



The Beauí

Newsletter of the Sarasota Shell Club

www.Sarasotashellclub.com

Meetings 2nd Thursdays, September-April at Fire Station #2, 2070 Waldemere St Sarasota.



From the Prez

Hello shell-a-holics!

What a busy month December will be! Is everyone ready? We have two Carefree learner trips, the trip to Big Hickory Key, the Beach and Breakfast walk in Nokomis, the Christmas party/auction and the shoe box shell show for our program at the December meeting. That's a lot of activities right before Christmas! I'm ready for all of it! Bring it on!

At the meeting I will also have the sign-up sheets for the help we need at the shell show in February. Please remember that without YOUR help the show won't be as good as it could be! I know everyone can find something he/she can do to help make our show a great success!

Keep your eye on the dates so you don't forget anything. Have a wonderful holiday season and let's ring in the New Year with lots of shelling!

Merry Christmas and Happy Chanukkah!

Sally Peppitoni



Next meeting December 12
Program: "Shirt Box" Exhibits
Some members will have shells
for sale at the meeting. Bring
cash or checks!

Shell Show Feb. 13-15, 2015
www.Sarasotashellclub.com

Field Trips, Etc

Sally Peppitoni

Members, please remember that the Carefree Learner trips must be paid for in CASH! Other trips may be paid for by check made out to Sarasota Shell Club. I will **always** send out an e-mail of pertinent information several days ahead of time to each person on a trip's sign up list, so please do not worry about not receiving information unless you didn't sign up for a trip and have decided to do so. E-mail me only if you want to add your name to a list. My phone # is 941.720.3810 and my e-mail is: shellmaniac8@gmail.com

December 5- Carefree Learner

The *Carefree Learner* will leave from Marina Jack's in Sarasota at 7 am. The
(continued on next page)



cost is \$5 per person CASH. We will try some new locations in and around Sarasota Bay for shelling.

December 6- Beach and Breakfast

We will meet at Nokomis Beach, in Nokomis, at 7am. Breakfast location TBA later.

December 13- Big Hickory Key

Big Hickory Key is just south of Fort Myers Beach and Lover's Key State Park. We have rented the big party pontoon boat, the *Sight Sea-R*, which has a bathroom and beverages will be available for purchase at the bar. The cost is \$55 per person as we only have 25 members signed up to go. The boat will leave from Salty Sam's marina in Fort Myer's Beach promptly at 9 am and return by 1 pm. Attendees will receive another more detailed e-mail closer to this date.

December 22- Carefree Learner

The *Carefree Learner* will leave from Marina Jack's in Sarasota at 7 am. The cost is \$5 per person CASH. We will try some new locations in and around Sarasota Bay for shelling.

January 7- Carefree Learner

The *Carefree Learner* will leave from Marina Jack's in Sarasota at 8 am. The cost is \$5 per person CASH and I will have a sign-up sheet for this at the December meeting. We will try some new locations in and around Sarasota Bay for shelling.

January 10 - Shell Island Shoal

Shell Island Shoal is just south of Pass-A-Grille in Pinellas County and is reachable only by ferry. We will meet at the ferry marina in St. Pete Beach at 9:30 am to purchase our tickets (you're responsible for your own purchase when you get there). The cost is \$25 + tax. The boat leaves the dock at 10 am and there are three different return trips depending on how long you wish to stay. More info will be available at the December meeting.

January 20 - Carefree Learner

The *Carefree Learner* will leave from Marina Jack's in Sarasota at 8 am. The cost is \$5 per person CASH and I will have a sign-up sheet for this at the December meeting. We will try some new locations in and around Sarasota Bay for shelling.



2014-15 Membership Information

*Lynn Gaulin,
Membership chair*

We presently have 130 paid members of our club. I thank you for rejoining or if a new member, welcome to one of the best shell clubs in Florida.

Our rosters with personal information on club members are expected to be available at the December 2014 club meeting. Rosters are not mailed so be sure to pick up your copy at the club meetings from me.

Our February 2015 Shell Show is fast approaching and you will need your name badge and most importantly, your membership card to get into the show. If you need a replacement card I can give it to you at either of the club meetings before the show.

If you have lost or misplaced your name badge there is a charge depending on the number of badges ordered at that time, about \$7.50 each unless 6 or more are ordered at one time. This will take about 2 weeks to reorder a new name badge so give yourself and me time to get a replacement if one is needed.

Lastly, please keep me apprised of any changes in your personal information. It is important to have current info if a field trip is cancelled or should we need to contact you.



November Historian's Report

Duane Kauffmann

50 YEARS AGO

Forty members and guests attended the November 12, 1964 meeting of the Sarasota Shell Club in the Palmer Bank Building Arcade. The meeting was called to order by President Jack Oberle. The treasurer reported a bank balance of \$166 and a petty cash balance of \$1.28.

Announcements included the December 17 Christmas party and March 19 to 21 Shell Show.

The program was by Mr. and Mrs. John Proeltz of Lake Worth. They showed colored slides of shells from around the world accompanied by commentary. The program was well received and "we extend many thanks to them for the pleasure afforded."

25 Years Ago

The minutes of the November 9, 1989 meeting note that "The Secretary's minutes of the last meeting were dispensed with, since they were not available."

A trip on the Carefree Learner was announced for December 13 (-.9 tide). June Bailey announced Shell Show planning was on schedule. Wally Brown was nominated and approved to fill the vacant Vice President position and Dick Forbush was announced as the auctioneer for the Christmas party.

Peggy Williams gave an educational talk on "How Molluscs Eat and Move." Tom Gianata gave the program on fossils.

At the November 28 meeting of the Board there was a discussion of whether to have the program before the business meeting. It was decided to "shorten" the reports in the business meeting rather than change the order of the meeting.

Holiday Party and Auction

was the evening of December 5 at the Courtyard by Marriott in Bradenton. Only about 22 people came, far fewer than in years past, but we all had fun.

Sally, Nancy, and Donna Cassin brought goodies for everyone: candies, chocolate pretzels, and "crackers" with "prizes" inside. There were several that made noise...

The Auctioneer was former president Joanne Chmielwski, who looked great and coaxed money out for many great auction items. Some did not get a bid, and they will be used for the Shell Show.

Educational

Peggy Williams

We are thinking of having a two-part educational program for January/February. "Grunge" is sand picked up from beach high wash or underwater that contains miniature shells. You go through it with the aid of magnification to pick out the shells.



One session would be picking out the shells, and the other identifying them.

For more on picking grunge, see the next page article! I will provide grunge or you can bring your own!

If you are interested in participating, please contact Lynn Gaulin at shellhunter@gmail.com or (585) 671-2103 (cell) or (941) 755-1270 or me at peggy@shelltrips.com or (941) 355-2291. We need to have an idea of how many will be coming.



*Dentimargo
aureocincta*
4 mm

How do you SEE those things?!

by Peggy Williams

That's the question I get when I show people my micro shells.

Well, when I'm in the water snorkeling, I have lenses in my mask and the water helps to magnify things. On beaches I get as close as possible.

But the best way is to bring home "grunge", also called "shell grit". That's the tiny stuff that is in the high drift line at the beach and that gathers in gullies and under rocks in the water.

I scoop this material into baggies when I'm shelling and later look through it with magnification to find shells.

I use a "head magnifier visor", sold by Optivisor, which is available online for less than \$60 online and at vision specialty stores. The front tilts up and down, and you can get various magnifications (the stronger the better). I also have a magnifier lamp, which is used for fine needlework and can be bought at Home Depot or online.

If your grit has biggish shells or pebbles, try using a sieve to separate out the smaller stuff. Look through both batches for shells!

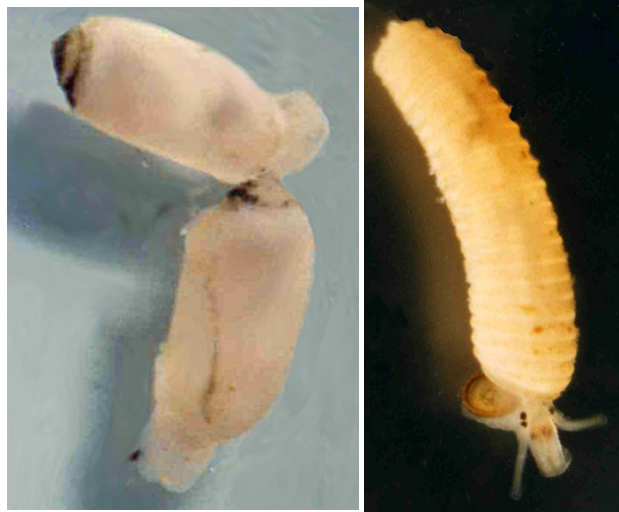
Many people like to look through the grit when it's dry; I like to use water to wet it and swish it around. Some of the shells will come up to the surface and float if they have air in them and you can get them right away. You might go through the wet stuff, then let it dry and try again!

I've used cake pans to put the grit in a handful at a time, but my pans eventually rotted through. Time to get some more!

The shells you find are indeed tiny, but they are exquisite. Most are unbroken, unlike larger shells on the beach, and they often have beautiful sculpture and coloring.

I have often let out a "whoop!" on finding a particularly beautiful specimen.

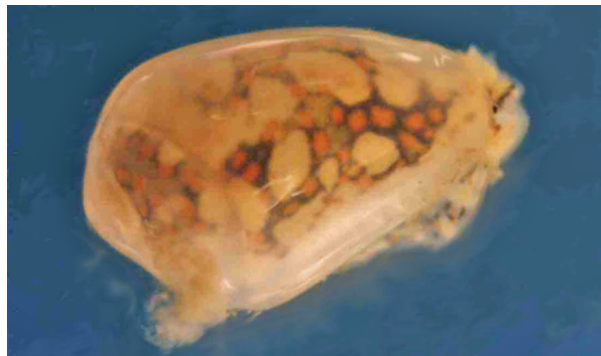
Here are some examples (my photos):



Acteocina canaliculata 2mm *Caecum* 2 mm



Vexillum hanleyi 3mm



Gibberula lavalleana 2mm

Do you hear the ocean when you place a shell next to your ear?

by Linda Brunner, in *Shell and Tell*, newsletter
of the Gulf Coast Shell Club

Wellllllllll maybe yes, if you are on the shore, no, if you are inland. So, what do you hear? You hear ambient noise or the noise around you.

To put it simply the shell acts as an amplifier of the noise around you....the shell provides a resonator.

When you hold a shell to your ear you are holding a hard object with many hard, curved surfaces. These surfaces reflect sound. The size and shapes of shells provide different sounds because they have different shapes and different "rooms" inside. Matt Soniak in **Mental Floss** suggests the following experiment. A cheap resonator can be formed by forming an O shape with your mouth. Then thump your finger against your cheek and you will hear a note. Make the O smaller and the tone of the sound will change. You are hearing a sound produced by air vibrating in a space with one opening.

I'm sorry. I just took away all of the romance of hearing the ocean in a shell while you are sitting in Omaha.

This Meeting: "Shirt Box" Exhibits

This is a fun way to "get into" exhibiting. Choose shells from your collection, any theme, and display them in a box of some kind... paper, wood, anything. You don't have to have a glass top.

What you should have is a theme: "Shells I found on a field trip"; "pink shells"; "Cowries"; "Shells I bought at a shell club meeting"... anything you can think of!

Also you need to put the names of the shells on labels in your exhibit. If they are too small to put labels under them, you can put numbers referring to a separate list on a backboard.

Club members will vote for the best exhibit!

For more info on labels, read the next column!

How to Read and Write an Exhibit Label

adapted from Tide Lines, St Pete Shell Club

The first line: often has the Family name which is capitalized.

The second line: has the Genus and species names along with the author and date, comma after name. The Family, Genus and species names are the Latin or Latinized scientific names of the shell. The Author is the original describer of the shell, and the date when his description was published. Parentheses indicates a genus name change from the original description. The Genus is capitalized and the species is not; they are usually italicized.

The third line: may have the Common name, or not, as you see fit.

The fourth line: has the location found. Other data pertinent to the exhibit may be included.

A star indicates the specimen was self-collected. Stars are usually red, but I have used other colors. Check the rules!

Data tags for shell shows are usually done on a computer but may be typed. They should be neatly cut and it's nice to have a border.

Melongenidae

***Melongena corona*, (Gmelin, 1791)**

Crown Conch

Venice, Florida, in mud among



Board Members

Sally Peppitoni	President
Nancy Marini	Vice President
Bruce Paulsen	Treasurer
Donna Bartels	Recording
Secretary	
Peggy Williams	Corresponding
Sec'y	

Board: Donna Cassin, JoAnn Mancuso, Terry Jones, Rosanne Roble, Deborah Deam, Harry Berryman

Committee Chairmen:

Artisans	Nancy Marini
Beau	Peggy Williams 355-2291
Historian:	Duane Kauffmann
Field Trips:	Sally Peppitoni
Librarian:	Linda Greiner

December's Low Tides

6 Sat 7:11 am -.46	21 Sun 6:55 am -.59
7 Sun 7:49 am -.43	22 Mon 7:38 am -.64
8 Mon 8:27 am -.38	23 Tu 8:20 am -.63
9 Tue 9:04 am -.30	24 Wed 9:03 am -.55
10 Wed 9:42 am -.20	25 Th 9:45 am -.40
11 Th 10:21 am -.08	26 Fri 10:27 am -.20

Meetings on the

second
Thursday of
Sept through
April at 7:00
p.m., at
Waldemere
Fire Station, 2070
Waldemere St. in
Sarasota. Park in small
lot on the right or in
nursing home lot across
the street.



The Annual **Shell Show** is February 13-15, 2014 at the Bradenton Area Convention Ctr.

Dues: New members \$21.50 New Family members (2+ at same address) \$33.00.

Renewals: \$15.00 for Single, \$20.00 for Family (2+ at same address).

If you want your newsletter printed and mailed add \$15.00.

Calendar

Please note dates on your own calendars!

Dec 5, 7 am Carefree Learner Trip

Dec 5, 5-9 pm Holiday Party & Auction, Courtyard Marriott Bradenton

Dec 6, 7 am Beach & Breakfast, Nokomis

Dec 11, 7 pm regular meeting, Waldemere

Bring Shirtbox Exhibits

6 pm sales of shells, etc.

Jan 7, 8 am Carefree Learner Trip

Jan 9-11 Astronaut Trail Shell Show Melbourne, FL (East coast)

Jan 10 Shell Island Shoal field trip

Jan 20, 8 am Carefree Learner Trip

Feb 13-15 **Sarasota Shell Show**

Feb. 21-22 St Pete Shell Show Seminole

Mar. 5-7 Sanibel Shell Show

Mar. 12-14 Marco Island Shell Show

Jun 13-14 Gulf Cst Show, Panama City

July 14-19 Conchologists of America convention, Weston, FL (East coast)

www.2015coaconvention.com

DID YOU KNOW... Frank Lloyd Wright, so the story goes, gave a *Thatcheria mirabilis* to each of his graduates with the admonition, "When you are a hot-shot architect and are lauding your own work remember to take this shell out of your pocket and realize you'll never create a design as noble and beautiful as that made by this humble piece of muscle." (*Shell and Tell*)



Sarasota Shell Club

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SARASOTA SHELL CLUB MEETING, November 13, 2014

Sally Peppitoni called the meeting to order at 7:05p.m. The meeting was held at the Waldemere Fire House. There were 37 members present and 1 guest.

Captain Doug Jeffries from the Philippines presented a show on "Fake Shells"

A short break was taken for refreshments and shell shopping.

Minutes from the October meeting previously e-mailed with newsletter presented no corrections. Sally P. moved that we accept the minutes as printed, Bruce P. (2nd), all approved.

Treasurer's Report – Bruce Paulsen reported the checking balance is \$12,704.10 as of November 12th.

Sally P. reported that the publicist has sent out 30 notices for publication, there are additional 10 left to be distributed.

Programs – December, members are requested to bring an exhibit of favorite shells, also shells you might want to display at the show and ask our experienced members for advice on how to exhibit them. January, Dr. Leal, from Bailey Matthews Museum will be giving the program. February we put on the Shell Show and do not have a meeting.

Membership – Lynn Gaulin reported 142 current members and 7 members rejoining tonight. The deadline for renewal was extended with hopes of gaining more members. The membership books are expected to be out in December.

Website – The website is finished thanks to Bruce Paulsen for all his time and efforts in design. Items will be added on a timely basis. Please take a look at it and encourage people who might be interested in the club to view it.

Holiday Party – December 5th there will be a dinner with 3 choices, fish, chicken and beef. Please contact Nancy Marini and send her a check for the dinner. There will be an open cash bar. A fun auction is planned for the evening.

Field Trips – Sally P. reported on all of the upcoming field trips. There was a booklet and sign up sheet for every trip at the meeting. Please send checks to Sally for a trip you would like to go on or have signed up for.

Artisans – Nancy M. invited anyone who would like to join or visit our group is welcome. We are having a show at Mixon Fruit Farm in Bradenton on November 22 and 23rd at their Fall Festival.

Education – Class on Micro Shells – If anyone is interested in this subject please let Peggy Williams know. She will then set up a date and location.

Old Business: None Discussed

New Business: JoAnn Mancuso received the approval from the Board to look into the details of having a fund raiser. This would happen sometime in April and would include dinner, dancing, raffle and a silent auction. Please call JoAnn if you have any information that could help her with this endeavor.

Meeting adjourned, 8:50p.m.

Donna Bartels
Recording Secretary