



Babs McIntosh 1986

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My exposure to "Beach Music" - - in particular rhythm and blues - - came at a very young age.

In the early 50's I accompanied my father, who was the owner of a coin music company, on rare but exciting visits to the "Juke Joints". There I became enthralled with the "black blues" music and the "shag".

Known in those days as Barbara Jean Calk, my dance training had a more formal side with ballet and tap lessons for the next 15 years. But frequent trips to the beach during my teens were spent refining the "boogie walk", "belly roll", and "pivot".

College life at the University of South Carolina found me constantly trying to perfect the Intricacies of the shag (often with a door knob as my partner).

I continued to "shag" throughout the 60's and 70's and am pleased to have been part of the resurgence we have enjoyed lately. Being a part of the "new era" of the shag, as well as the old, and dancing competitively have given me many wonderful friendships and more importantly a wonderful marriage. (Sam and I met and courted as a result of the shag).

My selection as a member of the Beach Shaggers Hall of Fame puts me in some very "fast" company and I feel most honored to be a part of this select group.