



# Sherrie Strickland 2011

## SHERRIE STRICKLAND

In March 1961 at the young age of 12 we moved to Charleston, S.C. Turning 13 two weeks later, no friends, new school and a new neighborhood. There are 5 siblings including myself who needed new friends. As summer approached there were new friends and weekends were spent at Folly Beach and at the pier, dancing with the girls.

The years went by and with 2 marriages and 2 fine boys: Corky 43 and Kevin 33. After turning 32 and being separated, I decided it was time to venture out to the "single" life and of all places to Bentley's. After several weekends and meeting new friends, Bev, Harriet, Vickie and Marsha, we decided to approach the Burris' and "private" lessons. Roger and Peggy had no idea what they were about to get into with this group. Every Tuesday night it was to Roger and Peggy's for fun and to learn. After about the 7<sup>th</sup> week I was told to quit wasting my money. "Shaggers" did not shake their behinds and with a mental block of the pivot, I would never be a successful dancer.

Well now it was time to head to the beach for our 1<sup>st</sup> SOS. Wow what an experience. I was hooked. There were some of the most rewarding years with new friends and new places with shagging events; North Myrtle Beach, Greenville, Columbia, Augusta, Jacksonville, and Virginia Beach to name a few of the hot spots. All I can say on those lessons, it was the best money that I've ever wasted. THANKS GUYS!!!

On the shagging scene I met this wonderful man, Andy Grooms, who is a natural shagger self-taught! He had years of going out and watching other dancers and doing his own style. It's been 20 plus years and we are still having a great time. We've made some great friends, Carolyn, Chick, Roger, Peggy, Billy, Jeannie, Angie and Gino and "Monsoon" Thomas.

THANKS EACH AND EVERYONE OF Y'ALL!!!!