sat on the ACSC Board as Past Chairman until his death. He served as SOS Board Chairman for a two-year term.



Our friendship bloomed into a kindred relationship of mutual respect and true affection for one another. We served our beloved ACSC/SOS side by side, as a team, dedicated to success and purpose in everything we attempted for ACSC/SOS and the Hall of Fame Foundation. Ken, always willing to work and perform any task presented to him to perfection. His dedication and service to these two boards were beyond expectation.

The history of our time shared together doing the things we felt important. Enjoying the shag dance. Making new friends, helping with the growth of the Association of Carolina Shag Clubs (ACSC). Participating in and becoming part of the Society of Stranders, Inc. (SOS)

It is my greatest honor to have known Ken as a friend. He was a great teammate, associate, and a fellow officer in ACSC/SOS. Ken gave his all in everything he did in life. He was a man of integrity, a man's man who lived life fully. His love of family defines him. Janice, Shannon and Juli were his center. His devotion to the grandchildren Ellie and Brody speaks of trips to Disneyland and many long road trips to see Brody play baseball. He loved his city of Aiken, SC, his friends of the CSRA shag club, ACSC/SOS, HOFF and the shag dance lifestyle.



Rest well my friend! Job well done! I love you and will miss you!
Ron Whisenant



Judy Vick, Dedicated Leader of ACSC

Judy Vick, as most of you will know her, was the manager of the SOS Company Store. Judy and Martha McNalley were the driving force in getting the SOS store established in 1996. The stores early beginning started with Judy selling SOS merchandise from the trunk of her car in the Pavilion parking lot over several SOS events. Judys efforts proved positive results. The need for a permanent location for SOS to operate out of was born. SOS headquarters became the SOS Company Store. Judy was establishing her place into SOS history.

Judy was a shagger from Lancaster SC. She would attend the shag functions going on in the area and became a regular Friday night visitor to Madeline's, a popular beach music lounge in the late seventies. She and her friend Janis could be found in Groucho's taking shag lessons from Shad and Brenda Alberty.

Judy joined the Rock Hill Shag Club and brought along some of her friends from the Lancaster area. At that time, Rock Hill Area Shag Club, had members from Lancaster, Chester, York SC, Charlotte and Gastonia, NC. As our shag world began to evolve, Judy gave life to the Lancaster Shag Club and served as its first president for several years. The Lancaster Shag Club is still a vibrant part of the ACSC today.

Judy was elected to the SOS Board at the Winter Workshop in Mooresville NC in 1994. She served as SOS Ways and Means Chairman in her first official post. SOS was still in an early stage of development under the new ownership of the Association of Carolina Shag Clubs. Judy set up shop in the parking lot of the O D Pavilion. The SOS store front was a folding card table. Her car trunk held the inventory. These were the growing years of SOS and the ACSC. There was a vision of permanence in OD. Her contribution to SOS, her store.

Judy served as Vice Chairman of The Association of Carolina Shag Clubs from 2001-2003 and became the Chairman of the ACSC 2003 and served for eight years thru 2011. Her dual roles of ACSC Chairman and manager of the SOS Company Store were delightful years for her. As ACSC Chairman she was instrumental and the leading force in establishing the PhD Phil Sawyer Scholarship Fund through the University of South Carolina. The \$100,000.00 scholarship was funded through donations from SOS, Inc., individual ACSC shag clubs, and individuals to help fulfil Judys dream. Her efforts and leadership saw the membership of ACSC and SOS grow through an exciting time in our history. Judys vision and leadership was awarded with the two organizations highest honors, the SOS Lifetime Achievement Award and the ACSC Fellows Award for her dedication to both organizations.

Ron Whisenant



ACSC & SOS Honors Two True Leaders

Kenneth Lewey Akin - Obituary

A man of impeccable integrity entered eternal peace March 24, 2026. Ken was born in Albany, GA on January 4, 1942. He was 84 and is survived by Janice Carnavas Akin, his wife of 63 years, daughters Julie Akin of Atlanta GA and Shannon Akin Thomas of Charlotte NC, her husband Brad and his grandchildren Ellie Thomas (UNC senior), Brody Thomas (HS junior). He also leaves behind 2 adoring grand dogs, Beau and Chapin.

Besides his high school sweetheart wife and wonderful family, Ken's countless friends feel the void this man leaves. To his family he was a loving, thoughtful, humble, generous, and devoted husband, father, and grandfather. To his friends he was the same. Yet his quick easy smile and soft voice seemed opposite of an unbreakable toughness. His athletic achievements started early as a fullback at Leavelle McCampbell High School where he was "big, fast, and brave" according to his lifelong friend. His athletic career extended into his Navy service where he boxed as well as played football. He moved on to tennis after coming back to Aiken after the Navy. He then moved to running, triathlons, and bicycling.

His athletic achievements, many after becoming Social Security eligible, created an unparalleled class of one. His triathlons, marathons, and countless shorter race successes earned an invitation to the Ironman World Championship. Ken mentored and ran with a group of Team Leukemia runners, rode his bicycle in the Race Across America on a 4-man team from Irvine, CA to Savannah, GA, won two gold medals and a silver at the SC Senior Olympics. However, his depth of character was brightest when he was knocked down. Flat in a ditch after a bicycle crash with a punctured lung and multiple broken bones, his words were, "I'll be okay." A month later he was riding again. For all who knew him from training or racing, he was a man's man.

Though ever reticent to speak of himself, privately he spoke proudly of his US Navy service including duty at NAS Pensacola, San Diego, and Vietnam support onboard the USS Ticonderoga.

He started his career in fine men's clothing after he left the navy, eventually joining Dupont/Westinghouse at SRS. He retired from Westinghouse and went back to his first love of selling men's clothing. The Lionel Smith Ltd family was part of his life every day and he cherished his friendships with them as well as his customers.

Once Julie and Shannon left for college, Ken and Janice started their shag career in full force. They quickly became active in the local shag club and never looked back. His love of dance and the shag community led his involvement in the SOS Board, ACSC, as well as the Hall of Fame foundation. He was inducted into the SC Shaggers Hall of Fame as well as being named as a Shagging Icon and a Living Legend. He may have been the "Grand Poobah of Shagdom" (the daughters' term, not his) but Janice was always his biggest supporter, spell checker, and best dance partner. He never let his positions go to his head because he always knew who was in charge – Janice first, then the girls, and eventually the grandchildren. He loved the shag community and his countless friends he made along the way.

When Ken's final hours came, he was doing what he loved, another day on the job selling fine men's clothing. He left behind a very large hole in so many people's hearts, but he left us all with so many wonderful memories and lessons. He was a true southern gentleman.

Judy Gayle Vick - Obituary

Ms. Judy Gayle Vick, 79, of Lancaster, passed away peacefully at her home on Tuesday, July 28, 2026. Born on December 22, 1946, in Monroe, North Carolina, she was the daughter of the late William Edward Vick Jr. and the late Margie Mangum Vick.

Judy is survived by her brother, Eddie Vick of Murrells Inlet, South Carolina; her sister, Vickie Vick Porter and her husband, Rick, of Liberty Hill, South Carolina; and her nephew, Rich Porter of Washington, D.C. She is also survived by her dear friend, Gene Sistare; her beloved canine companions, Bella and Ranger; and countless friends and members of the Carolina Shag community who became like family to her.

Judy grew up in Lancaster, where she was a cheerleader and majorette at Lancaster High School before attending Winthrop College. These sideline skills eventually blossomed into a lifelong passion for Carolina Shag dancing. She treasured her time at Ocean Drive, where she became deeply involved in the Shag community while also helping establish the Lancaster Shag Club.

Throughout the years, Judy dedicated herself to promoting and preserving the Carolina Shag. She served in numerous leadership roles, including President of the Lancaster Shag Club, Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Association of Carolina Shag Clubs (ACSC), Past ACSC Chairman, Society of Stranders (SOS) Board Member and SOS Board Advisor. Her unwavering commitment to the dance and its community earned her many distinguished honors. She was inducted into the Charlotte Area Shagging Hall of Fame, received the SOS Lifetime Achievement Award and the ACSC/SOS Fellows Award, and was recognized as an ACSC Icon.

Judy was a tireless advocate for the promotion and preservation of the Carolina Shag. One of her proudest accomplishments was helping raise funds to establish the Dr. Phil Sawyer Endowment Fund at the University of South Carolina, which provides scholarships to students with an interest in the Carolina Shag.



Phone: (843) 281-9650

E-mail: hopetaylor312@gmail.com

Website: HopeTaylorCo.com

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ACSC Summer Workshop Park & Party July 17-19

Columbia, SC - Double Tree by Hilton
Hosted by the SOS Board



We are so excited to spread the word about the success of the 2026 ACSC Summer Workshop!!! SOS hosted the workshop in Columbia, SC and it was AMAZING!!! We had over 320 people participate in a wonderful weekend of fun and adventure! There wasn't a dull moment, and everyone ad their fill of food, fun, great music, and dancing! The pre-party on Thursday was a great kickoff to the weekend and the fun continued until it was time to go home on Sunday. Our DJs were



outstanding, providing a pep to the step and music to our ears. And did I mention the half and half???? Friday and Saturday night winners took home approximately \$1300 EACH!!!!



We held the mandatory business meeting and workshop Saturday morning, and I hope everyone learned something new! There was a lot of information dispensed in a 4-way breakout meeting with the topics of the importance of being an ACSC member, the importance of SOS, the new White Book. Cecil and Foster spoke about the budget in great detail. Each group was open to questions and suggestions as to how our organizations can continue to improve and

flourish. The handouts to each session are on the front page of the shagdance.com website, so check it out!

One of the highlights of the weekend was the pool party!!! We had duck races, cornhole tournaments, a kissing booth, and libations for all!!



We would like to send a special THANK YOU to all the shag clubs that donated baskets for the auction. There were 52 baskets! OH MY WORD! They were so exciting and fun with a ton of original themes. You guys exceeded any expectations by miles!! Thank you so much!! Thank you to the SOS board for a job well done!!! Also to our DJ's, the hotel staff, the Palmetto Shag Club members who helped so much, and to each person who answered the call! The Shag world is full of kind, generous, hard working people and it is an honor to be a part of it!!!

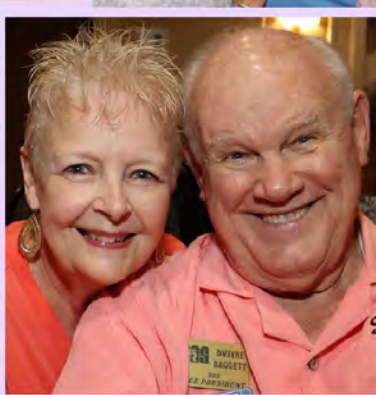


It goes without saying that "WE'RE BACK!" and cannot wait for the next workshop! Mark your calendars for July 8th – July 11th, 2027. Carolina Shag Club in Greenville, SC will be hosting. Natalie Pang is their president and she and her husband Kevin are excited to lead the charge. This couple is young and so very energetic about The Carolina Shag. I know Carolina Shag Club will do an excellent job!!!

BY: Candy Long, ACSC Chairman



ACSC Summer Workshop Park & Party July 17-19



Click Here
for more
PHOTOS



ANATOMY OF A SHAG CLUB PARTY

Patrick Owens, Golden Isles Shag Club & Chair of the 35th Annual Sand Gnat Shag-A-Ganza August 2026

Bob Seger sang, "You're a little bit older and a lot less bolder than you used to be. You used to shake 'em down, now you stop and think about your dignity". Those lyrics describe the GISC's 35th Annual Sand Gnat Shag-A-Ganza. We no longer have epic Water Gun Fights at the Pool Party and we don't consume 5 coolers of "Gnat Juice" like the founders did in 1991, but we still have a blast at our annual 3-Day Park-n-Party on Jekyll Island!

Here*s the *Recipe* for our Party:

- Find totally insane people willing to Chair/Co-Chair the party
- Set a fair ticket price, then set out to give guests more than they pay for
- Reserve a venue
- Hire a professional dance floor company
- Contract with great dance instructors that are a good fit for your Party
- Contract with great DJs that are a good fit for your Party
- Beg, borrow and borderline steal all the accessories you need on a slim, non-profit budget
- Ask (repeatedly), coerce and basically con Club Members into doing jobs they have no idea how to do
- Promote the heck out of your Event
- Expect and anticipate things to go wrong (they will)
- Deal with the inevitable 1 or 2 sour grapes (100% guaranteed) best you can without losing your cool
- Meet some of the nicest people in the world to laugh, dance and make great memories!



"BE SOMEBODY"

BY: PATRICK OWENS, GOLDEN ISLES SHAG CLUB

"Somebody needs to do this", "Somebody needs to do that", "Somebody needs to (fill in the blank)".

We've all heard this phrase and we've all likely said it at some point. In reality you're probably not the first person to notice that something needs to be done. Having an eye for detail and spotting something that needs to be done or coming up with a terrific idea to improve your club is great. The question is, "Who is the 'Somebody' who is going to do it?"

The same excuses usually follow when a person is asked to perform a task: "I don't know how", "you are better at that than I am", or "I don't have time". Truth is, the people who did it before you likely did not initially know how to do it, were not instantly good at it and probably sacrificed their time to do what needed to be done.

It's not just our Shag Clubs, it's every church, civic group and even family...20% of the people do 80% of the work (possibly more like 10%). In order for ACSC Clubs to continue to thrive, it takes W-O-R-K! It takes willing servants. Pointing out something that needs to be done or coming up with a great idea is only half of the equation. "Somebody" has to follow through and make it happen.

A retired Marine once told me at one of our weekend parties that his Superior Officer had a rule: "If you come to me with a problem, you must also provide two viable solutions". This

not only cut down on complaints, it also promoted problem solving and ownership of the issue. We should all adopt this mentality of "What can I do to solve this problem or improve this situation?"

As the general population of ACSC Clubs ages, it creates across the board challenges. Some of the Club workhorses are older, not as physically able, or are burned out. It's completely understandable that a 75 year old can't do what they did at 55 years old. But, a 75 year old who cannot move tables, chairs & coolers can still sit in a chair and sell tickets. They can still greet people at the door. They can still register attendees at the next function. We all need to remember that people who came before us volunteered, sacrificed, did the necessary work and created an environment to dance and have fun! For organizations that are non-profit and 100% volunteer, there's really not much room for freeloaders.

A loose quote from one of my favorite ministers, Kris Vallotton, "There are two kinds of people, the people in the ring doing the stuff, and the people outside of the ring who critique the people doing the stuff". If we want our ACSC Clubs to survive, we have to be willing to 'get in the ring' and do the stuff. Don't just be the person with a keen eye for what needs to be done or who has a great new idea, be the "Somebody" who jumps in the ring and gets it done!

Be "Somebody"



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Contact winstonsalemshagclub@gmail.com or Pam Smith 336-247-8353



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Welcome to 2026 SOS Fall Migration

Please join us for one of our monthly events.

2026

Sept. 19	Charity Golf Tourn.	8am	Eastport Golf
Sept. 20	Fall Migration Brunch	10am	OD Arcade
Oct. 17	Halloween/Elections	6pm	Fat Harold's
Nov. 21	Thanksgiving Party	6pm	Fat Harold's
Dec. 19	Christmas Party	6pm	Fat Harold's

2027

Jan. 17	SOS Mid-Winter Brunch	10am	OD Arcade
Feb. 7	Annual Oyster Roast	3pm	OD Arcade

The ODSC will be raffling off a Low-Speed Vehicle/Golf Cart in the parking lot of Fat Harold's during Fall SOS.

OD Shag Club Merchandise will be displayed and sold in Fat Harold's parking lot during Fall SOS.

Membership Applications are available on our website:
www.odshagclub.com

The OD Shag Club extends a warm welcome to everyone coming to our little bit of Paradise in Ocean Drive for SOS Fall Migration! We hope you have a great time while you are here and come back often to tear up the dance floor!

**Rick Kosko
2026 ODSC President**



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Check out our NEW Merchandise



**Welcome to SOS
Fall Migration**



NORTH MYRTLE BEACH AREA HISTORICAL MUSEUM



Welcome back Shaggers to another fun SOS migration! During your time here, we invite you to stop by the North Myrtle Beach Area Historical Museum, where you can learn about the origins of shag dancing, the natural history of our shorelines, and discover our area's history.

There have been several changes to the Museum since the Spring Safari! We have completed an outdoor expansion of the Museum, which is a deck situated under a 300 year old oak tree in our backyard. This space will hold future Museum programs and events, and it can also be rented out by the public for private events.

Admission to the Museum is FREE and our hours of operation are Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 AM to 4 PM. We are right next to Main Street at 799 2nd Avenue North North Myrtle Beach. We look forward to seeing you soon!

By: Kaitlyn Emielita, Director



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with credit/debit card)



New
Shoe
Bag



I am deeply heartbroken on losing my friend, Judy. She and I have worked together at the SOS Company Store for 26 years. She loved the Company Store and worked to make it successful to what it is today. She meant so much to so many people and I for one am going to miss my partner.
Lynda Merritt

Council honors CLASS

By MARTIN L. CAHN

CAMDEN, S.C. EDITOR CHRONICLE-INDEPENDENT

During its meeting Tuesday (Aug. 4), Camden City Council issued proclamations honoring the Camden Lugoff Area Shag Society (CLASS), two beauty pageant winners, and passed first reading of changes to the city's sign ordinance regarding billboards. The meeting was held one-half hour than usual so that officials could attend the law enforcement-sponsored National Nigh Out event that started at 6 p.m. that day.

In reading the CLASS proclamation into the record, Mayor Vincent Sheheen snuck in a reference to his 3rd Grade teacher, who is a member of the group. The proclamation recognized the nonprofit as being dedicated to promoting fellowship and community service along with the preservation of the state's "rich cultural heritage through the enjoyment of beach music and shag dancing." One of its core missions to promote and preserve the heritage of beach music and shag dancing so that future generations can "appreciate this uniquely South Carolina tradition."

It noted that shag dancing was officially designated as the state's dance in 1984. It also noted that in addition to holding dance events, teaching shag dancing and educating the public on their art, history and traditions, it is also dedicated to improving the quality of life for everyone in Kershaw County.

"Since establishing its annual Shag Blast fundraiser in 2005, CLASS has grown this signature event into a remarkable community success, generating more than \$108,000 in charitable contributions throughout the county," Sheheen read.

CLASS Shag Blast Chairman Ray Amyette spoke on behalf of the group to thank council for the recognition. He noted that during its July meeting, CLASS donated \$5,000 each to the Community Medical Clinic of Kershaw County (CMCKC) and Food for the Soul (FFTS), as well as \$1,000 to the Camden Shrine Club.

CMCKC CEO Charlotte Rankin and FFTS Board Chairman Tim Bordner thanked CLASS for their respective donations.

"The funds you have raised help ensure that uninsured patients in our community receive the quality, compassionate care that they deserve," Rankin said.

"We appreciate and are thankful that the club wants to help others less fortunate in our community," Bordner added. "Food for the Soul has been the recipient of the club's efforts over the years and its contributions have made a significant impact on the care and services we provide for our residents and others in the county."



Ray Amyette (center), Shag Blast chair for the Camden Lugoff Area Shag Society (CLASS), holds a copy of a proclamation issued in the society's honor during Camden City Council's meeting on Tuesday (Aug. 4) afternoon. He is joined by Camden Mayor Vincent Sheheen (fifth from right), fellow CLASS members and, in the back, other members of council.

**Submitted by: Kathy McCoy (CLASS)
President of Camden Lugoff Area Shag Society**

CAPITAL CITY SHAG CLUB

SHAG EXTRAVAGANZA XVI!

Capital City Shag Club's Shag Extravaganza XVI was a huge success with all our attendees as you can see with all the smiling faces captured in the pictures. From the bottom of my heart thank you! We would love to have you join us for our Shag Extravaganza XVII, August 20, 21 2027 so we can capture your smiling faces and make great memories with us. Details will be announced soon.

Vickey Van Frank, Capital City Shag Club's Co chair Shag Extravaganza XVI



SOS Historical Corner

THE PAD

A SHAGGER'S PARADISE

by: Dr. Phil Sawyer

The Pad, the legendary joint that opened in 1955 by C.W. Blankenship and became an institution in Ocean Drive Beach and was known far and wide by generations of staggers, standers, lovers of beach music and the coldest beer on the grand strand.

Built below a crash pad for life guards and standers, dancers built a dance floor on the sand, and used old number 3 wash tubs for coolers.

The wash tubs were soon replaced by old surplus sale claw foot bath tubs, the juke box filled with the hottest music available from Charleston to Virginia Beach, and the party people came by the hundreds. They left their names on the walls and politically incorrect graffiti, danced and drank beer the nights away, and probably did some other things they could not do back home.

Over the years, there were many ideas and a lot of talk about saving the Pad, but alas, since it was not built to "specifications", it could not be resotred. It came down by demolition in 1994. The end of The Pad was indeed an end of an era. There will never be another one like it.





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Touching Lives. Making Memories.



Ellen Taylor Foundation for Junior Shaggers

Our Past....Their Future Junior SOS 2026

Betty Ladwig, Director & Shoe Program Chairperson and Vickie Harrison, SOS

The Ellen Taylor Foundation for Junior Shaggers is a non-profit charitable foundation dedicated to financial assistance in the education, preservation, and promotion of the Shag, the state dance of South Carolina. The Ellen Taylor Foundation Shoe Room was open during 2026 Junior SOS in July. We were so grateful to receive so many donations to be able to provide hundreds of pairs of shoes to our Juniors! Junior SOS 2026 was off to a sensational start. These young adults are so so so amazing. A special thank



you to the parents, grandparents, and friends who have been so kind and thoughtful sharing their appreciation for the Shoe Program program in the Ellen Taylor Foundation.

Thank you to all our adult friends who have come by, shopped, and bought shoes with all proceeds going to the Ellen Taylor Foundation. We are blessed with donations of slightly used and brand new shoes in quantities that exceed all expectations. This allows us the capabilities of being certain that

every Junior receives multiple pairs of shoes FREE and we can sell from the overstock. I am happy to share with you that we gave out 279 pairs of shoes FREE to our Junior shaggers. THAT BEING SAID, due to our generous donors of slightly used and brand new shoes our net inventory reduction was 55 pairs of shoes. FOUR groups working with juniors took back to their clubs a total of 52 pair in addition to the 279 that we gave out. If you live in an area establishing groups of juniors please reach out to us as we are happy to share our shoe inventory with you. Shoe sales from the overstock this week was awesome. We have a check for \$2110* for the Ellen Taylor Foundation plus a check for \$100 from a personal donor.



A heartfelt Thank You and Love to the Junior Shaggers for keeping this tradition alive!

Betty Ladwig & your Shoe Room Angels



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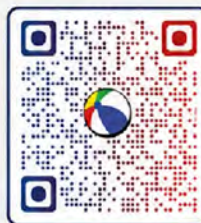


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Shag Club Parties~SOS Spring 2026

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Hall of Fame Foundation

Hall of Fame Foundation
Post Office Box 4070
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Wow! It has been another good year for the Hall of Fame Foundation! We held a successful "Vegas at the Beach" fundraiser last November which has enabled our organization to continue it's mission of "Friends Helping Friends" throughout the Carolinas and the Southeast. This year we have already assisted eight families with medical and household expenses and this raises our total of those helped over the last 35 years to more than 400 with almost a million dollars in benefits being paid.

We are planning another "Vegas at the Beach" fundraiser for Saturday night, November 21, 2026, at the Spanish Galleon in the Ocean Drive Beach and Golf Resort. We hire professional dealers who are helpful in providing information on how the games are played and tips on the best way to wager. There are no cash winnings involved but live auction and silent auction items will be available for winning tickets. A DJ will also be there to play your favorite tunes. It has been proven to be a very fun evening with your shag friends! Our Directors would like to encourage you to participate by becoming a Sponsor and by attending the event. Additional information is available at www.halloffamefoundation.org and you may also contact any board member.

Please remember to donate whenever you see one of our members wearing a "HOFF JUST-A-DOLLAR" tag during Fall SOS. All proceeds from this campaign will be used to help one of our own!

I would like to extend a huge THANK YOU to all who have supported the Hall of Fame Foundation over the years. We look forward to see you during SOS and in November! Nick Mathis, Chairman

**Just Give
\$1.00**

HALL OF FAME FOUNDATION

<http://www.halloffamefoundation.org>

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The Competitive Shaggers Association

Why Compete?

By: Jim Hern, CSA President

Obviously, the question of “Why Compete?” centers around a love for the iconic dance that is rooted in the Southern Beach Lifestyle and the organization that supports the primary competitive platform for the historic Carolina Shag—“The Competitive Shaggers Association “ (CSA).

CSA is more than just another dance organization—it is a community that celebrates shag dancing, the music that inspires it, and the friendships it creates along the way.

There is something truly exhilarating about stepping onto a small, dimly lit dance floor with your partner, hearing the music begin, and feeling the energy of an enthusiastic audience. In that moment, every step, turn, and connection becomes part of something special. Although built on a simple six-count pattern, competitive shag challenges us to bring focus, creativity, and passion to every movement.

Competition is not only about trophies or finishing in first place. It is about setting goals, improving your skills, building confidence, and discovering what you are capable of achieving. Every performance—whether it results in a win or a lesson—offers an opportunity to grow. The pursuit of excellence, along with the excitement of performing, is what inspires many dancers to return to the floor again and again.

Being realistic, most of us will never become national champions, and that is perfectly fine. Success can be measured in many ways: learning a new skill, strengthening your partnership, overcoming fear, or simply becoming a better dancer than you were yesterday. Competitive shag is for anyone with the desire and determination to be part of the experience.

Don’t let self-doubt or fear hold you back. Every accomplished competitor began by taking a first step onto the floor. You don’t have to be perfect to begin, you simply need the willingness to learn, practice, and challenge yourself.

The Competitive Shaggers Association offers entry levels for every skill level and welcomes all dancers to join a supportive family that celebrates progress, encourages one another, and shares the joy of becoming better dancers. Along the way, you will discover greater confidence, lifelong friendships, unforgettable memories, and a deeper appreciation for this remarkable dance.

If you have ever wondered what it would be like to compete, perhaps now is the time to find out. Consider becoming a competitive shag dancer and experience the excitement, challenge, and the lifelong rewards that await you.

**Your competitive journey can begin with one courageous step
onto the hardwood...just one step!**

Visit us at: competitiveshaggers.org



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ACSC/SOS Calendar 2026

**September 18-27
SOS Fall Migration**

2027

**January 15-17
Mid Winter Workshop**

**April 16-25
SOS Spring Safari**

**July 9-11
ACSC Summer Workshop
Host: Carolina Shag Club
Greenville, SC**

**September 17-26
SOS Fall Migration**

Happy 250th America



My Shag Shoes

by: Vickie Harrison

Note: This photo of my worn out shoes was taken on the beach at SOS around 1992. They were already worn out...and YES, I still have them and will frame them one day!

I have great memories without a doubt,
That I shagged until my shoes wore out.
The scuffs, the holes and every scratch
Show there wasn't a dance I wouldn't catch.
The strap would break and I'd get a pin
And I'd fix it fast so I could dance again.
My gold shag shoes made me light as air
Shaggin' and turning without a care.
They gave me more than just happy feet
They would carry me to the friends I'd meet.
I cherish my shoes and can't throw them away,
The memories are there for me every day.
I can't dance as much as I did before
But my love is still on that dance floor.
My shag shoes and I will never part,
Cause the love of the Dance is still in my heart !