



SHIRLEY LEE (2023)

Shirley started at the Richmond Shag Club in 1988, only a year after its founding in 1987. By the early 1990s she was serving on the Board, and with her former partner, teaching beginner and intermediate shag lessons at DeFazio's in Richmond's Far West End. From 1992-1996, these two WERE the Richmond Shag Club Dance Committee. By 1993, they were competing in the Competitive Shag Association (CSA) with a laser focus. In 1996, they won 2nd place at the National Shag Dance Championships (NSDC) Non-Pro Division in Myrtle Beach SC, and took 3rd place in Non-Pro in 1997. After that, they went on to become the first dance couple from Virginia to make it to the CSA Pro Division, blazing the trail for many more to follow. With their Pro Status and achievements at NSDC, they were popular guest instructors at numerous shag club parties and dance workshops over the next few years.

Her competitive career continued through the year 2000, but she always found the time and energy to serve the RSC during the 1991-1995 era as newsletter editor, Board Member, Vice President and every committee. One of her greatest achievements was coaching and mentoring amateur competitors and club level competitive teams composed of many future VSHOF members. Another high point in her dance career was her induction into the National Living Legends of Dance (NLLD) in 2005, which gives an indication of her standing as a national-level competitor. Rejoining the RSC in 2016, she currently serves on the social committee and is co-chairing the RSC's Boogie on the James Party in 2022 and 2023, while re-joining the 2023 Board of Directors.

Shirley is truly an ambassador for the preservation, promotion and love of the Carolina Shag dance.