



# The Colonial Crier

newsletter of

## Colonial Shag Club, Inc.

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

February 2025

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

### President's corner

Happy February!

Like any new adventure, January 2025 gave us a few challenges. We are a new board, we had a threat of snow one Saturday, and we continue to have a serious need for more volunteers. On the plus side, we had a birthday dance on the third Saturday and a wonderful Re-Up party with pizza to close out the month. Nine members rejoined our club that night. We had 87 attendees, a great lesson, and wonderful participation. Was it the pizza? Folks, we can't have free dinner every Saturday night! Thanks goes to Dwayne and Jo Hardy for making the arrangements and to each board member who helped serve the pizza.

Jan Poteat, our hospitality chair, has been wearing two hats most evenings and selling 50/50 tickets. We still need a ways and means committee chair! Thanks goes to AW and Patty for helping Jan. Bonnie Arms has been busy keeping up with our membership and sending the birthday cards. Colette is now our birthday chair. Birthday dances will usually be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday night. Sandra and David have taught dance lessons several times, including at the Re-Up party.

Our dance lessons have become a bit of "what's first – the chicken or the egg?". I've talked to some experienced instructors from our sister clubs who would enjoy teaching at Colonial. Their concern is that we don't always have good attendance at the lessons from our members. What would you like to see for lessons? More basic steps or more "beyond basic" steps and technique? It is also a courtesy to instructors, from our club or other clubs, to either participate or visit quietly during the lesson. We have work to do in this area and the board needs to



hear from you. We may not have a lesson every week until we find the magic combination of teachers and students.

Al and I attended the SOS Midwinter workshop and ACSC meeting in North Myrtle Beach in January. Some of you may not be familiar with these groups. I encourage you to go to the SOS official website, shagdance.com, to learn about ACSC's mission and what it means for our club. The ACSC mission statement is shown on page 4. Have you ever wondered why we sell Fun Monday tickets and how is the money used? What is the Hall of Fame Foundation? Why do our deejays proudly display the initials ABSCDJ? Why do we, and every shag club, have a dedicated charity? Speaking of charity, our donation to the Mountain Shag Club was greatly appreciated. Paul, their president, addressed the ACSC meeting to express their gratitude. In addition to clubs' donations, the SOS charitable foundation gave \$5000. We have another donation of \$108 from David Miller's 50/50 winnings to jumpstart an additional gift.

We have a proposed calendar for your advanced planning, which will be published soon. Plan to attend the Valentines Day party on February 15<sup>th</sup>. The birthday dance has been moved to the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

On a final note, congratulations to Jo Hardy who was elected to fill Al Sledd's director position on the board. Bobby Chiles resigned as Vice President and Al was elected as VP. (See page 4 for more info.)

See you on the dance floor!

Connie

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

**Directors**

*President:* Connie Sledd — 757-303-5310,  
 whimsey47@aol.com

*Vice President:* Al Sledd — 757-868-6688,  
 asledd@cox.net

*Recording Secretary:* Craig Sinclair — 757-332-2600,  
 craig.judy.sinclair@gmail.com

*Treasurer:* Patty Swan —  
 treasurer@colonialshagclub.com

*Corresponding Secretary:* Dwayne Hardy —  
 703-928-8328, jimmymacblues@gmail.com

*Directors At Large:*

Bonnie Arms — 703-819-9654, bjrwa@verizon.net

Jo Hardy — 757-928-8328, doxyjox2@gmail.com

Jan Poteat — 757-719-9786, poteatg-j@cox.net

David Puckett — 757-593-7867,  
 straightshooterpuc50@gmail.com

**Committees**

*Charity* — Judy Chiles, \*

*Dance instruction* — TBD

*Elections* — TBD

*Financial review* — Rick Underhill

*Membership* — Bonnie Arms

*Nominating* — TBD

*Social* — Jo Hardy

*Ways & Means (50/50 raffle)* — \*

*Birthday cards* — Bonnie Arms

*Communications*

*Newsletter* — Lloyd Pitzen

*Newsy* — Dwayne Hardy

*Social media* (Facebook, Instagram) — Connie Sledd, \*

*Website* — Joe Mitchell

*Hospitality* — Jan Poteat

*Photographer* — Alan Michaelis  
 alanmichaelis1946@gmail.com

\* **Volunteers needed**



1 Kendall Hockaday	16 Sheila Stevens
1 Brickney Hughes	18 Betty Hargrave
5 Lyn Whitmer	18 Brian Shortell
7 Greg Forrest	22 Bill Landreth
7 Brenda Pollock	24 Cyd Kroskey
9 Dave Miller	25 Valerie Burton
9 Nathan White	26 Dottie Landreth
12 Greg Briscoe	27 Debbie Fertitta
12 Cindy Matheson	27 Jan Poteat
15 Susan Briscoe	27 Diane Underhill
16 Nancy Mason	28 Alice DeGraff

**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 6-9pm 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

River City Shag Club social every Wednesday night at Tooley's Tavern at The Boathouse, Elizabeth City, North Carolina. See the club's Facebook page.

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



Colonialshagclub.com  
colonialshagclub.com/calendar/



For a calendar of our events and those of neighboring shag clubs, go to our club's website. This includes board meetings

**Colonial Shag Club, Inc.**  
colonialshagclub.com  
email: shag@colonialshagclub.com

Find us on **Facebook**

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

**Instagram**

From Collette, our birthday chair — the February birthday dance will be on the fourth Saturday of February (i.e. February 22<sup>nd</sup>). The theme is wear pink or flamingos or both.



(Birthday dances are typically on the third Saturday of the month unless there is a conflict with another themed event)

**New dance hours, 6:30-9:30, start February 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Colonial Shag Club dances every Saturday night**

at Two Left Feet Dance Studio, Newport News  
Doors open at 6pm  
Dance lessons 6:00-6:30pm — see Newsy for specifics  
Dancing 6:30-9:30pm  
\$10 for member of any shag club, otherwise \$12  
Soda and water provided, Snacks welcomed,  
Alcohol permitted

**reach out**

As we start off our new year with a new Board, I would like to seek the help of each member of the Colonial Shag Club. Our focus this year is to increase our membership, and we need everyone's help. We have all gotten accustomed to sharing information through our electronic devices because it is quick and easy. But, we must work together and reach out to past members and attendees by calling them and encouraging them to return to the Colonial Shag Club. A phone call sometimes is all it takes to get them to return. The Board has many plans for our club and looks forward to sharing them with fun-loving people who enjoy dancing, socializing, good music, and some free food. Let's have another wonderful year and help grow our membership!

Jan Poteat  
Director At Large and Hospitality committee chair



**2025 SOS events in North Myrtle Beach**

- Spring Safari .....April 24 - May 4
- Fall Migration .....September 11-21

**Valentine Dance**

Come Dance Your Heart Out!  
Love is on the Dance Floor!

Colonial Shag Club  
SINCE 2001  
SINCE DANCING ON THE VIRGINIA PENINSULA

Join Us on Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup>  
at Two Left Feet Dance Studio  
1405-N Kiln Creek Pkwy  
Newport News  
Snacks You bring to Share are appreciated!

Soft Drinks provided by TLF!  
DeeJay will be Jerry Hardy!

BYOB!

### ACSC's mission

As stated on the shagdance.com website:

The Association of Carolina Shag Clubs, Inc. (hereafter known as A.C.S.C.) is an organization of autonomous shag clubs. Its purpose is to provide for communications among the clubs, to serve as a coordinating body for club activities, to sponsor activities of mutual interest to all clubs, and to manage and operate the Society of Stranders, Inc. (hereafter known as S.O.S.).

### What is SOS?

Founded in 1980, the Society of Stranders (SOS) is an organization that perpetuates the traditions of beach music and shag dancing. "Stranders" has to do with North Myrtle Beach being situated on a stretch of beach known as the Grand Strand.

In 1989, the ACSC took over managing the SOS organization and still manages it today.

SOS is widely recognized for organizing two yearly adult parties, Spring Safari and Fall Migration, held in North Myrtle Beach. People go to these events to have fun, enjoy the beach, see old friends, and to make new ones. What started as a small reunion of friends is now attended by thousands.

Both yearly SOS events are ten days in length and encompass the majority of the local lounges in the Ocean Drive/Main Street area of North Myrtle Beach. Inside these participating lounges, bands and deejays play shag tunes. It is non-stop fun from early in the day until the wee hours of the morning.

Each SOS event includes special activities like dance workshops, contests, live entertainment, a parade in the Spring, and "Fun Sunday" and "Fun Monday" in the Fall. Fun Sunday and Fun Monday each consist of three bands playing sequentially on a temporary stage set up near the intersection of Ocean Drive and Main Street. More so than being about organized happenings, SOS is people doing their own thing on their own schedule — meandering through the numerous dance clubs (in walking distance from each other) and partying in hotel rooms

In buying an SOS card, you are buying a membership in SOS for one calendar year. And the card gives you free access to the dance clubs during an SOS event.

### Personnel changes on the board of directors

The following occurred at the board's January meeting:


- Bobby Chiles, vice president, resigned.
- Al Sledd vacated his director at large position and was elected by the board to fill the newly-vacated vice president position.
- Jo Hardy was elected by the board to fill the newly-vacated director at large position.

Background info — With no candidate coming forward in 2024 to be the vice president for 2025, Bobby continued to serve as vice president into the new year.

As stated in the bylaws, a vacancy on the board, except for president, shall be filled by the board .

New board member

Jo Hardy — director at large



### "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