

Rhythm & News

www.richmondshagclub.org



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National
Fast Dance
Association



Richmond, Virginia

Volume 22, Issue 6 November-December, 2016

From the President: Kevin Byrnes



November 8th Membership Meeting

After voting in the national election, please attend the last quarterly membership meeting for 2016 on Nov. 8th! In addition to hearing the Nomination & Elections Committee slate and possibly holding the Club election for the 2017 Board, there will also be a vote to amend the Club's Bylaws. The Board started work in reviewing the Bylaws last year and really worked hard this year to update and simplify the Bylaws, including both the Club election and Bylaw amendment processes. The existing and marked-up revised Bylaws approved by the Board have been posted online on the RSC website (www.richmondshagclub.org) since October 7th, as well as a 2-page summary explanation of the most significant changes. Members have received electronic copies via Club e-mail and phone reminders to check out the proposed changes along with an invitation to discuss any changes with any Board member. **A two-thirds affirmative vote** of the active members attending this meeting **is necessary** to approve the changes. **Please be sure to bring and present your active membership card at the door to speed up confirmation of a quorum of active members to have a valid meeting and election outcomes.** My thanks to the RSC Board for putting in the extra time this year to work through and discuss changes to the Bylaws to improve our Club's guiding document!

Dec. 17th Jingle Bell Ball

By the time you receive this newsletter, you will probably have received the information about our Jingle Bell Ball Party on December 17th to be held at Meadowbrook Country Club. The \$25 member ticket price includes two \$5 drink tickets redeemable at the bar. Your Board agreed to heavily-subsidize this event (by almost 50%

per member ticket) to help make up for not having the usual Spring and Fall dance party this year. The Meadowbrook dining room can accommodate up to 250 persons without putting tables on the dance floor...so be sure to get your tickets (see flyer in this issue) and help us recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of individual members, the Board and the Club in 2016, and share in our annual presentation to Camp Fantastic!

2017 Camp Fantastic Golf Tournament

The Board has approved holding the Club's 2017 charity golf tournament for Camp Fantastic on **June 12, 2017** again at Meadowbrook Country Club. I ask those that volunteer at the tournament to mark their calendars and save the date to help out! With this early commitment, we are hoping to secure more sponsors, especially the meal and corporate sponsors that contribute so much to the financial success of the event. I have agreed to chair the event again next year, and want to improve the event for volunteers and players to make it run smoother. The Meadowbrook staff is committed to work closely with us to make the event an even better experience for all!

This is my last newsletter article for 2016 and with my plans not to run for the Board next year, I'll close by saying it has been an honor to lead and represent the Club this year...truly one of the best in the ACSC! Many of our members are great at pitching in when called on and I thank all the volunteers that have helped the Club with Brunswick Stew, Golf Tournament, Annual Party, monthly Desk operations, 50-50 ticket sales, dance instruction, etc.! I ask everyone to give the 2017 Board your same support! I'll be volunteering behind the scenes by handling the Club's electronic communications for Pam Tinsley (who will continue with the newsletter production), maintaining the RSC website and chairing the golf tournament.

(continued on next page)

RSC Board Members



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(From the President—continued)

Thank you everyone! I'll get to say it closer to the season at the Jingle Bell Ball, but I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Kevin



JOAN BYRNES,
DANCE COMMITTEE

Thank you to those who volunteered their time and talent to teach the Beginner Classes in September: **Graham Haddock & Debbie Edmonds** and in October, and **Sid Strawderman & Jane Renger**. **Doug Strother & Sherry Beck** taught the Intermediate classes in October. Instructors for the Sunday Shag Jams were **Kevin & Joan Byrnes** in September and guest instructors **Tom Edwards & Joan McKinney** in October.

Once again, Richmond Shag Club members participated and placed in dance contests at the Fall SOS in North Myrtle Beach in September. **Tim Sullivan** and his partner placed first in the "Rookies Revenge" contest and **Judy Petree** coming in sixth place with her partner. Other members participated as well. **Kevin and Joan Byrnes** placed fourth in the "Smoothies" contest.

Each year, the dance instructors nominate and select those members who have distinguished themselves by being the Club's "Most Improved" shaggers for the year. The nominations are due by November 10 and the winners will be announced at the Jingle Bell Ball in December. The criteria are:

- ◆ Current member in good standing
- ◆ Not limited to how long they have been dancing, but must

- ◆ show significant improvement during membership period.
- ◆ Capable of dancing beginner and intermediate Shag steps
- ◆ Dance steps should be executed correctly and on beat
- ◆ Cannot be an instructor (either past or present)
- ◆ Cannot be competing or have competed in sanctioned CSA contests (Does not include "Newcomers" non-sanctioned division)
- ◆ Cannot have won the award before

Recommendations can be made by anyone to an instructor or to Joan Byrnes, Dance Committee Chair.

Joan Byrnes

Beginner Shag Classes
Thursdays beginning at 6:30 pm
November - Kendall & Stephanie Hockaday

Intermediate Shag Classes
Tuesdays beginning at 6:30 pm
November - Joe & Marsha Tedesco

Sunday Shag Jam
2:00 - 4:00 pm
November 6 - Kevin & Joan Byrnes

There will **not** be any classes in December!

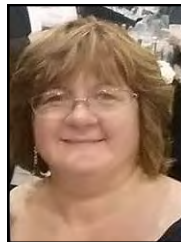
**Allen Batchelor,
Vice- President**

It is that time of the year to recognize those new dancers who have made the "most improvement" and those person(s) who have demonstrated the "spirit of shag." Please take time to nominate your candidate in the month of November. The awards will be presented at the annual Christmas Party, the Jingle Bell Ball.



Allen

**Stephanie Hockaday,
Ways and Means Committee**



There will be a line dance lesson on Tuesday the week of Thanksgiving. Kendall and I will be teaching beginner's lessons for November (this is a change from what's on the calendar.)

The board has approved a request to donate the proceeds from the 50/50 sales on the 5th Tuesdays to the Virginia Junior Shaggers Scholarship this year. Please join us in supporting the Junior Shaggers. They are the future of our dance.

As always I am looking for help selling 50/50 tickets on Tuesday nights. Thanks to all that have helped us already. Please call me at 304-4774 or see me at the club "on the dark side" (i.e near the DJ booth).



**RSC
Board Members**



**Rogers Verser,
Social
Committee**

(804) 746- 9297

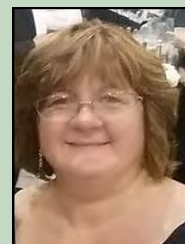
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ROGERS VERSER , SOCIAL COMMITTEE



Hello fellow dancers,

As most of you know I have been working a new job this year mostly out of state and have not be able to attend to all of the duties of Social Chair. I would like to thank my fellow board members for stepping in to help fill the needs of the Social Committee.

We had a great turnout for our Shag Jam/Social Dance October 9th. About 50 members and guests took the lesson and stayed for dinner and dancing. Gary Harman kept us on our feet with his rocking music. We needed that motivation considering all the excellent food that everyone brought for the potluck dinner. Thanks to everyone for supporting this event.

Upcoming party's include a Halloween party and costume judging contest to be held at Visions Dance Club on our club night November 1st. (See pictures throughout this issue)

The Christmas Party will be December 17th at the Meadowbrook Country Club. Tickets are on sale now. Please see Joan Byrnes to purchase your seats.

These two events are being put together by Kevin and Joan Byrnes respectively. Thank you for doing double duty in my absence. It is great members like you that help make Richmond Shag Club one of the best!

I must also recognize Pam Tinsley for her excellent work both on the newsletter and email/phone tree keeping us informed about the many events in our club. You keep everything running smoothly and the club appreciates your hard work.

Thank You,

Rogers Verser

(continued from page 5) **50 Years of Shag—read all about it!**

In the back room at Harold's was a wall of pictures, of children now grown who were kids but twenty years ago, *The Keepers of the Dance*. Each was an element in the evolution of the shag, champion dancers; some students of Shad Alberty or Miss Ellen Taylor, both legendary now with charitable foundations named in their honor. Shad departed this life with wings on his heels, now has a scholarship fund named after him. Miss Ellen supports juniors, her foundation gives away hundreds of pairs of dancing shoes each year, and aids juniors however possible. The Shag Hall of Fame and The Hall of Fame Foundation are the ultimate safety net for senior boogie walkers. The Society of Strangers and The Association of Carolina Shag Clubs are the heart and muscle of the shag culture today. The Junior Shag Association, founded by Ron Alexander and his friends, currently headed by Gene Pope, is the future. All members of all the clubs and organizations devoted, anyone who ever learned the basic step is a keeper of the dance in my book.

In 2015, the shag celebrates 72 years of evolution and wedlock to the rhythms of summer, Beach Music. In The Land of Shag, the night is young forever. The music never ages.

The dance goes on for silver foxes and silver soldiers of the generation that boomed. We rocked and rolled and unveiled the power of youth to shape the future.

The torch is lit, the kids are dancing.

We venerate those who came before us, who discovered Beach Music and conceived the shag, the only first dance of The Rock and Roll Revolution. Amen.

By Bo Bryan, author of *Shag: The Legendary Dance of the South*

50 Years of Shag—read all about it!

Article by Bo Bryan <http://bobryanwrites.com/>

Come the summer of 2015, the *Shag*, the legendary dance of the South, will celebrate it's 72nd anniversary of conception.

It came to pass in June of 1943 that Race Music, gut-level Rhythm and Blues, the sound later labeled Rock-n-Roll found its way onto jukeboxes along the Carolina coast. And The Southern teenagers called it Beach Music.

In response to that rolling and rocking rhythm, the *Shag* dance was conceived, a unique form in American terpsichorean history. Descended from West European influences as diverse as the minuet, the waltz, and the highland fling — cross fertilized with the jitterbug — the *Shag* began evolving the moment Beach Music found the dancers.

Flashing forward from 1943, down the decades of haphazard, hand-me-down survival, through the '60's and '70's, everybody knows the shag endured just barely. Then came SOS, an organization and a dance party, with a name the same as the international telegraph code for vessels in distress — Society Of Stranders, Save Our Ship.

And so it was, the dance was not simply saved or preserved, but transformed into something that dazzles and lives in the law of the land, immortal, so long as North Carolina and South Carolina retain official state dances.

The shag has evolved in complexity of movement never seen when my generation was fourteen, eighteen, and twenty years old. In July of this year, at the Junior SOS event, I was mesmerized, not least because the number of young kids dancing has increased so dramatically.

Twenty years ago, I wrote a best-selling book called *Shag: The Legendary Dance of the South*. Then you could fit just about all the junior dancers in the shag world into one three by five inch photograph. Sam West still had just about all of his hair, David Campbell still had a baby face, Matt Free looked like a poster boy for Greek week at Chapel Hill. Kristen Leggett, Sarah West, and Kristal Taylor had recently put their childhood baby dolls in storage.

It was a different time in The Land of Shag, early in the lifespan of juniors who now bring their own children to the music, teach their kids and other kids to dance. The shag was always handed down parent to child, sibling to sibling, and from what I saw in July, grandparents often impart the dance, and what is more, the manners and social grace of the post-Victorian South, such that young kids learning to shag dance today are very likely to become and remain ladies and gentlemen forever. That is rare and can open more doors to success than an Ivy League diploma.

Sam West, who now teaches juniors professionally, told me, "A lot of kids start out shy, especially the boys. Then they learn to dance and confidence comes on them they didn't have before. Most of them make better grades in school too. I'm not sure why, but it happens."

At Junior SOS, there were kids dancing who could not have been older than five or six. I saw little ones partnered with teenagers, grandparents dancing with grand kids, parents even dancing with each other. I saw genuine camaraderie, not just older people tolerating the young, or the young impatient to shed the company of elders; I saw respect, admiration, and love directed all around. This was a family, everyone was a member, and the blood tie was the music.

A couple of weeks later, I was in Fat Harold's, just to look around, cause I hadn't been there in so long. After I wrote the shag book, I disappeared to an island without a bridge and raised three kids as a single father. That's another story.

Fat Harold's was just about the same. There was an actual granite sculpture of Harold's head in miniature that hadn't been there before, and a lot of new pictures of dancers, and Camp Kemo, and party memorabilia. There was a good crowd for a Wednesday night. I ran into Johnny Barringer, one of the old boys from Myrtle Beach who came back Barringer knew everybody in the joint. I was envious of him, but nothing fundamental was changed. The music is in my blood as well. My family was where I left it, my oldest friends are here.

(continued on page 4)

The Good Times Rolled...



Charlie & Jackie



Pool Party



Chillin' at the other Pool Party



BOO!



DJ's

...all the way through 2016!



Golf



**Halloween Contest
Winners Debbie &
Graham**



BOJ



"Old Friends"





November

| | |
|---------|------------|
| Rhonda | Armentrout |
| Lisa | Atkinson |
| Allen | Batchelor |
| Bonnie | Bissette |
| Jimmy | Bowker |
| Kevin | Byrnes |
| Cathy | Carter |
| Leena | Chase |
| Anita | Craddock |
| Donna | Earnhardt |
| Henry | Geisz |
| Charles | Harward |
| Kat | Jacoby |
| Ella | Johnson |
| Angelo | Miliotis |
| Susan | Persons |
| Mo | Phillips |
| Ron | Pugh |
| Sambo | Richardson |
| Jinx | Robinson |
| Pam | Tinsley |
| Denise | Underhill |
| Kenn | Ward |
| Lucy | White |
| Karen | Williams |
| C.L. | Wilson |

Happy Birthday, Shaggers!



December

November and December birthdays

Due to technical difficulties, the birthday "days" are currently not available.

| | |
|---------|-----------|
| Charlie | Barnes |
| Sherry | Beck |
| Tina | Bessent |
| Cliff | Burnette |
| Sandy | Cullather |
| Bev | Dillard |
| Debbie | Edmonds |
| Diane | Fisher |
| Sandi | Gibson |
| David | Goodman |
| George | Harris |
| Jack | Jaegar |
| Eva | Krol |
| Carol | Kroll |
| Nelda | Lucas |
| Judy | Petree |
| Alice | Rice |
| Brenda | Roane |
| Deborah | Smith |
| Linda | Stevens |
| Mary | Taylor |



Watch your e-mail, our web page www.RichmondShagClub.org and listen for phone tree messages for more information on upcoming events.

Also, look for the Richmond Shag Club group on [Facebook](#) where event information will be posted.

JANE RENGER Associate Broker

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www.JaneRenger.com



EXIT PROFESSIONAL REAL ESTATE

11928 Cherry Rd., Fredericksburg, VA 22407

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Membership Expirations

November, 2016

| | | |
|----------|-----------|------------|
| Agosti | Charles | 11/30/2016 |
| Agosti | Donna | 11/30/2016 |
| Alford | Barbara | 11/30/2016 |
| Anderson | Carolyn | 11/30/2016 |
| Atkinson | Tommy | 11/30/2016 |
| Benson | Anne | 11/30/2016 |
| Benson | Bradley | 11/30/2016 |
| Bessent | Christine | 11/30/2016 |
| Beville | Elaine | 11/30/2016 |
| Beville | Steven | 11/30/2016 |
| Dobbins | Sally | 11/30/2016 |
| Fielding | Michael | 11/30/2016 |
| Martin | Eileen | 11/30/2016 |
| McAdams | Candy | 11/30/2016 |
| McAdams | Leonard | 11/30/2016 |
| Osborne | James | 11/30/2016 |
| Pettesch | Barbara | 11/30/2016 |
| Pettesch | Paul | 11/30/2016 |
| Pugh | Ronald | 11/30/2016 |
| Russell | Kathy | 11/30/2016 |
| Short | Sam | 11/30/2016 |
| Snyder | Peggy | 11/30/2016 |
| Snyder | Rodney | 11/30/2016 |
| Tinsley | Cleo | 11/30/2016 |
| Varney | Tammy | 11/30/2016 |

Keep your membership up to date to support your Club & be eligible for member rates for Club parties, discounted SOS pass, and to have a voice in elections for the Board and Club Bylaw amendments!

December, 2016

| | | |
|----------|---------|------------|
| Abbott | Ingrid | 12/31/2016 |
| Burton | Carole | 12/31/2016 |
| Burton | Gordon | 12/31/2016 |
| Collins | Dick | 12/31/2016 |
| Jaegar | Jon | 12/31/2016 |
| Lucas | Nelda | 12/31/2016 |
| Lumpkin | Teresa | 12/31/2016 |
| Scott | Paul | 12/31/2016 |
| Weishaar | Gary | 12/31/2016 |
| Weishaar | Lynn | 12/31/2016 |
| Wells | Phyllis | 12/31/2016 |

RSC Members!
See your business card here!
Contact Kevin Byrnes for details.

kfbyrnes@verizon.net



November-December ACTIVITIES



November 2016



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--------|---|-----------|--|------------------------|----------|
| | | 1 6:30 - 7:30 Lean | 2 | 3 6:30 - 8:00 Intro & Basic Step 7:00 Board Mtg. | 4 | 5 |
| 6 Shag Jam 2:00 - 4:00 Kevin & Joan Byrnes | 7 | 8 6:30 Gen. Mem. Meeting Elections! No Shag Class | 9 | 10 6:30 - 8:00 Start, Female & Male Turns | 11 Veterans Day | 12 |
| 13 | | 15 6:30 - 7:30 Belly Roll | 16 | 17 Trail Pass, Half Turn, Front & Back Preps | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 6:30 - 7:30 Boogie Walk | 23 | 24 Thanksgiving | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 6:30 - 7:30 Pivot | 30 | | | |



November-December ACTIVITIES



December 2016



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|-------------------------------------|--------|--|-----------|-------------------------------|--------|--|
| | | | | 1 6:30 – 8:00 Sugarfoot | 2 | 3 |
| 4 2-4 Shag Jam (Kevin & Joan) | 5 | 6  | 7 | 8 7:00 Bd. Meeting | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | | 15 | 16 | 17 Jingle Bell Ball Meadowbrook Country Club |
| 18 | 19 | 20 Birthday Dance | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 Christmas | 26 | 27 | 29 | 29 | 30 | 31 New Years Eve |

More info about Jingle Bell Ball on the website under 2016 Activities
<http://richmondshag.homestead.com/>



RSC Annual Jingle Bell Ball Christmas Party, Dinner/Dance and Recognition Awards



The Richmond Shag Cl

Date: 12/17/16 (Saturday) **Time:** 6:00 - 11:00 pm

Location: Meadowbrook Country Club, 3700 Cogbill Rd., N. Chesterfield, VA 23238

With RSC DJs: Gary Harman, Brute Vaughan & George Stanford


Ticket Price*: \$25 for RSC Members & \$35 for Non-Members

(*Note: Ticket Price *includes* two \$5.00 Bar Tickets)



Richmond Shag Club

PO Box 35771, Richmond, VA 23235
www.richmondshagclub.org

 Find us on Facebook



Home of the Best Beach and Shag Music in Richmond

Membership Fee is \$30.00 (7-1-2012)

**** \$25 fee for returned checks ****

- New Member
- Renewal/Returning Member

Pick up your membership card at the RSC Club desk.

Date: _____

New Expiration Date: _____

Please complete form in full & write legibly!

Name #1: _____
Last First Nickname Birthday (Year Optional)

Name #2: _____
Last First Nickname Birthday (Year Optional)

Address: _____
Street or PO Box City State Zip Code

Phone: _____ Occupation: _____
Home/Primary Cell/Secondary Work (optional) (Optional)

Email Address #1: _____

Email Address #2: _____

NOTE: Home phone and email address provided above are used to provide you with the newsletter, messages about Club activities, club-related events, member news, etc. They are not shared with other groups or organizations. Do not include if you do not wish to receive these notices.

I was encouraged to join the RSC by _____
RSC member's name)

I would be interested in helping with the following committee(s):

- ___ Annual Party (August)
- ___ Golf Tournament (June)
- ___ Host & Hostess (RSC desk)
- ___ Social (Sunday Socials, Parties, etc.)
- ___ Ways and Means (Fund-raising)

New Members

- I learned about the RSC from:
- ___ A friend that is a member
 - ___ Another shag club
 - ___ A demonstration at an event
 - ___ The Internet/Website
 - ___ Other _____

This information is true to the best of my knowledge. By my signature, I agree to abide by the rules and by the bylaws of the Richmond Shag Club. I understand that my membership may be revoked by the Club at any time it may be deemed necessary. I agree that the Richmond Shag Club and its Board of Directors shall not be held responsible for any accidents, personal injury or loss of any personal property associated with my attendance at, or participation in, any Club function.

Member #1: _____
Signature Printed Name Date

Member #2: _____
Signature Printed Name Date

For RSC Staff Use Only: Next Membership Renewal Date: _____ Card Made
Cash: \$ _____ Check: \$ _____ Check #: _____ Received by: _____



The Richmond Shag Club

offers beginner and intermediate dance lessons

On Tuesdays and Thursdays at

VISIONS Dance Club.

Following each lesson there is OPEN dancing for all levels &
ages from amateur to pro!

Tuesday: Intermediate lessons begin at 7:00 pm

Thursday: Beginner lessons begin at 6:30pm

Plus: Shagging on Friday nights from 6 til 9!!

Come and Dance!

RHYTHM & NEWS

Pam Tinsley, Editor
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Joan Byrnes, Co-Editor
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Rhythm & News invites YOUR stories or memories of shag events that you have attended, or the role shag dancing plays in your life.

Let us hear from you! Photos (with captions) are welcome, also.

We would like to make our newsletter our own form of "social media!" Please share with your fellow club members through *Rhythm & News*. Send your submissions to:

pstinsley@verizon.net

Did you know.....

You can update your personal information, including contact info, on the club website under "Update Members' Contact Information." <http://richmondshag.homestead.com/>



RSC Members!

See your business ad here!

Contact Kevin Byrnes for details.

kfbyrnes@verizon.net

If you know of a club member who is ill or has a personal "crisis" and would appreciate hearing from the RSC, please let Kathy Lane know the details (email: socrmom8286@yahoo.com)

If you have personal news that you would like to share with the club membership, please email the details as you would like for them to be conveyed to Pam Tinsley at pstinsley@verizon.net . Also, please specify that you would like for that information to be sent in a bulk email to the members. (We do not want to compromise anyone's privacy.) Thanks!