



Jan Atkinson Lewis 2013

JAN ATKINSON LEWIS

How fortunate I am to have grown up in the Fifties and Sixties in a family who loved music and the beach! As a child, I watched Lucky Strike Hit Parade, the Ed Sullivan Show, and American Bandstand and was exposed to a variety of music and dancing. As a teenager, I had WLAC in Nashville and the Double Door Tea Room in Eden for R&B, and the jukeboxes at the beach for the best music in the world, the music of our dance, the shag. Dancing at the Castaways and the Jokers' Three in Greensboro, NC, was great, but getting to the beach with its pavilions and clubs was heaven!

As with many of us, marriage, family, and a career took precedence over dancing and "clubbing" for many years. I thoroughly enjoyed teaching high school English for thirty years and private educational tutoring and consulting for seven additional years. I have been blessed with a wonderful son, Bert Ogburn, a delightful daughter-in-law, Jennifer, and my sweet granddaughter, Caroline.

In 1990, I came to SOS, discovered Duck's, and was once again hooked on the music and the dance. In between beach trips, I danced at Thirsty's, Gene's, and any club or gathering I could find, but nothing compared to Ocean Drive. I met my late husband, John, in Duck's, as well as wonderful friends and dancers such as Judy and Nick Mathis, Sandra and Don Bryant, Marie Taylor, and Cindy and Mike Campbell. After asking me to dance twenty years ago in Duck's to "the next good song", Norfleet Jones finally heard one and followed through on his offer! These friends have sustained me through laughter and tears and continue to enrich my life.

I am fortunate to have this tremendous Society of Friends who are bound by their love for each other, the beach, the music, and the dance. I am honored to be inducted into the Hall of Fame.