



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 Fellow Shellers!

Time is drawing near for our annual Shell Show in February! I'm very excited and I hope you are too! If you plan on exhibiting please make sure you get your applications in by the deadline listed on the website. Also remember that this is a CLUB event. We can't make it work without your help, so please help in whatever way you can. If everyone does one small job then no one has to do several jobs! Contact Donna Cassin for ways you can help. Make sure you have your valid CLUB CARD (NOT your name badge!) when you go to the show so you can get in.

Also notice that both Carefree Learner trips are full, however, I've been talking with the coordinator and she thinks we could possibly have a fourth trip in March if there is interest. Please let me know at the meeting what you think.

Sally Peppitoni
President

The Shell Show is Coming!

If you are contemplating putting an exhibit in the show, please get your

This meeting
Thursday, Jan. 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:

Jim Wedge will speak on Shells of the Western Pacific.

Next meeting

**NO MEETING IN FEBRUARY,
SINCE THE MEETING DATE IS THE
EVE OF THE SHELL SHOW!**

www.Sarasotashellclub.com

Shell Show Feb. 11-13

application to Peggy Williams (scientific), peggy@shelltrips.com, or Rosanne Roble (artistic), helloroble@comcast.net. Even if it isn't finished yet, it will be helpful if you give us the footage so we can start on the layout of the exhibits.

Everyone should keep some time open during the show, **Thursday-Saturday**, February 11-13, to help in one of the many aspects of the show: admissions, "guarding" artistic exhibits, helping dealers, raffle and club sales tables, etc.

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 can bring books to meetings. 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!

Last Month's Shoebox

Winners of the Shoebox shell show were: 1st place, Linda Greiner, 2nd place, Melissa Herron, 3rd place Peter Steelman.



From the Artisans.....

by Donna Cassin



While the Artisans are still reeling from the sudden and untimely death of Nancy's husband, "Stephen" (Armand) a generous and staunch supporter of the Shell Club), we recognize that we have a Shell Show to prepare for and it is only **One month away.**

We are still in need of small beach shells for the give-away bags at the admission table. These should be nice, clean shells that are 1"-1 1/2". Please bring these to the shell club meeting on the 14th Any one of the artisans can take these.

Donna Bartels (artisan) does some of the demonstrations at the Shell Show. She is specifically requesting "kitten paws" to demonstrate flower making. Please bring these to the meeting.

Membership

by Mary Jo Bopp



Currently we have 155 members! We have had one new member since the last meeting.

Videos, pics

Check out the video of a giant squid!
<http://www.nytimes.com/2015/12/30/science/giant-squid-video-japan.html>

and if you try to keep up with shell name changes:
<https://www.facebook.com/marcus.coltro/videos/10204586485092775/?l=149504472>

A LOCAL LOOK--WHITE BABY'S EAR

The White Baby's Ear, *Sinum perspectivum* (Say, 1831), is a common local species that lives in sand either exposed at low tide or submerged to a depth of as much as 100 feet. It is in the Family Naticidae along with the moon snail. The Baby's Ear is typically 1-1 1/2 inches long, but has been reported as large as 2 inches.

The shell is wide, broadly oval, flat, dull white, covered by a thin, pale brown periostracum. The body whorl is greatly extended and sculptured dorsally with broad, fine, shallow spiral grooves. The columella is strongly spirally curved, and the aperture is large and very wide. The thin



operculum is small and horny.

The species name--*perspectivum*--is from a Latin term used to describe something deep and visible throughout. This name refers to the wide aperture allowing you to look up inside the shell all the way to the apex of the spire.

The animal's cream-colored mantle and body fully envelop the shell, and cannot be completely drawn inside making the shell completely invisible. As the animal "plows" through the sand searching for small clams to eat, it creates a trail that is a broad furrow in the sand. The animal lives partially

buried in the sand and looks like a



white slimy glob.

Baby's Ear trail in sand at minus tide

This Baby's Ear is found along the Eastern United States as far north as New Jersey, including both coasts of Florida, through the Gulf of Mexico to Texas, and throughout the Caribbean south to Brazil.



A live Baby's Ear surrounded by the animal

This article by Alice Monroe has been redone by Carolyn Petrikin. It originally appeared in the March-April 2005 issue of *Suncoast Shorelines*. Pictures by Earl Petrikin.

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.

Note corrected times for Carefree Learner trips!

January 11th (Mon) – 7am, **Carefree Learner** leaves out of Marina Jacks in downtown Sarasota. \$5 per person CASH ONLY. **This trip is full!**

January 23rd(Sat) – 12:30 pm arrival, New Smyrna Dunes Park on the east coast, Low tide 2:05pm, -.2'

January 26th(Tues) – 7am departure time, **Carefree Learner** leaves out of Marina Jacks in downtown Sarasota. \$5 per person CASH ONLY. **THIS TRIP IS FULL!!!**

NO FIELDTRIPS IN FEBRUARY DUE TO SHELL SHOW!

March 19th(Sat) – 8 am arrival, Sanibel Island. We can decide if we want to do Lighthouse Beach or Blind Pass. Low tide 9:22am, -.1'

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

Shell Show Needs

by Donna Cassin

Within the Sarasota Shell Club there is a small group of volunteers (The Shell Show Committee) who donate their time YEAR ROUND to prepare for the Shell Show each year. It is during January and February that we need and depend on "all hands on deck" to make this event a success. Please be generous with your time and efforts.

The Shell Show will be **Thurs-Sat** Feb 11-13, 2016 at the Bradenton Area Convention Center in Palmetto. We generally "set up" the day (afternoon) before the show, Wed, Feb 10.

We still need to receive confirmation from the Convention Center that this will be allowed. We will send out an email as soon as we have the approval and time. If

we cannot set up the day before the show, we will need to do the set up very early morning on Thursday....the very day that the show is due to open. "Set up" involves placing table coverings, checking table placement, and measuring space for artistic and scientific exhibits. These tasks generally take about 2 hours and the more helpers the better it goes. PLEASE CONSIDER HELPING WITH THIS IF WE ARE ALLOWED TO DO IT ON WEDNESDAY. Please keep in mind that there will be ANOTHER group loading the truck at the same time at the storage facility.....so we are spread very thin on this day.

The Convention Center is governed by the laws concerning food service and public safety. All food products must be prepared, packaged and sealed by trained and licensed food purveyors, not our members, so we are asking for members to donate sweet rolls and or donuts for Thursday morning at the show for the vendors and volunteers. These should be in **sealed** packages from the bakery at BJ's. Sam's Club and/or Costco.

- We need donations of boxes of individual size potato chips or pretzels, two boxes per day. These can be purchased at the same "big box" stores listed above.

- We also need 6 large cases of bottled water as well as soda (diet and regular). We fill two large coolers with ice and beverages each day and all volunteers and vendors take them as needed.

- We need a large vegetable tray (prepared and sealed by the store) for lunch at each day of the show.

Finally, we need Large trays of cookies. We will use one or two for each day of the show. BJ's has great ones for about \$20 each.

Save your receipts....all donations are tax deductible as our club is a 501(C)(3) not for profit organization.

Looking forward to seeing all of you at the January meeting.....there will be plenty of sign-up sheets for you to write your name on!!!!

The Power of Touch

Many animals change sex at some point in their lives, often after reaching a certain size. Snails called slipper limpets begin life as males, and become female as they grow. A new Smithsonian study shows that when two males are kept together and can touch one another, the larger one changes to female sooner, and the smaller one later. Contact, rather than chemicals released into the water, is necessary for the effect.

"I was blown away by this result," said co-author Rachel Collin, staff scientist at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI). "I fully expected that the snails would use waterborne cues to see their world."

The article, co-authored by former STRI intern Allan Carrillo-Baltodano, now a pre-doctoral student at Clark University, was published in *The Biological Bulletin*.

Tropical slipper limpets, *Crepidula* cf. *marginalis*, live under rocks in intertidal areas along the shore, obtaining food by filtering plankton and other particles from the water. Their thin, flattened shells have a built-in shelf. When flipped over, they resemble men's house slippers. Often found in clusters, they occur alone or as pairs or trios consisting of a large female with one or two smaller males riding piggyback on her shell.



A male limpet has a comparatively enormous penis--sometimes as long as

his entire body--which rather incongruously emerges from the right side of his head. This elongated apparatus is necessary to extend around and under the female's shell in order to reach her genital opening. When a snail changes sex, the penis gradually shrinks and then disappears at the same time that female organs develop. It is thought that this kind of sex change is advantageous because large animals are able to produce larger numbers of eggs as females, while small males can still produce plenty of sperm (which require much less energy to make than eggs).

In experiments, two males differing slightly in size were kept in small cups containing seawater. In some cups they were allowed to be in contact with one another, while in others a mesh barrier kept them apart while allowing water to pass through. The larger snails in the pairs in direct contact with their partners grew more quickly and changed into females sooner than those kept apart. Conversely, the smaller member of a pair that was in contact delayed sex change compared to ones separated by mesh.

In sex-changing coral-reef fishes, visual, behavioral and chemical cues may all influence switching by individuals that associate with each other. Slipper limpets, which are sedentary and have poor vision, were initially expected to depend more on waterborne chemical cues, already known to affect other aspects of their behavior. Surprisingly, slipper limpets turned out to be like fishes in showing a greater response to behavioral interactions or perhaps contact-based chemical cues, than waterborne signals.

"Slipper snails don't move around much, so you don't really think of them having complex reactions to each other," Collin said. "But this study shows that there is more going on there than we thought."

Board Members

Sally Peppitoni	President
Nancy Marini	Vice President
Bruce Paulsen	Treasurer
Donna Bartels	Recording Secretary
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

Calendar

Please note dates on your own calendars!

Jan 9-10	Astronaut Trail Shell Show
Jan 11	Carefree Learner field trip
Jan 14	Shell Club meeting
Jan 16-17	Broward Shell Show
Jan 23	New Smyrna Dunes Park (east coast of Florida)
Jan 26	Carefree Learner field trip
Feb 11	no meeting!
Feb 11-13	Sarasota Shell Show
Feb 20	FL United Malacologists Sanib
Feb 27-28	St Petersburg Shell Show
March 2-4	Sanibel Shell Show
March 10	Shell Club meeting
April 14	Last Shell Club mt of season
April, May	Shell shows in Europe
June 18-19	Gulf Coast Show, Panama City
July 9-10	Australian 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+%282%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 December 10, 2015

Sally Peppitoni, President opened the meeting at 7p.m. at the Waldemere Fire station. 34 Members were present and no guests. Sally announced that the January meeting, Jim Wedge will present the program "Living Shells of the Western Pacific".

Bruce Paulsen, Treasurer gave the monthly report, approved and filed. Report is available for review per request.

Donna Cassin, co-Chairperson Shell Show, requested volunteers for all areas of the show. Come and join us at the show, get inspired and create.

Program for the evening was Shoe Box Displays. Nine entries from beach findings to shells with x-ray images. Results of the member voting as follows: 1st place, Linda Greiner "Ins & Outs of Shells"; 2nd place, Melissa Heron "Old & New"; 3rd place, Pete Steelman, "Mollusk Creatures". A total of nine displays were voted on.

November minutes as written by Rosanne Roble were approved and filed. Linda Greiner made a motion and Donna Krusenowski (2nd) for approval.

Linda Greiner, Librarian reminded everyone to come visit the Library. Also she will be taking photos of new members and anyone else who wants to replace their photo in the member book.

Two new awards were announced, one a Members Special Award and Best Self Shell Collection will be added this year.

Mary Jo Bopp, Membership, announced we now have 151 members. She gave a reminder to pick up your membership cards it will get you into our Shell Show for free and also the Bailey Matthews Museum on Sanibel Island. Cards will be available at the reception desk at the Shell Show if you had not previously received one.

Club requirement. We are classified as a 501C3 organization which states all members must sign a liability waiver. This goes along with your membership NOT just for field trips as it was done previously.

Sally announced that the upcoming field trips for the Carefree Learner and Fossil trip both have waiting lists. Remember to call if you are interested, some folks cancel at the last few days before the trips.

Work on another design for the club is continuing. We hope to put this on shirts as well as bags and hats.

Meeting was adjourned at 8p.m.

Donna Bartels
Recording Secretary