

# The Beauvii



A newsletter published by the  
Sarasota Shell Club

Look for us at  
[www.Sarasotashellclub.com](http://www.Sarasotashellclub.com)

We meet on the 2nd Thursday  
(September to April)  
at Fire Station #2,  
2070 Waldemere St.,  
Sarasota, FL

April, 2018 Edition

## From the Prez



Hello Sarasota Shellers!

Well it's April and our season is almost at an end. We still have our annual picnic coming Saturday, April 7th, and I hope everyone will be able to attend. Many of our winter members will be returning home to the north in a few weeks and we will

miss you until you return this fall.

We've had a wonderful season with great guest speakers, a FABULOUS shell show and some good field trips. Keep in mind to get your dues for the next season paid this summer so we start with a full contingent for membership. If you would like to have a shell trip to a specific location please email me and let me know.

We have one last meeting April 12 where we will have our election of officers and board members at that time. Please plan to attend for this important meeting. See you soon!

Respectfully,  
Sally Peppitoni, President

# Club Picnic Saturday, April 7th!

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## About our Picnic

The picnic will be April 7, 10 am to 7 pm (lunch arrives approx. 12:00 pm). For those of you who might be interested you can call me to book it until April 4 at 941-758-9790 The cost is \$8.00 and includes barbecue chicken, pulled pork, potato salad, cole slaw, baked beans, tossed salad, buns (for the pulled pork), corn bread, some lemonade, ice tea and. lots of great desserts (some home-made).

Please bring extra drinks with you as well as cushions, folding chairs and a game if you have something for a group. We are at the same pavilion as last year, which is on the south side of Coquina Beach, closest to the Longboat Key Bridge. The Artisans and all club members want to wish our snowbird members, a happy and safe summer. The Artisans will still be meeting all summer long.

**Your 2018-2019 Membership Renewal Form is on the back page - Renew Now!**

## *Cypraea aurantium* Gmelin, 1791

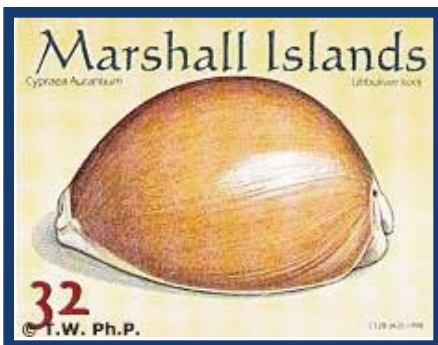
### April's Featured Shell



One of the most desirable cowries is the Golden Cowrie (sometimes called the Orange Cowrie). It is also classified as *Lyncina aurantium* (Gmelin, 1791). This is a large cowrie, ranging from 60 to 120 mm in length and the shell is large and inflated.

It has a large mantle which covers the entire shell and is found with projections (or papillae) that can help with possibly with respiration and/or camouflage.

Interestingly this mollusk is very intolerant of light and hides during the day while being very active at night on reefs.



The *Cypraea aurantium* featured on a Marshall Islands stamp.

On the Fiji islands the shell is known as “bulikula” and specimens are drilled at the ends and worn as a necklace as a symbol of rank.



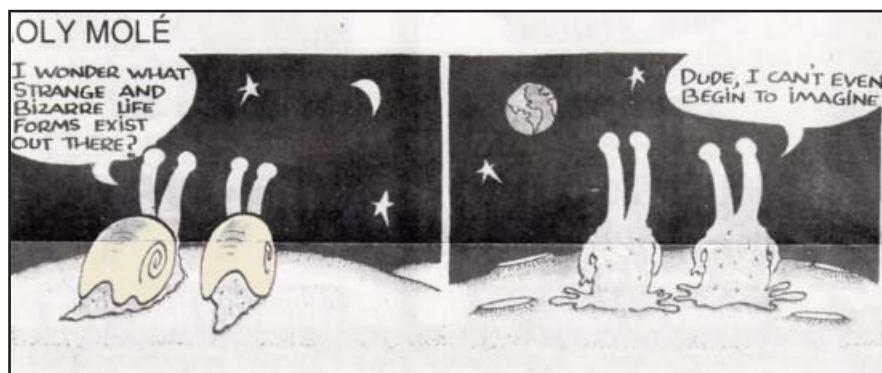
The *Cypraea aurantium* seen here on a Chinese phone card



A underwater photo of a live Golden Cowrie.

Photo: Jeanette Johnson  
Kwajalein Underwater

### The April Cartoon



## Meet Your Member—Rosanne Roble

I was born and raised in Norfolk, VA and lived in the Norfolk/Virginia Beach, VA area most of my life. I went to work for the US Navy in 1972 and stayed on the job for 38 years. I started as a clerk-typist, and ended my career as the manager of the Navy Information Technology Facility in Norfolk. A co-worker introduced me to my husband John, way back in 1977. We married that same year and have been together for 41 years.

John and I have one son, who now lives in Portland, OR but visits us here in Sarasota whenever he can. My visits to this area started back in 1977 after John and I married and we visited as a family with our son just about every year after. When I retired in 2010, we decided to make Sarasota our home.

John served on active duty in the US Navy for 32 years. As a child John grew up on Longboat Key beginning in the late 1950s and lived on Longboat until he joined the Navy.

During this time on Longboat Key, John's mother collected shells just about every evening and stored them away. These are the shells I would come to love many decades later.

I had no idea what to do with all the shells and one day I saw an advertisement for a Shell Show at the arena in the local Sarasota paper. I attended the show and joined the Shell Club that day. I was astounded at all the beautiful shells both scientific and artistic at the show. I started attending meetings and soon learned about the artisan group, which



makes flowers for the shell shows, I was hooked and joined the artisans group in 2009.

Since becoming a member of the club my love of shells and shell collecting has grown and I am very fortunate to be involved with such a great group of people that belong to the Shell Club. Learning to make shell flowers and other artistic items is a great way for me to relax. Working with the artisans has been inspirational and I have found it easy to make items that I am very proud of. Currently I am working on a shell-encrusted chandelier for my home with all those shells from Longboat Key.

Giving back to the club is very important and I have served on the Board and for the last few years have also worked at the Shell Show coordinating and setting up the Artistic entries.

I look forward to being part of the Shell Club for many years to come!

**Members**—want your shell story published? Send your information and photo to the editor at [rbopp1@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:rbopp1@tampabay.rr.com) and it will appear in a future issue of *The Beauii*.

### *Why Do You Like Sea Shells?*

Well, let's find out! Send the editor ([rbopp1@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:rbopp1@tampabay.rr.com)) your reasons for collecting sea shells and a summary will be posted in the summer edition of *The Beauii*. Not matter what our indication is or how trivial you think it is for participating in pursuing this fascinating hobby, it is noteworthy and worth letting others know. This should be fun . . . and yes, **there will be a summer newsletter**.

Forgot the address already? It's [rbopp1@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:rbopp1@tampabay.rr.com)



## Hearing the Ocean in a Shell

Ron Bopp

Pick up a shell and hold it to your ear . . . what do you hear? The ocean, of course! At least that is a popular myth to the noise that is produced. Do you really hear the ocean? No, but rather you hear a complex gathering of ambient noise (echo of the noise in the air around you).

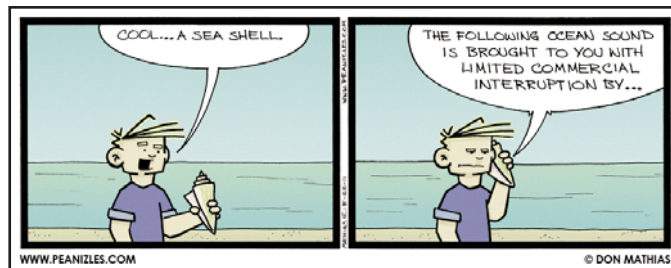


Some have suggested it is the echo of the blood pumping through your head's blood vessels. Others have thought it was the sound of air flowing through the shell. Both of these are incorrect.



The shell is a resonant cavity—the inside is hard and usually has a smooth finish. It becomes an excellent reflector of sound. The shell needs background noise. The louder the area around you, the louder the “ocean” becomes. Is this true? Scientists have taken shells into a soundproof room and found there was no sound at all.

The best shells are large, spiraled conch shells—different shells will make different “ocean” sounds.



An interesting comment that I found on the internet was

*. . . that our human brain is superb at finding subtle patterns in the chaotic world around us. We can find animals in clouds, the face of Jesus in a potato chip, or the Virgin Mary in a fence post.*



So, the next time you are shelling, listen to the shell you just discovered and see if you hear the “ocean,” or that rushing ambient air resonating within the shell’s cavities. No matter what, it is enjoyable—and we can dream.

*This subject matter is fodder for many cartoonist and a sample of these are included for your enjoyment—Ron*



## March Meeting Photos



Left to right: March Speaker, John Colegrande; Members preparing for the meeting; Donna Cassin; Karen Heuther.

## April's Speaker—Bradley R. Tanner Mote Marine Laboratory

Brad Tanner graduated from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington, earning a B.A. in Environmental Science. While working on his academic degree at UNC Wilmington, he also worked in the Education Dept. at the North Carolina Aquarium at Fort Fisher. Later, Brad obtained a Masters Certificate in Informal Science Education from the University of South Florida.

Brad has been the Senior School Programs Coordinator with Mote Marine Laboratory and Aquarium in Sarasota, FL since 2004. Before employment with Mote Marine Laboratory in Sarasota, FL, he was the Education Director for Carolina Coastal Adventures, an outdoors adventure/education company. That role enabled him to design, teach, and evaluate many scientific and educational field programs. He enjoyed teaching people the skills needed to kayak and identify/study aquatic life in the Cape Fear, NC region.

Brad has been with Mote Marine Laboratory for over 14 years. He assists with many scientific and educational oriented projects in his employment with Mote's scientific marine research and outreach conservation projects. He creates in-house programs for students and manages many of Mote Marine's educational programs.

His work has resulted in extensively traveling worldwide with Dr. Eugene Clark (Mote's Founder). On four research excursions to Indonesia, he studied the habits and the habitat of a newly identified fish species. Brad's movie of these Indonesian research excursions has become a popular presentation precursor and won Honorable Mention at the BLUE Ocean International Film festival. On another occasion in Andros, Bahamas he



studied and recorded Garden Eel behavior and habitat. During the summer of 2014 he traveled to the Solomon Islands in the South Pacific for yet another oceanic research project on the nesting patterns of the Oceanic Triggerfish.

Brad regularly assists with diving excursions and the longest running bottlenose dolphin study in world; one that is conducted in Sarasota Bay. He has interacted with and studied Risso's Dolphins, and many other ocean species, visiting Mote's Hospital, as well as with reptile species such as the endangered leatherback sea turtles in rehabilitation in Mote's Rehabilitation Hospital.

As a volunteer, he has assisted with the turtle watch in his region, walking the local beaches to protect turtle egg clutches against predators and collect scientific data.

He has co-authored a Marine Science Laboratory Manual, published by McGraw Hill, as a clinical marine ecology education textbook. He has also created a Seashell Identification Guide for use by teachers.

Brad has been a frequent presenter at many national and Florida conferences on effective marine education practices and the translation of scientific research data for school programs uses for greater student and adult learning enhancement.

In his civic and community involvement, he serves as the Executive Director for the Florida Association of Science Teachers (FAST) and is a Past-President of that group. For the past 4 years, he has been a member-volunteer on the Sarasota Bay Estuary Program Citizen Advisory Council, a group formed to provide environmental protection to the Sarasota Bay and its wildlife.



## The Artisans

The Artisans are a group of caring and talented people. We meet usually once a week on Thursday 10 to 1pm, after which we all go out for lunch. We also go on day trips, to buy shells, etc.. All of the items we make are for the the Sarasota Shell Club show, as well as other venues. The monies we make (thousands each year), funds our outreach programs, as well as other educational gifts the club chooses.

If you have any questions, please call Nancy Marini 941-758-9790. We meet at the Bee Ridge Presbyterian Church on the corner of Proctor & McIntosh (Sarasota). We are in the one story brick “Keyes” building. If you think you’d like to join us, please give me a call.



O'Shucks grill on Cortez road recently had this sign which read: *Come on in just for the **Shell** of it.* A place to sign up new members?

## Shells Needed for Club Table

The Club table has a “lack of inventory” of several popular items. Kitten’s paws (*Plicatula*), augers (*Terebra*), coquinas (*Donax*), shark eyes (*Niverita*), spiny jewelboxes (*Arcinella*), jingles (*Anomia*), and bubbles (*Bulla*) were in short supply. So as you beach comb in the coming months, pick up nice shells for donation to the Club table! We also cherish donations of large showy shells you may no longer want.

Patrons to the Club table also like urchin tests, broken pieces of coral, beached egg cases, crab molts, and other treasures from beach drift.

Duane Kauffmann

## 2018-2019 Officer & Board Slate Complete

The slate of officers and board members is now complete for our 2018-2019 club year. After the last membership meeting Karen Huether has volunteered to serve as Treasurer. Because she was not listed in the March *Beuii* a month in advance she will need to be nominated from the floor before voting.

Plan on attending this important meeting to be able to vote and to be able to hear our educated guest speaker from Mote.

See you there!

## Library Notes

Our Sarasota Shell Club library is located at the Bee Ridge Presbyterian Church in Sarasota.

A list of our books is on the website [www.sarasotashellclub.com](http://www.sarasotashellclub.com). For more info on some of our books, go to [www.mdmshellbooks.com](http://www.mdmshellbooks.com).

You may want a book to help with your scientific or artistic exhibit at our SSC Shell Show or just educate yourself about shells and marine life, as well as helping you identify shells you find.

Call me at 941-993-5161 or email me at [luvseashells@gmail.com](mailto:luvseashells@gmail.com) to arrange an appointment for browsing our library or requesting books you would like me to bring to our SSC meetings or just talk about our exciting library books.

There is a whole world of seashells and marine life out there !

The library will be open all summer.

Linda Greiner



## The Artisans at Work (and Nancy's Musings)

Nancy Marini

Hi everyone; well, we had an exhausting time setting up, doing the Fair & packing up. We put in a total of 94 hours. The Artisans want to thank the members who volunteered to help us out as it was a great help. We made \$1059. Pictures below of some of our displays were provided by Angela Sampogna and Linda Greiner.

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If you would like to order a SSC golf style shirt in the club color royal blue, please see Nancy Marini at the April 12th meeting. They run true to size and do not shrink.

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If you would like to drop off shells to donate , please call first 941-758-9790 or 941-773-7131. So we can set up a time when we can meet you there. See you at the picnic.





## Historian's Report

Duane Kauffmann

### 50 Years ago

Fifty-eight members and guests attended the April 11, 1968 meeting of the Sarasota Shell Club which was called to order at 7:40 pm by President Rinck.

It was agreed by all that the Shell Show had been a success. (A few notes from the financial report. Total attendance for the 4 day show was 1100. Admission was 50 cents. Hall rental was \$235. Night watchman for 3 nights, \$30. Total income \$1257. Total expenses \$1021.)

Elections of officers followed. After the elections were concluded, the incoming President asked immediate past president Rinck and Louise Danforth to leave the room. He then made a motion to award life memberships to Rinck and Danforth to thank them for their considerable service to the club. Vote was unanimous.

The program was a talk by Louise Danforth on how humans have used shells throughout history.

### 25 Years Ago

The Sarasota Shell Club meeting of April 1993 was called to order by President Peggy Williams.

A field trip to Peanut Island was announced. Overnight at Econolodge for \$50. Six dollars for boat trip to island.

Donations of \$500 to Mote Marine and \$500 to Carefree Learner were approved.

The librarian reported the reappearance of two "long lost" books.

Officers for the following year were elected.

The mini-ed program was given by June Baily on the Horse Conch *Pleuroploca* (now *Triplofusus*) *gigantea*, the Florida state shell. "The program 'Shelling in Louisiana' consisted of both slides and a tape. The slides were excellent and the narration exceptional."



### Our Shell Club Artisans

have completed their first sailor's friendship valentine. The octagon frame and shell flowers were donated by many of our club artisans. This project is to be raffled at our 2019 shell show.

### Sailor's Valentines

An octagon framed shell mosaic is the traditional form of fancy work highly collected and prized as far back as the 1700's. As with coveted specimens this is another way to honor the treasured shells collected from around the world. More information about sailor's valentines can be found at our club's library.

## Editor's Thoughts

I wondered why the ball was getting bigger. Then it hit me!



## SSC Members Score Well at St. Pete and Sanibel Shell Shows

SSC members: Lynn Gaulin, Donna Timmerman and Ron Bopp entered and won several awards at the **St. Pete Shell Show** in late February. Lynn won the Dorothy Hansler Award (Best Florida display) for her “Shelling in Venezuela” display; Donna won the Earl Clark Award (Best Artistic Award) for her single Sailor’s Valentine; and Ron won the National Museum of Natural History Smithsonian Institution Award (for outstanding exhibit) as well as the Alice Monroe Educational Award (best educational award) for his “Cone Shells” display.



Doug Thompson with his COA trophy.



Bob & Pat Linn and showing off their Howard Sexauer trophy.



Duane Kauffmann's display.

Several SSC club members entered and won awards in the **Sanibel Shell Show** in early March including Suzanne Dietsch, Duane Kauffmann, Donna Timmermann, Doug Thompson, Bob and Pat Linn, and Ron Bopp. Suzanne and Donna both won red ribbons for their sailor's valentines (not an easy task considering the fierce competition for this category) and Duane Kauffmann won a blue ribbon for his “Sea Life” entry.

Donna won the Wanda Will Award (Best Jewelry Hobbyist) for her shell earrings and necklace entry; Bob and Pat Linn won the Howard Sexauer Award (Best Worldwide Shells any source) for their “Olives of the World;” Doug won the COA Trophy for his excellent display of north Florida shells he has acquired while diving; and Ron won the Anne Joffe Sanibel Superstar Award (Best of the Best) for his “Cone Shells” display.



Donna Timmermann and Suzanne Dietsch

All in all a good representation of the Sarasota Shell Club at the Sanibel Shell Show.



The Wanda Will Award.



The Anne Joffe Sanibel Superstar Award.

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## The Carefree Learner Turns 40

Duane Kauffmann

From the beginning the Sarasota Shell Club has supported the marine biology efforts of the Sarasota School System. The Club provided some of the original funding to get the Carefree Learner built; ready for studies in Sarasota Bay. And thanks to our ongoing support, members of the Club get to take several excursions to the flats in the Bay each year.

Thus it was in late January that an intrepid group of hardy souls embarked on such a trip. The weather was brisk (as in mid 40s), but the wind was negligible. When we arrived at the flat we were pleasantly surprised to find more exposed area to explore than any of us could ever remember. And off we went.

In addition to the numerous pairs of *Macrocallista nimbosa* (Sunray Venus), *Mercenaria campechiensis* (Southern Quahog), and *Chione elevata* (Cross-barred Venus), there were thin-shelled *Mactrotoma fragilis* (Fragile Surf Clam) and colorful *Laevicardium mortoni* (Yellow Egg Cockle).

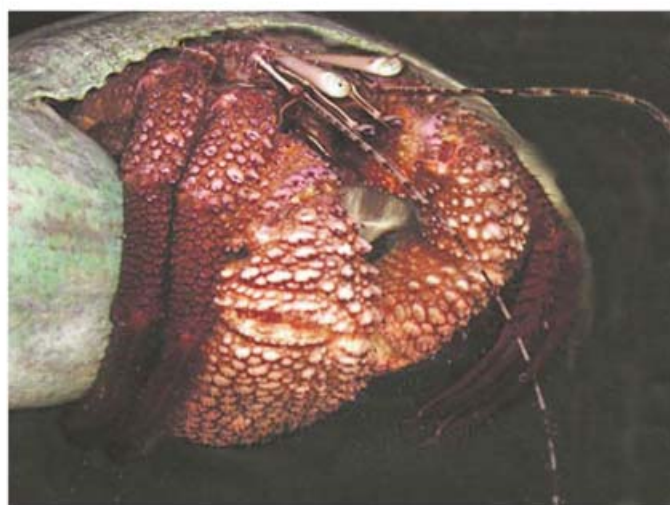
The cool weather and water had the living invertebrates on the flat either motionless, or moving very slowly. The gold medal winning invertebrate of the morning was *Lysiosquilla scabricaudata*, a large mantid shrimp. The one brought on board was some 8 inches (20 centimeters) long. These fearsome predators are equipped with raptorial claws with which they lash out at prey, sometimes severing them in half. They are reported capable of breaking aquarium glass.







Among the other invertebrates were a large and beautifully colored *Callinectes ornatus* (Ornate Blue Crab) and a large hermit crab *Petrochirus diogenes*.



Amidst numerous fighting conchs (*Strombus alatus*) and lightning whelks (*Sinistrofulgur sinistrum*) were less common finds such as the Tampa drill (*Urosalpinx tampaensis*) and the common marginella (*Prunum apicinum*).

For the slightly biased author of this account the highlights of the morning were (in order shown) an unbroken *Longchaeus suturalis*, colorful *Tectonatica pusilla*, a porcelain white live *Melanella hypsela*, and several fragile 1 millimeter *Henrya* sp. (not even the shell references give a species name). Totals for the morning were 41 species of gastropods and 21 species of bivalves.



## Officers & Board Members

President	Sally Peppitoni
Vice-President	Nancy Marini
Treasurer	Bruce Paulsen
Recording Secretary	Jeanne Corbin

Board Members: Donna Krusenoski (1), Donna Timmermann (3), JoAnne Mancuso (2), Donna Cassin (2), Karen Paulsen (3).

## Committee Chairmen

Artisans	Nancy Marini
<i>The Beauii</i>	Ron Bopp
Historian	Duane Kauffmann
Field Trips	Sally Peppitoni
Librarian	Linda Greiner
Membership	Donna Krusenoski
Shell Show	Board
Sunshine	Karen Ciffin
Webmaster	Bruce Paulsen

Contact the Editor - email Ron Bopp at rbopp1@tampabay.rr.com or call at 918-527-0589 if you have something to include in *The Beauii*.

## Calendar

April 7	SSC Club Picnic
April 12	SSC Membership Meeting
Aug 29 - Sept 2	COA Convention, San Diego
Sept. 13	SSC Membership Meeting

**Meetings** are held on the second Thursday of September through April at 7:00 pm at Waldemere Fire Station, 2070 Waldemere St. in Sarasota. Park in the small lot on the right or in the nursing home lot across the street.

**Dues** are \$21.00 for new single members and \$33.00 for family members (at the same address). **Renewals** are \$15.00 for single and \$20.00 for family.

If you want *The Beauii* printed and mailed it is an extra \$15.00 to your dues.

## The 2018-2019 Membership Application is Attached

You may renew your membership  
now - fill out and sign!

## Nominating Committee Search Results for 2018-2019

President:	Sally Peppitoni
V. President:	Nancy Marini
Corr. Secretary:	Duane Kauffmann
Rec. Secretary:	Donna Cassin
Treasurer:	Karen Huether*

Board Member Candidates	
3 year term - Rich Cirrintano	Donna Krusenoski
2 year term - Jenny Folden	
1 year term - Pete Steelman	

The following Board Members have been contacted and agree to fulfill their term of office as previously elected: 2-year term - Donna Timmermann  
1-year term - JoAnn Mancuso

Respectfully Submitted, Lou Cirrintano, Duane Kauffmann & Lynn Gaulin

\* Karen Huether has volunteered to be added to the slate as treasurer for SSC for the year 2018-2019. Since this was not posted in the March *Beauii* we will need to have her nominated and seconded from the floor.



# Sarasota Shell Club 2018 - 2019 Renewal/New Application Membership

Note: Dues include newsletters (*The Beauui*) via email, September through April. If no email address is available, add \$15 to your yearly dues if you want to receive the newsletters by mail.

**Initial Dues:** include cost of membership name tag:

\$21.50 single and \$33 family (living at the same address)

**If no email address,** add \$15 to your yearly dues

**Renewal Dues:** \$15 single and \$20 family (living at the same address).

If no email address add \$15 to your yearly dues.

To join, send checks only (no cash) made out to SSC to

**Donna Krusenoski, Membership Chairman**

**3250 Ringwood Mdw**

**Sarasota, Fl 34235**

Please print legibly to help us correctly spell your name:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Local Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Other address & phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency contact & phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday day & month: \_\_\_\_\_

We offer field trips to our membership and would like you to attend. Times and places will be announced at meetings or in our newsletter.

Are you interested in field trips? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you know of any good field trip location(s)? \_\_\_\_\_

If so, they are: \_\_\_\_\_

**We require you to sign this Liability Release if you are interested in participating in our field trips. Every member must sign below:**

## Liability Release

*I agree that I am individually responsible for my safety and my personal property. I will not hold the Sarasota Shell Club, its officers, field trip leader(s), or property owner liable for any damage or injury to me or my property that should occur.*

**Signature required for each member joining:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

The SSC publishes a roster with names, address and emails for our member use only. Please check one:

\_\_\_\_\_ it is **OK** to publish my information in the roster

\_\_\_\_\_ it is **Not OK** to publish my information in the roster

You will be sent monthly newsletters starting in September through April informing you of the date and time of the next meeting held the 2nd Thursday of each month at the Waldemere Fire Station off US 41 (behind Wendy's near Sarasota Memorial Hospital). Name badges can be picked up approximately 4 weeks after they are ordered.

To be filled in by the Membership Committee

Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ New Member \_\_\_\_\_

Amount paid & date \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_