



# John Wilson 2010

## JOHN WILSON

I actually learned the old kick-step basic when I was about 12 years old. Most of my family loved to dance and were jitterbuggers. Just like most folks, college, jobs and kids took me out of the dance for a time.

I was "taken" to the old Sand Flea beach club in 1982. I have to admit that when I heard the music and saw the dancing, the first thought I had was "Man, I'm home". Took some lessons from Billy and Elaine and updated my "basic" to the newer form. I began helping Billy and Elaine teach at the Sand Flea and continued teaching for the next 10 or 12 years, including many juniors.

I did compete on the "SPA" circuit for 4 or 5 years, but had to discontinue that due to having my 2 daughters in college at the same time. I met many Hall of Famer's during this time like Bob and Carol Myrick, Bill and Kay Young, Charlie Womble and Jackie McGee, Sam and Babs McIntosh, Shad and Brenda Alberty, John and PeeWee Teel and many more.

I was at the Sand Flea for all of the Hall of Fame inductions held there. I got to know and really appreciate so many of the Hall of Famer's like Lacy Moore, Charlie Boone, Harry Driver, Chicken Hicks, Big George, Roger and Peggy Burriss, Billy and Jeannie Pack, Chick and Carolyn and on and on.

I started attending SOS events in 1983 and have not missed one since. I have been an active member of the Carolina Shag Club for almost 39 years, including having served several stints at various offices.

I came very early, not only to love the dance and the music, but mostly the great people and the relationships that have been formed through this magical thing we call "The Shag". I have and will continue to support the dance by teaching, recruiting new members, attending Hall of Fame, SOS and other events, and in short, anything that will preserve and promote the proudest traditions of "our dance".

I have the greatest respect for the Hall of Fame and its members, not only because of how well they dance, but also because of what they have accomplished and mostly because of the beauty of who they are. Becoming a member of the Hall of Fame is extremely rewarding. It is also extremely humbling. I am grateful to all of you who have allowed me to share in your friendship and your fellowship over the years and also to those who gave of themselves to help me learn the dance. I do so love to watch you dance!