



## LeAnn Best Norris - 2008

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**Born in Clinton, N. C. on March 6, 1980 to Glenn and Brenda Best, LeAnn took tap, ballet and jazz lessons at age 5 and had learned to shag by age 7. In August of 1991 she attended her first Junior Shag Contest at the "Juke Box" in High Point, N. C. and met her future partner and husband, Michael Norris. After placing 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Junior 1 Division of the National Shag Dance Championships in 1992 and 1993, she partnered with Michael and they became 6-time Junior; 1-time Professional Nationals Champions and 6-time 'Overall' Nationals Champions. An 8- time USA Grand Nationals Champions and 4-time winner of the U.S. Open Swing Dance Championships Shag Division, LeAnn was also a member of the National Shag Dance Championships Dance Team for seven years. She is a 2004 graduate of the University of South Carolina in Pharmacology and is currently a Clinical Assistant Professor. LeAnn is most thankful for the friendships made, and especially for having met her best friend and the love of her life, Michael, through the Shag. They were married in May 2006 and currently reside in Columbia with their dog Lucy and continue to travel throughout the country teaching, competing and introducing the dance they love to others.**