LHSC* NEWSLETTER

'JUNE EDITION'

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LHSC 6/2016

* Celebrating our 29th Year

BOOGIE BUSINESSC

'This is not the news you would like to read, this is the news you need to read!'©





cuzzin







PIC: O.D. Beach circa 1958

Does the picture look familiar? No..it's not me, it's James Dean (he did comb his hair like mine..NOT!). So what was life like back in the late 50s, early 60s? Super Cool! You could thumb to the beach and back without worrying about who picked you up or go to the beach for a week with only a \$20 bill in your pocket. A member will get in free by answering the special question in this issue. PBRs were 25¢ & you ate a cheeseburger w/lettuce / tomato & fries w/glass of milk as your daily balanced meal at the OD Diner. Life was very laid back. Time to wear your poodle skirts and penny loafers ... SHOW US YOURS! Cost of Living in the 50's vs. 2015

Jim 'Cool Me Out' Mauldin POTLHSC / A Hepcat

The **BLUES** Blog©

President's



Malcolm Ray 'Chicken' Hicks

One of the 'Bad Boys' of the early shag days...

Why they call it the good ole days....



Roc & Ann Roul

One of the early beach days 'Bad Boys' as referenced in our March Boogie Business Newsletter by BJ was Chicken Hicks. The inside pages will give you a little history of this famous shagger icon and how life was in the infancy of our dance. Judy and I had the pleasure of knowing and interacting with Chicken at the beach during SOS or at other shag parties throughout the Carolinas. I have researched a number of articles, pics, and bios which I share on the inside of this issue. I wanted to share especially with the younger shaggers how these early dancers helped start what we love so much today. Below is a link to a great article printed in Salt Magazine by Dr. Phil Sawyer & Tom Poland about our dance



August 2013 Salt #ClippedOnIssuu



vinal Robert's Pavilion early 50s (destroyed by Hazel Oct. '54) where OD Pavilion is now

(Story on pg. 2)

with a quote from Chicken Hicks.

http://issuu.com/saltmagazinenc/docs/august2013salt/c/sp7cjp0

Hint: 1 of 2... Need to take the high road.





in the Valley!'

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CLUB OFFICERS

Jim Mauldin—President 828.855.7257

Chip Smith—V. President 828.308.9587

Ann Sigmon—Treasurer 828.514.7765

Robbin Osborne—Secretary 828.312.3158

Will Sloan—Sgt-at-Arms 828.261.6066

Board Members

CB Wolfe 704.740.7068

Jock Stetz, 828.302.3113

Kellie Robbins 828.4468367

Mike Honeycutt 828.312.3167

Past President

Jim Mauldin

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M. R. "Chicken" Hicks

(reprint of his 1984 Hall of Fame write up)

On Thanksgiving Day, several years ago I was born in the town of Durham, NC. I always liked music, but never danced any until I was around 14 years old. At that time a couple of older girls who lived across the street from me started teaching me some steps. They taught me the basic step with the same timing as we know it today. The difference in the basic then and now, is that we danced side by side with our arm around the girls waist, holding her by the hand, dancing to what I call a 'Rockin Chair'' basic.

When I was about 15 or 16, an older guy who was a pretty good dancer and a friend of my father's took me to Myrtle Beach. This was my first exposure to dancing at the beach, and I knew right away that this was for me.

During the forties the Big Black Swing Bands were playing at the Durham Armory, at least twice a month and if at all possible I was always there. As I attended these dances I started to watch the black dancers and began to copy their style of dancing. I became friends with two of the best black dancers I have ever seen. These two guys taught me the 'Shortie George'', "Camel Walk", and the "Sand". Automatically I picked up on what today's dancers call the 'Pivot'' which was the blacks basic step at that time.

In March 1943 Big George Lineberry, Junior Nicholson, and myself hitch hiked to Myrtle without a dime between us. I almost starved before the season started and the girls started coming down...their house parties were a good source of food! We hung out at the 'Old Wooden Pavilion'', at the same location of the present one. It was about the only place available for dancing.

In mid-summer that year I left and came to Carolina Beach...and that was where it was really happening. It was just like a state fair 24 hours a day, you could just about dance around the clock. There were eight "Jump Joints", which were places with nothing but a Juke Box and Dance Floor, with free admission, open air and "ocean front". There were two other places "Ocean Plaza Ball Room" and "Bop City", both were upstairs and well known for the bands they had. With all of this, what more would you want...I could see I had found a home! When I left one Jump Joint and its R & B faded out, you could hear the R & B coming from the next one just down the way. This would make me so high I felt like I would explode...I've never had a feeling like that since.

Shortly after I came to Carolina Beach I got to know two guys that changed the records on the Juke Boxes in the Jump Joints. The three of us would get a bottle and go over to a nearby black beach called "Seabreese". This beach had "Piccolo" houses (Bootleg joints) and there I could pick out R & B records that I liked, bring them out of the black beach to Carolina Beach and these guys would put them on the Juke Boxes for me. The sounds would send you "Raging" to find a dance floor!

Basically I patterned by style of dancing after the blacks, picking up their steps while dancing in the "Piccolo" houses and enjoying "every step" along the way!!



****June Birthday(s)****

6/5 Dan Christian6/6 Martha Cartee6/25 Will Sloan6/26 Joyce Sronce6/29 Kat Escoto



<u>May New Member(s)</u>

Inin Street Ocean Drive S. C.



Jeanie Mull Harold Willis



TO

FICOME







Remember Drive-in movies

PAGE 3

PIC: Myrtle Beach 1950s

(reprint oceandrivemovie.com)

Chicken Hicks, along with Jim Hannah, founded a Carolina Beach dance spot called the Tijuana Inn. Chicken persuaded Jim to include the "race music" in the jukebox, which did not go over well with local white dignitaries. After several fights and alleged killings, they had the doors permanently closed. In the early 1950s, Chicken Hicks was eventually forced out of town. That was when the shag scene shifted to the Myrtle Beach area of South Carolina, where it currently resides.

Chicken was tall and lean with bleach-blond locks. His rebel attitude and unique dance ability quickly gained him popularity among women, as some are rumored to have waited hours for Chicken to sweep them off of their feet.

Chicken Hicks was admitted to the Shaggers Hall of Fame on Memorial Day, 2004. The Cape Fear Museum proudly displays his signature white "shaggin" shoes.

Malcolm Ray 'Chicken' Hicks passed away July 4, 2004. He was 78.

For those of us who were fortunate enough to have known him, he is sorely missed!





Note: stay tuned for more adventures of the boys & girls at Carolina Beaches in future issues.....

Chicken & Judy Dancing @ Ducks II 6/9





Club Member News



Fantastic Derby Party and some fine looking outfits. Thank you to all who dressed up, who helped decorate, who helped set-up & clean-up, who brought to the kitchen? food, and our DJ Fast Eddie for providing our music. I hope all members enjoyed their FREE party. We appreciate all of our members and guest who make our gatherings a success. If you know a member or guest whom you haven't seen the last few parties, please call them and invite them back to our next party.







ing at Horseshoe late 50s





Members (& your guest)...mark your calendar for a FREE Event on Sunday August 21: M.A.C. (Members Appreciation Cookout) Party at VFW from 2pm to 6pm. BBQ, Fixings, good fellowship, along with some fast dance music & cash bar.



How moms washed their babies in the 50s...J-K!



Dates

6/4

7/9

8/6

9/10

Shag



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