



Mitch Barkoot

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Am sending some pictures, some old and some new. Am enclosing some you may not use. My age is on the back of each picture. Am sending you an article on me by Gene Laughter. Am sure you have this but am sending one anyway.

What influences my dancing is the love for music. I got my beginning at Twin Lakes here in Columbia in 1931 or so -- A place that had all kinds of recreation. Dancing was quite the thing at Twin Lakes, and believe me my presence was there quite a bit. At that time we did the Shag with the same beat as it is done today, but done close together, stomach to stomach.

In 1937, the Big Apple originated in Columbia which took several years, after which the jitterbug took over and lasted quite a few years until the Rock 'n' Roll started. Then after a few years of this silly thing, the Jitterbug started again. The name Jitterbug was changed to Shag, steps, rhythm and everything that goes with it. I did not go to Myrtle Beach as much as I wanted because I had to work.

I have gone to just about every Shag Club in North Carolina, Georgia, Florida, and here in South Carolina.

Am really looking forward to the 29th in Greenville. Thanks for the wonderful time last year at the Hall of Fame in Greenville, and for being so nice to me. This one should even be better.