



CHERYL CREAGER (2005)

Dancing and music have always been in her life. It lifts her spirits, touches her soul, offers an escape, and creates memories that are with her always. How fortunate Cheryl feels to have been a part of this phenomenon of beach music and shagging - to share the fun and perpetuate the dance.

As a "P-Town" gal, dancing was her "sport" from the very early years. If there was a place to dance, she was there the Ambassador's Club, Beasley Center, Y-dances, Craddock, Virginia Beach Community Center, the Top Hat (she still has a framed admission ticket), the Tropicana, Peppermint Beach Club, Surf Rider, Ebb Tide, Jolly Roger, Mecca, and anywhere else she could find.

It started in the years when Bill Deal played the organ in the Portsmouth parade and, moving through time to the reunion at what was Steppin' Out before it closed. Some remember listening secretly to late night DJ Jack Holmes at WRAP, having discovered R & B and "that other" great music.

What meant the most to her was the "gathering" of so many dancers that had not forgotten how very important the music was in their lives. It brought them back together and resulted in forming an organization to promote and preserve it. The Virginia Beach Shag Club (VBSC) re-kindled that awareness, and the "Bill and Ammon" reunion brought people out. What accomplishments the VBSC has to its credit - the clubs it helped formed in Tidewater and beyond and the impact and contributions it made over the years. As "fast dancers" all became familiar with more varieties of music and find SOS on Ocean Drive, they discover a "common ground" where everyone is able to find a place to have fun and create those memories that stick with them.

Cheryl was a member of the Tidewater Shag Club (from its conception at the "Round Room") and the VBSC since the beginning. She served as VBSC newsletter editor when the publication converted to its second format, and coordinated the contest to name it "The Beach Breeze". She set up the first VBSC computerized membership data base in conjunction with the newsletter and coordinated with the Club treasurer for membership renewal. She designed and co-produced one VBSC Beach Bash program book and regularly attended SOS. She participated in VBSC activities locally and out of town.... she always has a great time!!!"