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Twister's Shag Club

Web Site: www.GoShagging.com

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We have a Facebook page, too!

704-892-1114 or P.O Box 2310, Cornelius, NC 28031

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	(704-963-9409)	Dean Melton
VICE-PRESIDENT	Γ	Barry Wray
	Г	

COMMITTEE CHAIRPEOPLE

Fall Cyclone: Mike Rink (704-892-1114) Lesson Nights: Nancy Massengill (704-483-7779) Meet And Greet: Susan Dahl (704-528-8005) Membership: Barry Wray (828-428-8289) Newsletter, Web Site & Publicity: Mike Rink (704-892-1114) New Member Spotlight: Marylee Kreamer (704-799-1119) Photography: Ray Clark & Charlie Binder (336-492-5342) Social: Hope Wray and Mimi Hooker (828-428-8284) Sunshine: Celia Hunter (704-664-2639

All info must be submitted by the 15th of the preceding month.

Statements in this publication are directed to our members and should not be taken out of context by others. Also, opinions expressed by various authors may not reflect those of our club.

You may re-use items in this publication as long as you credit TSC in your reprint and mail us a copy. (Use address on cover.)

The President's Letter

Hello Fun Bunch,

I'm baaaaaaaaaaaaaaaak!

I am sure you noticed that Jimmy and I have been MIA for a while. Health issues have been a hard thing for the past couple of years.



Hopefully we are done with most of that and can begin to have fun with our shag friends again.

I hope this letters finds everyone doing well and doing all you can to stay cool. It has been hot long enough. It's time for a little afternoon shower with some light breezes to cool it down a little. It looks like it is going to be a record-breaking summer.

There has a lot of activity in the shag world and in our club. We recently traveled to Winston-Salem for the Oldies Party. We have had tons of fun at this event over the years. If you missed the trip this year make plans to attend next year. You won't regret it.

The Summer Workshop was recently held in Virginia. Due to my recent surgery I couldn't make the trip. So past President Mike attended in my absence. Thanks, Mike and Peggy. Then there was Jr. SOS at the beach. I heard there was a great crowd again this year. If you have young children or grandchildren you should think about taking them to Jr. SOS. It is an awesome event and they will make friends and have a great time all while learning to shag. What could be better?

Next up on our club's social calendar of events is the Frozen Fantasy Party. This has to be hands down one of the best party we have, excluding the Cyclone of course. Thanks go out to Mike and Celia who have offered to be our hosts. There will be a meal from Fat Boys and plenty of desserts made by all our members. Don't forget the Frozen Fantasy contest. We have more and more entries each year. The judges have a tough job (haha) ahead of them if they can stay focused (sober) to the end. So start thinking now what your entry will be. There are several categories so your options are wide open.

Dance lessons are going great. We continue to have a lot of interest in our lessons. Thanks to Ashley and Tobitha for continuing to do a fantastic job! They teach a lot of new steps, so consider taking a class as a refresher or to learn something new.

The Finish Line is really *the* place to be on Friday nights. Crowds continue to fill the floor. The music is good. The food is good. The company is good. What more could you ask for?

Let's not forget about the Cyclone. It will be here before you know it. We need your support to help make this the best party ever. Tickets are already on sale. There is more information in this newsletter. Mark your calendars and make your plans to be there with friends from everywhere.

Lastly, I would like to thank everyone who has help make TSC the best club ever. Those of you who help with lessons, take pictures, write articles for the newsletter, serve as committee chairs and just show up at almost all events with a smile and ready to have fun are what keeps this "The Fun Bunch"! Keep up the great work.

Thanks again to all. See you soon.

Dean

Club Meeting Night

Our monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 4th at Fat Boys in Mooresville. Social hour starts at 7pm. Come early to eat. The business meeting will start at 8pm.

Ray Clark won \$81 last month. Don't miss your chance to win the cash in the TSC Treasure Chest, too!

The Big Frozen Fantasy Party

(A Message From Our Hosts Mike And Celia)

We are looking forward to seeing everyone at this year's "cool" event. You are welcome to bring tents, chairs, floaties and beach towels along with the usual delicious libations. Maybe we will get a break in the heat for this day!

Parking is available in the natural area of our yard. Please pull into it rather than along side (this includes parking from the street as well as the driveway). More people can park this way. Don't worry about running over the Monkey Grass. It is tough stuff and takes more than a brief encounter with a car tire to kill it. Additional parking will be available at our neighbors' properties just before our house at 301 Riverwood (vacant lot) and 303 Riverwood. Again, try to park to maximize the space.

If you want to come by boat, we can accommodate you at one of the three available docks. If you have questions, let us know, and we will try to get the answer long before the event. Call our house at 704-664-2639.

Until then, we will see you on the dance floor!

Party Start Time: 3pm Meal Time: 6pm Contest Time: 7pm

To get there by land from I-77 exit 36, go west on 150 approximately three miles. Turn on McCrary Road (Big Daddy's will be coming up on the right). Go to the end of the road and turn right onto Riverwood. Go about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile. The house is on the left at 305 Riverwood. It has white columns.

To get there by water from Marker 12, the end of Kiser Island. Go North. At marker 16 look straight ahead. You will see the water tower at 12 o'clock. Go toward 1 o'clock toward MC1 and MC2. McCrary Creek Island is on the right. Bear left then right. The dock is two-levels. The house has a sun deck with white railing.

Fall Cyclone 25

By Peggy Cavin

This is a big year for Twister's Shag Club. We will be celebrating another great Fall Cyclone. But it will be the last of our big threeday Fall Cyclone Party. I'm hoping that many former members will attend this silver anniversary party.

Over the years, we have had members come and go as their lives have changed. We have also had some members that have been with us a long, long time. Together these current and past members have helped us put on some of the most awesome events ever hosted. We have won four awards for best party of the year.

We have also hosted four of the best and "biggest bang for your buck" ACSC Workshops along the way, too. In fact, I doubt there will ever be a workshop party like the last one we hosted, complete with a ribeye steak and grilled chicken dinner for meeting attendees. We even offered them a Lake Norman cruise boat ride.

The old skating rink is a great place for our party. It's the ideal spot that offers our guests the biggest dance floor around. It's amazing how our members transform that "bingo parlor" into a huge party facility. It takes two and a half days to take everything of theirs out of the building, clean up the facility, and bring in all of the furniture and other items we use to put on a party.

Some of our committee chairs have held their positions for years. Others are relatively new. The work seems to have gotten easier, if that's possible, but there is also more to do than in years past.

In our earlier years we posted a suggestion box for guests and many of those suggestions helped us along the way to make the Cyclone even better.

We are looking forward to getting into the rink to begin this Cyclone. Mike has been working on projects for months getting ready to roll out this year's flyer and other information. With the help of some of our members, we've just sent out a big mailing to past guests and other shag clubs. It was a big job.

But we've had inquiries about how to get tickets since the last day of the last Fall Cyclone. And we've already sold about 100 tickets before the mailing was done. If this is any indication of what's to come, people had better get their tickets early.

It's really going to be a great party and everyone is already excited.



New TSC Members

By Marylee Kreamer

Twisters Shag Club would like to welcome a couple new members! **Evelyn White** and **Sherry Walter** are mother and daughter, both from Mooresville. I first met them the day of the Winston-Salem bus trip and knew that they would fit right in. They showed up dressed in their "Sock Hop" best and were passing around the Jell-O shooters before the rest of us could get settled into our seats. Sherry made a point of politely sampling a little bit of what everybody else brought to share and that put her in the mood to have a real good time! Evelyn was also enjoying herself that night *and* keeping one eye on her daughter \bigcirc

Evelyn grew up with shag dancing and is looking to have fun! I know "The Fun Bunch" won't let her down! She's retired and working part-time at Kangaroo in China Grove. She enjoys sewing, pottery, crafts, and cake decorating in her spare time.

Next time you see her ask her about being a Carolina Clown! What fun! She raised four wonderful children and now has six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Seeing Evelyn in her Pink Lady outfit in Winston-Salem, you'd never guess she could be old enough to have great-grandchildren!

Sherry has her masters in Nursing and works as a nurse as well as teaching nurses. She likes spending time at the beach or the lake, listening to gospel music, and cooking. I don't know if making Jell-O shooters qualifies as "cooking" but some of us know first-hand that she has a special talent for that! She has two boys, Anthony, 20, and Timothy, 17 who both love the outdoors.

She got interested in shag dancing in 2006 when a friend invited her to SOS. She loved the atmosphere and the people and has been in and out of the shag world ever since. She started lessons and found everyone so welcoming and knew this would be a fun crowd. Sherry says that she's kind of quiet (really?) but that once you get to know her, *look out!* She loves to laugh, cut up, and have fun. Well, Sherry, you've come to the right place! When asked what they were looking forward to the most as new members of Twisters Shag Club both Evelyn and Sherry said that they were looking forward to seeing what this Cyclone party is all about. We'll see you there!

Recent Activities With TSC

By Kathy Strantz

Dick and I got to enjoy another great bus trip to Winston-Salem Shag Club's Oldies party! The bus was filled with friends, fun, food and shooters!

Winston-Salem Shag Club always puts on a great party with lots of food, great raffle prizes, a super floor for all kinds of dancing and a great DJ! I finally got to visit with Cindy, Lloyd, Barbara, Don, Martha and Howard and enjoy the Twisters shooters, but I'm still working on the toast!

Wild Bill was wild as was that guy from NJ, and the Kathys were in rare form. Love that Pink Lady, Mary Lee and her good-looking date! Barbara and Cindy won four raffle prizes!

We always feel so welcomed by the WSSC!

I really enjoyed TSC's huge yard sale, too! Thanks to Peggy & Mike who did a great job advertising and organizing! It was great visiting with shag club members and the many friends who stopped to shop! I even got rid of some stuff!

Now I am looking forward to SOS and The Cyclone!

DJ Schedule For The Finish Line

Aug 7: Billy Waldrep Aug 14: Norman Mills Aug 21: Jeff Foster Aug 28: Fast Eddie Sept 4: Roy Childress Sept 11: To Be Announced Sept 18: Roger Holcomb Sept 25: To Be Announced

The Big Yard Sale

By Peggy Cavin

Our alarm went off bright and early at 5:45am and we scrambled out of bed. It was the day of the huge Twister's yard sale. Luckily, we had loaded the car (actually both cars) the day before, so that chore was done. We arrived at Fat Boys at 6AM.

Other members started arriving shortly after. We had a string of tents and members lined up ready and waiting for the first buyers.

The owner of Fat Boys had graciously placed a huge tent in the parking lot for us. As it turned out, it was a lifesaver. The temperature was in the high nineties that day.

Buyers started arriving a little after 7am. It seemed we had two rushes; the early "get the deals before anyone else" pickers and the "wait till the last minute" pickers looking for some final bargains. But we also had tons of people in between these rushes.

We were. first, trying to get rid of our unwanted items and, secondly, trying to raise money for the Junior Shag Dance Team to help with their travels during the year.

As the morning moved into afternoon, the heat was really taking a toll. But we managed to sell lots of stuff and have a good time with each other at the same time. There were people from all walks of life looking around everyone's stuff. It was refreshing to have people asking questions about the juniors. Several donated to the cause without ever buying anything.

One man presented Mike with a small collection of Pepsi collectables to sell for the kids! What a great gesture from someone we didn't know.

Mike and I were selling, not buying that day. At least that is what I thought. But lo and behold I looked up and saw him going to our car with two boxes of records. Thanks, Susan! I appreciated that!

After the yard sale was over, the nice people from the ReStore took all that was left back to their store to sell. Then we gathered in Fat Boys for lunch and discussions of what had happened during the sale. The club bought lunch for everyone who gave a donation to the Junior Shag Dance Team. We collected around \$500. Other members sent checks to the club mailbox. If you want to donate to the Juniors, please send a check to the club address on the front of the newsletter. It will be appreciated. These Juniors are an awesome group of kids that carry their talent all across the U.S.A. keeping our beloved dance alive. Twisters is proud of them all and glad to be considered a part of their team!

After lunch, Mike and I headed to OD to attend the Celebration of Life for a great man; Mr. Harold Bessent (a.k.a. Fat Harold). It was a long day for us, but also a very satisfying one.

Oh, and getting to travel down the new part of 485 made the trip easier. No red lights for Mr. Rink to have to slow down for!

Support The Fun Sunday/Monday Raffle

Every year the Enhancement Committee hosts Fun Sunday and Fun Monday during the Fall SOS Event at North Myrtle Beach. Multiple bands play out in the street for everyone's enjoyment. The event is paid for by a raffle. Prizes range from \$100-\$7500. (Our own Kathy Thompson won \$2500 one year.) Any funds left over are given to a charity to support kids.

We are given 100 tickets to sell each year (something we have always done). One benefit of selling all of our tickets is that our club is allowed to set up a tent at Fun Monday *for free*. TSC usually chooses to to advertise the Fall Cyclone at our tent, sometimes giving out hand fans or other freebies, too.

Please buy a least one ticket this year. And if you can, help us sell them, too. Most people in our club choose to be part of a "pool" we have created where a \$20 investment gets you a share of ten tickets so you have many more chances to win. See Mike Rink or Kathy Thompson for more information. Thank you for helping out!

What's Happening In The Shag World

GoShagging.com and our Facebook page also have info.

Aug 4: TSC Meeting at Fat Boys. Social at 7pm, meeting at 8.

Aug 14, 15: Runway Boogie hosted by Beckley Shag Club. DJs Larry Edwards and Ed Timberlake. karen@beckleyshagclub.com or 304-228-3757 for info.

Aug 22: TSC Frozen Fantasy Party. Details in this issue.

Sept 6: Sandkicker Megafest hosted by Sandy Beach Shag Club. 803-760-2947 or www.sandybeachshagclub.com for info.

Sept 18-27: Fall SOS at North Myrtle Beach, SC.

Oct 9, 10: ShagAttack and Shag Hall Of Fame Inductions at NMB

Oct 16, 17: Fall Bash in Johnson City, TN. Hosted by Mountain Empire Shag Society. \$60. DJs Jeff Foster and Larry "Bigfish" Calhoun. www.messdance.com for more info.

Oct 29-31: The 26th Annual Orange Squeeze hosted by Beach Boppers of Orlando. www.beachboppers.com

Nov (5) 6-8: The 25th Annual Fall Cyclone. See www.FallCyclone.com for even more details.

Nov 21: Thankmus Party hosted by Palmetto Shag Club. \$25. DJBillyFanning.susan.martin956@gmail.comorwww.palmettoshagclub.com or 803-497-3669 for more info.

Dec 31: New Year's Eve Party hosted by Palmetto Shag. \$40. 803-609-8170 or susan.martin956@gmail.com or www.palmettoshagclub.com for more.

April 1-3: Capital City Shag Extravaganza hosted by Capital City Shag Club, \$80. 803-606-3030 or mkiesel@sc.rr.com for info.

Upcoming Birthdays

Marsha Tomlin	08/06
Karin Dickson	08/08
Dean Melton	08/13
Martha Baker	08/22
Lynda Dull	08/23
Ken Culpepper	08/30

Bill Millman	09/04
Justin Mullins	09/09
Mike Rink	09/16
Vickie Abernathy	09/17
Sherry Walter	09/17
Kathy Thompson	09/24

An Anniversary Wish From Last Month:

Happy Anniversary Charlie!

51 years and you are still my best friend. I love you so much!

Iris

Miles And Miles Of Traveling

By Peggy Cavin

Mike and I had been planning a trip to Ft. Lauderdale to visit the Shag Lauderdale Club for a couple months. They had submitted an application to join the ACSC and Mike was asked to visit them and report back to the ACSC at the Workshop in Herndon, VA.

Going down, we stopped in St. Augustine and spent the night before traveling further south. St. Augustine is an interesting place. It's the oldest city in the U.S. and it's a neat city to hang out in.

The next morning, we headed to Orlando to stop by and visit our friends, Jerry and Evelyn Munson's club for a night of dancing. From there, we drove on two more hours before reaching West Palm Beach. The next morning it was on to Ft. Lauderdale.

Once we got there we were greeted by President Michele DeRosa. She is so much fun to be around. We met a lot of nice people, enjoyed a great party and made lots of new friends that weekend. We left Ft. Lauderdale on Sunday, and drove the eleven and a half hours home to wash clothes and get ready for the next leg of our travels, the ACSC Workshop Party in Herdon, VA.

We knew that the ACSC workshop was only about 25 miles from DC. I've never been to DC so I thought this would be a good time to see the sights of Washington. We headed out on Tuesday and planned to stop for the night somewhere within two hours or so of our hotel in Washington. Traffic was light and we made good time.

About 90 miles out at 1:00am we stopped at a hotel for the night. We asked the lady at he front desk how long it would take to get to DC from there. She told us less than two hours now, or three hours in the morning due to traffic. We made a phone call to the hotel where we were booked the next day and asked them how much extra they would charge us if we came on now, figuring it would be about 3:00am when we got there. Lucky us, the man on duty told us to "just come on" and check in. So away we went.

It was great to wake up in DC, a mere two miles from the White House, and have several days to see the sights. I've never walked so much in my life. We didn't see all there was, but we hit a lot of highlights. There was so much to do. Each Smithsonian Museum took at least three or four hours to go through if you didn't slow down. We visited Arlington Cemetery and were able to see the changing of the guards at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier. We also saw JFK's eternal flame, and other special gravesites.

We were in Grand Central Station a few times. I have always used the term "like Grand Central Station" when describing something busy. Well, I found out that this is a true statement.

I think my favorite thing was the Lincoln Memorial. We visited it at night and it was awesome. Overall, Washington is a place you need to go once. But with all that traffic, I'm not sure I'd go back.

We left Washington Friday afternoon and headed towards Herndon, VA for the ACSC Summer Workshop. We had a great time at the party and saw a lot of our friends. On a sad note, Thursday night while in Washington, we heard that our good friend Mel Hancock had passed away. So when we left Herndon on Sunday morning, we drove to Beckley, WV to pay our respects at the Celebration of Life for him. Mel did a lot for his shag club and for his town. He will be missed by many.

We left Beckley late Sunday and headed home. We got home late that night. The next morning we started packing again for the trip to junior SOS, and a few days later we were headed to OD. Wow!

Junior SOS was awesome this year. There were 1300+ kids and adults registered, the biggest group ever. The kids were awesome. The Junior Shag Association had planned fun activities during the whole week including contests, workshops, a hotdog luncheon, a gospel hour on Sunday, etc.

I think my favorite activity was the Handicapped Mixed Doubles at Fat Harold's. Vicki Byrum did an excellent job designing the costumes. Mike put a video of the contest on the Fat Harold's Facebook Page.

While at OD, Mike and I worked on Fall Cyclone videos It's funny, when you place a camcorder in someone's face you sometimes see the panic set in. Seems people have a totally different personality when they know someone is filming them. Look for the new video's coming soon on Facebook and www.FallCyclone.com as part of our Cyclone advertisements.

We placed laminated flyers on some of the participating clubs' doors. We also put flyers in the clubs. We noticed a lot of people were anxious to get them, too.

Speaking of the Cyclone, the orders are coming in fast! Mike has www.FallCyclone.com up and running, and it really looks good. Check it out.

Our letters to all previous attendees were mailed out this week and we are getting into full Cyclone mode! This will be the year all of our friends and fellow shaggers don't want to miss. I look forward to the fun we will have with them.

The Big Move By Bill Millman

Diane and I are in a crazy state these days. About five weeks ago Diane met a girl who was starting her new job at Doosan (where Diane was the Receptionist). She was planning to move to the Statesville area. That evening she and her husband came over to our home and fell in love with *our house*. To make a long story short, Diane retired and we were moving out in three weeks.

The home that we will be building in Little River/North Myrtle Beach (LRNMB) hasn't been started yet. So after five U-Haul truck loads, all our stuff is in a LRNMB storage unit and we have moved into our condo at Sugar Mountain.

We could not find a place to rent anywhere at the beach. This time of year is the worst time for finding a place to rent for three months. We have decided to buy a used travel trailer and put it on our lot in LRNMB. But we are finding out that everything at the beach moves at its own pace; slow.

Maybe in four weeks we will be able to move into our 37 ft. travel trailer along with our two, 80 lb, four-legged babies. In the meantime, we are at our Sugar Mountain condo where it is 78 degrees and making five-hour trips to the beach to take care of details. I never thought our retirement would be this crazy.

The worst part of this whole ordeal is that we are missing all the fun we have had dancing with everyone on Friday night at The Finish Line. But it won't be long until it's SOS where we will get to visit with our friends again. Then after that it's the Cyclone and we are really looking forward to that. Don't forget to get your 50/50 tickets from Diane and I. O

From Lynda Dull

I have never seen the movie "Shag". It is out of print now and difficult to locate as well as costly. Does anyone in our circle of friends have the movie and is willing to let me borrow it to watch?

Contact me at 704-966-0879 or lyndasdull@gmail.com.

What Have You Done Lately?

When this club year started, we all committed to making this the best year ever for TSC. Each of us signed up for at least two committees, and we were all reminded in a recent newsletter which ones we signed up to help.

So what have you done for your committee or TSC lately? If you haven't been very involved recently, now is the time. The year is almost half over. So please contact your Committee Chairman and see what you can do to help out, today!

Here's an overview of each committee that lists each chairperson, what the committee's duties are, and a brief update of what is going on or what help is needed in the near future.

Remember, you don't have to actually be on a particular committee to help out. All support is appreciated!

Dance Lessons Nancy Massengill: 704-641-8758

Duties: To coordinate and help promote shag dance lessons. To help sign in students, to serve as a partner to students, and to help with resetting the room after lessons.

Current Needs: Members are currently needed to help be partners to our students, and to help with the room reset at 9:15pm.

Meet & Greet

Susan Dahl 704-528-8005

Duties: To welcome guests to various TSC functions and activities including our weekly dances. To give guests a positive impression of Twister's Shag Club that would entice them to participate in our events and/or want to become members of our club.

Current Needs: Members are needed every Friday to "make the rounds", visiting the various tables at the Finish Line. (It's a great time to share a Cyclone flyer with them, too.)

Membership

Barry Wray: 828-428-8284

Duties: To attract quality new members to TSC, to help recruit new members during Tuesday night dance lessons, to participate in public events that could draw interest in our club.

This committee also ensures information about new, prospective members is included in club newsletters and helps to "mentor" new members. When someone is voted into our club, this committee ensures that new member bios are shared with the membership via the club newsletter.

Current Needs: The next group of shag lessons will end on Tuesday, August 25th. We need members that night to talk to students and help encourage them to become members of our club.

<u>Newsletter</u> Mike Rink: 704-534-4151

Duties: To write and obtain articles, photos, personal wishes, jokes and other items of interest for our publication. Then, to organize, print and distribute the TSC newsletter.

Current Needs: More member articles and submissions of other items are needed. Send in a few lines about a shag-related memory or an event you have enjoyed, birthday or anniversary wishes or other items to Mike at TSC@GoShagging.com.

Photography

Charlie Binder: 704-799-3584 or Ray Clark: 336-492-5342

Duties: To take pictures at all TSC activities and events, and other shag events where TSC goes as a group (i.e., SOS, bus trips, etc.). To take photos of members and guests at our Friday night dances.

Current Needs: Photos of our packed Friday night dances, our Tuesday lessons, and our upcoming Frozen Fantasy are needed!

Publicity Mike Rink: 704-534-4151

Duties: To publicize TSC, its activities and events using things like Email, the club website, Facebook, promotional flyers, business cards, brochures and radio or TV advertisement.

Current Needs: Members are needed to share Cyclone flyers at shag nights and events they attend, to forward emails about the event, and to "like" Facebook posts about our 25th annual party.

<u>Social</u> Hope Wray 828-291-6868

Duties: To help plan, publicize, carry out and clean up after various TSC social activities and events.

Current Needs: Members are needed to help with setup, managing, and cleanup of the Frozen Fantasy on August 22^{nd} .

Sunshine

Celia Hunter: 704-664-2639

Duties: To send birthday cards, get well wishes, and expressions of sympathy to members as needed.

Current Needs: Members need to make sure Celia knows about things that impact our members (good or bad). Let Celia know at celia.hunter@allentate.com or the club at TSC@GoShagging.com.

Web Site & Facebook Page Mike Rink: 704-534-4151

Duties: To manage, update and initiate new changes to the club web site. To manage, update and "share" the club Facebook page.

Current Needs: Members are needed to submit their ideas of what they would like to see included on our web site, or what they would like it to be able to do. This committee is planning to meet soon to begin the redesign of our web site.

The Highs And Lows Of The Bus Trip By Barry Wray

It started with our tailgating event out in the parking lot at Fat Boy's while we waited for the bus to appear from the I-77 traffic. The Root-Beer Beer was the first to go. Then it was off to a Smoked Cherry Porter that I had made by smoking the base malt with some cherry wood I had obtained. By 5:15 the bus was spinning around in the crowded parking lot to pick up the next batch of The Fun Bunch group. First I put on the big club cooler with the water and sodas. Then back to the truck for the important cooler. Equipped with over a dozen homebrewed soldiers and two fifths of liquid courage, it was up the steps and on the bus.

With 15 lbs of ice atop each cooler, I was noticing that these things were a little awkward to maneuver. After the coolers were parked in the front, I make my way to the back of the bus while we headed north to pick up the last of our posse at Exit 50. The jello shooters started before we even hit the exit ramp north. After picking up the last group we jumped on I-40 and were "east bound and down". It wasn't long before Wilma pulled out a quart ziplock bag with some jello shoots that had fruit inside. Upon taking down her first orange torpedo Hope looks at me with those "Holy Heck" eyes. Yep, I quickly found out why she went bug-eyed. There was no doubt there was no juice in them things. I'm not sure how she got them to gel up. "No use in messing around, cut to the chase" Wilma said. Marylee's chicken salad rolls where killer! I'm pretty sure they were all consumed within about 10 miles. So far the trip had gone as planned. That was all part of the "high" part. 😳

We get to our destination. We all get off of the bus to go out front and get the annual group photo. After about five minutes of poses, it was time to head in for the fun. So I went over to the bus, jogged up the steps and pulled the three plus foot cooler with wheels up and over the top rail, spinning around and carrying it down the steps long-ways since it would not fit though the door any other way. After the cooler cleared the door (not me) I turned it back long-ways as most anyone would carry a cooler of this size. This is where the "low" came into play. \otimes

Apparently I had forgotten about the last step on the bus. Clipping the heel of my shoe on the last step it was at this point that I decided to put the cooler on the ground at a rapid rate of speed. No problems. The cooler broke my fall as my chest slammed into the top of the cooler lid. Not so lucky was the right knee cap. What weight was not dispersed onto the cooler transferred to the right knee, which came to a screeching halt on the black asphalt. I jumped up like a cowboy flipped off of a bull, looking around to see who all witnessed my act of shame.

"Are you all right man?" The bus driver asked. "Oh yeah, just my feelings hurt" I told him as I brushed the rocks from the hole in the knee area of my jeans. Damn, tore a hole in my (insert your own words here) jeans!

"Good now I can throw those things away" Hope said.

"Oh Heck To The No", I replied. They are my most favorite pair of jeans even if I did buy them at Goodwill for \$3.75. "You can iron one of those blue patch things on the inside" was my reply just to see a roll of her eyes.

We head on in, pick out a spot, then I proceed down stairs to attempt to stop the bleeding. I didn't want it staining up my jeans any more than it had already, as that would just add to the excuse to dispose of them. A little doctoring up in the basement and I was good to go. Now it was time for some liquid pain medication. Good thing I brought a new bottle of V.O.

The night went by what seemed to be really fast to me. Finishing off those homebrews with some help from my amigos Tommy and Lloyd, gave me the perfect reason to jump right into my Canadian friend and a little sprite. We were back up to the "high" again. ^(c)

As the night came to an end, we headed to the door to return to the bus for the voyage back home. Approaching the door I stopped to shake the hand of the gentleman at the exit and thank him for the good time. I grabbed the handle of my cooler with wheels and stood back up yanking the front end up. With the wheels on the back and no break system on this unsophisticated piece of equipment, the cooler flipped over backwards, dumping all fifteen pounds of ice and water along with about a dozen empty beer bottles (I was recycling) and two fifths all out across the wooden floor. Crap, where we go back down to the "LOW" again. ^(C)

I attempted to help pick things up but they came over to the rescue and cleaned my mess up. I apologized and headed back to the bus before they decided to leave me there. (Would have probably been Hope's recommendation since she was already on the bus).

I was the last to get on the bus before the departure. I wandered to the back and resumed conversations as I did my part to complete the expulsion of the remaining gelled joys. The stories continued on the bus as we made our way back to Iredell County. It was a good time to be had by all as we made new memories while the "wheels on the bus went round and round". I managed to work my way back up to the "High" of the evening where I had been a few times before. ^(C)

We got back to Fat Boys and I get the coolers unloaded. This time the bus driver was there to retrieve them from me before I came completely down the steps, probably a really good idea. The bus pulled off and folks headed on their way back home.

Hmmm, I see the Waffle House directly across the parking lot from where we had parked. "Do you want to go eat at Awful Waffle?" I asked Elizabeth... I mean Hope. "Sure, why not." She replied. "Do you want me to drive?" "Nah, heck I can get us over to the next parking lot, then you can drive home" was my reply. So we jump in my truck flip around to the front side of the restaurant where I proceed to pull into the empty parking space over on the end where only one car could park beside of me.

Upon turning to the left there was this darn brown steel light pole that came out of nowhere, and I know you are not going to believe this but that thing ran right into the right front of my truck, busting the side marker lamp and denting the fender. This would be that "LOW" point again. \otimes

"DAMN Barry did you not see that pole" says the grand wizard that knows all. I am pretty sure her job as a spotter when you are riding shotgun is to warn the drivers about these things before you hit them, not after. Oh well, I guess now I have a right fender to match the artwork I put on the left side door back in the parking deck at the outer banks a couple of years ago.

All in all it was a very enjoyable evening. Next time I am going to have to remember to take some Dramamine before the trip.

Winston-Salem Shag Club's Oldies Party By Scott Fletcher

What a great bus trip. I think a good time was had by all. Many thanks to everyone that made this possible. It was good to see folks we haven't seen in a while and new members who are getting in the groove, I know they had a good time although a few of them might not remember it. Talk about hitting it hard, wow! Ya'll know who you are. Blame Rich for that. He is the shot master.

One of our fine, upstanding members did have a boo-boo tumbling out of the bus (it was parked) and landing on his cooler. I love you brother! Thankfully, he did not get injured too bad. Later this same member wrecked his vehicle, hit a pole, broke a headlight and dented his bumper (nothing serious). It's good that he actually used to do body work so he can fix it himself. He claimed the pole was black, he didn't see it and that's why it happened. Never mind what he consumed that night. Ha ha! I still love you brother! By the way I will not mention your name so you can remain anonymous. \bigcirc

I can't wait for the next trip. You never know what will happen.

Next month is the September (Fall SOS) issue.

Do you have an SOS memory to share? Know a great place to eat or shop? Got a favorite route to get to OD? Share them. Your fellow members all want to hear from you.





Make sure to "like" the Twisters Shag Club Facebook Page, too!

