



ALAN MICHAELIS (2015)

Alan has a face so familiar to us in so many venues that we could assume he's always been around. But his introduction to Carolina Shag, not so very long ago, (2006) was abrupt, and as always, life-changing. Alan received a Master's degree in mechanical engineering, had a 34-year career with the US Navy traveling worldwide, and then retired in Virginia Beach in June 2001. He then started his own company providing litigation multimedia support and Forensic Video Analysis services to attorneys throughout Virginia. In October 2006, he just happened to be in North Myrtle Beach, SC with a buddy one day and they quite innocently decided to have lunch in a place called "Fat Harolds". Here, he observed what was seemingly a flash mob, partying, as the song says "... like it's 1999". Well, Alan had stumbled into SOS, on a Saturday afternoon! With that introduction, he was a goner! Returning home, he and his wife jumped into taking shag lessons with Larry and Steva Williams (VSHOF, 1996 & 2003, respectively). They persisted and worked hard, traveled to every shag weekend party and SOS they could make, and became an enthusiastic favorite on shag floors in Central and Tidewater VA.

But a love for and fascination with the Shag is not Alan's sole VSHOF qualification. Alan's second career as a litigation media specialist and expert witness brought his talents as a videographer to the Tidewater and wider shag community, taping lessons and taking photos at events like the annual VSHOF induction and the National Living Legends of Dance annual inductions in November. He has, in a relatively short time, earned an assured place in the Virginia shag community. In 2021 he applied for a position as an ACSC/SOS photographer. After a protracted vetting process, he was accepted as an official ACSC/SOS photographer with a mission to get more Virginia shagger photos into the Carefree Times. And boy, has he has been successful! As of this writing he has over 200,000 cataloged shag dance photos.