

# The Dance Post - Winter 2007 Issue

*The Delaware Valley Shag Club Newsletter - October, November and December 2007*

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*Holy Cow!* This year is flying by and this club has been very busy! We're excited to see the advanced dancers from the Monday Night Beers of the World group volunteering to teach the lessons at The Watermelon Dance. Kudos to Bob Wickenden, Nanette Sulik, Frank Sulik, Gerri LaPlaca, Sascha Newberg, Michael Sulik, Butch Ray, Gabrielle Sonnenberg, Susan Flamminio, Eileen Blaney, and Lee White for taking turns teaching this year!!! Hope I didn't miss anyone! How cool is that? Go Del Val!! Be sure and come and take these lessons and support not just the club but those members that work so hard for you. Besides it's fun to add new dance steps to your repertoire and improve your dancing too, as well as help the beginners get the feel for the dance. Oh yes, feel free to thank these folks for volunteering their time. If you'd like to volunteer to teach a half hour lesson - beginner or intermediate, just let me know and you'll be included on the emails that we send for scheduling lessons and we'll find a spot that works for you.



## THE WATERMELON DANCE -

The club's monthly dance, The Watermelon Dance, is doing quite well. Every month we gather at Haddonfield School of Dance for our monthly fix of Carolina Shag! This is one fun dance and social gathering. We focus on Shag: teaching it, learning it, dancing it and promoting it. We welcome all swing dancers..lots of our music fits other swing dances - Jitterbug, West Coast Swing and Lindy to name a few...heck, we've even seen a Balboa or two thrown in here and there. You can also dance a cha cha or hustle etc. to some of the music played here. Test it out. Be sure to come and support the club AND the dance. Be proud that our club is the only place you'll find Shag dancing in the Northeast! Our November dance with the cake bake off between Nate and Linda and the Wine sharing was fabulous! We'll have to do this one again! What do you think? See you 12/29/07!



## MUSIC -

Music: The music format for the Del Val Shag Club dances is rhythm and blues, blues, some contemporary and even a little Gospel. This is the only place and time we really have to practice our shag dancing. You won't likely find too many other genres of music here, although the DJ does take requests. If you hear a song you like, ask the DJ (wherever you are) what it was...don't wait til the end of the night - ask right then! Wanna try taking a turn in the DJ booth - see Sheila or Rob and let's talk. We can make arrangements to schedule you for a 30 minute set and test out your DJ skills. Catch us at a dance or email Sheila at [bpurkey@yahoo.com](mailto:bpurkey@yahoo.com).

## CLUB ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY -

Saturday, Dec 29<sup>th</sup>, 2007 - please join us at Haddonfield School of Dance, 413 Crystal Lake Ave., Haddonfield, NJ for our annual holiday party. This dance is FREE to club members, \$10 for non members. Bring your friends...it's the perfect time and place for them to see what it's all about. Feel free to bring something to share.

## E-NEWSLETTER -

We now have a monthly e-newsletter and our own club email address! Nate Jarvis is our editor for the newsletter and he is doing a great job getting the info out to club members. If you aren't on the mailing list yet...send an email to him at [delvalshag@yahoo.com](mailto:delvalshag@yahoo.com) and have him add you on. If there's info you'd like to get out to club members - again, send Nate an email and he'll include it in the next letter - he does reserve editing rights. The e-newsletter is generally sent out the first part of the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of the month.

## NEW MEMBERS -

Wanna help get info out there about the club and help us expand. We're looking for someone, or two, to volunteer to lead a small group to do just that. Want to learn more? We want to find a way to increase newcomers. Any ideas? Catch me at a dance or email me at [bpurkey@yahoo.com](mailto:bpurkey@yahoo.com).



### **VOLUNTEERS –**

The club can always use help with set up and break down, bringing food for the dance, bringing sodas, etc. There's always so much to do to make a dance/group a success. If you'd like to help out in any way, please let us know. We'll gladly find some way you can be a part of it doing something you don't mind. Oh yes...we will always accept home baked donations for any dance! YUMMY!!!

### **BENEFITS OF BEING CLUB MEMBERS –**

If you aren't already a club member...think of joining. For ONLY \$15 you really can't lose - it's a Win/Win. Club members get discounts to all club sponsored dances (at least 12 a year!), use of the video library, one free holiday dance each year and more. Plus, you help support the club and the one and ONLY place in the Northeast for genuine Carolina Shag dancing. And to top it all off, it's a chance to get together with this fun bunch once a month and party!! We thank you so much for your support.



### **OUR SURVEY SAYS –**

We'd love to have your thoughts on what you like, don't like, sorta like, sorta don't like and/or what you might like to see (suggestions) at the monthly dances. If you'd like to share with us, please complete the short survey at the end of this email. Or send your thoughts/ideas to us via email at [delvalshag@yahoo.com](mailto:delvalshag@yahoo.com). Your input will be anonymous if you choose, and we will not make them public. We thank you in advance for your continued support of the club. Your input will help us make the club a better community for all of us.

### **CLUB CHALLENGE –**

Don't forget the club challenge for the year 2007 is for everyone that loves and dances Shag to show one new person how to do the basic step, at least. Once folks feel the rhythm and get the idea...most often they'll want to learn more. Let's all do our part to tell everyone about the club and dance and help the community grow.

### **CRASH COURSES AND INTENSIVES –**

Rob and I have been offering these workshops throughout the year with much success. **The Crash Courses** are the perfect place for beginners to learn the dance and get familiar with the music and feel of the dance. It also gets you comfortable with the basic steps needed to get on the dance floor! In **The Intensives** we focus on technique and Shag styling as we work on pivots, pivot variations, fancy footwork and cool lead and follow. We're seeing more cool Shag steps out there now and everyone's level of comfort with the dance is rising. Check the website [www.delvalshag.org](http://www.delvalshag.org) for scheduled dates of both.

### **OTHER CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS –**

If you're a club member and you are offering Shag classes feel free to contact Nate @ [delvalshag@yahoo.com](mailto:delvalshag@yahoo.com) to have your classes included in the e-newsletter and send me a brief description at [bpurkey@yahoo.com](mailto:bpurkey@yahoo.com) for the quarterly Dance Post. We'll help you get the word out!



### **WESTIE WEDNESDAY –**

at the Atrium, Rt. 130, Pennsauken, NJ on Wednesday nights from 8:45 to 11:30 is another spot you can get out and dance shag each week. DJ Rob makes sure to play some Shag tunes and some crossover as a large portion of the West Coast Swing group here does enjoy Shag also. Check it out. Only \$5.

**CLUB STATS AND INFO –**

The Delaware Valley Shag Club is a not for profit social club recognized by the State of New Jersey as such. The club serves the tri-state area (New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware), hence the name Delaware Valley Shag Club.

Club treasury as of Nov 15<sup>th</sup>: - \$1,370.48

Club members as of Nov 15<sup>th</sup> - 64

Check the club website each month for what's going on and to see photos! [www.delvalshag.org](http://www.delvalshag.org). As always, if you need more information, have questions or comments or want to volunteer for anything...please contact Sheila at [bpurkey@yahoo.com](mailto:bpurkey@yahoo.com) or Nate @ [delvalshag@yahoo.com](mailto:delvalshag@yahoo.com) or you can call Rob at 609-519-0793.

Shag on.....hope we'll see you Saturday, Dec 29th for the next Watermelon Dance.