



# FLORENCE SHAG CLUB

## MARCH 2019

### NEWSLETTER



Hello FSC Members,

It was a lovely Valentines Party. I extend a huge thank you to our members for the wonderful food and party preparation and especially for the outstanding attendance.

Our next party will be the St. Paddy's Party scheduled March 15th. We are selling tickets for a chance to win a Leprechaun's Basket Full of Surprises to be given away at the party. Tickets are \$5.00 each and are on sale Friday nights at the Circle Fountain. You do not have to be present to win. We will call you should your name be selected.

Details of the FSC Golf Tournament have come together. It's scheduled on May 23rd at the Florence Country Club. The flyer and registration form are posted on the Flyers Page on our website, [www.florenceshagclub.com](http://www.florenceshagclub.com). We are looking for businesses or groups that will sponsor a hole at \$100 a hole. The sponsor's name will be displayed at each hole as well as listed on our website and in our newsletter. We will be glad to post their business cards on our website for the rest of the year as an advertising incentive for them. Help us spread the word.

The Circle Fountain owners have asked that we not have a DJ scheduled the following Fridays this year; March 1st, April 26, May 3, September 13 and 20th due to shag events at the beach. Please respect their decisions and remember to thank them for allowing the FSC to dance on Friday nights.

The 2019 SOS cards are officially on sale for \$30 each. You will need this card to enter the clubs during Spring and Fall SOS this year. See an officer on Friday nights, or contact VP Bayne Hayes, at the Circle to purchase a card.

Thanks to all our members for your continued support and many kind words,

Hilda Bowen, President 2019

#### **\*Our Purpose\***

The purpose of the Florence Shag Club shall be to preserve, encourage and promote the education and perpetuation of the Shag, to provide social activities at which emphasis is placed on the dance, and to inform its members of beach music and Shag dancing activities. May Florence Shag Club forever be a part of our lives as we keep on Shagging!

#### **2019 Officers**

Hilda Bowen-President  
[Email-hbowen@sc.rr.com](mailto:Email-hbowen@sc.rr.com)

Bayne Hayes-Vice President  
[Email-bhayes68@sc.rr.com](mailto:Email-bhayes68@sc.rr.com)

Judy Collins-Secretary  
[Email-judycollins@sc.rr.com](mailto:Email-judycollins@sc.rr.com)

Dan Coggin-Treasurer  
[Email-dcoggin@bellsouth.com](mailto:Email-dcoggin@bellsouth.com)

#### **Directors 2019**

Lou Vause -2<sup>nd</sup> term ends 12/31/19

Jerry O'Neal - 2<sup>nd</sup> term ends 12/31/20

Dennis Osborne -1<sup>st</sup> term ends 12/31/21  
 Email:  
[florenceshagclub@aol.com](mailto:florenceshagclub@aol.com)  
 Web:  
[www.florenceshagclub.com](http://www.florenceshagclub.com)  
**Address: Florence Shag Club**  
**PO Box 5538**  
**Florence, SC 29502**

## ***A little Shag history.....***

The birth of the dance called Shag had its beginning in the midst of young people lumped together seeking the pleasures of life. Young people would leave the city and farm and head to the hot, sultry places mainly in the North Myrtle Beach area. They would gather around the pavilions and the dance floors were transformed into a stage of performing arts. The dance steps were adopted and toned down from the jitterbug.

Many people are responsible for the beginning of the dance, among them a young man named Billy Jeffers from Florence. As far back as 1937, Billy and group of friends would gather at the Timrod Park swimming pool and dance to the sounds of the jukebox after the sun went down. With a history of asthma Billy's steps were slow and smooth making his own time to the fast paced jitterbug music. Billy was also influenced by the circle style of the Big Apple and Lindy Hop. Legend has it that it was during those beach summers that Billy Jeffers conceived the elegance of form that would become the basic shag steps that is performed by many today. A variety of steps have been created from the basic eight count step. Mirror steps have become part of the creativity as couples develop their own style. An application of jazz philosophy to the science of human locomotion has often been used to describe the art of shagging. The dancer feels the beat and reacts with primarily movement of feet motion.

The Big Apple, a dance hall for black people, was founded in Columbia. A dance called the Big Apple had a basic step called the "shuffle" derived from an ancient African Circle dance performed in linear fashion with beat and rhythm. White kids would frequent the Big Apple and observe from the balcony the people as they danced. Originators of the Shag did not adhere to the rapid tempo of these dances and proceeded to develop a slower style of dance known as the jitterbug. The term Shag came to light in the 1940's after the beach bums had perfected a style of their own with a much slower tempo.

As interest in the Shag began to increase so came the beginning of WWII. Many young men left the dance floor to march in foreign fields. Some of these shaggers never returned from the war to dance at the pavilions on the grand strand.

By 1946, the shag was in a post-embryonic stage. The music was great and steps were being created that focused on feet with very little

movement of the upper body. Crouching seen in the jitterbug was gone and the pivot step appeared.

When shagging, the female's part of the dance is to hold the beat with the basic step while the male performs all the fancy footwork and turns. The development of a good basic helps greatly in shag dancing. Rhythm is set by the female in visual terms.

Shagging waned but withstood Elvis Presley, the Beatles and the Motown sounds. During the Viet Nam era from 1968 to 1973 the Shag seemed to disappear. In 1973, Shad Alberty, a shag old timer and his wife, Brenda, began actively promoting the shag by teaching and promoting competition. A shag revival was started as hundreds of people began to take lessons.

It was during that time that one of the original beach bums of the fifties, Gene Laughter, was inspired to have a reunion of those who once shagged at the beach. It took a few years but in September 1980 the reunion brought two thousand people. They all crowded into Fat Harold's clubs, Duck's, and The Pad at Ocean Drive to relive memories of their younger days. A party it was, reminiscing, catching up, and of course dancing. The party was a success!

Hence, the Society of Strangers, (SOS) was formed. The group began to make plans for a return. In the years to follow thousands of shaggers, old and new, gathered again. In addition to the Fall Migration in September there is a gathering in April for Spring Safari and now a party in January called Mid-Winter. The parties have increased each year in attendance reaching an approximate total of 10,000 in 1995 at Fall Migration.

In 1984, Bubber Snow, a member of the House of Representatives from Hemingway, SC, introduced a bill to make the Shag the official state dance for South Carolina. The bill passed and the dance began to grow even more in popularity.

The Shag Preservation Society was formed. The Association of Carolina Shag Clubs (ACSC) headed by Phil Sawyer from Columbia was initiated and the Shag Hall of Fame, Living Legends, and Shag Icons evolved from these formations. Each year shag clubs across the country donate thousands of dollars to Camp Kemo, a camp for children with terminal illness. Harold Bessent was instrumental in forming Camp Kemo and camp fundraisers. He also had many clubs through the years that provided a place to dance the shag.

From the early days of the Lindy Hop and the jitterbug to the smoothness seen in the present day style, people have become a part of the legend of the dance called the Shag and the legacy lives on.



***LOVE THE DANCE – LOVE THE MUSIC***





# March 2019 DJ's & Birthdays



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 DJ ThrowDown NO DJ BD Kathy Jamison	2
3	4 BD James Ward	5 BD Jeannette Barefoot	6	7	8 DJ John Smith  BD Janice Welch	9 BD Ronny Hardee
10 BD Cathy Martin	11	12	13	14	15 DJ Dennis Brumble St. Paddy's Party 	16 BD Ronnie Banks
17 St Patrick's Day 	18	19 BD Ron Lewis	20	21 BD Teresa McDonald	22 DJ Dan Spivey  BD Ann Matthews	23
24	25	26	27	28 BD Gregg Rogers	29 DJ Roy Childress BD Michael Best & Reginald Moody	30

### Thoughts and Prayers

Gerry Hayes' mother took a bad fall at her home. She fractured her sternum and possibly some ribs. She was treated at McLeod for dehydration and extreme pain. She is home with Bayne and Gerry to convalesce. Please keep her and the family in your prayers for a swift healing and pain free days.



If you know a member, or family member, that you would like to be on our prayer list let us know by email to [florencheshagclub@aol.com](mailto:florencheshagclub@aol.com) or contact an officer and we will pass it on to our members.

## AMBROSIA SALAD

2 cans pineapple chunks, drained  
2 cans mandarin oranges, drained  
2 jars maraschino cherries, drained  
1 can coconut flakes  
1/2 bag mini marshmallows

4 oz. sour cream

16 oz. Cool Whip

Combine sour cream and Cool Whip. Fold in all other ingredients. Chill covered for at least 2 hours.



### What does it mean to be a shag club member?

Let's see... Webster says a "constituent part of a whole". It takes the members working together as a whole to keep the group together and to have further growth of the club. Everyone must play their part. Not everyone needs to perform the same task, and some are better at different tasks than others. The club can't function without the members. Without the members, there is no party. Without a party, you don't get to talk to your friends and dance. Therefore, participate, support your club by coming to the dances, promote the club, work for the club, and bring new friends with you.



# FLORENCE SHAG CLUB



PRESENTS

OUR ANNUAL ST. PADDY'S PARTY

FRIDAY MARCH 15<sup>TH</sup> AT THE

CIRCLE FOUNTAIN



FLORENCE, SC.



Including a

## Leprechaun's Basket of Surprises

### Drawing

**\$5.00 A TICKET FOR A CHANCE TO WIN ALL THIS**

<p>Five Bottles:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Captain Morgan's Spiced Rum</li> <li>2. Seagram's X-Dry Gin</li> <li>3. Lemon Lime vodka</li> <li>4. Crown Royal Apple</li> <li>5. Kendal Jackson Chardonnay</li> </ol>	<p>Three \$30 Gift Certificates to shop:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Belk</li> <li>2. Lowes</li> <li>3. Walmart</li> </ol>	<p>Five \$30 Restaurant Gift Certificates:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Tubb's Seafood</li> <li>2. Red Bone Alley</li> <li>3. Red Lobster</li> <li>4. Percy &amp; Willies</li> <li>5. Stefanos</li> </ol>
--	--	--

Music at 8pm with  
**DJ DENNIS BRUMBLE**  
spinning the Tunes.

Snacks and  
**Finger Foods**  
Free for our members



## SPLIT THE POT & DOOR PRIZES

