



The Colonial Crier

newsletter of

Colonial Shag Club, Inc.

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

April 2024

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

President's corner

It gives me great pleasure to congratulate Janis Grimes, a member of our club, for being selected to become only the fifth person from Virginia to be inducted in the very prestigious Beach Shaggers National Hall of Fame. The induction ceremony will take place on October 12th in North Myrtle Beach.

On March 16th, we had an excellent St. Patrick's Day party with delicious Guinness Stew and Irish Soda Bread. The stew was prepared by six volunteers who made double recipes to be sure everyone had a serving. Brenda Pollock made, my favorite, Irish Soda Bread to go with the stew. Darla Fredrick, Sheila Kerr-Jones, Rhonda D'Bene, Lin Hines, Kim Downing, and Deb Janezeck made the stews. What a fun evening for all attendees with great food, great music, and great friends. I don't know how it could get any better on a Saturday night.

April starts the second quarter of 2024. The first quarter was a very busy time for our club with a major event party each month. So far this year, we added twenty-five new members to our roster and have had three successful sessions of beginner lessons with a practice workshop for our beginners after each four weeks of lessons. The fourth beginner session will start on April 20th. We also had intermediate classes each week after the beginner lessons with moves you can use on the dance floor. Our club has been very fortunate to have excellent instructors volunteer to teach all our classes. Getting the word out to the public seems to be the most challenging issue with getting new beginner students. I talked to Marsha Ruth, who is the senior instructor at Boogie on the Bay Shag Club, and she said that word-of-mouth and social media are the ways they promote their lessons. We are currently using our Facebook and Instagram accounts to promote our dance lessons and hope all our members are telling everyone just how much fun they are having on Saturday nights. If you need any of the club's business cards to hand out, see Patty Swan.



There are members who do excellent jobs of making this club a success. Most of the time they don't get the recognition they deserve. This month, I wish to highlight one of our members who does his job monthly without the praise he deserves. Lloyd Pitzen has been the editor of our club's newsletter, the Colonial Crier, since late 2007. If you check out the newsletters around the ACSC, you will find that we have one of the best. Lloyd goes about his job of creating our monthly newsletter without any fanfare. You can count on getting the newsletter around the first of the month. Lloyd researches what is happening in the local "shag world" and posts that information in the newsletter along with birthdays of members and schedules of summer outdoor concerts. Sometimes, he writes a special article pertaining to whatever he sees as unusual or just interesting. Please take just a moment to thank Lloyd for his dedicated service to our club for the last 15+ years.



This year, our club will have an entry in the SOS Spring Safari Parade on April 27th. We would like our members, who will be at SOS on the 27th, to join in the parade and show support for our club. Please contact Judy Chiles for information on the club's activities in the SOS Parade.

On March 26th, members from the Colonial Shag Club had a workday at the Menchville House to help spruce up the outside. This work included sanding and painting the deck furniture, power washing the deck, power washing the playground equipment, putting down rubber mulch in the playground, and repairing bicycles for the children. Five members participated in the workday and they were Judy Chiles, Bobby Chiles, Mike Dyson, Susan Ross, and John de Koff. There is another workday planned for some time in the near future when it will be convenient with the Menchville House.

Hope to see everyone on the dance floor.

Harry

The beat goes on thanks to our
board of directors and committees

Directors

President: Harry Walthall — 757-784-8380, thewalthalls@cox.net
Vice President: Bobby Chiles — 804-386-8954, bcpopop@gmail.com
Recording Secretary: Judy Chiles — 804-475-8439, judyharrischiles@gmail.com
Treasurer: Patty Swan — treasurer@colonialshagclub.com
Corresponding Secretary: Dwayne Hardy — (703) 928-8328, jimmyacblues@gmail.com
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 Jerry Nichols — 757-532-2722, nicholsjerrym@gmail.com
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 Rex Walker — 757-715-7484, rwalker@realtyinc.biz
 Camille Walthall — 757-784-8380, thewalthalls@cox.net

Standing committees

Charity — Judy Chiles
Dance instruction — Dwayne Hardy, Jerry Nichols
Elections — TBD
Financial review — John De Koff, Susan Ross
Membership — Bonnie Arms
Music — Harry Walthall
Nominating — TBD
Social — Jo Hardy, Camille Walthall
Ways & Means (50/50 raffle)— Bobby Chiles

Ad hoc committees

Birthday cards — Diane Capps
Communications
Newsletter — Lloyd Pitzen
Newsy — Dwayne Hardy
Social media (Facebook, Instagram) — Lisa Jones, Connie Sledd, Harry Walthall
Website — Joe Mitchell
Hospitality — Camille Walthall
Photographer — Alan Michaelis alanmichaelis1946@gmail.com
Venue Liaison — Harry Walthall, Jerry Nichols, Dwayne Hardy, Bobby Chiles

The Colonial Crier is published monthly for Colonial Shag Club members. Editor: Lloyd Pitzen, newsletter@colonialshagclub.com

Colonial Shag Club dances every Saturday night

at Two Left Feet Dance Studio, Newport News
 Doors open at 5pm
 shag dance lessons 5:30-7pm, dancing 7-10pm
 \$10 for member of any shag club, otherwise \$12
 Soda and water provided, Snacks welcomed,
 Alcohol permitted

Other shag clubs

Virginia Beach Shag Club *Mix & Mingle* every Wednesday night at DanceSportVA, Virginia Beach. See club's Facebook page.
 Boogie on the Bay Shag Club social every Friday 6-9:30pm at *Woody's* in Chesapeake Square Mall in Chesapeake. See the club's Facebook page.
 Boogie on the Bay Shag Club shag dance lessons every Tuesday 7-9pm at *Woody's* in Chesapeake Square Mall in Chesapeake. See the club's Facebook page.
 Franklin Shag Club social first and third Wednesday of every month at *Fred's Restaurant* in downtown Franklin. See the club's Facebook page
 Richmond Shag Club social every Tuesday night at Visions Night Club in Double Tree hotel, Midlothian. Beginner shag classes from 6:30 until 7:15 followed by dancing until 10pm. Line dance lessons second Tuesday of each month
 Outer Banks Shag Club social first and third Monday each month, 4-7pm at Duck Woods Country Club, Southern Shores, North Carolina. See the club's website
 River City Shag Club social every Wednesday night at CPOA Club, Elizabeth City. See the club's Facebook page.

Colonial Shag Club

colonialshagclub.com

email: shag@colonialshagclub.com



Colonial Shag Club, Inc
 PO Box 14581
 Newport News, VA 23608-3608

Virginia Juniors Hall of Fame, Virginia Junior Shaggers, Inc., and Virginia Shagger Hall of Fame

Justin Poston and Tory (Robinette) Miller were inducted into the Virginia Junior Shaggers Hall of Fame (VJSHOF) on March 22nd at a ceremony that was part of the Virginia Shaggers Hall Of Fame (VSHOF) weekend event

Those who attended Colonial Shag Club Saturday night socials back in the day when the club socials were at Mitty's may remember Justin as someone who occasionally attended those socials along with other junior shaggers — Brennar Goree, Chelsea (Hornberger) Williams, and Kim Myers — all of whom were CSC members at that time.

Justin and Tory danced as partners in many dance competitions. As juniors, Justin and Tori resided in Chesapeake and Northern Virginia respectively. They competed at the highest levels in the National Shag Dance Championships (NSDC), the Grand National Dance Championships (GNDC), the US Open dance competition and many other competitions from 2002 to 2010. They took first place at the NSDC in the Junior 1 division (younger than 15) in 2003, 2005, and 2006; and placed first at the Grand Nationals in the Junior 2 division (age 15-20) in 2009.

To view a video of them dancing as juniors, go to *Justin Poston & Tory Robinette 2008 US Open Swing Dance Championships* on YouTube. To view a video of them dancing at the induction ceremony, go to *Virginia Shaggers Hall of Fame* Facebook page.

Virginia Beach is a thread that weaves through the junior years of most VJSHOF inductees

The profiles of all VJSHOF inductees can be found on the Virginia Junior Shaggers (VJSI) website. VJHOF inductees are:

- Jac and Erin White — inducted 2016
- Grant Garmon — inducted 2017
- Amanda Tedesco — inducted 2018
- Kari Jones Legge — inducted 2019
- Jason Harold Poston — inducted 2020
- Brennar Goree — inducted 2023
- Justin Poston — inducted 2024
- Tory Miller — inducted 2024

While residing in Chesapeake, **Jason Harold Poston** was introduced to shagging when he accompanied his

Virginia Junior Hall of Fame and Virginia Junior Shaggers, Inc. — what's the connection?

Virginia Junior Shaggers Hall of Fame (VJSHOF) is a member group under the corporate umbrella of Virginia Junior Shaggers, Inc. (VJSI).

VJSI's mission statement, excerpted from their website, is: "The purpose of VJSI is to educate young people under the age of 21 of all aspects of the dance known as Carolina Shag, including its history, heritage, music and culture. Part of the education process is to teach young people the dance, to teach general social dance etiquette and to develop dance skills to dance socially and perhaps, competitively against other juniors on a national level."

Anyone can nominate someone who meets the following criteria: must be at least thirty-one years old; must have danced as a junior while residing in Virginia; and must have represented Virginia in junior events such as Junior SOS, National Shag Dance Competition, Grand National Dance Competition, and/or local exhibitions and contests. Nominees are voted on by the VJSI board and VJSHOF inductees.

Membership in VJSI is open to all. To become a member, become a sponsor, and/or donate, go to vajrshaggersinc.com. Follow VJSI on Facebook. Donations to VJSI are tax-deductible.

VJSI board members from Hampton Roads are Jan Weakley, Doug Mendez, and Tom Edwards.

aunt and uncle to shag lessons taught by Larry and Kathy Williams at Steppin' Out in Virginia Beach.

At age eight, **Justin Poston** accompanied his older brother to lessons at Steppin' Out. At those lessons, he befriended Brennar Goree. The two went on to become good friends, traveling and competing against each other for several years.

Brennar Goree resided in Virginia beach while he was a junior. His dance journey began at the age eight, when his Nana, Marjorie King, bribed him into his first basic shag class taught by Larry and Kathy Williams.

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Grant Garmon was born in Virginia Beach and was introduced to the basic shag steps by his mother Karen at age eight. Grant attended a variety of Virginia Beach Shag Club events that led to him being mentored by several VBSC members. Still residing in Virginia Beach, once in a blue moon, Grant will show up at a VBSC social — and the ladies scramble to get on his dance card.

Jac and Erin White, while not from Virginia Beach, met when they both attended a Virginia Beach Shag-O-Ween event in 1998.

Kari Jones Legge was first introduced to shag dancing in 1998 by the Northern Virginia Shag Club. After only six months of dancing, at age 11, she entered her first competition, which was held in Virginia Beach.

**Looking for a place to shag dance on Sunday?
Willing to do a road trip to Elizabeth City?**

If answers are Yes Yes, read on.

There’s a new shagging venue in Elizabeth City. *Sagos on the River* restaurant opened for business in Elizabeth City in August 2023. One of the co-owners, Dana, resided at one time in North Myrtle Beach where she marinated in the shag dance sauce. Dana is enthusiastically bringing shag dance events to Sagos. This includes a monthly indoor event (*Sago’s Sunday Shag Dance Party*) with deejay Harvey Taylor and outdoor events with live bands.

Upcoming events:

- April 14 Sunday shag dance party
- May 5 Embers band
- May 26 Sunday shag dance party
- June 9 Sunday shag dance party
- July 19 Embers band
- August 16 Jim Quick and Coastline band

For more info, see *Sagos on the River* and *River City Shag Club* Facebook pages



11	Pat Crank	18	Heldur Liivak
14	Stephanie Gregg	21	Ken Lantz
15	Myra Tirado	26	Joe Mitchell
17	Ed Gilmore	29	Cindy Bruno

Janis Grimes has been selected for induction into the Beach Shaggers National Hall of Fame.

The induction ceremony will be held at a weekend event on October 11 and 12, 2024, in North Myrtle Beach.



The Beach Shaggers National Hall of Fame, a South Carolina corporation, is also known as the “Beach Shaggers Hall of Fame,” the “Shaggers Hall of Fame” or just the “Hall of Fame”. It is the original Hall of Fame for shag dancers and is generally considered the most prestigious organization honoring proficient shag dancers (wherever from or residing) who deserve special recognition for their contributions to shag dancing, its music and the atmosphere in which it historically has been cultivated and enjoyed. Four men and four women are selected each year.

2024 SOS events in North Myrtle Beach

- Spring SafariApril 18-28
- Fall MigrationSeptember 12-22

Outdoor concerts

Wednesdays

Live on the Square at Port Warwick

Newport News

6-9pm

May		10	Blackout
22	Brasswind	17	Celeste Kellogg
29	Bobby Blackhat & Fade to Blue	24	Phazz II
		31	2nd Wynd Band
June		August	
5	Girl Can't Help It	7	Wonderland
12	Down River	14	Anthony Rosano and the Conqueroos
19	BJ Griffin Band	21	USAF Rhythm in Blue
26	Soul Intent	28	Good Shot Judy
July			
3	Revelation		

Thursdays

Sounds of Summer

at Riverwalk Landing, Yorktown

6:30-9pm

(weather hotline 757-890-3520)

June		18	The Embers
6	Uptown Band	25	InsideOut band
13	The Main Event Band	August	
20	Nashville Nights band	1	Band of Oz
27	Blackout	8	Deloreans
July		15	Slapnation
1	The Gentlemen and Their Lady		

visityorktown.org

Sunset Thursdays

Festival Park (16 Crawford Circle) Portsmouth

6:30-9pm

June

- 13 Janitors (R&B, 60's Soul, 70's Funk, Classic Rock, Top 40)
- 20 Revalation (R&B, Funk, Rock)
- 27 The Original Rhondels (Beach, Rock, 70's, 80's)

July

- 11 Better By Tuesday (R&B, Funk, Jazz)
- 18 BrassWind (Beach, Pop, R&B, Motown, Rock, Soul)
- 25 The Gentlemen and Their Lady (Motown, Oldies, Top 40)

August

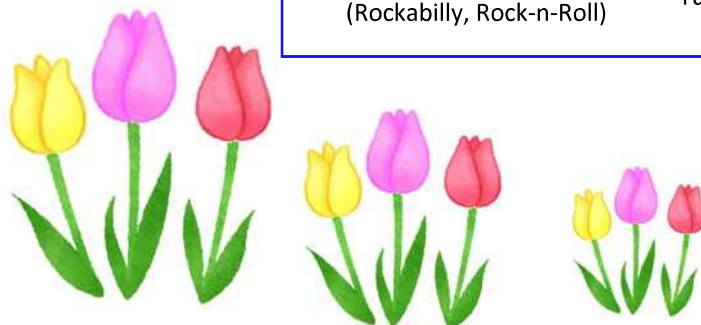
- 1 Hot Cakes (Country, Rock, 70's, 80's, 90's)
- 8 SynHERgi (R&B, Jazz, Motown)
- 15 People's Choice Band (Old School, R&B, Funk, Top 40)
- 22 Slapnation (Rock, Jazz, Motown, Beach)

Portsmouth Seawall Music Festival

High Street Landing, Portsmouth

Friday, June 7 th	3:15-4:15pm	5Starr (R&B, Rock-n-Roll)
6:00 -7:30pm	Island Boy (Hard Rock, Country, Funk)	4:30-5:30 pm J & The Band (Top 40, Classic Rock, Beach, Oldies)
7:45-9:15pm	Ned Harris & The Appeal (Jazz, R&B, Funk, Soul)	5:45-6:45 pm TFC Band (Motown, Soul, R&B, Oldies, Beach)
9:30-11:00 pm	Soul Intent (Beach, Shag, Rock, 7's, 80's)	7:00-8:00 pm Hot Cakes (Country, Rock, 70's, 80's, 90's)
Saturday, June 8 th	2:00-3:00 pm	Lucky 757 (Rockabilly, Rock-n-Roll)
	8pm-9:30pm	Better By Tuesday (R&B, Jazz,

April — tulips and outdoor concert schedules are blooming



Outdoor concerts continued

Suffolk TGIF Summer Concert Series

Festival Park

June 14: Fuzz Band

June 21: Nashville Nights

June 28: Vinyl Headlights

July 12: The Original Rhondels

Bennett's Creek Park

July 26: The Deloreans

August 2: Roberta Lea

August 9: Slapnation

August 16: Anthony Rosano and the Conqueros

In prior years, the June and early July concerts were at Constance park. This year those concerts are at Festival Park. Festival park is under construction in downtown Suffolk and is scheduled to open in June.

Beach Music Weekend at Virginia Beach oceanfront

17th Street Park, FREE

Friday, May 10

7:30 p.m: The Tams

Saturday, May 11

Noon: Bill Deal's Original Rhondels

3:30 p.m: The Catalinas

7:30 p.m: Chairmen of the Board featuring Ken Knox



Themes for upcoming Colonial Shag Club Saturday night socials

April 13 SOS Kick-Off Party

June 1 Memorial Day Party

“Open door, open floor”

Two Left Feet Dance Studio (TLF) is open to members of any shag club every Monday evening, starting at 8pm, to provide you with the opportunity to practice shag steps, learn something new, ask for help, help someone else, and just dance

Free, as a courtesy of TLF

