



HEATHER JENNINGS (2023)

Heather's resume transcends even outstanding levels of performance, participation and excellence in the world of Carolina Shag. Her involvement started in 1996 with membership in the Northern Virginia Shag Club (NVSC). Her boyfriend then and now husband, Craig (VSHOF, 2018), took her to a Catalinas concert in Richmond, showed her a Charlie & Jackie video, and their Shag journey began.

Heather (and Craig) started competing in the Competitive Shag Association (CSA) in 1998, taking coaching from numerous CSA pros, including Shirley Lee (VSHOF, 2023). She also began teaching Shag for the NVSC. As she rose through the CSA ranks, she began to teach workshops regionally, chaired major NVSC committees and events, and ultimately served as NVSC President and Vice President. In 2004, she (and Craig) helped establish the Battlefield Boogie Club in the Fredericksburg, VA area, providing shag classes closer to their home.

She has competed in 71 CSA contests (as of 2023), attained Pro status, and competed at the National Shag Dance Championships (NSDC) 7 times and the USA Grand National Dance Championships (GNDC) for 5 years. She competed on six different shag teams with two 1st places and two 2nd places at the GNDC. Her Shag team experience includes dancing on the 2004 and 2006 Virginia State Shag Dance Teams for which she was a co-choreographer. An extensive career as a judge for CSA, the GNDC and Junior shag events were layered on top of all her other shag-related activities. Heather and Craig also have been sponsors of the GNDC Non-Pro Division for several years.

Her professional calling as a programmer enabled her to serve as webmaster for the Battlefield Boogie Club. In addition, she wrote the contest scoring program for CSA competitions and taught CSA Board members how to operate the program. Moreover, for several years, Heather served on the CSA Board and as the CSA newsletter editor. While this summary doesn't cover the entirety of her Shag experience, it provides a strong sense of her significant accomplishments in and contributions to the Shag dance community.