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Born in Tarboro, N. C. on April 20, 1979, Michael started dancing at age 11 at the behest of his aunt and uncle, David and Gail Well, and his cousin Wade Adler. He competed in his 1st National Shag Dance Championships at age 12, winning the junior 1 Division. In 1993, Michael began dancing with his present partner and now fiancée, LeAnn Best. Under the skilled direction of Judy Eastwood, Jackie McGee and Charlie Womble, Michael became a champion shagger. A 9-time National Shag Champion including 8 junior titles and 6 Overall titles, a 2-time Grand National Junior Champion and 4-time Grand National Pro Champion, Michael danced on the National Shag Dance Championships Dance Team for 11 years and choreographed for several years. The winner of the U.S. Open Classic Swing Division with partner Ginger Pickrell, he taught swing 4 summers in Manhattan, and has performed at the Lincoln Center on 4 occasions. Having received his business degree in 2002, Michael still teaches and competes and plans to marry LeAnn in May.