



The Beauí

Newsletter of the Sarasota Shell Club

www.Sarasotashellclub.com

Meetings 2nd Thursdays, September-April at Fire Station #2, 2070 Waldemere St Sarasota.

THE SHELL SHOW IS COMING!

We Need All Hands on Deck!

It is most important to have every-one participate in the Shell Show, Feb. 13-15! It's our big fundraiser and most successful outreach to the public, reasons for our existence as a club and 501(c)3.

First: If you can come to the Bradenton area Convention Center (just north of the US 41/301 bridge to Palmetto) on **Thursday at 2:00**, you can help put table covers on the tables we will use for scientific and artistic exhibits. **THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT!** We only have two hours to accomplish this task!

Second: On Friday we need helpers to unload the truck...of Artisans' sales items, club table shells, and other supplies from storage.

Last: Sunday afternoon we need helpers to pick up and fold tablecloths and carry items to the truck for transfer to storage. This will begin at 4:00.

Also: Your attendance during the show is encouraged. There are many places you can help, especially in relieving the dealers for a short while so they can take bathroom and lunch breaks.

Next meeting March 12 Program: Joyce Matthys: "the Wonderful World of Nudibranchs"

Some members will have shells for sale at the meeting. Cash or checks!

NO MEETING IN FEB; COME WORK AT THE Shell Show Feb. 13-15

www.Sarasotashellclub.com

You might also enjoy looking at the exhibits. Your ears could help by listening to comments from the public that might help make future shows better.

We also need donations of:

- Bottled water, coke, diet coke and sprite.
- Single-serving bags of plain potato chips.
- Use of a big cooler for ice (bring Friday morning).

Let Sally know if you can do any of these: shellmaniac8@gmail.com.

The Show is open

Friday the 13th from 12:30-5:00
Saturday the 14th from 10:00-5:00
Sunday the 15th from 10:00-4:00

Bring your membership card for FREE admission!



2014-15 Membership Information

Lynn Gaulin,
Membership chair

The rosters are now available and are free this year; pick it up at the show from the membership table. New members who have joined recently will have their information copied and added to these booklets at the monthly club meetings. Sally will project this information on the wall for you to copy.

The Shell Show is next month in mid February and **members must have the current membership card.** Your membership cards were given out at the time you paid your dues this past fall. If you haven't been to a club meeting this fall, please ask for your card at the show entrance.

A name badge, (while nice to know your name), will **not** allow you free access to the show. **Only showing your membership card at the registration table will allow club members to get in free.**

if you need and want a new name badge with the magnet backing, please let me know. The cost varies and depends on the number made at that time; about \$7.00 to \$7.50 for the replacement. Our new vendor's turn around time is about 5 days.

Awards Banquet

The Awards Banquet for the Shell Show will again be at the Marriott Courtyard across the river from the hall. Enter from Manatee Avenue.

For \$25 you get an entree of Glazed Salmon or Chicken Piccata, and for \$35 you can have Filet Mignon. The food was so good at the Holiday Party the chef got a standing ovation!

This year we will not have a speaker. Call Nancy Marini to sign up: 758-9790. After Feb 9 your choice of meals will not be guaranteed.

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

several days ahead of time to each person on a trip's sign up list, so please do not worry about not receiving information unless you didn't sign up for a trip and have decided to do so. E-mail me only if you want to add your name to a list. My phone # is 941.720.3810 and my e-mail is: shellmaniac8@gmail.com

We will have no other field trips in February due to the shell show and wee hour low tides.

March 14th – Beach & Breakfast trip

We'll try the northern tip of Anna Maria this time. We'll meet and park at the Rod and Reel Pier at 8 am and walk around to the tip from the inter-coastal side. Breakfast location TBA.

March 28: (Sat) Sanibel, Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum and

Lighthouse Beach, Low tide 1:36 pm, 1:45ft 3075 Sanibel-Captiva Road, Sanibel, Florida 33957 Lunch: ISLAND COW restaurant, 2163 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel Island

Trip to Kice Island (below Marco):

I am working on a date for this trip with the captain who has taken us there before. This trip will probably be pushed to February after the show.

Apr 1 Williams Shell Pit (fossils) Arcadia

Cost \$25, checks to Gary Schmelz. Send \$ and info to or email Ron Bopp to reserve a space. If still room on the trip a signup sheet will be at the March meeting. Limit 20.

Apr 18 Peanut Island (east coast)

This will involve traveling about four hours to West Palm Beach and a ferry ride to the island. You might want to spend the night on the way or back.



Congratulations June!

Lifetime member **June Bailey** is on the inside cover of a calendar of active aging and the arts.

Featured is a sea life and shell seascape, beautiful as are all her creations. The calendar says of her:

“Raised in Washington, D.C., June attended American University, married a fifth generation Floridian and raised four kids. Upon retiring to Sanibel Island, her passion for sea shells flourished. Now her award-winning collection brings joy to visitors at the Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum as well as to her neighbors ... where she generously shares her vast knowledge as instructor for Watermark U.”

June is a long-time member of the Sarasota Shell Club, serving as Shell Show Chairman several times. She has moved to St. Petersburg to be near family and we miss her bright smile and attitude.

Historian's Reports

by Duane Kauffmann

January

50 Years Ago

Thirty-seven members and guests attended the January 14, 1965 meeting of the Sarasota Shell Club. The treasurer noted that after expenses of \$56 were paid, a balance of \$115.57 remained in the Club treasury.

Louise Danforth was nominated and elected unanimously to the position of Vice President.

“Nice specimen shells” were awarded as door prizes.

Mr. and Mrs. John Proetz gave the narrated program, a slide show of Florida shells. The minutes describe the show as “marvelous, thoroughly enjoyable, and entertaining.”

25 Years Ago

The regular meeting of SSC was held on January 11, 1990.

Corresponding secretary Peggy Williams announced that Tom Rice was going to resume publication of *Sea and*

Shore magazine. He requested that the club approve sharing addresses with him.

Field trip information included a report on a Carefree Learner excursion and a planned trip to the “fossil pits.” Included in this reporting was a suggestion that the club develop a policy concerning over collecting.

Members were asked to advertise the shell show and it was announced that radio and TV interviews had been set up

Vi Hertweck gave the educational program on the life of Linneaus. Dick Forbush gave “a most interesting slide show” on shelling in Egypt.

February

50 Years Ago

Twenty-nine members attended the February 11, 1965 meeting of the Sarasota Shell Club. The meeting was at 12:40 and called to order by President Jack Oberle at the Angus Inn.

Preparations for the shell show dominated the two hour meeting. Members were asked to donate \$5.00 worth of “saleable” items. Members were also asked to contribute time to labelling, bagging, and pricing shells to be sold at the show.

Admission to the show was set at 30 cents. Helen Oberle donated the shells to be used as door prizes.

The Club treasurer reported a balance of \$97.57.

25 Years Ago

The meeting of February 8, 1990 was held at Mote Marine and called to order by President Beverly Chouinard.

A request for volunteers at the Shell Show was made.

Peggy Williams announced a field trip to New Pass.

It was noted that new FL regulations required that every shell collector under 65 would now need a “shelling license;” those over 65 an ID.

Debbie Ingrao of Mote gave the program. No topic or title is provided in the minutes.



A Trip to Tobago

by Peggy Williams

The first time I went to Tobago there were three of us: me, Charlotte Lloyd and her 15-year-old son, Brian. We planned to find Music Volutes and Short-Spined Murex. We found the right kind of area right away and searched for quite a while for the volutes without success. Then we tried for the murex among mangrove roots in a bay near a boat launch ramp, again without success.

We asked around, and someone told us to look for a guy named Mullet and how to find him. We went looking but he wasn't home.

That evening the receptionist came to our room and said, in awe, "Mullet is here." We went to the office to see him: a fine figure of a man, tall, muscular, and very, very black of skin. He said he could show us both shells and we made arrangements to go in his boat.

Looking for the murex, we went into a bay - the very same one we'd been in before. Among the mangrove roots, Mullet came up with a murex. We looked and looked, but couldn't see them unless he actually put his finger on one! We found several and were satisfied.

For the Volutes, we went out at night. We couldn't see a thing - except Mullet's cigarette end. We went to the exact same area we had searched in vain in the daytime, and the volutes were surging out of the sand where they'd been buried and galloping off on the hunt for dinner. We picked up 70 between us, plus a few other night-hunting shells. We took them back to the room, sorted out the best, and took the rest to an area near where we'd found them and released them.

On that trip we also made arrangements



to dive with Jayne Boyle, an American who ran a shoestring dive operation. We met at her boat and discovered that she had had engine trouble the day before, leaving her divemaster to go ashore on his own (since she couldn't pick him up) and walk home. She had borrowed an engine for our dive and jury-rigged it on the back of the bare boat. There was no ladder - we had to climb over the transom to get in the boat.

Diving in that area was drift diving, in a 3-4 knot current, very swift. However, if you went shallower it wasn't so bad, so we moved up and down during the dive. There were huge sponges, all leaning with the current. I thought when I turned my head my mask was going to come off. Sweeping along, we didn't find many shells but had a great ride!

Another place we shelled was at Lambeau Village. There were a few people wading where we were, and one of the men asked me, "Are you a religious parson?" I said yes and he didn't pursue it.

There we found a couple of volutes crawling on dark rocks out of the water. They were much darker in color than the ones we found in sand.

We rented scooters (Brian loved it!) and wandered over the island looking for bays to shell. We never did find one of them. We wore our skin suits and carried masks and snorkels. People would say Hello and ask, "Been divin'?"

One day Charlotte and I took a nap and when we woke we went looking for Brian. Everywhere we asked, people knew where he was. I was astounded until I realized, years later, that we were nearly the only white people on the island!

Brian was free diving for fish and lobster and giving his catch to the locals, who greatly appreciated it. Ever after that, kids would come by on bikes and ask, "Where Brian?"

I can't say we found a great many shells, but we had a lot of fun!

Octopus Genome Remains Elusive—But Full of Promise

By Katherine Harmon Courage | December 30, 2014 | *Scientific American* magazine



Blue-ringed octopus courtesy of Flickr/Angell Williams

As many mysteries as the octopus holds—its comprehensive camouflage, smart suckers, agile brain—its genome is surely holding many more (including how it can regenerate its arms—suckers, nerves and all).

“It is astonishing that with the explosion of genome resources for so many life forms, there is not yet available a single assembled cephalopod genome,” wrote an international consortium of 28 researchers in a 2012 paper outlining the issue.

So the group set out to solve that problem. They created the Cephalopod Sequencing Consortium (“CephSeq”), which is working to sequence the genomes of 10 cephalopod species, including the well-studied common octopus (*Octopus vulgaris*), the lab model California two-spot octopus (*O. bimaculoides*) and the highly venomous blue-ringed octopus (*Hapalochlaena maculosa*)—along with species of squid, cuttlefish and nautilus. One group in particular is working hard on

the California two-spot octopus and hopes to have the draft genome published soon.

But octopus genomes turn out not to be the easiest codes to crack. “Cephalopod genomes are large, complex and full of repeats,” the authors noted. The estimated sizes of some of the species’ genomes exceed that of the human genome.

Why dive into such a dark, dense and confusing realm? “Cephalopods are important to science, including fundamental molecular biology such as RNA editing,” the researchers wrote. Indeed, although RNA editing was discovered in mammals, octopuses edit their RNA at an astoundingly high rate—precisely why and how, however, we have yet to find out....

Octopuses come from one of the most diverse animal phylum on Earth: mollusks. Piecing together their genome will help researchers learn how the cephalopods evolved to be so different from their more humble snail and clam cousins. It will also help to reveal the many surprising elements of octopuses’ convergent evolution, including their advanced cardiovascular systems, highly differentiated brains and mammal-like eyes.

Additionally, genetic information will allow researchers to better monitor octopus populations—particularly as they are impacted by fishing, aquaculture and climate change. As research published earlier this year highlighted, shape-shifting, region-varying octopuses are exceedingly difficult to classify based on physical characteristics alone. So a genetic guidebook will be a welcome addition to understanding these strange animals a little bit better.

[Take a look at this octopus! - ed.]
http://features.aol.com/video/snorkeler-stunned-moving-shell?cps=gravity_3526_-596756081278409858
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Board Members

Sally Peppitoni President
 Nancy Marini Vice President
 Bruce Paulsen Treasurer
 Donna Bartels Recording Secretary
 Peggy Williams Corresponding Sec'y
Board: Donna Cassin, JoAnn Mancuso, Terry Jones, Rosanne Roble, Deborah Deam, Harry Berryman

Committee Chairmen:

Artisans Nancy Marini
Beau Peggy Williams 355-2291
 Historian: Duane Kauffmann
 Field Trips: Sally Peppitoni
 Librarian: Linda Greiner 993-5161
 Membership: Lynn Gaulin
 Shell Show: Board
 Sunshine: Karen Ciffin

THERE WILL NOT BE A MEETING IN FEBRUARY; COME TO THE SHELL SHOW!

Calendar

Please note dates on your own calendars!

Feb 13-15 **Sarasota Shell Show**
Feb. 21-22 St Pete Shell Show Seminole
Mar. 5-7 Sanibel Shell Show
Mar. 12-14 Marco Island Shell Show
Mar 14 Beach & Breakfast Anna Maria
Mar 28: Field Trip to Sanibel, Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum and beach
April 9 Last meeting before Sept.
Apr 18 Field trip to Peanut Island (east coast)
Jun 13-14 Gulf Coast Show, Panama City
July 14-19 Conchologists of America convention, Weston, FL (East coast)

www.2015coaconvention.com

Aug 28-Sep 7 Oregon Shell Show
Sept 10 Meetings resume
Sept 19-20 N. Carolina Shell Show Cape Fear Mus. Hist. & Sci.
Oct 17-18 Philadelphia Shell Show Am Mus Nat Hist

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.



The Annual **Shell Show** is February 13-15, 2014 at the Bradenton Area Convention Ctr.

Dues: New 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.

February's Low Tides

1/4 Sun 07:03 -.54	1/20 Tu 07:22 -.76
1/5 Mon 07:36 -.51	1/21 Wed 08:02 -.70
1/6 Tu 08:07 -.46.	1/22 Th 08:41 -.56
1/7 Wed 08:39 -.39	1/23 Fri 09:18 -.37
1/8 Th 09:10 -.29	1/24 Sa 09:54 -.14
1/9 Fri 09:43.-.18	

Sarasota Shell Club

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Sarasota Shell Club Meeting January 8, 2015

Sally Peppitoni, President opened the meeting at 7p.m. at the Waldemere Fire Station. 31 members and 5 guests were present.

Jose H. Leal, Ph.D. from the Bailey Matthews Museum on Sanibel Island present the program "The Seashells of Southwest Florida". The program was very informative presenting some interesting facts about our area. He reminded us about the online guide to shells on the museum site; www.shellmuseum.org. He stated over 300 examples of shells on now online and new information is being added all the time.

A short break was taken to refreshments, socialization and purchasing items from shell club members.

Minutes of the December meeting were e-mailed with the Beauui. No additions or corrections were, minutes were accepted as printed.

Bruce Paulsen gave the Treasurer's report. Balance of \$14,227.27 which is an increase over last year. Bruce feels this is due to increased vigilance and consistency of spending.

Nancy Marini noted the Awards Banquet will be Sat. Feb. 14th following the show that day. Deadline is Feb. 8th for the purchase of dinner tickets and choice of meals. Nancy also requested once again more help in sewing to shorten the tablecloths for the show or for donations of \$5.00 per cloth to help defray the cost of hiring outside help.

Sally P. requested volunteers for the Shell Show and will send out a reminder of what is needed. Sally noted that member Angela Sampogna suggested that everyone who is a member be responsible for helping in some way with the club activities and the member designate the area where they could be most helpful.

Fliers are now available for anyone who would like to distribute to family, friends or businesses you frequent.

Linda Greiner, Librarian brought 2 books to the meeting for people to check out. Florida Shells and Bahama Shells, she thought these might be helpful to people working on scientific presentations.

Duane Kaufman, Historian noted that 50 years ago at the Shell Club January meeting they presented a slide show of Florida Shells, similar to the same program from this evening. That evening the balance of the bank account was \$115.00. Twenty five years ago a program was presented on Shelling in Egypt.

Lynn Gaulin reported one new member has been added. She gave a reminder that your membership card is needed to get into the Shell Show free of charge.

Field Trips – Please see calendar on website for upcoming trips. There are many types of activities happening that should be of interest to all club members.

Education Classes – Peggy Williams will lead the class on beach grunge - 1/12, 2p.m. Goodwill classroom north Tamiami Trail. The following she will lead the class in identification of the shells they found. Please bring tweezers and containers to put your finds in.

Peggy Williams showed a sample of a COA tote bag from last meeting which she has for sale for \$5.00 each. She also has old copies of newsletters and COA booklets. Peggy also noted she has given the club members special prices on her shell expeditions and may not be leading the trips in the future. Sign up for one of these wonderful excursions.

Nancy Marini noted at our long standing member June Bailey received a special award in an artistic shell entry in a competition at her retirement village in St. Petersburg. Kudos to June.

Donna Cassin stated that Bill Jordan, Sanibel Shell Club has made an offer to give us a 3x8 table at their shell show to "present" our club and information about our club. Discussion to take place later if there is someone who can work the table.

Sally P. reminded that we still have several awards that need to be sponsored. It is \$50.00 for each award. The cost can also be shared by 2 members.

Sally adjourned the meeting at 8:55 p.m.