

# 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, 7:00 pm  
(September to April)  
at Fire Station #2,  
2070 Waldemere St.,  
Sarasota, FL

July, 2019 Edition

## From the Prez



Hello Sarasota Shell Club:  
As this summer winds down, we have had a lot happen since last April. The COA convention on Captiva Island was a great success and those of us who attended have plenty to show and tell at the September meeting.

We have also had a tragedy in losing our Vice-President Nance Marini so suddenly on July 12th to illness. Please keep her family in your prayers. We will strive to continue the work Nancy did for our club, but we have some big shoes to fill. She was a wonderful lady and a dynamo when it came to working to make our club better. She will be greatly missed!

Have a great rest of the summer and don't forget the program for our September meeting is "Show and Tell".

Respectfully,  
Sally Peppitoni, President

**Next Meeting:  
September 12,  
2019  
"Show & Tell"**

## Field Trips, 2019-2020

Many to be announced this fall!

### Whats in this Issue:

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### 2019-2020 Officers & Board of Directors Candidates (approved at April, 2019 meeting)

President: Sally Peppitoni  
Vice President: Open  
Corresponding Secretary: Duane Kauffmann  
Recording Secretary: Jeanne Dimmick  
Treasurer: Karen Huether

#### Directors at Large:

3 year term Donna Cassin  
2 year term Pete Steelman

(The following Board Members have been contacted and have agreed to fulfill their term of office)

2 year term Rich Cirrintano  
2 year term Donna Krusenoski  
1 year term Jenny Folden  
1 year term Donna Timmermann

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

## Liguus: The Flamboyant Tree Snails

### A Review

Duane Kauffmann

*This interesting review was presented in the April issue of “The Beauii” but because our attending members had chance to see, hear and meet Adrián Guillén, your Editor felt it was worthwhile to repeat it as well as use some relevant photos for illustration.*

Adrián González-Guillén and his co-authors have produced a magnum opus on a colorful and fascinating genus of tree snails, a genus to which south Florida makes a major contribution. It is by any standard one may think of the most complete, and most colorful, book on *Liguus* even published. Indeed, one must concede that the color photos of the seemingly endless forms of *Liguus fasciatus* might leave even the most interested tree snail enthusiast with a visual system yearning for a break. During that break one might wish to use the book as the weight for a series of power arm curls [the reviewer’s efforts to weigh the book yielded an estimate of seven pounds].



A screenshot of Adrián’s presentation: *Liguus fasciatus*.

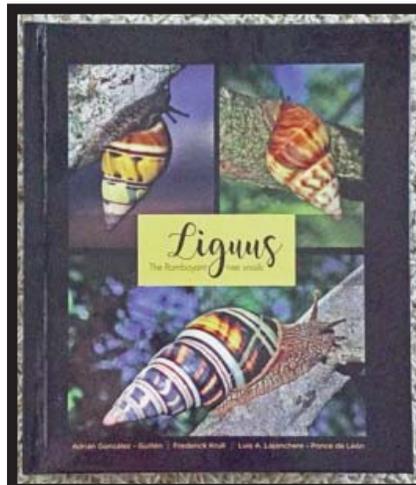


Meeting at the COA meeting were Adrián González-Guillén (left) and Ron Bopp (right).

Its considerable size and extensive photos allow for a wealth of scientific information on the genus under review. The detailed location data and the extensive information on color forms provide the foundation for improved understanding of the *Liguus* “situation.” The specialist will likely be spurred to renewed study of how one species, *Liguus fasciatus*, has been able to generate such a vast diversity of color forms. But even casual shell enthusiasts, with a mere handful of *Liguus* in their collections, can learn a wealth of information concerning exactly what they have and how they fit into the *Liguus* pantheon.

Unfortunately, as scientists embark on the research that might yield valuable data on how nature “does its thing” via genetic evolution, the live snails needed for such work are increasingly threatened. When the reader finally reaches Chapter 10 (on page 486), the conservation and prognosis discussion is depressing. The devastating loss of habitat and the destructive predatory effects of the invasive New Guinea flatworm, are causing the extinction of many of the localized populations of *Liguus* so essential to science. Indeed, *Liguus* may soon be relegated to a few isolated islands and remote hammocks.

Regardless of whether you are an artisan, have a casual fascination with shells, or a dedicated science junky, you owe it to yourself to give this book a look.



Some may only look at the pictures, some may most appreciate the text, but everyone will learn something.

Adrián’s book:  
*Liguus, The Flamboyant Tree Snails*

## Nancy Marini

If you Google the term “Force of Nature: meaning” you will find this: Force of Nature is an idiom. To say a person is a force of nature (is one, not has one) means a person is a very strong personality or character. Like a hurricane or a tsunami are forces of nature, they are full of energy, unstoppable, unchallengeable, unforgettable.” In short, a person to be reckoned with.

I can’t think of a better description of Nancy Marini. Nancy has been an active member of the Sarasota Shell Club for 13 or 14 years. She assumed many responsibilities willingly and with an energy that was amazing. She juggled many tasks at the same time including the Vice Presidency and it’s responsibilities, the leadership of the Artisan Group, and the Shell Show Chair.

She brought treats to the meetings, arranged the holiday party, and the end of year picnic and on and on. She was a good and generous friend to many and will be greatly missed. There is a huge hole in the hearts of those who knew her best and there is just no way to fully express the loss—Donna Cassin.



Nancy’s favorite photograph—Ed



The last photograph of Nancy taken by the Editor was this celebration at the recent COA Banquet. Pictured are (L-R) Duane Kauffmann, Frank and Sally Peppitoni, Donna Cassin and Nancy.

Robert Toale & Sons Funeral Home’s web page noted: *It is with deep sadness that the family of Nancy Marini announces her unexpected passing on Friday, July 12, 2019 at the age of 78 years. Former wife of the late Armand Stephen Marini Jr., Nancy will be forever remembered by her children, Amy Reisfield and Rob Richman (children with Nancy’s late former husband, Isadore Richman), their spouses Alan Reisfield and Andi Richman, and her grandchildren Adam and Andrew Reisfield, Hannah and Cooper Richman. She will also be deeply missed by her stepson Armand Marini, his wife Vivian and their children Armand IV (AJ) and Christina.*

Nancy Cadieux noted that “Despite her back issues, Nancy hardly stood still. She was a goal oriented woman dedicated to the Mission of the Sarasota Shell Club.”

Many more SSC members have expressed their thoughts for Nancy on the above-mentioned webpage. Check them out at <https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/bradenton-fl/nancy-marini-8777547>.

### Library Notes (The Library is open during the Summer)

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.mdshellbooks.com](http://www.mdshellbooks.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 just talk about our exciting library books. There is a whole world of seashells and marine life out there!

Linda Greiner & Duane Kauffmann

## Dealer Photos of our 2019 Shell Show



Randy Allamand



Bob Janowsky



Genie O'Brien



Don Pisor



Patty Elzinga



Suzanne Dietsch

## More Dealer Photos of our 2019 Shell Show



Joan Haughwout & Mary Jo Bopp



Peter Murfitt



Donald Dan



Sue Hobbs



Ed Brown



Paul Lamb

## The 2019 COA International Meeting at Captiva, Florida



**T**wenty-some members of the Sarasota Shell Club attended the Conchologists of America's (COA) annual International Meeting, held at the South Seas Resort in Captiva, Florida. The above photo shows some but not all.

There were plenty of activities for members including several silent auctions; lectures and presentations; three social gatherings; an exciting auction; and a two-day bourse to end the event.



Every attendee received a "birthday cake" with miniature Tucker Abbott horn-rimmed glasses.

The meeting was themed on the 100th year celebration (a several day birthday party) of the birth of Tucker Abbot who was instrumental in the development of malacology as well as the formation of the Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum in Sanibel.



The snail parade featured many entries to celebrate the life of Tucker Abbott.

A special snail parade was held to commemorate his birthday—over 20 COA attendees entered the contest with many entries. Awards were given to the best two of each category.

the Shell Parade, and several who won bids in the oral auction including President Sally Peppitoni who acquired a trophy-sized slit shell.



A *Siratus beauii*, the club's shell as seen in the hand of the auctioneer's assistant prior to the auction event. It was eventually purchased by the club (with board approval) for display at club events including our annual shell show.

One could not miss the chance to purchase their desired shell(s) as there were dealers throughout the convention lining the meeting halls and then, of course, the large bourse which was held in two separate rooms as well as the hallway.



Mary Jo Bopp at her and the Editor's boarse table.

Several club members played a role in the meeting including Lynn Gaulin who organized the bourse; Duane Kauffmann who policed the bourse; June Bailey who discussed her relationship with Tucker Abbott at the Banquet (June noted she had "slept with Tucker Abbott" in a tongue-in-cheek way); Ron & Mary Jo Bopp who entered



Sally Peppitoni with her trophy-sized slit shell, *Entemnotrochus rumphii* Schepman, 1897.



A shell-themed centerpiece adorned each table at the COA banquet.



Ron & Mary Jo Bopp's entry in the snail parade which garnered 2nd place in the "Celebrate" category.

## Emily Vokes

*For the last several years I have been interested in fossil mollusks—one particular area was the Chipola Formation of shells found in Florida's panhandle. An author that continuously popped up while doing research for my displays was that of Emily Vokes. It was of great surprise and pleasure that she attended this years COA meeting in Captiva. I had chance to meet with her and with her approval, used the "Wikipedia" version of her history found below—ED*

Emily Hoskins Vokes, (born May 21, 1930) is an American malacologist, palaeontologist, and former university professor. She is an authority on the Muricidae, a large and diverse family of predatory sea snails, or marine gastropod mollusks. Vokes worked both on her own and with her husband, geologist Harold Ernest Vokes.

Emily Hoskins was born in Monroe, Louisiana, but the family moved to New Orleans when she was eight. Vokes attended Newcomb College, then the women's undergraduate college of Tulane University, but dropped out, uncertain of her future career. She went to work for the Biophysics Laboratory and found her way to the Geology Department, where she became interested in geomorphology and later paleontology. In 1955 she re-enrolled as an undergraduate, but because Newcomb College did not then offer geology degrees to its women students, she switched to Tulane. She completed her B.S. degree in geology in 1960, while working part-time as a curator of fossils. Following this she obtained both her M.S. (1962) and Ph.D. (1967) degrees from Tulane.

In 1959, Emily married geologist Harold Ernest Vokes (1908–1998), whom she had met in 1956 when he came to Tulane to run the Geology Department. She often collaborated with him on scientific research. She published 147 articles and books alongside the 144 published under his name.

She began her academic career at Tulane University in 1969 as an instructor for University College, where she worked until 1973. That year, she became an associate professor at Newcomb College. She was promoted to full professor in 1981, and later served as chair of the Geology Department and as dean of Newcomb College. She retired in 1996 and became an emeritus professor. She held the post of curator for the Geology Department's collections until 1974.

Emily and her husband helped to start a summer field-work camp in Mexico, and for over a decade they traveled annually to the Yucatan Peninsula to study mollusks, resulting in their book *Distribution of Shallow-Water*



*Marine Mollusca, Yucatan Peninsula, Mexico* (1983).

In 1968 she collected fossils in Central America, especially Costa Rica and Panama. In 1971, she spent a sabbatical collecting fossils in South America (Ecuador, Argentina, Chile, and Peru) and teaching at Brazil's University of Rio Grande do Sul. In 1971, Emily published a large study of the genus *Murex*, entitled "Catalogue of the Genus *Murex* Linné

(Mollusca:Gastropoda)". At the time of publication, some 2500 species had been named in the Linnaean genus *Murex*, and she attempted to reassign each species to its correct genus.

Between 1976 and 1986, a good deal of time was spent surveying fossils in the Dominican Republic. Some of this work was part of a larger project coordinated with other researchers that aimed to identify the origins of various species found in the rock formations of the Dominican Republic. This research resulted in another of her major works, "Neogene paleontology in the Northern Dominican Republic 18: The superfamily Volutacea (in part) (Mollusca:Gastropoda)", a 1998 study of the superfamily Volutacea found in the Dominican Republic. It focused on a particular group of taxa that tend to be characterized by folding of the axial part of the shell. She was an editor of the Tulane Geology Department's journal, *Tulane Studies in Geology and Paleontology*.

Emily and her husband were the core of the paleontological research program at Tulane University, and their fossil collections were extensive. These collections included research findings from excursions to the southeastern United States, Mexico, the Dominican Republic, South America, and Europe. She and her husband collected from 1546 localities, their specimens filling over 72 square yards of cabinet space. A large number of their specimens have been transferred to the Smithsonian, the University of Florida, and the Paleontological Research Institution.

In retirement, Emily moved to Ponchatoula, Louisiana, where she opened an antique shop.

## Photos from the April, 2019 Membership Meeting



A cake to celebrate the last SSC meeting and the start of summer; donated by Nancy Marini.



Jenny Folden described and demonstrated a *Vasum muricatum* (“Caribbean Vase”) in her left hand and compared it to a *Hystrivasum horridum* (a fossil, the “Horrible Vase”) in her right hand.

## July’s Cartoon . . .



## A Postcard from the Past . . .



A 1919 French postcard showing a youngster holding a shell to her ear. The inscription noted *Das Kind mit der Muschel* or “A child with a shell”. It is interesting that the wording is in German while the postcard itself was made in Paris and the remainder of the writing on the card is in French.

### Historian’s Report

None for this summer!

### Editor’s Thoughts . . .

I didn’t like my beard at first.  
Then it grew on me.

## Officers & Board Members

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

Board Members: Donna Krusenoski (3), Rich Cirrantano (3), Pete Steelman (2), Donna Timmermann (2), Jenny Folden (2), and JoAnne Mancuso (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          | Karen Ciffin     |
| Webmaster         | Bruce Paulsen    |

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

## Calendar

|                  |                                      |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| September 12     | Membership Meeting                   |
| June 15-21, 2020 | COA International Meeting, Melbourne |

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**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.

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**The 2019-2020  
Membership Application  
is Attached**  
**You may renew and send in after  
August, 2019 (fill out and sign)**

## Sarasota Shell Club 2019 - 2020 Renewal/New Application Membership

Note: Dues include newsletters (*The Beautii*) 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 \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_