



# Billy Pack 1990

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The dance that is now called the “Shag” began for me when I was taught the basic steps by Jack Neely. That was all it took, I was completely hooked. We were inspired by the black rhythm and blues dances held at the Township in Columbia. We went as spectators, but we managed to hide out in the second balcony where we also danced. Some of the favorite dancers of that era were Fran Johnson, David Michaels, Rick Lyman and Bill Wingate to name a few. I married Jeannie, whom I am still married to today, in 1958. In between having and raising four children, we still danced when we could.

Then in 1980 when S.O.S. started, the timing, in our case, was perfect as the children were now on their own. Also with this came the Shag clubs and contests. The dancing, music, fun and friends has to be experienced to know why it is said that the Shag is “more than a dance.”