

Kari Jones Legge

Kari Jones Legge was first introduced to shag dancing in the Winter of 1998. She and her family joined the Northern Virginia Shag Club and she quickly became attracted to shag dance. She attributes her early learning of the dance to the patience of great mentors from VA including Earl and Beverly Robinson, Janis Grimes and Steve Booth. After only 6 months of dancing, at age 11, she entered her first competition in Virginia Beach. Within two months, she was competing in Grand Nationals as one of the newest dancers to the scene. After seeing all of the excitement of competition style dancing, she started taking lessons from all of the Legends that still lead our dance today.

Within her first year of dancing, she and Brennar Goree started competing in all of the big competitions, including GNDC, Shag Nationals, placing 1st in the VA State Open Junior Division to placing 3rd in the US Open Young America division (2000). Some of her competitive partners include Brennar Goree, Adam Sheppard, John Tyson, and Grant Garmon. For the next couple of years, she continued competing, placing within the top 3 with various partners, along with helping to coach and choreograph the VA Shag Dance Team, and help instruct and develop a junior shaggers program in NOVA.

In 2006, she moved to FL to attend Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. She was unable to compete so often from such a distance, but was a member of the National Shag Dance Team in 2007 and 2008. Soon thereafter, her career goals led her to TX, taking even farther away from the shag community she had grown up in. She is currently an air traffic controller at Fort Worth Center, residing in Fort Worth, TX with her husband, and two children, ages 4 and 1.

We welcome her to the Junior Shaggers Hall of Fame