



# The Colonial Crier

newsletter of

**Colonial Shag Club, Inc.**

a member of the Association of Carolina Shag Clubs (ACSC)

January 2021

Hampton, Newport News, York County, Poquoson, Williamsburg, Virginia Founded In 2001

## President's corner

2021 Happy New Year

First, let me wish you a belated Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas also. Maybe the new year will get me back on schedule. Maybe I'll have something dance related to write about. Like the beginning of all new years, this one is full of maybes and hope.



The vaccines. For folks of your advanced years, there should be hope for a return to dancing, music, and seeing our friends. Maybe they will allow us to return to our favorite venues, to have our outdoor concerts, and to shake each other's hands or share a hug. Maybe.

Your Colonial Shag Club board will be meeting in a few weeks to try to formulate a plan for the coming year. We will hopefully be letting you know if and when we can reopen and find our new normal. Until that time, keep practicing your basic. In case you've forgotten, that's up together back, back in place, rock-step.

In closing, I would ask you to remember the friends and shaggers that we lost last year, the members who are ill this year, and offer up a prayer for them and their families.

I hope to see you all real soon, and maybe, just maybe, it will be on the dance floor.

Tim Kroskey  
El Presidente CSC

## Colonial Shag Club

A Proud Member  
Of The:



Colonial Shag Club, Inc.  
P.O. Box 12104  
Newport News, VA 23612-2104  
shag@colonialshagclub.com

Through the National FastDance Association, our club  
dance activities are licensed by:



## Are we having a piece of the American Pie?

We are frozen in a rock step. We rocked back on 6 and the music died. We anxiously await the next beat so we can move forward on 1.

An excerpt from the song *American Pie* by Don McClean is

A long, long time ago, I can still remember  
How that music used to make me smile  
And I knew if I had my chance  
That I could make those people dance  
And maybe they'd be happy for a while

But February made me shiver, with every  
paper I'd deliver  
Bad news on the doorstep, I couldn't take  
one more step

...  
But something touched me deep inside the  
day the music died

So bye, bye Miss American Pie

..... by Lloyd Pitzen

# The beat goes on thanks to out

## club board of directors and committees

### Directors and Officers

*President:* Tim Kroskey – 757-870-0234,  
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*Vice President:* Sheila Kerr-Jones — 757-262-  
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*Recording Secretary:* J R Jones — 757-593-2509,  
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*Corresponding Secretary:* Joe Mitchell —  
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Marion Butsavage – 757-486-0277, pupraven@aol.com

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### Committees

*Beverage* — Sheila Kerr-Jones

*Cards* — Diane Capps

*Charity* — Sheila Kerr-Jones

*Christmas party* — Connie Sledd

#### Communications

*Newsletter* — Lloyd Pitzen

*Social Media* (Facebook) — Lisa Jones, Connie Sledd

*Website* — Joe Mitchell

*Dance instruction* — Jerry Nichols

*Junior program* — Joe Mitchell

*Membership* — Cyd Kroskey

*Music* — Tim Kroskey

*Nominating* — tbd

*Photographers* — Alan Michaelis, Malcolm Mann

*Social* — tbd

*Venue negotiations* — Joe Mitchell, Jerry Nichols, Harry Walthall

*Venue Operations* — J R Jones

*Venue Supplies* — John Bright, Christina Campana, Malcom  
Mann, Stan Crocket, Patty Swan

*Ways & Means (50/50 raffle)*— J R Jones



### January

2 Lydia Mugler	11 Lisa Jones
4 Rex Walker	13 Chris Coolican
4 Cal Woolard	17 Michael Guida
5 Debbie Jenkins	17 Margie McRae
5 Sarah McCartney	22 Kathy Arnaud
6 Carson Thompson	25 Lana Nichols
7 Judy Cassani	26 Tom Monahan
7 Dee Fertitta	27 Bob Vance
11 Rose Howell	28 Laverne Barrow
11 J R Jones	31 Bill Harnsberger

### Belated happy birthday wishes for December

2 Joey Braudrick	16 Peggy Hemphill
2 Karen MacDougall	16 Delaine Milton
3 Craig Sinclair	21 Danny Baker
5 Debra L. Jones	25 Sandra Alford
8 Buzz League	26 Donna Reese
9 Hal Lare	27 Mike Dyson
10 Ben Parson	27 Lin Hines
12 Tammy Deramo	27 Renee Lare
13 Valerie Mitchell	28 Jerry Nichols
16 Marilyn Eubank	

**A December 2020 newsletter edition was not published**

### For your Beach Music listening pleasure ...

Larry's Beach Party™ Live radio show - WFOS  
88.7 FM - Saturdays from noon to 4pm. Listen on  
line at [www.cpschools.com](http://www.cpschools.com) (select WFOS Live  
Radio).

The coronavirus has not stopped Larry from  
broadcasting music.

The Colonial Crier is published monthly for the Colonial Shag  
Club members.

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## Becky Stowe, SOS artist since 1993, passed away on the last day of 2020, not leaving an empty void

As the scheduled time for Fall SOS 2020 came and passed with the event being cancelled, Becky decided not to do a painting for it even though she had done a painting for every spring and fall SOS since 1987 (even for the cancelled Spring 2020 SOS and the cancelled Fall 2018 SOS). At the end of November, she changed her mind and began work on a painting because, in her words, she “**cannot leave an empty void.**” She finished the painting in December

Like Judy Collins, who opened Judy’s House of Oldies in 1987 and died in April 2019, Becky can be thought of as an institution in the Ocean Drive/Main Street mecca of shag dancing in North Myrtle Beach. Along with her other artwork that focused on the beach and shag dancing community, she created a commemorative, limited edition print for each spring and fall S.O.S. event.

Those of you who have gone to SOS events are likely familiar with Becky’s store, *Beach Memories*, which was a stone’s throw away from Judy’s House of Oldies and opened two years after Judy’s opened. Becky’s artwork was displayed and could be purchased in Becky’s store.

The Beach Memories store closed a few days after the Fall 2017 SOS. Becky’s products are still available for sale, even after her death, online at [BeachmemoriesNMB.com](http://BeachmemoriesNMB.com).

Becky’s postings on Facebook touch one’s heart and, as such, are quoted below. In summary, the posting tell of Becky deciding to do an SOS painting after the SOS-would-have-been date passed, doing a painting while feeling sick, later finding that she is sick from cancer, and two weeks later passing away.

On November 30<sup>th</sup>, Becky posted:

THE 2ND SOS THAT NEVER WAS AND ONE WE SHOULD NEVER FORGET!

Earlier this morning as I sat at my window overlooking the waterway feeling sad and watching the rain and wind, a beautiful red cardinal landed on my bird feeder. My bird feeder is almost touching my window. He pranced around while looking at me but never ate. I don't know why but I started to cry. I thought about it after he left that maybe he wanted me to know there is HOPE, an end insight and that things will get better with this Covid virus.. I pray that's it! Some of us can't take much more!

I got sick the week before thanksgiving for about 9 days. It was a nasty stomach virus. I tested

negative for covid. During this time I slept a lot (well when not making trips to the bathroom!) I did a lot of thinking about Fall SOS 2020 and all the friends we have lost and those that are still fighting the virus. I did not do a print for this fall like I did last spring SOS. I could not bring myself to do it! After a lot of consideration I have changed my mind. I cannot leave an empty void! I have never missed doing the SOS prints since I started in 1987! I realized this is history in the making. Not a good history but history none the less. It should be remembered and passed on to our grandchildren and their children and so on! So today I will begin working on the Fall SOS 2020 print. It will be one of the hardest I've ever done. I'll let you know when it is published. If you purchase a print, part of the proceeds will go to the HALL of FAME FOUNDATION.

May God bless you and keep you safe my friends. And please say a prayer for our beloved Vickie Harrison as she is in the hospital fighting this dreadful virus.

Love, Becky, your SOS Artist in Residence.

On December 6<sup>th</sup>, Becky posted:

I have the damn Covid-19! Good thing is I’m recovering with good meds. It’s a mild to moderate case however 2 weeks of fevers completely drained me! I am almost finished with the painting for Fall SOS 2020, the SOS that never was! Soon I hope!

On December 8th, Becky posted that she finished the painting for SOS. And on December 17<sup>th</sup>, she posted:

I do not have the Covid virus. I have CANCER. It has metastasized in my liver. Now the oncologist needs to find the primary source of the cancer in order to proceed with treatment.

I ask humbly for your prayers

Approximately two hours before year 2020 ended, Becky passed away.

Becky’s Facebook page is still active as a memorial and is maintained by her daughter.

Notes:

Concerning the reference to Vicki Harrison in one of Becky’s Facebook entries, Vicki is out of the hospital and is healing at home. Vicki Gilreath Harrison, as the SOS Facebook Page Administrator, is the communicator of what’s going on in the SOS world.

Judie’s House of Oldies closed in July 2020 due to the coronavirus