

The Beauvi



A newsletter published by the
Sarasota Shell Club

Look for us at
www.Sarasotashellclub.com

We meet on the 2nd Thursday, 7:00 pm
(September to April)
at Fire Station #2,
2070 Waldemere St.,
Sarasota, FL

February, 2020 Edition

From the Prez



Happy Valentines!

The time for our shell show is upon us! I hope everyone knows his/her job. We need as many as we can to help because so many of our key players are under the weather. I'm very excited to see all the new exhibits and to welcome back our returning vendors and meet the new ones. The club shell table will be inside this year instead of out back and I promise you there will be some spectacular buys there. Duane Kauffmann has been working tirelessly for months sorting and pricing. Linda Greiner has been printing labels, stickers, flyers, and other needs like crazy. Nancy Cadieux has tirelessly called everyone and wheedled them in order to get our volunteer shifts filled. Carol Mae has been exhaustively planning for all the food that will be needed.

Lynn Gaulin and Beverly Root have been working hard to have everything ready for judges. Bruce and Rosanne are killing themselves getting the exhibit materials ready for scientific and artistic categories. Ron Bopp has all the awards ready to be placed. Angela Sampogna has the children's corner ready to go. Donna Bartels has the Artisans ready. Donna Krusenoski has all the raffle items and materials ready. Donna and Dave Timmerman have set us up in the papers and are working to get us a TV interview spot. Sue Painter is working on our new Facebook page and getting us advertised on social media. Karen Huether has bent over backwards (you

Field Trips, 2019-2020

Information on field trips may
be found on page 2.

What's in this Issue:

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should see her limbo now!) to get all the contracts, payments, disbursements and other odds and ends ready to go. Thanks to everyone who has been helping us get underway.

Now, let's all take a deep breath and get this done!

Sally Peppitoni
President

Happy Valentines
to all members!

A 2019-2020 Membership Form is on the back page—Give one to a Friend!

Field Trip information and updates:

***Always make sure I have your cell phone number when you sign up for a trip!

Sunday, March 8th: **BOCA GRANDE**. In order to make up for the canceled trip to Boca last November, I've rescheduled this new date. Low tide is at 7:02 AM and -0.5 ft. The winter tides and storms have been pushing lots of stuff up onto the beaches so this should be good shelling. I will have the list at the February meeting after the shell show.

Still trying to decide about April...any suggestions?

I will see YOU at
the Shell Show!



Shell Show Raffle Update

The Sailor's Valentine, designed by Suzanne Dietsch, is now complete and ready to raffle during our upcoming shell show. Tickets will be available throughout the show. This valentine honors shell enthusiast Mary Weare's fossil collection donated by her son, Jon. If you have a piece to donate contact Donna K, our show raffle chairman.

SSC Member Scores Big at the Broward Shell Show.

Donna Timmerman won “Best of Show, Artistic Hobbyist” at the recent Broward Shell Show. Pictured below is her entry and below that photograph is a closeup of the award.

Congratulations, Donna!



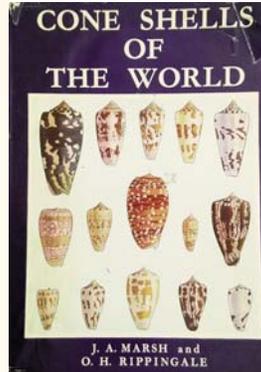
The Annual Sarasota Shell Club’s Shell Show

February 7-9, 2020

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. For more info on some of our books, go to www.mdmsshell-books.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 (Linda) at luvseashells@gmail.com to arrange an appointment for browsing our library or just talk about our exciting library books. There is a whole world of seashells and marine life out there!

Linda Greiner & Duane Kauffmann

New Slide Presentation: “Building a Shell Show Exhibit”

While too late for our current show a great presentation has been assembled by John Timmerman (North Carolina Shell Club) for those that wish to put together an exhibit for a future show. The web’s URL is below

<https://www.ncshellclub.com/Shell%20Exhibit%20JT1.htm>

Check it out - it is an outstanding presentation.

SAVE THE DATE

Our annual picnic will be held on Saturday, April 18th, from 10-5. Due to construction difficulties it will be held at Beverly Root’s Clubhouse, Spanish Main, Longboat Key. No price yet but we will have a sign- up sheet at the meeting to ascertain how many and how much food to order. Sign-up with payment will be at the March and April meetings.

Two Similar *Haliotis* Species

Two abalone species from Australia are featured in this issue of *The Beauii*. The first is *Haliotis scalaris scalaris* (Leach, 1814). Found out of SW Australia this species common name(s) are “Staircase” or “Ridged Ear Abalone. Looking at the photograph (and looking at the real specimen) reveals the interesting characteristics of this shell which lends it the name of staircase. **Figure 1**



Figure 1. The *Haliotis scalaris scalaris* (Leach, 1814).

The prominent details of the sculpture make this one of the easiest *Haliotis* species to identify. It is a vegetarian and lives under stones.



Figure 2. The *Haliotis scalaris emmae* Reeve, 1846.

The second species is *Haliotis scalaris emmae* Reeve, 1846. Likewise it is found under rocks and also from Australia but more from the Southern portion. This particular species is known as “Emma’s Abalone.” **Figure 2**

Both species can present with similar coloration (rust to red to cream). **Figure 3** is a plate from Geiger & Owen’s 2012 *Abalone—Worldwide Haliotidae* showing the various color patterns of the *Haliotis scalaris*.

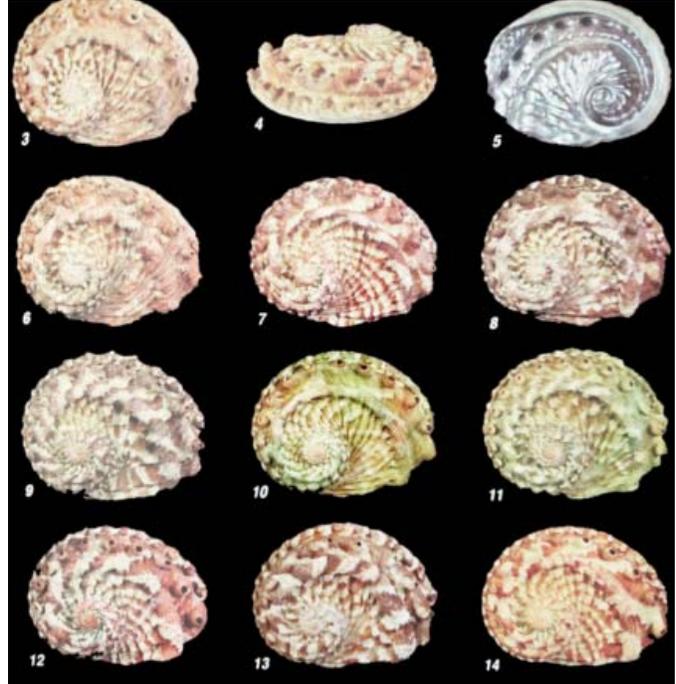


Figure 3. Color patterns of the *Haliotis scalaris*.

Haliotis scalaris can be found on Ebay with prices ranging from \$18 to \$125. There will probably be some for sale at the Sarasota Shell Club’s Shell Show. **Figure 4** shows this species, along with three other shells commemorating light houses—interesting the abalone is featured by a set of stamps produced by the Central African Republic.



Figure 4. A set of stamps produced by the Central African Republic, one of which features *Haliotis scalaris*.

The *Haliotis* species are most interesting. An exhibit of them should be at our shell show.

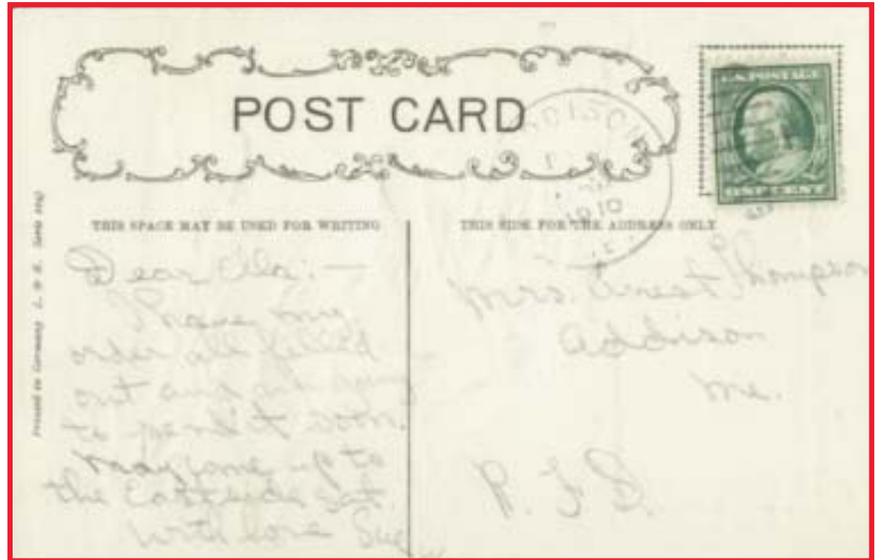
A Postcard from the Past . . .



A Valentine's Shell Postcard mailed in 1910. The card was printed in Germany and the message on the front says:

*My Heart is like a Shell
Whose vague commotion
Echoes the Mighty Swell
Of Loves great Ocean!*

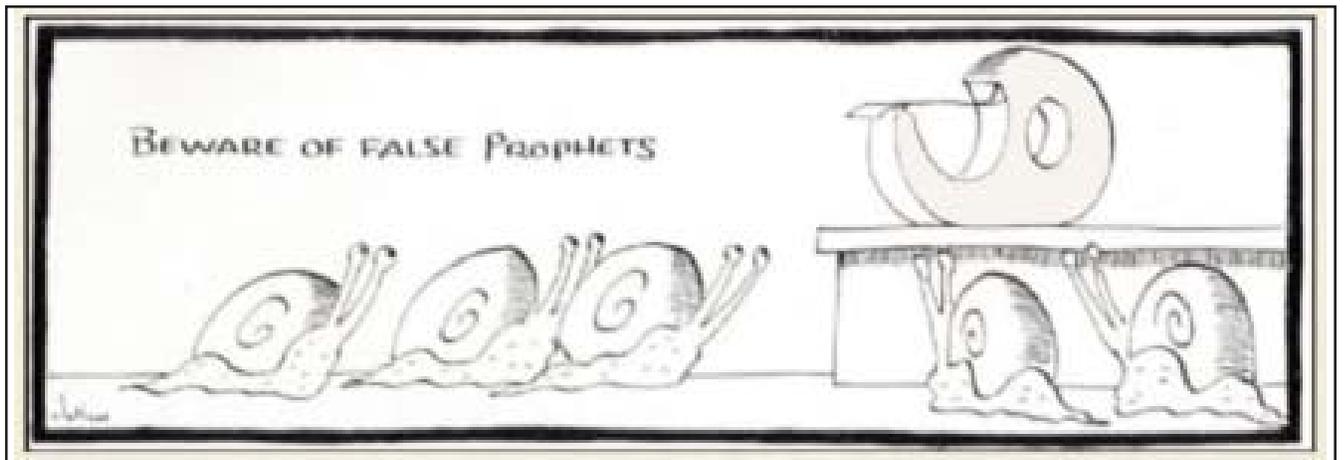
Wow—I guess that says it all.



IT TAKES A VILLAGE

Just glancing at Nancy Cadieux's Sarasota Shell Club Volunteer Schedule is so impressive with the number of volunteers. It is so heart-warming to see so many people come together from all areas of our club, beginning collectors, Artisans, Scientists, etc. Many thanks from me to those who are helping me in the kitchen, Lou Cirrintano and Cindy Elitzer. I especially wish to thank Donna Timmerman for paying the cleaning crew so we would have a clean kitchen. It took a HUGE concern off my mind. I even received donations from Jo Schmidt, who wasn't able to work but wanted to contribute. Huge pat on the back for everyone! Carol Mae

The February Cartoon . . .



Carefree Learner Excursion

Report by Duane Kauffmann

On Monday, January 27, nine SSC members braved the 57 degree temperature for a trip to the flats in Sarasota Bay. Since by all accounts (including research) the extended red tide event (18 months) had a devastating effect on local marine life, this trip was an opportunity to see what could be found nearly a year after the retreat of *Karenia brevis*. It did not take long to determine that molluscan life was still suffering. Although I did not see everyone's discoveries, live gastropods were scarce. I found one banded tulip (*Cinctura lilium*) trying to make a meal from an empty pen shell *Atrina*



seminuda. In the micros domain, I found abundant *Bittolum varium* and several *Astyrus lunata*, but nothing else. [Note: the pictured *Bittolum varium*, left photo, is from the Florida Keys. It is of interest to note that the *Bittolum* from Sarasota Bay are invariably smaller and much darker in color, being very dark brown or black, than the light tan, 5 mm shells from the Keys.]



Live *Chione elevata* (Cross-barred Venus) were found with some frequency, and there were numerous shells of colorful fresh-dead *Dinocardium robustum* (Giant Atlantic Cockle).

Since Megan Ehlers was looking for live invertebrates to share with her high school students, a number of SSC members joined in the search (a special thanks to those members for a number of the finds



mentioned). In this venture there was encouraging success. Although numbers were not large, a variety of specimens made it to the onboard aquarium. Among these were the spider crab *Libinia dubia*, mud crabs in the genus *Paneopus*, one small decorator crab (*Microphrys bicornutus*, picture at left) and many small crabs of low profile, perhaps in the genus *Petrolisthes*.

A variety of small shrimp were captured, including very slender bright green grass shrimp of the genus *Tozeuma* and an attractive, yet-to-be-identified red-lined shrimp (see photos at right).



A recently dead large hermit crab (*Petrochirus diogenes*) was found in a depauperate lightning whelk (*Sinistrofulgur sinistrum*). Numerous small sea hares were seen, sluggish from the cool water. Several urchins and anemones were found along with one small brittle star.



One of the more intriguing finds was an off-color orange-red shell of the fighting conch *Strombus alatus*. Closer inspection showed this strange color was due to the presence of a boring sponge (*Cliona delitrix*). Boring sponge larvae attach to a source of calcium such as a mollusk shell. The growing sponge is able to chemically weaken and remove very small chips from the shell, over time boring an extensive network of "burrows" in the shell (think termites and wood). The sponge expands into the vacated shell

openings. Eventually the mollusk dies. The sponge lives inside the shell until dies (as per the shell we found) or it has exhausted its home and the shell disintegrates. Then the sponge becomes free living until it perishes. One can tell if a shell has boring sponge if is not a normal color (it may be orange, orange-red, or yellow), has numerous small holes in the surface, is much too light in weight, and can be easily broken. Below are photographs of the upper part of the shell that was found and a close-up showing the holes created by the sponge.



As I returned to the dock. I was encouraged to have seen more invertebrate life than I found on a Carefree Learner trip last year. Marine species can be resilient if we humans give them a chance, but the multivariate dynamics of warming water, greater acidity, various pollutants, and other variables yet to be identified, make the prognosis guarded at best. Sad perhaps, but inevitable?

Historian's Report

50 Years Historian's Report to February, 2020 SSC meeting

50 Years Ago

The February 12, 1970 meeting of the Sarasota Shell Club was held at the Palmer Bank Building with 30 members and guests present.

The Treasurer's report showed a bank balance of \$1396.17

The minutes give no mention of a program. Apparently discussion of the shell show took all the meeting time. Show is to be at the Armory. Volunteers are needed [Editorial note: sounds familiar]. The security guard will cost \$20 per night ("up from last year").

25 Years Ago

The meeting of February 9, 1995 was held at Mote Marine. Five guests were present. No treasurer's report, treasurer absent.

Sign-up sheet for shell show volunteers was circulated. Field trip to Marco Island was productive.

Program by Jean Evans on *Melongena corona*.

[Note: at a board meeting later in the month, it was noted that it is club policy to not let the treasury balance fall below \$5,000. "This is to insure that we have enough money to cover the expenses of the shell show, in case of a disaster."]

**Sarasota Shell Club Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2020**

1. Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 7:03 P.M. by the President, Sally Peppitoni.
2. Introduction and Welcome: Sally welcomed everyone including two visitors, Debbie Alexander who moved here from Dublin, Ohio and Sherry who is a studio jewelry artist who works with shells.
3. Program: “Living Creatures of the Florida Keys” was presented by Duane Kaufmann.
4. Secretary’s Report: Everyone received a copy of minutes from December 12, 2019 and members reviewed and made corrections. Angela Lampongna presented motion to accept minutes and Mary Jo Bopp seconded the motion. This was unanimously passed.
5. Treasurer’s Report: Karen Huether presented financial report for January 9, 2020. (See attachment) It also can be reviewed in the *Beauii*. This was unanimously passed.
6. Corresponding Secretary’s Report: Duane Kauffmann reported there was no information to report.
7. Committee Reports:
 - A. Shell Show: The Board has taken over running the Shell Show. We need volunteers to help. On the Tuesday before the show trucks need to be loaded at 2:00 pm at the Artisan’s location at Bee Ridge Presbyterian Church at Proctor and Macintosh.
The truck needs to be unloaded at 9:00 Wednesday. We also need people to be available at the end of the day, Sunday, to breakdown, load and unload truck. People are needed to put tablecloths on tables on the Wednesday before the show. Building will be open at 10:00. Carol Mae is in charge of the refreshments and thanked Bruce for sign in sheets. Some things that have been donated are veggie and fruit tray, water, and chips. Consider things like cookie trays, regular and diet sodas or unsweetened or sweetened ice tea. \$5.00 lunches will be available Friday, Saturday and Sunday. There will be coffee, tea and water. Put your name on bottles if you bring them. Dealers and guests will pay five dollars also. We will need to know ahead of time so we can accommodate them. Bruce will be sending a note out. To remain a unified club we need help for Shell Show. Call Carol Mae if you can help with food donations and call Nancy Cadieux to volunteer to help for Shell Show.
 - B. Programs: There will be no program for the meeting after the Shell Show. We will bring members up to date about the show. If you bought something at the show bring it to the meeting to show.
 - C. Librarian’s Report: Linda Greiner can refer you, given a topic, to books from the library including books about art with shells.
 - D. Historian’s Report: All members are referred to the monthly newsletter (*The Beauii*) where the historical report is being published.
 - E. Membership: Donna Krusenoski reported we now have 153 signed and paid.
 - F. Field Trips: Carefree Learner had to be canceled because we only had seven people signed up and we need twelve. There is another date for Monday, January 27. The cost is \$5 dollars plus tip. The Boca Grande trip got rained out so it is scheduled for March 8 to make up for November. Low tide is at 7:02 am. There was no interest in the Peanut Island trip so Sally will find another field trip for April.
 - G. Web Page: Bruce Paulsen reminded us that if we have pictures from beach walks or field trips that we can send them to SarasotaShellClub@gmail.com.

- H. Newsletter: Ron Bopp also reminded us to send in pictures and stories for the newsletter. Submit pictures and articles you may have to Ron.
- I. Education: Gill Hodges presented the shell of the month. Gordon F. will present the shell of the month at the next meeting.
- J. Sunshine: Frankie Grover had no information to report.
- K. Artisans: Donna K. reported that shells have been packed and organized for the show. Come join and see what they are doing. Come and work at the show. They meet weekly on Thursday starting at 10:00 am at Bee Ridge Presbyterian Church at Proctor and Macintosh.

Old Business: The Constitution and By-Laws were amended and typed out by Lynn Gaulin. Bruce will put them on the website for membership only.

New Business: It was decided that we have the end of the year picnic at Spanish Main Yacht Club's clubhouse on Longboat Key thanks to Bev Root's suggestion. Bev will make arrangements for April 18th which is preferable, or April 4th if available.

Door Prizes: Rich Cirrintano and Sally Peppitoni drew numbers to present door prizes this evening.

Adjournment: With no further business to discuss Sally P. adjourned the meeting at 9:05 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jeanne Dimmick: Recording Secretary

| Sarasota Shell Club Treasurer's Report January 9, 2020 | |
|---|-------------------|
| Reconciled Balance as of December 31, 2019 - | \$22,918.24 |
| Account Balance as of January 09, 2020 - | \$20,139.49 |
| December Income: | \$2,768.98 |
| Items Include: Membership Dues, Shell Show Dealer Fees, Marketplace, Shell Show Award Donations, Holiday Party Proceeds, Keewaydin Field Trip, Interest | |
| December Expenses: | \$2,950.15 |
| Items Include: Bee Ridge Rent (\$547.50), Bird Key Final Payment for Holiday Party (\$2,300.40), Dome/Holder for Club Shell (\$102.25) | |
| Activities Completed/Items for Discussion: | |
| -Potter Building for Shell Show Paid in Full - \$3,800 | |
| -Bird Key/Annual Holiday Party Venue PIF - \$2,800.40 | |
| -COA Ad and COA Annual Dues Paid | |
| -4 th Quarter Income Tax Filing Submitted | |
| -State of Florida Annual Report Filed (\$61.25) | |
| -Dealers for Shell Show - 13 total (9 PIF, 4 paid half - amount past due) | |
| -Discussion needed on Shell Award Sponsorship | |
| -Budget discussion needed on advertising, award dinners, luncheon expenses, cost vs. income, etc. at board meeting | |
| Additional Info: Shell Show Expenses for 2019 - \$18,412.24 | |

Officers & Board Members

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| President | Sally Peppitoni |
| Vice-President | Donna Cassin |
| Treasurer | Karen Huether |
| Recording Secretary | Jeanne Dimmick |
| Corresponding Secretary | Duane Kauffmann |

Board Members: Carol Mae (3), Pete Steelman (3), Donna Krusenoski (2), Rich Cirrantano (2), Donna Timmermann (1), and Jenny Folden (1).

Committee Chairmen

| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Artisans | Open |
| <i>The Beauii</i> | Ron Bopp |
| Historian | Duane Kauffmann |
| Field Trips | Sally Peppitoni |
| Librarian | Linda Greiner |
| Membership | Donna Krusenoski |
| Shell Show | Board |
| Sunshine | Frankie Grover |
| 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

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| February 7-9, 2020 | SSC Shell Show |
| February 13, 2020 | Membership Meeting |
| June 15-21, 2020 | COA International, Melbourne, FL |

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 2019-2020
Membership Application
is Attached
Do it!**

Past Presidents of the Sarasota Shell Club

| | | |
|---|---|-------------------------------|
| Jack Oberle: 1963-1965, 1968-1968, 1972-1974 | Vi Hertweck: 1982-1984 | Cathy Hollar: 1999-2001 |
| Louise Danforth: 1965-1967 | Richard Forbush: 1984-1985 | Joanne Chmielewski: 2007-2010 |
| Franck Rinck: 1967-1968 | June Bailey: 1985-1987, 1995-1997, 2002-2003 | Ron Bopp: 2010-2012 |
| Thomas Robertson: 1969-1970 | Bob Hansen: 1987-1988 | Dennis Sargent: 2012-2014 |
| Evelyn Bradley: 1970-1972 | Beverly Chouinard: 1989-1991 | Sally Peppitoni: 2014-2020 |
| Charles Hertweck: 1974-1979 | Bonnie Christophel: 1990-1992 | |
| Peggy Williams: 1980-1982, 1988-1989, 1992-1994, 2001-2002, 2005-2007 | Pat Amsel: 1994-1995 | |
| | Debra Ingrao: 1997-1998 | |
| | Cathy Aschliman: 1998-1999 | |

Carol finds a Junonia

When jumping off the bow of a boat at 6:00 A. M. into cold water, the last thing on my mind was finding a Junonia. At that point it was attempting to make it to shore, walking along a VERY SLIPPERY, MUDDY bottom and not totally falling into the water. Obviously, I made it but with the lower portion of my anatomy very cold and wet! For the first time, I used a Debbi Lawton technique of shelling with a rake and raking through shell piles. After raking many piles, the Junonia appeared. I stood there thinking “OMG” “Is this what I think it is?” So, thanks to Debbi and her technique, I found my, I hope, first Junonia. If I reveal the location, I would be hung by my thumbs, my tongue severed, and dipped in oil.



Editor's Thoughts . . .

Don't you hate it when someone answers their own questions? I do.

Artisans To Sponsor New Class

Suzanne Dietsch has announced she will be holding a one day Sailor's Valentine Class on Feb 10 at our artisan's workshop.

Spend the day learning this traditional art form while creating a 6" sailor's valentine of your own. All supplies are included to create the treasured keepsake pictured.

Class size is limited - Cost \$300. Contact Suzanne 309-883-1590 or visit her website - www.seashellvalentines.com



Enjoy a day of friendship, laughter, smiles and as Nancy M. would also add - lots of M&Ms.

Sarasota Shell Club Renewal/New Application Membership

Note: Dues increase newsletters (*The Beautif*) 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: _____

Our Insurance Requires This: 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 _____ / _____