a note from the club President

Well folks, January is done and gone. We made it through the snow and frigid cold and danced every week. CSC even finished out the last two weeks with 110 plus each week. I think the First Annual Chili and Cornbread Cook-Off was a great success and added to the numbers. Thanks to everyone who went to the time and expense to make chili and cornbread, and to those who brought desserts. Congratulations to our Chili winner, Ed Land, who will be sharing his White Chicken Chili recipe, and to Kim Downing for sharing her winning cornbread recipe. Look for them on our website soon.

We congratulate Jerry Nichols, who will be inducted into the Virginia Shaggers Hall of Fame during the March 23-25 weekend ceremony at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in downtown Hampton. If you would like to attend, see Jerry or ask one of our other Hall of Famers (see page 4 for more info).

Do you have a bucket list? Whether in your mind or written down, I’m sure most of us have one. Cyd and I were able to fill one third of our Shag Bucket List Trifecta when we represented our club at the Association of Carolina Shag Clubs (ACSC) meeting at the Mid-Winter SOS. The meeting was short and informative, but hardly interfered with the main event, the dancing. Must be that beach music. Luckily, we were chaperoned and guided by two wonderful couples who kept us out of trouble and introduced us to about half of the shaggers in the country. For three nights, we had a ringside seat for an hour of watching Charlie and Jackie, and the rest of the night watching some mighty fine dancers at Duck’s. I didn’t put a checkmark on the list for dancing with Jackie, though. It was always early in the evening and I hadn’t had enough shots of courage. Next time. We’re looking forward to checking off those other two parts of the Trifecta at a Spring and Fall SOS. If you’ve never been to an SOS, Mid-Winter is a great way to see what it’s all about. Just be sure to hire some good guides.

One of the things I noticed at SOS was the dance floor etiquette. All of the shaggers lined up their slots in the same direction. That’s important for shagging to help avoid collisions. We don’t do shag police, but I do encourage folks to look up some articles on dance floor etiquette (one such article is on page 4). Especially our newer dancers. We’ll get some posted on our website too.

I have one other big item on my Shag Bucket List. I want to dance with every lady that comes to our club social at least once. That’s a tough one to fill. So many women. So little time. I’m asking all of you gentlemen to help me with that too. Ask one of those unaccompanied ladies to dance and help to make her night memorable. And ladies, shag etiquette allows you to ask too.

I would like to thank everyone for their generosity and support of our DJs. Our tip system is one that has worked well for our DJs, our club, and I think for our members. A date night at CSC is about as inexpensive as you’ll find. Good music, dancing, BYOB, and on most nights free food. Happy wife, happy life? Happy DJ, you can dance the night away.

Finally, Claire Puckett, a long time member of CSC passed away January 16 (see page 4). Please keep David Holmes and Claire’s family in your thoughts and prayers.

Tim Kroskey

Board Meetings

Typically, a board meeting is held the second Monday of each month at Two Left Feet Dance Studio. If interested in attending any particular board meeting, check with a board member for exact time.

Any regular member is welcome to attend a board meeting as a “visitor.”
The beat goes on thanks to our club board of directors and committees

Directors and Officers
President: Tim Kroskey — 757-870-0234, tckroskey@yahoo.com
Vice President: Jerry Nichols — 757-532-2722, jerrylana@verizon.net
Recording Secretary: J R Jones — 757-593-2509, jj1s5522@gmail.com
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Committees
Audit — Lisa Jones
Budget — Rosalie Mitchell
Beverage — Joe Mitchell
Cards — Diane Capps
Charity — Suzanne Kolesha, Tim Kroskey
Christmas party — Marion Butsavage, Rosalie Mitchell, Connie Sledd
Communications
Newsletter — Lloyd Pitzen
Social Media (Facebook) — Lisa Jones
Website — Joe Mitchell
Dance instruction — Darla Frederick
Elections — TBD
Junior program — Joe Mitchell
Hospitality — Sheila Kerr-Jones
Membership — Heldur & Beth Liivak
Music — Jerry Nichols
Nominating — Dee Fertitta (chairperson), Pat Hughes, JR Jones, Jerry Nichols, Laura Smith.
Photographer — TBD
Social — Elena Gilmore
Venue negotiations — Joe Mitchell, Jerry Nichols, Harry Walthall
Venue Operations — J R Jones
Ways & Means (50/50 raffle)— Janie Tompkins

Happy birthday

1  Carolyn Felder
18  Betty Hargrave
2  Brickey Hughes
1  Donna Templeton
2  Shirley Baucom
22  Edna Beddingfield
2  Laura Smith
22  Janie Tompkins
7  Brenda Pollock
24  Cyd Kroskey
9  David Miller
27  Debbie Fertitta
11  George Oehler
27  Diane Underhill
16  Nancy Mason
28  Pat Hughes
17  Suzanne Kolesha

Colonial Shag Club
A Proud Member
Of The:

National Association

Where are they now?
This photo was taken at a club social at Mitty’s (later known as Tribeca) in October 2005
Dance lessons at the club’s Saturday night socials 6-7pm

- A six-week series of beginner shag dance lessons begins the first week of each odd-numbered month. The lessons are progressive — starting with the basic steps and adding a few turns/moves in the following weeks.
- After six weeks of beginner lessons, beyond basic lessons will be given for the remainder of the month.

To see what’s happening at Two Left Feet Dance studio go to twoleftfeetdancestudio.net

To get the latest info on our club events, go to Colonialshagclub.com

Other Shag Dance Events

Virginia Beach Shag Club Mix & Mingle Wednesdays at The Yacht Club at Marina Shores, Virginia Beach. See VBshagclub.com

Boogie On the Bay Shag Club social — Friday nights at Big Woody’s in Chesapeake Square Mall in Chesapeake

Lessons by Boogie on the Bay Shag Club instructors Tom Edwards and Marsha Ruth — every Tuesday night at Big Woody’s in Chesapeake Square Mall in Chesapeake, 7-9pm

Northern Neck Shaggers — dancing every Thursday night at KC’s Crabs and Cues on Rt. 200 a few miles north of Kilmarnock, Virginia. Deejay Greg Howell. See Northern Neck Shaggers on Facebook

For your Beach Music listening pleasure ...

Larry’s Beach Party” Live radio show - WFOS 88.7 FM - Saturdays from noon to 4pm. Listen online at www.cpschools.com (select WFOS Live Radio).
**Shag Dance Etiquette**

Below are some of the more common shag dance rules borrowed from other shag websites. These are not meant to be negative - only suggestions on how to keep things pleasant when you find yourself dancing cheek-to-cheek.

1. **Ask me to dance** - It is equally permissible for a woman to ask a man as it is for a man to ask a woman to dance. Take your partner's hand onto the dance floor and at the end of the dance thank your partner.

2. **No thank you** — If you don't want to dance, say “No thank you.” Don't dance with someone else if you just turned down a request to dance. Please, if someone says "no thanks" do not be persistent, take them at their word.

3. **Let it be** — It is not polite to correct your partner on the dance floor. Remember this is a social club (have fun).

4. **Teaching** — It is not polite to offer instruction to someone in a social dance setting (or in a dance class if you are not the instructor). Let's face it, you may be the one doing the step wrong. Unless they ask for help or are hurting you, don't teach. If your partner requests help, kindly take them off to the side away from the other social dancers.

5. **Dancing up a sweat** - Ew, what's that odor. If you perspire a lot, pace your dancing or bring a change of shirt or blouse.

6. **Dancers bump into the nicest people** — and it isn't even a contact sport. Be aware of the dancers around you! If you bump into someone, kick someone or step on someone's foot, or if they bump into you, apologize whether it was your fault or theirs. Show concern that no serious injury has occurred. It's a fairly accepted practice that when a collision occurs, apologize, EVEN if it wasn't your fault. Leaders, protect your partner, since you are directing her movements, you need to be sure to protect her safety.

7. **Dancers use selective floor placement** — Find your Spot and keep your Slot! The first person on the floor usually has the right to set the slot of the dance. Dance Small! If you require 1/2 of the floor in order to do your thing, you need to change your thing! Nobody likes to be pushed around on the floor. Also save the arm waving, clapping and hand dancing for Flag Day as they may end up in another person's face. Sorry, but unless you're on a stage, you're not the only one on the floor.

8. **Dance floor traffic** — Please step off the dance floor if you're not dancing. If you are drinking a beverage of any kind or smoking, keep off the dance floor because of damage to the floor.

9. **How long have you been dancing?** — Leaders, if dancing with a less experienced partner, keep the steps simple at first and build to the level that your partner can handle. Leading should be defined as "the art of making your partner comfortable." Work as a team, don't showboat.

10. **SHHHHHH** — Leaders, if you must count and give verbal leads, keep it low enough that just you and your partner can hear. It can confuse those around you and besides, just because you can count doesn't mean "you are on the beat."

(excepted from Coastal Shag Club web site)