

# THE DANCE POST

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Vol 2

Where The North Meets The South

Apr, May, Jun 2007

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**FROM THE PREZ...** Since our last newsletter we've had lots of exciting things happening. The monthly Watermelon Dances are doing quite well in Haddonfield! We have a new group of beginners every month which ensures continued growth of this little dance we love so much. The intermediate lessons are really fun with different members of the BOW group teaching at each dance. Everyone is getting something in the lessons - and that's exactly what we want.



The Monday Night Beers of the World Shag group (our advanced classes) are doing a great job taking turns teaching at the Watermelon Dances - Michael Sulik, Nanette Sulik, Bob Wickenden, Gabriele Sonnenberg, Butch Ray, Susan Flamminio, Frank Sulik and Sascha Newberg, have all taken part. We can't thank you guys enough for volunteering to teach and share your knowledge with others - and what a good job you're doing. The group is liking the variety being offered. Thank you, thank you, thank you...one and all. Thanks also to the members who come out and help out in the beginner classes - it really does help the newbies to have someone in the know to dance with. And for those taking the intermediate class...you're not only learning cool new steps each month but you are supporting those that are volunteering their time to share them with you. Be sure to take a minute when you see any of the club volunteers out and about to thank them for the time and efforts they donate to the club. It makes it a better place for all of us to dance.

For those who enjoy traveling now and then...think about keeping the last weekend in July open for a really fun Shag party weekend in Washington, DC. The Capital Classic event is held at The Hilton Hotel near Dulles Airport on Friday, Saturday and Sunday (July 27, 28 & 29) and is hosted by our sister Shag club, Northern Virginia Shag Club - read more about this one later on in the newsletter. Go to [www.nvshag.org](http://www.nvshag.org) for an online registration form or go to [www.delvalshag.org](http://www.delvalshag.org) and click on the photo of Sam and Lisa West!

DJ Rob works hard to collect and play Shag music at The Watermelon Dances. If you have something you'd like to hear, feel free to make a request. He'll do his best to work your request into the night. These dances have been designed to focus on Shag so that we all have the opportunity to experience a night of Shag dancing here at home once a month. There are many venues in the area for other dances/dancing - you can find ballroom every night of the week; you can find West Coast Swing several nights; you can find Tango every night of the week BUT we only have an opportunity to Shag once a month. The focus of the club is to provide an opportunity for folks to learn and dance Shag. The club is definitely meeting that goal. We sure hope everyone is enjoying the dance, the lessons, the music, the club and the people!

This newsletter will be posted on the website and all future copies will be there for you to read. Remember after this issue if you want a hard copy mailed to you, you will have to send me an email or note or give us a call and let me know that you want one sent out to you. We will continue to send out flyers before each club dance to help you all remember the dates for upcoming dances.

That's all for now...Get out and DANCE...see you on the dance floor.

*Sheila*

## DVSC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President - Sheila Purkey  
Vice President - Rob Baen  
Secretary - Marie Patrizi  
Treasurer - vacant  
Club Video Library - Debbie Pica

Director at Large - John Patrizi  
Director at Large - Nanette Sulik  
Director at Large - vacant  
Club Photographer - Susan Flamminio



### The Capital Classic July 27, 28 & 29

Sam and Lisa West are the Guest Instructors at the Capital Classic Weekend sponsored by [The Northern Virginia Shag Club](#).

One of the MOST fun Shag party weekends going! This one is in it's 13<sup>th</sup> year and going strong. This weekend is traditionally one of the Delaware Valley Shag Club members favorite dance weekends. We usually get quite a few club members participating here and we're sure we'll have the usual good turnout this year - especially with Sam and Lisa as the invited guest instrutors. The weekend is a bargain with ticket prices at \$75 per person if purchased before. This includes: Friday: free pour with/BarBQ and Friday night dancing; Saturday: Breakfast buffet, 3 workshops with Sam & Lisa West (beginner, intermediate and advanced), pool party in afternoon, Dinner buffet, and Saturday night dancing; Sunday: breakfast buffet and Gospel hour dancing, dancing til noon. This year NVSC has moved the party to the Hilton Hotel near Dulles Airport - we're sure it'll be just as fun in the new location.

As most of you know - Sam is one of my all time favorite dancers and teachers, so of course I'd strongly recommend you reserve that weekend NOW for a little trip to Washington DC. Mark your calendar, reserve your room, purchase your ticket, plan the time and be ready to PARTY at the end of July!

Hats off to the following club members volunteering their talent & time for our Mar 30<sup>th</sup> dance!



Door Coverage  
Eileen Blaney

Lessons  
Sascha Newberg  
Bob Wickenden  
Michael Sulik  
Sheila Purkey

Clean Up Set Up  
Michael Sulik  
Sascha Newberg  
Lee White  
Susan Flamminio  
Rob Baen  
Sheila Purkey

There was no April dance due to scheduling conflicts. We're hoping that's a one time happening!

For the dance on May 4<sup>th</sup> - we thank these volunteers!

Door Coverage

Eileen Blaney

Lessons

Butch Ray

Sascha Newberg

Bob Wickenden

Gerri LaPlaca

Clean Up Set Up

Michael Sulik

Sascha Newberg

Lee White

Susan Flamminio

Nate Jarvis

Rob Baen

Sheila Purkey

*And we always thank everyone that brings beverages and food to share! We do have fun at these parties!*

If you'd like to volunteer to help out at the dances in any way...just let us know and we'll find you something to do!

***Welcome To The Show! We welcome our newest club members!***



Bill Fetty

MaryAnn Campling

**The Swing Kings and The Sugah Dumplins  
By Sheila Purkey**

This swing/shag team is one cool team! The members have been working very hard and are almost ready to bring it home. We'll be performing starting in July and hopefully be hitting lots of local events during July and August. We want everyone to see this group perform. They have worked very hard to become bilingual in dance - learning and dancing a routine that includes both Carolina Shag and West Coast Swing. This is a FIRST for the Del Val area and we're so VERY proud of them. We can't wait for you to see them.

The team will hopefully be performing at The Capital Classic in July! Go TEAM!!

Team members:

Coaches and Choreographers: Rob Baen and Sheila Purkey

Leaders: Tim Jerman, Lucas Ngyen, George (Butch) Ray, Michael Sulik, Lee White, and Bob Wickenden

Followers: Eileen Blaney, Susan Flamminio, Mara Hyatt,



Got something you'd like to share? Send it along to Sheila at [bpurkey@yahoo.com](mailto:bpurkey@yahoo.com). We welcome articles, news, photos and more. While we always welcome your input and suggestions we do reserve the right to edit.



## ***Watermelon Dance Schedule*** - save the dates!

June 16, 2007

July 20, 2007

August 18, 2007

September 28, 2007

October 20, 2007

November 17, 2007

December 8, 2007 - Holiday Dance - FREE for members

All dances are scheduled for either a Friday or Saturday night.

Location: Haddonfield School of Dance, 413 Crystal Lake Ave., Haddonfield, NJ

Time: 8:00-8:30 - Carolina Shag lesson - 2 lessons offered each month in separate rooms -  
Beginner and Intermediate lessons each month by various instructors.

8:30-midnight - Social Dance with our DJ. Music format: Blues, Rhythm & Blues, some contemporary and some Gospel too!

COST: \$7 Del Val Members; \$10 non-members; Students with valid ID \$5



### ***Hey DJ!*** By Sheila Purkey

This DJ doesn't play the music I like. What can't he play my favorite song? What's wrong with this DJ? I think we need a new DJ!.....ever hear comments like these or close to these from any of the dancers you know? To DJ a dance is a lot more involved than most people think. If you don't believe that...try it. We are going to give you a chance to do just that - try your hand at providing the music.

It takes a lot of time to collect enough music to play a good selection that will be well received by the majority of dancers for a time period of 3 or 4 hours or more. There's a lot of work that happens behind the scenes! For those that would like to have a chance to try their skills...we'll give you that. You will be required to have a certain amount of your own equipment in order to play at the dances, contact us and we'll talk to you about what you need to do to get a DJ spot. We'll start you out with the opportunity to take the spotlight and play for the dancers for a 30 minute period at a Watermelon Dance. Contact Sheila at [bpurkey@yahoo.com](mailto:bpurkey@yahoo.com) or Rob at 856-858-6753. We are establishing some guidelines that we'll publish in the next edition of The Post.

**Northern Virginia Shag Club Instructional Video.** Our sister club, NVSC's instructors got together and made an instructional CD of the most common moves they teach in their organized lessons. This CD is another great way to learn new steps and to work on improving your dance. They sell for \$15 each = all proceeds go to the Junior Shaggers. We will have these CDs available at the Watermelon Dances. If you'd like one let me know.