Jack & Lynn Witzenfeld

Their love for Carolina Shag began in the summer of 2015 after taking the beginner basic lessons from Ron and Linda Bessent. They wound up taking the beginner class a total of three times to reinforce the fundamentals of the dance. For Lynn, dancing came naturally, and she always followed Ron's two rules in class. That was to look good and have fun…Jack had the fun part down from day one. They had been dancing for about eight months when they began to take private lessons from Jan Weakley. This further advanced their skills and got them to want to learn more.

Beginning in 2017, Jack joined the board and since then, they've become more involved both on the dance floor and in the workings of the club. Jack expressed an interest in teaching the beginner class to Dance Chair, Ron Bessent, three years ago and they began teaching under Ron's guidance. Jack had a vision of teaching the beginner Carolina Shag at the Virginia Beach Recreation Centers to introduce our dance to a widely varied audience with the hope that these students would funnel into our club. In 2022, Lynn and Jack began assisting Ron and Linda Bessent at the Kempsville Recreation Center. Since then, they alternate the classes with the Bessents, each teaching six-week classes twice a year. They have also taught the beginner class at the Virginia Beach Shag Club and have taught beyond basic and intermediate steps at the club when called upon.

They are always looking for an opportunity to introduce Carolina Shag to others. They have organized several dances in the community where they live and taught the basic step prior to each dance. Additionally, they put together several dances at multiple assisted living centers in the area where they gave exhibitions of the shag and then danced with the residents.

Though they can teach intermediate steps, they enjoy taking new students and watching them learn the beginner steps while having fun. They like to encourage these new students and take them from the beginner class to becoming productive members of the Virginia Beach Shag Club.

In 2023, Jack's contributions for his efforts to promote the shag were recognized by his induction into the Virginia Shaggers Hall of Fame.