



SHAG RAG

Burlington Shag Club

www.burlingtonshagclub.com

Message from our President



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Sergeant At Arms

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Shagging on Friday Nights

7:00pm -10:00pm

Rack and Rolls

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Burlington, NC

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BSC,

Fun times was had by all at SOS, at least that's what I heard from all that attended. Great attendance for our Tea Party. So glad I got to see some members that don't usually go to SOS at the beach. Hope you enjoyed yourself as much as I did. Make sure you read the minutes with the ACSC update that I presented at the September business meeting. Lots of good information and even the theme for Spring 2026 SOS parade was announced.

Now for October, what a busy month we have. First, we have that wonderful Junior Workshop on October 4th. I look forward to seeing all those young people learn something new. Then don't forget our Membership Appreciation party on October 11th at Amanda Pointe starting at 2 pm with cornhole. If you are interested in playing cornhole don't forget to let Lee Neese know by October 9th. We have also been invited to Greensboro's Fall Frenzy. Please let me know if you would like to attend. I am sending in a check for our tickets and getting us tables to sit together.

Then don't forget the great Halloween party on October 31st. Hope you have those costumes ready. I'm looking forward to all those wonderful costumes. Such a great time we have. 6 Looking ahead we already have our Christmas Dinner tickets on sale, "Shagging around the Christmas Tree". Make sure and see Stacey Lassiter or Linda McVey for your tickets. They will open to the public on October 24th. Remember we only have 160 tickets available so don't wait to get one.

Be a Blessing to those you meet.

Amber Allen

BSC President 2025

2025 Board Of Directors

Rick Turner

Chairman of the Board

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flattopricky@gmail.com

Debbie Burnham

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Gerald Scarlett

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336-210-5760

hhhharvell@ncdot.com

October

Be present.

Let the day flow with grace.

Expect joy. Be positive.

Serve with compassion.

Speak only kindness.

Impart only love.

Never forget you're not alone.

Give thanks for everything.

See goodness in others.

mary davis

EVERY DAY SPIRIT.NET

Calling all members, BSC wants to hear from you! This is your Newsletter, What would be interesting to you? Participation and submission of articles from our Officers, Committee Chairs, and Board of Directors is somewhat expected. Members contributions are welcome and wanted. Please let me know how I can improve this publication to reflect your interests and/or participation in activities of BSC, SOS, ACSC.. The cut off for submission for the September 2025 Newsletter is Oct, 26, 2025.

Brenda R. Smith,

Brenda.Richardson.Smith@gmail.com

BSC Shag Rag Editor, 2025

September Business Meeting Minutes

September Business Meeting

September 26, 2025

Call to Order – Amber Allen Called meeting to order

Secretary Report – Andrea Loy No questions 1 st – Jack Oakley 2 nd - Howard Harvell all approved

Treasurer's Report – Scott Loy - No questions 1 st Jack Oakley 2 nd Linda McVey all approved

Sunshine Report - Paula Lowe - See Newsletter

BOD – Rick Turner . Membership appreciation Party is October 11 th at Amanda's Point (Mike Wilson's Place) from 2pm – 10 pm. Plan to have a cornhole tournament but will need to know in advance if you plan to play. Please contact Lee Neese about the cornhole tournament. We will have Chili Beans and wings for dinner. BYOB for your drinks. You can bring a guest for \$5.

OLD BUSINESS

- Nominations – Gerald Scarlett – Nominations were made at the meeting Friday, September 26 and Gerald will be calling the ones that were nominated to see if they accept.
- Dance Lessons – Jack Oakley – May do a class in November – stay tuned.
- HOF – Jack Oakley - Volunteers for the committee – (must be a past president of HOF member). Names were drawn – the first 4 are scorers/voters – and the other 2 will be alternates. 1- Brenda Smith 2-Sheila Walker 3-Ronnie Gregory 4- Mary Gregory. 2 alternates are Carol Oakley – Lee Neese. Will be meeting in October. Make sure if you are nominating someone for the Hall of Fame, it must be in by October 1 st .
- 40 th birthday Celebration – Ronnie Gregory. Great party! It was a good night for BSC with lots of old members returning. \$357.08 was made for the club. Budget was \$1000 – expenses were \$927.92. 50/50 made \$225 and \$60 was brought in at the door.
- Junior Shag Event – Amber Allen – October 4 th at Thataways. We will meet at 2pm to gather to get ready for the event. Need volunteers to work the shoe table, door workers and door prizes. Debbie Burnham needs help to set up the food area.
- Boston Butt Sales – We will be helping Christmas Cheer of Alamance County this year. Will be cooking on November 22 nd at Ronnie and Mary Gregory's house. We will let you know later what the cost per Boston Butt will be.
- By Laws Committee – Sheila Walker. A lot of suggestions have already been sent in for the bylaws to be reviewed. If you have anything you wish for the committee to review or anything you wish to be added to the bylaws please send them to Sheila Walker or Amber Allen. A meeting will be scheduled soon.

NEW BUSINESS

- Halloween Party – JoAnn Meyers – Party will be October 31 st . Anyone who would like to help please see JoAnn. They will be getting together to make the table decorations and will be decorating on Thursday October 30 th .
- Christmas Party – Stacey Lassiter. December 6 th Doors open @ 5:45pm and dinner served @ 6:45pm. The theme is Shagging Around the Christmas Tree. DJ – Rob Lassiter will be spinning tunes that night. Tickets for members will be \$45 and nonmembers will be \$55. Tickets are on sale now for members until October 24 th then we will open it up to nonmembers. Limited number of tickets will be sold. Need a few more volunteers – see Stacey Lassiter if interested. We will have 50/50 that night and some great door prizes.
- GSC Fall Frenzy – Amber Allen – Great Event with great food. Saturday October 25 th from 6 pm – 10 pm. \$25 a person. Let Amber know if you are interested in going by October 10 th . No tickets will be sold at the door.
- ACSC Update – Amber Allen – We received a check for \$200 for our club. We also received a \$100 check for selling all our Fun Monday Tickets. The parade theme for 2026 was announced - Shaggers Just Want to Have Fun. We will vote in January to see if we want to participate in the parade. New Board Members were elected. Robin has the 2026 SOS cards for sale for \$40 a piece.
- Aruba Trip – Ronnie Gregory – Interest meeting will be held October 2 nd at Rack and Rolls at 6pm. This does not cost the shag club anything. They are planning this event for February 2026.
- Past President Recognition – Amber Allen - Amber Allen presented Darlene Oakley with her Past President Pin. Thank you Darlene!!

Meeting Adjourned – Gary – 1 st and Dawn – 2 nd .

Next meeting Friday, October 17, 2025 @ 6:30 pm

BSC 2025 Committee Chairs

Committee	Chairperson	Date
Member Appreciation Party	Officer's and Board	10/11/2025
Halloween Party	Jo and Lee Meyers	10/31/2025
Christmas Party	Stacey Lassiter	12/6/2025
Nominations	Gerald Scarlett and Sherry Laughlin	Nomination Acceptance: 10/17/2025
Hall of Fame	Jack and Darlene Oakley	Committee Meeting: 10/16/2025
Dance Lessons	Jack & Darlene Oakley	ongoing
Membership & Roster	Andrea Loy	ongoing
DJ	Caycee Lineberry	ongoing
50/50	Duke Hill	ongoing
Facebook	Darlene and Jack Oakley	ongoing
Historian	Mary Gregory	ongoing
SOS Cards	Robin Richardson	ongoing
Newsletter Editor	Brenda Smith	ongoing
Sunshine News	Paula Lowe	ongoing
Website	Mary Gregory	ongoing

Attention all Members!

It's not too late to get involved with club activities. Please reach out to the committee chairmen listed above to share your talents. Many hands make work light, and the fellowship experienced while working on a club project, party, or gathering will be worth it all. Come on out, meet new people, we all are here for the Dance, Music, and Lifestyle to carry on many years, so make your time with BSC the best and get involved!



Membership Announcements



New Members!



Bill Johnson
Jodie Johnson



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT



Please call or email Ronnie and Mary Gregory if interested in participating or have questions about the 2026 BSC Fly 2 destination event in Aruba!
336-213-7054 mgregory5@triad.rr.com

October
Happy Birthday

Pawla	Lowe	10/4
Cookie	Woods	10/5
Fred	May	10/6
Tommy	Stafford	10/7
Cindy	Foust	10/9
Kim	Dawson	10/10
Carol	Oakley	10/10
Barrett	Wilson	10/18
Carolyn	Williams	10/20
Steve	McHone	10/21



October symbolizes harvest and abundance, the end of the growing season, and the transition into the cooler, darker half of the year, as seen in fall colors and changing weather. It's also associated with spirituality and the supernatural due to the Halloween holiday's roots in the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain. Additionally, October is designated as various awareness months, such as Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

SUNSHINE NEWS

Prayer Needs:

- Sympathies and continued prayers for the family of Peggy Childress, a long time member of BSC.
- Jondeen Terry took a bad fall and is recovering well. Please pray that progress continues.
- Rick Turner's girlfriend, Dawn, who was battling cancer, passed away Oct. 2. Please keep Dawn's family Rick in your prayers.
- Judy Bateman passed away on Oct. 2. Please remember July's family and friends in your prayers.



Praise Report:

- The Dawson and Duvall families welcome new grandkids and great grandkids! Congratulations!.

Sunshine Chair

paula@lowefuneralhome.com



A Toast to BSC!

SOS 2025 was absolutely great. Many of you old and new members showed up to join are coveted Fall Migration Tea Party. The OD Arcade really supports the Burlington Shag Club and our Bar Tender, Jennie loves to work our party and to see every one of you. Thanks to BSC for supporting this social event, bringing our members together at the beach. It just doesn't get any better than this.

After our party Saturday night, we all enjoyed Fun Sunday followed by Funday Monday with great weather all week. This was one of the largest SOS events we have had in quite a while. Our club plays a big part in SOS, in supporting all its' events. Our Tea Party was a reward in supporting our club and SOS in bringing our members together for this social event. Thanks to all of you for making it happen.

Ronnie and Mary Gregory

Tea Party Co-Chairs



October 4th 3-6 pm

JUNIOR SHAG WORKSHOP AGES 2-21

DJ: CHIGGER
WOODS

HOSTED BY:

BURLINGTON SHAG

CLUB

LOCATION:

**THATAWAYS
1334 OVERBROOK RD
BURLINGTON NC**

INSTRUCTORS: CLAY AND CHERYL PARKER
& BARRY AND TINA WALKER

**DOORPRIZES
SNACKS
BEGINNER AND INTERMEDIATE
LESSONS**



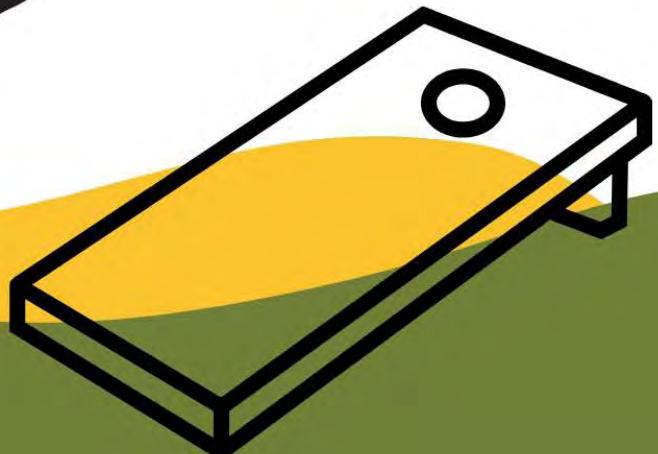
Membership APPRECIATION

AT AMANDA POINT
4060M Harper Trail, Burlington

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11
2 PM TO 10 PM

**Food, Fun,
Friends**

SIGN UP FOR
CORNHOLE BY
TEXTING LEE
NEESE AT
336-516-6945
THURSDAY,
OCTOBER 9



Area Club Party Announcement

Greater Triad Shag Club

Saturday, October 25, 2025

6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Meet the Area Shag Clubs Annual
Event

D.J. Robbie Leggett

Fall Frenzy 2025



Greater Triad Shag Club

Greensboro Shrine Club
5010 High Point Road, Greensboro, NC
Members & Guests - \$25.00

Meal by Country BBQ
Pork Tenderloin, Meatloaf & Sides



Tickets on sale

now!

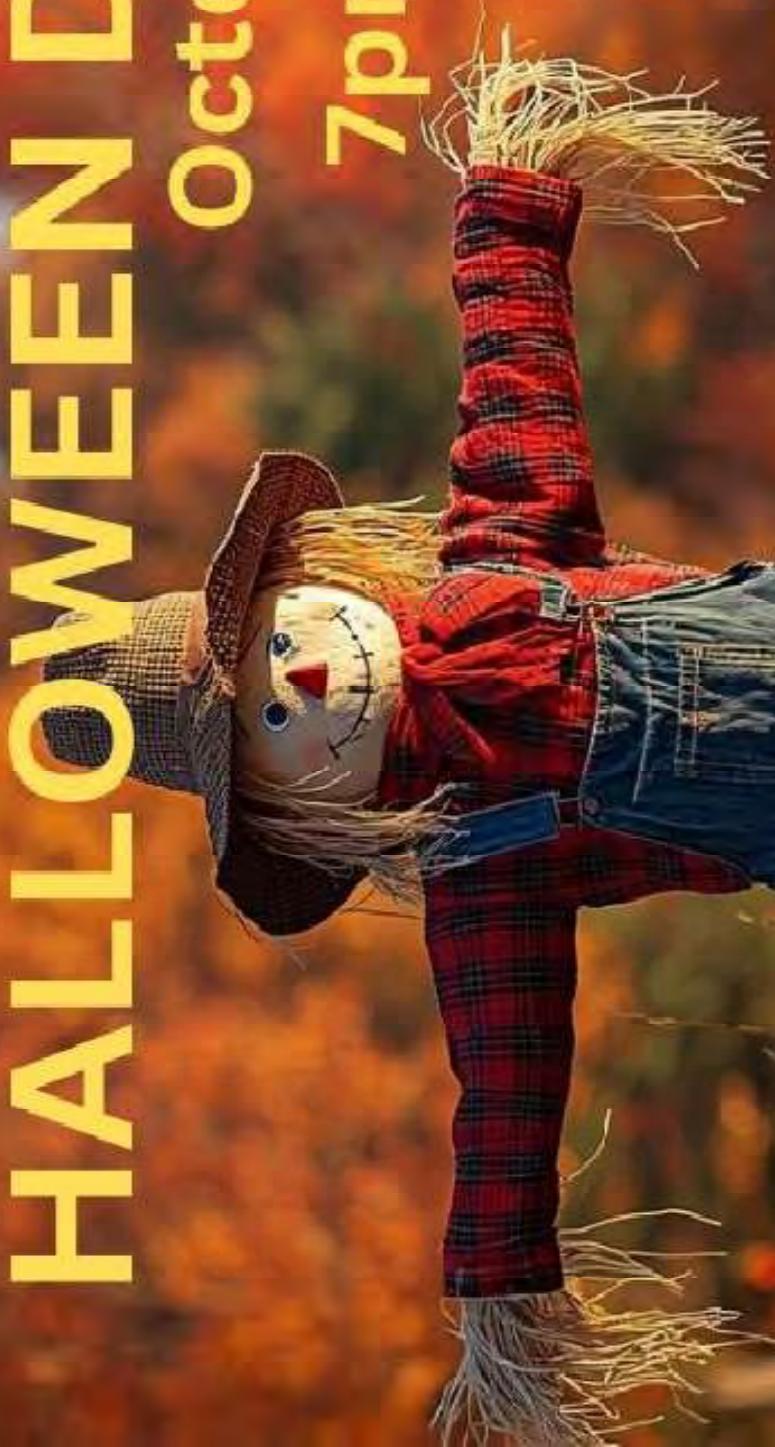


Burlington Shag Club

HALLOWEEN DANCE

October 31st

7pm-10pm



50/50
Raffle

Costume Contest!

Cash Prizes!

DJ Steve Carter

Refreshments

Blast from the past! "Shag Life", a Shagger's Magazine

provided by Jonnie Ellington, Past BSC President and BSC HOF Member

What is Beach Music, Again

Editors note...this one is worth reading twice!

by Fessa John Hook

Over the years many articles have attempted to define Beach Music—is it important to ask "What is Beach Music" again?

Yes...For two reasons.

Beach Music continues to change...as does the Shag. In my short 19 years of involvement I've seen dramatic changes in the scope of the music and the execution of the dance.

There was a time in the early 80's when college Boppers performed a Shag modified with "pretzel" movements borrowed from 1930's Arthur Murray-style jitterbug, while right next to them on the dance floor were contest dancers following the trajectory to today's nearly endless pirouettes.

Alongside these dancers were 50's and 60's "purists" out to maintain the more unstructured shuffling and diggin' they enjoyed at the beaches and pavilions in their heydays. Who's right? Everyone!

Is Beach Music changin'?.....it always has been. Human beings do not tape a sitcom and watch it 12,000 times for the rest of their lives. We don't wear the same clothes, fix our hair the same, apply the same makeup or even the same fingernail polish. We're always evolving and at the same time attempting to conserve that which we love. We are at once conservative and liberal.

Given that Beach Music and Shag have always been changing what is it we attempt to conserve?

In the December 29, 1994 issue of *Rolling Stone*, Mark Coleman, in a column reviewing new books on music, stated, "By nature, rock remains an elusive subject—it's difficult to nail down in words, especially at book length. But the best entries in this messy genre crackle with the same irreverent energy and insightful flashes as the music itself." Rock is officially 40 years old next year, but the pre-eminent voice of rock still cannot nail it down. Beach Music is far older, but does it crackle with irreverent energy, insightful flashes, and spawn innumerable books? Is it worth nailing down, or is it something else?

In the same issue of *Rolling Stone*, Jann Wenner, the visionary with passion and perseverance, despite the pundits and doomsayers of the day, who helped set its course in 1967, mused in an open letter to the magazine's readers, "Times like these can sharpen our focus and help bring new energy to our mission: to offer our readers strong voices and clear vision—a way to see the world through the prism of rock and roll."

Bringing us to reason #2 for our original question: "What is the prism of Beach and Shag Music through which we see the world?"

Do Country music devotees see the world differently than classical music fans? Does the Rap music generation see the world differently than Beachdiggers?

So, what is Beach Music?

A musician might say that every kind of music is played in a certain style, satisfying a question about the mechanics of reproduction, but not what it is.

A performer might answer in the context of singing with it; from "I just like to sing," to "I just try to honestly express my feelings with the music."

An anthropologist would look for its utilitarian uses. Is it only for religious rituals? Important community events like the marriage of a chieftain, gathering the harvest, celebrating the solstice?

Physicists might answer in terms of sound vibrations per second.

A historian might point out that there was a time when music and voice were one, as with the very early Greeks. They didn't have separate words for music and lyric because they were one. Their word for communication was a synergy of music and voice. One could not even think of writing or speaking in ancient Greece without the simultaneous production of music-and-voice. It was centuries before they were ever divided. A Greek listening to symphonic music or human conversation today might suffer severe stress from observing what was missing in each!

Even a cursory examination of what the masters—composers, performers, songwriters, arrangers, conductors—describe music to be will soon produce confusion; they don't agree.

All these people could be talking about the same music, viewed through different prisms! A prism, then, is an "understanding"; a worldview; a philosophy. It's *not* the music.

We can talk around the question further by saying that each of these styles of music is something we choose because of the culture we grow up in (although many who choose did not grow up in the culture).

Our question seeks a different answer: What is it that is being chosen? If we all observed the same thing, then we would have the same answer when we describe music. But we don't. Thus, I assume we don't have similar criteria and language for observing it. Perhaps the people I enumerated above are on the right track—their explanations don't describe music, but they do reveal their criteria for looking at it.

Some say they love Beach and Shag Music because of the camaraderie. Yet, there's camaraderie in Rock 'n Roll, Country and the rest. Others say they love the sharing; the steps we all perform. Still others just want to share the experience. For them my quest for understanding is irritating at best.

This, column, then is for those who are willing to walk a little ways with me on my quest. When I look at Beach Music and the Shag, I see carefreeness. Obvious? Not really! Try being carefree when you're stressed out. If you can then you're an *Edge Dancer* with a huge capacity to "dance" with others in life.

If you can only be carefree when you're re-creating; then you're still lucky. Many folks are either "workaholics" or "veg" out at night and on weekends. Or, they go home and find "leisure" activities to work and work and work at. Many people find that making friends or just "having fun" with others is hard work. They either don't choose to Shag or they choose it as a new practice to break the habits of loneliness, but it's not easy at first. Carefreeness is not in the Shag, though, or the music; it's in the person. Ever see someone who tried to do it and gave up because it was too hard? Or they were scared? One has to be carefree, or willing to put aside one's misgivings to learn to be carefree, in order to take up the dance and the music. Carefreeness is in the culture that surrounds the Shag, not in the dance itself. If one finds the Shag difficult, but wants to be carefree, then it's mingling with the people who do it that produces carefreeness—not the steps. Doing the steps over and over can produce confidence in executing the moves, but that isn't carefreeness either. Jo Jo Putnam puts the carefreeness into the Shag. Not the other way around.

Oddly, another closely-connected aspect is 'Caring.' (Can 'caring' and 'carefreeness' exist simultaneously in the same space? Certainly! There's a technical term for it in magic; it's called a *paradox*.)

'Caring' shows up in the stories of the Hall of Famers and others from the 40s, 50s and 60s eras who describe the way in which they took care of one another at the beach; especially those with summer-long resort jobs. A close examination of the Shag itself reveals 'caring' as well.

Watch the couples who are moving together, smiling at one another and having fun. Although the man may be leading most of the time, if he **cares** for his partner, he's leading her where she wants to go. And they're both loving the synchronicity and sharing.

Another aspect of the Shag/Beach culture is that it constantly pushes against the social envelope. Because it's not mainstream—part of the pop culture (whether rock, country or otherwise)—it requires a willingness to be outside the national drift. Why? What's in the Shag culture that isn't found in Rock, Country or Rap?

One of the features I find fulfilling is how the culture promotes gentlemanly and ladylike behavior; a legacy given us by folks from generations of unselfconscious gentility. (Otherwise how could thousands of folks show up at S.O.S. year after year without the usually attendant ambulances and police that circle other similarly-sized festivities?)

Does this give a clue yet to why there are so many joining S.O.S., Shag Clubs and Bop Clubs throughout the country? When someone not in the culture looks at a Shagger and decides to join in, it's not because they can do the 'steps' and it's not because of the music. The same music makes many people miserable. In fact, none of us like all of the Shag Music. Many of us intensely dislike some of the Shag Music genre (cowboy Shag, disco Shag, jump blues, etc.).

Rather than camaraderie, it's the mutual respect and caring that attend the camaraderie. The Beach Music sub-culture = carefreeness, caring, mutual respect and 'pushing the envelope' (i.e. improvisation). A subculture is always an improvisation at the edge of a larger culture in the same way the shaman conjures in the darkness. The shaman is dedicated to the tribe's social well-being and dances his magic all night in the forest's shadow at the periphery of the village.

According to the late twentieth century Canadian philosopher, Marshall McLuhan, a culture's games always provide whatever is missing in the society at large. For many men, glued to football, basketball and baseball games on the weekends, it is the camaraderie of their fellow males, playing together and growing together, passing through clearly delineated rites of manhood, into greater roles in society that is missing.

For those of us in the Rhythm 'n Beach Network it is a clearly delineated understanding of Beach Music and the Shag woven into the many strands of S.O.S., S.P.A., Association of Carolina Shag Clubs, Association of Beach and Shag Club Dee Jays, radio stations, record companies, and fans everywhere, who see the future through the prism of Beach Music, dancing in its scintillating lights.

(The Rhythm 'n Beach Network is John Hook and Chris Beachley, with the talented partnership of Randy Rowland and many others, providing three syndicated radio shows: The Rhythm 'n Beach Top 40 Countdown, Rhythm 'n Beach Classics, the Rhythm 'n Beach Fish Fry along with the Rhythm 'n Beach Newsletter. The R.N.B. Network has other projects on the drawing board and welcome your input and partnership anytime. If you can't find any of these shows on your nearby radio station let them and us know.)

Burlington Shag Club Motto:

Sharing

Helping

Always

Giving

www.burlingtonshagclub.com

Burlington Shag Club
P.O. Box 1174
Burlington, NC 27216

The purpose of our club is to promote and preserve shag dancing and beach music.

The Burlington Shag Club is a non-profit social club dedicated to the preservation of the shag dance and beach music. Known

for its hospitality and great parties,

Burlington club members strive to promote shag dancing, beach music and fun. However, the club is not only about shag dancing and having fun, but we are also about helping those in need. Each year the Burlington Shag Club holds fund raisers for the benefit of Alamance County

charities. These events are highly successful because of the hard work and dedication of all our club members.



Burlington Shag Club's Boston Butts Fundraiser

All Proceeds go to Christmas Cheer



Reserve yours by Calling:

Buddy Richardson at:
(336) 214-2875 OR

Email:

richardson.buddy32@yahoo.com

Saturday, November 22,
2025

Pick up at 1:00pm

At Ronnie & Mary Gregory's House
2517 Catherine Dr., Burlington

**Order a World Famous BSC
T-Shirt and /or Apron**



Please Join Us In
helping Christmas Cheer!

Just in Time for
Thanksgiving!



Donations Accepted

Cut off for orders is
November 17th., 2025

All butt sales are "pay in advance"

BSC Calendar of Events

Oct 3	Shag Night from 7:00 – 10:00 pm	DJ:	Brent Loyd
Oct 10	Shag Night from 7:00 – 10:00 pm	DJ:	Bill Moore
Oct 17	Business Meeting night from 6:30 - 10:00 pm	DJ:	George Dunn
Oct 24	Shag Night 7:00 – 10:00 pm	DJ:	John Williford
Oct 31:	Shag night from 7:00 - 10:00 pm & Halloween Party	DJ:	Steve Carter
Nov 7	Shag night from 7:00 – 10:00 pm	DJ:	Buck Crumpton

BSC Business Meetings and Friday Shag Nights are held at Rack & Rolls, 1243 Plaza Dr. Burlington, NC



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





Burlington, NC

Membership Application

Annual Dues

January 1 - 31 ~ \$25/person

February 1 - December 31 ~ \$30/person

YEAR _____
 NAME (HIS) _____ (HERS) _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY/STATE/ZIP _____
 HOME PHONE _____
 CELL PHONE (HIS) _____ (HERS) _____
 BIRTHDAY (HIS) _____ (HERS) _____
 EMAIL (HIS) _____ (HERS) _____

NEW MEMBER RENEWAL MEMBER HALL OF FAME PAST PRESIDENT

COMMITTEES I AM INTERESTED IN---
 ENTERTAINMENT DJ MEMBERSHIP GOLF TOURNAMENT
 NOMINATION SUNSHINE HISTORIAN CHARITABLE FUND RAISING

 CHECK\$ _____ # _____ CASH\$ _____ TOTAL PAID\$ _____
 MEMBER'S SIGNATURE _____

CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Burlington Shag Club
 P.O. Box 1174
 Burlington, NC 27216

CLUB USE ONLY

Sec's Initials _____ Date rec'd _____ Card Issued _____ Card Mailed _____ Date _____

Burlington Shag Club
 P. O. Box 1174
 Burlington, NC 27216-1174



SHAG RAG

Burlington Shag Club



October 2025

