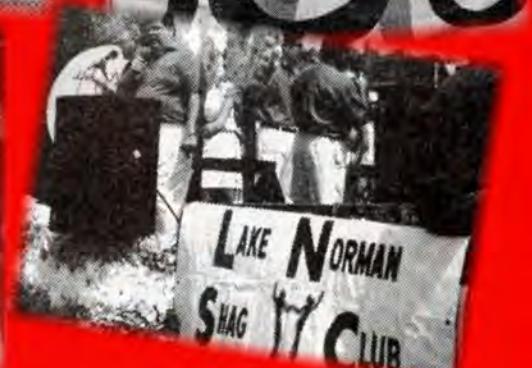
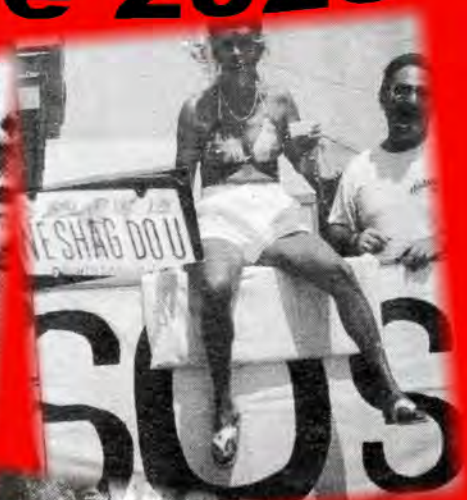


SOS Carefree Times

2025 Spring Safari Edition



"Party like it's 1995"
SOS Parade Theme 2025



Shoe Center

Comfort • Dance • Fashion For Men and Women

Monday Through Saturday: 10am to 6pm

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-Buy an all leather men's loafer
add select style of Phelps
for \$50



-\$10 off all Onex

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all leather loafers



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limited time only

-40% off select olukai
and other brands of flip flops
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BOLD

& Beautiful

wigs for cancer



**SOS CUSTOMER
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1 PM - 4 PM**

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Dance Shoes & ENJOY!**

**April 26th 1-4
Gary Lowder and
Smokin Hot**

**April 30th 1-4
The Entertainers**

**May 1st 1-4
Rick Strickland Band**

**Supporting Marlisa's
Bold & Beautiful Wigs
for Cancer**

710 Hwy 17 S., North Myrtle Beach, SC Open Monday -Saturday 10am-6pm



SOS President Ron Whisenant

Hello everyone! Spring Safari 2025! Ten days of sheer bliss filled with fun, sun, music and dance. Stir in a little beach time, meeting a few friends for a drink, grabbing a burger at the clubs and bumping into old friends of past SOS days. This is the recipe for the best party on earth, SOS Spring Safari.

Spring Safari will be in the last days of April into the first weekend in May. This only happens about every five years. This scenario will put the last weekend of SOS in the wake of college kids coming to OD for their school graduations, along with the Beach Music Festival to be held in the parking lot between OD Arcade and Main St. and the ACSC parade. Parking will be an issue for the last weekend. Tripp's Taxi may be the best tip for this situation.

The ACSC parade on May 3rd is the high lite of Spring Safari. This is a showcase of pride, talent and competition between the 96 shag clubs that comprise the Association of Carolina Shag Clubs. The entries are judged by a panel of judges and can win prizes in different categories. This year's theme for the parade is "Party like its 1995". The parade starts @ 1:00 pm down Main Street in Ocean Drive. Come out and support you favorite clubs. Enjoy the crowd and sunshine watching a great parade. Hope to see you there.

The SOS is a family of friends. We celebrate with friends from home, friends from past SOSes, new friends that will be acquired during this year's event. Its like a family reunion of family members from home and afar. The only thing missing is the favorite covered dishes that the ladies would bring to share for the table. Those covered dishes at our family of friend's reunion are replaced with a few beers, a glass of wine or cocktails while dancing and socializing with the many friends we have celebrating the 10 days of Spring Safari. Maybe an invitation to participate with some of the shag clubs hosting a tea party at one of the clubs. Watching a shag contest in one of the clubs or taking a lesson to brush up your steps. Enjoy some of the beach parties hosted by several of the shag clubs. Bring your own towel and flip flops. The rest is provided. There is a myriad of things you can do to participate in during SOS that provides you the opportunity to meet and make new friends. Jump in, have fun, let your hair down a little and be a true SOS'er. Help make and keep the family of friends well and strong with an SOS membership. Proudly show your SOS card at all of the participating SOS clubs.

In closing, I want to pay tribute to John Gilstrap for his excellent service to the ACSC/SOS as Parliamentarian for both organizations and served as Vice President of SOS. John retired last Fall Migration 2024. Thank you for your many years of service to the SOS family.



ACSC Chairman Candy Long

Hello Fellow Shag World Friends!

It is with great honor and humility that I write this first article for the Carefree Times as ACSC Chairman. As you may know by now, Robin Morley stepped down from this position in January but is now serving as SOS Vice President. She left impossible shoes to fill so I need your help to make our own path now. I am confident that together we will continue her success with ACSC!

So now! Let's welcome in another fun filled Spring Safari, SOS Parade, and warm fellowship! The parade theme is "Party Like Its 1995". I can't wait to see what you guys come up with! Having an entry in the parade is so much fun and a great team builder for your club. I hope you're planning on participating!

It's been a rough winter for a lot of our shag clubs, especially those in western North Carolina. I have been so proud of our clubs for stepping up to help those in such dire need. Please keep in mind that the need has not decreased, and these friends are going to need help for a long time. This is one of the things that makes the Shag Community so special. We care about each other.....

In closing, I want to thank you for the opportunity to contribute to the preservation of the Carolina Shag! Please feel free to contact me with any questions, concerns, ideas, and ways the ACSC can help you and your clubs!



SOS Board Chairman Ronnie Gregory

It will be great to see all of you again and having good times and making great memories. The highlight of the week is our SOS Parade on Saturday, May 3rd. Many of you will be participating and showcasing your club's entry. The ACSC Meeting is also on Saturday, this is a great time to come and learn the interworkings of the clubs and gathering information to take back to your club.

Hope to be talking with many of you during the week. Please support the SOS clubs and obey the rules while you are visiting N. Myrtle Beach. You can buy the SOS Card at many of the clubs and on the street. Keeping in mind that the SOS Membership Card is more than just an entry into the clubs, for instance: Carefree Times, AED machines, Tram, just to name a few.

Please visit the SOS Store to purchase memorabilia, SOS Card, and our Lost and Found. Hope you all have a great and safe time. Keep Shaggin' "the dance of the Carolinas"



SOS Carefree Times Editor Janet Harrold

Welcome all to 2025 Spring SOS!!! All SOS clubs are getting ready for you to enjoy their entertainment with your favorite dee jays, bands, and great food.... if you get hungry after all the dancing!! All SOS partner clubs require an SOS card to come in their club. You can purchase an SOS card at all SOS clubs, SOS Company Store, and online..www.shagdance.com. Please patronize the advertisers and check out the accommodations for the Fall SOS. Please show your SOS cards to the advertisers and you may get a discount during the week. Thank you to all the advertisers online and the

SOS website sponsors. Have a wonderful time and enjoy the parade on Saturday.....and when you see a Hall of Fame "\$" sign on a member please donate that "\$" that goes to the Hall of Fame Foundation "friends helping friends"!!! The SOS TRAM will be available during SOS...FREE ride show SOS card.....that little card comes in handy for you and helps SOS as well!! The Tram will operate first week Friday & Saturday..then it will be available the second weekend of SOS on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings. Please see the ad to get the phone number and times. Janet Harrold, SOS Carefree Times Editor

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*Thank YOU to all of the Contributors to our SOS Carefree Times!
Without the help of everyone who contributed, this paper would still
be Just Another Newsletter!*

2025 DJ Throwdown: Hall of Fame Inductees



Mike Swords
Liberty, South Carolina

The Deejay Hall of Fame was founded by Harold Bessent and Gary Bass and is now solely owned by Fat Harold's Beach Club located in North Myrtle Beach, SC. It consists of regular and honorary members and is physically located at Fat Harold's Beach Club in North Myrtle Beach, S.C. Once a year, the living regular Hall of Fame members vote to elect one or more members to the regular and honorary Hall of Fame. Inductions are then held at Fat Harold's Beach Club during Deejay Throwdown in March.



Dennis Brumble
Little River, South Carolina

Congratulations to the 2025 Inductees

DJ Throwdown 34

DJ Throwdown 34 was a huge success! The weekend seemed to offer an incredible mix of fun, community, and great music, something that people will definitely be talking about for a long time. The fact that it's free and offers such a packed schedule, with 65 DJs, two vinyl parties, shag lessons, and a DJ shag contest, shows the dedication and effort that goes into making this event a standout event. Also, congrats to Gary Jones for receiving the Richard Nixon Memorial Service Award—what an honor!

It's cool hearing about the origins of DJ Throwdown too, how it started back in 1992, with some initial resistance from club owners, and then evolved into the major event it is today. It's also impressive how much the event has grown, moving from Duck's Beach Club to a larger venues like The Spanish Galleon and now at Fat Harold's Beach Club.

It is really rewarding to see the event continue to thrive and to bring together so many people who love shag music. Are you looking forward to next year's event already? Be sure to mark your calendars for March 5th, 6th and 7th, 2026 for DJ Throwdown 35!

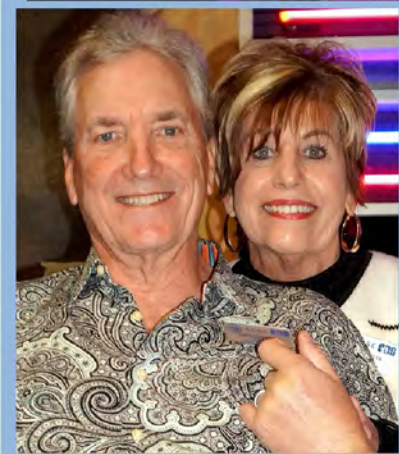
Submitted by: Dennis Brumble ABSCDJ Throwdown Chairmen





Mid Winter 2025

Click Here for more PHOTOS



2025 ACSC Shagging ICON Awards

The Purpose of the ACSC Shagging Icon Award is to recognize individuals who have made outstanding contributions within their own shag club through out the years. To consider nominating one of your shag club members for this prestigious award, go to our website (www.shagdance.com) to download the ACSC Shagging Icon Award Nomination Form. The following are brief summaries of the information submitted for consideration.

Novelene Powell, Icon Committee Chair



AUDREY BORJA – BATTLEFIELD BOOGIE CLUB

As a Co-founder of the Battlefield Boogie Club in 2004, Audrey has demonstrated consistent leadership, serving as president for 16 years and vice president for 4 years. Throughout her tenure, she has been a foundational figure in the club, overseeing organizational management and establishing teams to plan and execute engaging activities. She diligently manages all events, DJ schedules, charities, fundraising activities, and serves as a spokesperson for BBC. She has played a key role in drafting the Bylaws, launching the club's newsletter and website, fulfilling tax-exempt requirements, and organizing the club's charitable activities. Audrey's dedication of time, talent, and effort has significantly contributed to the club's sustainability. Despite facing difficult times over the years, the club remains strong, largely due to Audrey's personal skills and contributions. Audrey is both enthusiastic and diligent, consistently aiming to provide top-quality experiences. The saying "When you want something done, ask a busy woman" perfectly describes her. She is truly the heart and soul of BBC. Audrey consistently seizes opportunities to share her enthusiasm for the Carolina Shag by teaching new steps, establishing new connections, or maintaining relationships with long-time friends. She is deeply committed to promoting the love of Shag to everyone she encounters. Her dedication as an instructor for the past 20 years is evident in every interaction with her students, whether they are individuals or couples. She has held membership and participated in the Competitive Shag Association since 2010 and danced in the Smoothies contest at SOS. Audrey's sincere love for the Shag has become a major part of her identity. In recognition of her contributions, Audrey was honored with induction into the Virginia Hall of Fame in 2017. Audrey Borja's journey is a testament to the power of passion, dedication, and community. Her contributions to the Battlefield Boogie Club, the Carolina Shag, and the broader dance community are immeasurable. She continues to inspire, lead, and dance with a heart full of joy and a spirit that lifts everyone around her. She will represent the ICON Award with pride and honor.



TIM LONG – RUTHERFORD COUNTY SHAG CLUB

Tim Long has been an active member of the Rutherford County Shag Club (RCSC) since 2007, serving as president and vice president multiple times, and chairing numerous committees. His unwavering dedication and leadership have significantly benefited the club and its members. Over the years, Tim has demonstrated his commitment through various roles and responsibilities. He designs the club's event flyers for all parties and special events, business cards and other outreach materials for distribution to promote the club. He created a Facebook page to help promote the club and while chairing the newsletter committee, moved to a digital format, saving money for the club during some lean years. Tim has attended SOS since 2003 and has often volunteered in the SOS Company Store helping to organize merchandise. He organizes and participates in road trip events to provide networking opportunities for members of his small club with shag friends from other clubs. As a member of the "Be Thankful Dance" committee, Tim helps with collecting and boxing food donations for Rutherford County food banks. He also assists the club treasurer with balancing the books when needed. Tim is a dedicated teacher and volunteer for beginner classes sponsored by RCSC. He represented the club in the first ever shag contest at the Lake Lure Olympiad, placing in the top 3 initially and winning the next year. He also organized entertainment for local rest home residents and is always willing to show a step or give pointers for improvement to any shagger who asks. He has been a member and participant of the Competitive Shaggers Association since 2014. As chairman of the DJ committee, Tim provides music for shag classes, community events, parades, and is a volunteer DJ for the club. The Rutherford County Shag Club acknowledges and appreciates Tim Long's tireless efforts and leadership. His continued involvement and dedication serve as a shining example for all members, inspiring them to contribute to the club's growth and success. This is what being an Icon is all about.

2025 ACSC Shagging ICON Awards



MARGIE MCRAE – VIRGINIA BEACH SHAG CLUB

Margie McRae, a dedicated member for 30 years, is a highly valued and esteemed ambassador of the Virginia Beach Shag Club. She has been a consistent participant in the SOS events since 1997. Margie serves as the VBSC Facebook administrator, moderator and top Contributor sharing ACSC/SOS news and other shag related events. For many years, she co-chaired the club's charities, designed a banner to promote the club at special events, and as president, initiated the "Valued Veterans Project" and added "Are you a Veteran?" to the membership application. Once a member is identified as a Veteran, a flag sticker is placed on their name badge, then listed on their website to recognize them throughout the year for their service. Margie has been line dancing for thirty years and knows hundreds of dances. For the

past decade, she has taught weekly classes at VBSC Mix & Mingle, which are always fun and energetic. She devotes tremendous energy to any event and works tirelessly to make it a success. She has demonstrated her commitment to VBSC through her service on many varied committees and Board positions. She truly "walks the walk" and leads by example. Whether organizing a charity related event, serving on a committee or teaching a dance class, Margie always delivers beyond expectations. Margie's achievements extend to many facets of serving, showcasing her dedication and multifaceted talents. From her pivotal role as the club's Facebook administrator to her energetic and engaging dance classes, Margie has continuously contributed to her club and the shag community. Her leadership skills are evident in her ability to organize successful events and her unwavering support in various board positions and committees. Her accolades, including her induction into both the Virginia Shaggers Hall of Fame and the National Living Legends of Dance, further highlight her extraordinary impact and commitment to the dance world. Margie embodies the ICON Award's purpose through her extensive contributions to the Virginia Beach Shag Club.



MONICA POWELL – OD SHAG CLUB

Monica Powell has been a hard-working and dedicated member of the OD Shag Club for eleven years serving as president, vice president, secretary, and almost every other position possible. Her tireless efforts to assist with food drives, fundraisers, and the Christmas extravaganza at the local convalescent home speak volumes about her commitment and generosity. While serving as president, Monica set up the OD Shag Club Foundation and had it approved by the IRS as a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, allowing the Club to collect tax-exempt donations for the various charities. She also established a Square account and encouraged the club to purchase an IPAD for use in selling club merchandise and accepting credit and debit cards which helped to increase sales dramatically. Monica organized a New

Member Social to enable new members to engage with club officers, committee chairs, and other existing members. This event also provides committee chairs with an opportunity to recruit additional committee members. She started the "Bus to Somewhere" event that involved renting a bus and taking club members to another ACSC club's monthly party. She also invites other clubs to visit the OD Shag Club. Monica initiated a 6-week program of free beginner and intermediate shag lessons for OD Shag Club members and continues to support these classes by attending and helping with instruction and member check-in. She sets a great example of supporting all aspects of shag dancing and as Chair of the OD Shag Club Foundations, she has ensured that club contributions have included Junior Shaggers, and Junior SOS. She hired and worked with Stage Productions to produce a shag video for the North Myrtle Beach Historical Museum that explains the history of the shag and shows both senior and junior dancers. Monica Powell has made exceptional contributions of time, knowledge, and leadership to the OD Shag Club, unmatched by any other member. The shag world and Ocean Drive Shag Club are profoundly fortunate to benefit from her expertise and dedication. She is undoubtedly deserving of the title ACSC Shagging ICON.

2025 ACSC Shagging ICON Awards



PHIL TURNER - CAUSEWAY SHAG CLUB

Phil Turner has been an integral part of the Causeway Shag Club for over two decades serving as club president 21 of the 24 years the club has been in existence. Phil has been a part of SOS since 1996 and was instrumental in helping to organize and form Causeway Shag Club for the Surf City, NC area. He began teaching shag lessons locally in 1996 to generate more interest for the Carolina Shag in the area and in 2001 Causeway Shag Club was accepted into the ACSC with Phil Turner as the official elected president. He has represented Causeway Shag Club at every ACSC meeting/workshop at his own expense from the beginning of the club's existence to the present. His vision and leadership have contributed significantly to the growth and success of the club. He has consistently chaired or served on every committee and continues to organize yearly fundraising projects. Phil's

dedication and passion for the club are evident in his long-term commitment and active involvement in organizing events and activities. Known for his contagious enthusiasm and welcoming personality, Phil has been a driving force in fostering a sense of community within the Causeway Shag Club. Under his guidance, the club has thrived, attracting new members and preserving the cherished dance tradition. Phil's motto, "We do it for fun," encapsulates his approach to life and his unwavering belief in the joy and camaraderie that the club brings to its members. His influence extends beyond the local community, as he frequently travels to participate in various shag dancing events, promoting his club and having fun. Phil began teaching free shag lessons locally in 1996 and continues teaching lessons once a week. His dedication has not only helped to preserve the traditional dance but also to invigorate it and encourage younger generations to take part. Phil has inspired many to embrace shag dancing as both a hobby and a way of life. Phil's legacy is one of joy, friendship, and an unwavering commitment to the dance he loves. He has a welcoming spirit as shag club leader and friend. Phil is truly an ambassador for his club and most deserving of the ACSC ICON Award

An artistic illustration of a beach scene. In the foreground, several pieces of weathered driftwood are scattered on the sand. The middle ground shows gentle waves lapping at the shore. The background features a clear blue sky with a few wispy clouds.

*Saturday
May 3
10am*

2025 ACSC Spring Workshop

*Meeting held in
Spanish Galleon
OD Resort*

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

**2025 SOS Spring Safari
April 24 - May 4, 2025**

Precious People. A Treasured Dance.

Thomas Beach Vacations proudly supports the Society of Stranders. Your spirit, camaraderie, and traditions are a vital part of the history and future of North Myrtle Beach.

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Women's Clothing * Home
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2025 SOS
Spring



Fat Harold's Beach Club

DJ Schedule

Front Back

Wednesday, April 23

6:00 Jay Kinlaw & Jim Quick 6:00 Darrell Gaither

Thursday, April 24

2:00 Keith Williamson
7:00 Jimmy Buffkin 7:00 Chad Farlow

Friday, April 25

1:00 Jay Kinlaw 1:00 Glenn Pridgen
5:00 Buck Crumpton 5:00 Roger Holcomb
9:00 Dennis Brumble 9:00 Bill Harper

Saturday, April 26

1:00 Jimmy Buffkin 1:00 Richard Conner
5:00 Bill Harper 5:00 Keith Williamson
9:00 Buck Crumpton 9:00 Norman Mills

Sunday, April 27

1:00 Chigger Woods 1:00 Ervin Ellington
5:00 Darrell Gaither 5:00 Glenn Pridgen
9:00 Gene Sistare 9:00 Phil Long

Monday, April 28

1:00 Adam Holmes 1:00 Roger Holcomb
5:00 Eddie Anderson 5:00 Norman Mills
9:00 Dennis Brumble 9:00 Chigger Woods

Tuesday, April 29

1:00 Jay Kinlaw 1:00 Randall Hight
5:00 Jimmy Buffkin 5:00 Bill Harper
9:00 Dennis Brumble 9:00 Gene Sistare

Wednesday, April 30

1:00 Jay Kinlaw 1:00 Glenn Pridgen
5:00 Eddie Anderson 5:00 Bill Harper
9:00 Jim Rose 9:00 Adam Holmes

Thursday, May 1

1:00 Darrell Gaither 12:00 Adam Holmes
5:00 Chigger Woods 5:00 Dean Baker
9:00 Jim Rose 9:00 Craig Jennings

Friday, May 2

1:00 Dennis Brumble 1:00 Phil Long
5:00 Eddie Anderson 5:00 Kitty Earles
9:00 Roger Holcomb 9:00 Jim Rose

Saturday, May 3

1:00 Jimmy Buffkin 1:00 Vinyl Party
5:00 Kitty Earles 5:00 Vinyl Party
9:00 Roger Holcomb 9:00 Vinyl Party

Sunday, May 4

2:00 Glenn Pridgen
6:00 Jay Kinlaw

Events

Wed., April 23

94.9 Jump Start Party
Free Hot Dogs

Friday, April 25

Too Much Sylvia 2-6

Saturday, April 26

Castaways 2-6

Sunday, April 27

The Featured Attraction
Band 2-6

Tuesday, April 29

The Embers 2-6

Wednesday, April 30

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

Thursday, May 1

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

Friday, May 2

Gary Lowder &
Smokin' Hot 2-6

Saturday, May 3

Parade Awards following
the parade

Sunday, May 4

Jim Quick & Coastline 6-10

Bye Bye Party!

Club Opens
11 am everyday
during SOS

Shag
Workshops

Charlie Womble
&
Jackie McGee

See separate
AD for their
Spring
Schedule

Shag City Grill



Open Daily
11 am

*Schedule subject to change without notice

2025 SOS Spring Safari

OD Arcade, 100 South Ocean Blvd. (843) 249-6460

Open Daily 10am Grill Opens 11am

SOS CARDS ON SALE DAILY



Spring DJ Schedule

FRIDAY, APRIL 25

12-4 Billy Fanning
4-8 David Hadden
8-til Dana Grubb

SATURDAY, APRIL 26

12-4 David Hadden
4-8 Glenn Pridgen
8-til Furman Dominick

SUNDAY, APRIL 27

12-4 Dana Grubb
4-8 Buck Crumpton
8-til Tommy Samole

MONDAY, APRIL 28

12-4 Larry Calhoun
4-8 Curtis Treece
8-til Gene Hensley

TUESDAY, APRIL 29

12-4 Billy Fanning
4-8 Butch Davidson
8-til Larry Calhoun

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30

12-4 Craig Jennings
4-8 Tommy Samole
8-til Furman Dominick

THURSDAY, May 1

12-4 Craig Jennings
4-8 Larry Calhoun
8-til Furman Dominick

FRIDAY, May 2

12-4 Gene Hensley
4-8 Mike Swords
8-til Furman Dominick

SATURDAY, May 3

12-4 Gene Hensley
4-8 Butch Davidson
8-til Tommy Samole

Patio/Porch DJ Schedule

12-4

4-8

Friday, April 25

Saturday, April 26

Sunday, April 27

Monday, April 28

Tuesday, April 29

Wednesday, April 30

Thursday, May 1

Friday, May 2

Saturday, May 3

Curtis Treece

Live Remote Ray Scott/Riptide

Curtis Treece

Glenn Pridgen

Dana Grubb

Furman Dominick

Furman Dominick

Glenn Pridgen

Ron Teague

Ron Teague

Richard Conner

Dana Grubb

Ron Teague

Richard Conner

Richard Conner

Ron Teague

Ron Teague

Special EVENTS

Tuesday, April 29 8 pm

ROOKIES REVENGE (sign up 7pm)

Wednesday, April 30 2pm

OLD SCHOOL CONTEST (sign up noon)

Must be 62 years or older

Thursday, May 1 2 pm

SMOOTHIE CONTEST (sign up noon)

Shag Club Parties

4/27 Sunday- OD Shag Club Brunch 10am

5/1 Thursday- Palmetto Shag Club 4-5

5/2 Friday- Lake Norman Shag Club 3-5

5/2 Friday- Electric City Shag Club 3-5

5/3 Saturday- Burlington Shag Club 6-8

Lunch and Dinner Specials Monday - Friday

BEST BURGERS ON THE BEACH



WELCOME TO 2025 SPRING SAFARI

SOS Cards Available

Located Corner of Hillside & Main

DJ & BAND SCHEDULE

Wednesday, April 23
7pm Kick Off Party
Deb Browning & Marlisa Small

Thursday, April 24
3-7 Steve Carter
7-10 Tim Johnson

Friday, April 25
12-4 Tim Johnson
4-8 Ray Scott Deck Party
8-11 Pepper Creek Band

Saturday, April 26
12-4 Justin Rubow
4-7 Tim Johnson
7-11 Marsha Morgan Band

Sunday Funday, April 27
12-3 Justin Rubow
3-6 Jim Quick/Coastline
Parking Lot Party
6-10 Jeff James

Monday, April 28
2-6 Gene Sistare
6-10 Scott Smith

Tuesday, April 29
2-6 Gene Sistare
6-10 Steve Carter

Wednesday, April 30
2-6 Gene Sistare
6-10 Cecelia Jeffrey

Thursday, May 1
12-4 Mike Stalls
4-7 Kenny Loftis
7-11 Carolina Coast Band
w/ R.McDaniel & R.Godfrey

Friday, May 2
12-4 Gene Sistare
4-8 Ray Scott Deck Party
8-11 Carolina Coast Band
w/R.McDaniel & R.Godfrey

Saturday, May 3
12-4 Mike Stalls
4-7 Kenny Loftis
7-10 Sea Cruz
Dino & Butch

Sunday, May 4
3-6 Rick & Lesa
7-10 Jeff James



Outside Dance Floor

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National Living Legends of the Dance, CSA Professional Dancers, Two-Time USA Grand Nationals Master Champion & Two-Time National Shag Senior Champion

\$10 per person per workshop

Monday, April 28th - 10:00am
Lead Follow Patterns - Smooth out your dancing and keep moving

Tuesday, April 29th - 10:00am
Footwork Patterns- you can do in place and through passes

Wednesday, April 30th - 10:00am
Fun Together Step- that you can also do individually

Thursday, May 1st - 10:00am
Footwork & Turn Variations you can do!



Shag Workshops held at The OD Arcade
100 Ocean Blvd. NMB

SPRING S.O.S 2025



Steve Balok

Myers Floyd

WORKSHOP MENU
\$10 Per Person

WORKSHOP MENU
\$10 Per Person

Saturday April 26th
11:00- Fun Lead Follow
12:00- Building Footwork
1:30- Competition Class (Downstairs Ducks)

Sunday April 27th
11:00- Closed Position Patterns
12:00 - Tucks and Trails

Wednesday April 30th
11:00- Basic Variations
12:00- Easy Together Step

Thursday May 1st
11:00 - Playing with the Music
12:00- The Elvis

Friday May 2nd
11:00- Fun Lead Follow
12:00 Building Footwork

Saturday May 3rd
11:00- Male and Female Footwork
12:00-How to Spin

CHARLIE & JACKIE

\$10 per person except for FREE BASIC

Join Us at Fat Harold's

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



Fri., April 25	10:30am	Lead Follow
Sat., April 26	10 am 11 am	Male/Female Combo Ladies Class
Sun., April 27	10:30am	Lead Follow Combo
Mon., April 28	10 am 10:30am	FREE BASIC Pivot & Belly Roll (must know)
Tues., April 29	10:30am	Good Footwork with Style
Wed., April 30	10:30am	Variations (Good Stuff)
Thurs., May 1	10 am 11 am	Something Together Lead Follow
Fri., May 2	10 am 11 am	Breaks with the Music Ladies Class

"J" Collection - Dance Shoes
Available Everyday 10:00-12:30

2025
Spring
Safari



SOS Shag Workshops Sam & Lisa West

Upstairs in the OD Resort Ballroom \$10 per person

9 Straight Days
Fri. 4/25 - Sat. 5/3

BEGINNER 11:30

The Basic plus at least two other beginner patterns taught in every class. No partner needed.

9 Straight Days
Fri. 4/25 - Sat. 5/3

ADVANCED BEGINNER 12:30

Fri. 4/25- The Walk Up	Mon. 4/28- Easy Turns	Thur. 5/1- Rotating Sugarfoot
Sat. 4/26- Belly Rolls	Tues. 4/29- Basic Variations	Fri. 5/2- Tuck Turns
Sun. 4/27- Pivots	Wed. 4/30- Frame Game	Sat. 5/3- Apple Jacks & Boogies

INTERMEDIATE 1:30

*5:00 Thurs. 4/24- Early Bird Lead & Follow	Tues. 4/29- Hesitations
Fri. 4/25- Together Step	Wed. 4/30- Together Step
Sat. 4/26- Improving Your Social Dance Skills	Thur. 5/1- Leading and Following Multiple Spins
Sun. 4/27- Male/Female Steps	Fri. 5/2- Male/Female Steps
Mon. 4/28- Together Step	Sat. 5/3- Together Step

"DANCE WITH ME" 5:00-6:30

Fri. 4/25, Mon. 4/28 and Thur. 5/1

Entire dance taught during each session.

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Welcome
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2025 SOS Parade

Saturday, May 3 - 12:45pm
(Last Saturday of Spring SOS)

Parade Theme:

Party Like It's

1995

Crank up your Boom Box
and Party Down



SOS Historical Corner "1980 in the Beginning"

" ... The history of the S.O.S. is penned in ink of happenstance. Our book is filled with bolts from the blue rather than genius of grand plan or design. When people ask me what is the S.O.S. going to do two or three years from now, I shudder. Long range planning just doesn't fit our "on-the-edge" philosophy. We won't even buy green bananas! Fate will certainly help shape the future of the S.O.S., as It has so deftly molded our past."

Gene Laughter

Below is an article by SOS founder, Gene "Swink" Laughter (pictured below), published in the Fall 1986 Carefree Times. The article is a humorous account of just how happenstance played a huge role in his, and SOS co-founder, Tom Lilly's, plight to put on the very first SOS. I am reminded of how gifted a writer the late Gene Laughter was. He often referred to SOS as "the S.O.S." From time-to-time we hope to republish articles such as this one to revisit our past and keep it alive. We have a covenant with future generations for us to say, "This is who we were, this is what we loved, and now it is in your hands."

Foster McKinney, SOS Treasurer

Snoopy Saved the Day

by Gene Laughter

We were dog-tired on that Saturday afternoon back in the early part of the summer of '80. It had been a long, fruitless day of hunting party space - a headquarters for the first S.O.S., and Tom Lilly and I were quietly depressed as we stood at the Alpine Deli bar up in the Surfwood Shopping Center. We had been put down at every call. No one was interested in providing party space for that first S.O.S. The beach community wanted golfers, not old jitterbugs. We had talked with the Chamber of Commerce, hotels, motels. Let's face it, we had zero credibility!

Our day, and trip, had been completely wasted. A burn-out. Forget it! Time for a few beers. The Alpine Deli just happened to be the closest bar at hand.

They were definitely standouts, those flashy pants Tom was wearing! They were white and embellished with little embroidered red and blue Snoopies piloting their open-cockpit airplanes. Snoopy was diving and flying all over Tom's pants; goggles gleaming, scarves trailing, firing bursts of tiny machine guns at invisible Red Barons that lurked behind nonexistent clouds. I was embarrassed!

We finished up the first beer in short order and called for a second round. Our mood had changed. Forget the S.O.S. problems.

Suddenly we were laughing, kidding and joking.

A stranger walked up and stood next to us at the bar quietly listening to our conversation. "I really like those pants," he said to both of us in general. He was only making polite bar conversation.



Snoopy Saved the Day (continued)



"You and I are about the same size" Tom bellowed, "You can have them. My friend makes fun of them. They're yours! C'mon to the men's room. We'll exchange pants." Tom's generous offer stunned the stranger. It was obvious ... the stranger's mind was reeling! What had he gotten into? Reluctantly he followed the insistent Tom Lilly into the men's rest room.

I was amused and ordered another round of beer while they exchanged their pants in the men's room.

Soon the two of them returned to the bar laughing and admiring the fit of the stranger's new Snoopy pants. He had his own plane, the stranger confessed, and thus had a keen interest in objets d' aero.

We made happy talk over several more rounds with our new-found friend. "You guys are just great! What are you doing here ... golfers?" he inquired.

"No, we're here trying to plan a party for a bunch of old beach bums," I explained, recounting the problems that we were having in finding a headquarters location for the upcoming first S.O.S. "Come with me," he exclaimed, "I own a large ocean front hotel ... it is on its knees, about belly up ... and it's yours! Use it as you wish! Let's go down to my hotel right now for drinks and dinner!"

The stranger's name was Gordon McMean. Gordon's hotel was the Oak Tree Inn. The rest is history!

The old Oak Tree Inn became the headquarters and the site of that infamous first S.O.S. Migration, perhaps one of the best beach parties ever thrown, and remained S.O.S. headquarters until it was sold and became the Maritime Beach Club and changed to a time-sharing concept which froze us out.

Snoopy, and a chance meeting of a total stranger at a bar, saved the day... and, perhaps, the S.O.S.!

The history of the S.O.S. is penned in ink of happenstance. Our book is filled with bolts from the blue rather than genius of grand plan or design.

When people ask me what is the S.O.S. going to do two or three years from now, I shudder. Long range planning just doesn't fit our "on-the-edge" philosophy. We won't even buy green bananas!

Fate will certainly help shape the future of the S.O.S., as It has so deftly molded our past.

Perhaps next week, or next month, or next year at some quaint, secluded bar up will walk a stranger!



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Welcome to 2025 SOS Spring Safari

Please join us for one of our monthly events.

April 27	Spring Safari Brunch	10am	OD Arcade
May 3	SOS Spring Parade	1pm	Staging Area
May 17	Monthly Party	6pm	Fat Harold's
June 21	Monthly Party	6pm	Fat Harold's
July 20	Jr. SOS Brunch	10am	Fat Harold's
July 26	Charity Fun Run	12pm	TBA
Aug. 16	Nominations Party	6pm	Fat Harold's
Sept. 13	Charity Golf Tourn.	8am	Eastport Golf
Sept. 14	Fall Migration Brunch	10am	OD Arcade
Oct. 18	Halloween/Elections	6pm	Fat Harold's
Nov. 15	Thanksgiving Party	6pm	Fat Harold's
Dec. 20	Christmas Party	6pm	Fat Harold's

The ODSC is selling raffle tickets for a Low-Speed Vehicle/Golf Cart in the parking lot of Fat Harold's during Spring SOS.

OD Shag Club Merchandise will be displayed and sold in Fat Harold's parking lot during Spring 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 Spring Safari! We hope you have a great time while you are here and come back often to tear up the dance floor!

Monica Powell
2025 ODSC President



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Tips from the Webmaster (Mary Gregory)

- A new form is on our website to update your club information.
- Check your information, once you have sent it to be updated, example: club info, club parties, and if your location of where your parties take place or other information to be sure that your info was updated correctly.
- If your information was not updated correctly, always do a refresh on your screen (when you go into shagdance.com, this will update things that have been changed recently).
- Then if it didn't get updated correctly, email me at mgregory@shagdance.com and I will be sure it gets updated correctly.

2025 Sanctioned CSA Contest Schedule



April 11-12
Loafers Beach Club Raleigh, NC

June 21
Midway Music Hall Winston-Salem, NC

July 11-12
Lynn's Dance Club Charlotte, NC

August 9
Eno Beach Shag Club Durham, NC

August 29 - 30
**Fat Harold's Beach Club
North Myrtle Beach, SC**

October 4
Shag Shack Augusta, GA

October 24 -25
Seaboard Shag Contest Hamlet, NC

November 15
Capital City Shag Club Lexington, SC



Hall of Fame Foundation

Hall of Fame Foundation
Post Office Box 4070
North Myrtle Beach, SC 29597

As our shag family grows older, so does the increase in our "Requests for Assistance." Unfortunately, many of our friends do not have any way to cover unexpected expenses such as major illnesses, accidents, natural disasters or other incidents beyond their control. When we are young in age and heart, we sometimes don't prepare for our later years. That is one of the main reasons the Foundation was organized 35 years ago and why it still exists today. In the greater scope of things, the HOFF is small in comparison to most national charitable organizations but our greatest asset is the ability to get urgent needs handled quickly thanks to our board of directors who respond to requests promptly.

I would like to express our gratitude to all of our loyal supporters who give when they can. These donations are often made as a memorial to someone they have lost, in honor of someone they admire, to support one of our fundraisers or just as a contribution to the Foundation. We are thankful for every donation because each one truly makes a difference in continuing our mission of "Friends Helping Friends."
Nick Mathis, Chairman

Look for the "Just a Dollar" Badge during SOS Spring Safari and join us in being "Friends Helping Friends"



When you notice the Just A Dollar badges worn by the HOFF Board Members and volunteers please reach in your pocket and donate your \$1.00 or more if you prefer. Your donation will definitely play a part in providing assistance to someone in need.

<http://halloffamefoundation.org/>

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Beach Shaggers National Hall of Fame

Shagattack 2025

Inductees March 14-15 at Spanish Galleon

Beach Shaggers National Hall of Fame



Keepers of the Dance

The Beach Shaggers National Hall of Fame held its annual Spring ShagAttack Party on March 14th and 15th, 2025 at The Spanish Galleon in North Myrtle Beach. On Friday evening, Bill Moore was the DJ and kept the floor full with dancers from North and South Carolina, Georgia, and Virginia. On Saturday night, Larry Jones entertained the crowd with the best of rhythm and blues. Again, the floor was full with social dancing and the club was full of folks enjoying old and new friendships throughout the weekend.

The anticipation for new inductee announcements built throughout the weekend. Around 10 pm on Saturday evening, the announcements were made for the 2025 Keepers of the Dance and the Beach Shaggers National Hall of Fame inductees. On behalf of Bob Myrick, Kristin Leggett announced the two new Keepers of the Dance: Kalin Ellis-Mabry and Jackson Batten, who will be inducted in October.

Maureen Little, Danny Johnson and Nick Columbus announced the newest Hall of Fame inductees. Lulu Quick-Rigsby was announced as an Honorary Member and Barbara Walters was announced as a Charlie Boone recipient. The four female inductees voted on by the Selection Committee earlier that afternoon were Nancy Faircloth, Nikki Kontoulas, Kristin Leggett, and Rene'e Scott. The four male inductees were Jesse Bradshaw, Scott Campbell, Dan Humphries, and Alan Stokes. All ten new Hall of Famers are well-deserving and will be inducted at Fall ShagAttack, which is scheduled for the weekend of October 10th – 11th at The Spanish Galleon.

Photo is courtesy of Max Madrin. Pictured left to right: Alan Stokes, Danny Johnson, Maureen Little, Nick Columbus, Nancy Faircloth, Jesse Bradshaw, and Kristin Leggett.



Female Inductees

NANCY FAIRCLOTH
 NIKKI KONTOULAS
 KRISTIN LEGGETT
 RENE'E SCOTT

Male Inductees

JESSE BRADSHAW
 SCOTT CAMPBELL
 DAN HUMPHRIES
 ALAN STOKES

Honorary

LULU QUICK RIGSBY

Charlie Boone

BARBARA WALTERS

Keepers of the Dance

KALIN ELLIS MABRY
 JACKSON BATTEN

We would love to have you join us in October.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Email Address _____

Preferred Phone Number _____

Cost is \$60 per person. Checks should be made payable to BSNHOF and mailed to BSNHOF, PO Box 299, N. Myrtle Beach SC 29597.



15th Keepers of the Dance Contest

Fat Harold's Beach Club



The 15th Annual Beach Shaggers National Hall of Fame KEEPERS OF THE DANCE contest was held at Fat Harold's Beach Club February 7th and 8th, 2025. As usual, the dancing was awesome on both nights. The total purse for both nights was \$7,500.00.

"IT TAKES A VILLAGE" Special thanks to the following:

Sponsors: First and foremost, each year they come through and, without them, there would be no contest.

Fat Harold's Staff: They continue to be excellent and provide a great venue each year.

Judges: We have the best, they give of their time and expertise knowing that they must perform a very difficult task.

Photography: As he has many times in the past, Monty Lee provided exceptional photographs.

Staff: Saturday night the Hall of Fame Foundation announced this year's Eddie Monsour/Dewey Kennedy Scholarship winner, Mack West, a wonderful and deserving shagger.

For updated information on the Keepers of the Dance, event dates, results, etc., visit the Keepers website. www.Keepersofthedance.com. Thanks to Max Madrin for his continued service in keeping the website up and current.



Junior Division

- 1st - Billy West & Ava Farlow
- 2nd - Easton Brown & Graylen Kirby
- 3rd - Bennett Rusmisell & Rebecca Hodges
- 4th - Hunter Matthews & Abigail Hodges
- 5th - Joel Sogluizzo & Liv Kirby
(Not Pictured)
- 6th - Lilly Greene & Max Musselwhite
- 7th - Rosie Greene & Idris Bah



Senior Division

- 1st - Sam West & Sarah Kemp West
- 2nd - Joey & Jennifer Sogluizzo
- 3rd - Keith Smith & Carmen Vaughn
- 4th - Milton Nowell Jr. & Jane Jacobs
- 5th - Gene & Kathy Benfield
- 6th - Bruce Yates & Barbara Banks
- 7th - Jim & Dale Hern



Open Division

- 1st - Grayson Free & Autumn Jones
- 2nd - Jackson Batten & Mary Elizabeth
- 3rd - Scott Campbell & Whitney Chase
- 4th - Mack West & Karsyn Folds
- 5th - Cody Edwards & Kaylie Tuttle
- 6th - Stephen Balok & Myers Varn Floyd
- 7th - Kyler Byrum & Krystal Marie
- 8th - Adam Holmes & Erica Russell
- 9th - Michael Bravo & Lauren Cookman

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Welcome to Spring Safari, we appreciate your business



Sandy Beach Shag Club's Hurricane Fundraiser

On Sunday January 26, 2025, Sandy Beach Shag Club in Morganton N.C., held an event to raise money for the Western North Carolina Hurricane Relief efforts that have been an important charitable cause for our area.

The wonderful thing about our Shag lifestyle is that we are not just about dancing and having fun, we are also about caring for each other and doing great things for people in need. We have not been alone in this cause and many other Carolina Shag Clubs have also had events to receive donations and financial assistance for this ongoing devastation.

This all started before Hurricane Helene ever began. I was at the R&B Sparkle City party and the Mountain Shag Club brought a large group of their members and I was so impressed that I said to their current president, Paul Peterson, that our club should pay this kindness forward and bring a number of members to one of their parties in Asheville. Our club is only about 50 miles away. We jointly set a date and we were prepared to bring a large group of our members and then disaster struck! We had to cancel the event and we were all reeling from the destruction caused by the hurricane, but the overwhelming devastation in the Asheville area necessitated quick assistance.

Sandy Beach Shag Club decided to invite Mountain Shag Club to our Morganton Elks Lodge and make it a fundraiser for the efforts ongoing to help the immense task of providing some relief. It was a wonderful party with about 175 people attending and raising over \$4,000 plus all sorts of other material donations.

When people ask why should I become a member of a shag club, or why should our club join the Association of Carolina Shag Clubs, this is a prime example of strength in numbers, people helping people united by a common cause, and the love that permeates our entire organization.

By: John Carpenter
Photos by: Robin Bivins



SOS RE-UNION CRUISE #1

For all the 100+ cruisers who joined us on the SOS Re-Union Cruise #1, it was a great way to share great times with good friends for 10 days. But before we even left Port Canaveral, we were all treated to a rocket launch in Cocoa Beach, and it was awesome. We boarded the ship the next day and the party began. We were on our way to the Caribbean for 10 days of fun, sun, and great beach music spun by DJ Furman Dominick, who done a great job. We stopped at San Juan, St. Kit, and Puerta Plaza, where many had excursions and the best port party that we have ever been to. It was very festive, and the islanders made sure we all had a great time. A big thanks to MGA Travel and their staff for making sure we were in the right place at the right time. They done a marvelous job! These cruises are for SOS Shaggers and friends who like to get together and shag to the good life. We encourage you all to try to make the trip on SOS Re-Union Cruise #2 (October 2026)

Until we see you on the next adventure, we will see you at SOS Spring Safari.

Keep on Dancing! Ronnie Gregory



SOS Fun Monday

September 15, 2025

12 PM TO 5:30 PM, Main Street OD



The Swingin' Medallions



**East Coast Party Band
featuring Jackie Gore**



Gary Lowder & Smokin' Hot



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Ray
Scott**

**SOS Fun Monday
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3rd Ticket \$500 ~ 4th Ticket \$250 ~ 5th Ticket \$250



KEN AKIN, SOS/ACSC

BY: IronMike Townsend

July 1965 South China Sea. Throughout the night USS Ticonderoga launch and recovery operations bristled to accomplish her mission: find and destroy NVA PT boats sneaking south to attack US and Vietnamese ships. Runway lights illuminated steam rising from deck ops as Lieutenant Chuck Norris readied his A-1 Sky Raider for catapult into the dark. With his meticulous final inspection complete, Petty Officer Kenneth Akin gave the "clear to launch" thumbs up.

September 1966 Aiken, SC. His US Navy obligation completed, Ken Akin returned home, began a clothing store career that now spans 60-years, and married high school sweetheart Janice. Continuing his clothing career part-time, he eventually retired from Savannah River Westinghouse operations. In those same years, as if a family and two time-demanding jobs weren't enough, athletically gifted Ken Akin became an accomplished bicyclist, marathon runner, and triathlete. Still with unspent energy, good friend Johnny Turner introduced Ken and Janice to Shag dance in 1984. By 1990 Ken was CSRA club president and held ACSC and SOS board positions since then. Along the way Ken and Janice served on just about every CSRA committee; Ken as VP, President, and Chairman, three years each, then CSRA Shag Classic Chairman three years. For 23 years they were ACSC workshop principals. From 2010-2014 Ken was ACSC Vice Chair, Chairman 2014-18, and Past-Chair since. In 2014 he was named an ACSC ICON. In 2015 Janice and Ken were entered in the NBHOF. They are founding members of SOS Charitable Foundation and Ellen Taylor Jr Shaggers Foundation. And they've traveled hundreds of miles visiting dozens of clubs promoting ACSC, and SOS. They're near perfect SOS & ACSC attendees.

Question: What makes the dance we do special? Why do you still migrate to NMB twice each year? "At our 1st SOS in 1986 there was thrill in every direction, everybody was happy and excited. Being from a small town, the atmosphere was unique. There were thousands of joy-filled, very friendly people we didn't know, yet they all seemed anxious to make new friends. As much fun as our local club had been - this simply, was so much more. We loved it and wanted more. **Question:** You've lived an amazingly full active life, why take on so much even today? "It's true, you aren't working if you're doing what you want to do. The truth is I very much enjoy staying busy and only do things I want to do anymore."

Antidote #1: From a life dominated by marathons and Ironman triathlon competition, in the gym I became "IronMike." As the talk soaked in, a trace of self-assured snobbery occasionally slipped out. At SOS nearly 40 years ago, while on a 15-mile run, I was briefly joined by a fellow who claimed also to be a biker. Okay I said, "Meet me tomorrow morning" then had a dumb thought: "I'll show him who the boss is!" Surprised the next morning at his expensive looking almost as pretty as my custom made, wind-tunnel tested, mega \$ triathlon aero bike, did I mention overtaken by dumb? We turned back towards NMN About 20 miles out. Each time I picked up the pace he stayed right with me. Then, three times on the way back he passed me! **This dude passed IronMike!** On his 3rd pass I meekly said, "I need to save something for a run after this." As if he didn't hear me, or maybe he was just returning my pre-ride smug assessment, he hammered harder in the lead as I grasped for air! It is no fun telling about getting your butt kicked so I'll just report we rode 40 miles that day. At each SOS over the next 30-some years, we've met for 2-hour rides. Since learning he is three years my senior, I've thought more of myself as TinMike. You see, Ken Akin is one tuff dude. One of these days I'll ask: "Why didn't you tell me you were training to ride a bicycle from California to Georgia, before you kicked my butt?" **Antidote #2:** At the 2018 South Carolina Senior Games, competing in the over 75-age group, Ken won a Silver, two Gold Medals, and placed 4th in all-age-groups competition. **Antidote #3:** One fine evening three years ago there was an urgent message on my phone. "Ken crashed. He's in the hospital." I called back and was told his injuries were a broken collar bone, punctured lung, six broken ribs, lost blood and some serious road-rash. The genuinely concerned lady was startled when I said, "If that's all he'll be fine in a few days." Prompted by her stunned silence, I said, "Look, of all the people I know that I might worry about, Ken is not one of them. He is the strongest, most resilient man I know. Believe me, he has proven that many times." Did I mention Ken Akin is a tuff dude? **Antidote #4: 9/23/2024 (day after fall SOS)** I called my 82-year-old biking buddy to make sure he got home okay, to thank him for his time with me and friendship. Already back at his Lionel Smith clothing store job, my call interrupted his interaction with a customer. After we spoke, it came to me that this Ken Akin dude must have been the original inspiration for the Energizer Bunny commercial. And a prince of a man too.



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2025 National Shag Dance Championships Results- March 6-8

41ST
Contest

2025 NATIONAL SHAG
DANCE CHAMPIONSHIPS
MYRTLE BEACH, SOUTH CAROLINA

PROFESSIONAL DIVISION

- 1) Johnathan Kemp & Ivy Claire Huiet
- 2) Mack West & Karsyn Folds
- 3) Jeff Hargett & Nikki Kontoulas
- 4) William & Lani Greene
- 5) Adam Holmes & Erica Russell

MASTERS

- 1) Sam West & Sarah West Kemp
- 2) Milton Nowell, Jr. & Renee Scott
- 3) Rodger Woodson & Loretta McIntosh
- 4) James Parker & Jo Ann Hickman
- 5) Gerald Medford & Pat Folds

NON-PROFESSIONAL DIV.

- 1) Michael Bravo & Lauren Cookman
- 2) Henry Dowd & Vickey Van Frank
- 3) Tripp & Crystal Turner
- 4) Jeff Harmston & Mitzi Sheeks

JUNIORS DIVISION

- 1) Billy West & Ava Farlow
- 2) Bennett Rusmisell & Rebecca Hodges
- 3) Easton Brown & Liv Kirby
- 4) Zane Morgan & Maci Walters
- 5) Ben Smith & Genesis Beam
- 6) Hunter Matthews & Abigail Hodges
- 7) Jackson McLaughlin & Saddle Honeycutt
- 8) Mikah Velez & Graylen Kirby

SENIOR DIVISION

- 1) Joey & Jennifer Sogluizzo
- 2) Gene Pope & Tobitha Stewart
- 3) Keith Smith & Carmen Vaughn
- 4) Bruce Yates & Barbara Banks



★
Overall Champions:
Johnathan Kemp
Ivy Claire Huiet





Welcome Shaggers to another great and fun Spring Safari! While you are in town, we encourage you to visit the **North Myrtle Beach Area Historical Museum**. We have a good portion of our Museum dedicated to shag and beach music history. Some of the shag related items that we currently have on display are a gallery of Becky Stowe's artwork, Gene "Swink" Laughter (the creator of SOS) and our newest addition being the home to the South Carolina Shaggers Hall of Fame. Our Museum is a great place to unwind and take a breather, and learn something new whether its shag related or how the city of North Myrtle Beach became into existence.

Our board members Norfleet Jones and Jackie McGee, along with the rest of our board, encourage you to visit our Museum. Admission is **FREE** and we are conveniently located in the heart of Ocean Drive at 799 2nd Avenue North in North Myrtle Beach. You can visit us at anytime from 10 AM to 4 PM, Tuesdays through Saturdays. We look forward to you visiting us soon!

Life Saving Devices in the participating SOS Clubs



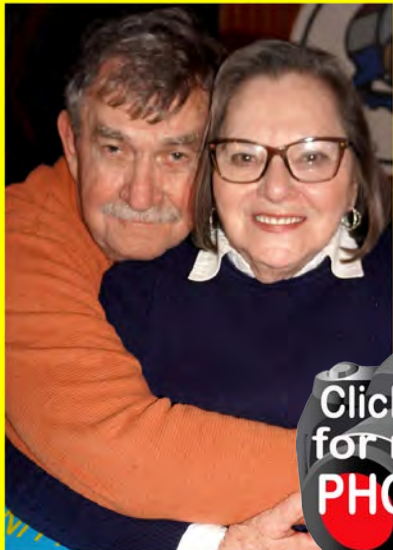
*Brenda Rosser
with defibrillator at
Fat Harold's Beach Club*

I don't know how many of you are aware that somewhere around 2007 S.O.S bought AED defibrillators and at that time placed one in each of our participating clubs. Fat Harold's, Duck's, Spanish Galleon, Pirate's Cove and the O.D. Arcade each have an AED. SOS pays for the maintenance, updating and training members of the staff on how to administer and operate these Life Saving devices. Over the years these irreplaceable devices have saved many lives. I would like to know the people these devices have saved and or affected. So, if you know someone or know someone that knows someone that has been saved by one of these devices I would like to hear your story. The story of how this device saved your life or someone you know. If you could send me the: Who, When, Where and How, I would love to capture these stories of how this simple, but Lifesaving device has changed your life or the person you know that was saved. The only story I know of for sure is Charlie Leonard from Charleston Shag Club from Charleston, SC. You can contact me at:

Dwayne Baggett
7342 Fayetteville Highway, Godwin, NC 28344 or
ncshagger88@yahoo.com or 910-850-6322

I look forward to hearing from anyone (phone call, email or snail mail) that has been touched or affected by these Lifesaving devices.

**Keep "Living The ShagLife" and Have a Great day,
Dwayne Baggett, SOS Board Member**



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OUR TIME Celebrates 37th Anniversary

By: Jim Coley

The Our Time organization celebrated their 37th anniversary on Friday, February 14, 2025, and Saturday, Friday, 15, 2025. The 2025 Our Time event was held at the O.D. Beach and Golf Resort.

This was the first year of our new format which did not include a warmup party on Thursday evening. We also did not have afternoon dancing on Saturday. This change of format was met with overwhelming favorable review from guests that were in attendance.

Our Time was organized in 1987 when a group of like-minded individuals came together with the intent of forming an organization of "Old Timers" to meet on an annual or semi-annual basis. In a subsequent meeting in 1987, the founding members agreed that the organization would be known as "Our Time".

The founding members wanted the organization to focus on the "Older Music" (no disco or Motown) as well as controlling the maximum attendance. It was decided by the founding members that this goal of attendance would be obtained by establishing hosts that could invite up to 13 couples. It was agreed to limit the number of hosts to 25. This limit of hosts is still valid. Currently, hosts have the ability to invite up to 12 couples. Over the years, we have had hosts retire, and unfortunately, we have lost too many hosts over the past 37 years. When it is necessary to replace hosts, the remaining hosts nominate and vote on the new hosts.

The very first Our Time was held at Harold's on the weekend of February 5th and 6th, 1988. In the following years, Our Time was held at various locations in North Myrtle Beach with the weekend immediately preceding President's Day (third Monday in February) being agreed to in 1989 as the best weekend for the party as some members/guests did have President's Day off as it is recognized as a federal holiday.

To this day, with very few exceptions, the guidance of our founding members is still being adhered to today. For additional information on the Our Time event, please contact Jim Coley at jrcoley@live.com.





North Carolina Shaggers helping out HOF Foundation "Friends helping Friends"

It is time to CELEBRATE!! Back in 2007 on March 29 the North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles released the NC Shag Tag!! Now for a little history. Three years before, a dream was formed for the North Carolina shaggers to have their own DMV license plate. With the help of Senator Tony Rand and David Hoyle to get the Bill passed. The work really started after the bill was passed to make it happen. Three hundred license plates had to be presold before the NCDMV would stamp the first plate. There were several different volunteers across the state that helped presale the ShagTag within their shag club. There was even a Pre-Release Party that was held at TJ's Nitelife in Raleigh. So, after the first 300 ShagTags were paid for the NCDMV started shipping the tags to people eagerly awaiting to place them on their cars. When you see these tags scattered across the state, just know that the person that is showcasing these tags has made a difference in a lot of lives. When each one of these tags is sold or renewed every year \$5 of each plate is collected by the state and is donated to the Hall of Fame Foundation. You know all the good things that the HOFF has done over the years of their existence. So, after all these years with your help the ShagTag has generated over \$60,000 for the HOFF. So, to ALL of the NC Shaggers please contact your NCDMV to get your very own ShagTag and help support the HOFF.

Keep "Living The ShagLife" and Have a Great day, Dwayne Baggett

SOS Tram Service *SOS Member Benefit*

April 25-26, Friday - Saturday
May 1-3, Thursday - Saturday
7 PM - 2 AM

Just Call Trip's for PICK-UP

FREE RIDE with SOS Card during above time/dates!



SOS Shuttle provided by Trip's Taxi

843-997-9331

2025 JUNIOR SHAG DANCE TEAM UPDATES:

Happy Spring Safari SOS to all who read this message and publication!

The Junior Shag Dance Team has been very busy this year with learning a new routine that Brennar Goree & Jennifer and Joey Sogluizzo have created for the team to keep them learning and progressing in their craft! They have been practicing hard under the additional leadership of Ashley and Tobitha Stewart, and Kayla Henley alongside Brennar, Jennifer, & Joey. Gene and Nancy Pope, our advisors, have been helping encourage new and fun fundraising ideas for this season. We have two first time members from Jacksonville, FL, as well as, two returning sisters from Jacksonville, FL! NC, SC and Florida are well represented again this year with our 12 team members. The 2025 team members are Zane Morgan, Maci Walters, Joel Sogluizzo, Jackson McLaughlin, Saddle Honeycutt, Parker Caldwell, Abigail Hodges, Hunter Matthews, Rebecca Hodges, Claire Fogel, William Benoit, & Abrielle Benoit. We will have several more practices between now and our first appearance and performance at the 2025 USA Grand Nationals Dance Championships (GNDC) in Atlanta, GA during Memorial Day weekend hosted by Michael & Leann Norris! We cannot wait for our first performance.



Next, we have some exciting news that the JSOT will be attending The French Open in Paris, France the weekend after GNDC! The last time we went to The French Open was in 2019. To say this event was amazing is an understatement! If you were to ask any of our families, they would say it was a lasting memory that we still look back on today. All of the Juniors who made that trip with us in 2019 are out of college or graduating, some married and all have established the beginnings of a great career for themselves. We are confident that new family memories will be created and made during this amazing journey! We look forward to continuing to spread the love we have of Shag to the world and promoting our dance and music far and wide!

Our season continues with Jr. SOS and then our perennial trip to The Open World Swing Dance Championships in Burbank, California during Thanksgiving weekend! We hope that all the effort, time and energy these Juniors and their families exhaust will make our community proud of what has been and is being developed amongst our Juniors! Thank you for your time and consideration and have a ton of fun during Spring Safari SOS!

Keep shagging, JSOT Leadership

The Best Kept Secret of SOS

Most SOS card carrying shag club members can tell you what Fall Migration is all about, or what happens at Fun Monday. There is one significant portion of SOS that most people do not know anything about, and that is The SOS Charitable Foundation. To be honest, while I was president of our club I had heard the name but I knew relatively nothing of significance about it.

Our Shag world is a wondrous place if you come to realize everything good that is happening around us! I have had the privilege over the years of talking to many club presidents helping in various ways and one of the aspects I heard often is that their club was interested in doing charitable acts. Some clubs have even gone through the difficult process of becoming 501(c) 3 organizations. This is a charitable non-profit organization. Most of our clubs are social non-profit 501(c) 7. This does not mean they cannot do works of charity. It affects whether people can claim deductions on their personal taxes or not.

So, what is this Charitable Foundation, and why should we even care? Well simply put, this is the charitable arm of the Society of Stranders. Our leaders who purchased SOS wanted eventually to do good things for others besides partying and dancing. Currently, all the funds in the Foundation come from Fun Monday ticket sales. When your club receives its allotment of these tickets during Spring SOS, we all must understand how important the selling of them becomes. After the costs of putting on the free concert, and paying the prize money to winners of the drawing are completed, the remaining money goes into the Charitable Foundation to be used as the SOS Charitable Board deems appropriate. So, if your club has a very worthwhile charity that is a 501(c) 3, you can apply to the Foundation by going to shagdance.com, where Mary Gregory will be making it available or you can contact me. We donate to national and local charities. So if you or your club wants to do great things to help other people, let us do the work for you and all you have to do is sell Fun Monday tickets!

The SOS Charitable Foundation helped to start the Dr. Phill Sawyer Scholarship Fund at the University of South Carolina which is awarded to the school of dance recipient with an interest in the Shag. The Foundation donated \$20,000 in 2006 and the ACSC donated \$5,000 to endow this Fund. Recently, Tunnels to Towers and Samaritan's purse received donations.



Please do not allow your tickets to be turned back in unsold. Sadly, this happens too frequently. We are a volunteer organization and we strive to have the money go to the best organizations who do not have excessive management costs. If you need great and clever ways to sell the Fun Monday tickets, please reach out to us. Our current Board members are Rosemary Parten, Billy Parten, Cecil Martin, Mary Robinette, Foster McKinney, and John Carpenter.

John Carpenter, Chairman

2025 Beth Mitchell Memorial Contest

By: Pat & Archer Joyce

Photos by: Max Madrin

The annual contest was again held at the Wyndham Gardens in Greensboro, NC on January 4, 2025. Forty five sponsors and 49 dancers attended along with a room full of cheering, supportive spectators. Five divisions danced to the music of DJ Hall of Famer Craig Jennings as they were photographed by our legendary photo guru shag Hall of Famer Max Madrin. Each division put on a show for the crowd, especially the younger juniors. Juniors 1 & 2 and Pro/Hall of Fame divisions danced a Mixed Doubles format to DJ choice of music. Amateur and Novice danced with their regular partners to their choice of music.

Since 2004 \$156,629 has been raised locally to support the Beth Mitchell Memorial Scholarship and fifty four recipients have been awarded. The 2025 event raised \$15,760.....our largest sum to date. (And this is considering folks already having made donations to the western NC mountains for hurricane relief.) Additional funds are also always raised by the National Shag Dance Championships, North Myrtle Beach, SC.

The Wyndham Gardens has been very supportive of this event for the second year with excellent facilities and we plan to have the next event there on January 10, 2026. The banquet room was set up perfectly for a dance contest with plenty of room and a good dance floor. Conveniently, Trip Turner and Don Henley provided hot dogs and barbeque within the banquet room and donated proceeds to the fund.....many thanks to them.

Many thanks again to the planning committee for decorations, snacks, coordination and providing administrative help during the contest. The committee members are: Darrell Gaither, Vickie Chambers, Marsha and Les Rose, Tina and John Phillips, Merinda and Jason Swaim, Nancy Lee Mitchell (Beth's mom), Archer Joyce and Chair Patricia Joyce.

Junior 1

3. Claire Fogel and Jackson McLaughlin
2. Saddle Honeycutt and Joel Sogluizzo
1. Liv Kirby and Easton Brown

Junior 2

3. Emma Dorton (no male)
2. Graylen Kirby and Ben Smith
1. Maci Walters and Bennett Rusmisell

Amateur

3. Debbie Nayman and Barry McDonald
2. Lisa Stegall and Paul Thomas
1. Mitzi Sheeks and Jeff Harmston

Novice

3. Cheryl and Clay Parker
2. Kali Walters and Connor Harris
1. Merinda and Jason Swaim

Pro/Hall of Fame

3. Tobitha Stewart and Caleb Kirk
2. Jennifer and Joey Sogluizzo
1. Kayla Henley and Scott Campbell



Applicants for the scholarship have to be received by February 17, 2026 and applicants must have danced at least once in the National Shag Dance Championships to be eligible. Applications can be found online.