



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 Sarasota Shell Club!

Well, another season is coming to an end. Sad isn't it? But we still have our **End of Year picnic** to look forward to at Coquina Beach on April 23rd. I will also try to plan some beach and breakfast trips this summer for those of us who remain down here and would like to go. We are looking forward to a great upcoming year with new field trips and maybe even a new location for our 2017 shell show. I hope everyone has a safe and wonderful summer and I'll see you all next fall!

Happy shelling! Sally Peppitoni
President

Scientific Forum

The Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum will be hosting a 2.5 day forum titled "Mollusks in Peril" May 22-24, 2016. We are bringing together some of the country's foremost experts on current large -scale threats to molluscan populations to discuss through presentations and panels, the challenges facing the second most diverse group of animals on earth.

Fee is \$100 (plus tax?). This includes: all keynote lectures, scientific presentations, panel discussions, coffee breaks, and lunches.

Next meeting
Thursday, April 14
at 7:00 pm.

Refreshments are served at each meeting. Bring your own beverage!

Some members will have shells for sale at the meeting.

Program: Shelling in
Baja California

by Peggy Williams

www.Sarasotashellclub.com

Very Important!

Our Recording Secretary has been in office for several years and can no longer serve. The Nominating Committee has not been able to find a replacement.

The job is taking minutes of the membership and board meetings, typing them up and sending them to Sally and the Corresponding Secretary, who publishes the newsletter (the *Beauí*). Not a hard job, and the Minutes will be proofread before publishing.

Please consider accepting this position and notify Angela Sampogna, Nominating Comm. 845-268-2915 by the March meeting!

Library

Linda Greiner



Our library has moved to Bee Ridge Presbyterian Church in Sarasota. A list is on the club website. For more info on some books go to www.mdm.com.

We have several shell craft books that teach you how to make flowers, animals and other various types of shell art.

Come join me to browse out library. I will be available during the summer. You may want a book to help with your exhibit at the show or just educate yourself about shells and marine life, as well as identify shells from field trips.

Just call me at 941-993-5161 or email me at luvseashells@gmail.com to talk about our exciting books!

BTW: Peggy Williams was mentioned in the latest issue of *American Conchologist*, the quarterly newsletter of the Conchologists of America. We have it and back issues in our library for you to enjoy.

Field Trips, Etc

Sally Peppitoni

Trips must be paid for by check made out to Sarasota Shell Club. I will **always** send out an e-mail of pertinent information before the trip goes.

April 8th(Fri) – 12 Noon arrival, Peanut Island on east coast. You can snorkel here too! Low tide of -1.0 at 3:56pm'!!!

Will have hotel info at the meeting.



Historian

by Duane Kauffmann

50 Years Ago in March

Thirty-nine members and guests attended the March 10, 1966 meeting of the Sarasota Shell

Club in their "beautiful new meeting room" in the Palmer National Bank Building.

Much of the meeting pertained to the shell show.

1. Show judges will be entertained with a meal at Zinn's Restaurant.

2. Competition for exhibit prizes will be limited to club members. Neil Hepler of Deerfield Beach was informed he could display, but not in competition.

3. Young collectors were to be encouraged to exhibit.

4. Arrangements have been made for school children to visit the show on Thursday morning.

5. Sign-up sheets were available for members to indicate their availability.

6. Members will bag and price shells to be sold at the show on March 13. Members are asked to donate shells worth \$5.

Plans were discussed for members to form groups around their specific interests.

25 Years Ago

The regular meeting of SSC was held on March 14, 1991.

The treasurer's report showed a balance of 8877.82 (buoyed by a profit of \$2414.71 on the shell show).

Comments about the shell show included: "Dick Forbush did a good job of setting the show up and making it look bigger than it was." The raffle made \$466 dollars and all prizes were won by the SSC members! After discussion it was decided that the prize ribbons, which used the same style for the past 17 years, would be in the same style.

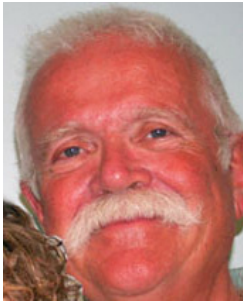
Donations of \$500 were made to Mote and to the Carefree Learner.

Picnic announced. Chicken provided; members bring other food to share.

"With only a few hours notice," Peggy Williams gave the program on Belize.

Shell Show Photos

by Ron Bopp



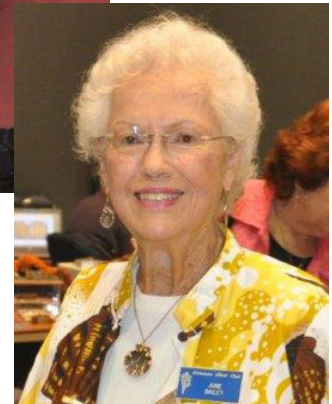
Left to right, top to bottom:

- Ron Bopp
- THE BIG WINNER! Greg Curry (middle), who won the Mote Gold, flanked by scientific judges Kevan Sunderland and John Slapcinsky.
- Sue Hobbs passed around chocolates.
- Donna Cassin "ran the show".
- Rich Cirintano, still working for the show.
- David Ervin, perpetual winner of the Young Scientist Award.
- Donald Dan, always smiling.
- Donna Kruzenowsky helped sell (and make) shell art.





- Happy winners of the Dupont Trophy Bob & Pat Lynn.
- The Fran Schlussmann trophy went to this lovely flower arrangement.
- Mary Hansler won the June Bailey Trophy.
- A very creative artistic display.



- June Bailey herself!
- Linda Greiner won first prize.
- Mary Jo Bopp shows off some merchandise.



Black Light Shows The True Colors Of Ancient Seashells

The colors of the Parthenon aren't the only to have faded with time. Just as centuries of weather and sun have stripped the Greek icon of its rich hues, millennia of natural forces have robbed ancient seashells of their various pigments.

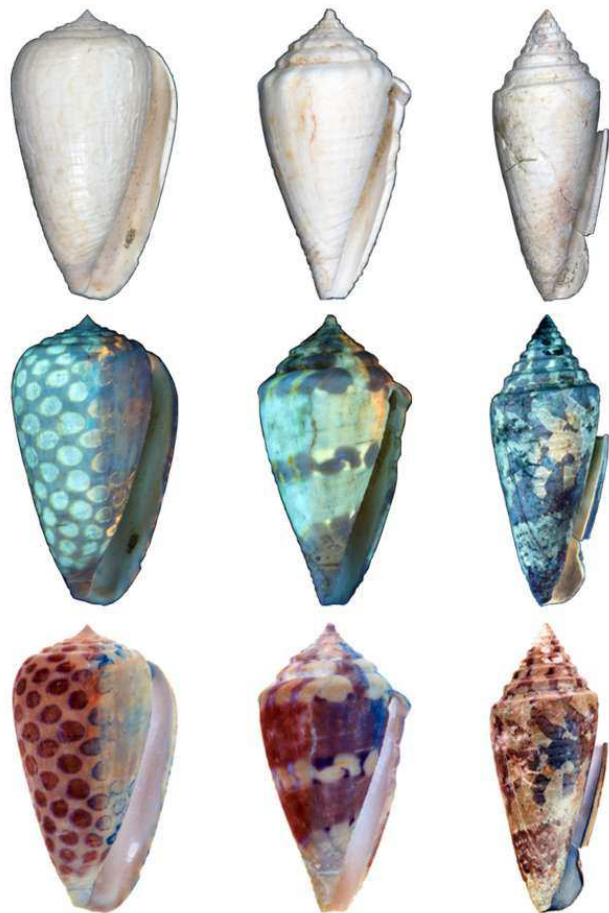
But now scientists can peek into the past and catch a glimpse of what these lovely seashells would have looked like in their prime. Putting the shells of fossilized cone snails under an ultraviolet light, you can see what the shells may have looked like millions of years ago.

Under the light, areas of organic matter, where the pigment was most pronounced, light up. The researchers are still trying to figure out what compound inside the shell causes it to fluoresce, but they speculate that it might have to do with oxidation--when oxygen molecules interact with other substances.

Clearly much more work needs to be done to better understand the compounds responsible for shell coloration. That said, it seems that oxidation--caused either naturally by exposure of shells to sunlight over prolonged periods of time, or artificially by soaking in bleach for several days--plays a role in causing formerly pigmented regions of fossil shells to fluoresce under UV light, though the reason is not currently understood.

The scientists hope that by having a better idea of the colors and patterns of these fossils they will be able to sort out not only different

species, but how those species relate to their modern counterparts. They found that some of the patterns on the shells were very similar to cone snails living today. In addition, the researchers discovered 13 new species of cone snail, including one with polka dots.



Top Row: Seashells in natural light. Middle Row: Seashells in UV light. Bottom Row: What the seashells would have looked like in their prime.

Full paper is: "Glowing Seashells: Diversity of Fossilized Coloration Patterns on Coral Reef-Associated Cone Snail (Gastropoda: Conidae) Shells from Neogene Dominican Republic, April 1, 2015

Board Members

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

Board: Donna Krusenoski-1, Deborah Deam-1, Donna Cassin-2, JoAnn Mancuso-2, Harry Berryman-3, Karen Paulsen-3

Committee Chairmen

Artisans:	Nancy Marini
Beauti:	Peggy Williams 355-2291
Historian:	Duane Kauffmann
Field Trips:	Sally Peppitoni
Librarian:	Linda Greiner 993-5161
Membership:	Mary Jo Bopp
Shell Show:	Board
Sunshine:	Karen Ciffin
Webmaster	Bruce Paulsen

Calendar

April 14	Last Shell Club mt 'til Sept.
May 19-21	Jersey Cape Shell Show
May 21-22	W Cst Show, San Diego
June 18-19	Gulf Coast Show, Panama City
July 9-10	Qld Australian Shell Show
July 27-31	Qld, Australian Shell Show
Jul 27-31	COA Convention Chicago
Aug 13	Derbyshire, England Fayre
Aug 26-Sep 5	Oregon Show, Salem
Sep 17-18	NC Shell Show Wilmington
Oct 22-23	Philadelphia Shell Show

More info on Calendar Events

available from Peggy Williams.

To Find Sarasota Tides

<http://tbone.biol.sc.edu/tide/tideshow.cgi?site=Sarasota%2C+Sarasota+Bay%2C+Florida+%28%29>

Site will show the week's tides. Go to prediction options below for one-month calendar. Choose options: Suppress, Suppress, Show, Show; Start at desired year & month. Choose hour format, show day.

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.



Dues: New Single 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.

Sarasota Shell Club

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Sarasota Shell Club Meeting March 10, 2016

Sally Peppitoni opened the meeting at 7p.m. in the Waldemere Fire Station meeting room. She welcomed new members and visitors. 35 members and 7 visitors attended. She announced that the meeting for the evening was not our usual subject but that the club membership had previously voted approval. Dennis Moses, Lawyer from a local office was introduced and presented a program on Estate Planning.

Minutes were printed and mailed with the Beauui. Angela Samponga made a motion to accept the minutes as printed, Nancy Marini (2nd), motion carried. Minutes filed as printed.

Treasurer's Report presented by Bruce Paulsen was filed with copy for member review at meetings. Final financial figures on the Shell Show will be available at the April meeting.

Shell Show – Donna Cassin gave a thank you to all of the members and friends of the Club who helped to set up and work at the Show, noting we had an increase in volunteers. The Board will be looking at different venues for the 2017 Show in Sarasota. Locations to be considered are the Sarasota Auditorium, Robarts Arena, Devyn Banquet Halls and Shrine Auditorium. Please call a Board member if you know of a location with at least 10,000 sq. ft. of space to rent.

Nancy Marini announced that Peggy Williams will do the program in April

Librarian, Linda Greiner announced that the Library will be open all summer, call for a time to visit.

Historian, Duane Kauffmann read meeting notes from 25 and 50 years as printed in the Beauui.

Mary Jo Bopp, Membership stated that we currently have 178 members with 15 new joining since the Shell Show.

Field Trips – Sally announced that we will have a beach walk March 26th the day before Easter, location to be announced.

Congratulations to Ron Bopp for his appreciated presentation at the Beach University, Siesta Key Beach Pavilion. An audience of over 80 people attended, he also had the support of 6 Club members who distributed Club information and seashell bags. Parks and Recreation of Sarasota County said the program was well received and would appreciate us coming back in 2017.

Old Business: Sally had previously read a letter drafted by the Gulf Coast Club that was sent to Washington. The subject of the letter was stating an objection of the new seashell import laws. Sally fully explained how this would devastate the professional and amateur shell collecting business. Nancy Marini made a motion that our Club also send a letter to Washington, Donna K. (2nd), unanimously passed. Angela Sampogna made a motion that we do not amend the original letter, send as written, Lou Cirrintano (2nd), unanimously passed. Sally will complete the action.

Angela Sampogna reminded Club members that elections will be held at the April meeting. One position is open for Recording Secretary, anyone willing to take the position or would like to nominate a member please call Angela.

New Business: Nancy Marini will secure a location for our end of the year picnic. She will inquire about Coquina Beach.

Donna Bartels, Recording Secretary