

The Beauvii



A newsletter published by the
Sarasota Shell Club

Look for us at
www.Sarasotashellclub.com

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

February, 2018 Edition

From the Prez



Hello to all my fellow Shellers!

It's Shell Show time! I hope everyone is ready and raring to go! We will need "all hands on deck" starting Wednesday, February 7, for set up of tables, covers, signs, etc., in the Potter building at Robarts Arena. Then the dealers and exhibitors will

arrive on Thursday to get set up. The show opens Friday, February 9. I am SO excited to have our wonderful show back in Sarasota! I hope everyone will be diligent and do their fair share. This is a group effort and the more of us who help, the better our show will be.

I've added the rest of our major field trips to the field trip list. Please note that the Peanut Island trip is at the very end of March. The dates and times for April low tides are just terrible this year. So, the end of March is the best I could do to make the shelling worth the trip. Also, the weekend after the show, I plan on going to the north end of the Skyway to shell. Those who wish to join me can let me know via text or email. I will send out an email about the Fort DeSoto trip in the next week or so.

See page 11 for Bruce's final thoughts about the show.

See you all soon!

Respectfully,
Sally Peppitoni, President

Field Trips

See page nine (9) for field trip information!

February 9-11, 2018

SSC's Annual Shell Show!

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Babylonia areolata (Link, 1807)

February's Featured Shell



The shell of the month is the ***Babylonia areolata*** (Link, 1807) which is known as the Babylon Tower Shell. It is also called the Spotted Babylon, the Maculated Ivory Whelk or the Flower Shell. It is from the family Babylonia which has ten such species thriving in tropical waters.

It is prominent in water ten meters deep on sandy bottoms in the Indo-Pacific (S.E. Asia). The shell grows no larger than 100 mm (or 4 inches). It is a commercial gastropod and high in demand in China, Japan, Taiwan, Thailand and

Vietnam as a food source. It is easy to grow in commercial aquacultures as it is resistant to most toxins in the environment. More information on the culture and production of the Babylonia can be found at:

http://www.academia.edu/4457205/Spotted_babylon_snail_Babylonia_areolata_culture

The Babylon Tower Shell is thought to have been named after the Tower of Babel, as told in *Genesis* which was a myth to explain why all the people in the world speak different languages. As *Wikipedia* explains:

According to the story, a united humanity in the generations following the Great Flood, speaking a single language and migrating eastward, comes to the land of Shinar (שִׁנְאָר). There they agree to build a city and a tower tall enough to reach heaven. God, observing their city and tower, confounds their speech so that they can no longer understand each other, and scatters them around the world.

While researching this shell, and after entering the “Flower Shell” into the internet search, another interesting description of a Flower Shell appeared: *a 12-gauge shotgun shell loaded with seeds for poppies, peonies and cornflowers—shot into the ground to start a flower garden.* So, for you shellers who like to work in the garden, you now have a new way of planting!



Above is a photo of a group of *Babylonia areolatas* awaiting processing for dinner in a S.E. restaurant.

On the right is a conceptual drawing of a *Babylonia areolata*.



Above is a photo of a “Flower Shell” ready to be used to start your 2018 garden.

Meet Your Member—John & Sandra Colagrande



Both born and raised in New Jersey, high school sweet-hearts John and Sandra Colagrande moved to Florida about ten years ago (after a brief stop in the Poconos 10 years before that).

While living in New Jersey, John taught high school science for thirty-five years while Sandy worked in accounts receivable for an employers' association.

John first became interested in shells as a child visiting the 'Jersey' shore during summer vacations. His first shells collected were the large Atlantic Surf Clam 'ash trays' which he liberally distributed to various neighbors and relatives whether they smoked or not.

As an adult he continued to collect moon snails, slipper shells, mud snails, scallops, oyster drills and whelks (even the occasional lightning whelk), wentletrap or Ram's Horn (*Spirulla*) around Sandy Hook, Wildwood /Cape May and points in between. Students were always a source of shells for his collection, as were various tourist traps and legitimate shell shops to be found up and down the boardwalks. These provided opportunities to obtain quality specimens from all over the world.

Sandy and John made their first forays to the west coast of Florida in the 70s to visit exotic locales such as St Pete Beach, Fort Myers, the fabled Sanibel Island (with Alice Anders as their guide) and finally...Venice.

It was the one-mile-long stretch of Venice Avenue from the bridge, through 'downtown' to the Gulf beaches; stories of Ringling Brothers Circus (there were a dozen Wallendas in the phone book!); and the fossil sharks' teeth that did it.

Once John retired, he donated the bulk of his collections of fossils and minerals to the state museums of New Jersey and Pennsylvania and brought his favorite specimens of fossils, minerals meteorites and, of course, shells to Florida.

Located on Rte. 41, between Venice and North Port, Islandwalk, was the ideal place for Sandy and John. They started out as 'Snow Birds' for a few seasons before making their move permanent. Once settled in, they joined the Sarasota Shell Club and continue to enjoy their fellow members, field trips, speakers, and the Shell Show.

Although John's favorite shells are Carrier Shells, shelled cephalopods and 'freaks', his primary interest these days is 'focused' on micro fossils/shells, and local nature/wildlife photography. Sandy's shells of choice are Murex and its relatives, and she avidly cross stitches all manner of shells.

(Time does not seem to pass here...it just is. J.R.R. Tolkien)

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

The
February
Cartoon



January, 2018

Membership Meeting Photos



Donna Krusenoski at the membership table



Elizabeth Nelson exams the Horse Conch



Karen Huether & Debbi Lewton



Welcome back Angela Sampogna



Mary Jo Bopp & Terry Chastain



Julie Delaney reading *The Beauui*



Sally Peppitoni & Nancy Marini



Sally presides over the meeting



Linda Powers & Duane Kauffmann

Broward Shell Club's Shell Show January 13th & 14th, 2018

The Broward Shell Club held their 53rd annual shell show in Pompano Beach, Florida in mid-January. A large public attendance view scientific and artistic displays as well as numerous shell-related vendors. Below are just some photos of exhibits and views of the show.



An overall view of scientific entries



Greg Curry's Cymbola entry



Part of Anne Joffe's hospital display



Sailor's valentines



An Austrial Volute display



Gene Emerson's "Striped Shells" entry

Sarasota Shell Club Members score at the Broward Show!



Donna Timmermann won the "Judges Special Merit" for her mariner shell bracelet. She also won the "Exhibitor's Choice" award (voted on by the exhibitors of the show).



Your Editor won the Conchologist of America award for his Cone Shell exhibit.

New Coral Takes Hold in Florida

Matt Miller*

I came to Dave Vaughan's outdoor lab in the Florida Keys to learn about coral, but he's talking about zombies. Last night, 6,000 locals and visitors bicycled around Key West dressed as the undead—part of a wild city-wide festival. Shirtless and with a somewhat unruly beard, Vaughan, executive director of the Mote Tropical Research Lab, gives me a play-by-play of the fun. Traces of his gray costume paint still color his skin.



David Vaughan in his outdoor lab.

Photo: Herald Tribune

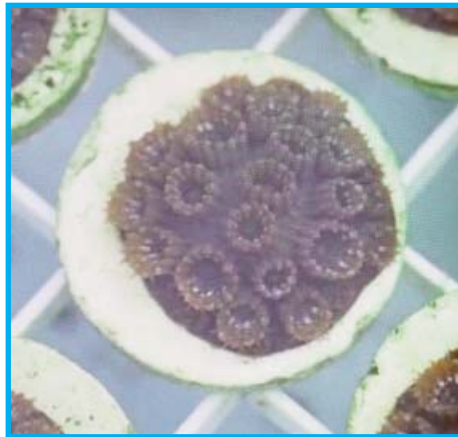
Our conversation transitions to a different kind of living dead: the region's corals that are being killed by changing water temperature, development and pollution. Vaughan tells me that 97 percent of staghorn coral populations have been lost in the Caribbean, but a project by the Nature Conservancy, Mote Marine Laboratory and other partners is applying new techniques to bring them back.

Conservationists used to "put our limestone boulders in the water and say, 'Eventually coral will grow there.'" He says. "That takes a very, very long time."



Healthy coral off the coast of New Zealand.

Coral, he explains, stretches the definition of "a long time" to the extreme. In the wild, some species successfully reproduce only once every 25 to 100 years. In three years, a coral can grow to just the size of a silver dollar. "Given those rates, it would take a thousand years to restore a coral head," says Vaughan. "We don't have a thousand years."



A screenshot of a group of micropolyps starting their growth at Mote lab.

His lab is experimenting with ways to grow coral much more quickly than in nature. Vaughan leads me to the nursery, a small structure that resembles a greenhouse. The facility houses rows of

water-filled trays nurturing small polyps of young coral.

Vaughan picks up a piece to show me. It is not exactly the living dead, but it looks damaged. "When coral is stressed or broken, its wounds heal over fast," he says. "It takes 10 days to grow at a rate that normally takes a year and a half."

Vaughan is using the corals' healing ability to accelerate the growth of many species. They can be cut into micropolyps that grow quickly and can be fused onto dam-



Several groups that will eventually form larger coral.

aged reefs.

Last year, Mote produced 6,000 new pieces of coral—each of which would have taken 25 years to grow to its current size in the wild. Next year, the lab will produce 20,000 corals, and the program can keep expanding from there.

We board Vaughan's boat and head out to the reef. We move through an unnerving cloud of thousands of small jellyfish.

Deeper down, we can see the signs of reefs coming back to life—stubby prongs of staghorn coral that

* Science Writer of the *Nature Conservancy*



A nursery of staghorn coral.

have been fused into areas previously given up for dead. When we return to the boat, he's all smiles. "We know we can grow these corals, and we know we're getting great survivorship," he says.

Last fall, video captured this coral spawning—a hopeful sign that the restoration is working. To Vaughan, this was an important threshold because it proved nursery-raised corals are functioning normally in the wild.

For years, reef rebuilding meant creating the best conditions and letting nature take its course. But this project shows that nature can sometimes be accelerated with a more intentional human touch. Instead of waiting a thousand years for reefs to re-grow, we can use nurseries to give coral a head start and build a new future for reefs.

This article was reprinted with permission from the *Nature Conservancy* magazine, August/September, 2015.

For more information see <https://mote.org/research/program/coral-reef-restoration> Dr. David Vaughan "Coral Reef Restoration" 2016

January Speaker - Linda Powers



Our January Speaker was Linda Powers, the current president of the Englewood Shell Club. A member of the COA since 1994 she volunteers at the Mote Marine Laboratory (as a tour guide). She is also a certified Master Naturalist of the University of Florida's Coastal Waters Program.

Linda's topic of her presentation was "Uncommon facts about Common Shells" and was well-received by members. Examples of all the shells were passed out for members to examine.

Tidbits from the Editor

Hmm . . . while RVing out of Port Charlotte over the holidays a quick read of the *Charlotte Sun* found an article entitled "More than just Baseball." It noted "in addition to spring training, out-of-town Tampa Bay Rays fans enjoyed the following activities in Charlotte County" in which several activities were listed including dining out (45%) to sight-seeing (6.7%). What caught my eye, however, was that **shelling** was listed by nearly 10% of the respondents. Wouldn't it be nice if we could reach out to these 10% of Rays' fans and have them participate in our shell club? A project for next year!

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.mdmshellbooks.com.



Linda loaning a book to Marilyn Parker at the January Meeting.

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 lurvseashells@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 !

Linda Greiner

PINE CONES

Yes, pine cones, not shell cones. Mary Jo and I have pine cones running out the kazoo. Any member wishing a box of pine cones let me know at rbopp1@tampabay.rr.com and I will bring the box to the club table at the shell show for you to pick up. These are useful for craft projects as well as soaking in wax and use as fire starters (for all these cold days we have had). Anyway, they are free for the asking . . . just ask.

Historian's Report

Duane Kauffmann

50 Years ago

The February 8, 1968 meeting of the Sarasota Shell Club was held at the Palmer Bank Building with 56 members and guests present.

The Treasurer's report showed a bank balance of \$991.60.

It was announced that there would not be a March meeting of the club since the Shell Show would start on that day (sounds familiar!).

The program was a movie of marine life at the Great Barrier Reef. The minutes note that few shells were shown, but that the movie was "interesting and informative."

25 Years Ago

The meeting of February 11, 1993 was called to order by President Peggy Williams.

It was reported that the checking account balance was \$2207. (It is not clear what other type of account was held, but the total club holdings were announced as \$5390.61).

It was noted that there was a "need for people to attend judge's dinner desperately." It was also noted that a "long lost" library book had been recovered.

June Bailey gave the mini-education program with major focus on Coquina "The Athletic Mollusk." After a break for Valentine's snacks, Peggy Williams gave a program on how to identify shells.

Exhibit Thoughts*

Alan Gettleman

There are four challenges an exhibitor has to keep in mind and ten points to success. Your challenges are **judges**, **competition**, the **exhibit/show rules** and your **presentation**.

Judges—there is not too much you can do about the judges. Each judge strives to be fair.

Competition—you never know what your competition will be. You can only do the best job you can with your material. Consider the correctness of your labels, the spaciousness inside your case(s) and the idea of your exhibit. Clever showmanship enhances ordinary shells.

Exhibit/show rules—carefully consider the categories that your exhibit is eligible to enter. Also make sure you follow the Rules for Exhibitors in the entry forms.

Presentation—make your idea clear, your display neat, cite your references, and make the presentation “eye catching.” KISS is usually the best rule to follow: (Keep It Simple, Stupid)

Ten points for making a successful entry

1. What is your exhibit trying to say or convey? What is your idea or what do you want those who look at your display to take away? Do you want them to leave with: I didn't know that shell was found there or are there really that many shells there, or that is a really big family, or can I really find that shell in two feet of water, etc.

2. Can viewers who know little or nothing about shells appreciate your exhibit? Keep your information clear and simple, but correct. Don't get too wordy. If you have too much information the viewer may lose interest. Back to KISS.

3. If this is a competitive exhibit, know for what you are competing. Stay on subject, do not wander with what you may

think is an interesting bit of trivia. Just remind yourself to stay within the parameters of your category and display title.

4. Consider something unusual. Are you interested in a family that you seldom find exhibited or find information about. It may be interesting to investigate the group and do a display. What about a place you visited that is off the beaten path?

5. Have a clean exhibit, i.e. not too much information. Keep your exhibit spacious with clear, concise information of your theme or title. If you wander and have too much not-pertinent information the viewer's mind may wander and lose interest.

6. Use a reference for your scientific names. If you cite references and use them judges will accept what you use as long as you list what you use somewhere on your display. It is customary to list any reference you use on a backboard or on an easel at the end of your display.

7. Spell the title of your display correctly. Have someone else proof your labels and backboards. Do not make spelling errors.

8. Size does not matter (mostly). To do a winning display you do not have to have huge, world record specimens. Some collectors only want exceptionally large examples of shells. It is not necessary to win awards. All you need is good quality representatives.

9. Do not have your name on any visible part of your display. The shell show chairman will take care of this after the judging.

10. Get feedback from the judges, as well as knowledgeable club members and/or other exhibitors. People who have exhibited for many years have gained experience.

* From a word presentation given to *Shell and Tell*, the newsletter of the Gulf Coast Shell Club by Alan Gettleman. Your Editor wishes to thank Linda Brunner, Editor and Alan Gettleman for permission to reprint this abbreviated version of Alan's thoughts.

Future Field Trips

February 17th – **Blackthorne Park**, north end of the Skyway. Low tide is at 7:06 am and I plan to be there about 6:30 am. I will email directions to those who wish to go, just let me know via text or email. This trip is like doing the Carefree Learner without the boat ride. We just walk right out onto the grass flats.

Saturday, March 3rd – **Fort DeSoto Park**, south end of Pinellas County. I plan to be there at 8 am when the park opens. Directions slips will be available at the meeting by the sign up sheet.

Saturday, March 30th and 31st - **Peanut Island**, Lake Worth lagoon, West Palm Beach. A great place to shell and snorkel! Both days have great low tides at mid-afternoon. I plan on spending TWO nights there and shelling TWO days (It's my spring break from school!). I will have hotel information at the March meeting. If you wish to only go for one day you may or you may join for both days...YOUR choice.

Note: the fossil trip for Williams Shell Pit has been canceled due to liability concerns. The Carefree Learner will be turning 40! Stay tuned for special celebration in the spring!

Nominating Committee Report

The 2018 Nominating Committee has found candidates for all the Board positions needed for 2018 with the exception of Treasurer. Our present Treasurer, Bruce, does not want to continue in this office.

The responsibilities for this position as stated in our Constitution/By-Laws are:

1. This office must be bonded. SSC pays for this.
2. Be responsible for all receipts & disbursements of our club and keep accurate records of those items.
3. They must sign as signatory on all our accounts.
4. Present a financial report at each board meeting and at other times required by the Board.
5. Report to membership all items of income and expenses at each business meeting.
6. Prepare necessary filings of required financial statements. Be responsible for any government correspondence and maintain records of the same.
7. With the assistance of the Shell Show Chair, submit a full financial report of the show within 60 days of the show.

Those seven (7) items above are the only responsibilities a treasurer has. Anything else they do is purely another job they have volunteered for. It is not necessarily a job of the treasurer.

We need someone to volunteer for this position by the end of February. If you are willing to perform these duties please contact Lou Cirrantano (366-2644), Duane Kauffmann (574-238-4554), or Lynn Gaulin (755-1270). Should no candidate be forthcoming we will need to seek another solution by end of May.

Sponsorships for the Shell Show's Major & Special Awards

The Sarasota Shell Club's Shell Show Committee would like to thank the following people for sponsoring the below-mentioned awards for this year's show. Your support provides an opportunity to recognize the tremendous work that the people entering their displays have done.

The **Major Scientific Awards** sponsors are:

- **DuPont Trophy:** sponsored by Delaware Natural History Museum
- **Conchologists of America Trophy:** sponsored by the COA
- The Charles and Violet **Hertweck Fossil Trophy:** sponsored by Ron and Mary Jo Bopp, and David and Donna Timmermann
- **The Robert and Jo Ann Morrison Young Scientist Award:** sponsored by Linda and Dan Greiner
- **Peggy Williams Memorial Award** (in memory of long-time club member Peggy Williams): sponsored by the Sarasota Shell Club
- **Phyllis Hicks Memorial Award** (in memory of SSC President Sally Peppitoni's mother): sponsored by the Sarasota Shell Club

The **Major Artistic Awards** sponsors are:

- The **Fran Schlusemann Best of Shell Flower Art:** sponsored by Fran Schlusemann
- The **June Bailey Best of Member's Art:** sponsored by Fran Schlusemann
- The **Donna and Tom Cassin Award:** sponsored by Donna Cassin
- The **Nancy and Armand Marini Award:** sponsored by Nancy Marini
- The **Hank Schlusemann Memorial Award** (In memory of long-time club member Fran Schlusemann's husband): sponsored by the SSC Artisans

The **Special Awards** (rosettes) sponsors are:

- **Fossil Shell of the Show:** sponsored by David and Donna Timmermann
- **Best of Commercial/Professional Art:** sponsored by David and Donna Timmermann
- **People's Choice Awards—Artistic:** sponsored by anonymous

The following awards have no sponsor at time of this printing. If you would like to sponsor an award, contact Bruce Paulsen (brucepaulsen@hotmail.com): Mote Gold; Sarasota Shell Club Members; Best Self-collected Exhibit; Best Small Scientific Exhibit; Shell of the Show; Shell of the Show (self-collected); and Most Beautiful Exhibit awards.

Officers & Board Members

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

Calendar

Feb 9-11	SSC Shell Show
Feb 23-24	St. Pete Shell Show
Mar 1-3	Sanibel Shell Show
Mar 8	SSC Membership Meeting
April 12	SSC Membership Meeting (last one)

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

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.

Renewing a Membership

Renewing members need to remember:

You have to fill out the renewal form and SIGN IT! Club Rules!

For your convenience, a renewal form is the last page of this newsletter.

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*.

SSC's 55th Annual Shell Show Just Days Away!

Excitement is mounting as we near our 55th Annual Shell Show at our new location back in Sarasota! The exhibitors are finalizing their scientific and artistic entries, the artisans are creating some new and exciting artistic offerings, we have some new dealers, along with several returning dealers—all offering unique items for sale. We also will have demonstrations and a learning center for both children and adults.

We've had many people tell us they are happy we are back in Sarasota. Our show will be at the Potter Building, next door to Robart's Arena at the Sarasota County Fairgrounds, 3000 Ringling Blvd, Sarasota. You can see it from Fruitville Ave.

Show hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 9 and Saturday, Feb. 10; and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 11. Price is still only \$5 for adults, half price for students 12 to 18, and free for kids 11 and under with a paid adult.

If you haven't signed up to volunteer or attend the awards banquet on Feb. 10, you can still call Nancy at 941-758-9790.

We look forward to seeing you at the shell show, and bring your friends as well!

Sarasota Shell Club 2017—2018 Renewal/New Application Membership

Note: Dues include newsletters (*The Beauti*) 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 Krusenowski, 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(es): _____

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 _____ / _____