



# Shell and Tell



The Newsletter of the Gulf Coast Shell Club

**WHAT' S  
INSIDE**

**PROGRAMS,  
EVENTS, & TIDES**  
PAGE 2

**CARRABELLE  
FIELD TRIP**  
PAGE 3-4

**ST. PETE  
SHOW**  
PAGE 5

**COA 2025  
INFORMATION**  
PAGE 6-9

**OH,  
JANTHINA**  
PAGE 10

**FOND  
FAREWELL**  
PAGE 11

## INTRODUCING OUR NEW CLUB OFFICERS



**PRESIDENT**  
Dave Clausen



**VICE PRESIDENT**  
Leanne Shell



**SECRETARY/  
NEWSLETTER**  
Angela Cummings



**CORRESPONDENCE  
SECRETARY**  
DJ Moore



**TREASURER**  
Janis Laycock



**TIDES**  
Don Kotval



**MEMBERSHIP**  
Gerry Lowther



**LIBRARIAN**  
Kathy Dilbeck



- Group Shelling Opportunity  
March 10th.
- Sanibel Shell Show  
March 6th-8th.
- North Carolina Shell Show  
May 2nd-4th.
- COA Convention  
July 7th-12th.

### **CLUB OFFICERS:**

President - Dave Clausen  
Vice President - Leanne Shell  
Secretary - Angela Cummings  
Correspondence - DJ Moore  
Treasurer - Janis Laycock  
Tides - Don Kotval  
Membership - Gerry Lowther  
Librarian - Kathy Dilbeck  
Newsletter - Angela Cummings  
Name Tags - Janis Laycock



## PROGRAMS AND REFRESHMENTS

"Ways to expand your mind and waistline simultaneously!"

Month	Program	Refreshments
March	Member swap and sell shells	Gerry Lowther
April	TBA	TBA

### EVENTS

#### **GROUP SHELLING OPPORTUNITY**

DJ Moore plans to take advantage of the low tide in St. Joes, on Monday, March 10th at 7:00 a.m. Eastern time.

#### **SANIBEL SHELL SHOW**

March 6th-8th. Marriott Sanibel Harbour Resort & Spa. 17260 Harbour Pointe, Dr. Fort Myers, FL. 33908

#### **NORTH CAROLINA SHELL SHOW**

May 2nd-4th. Crystal Coast Civic Center. 3505 Arendell St. Morehead City, NC. 28557

#### **COA CONVENTION**

July 7th-12th. Omni Corpus Christi Hotel. 900 North Shoreline Blvd. Corpus Christi, TX. 78401 (More information on pages 6-9).



### TIDES



Don and Charity Kotval have been members of the GCSC since 2017. They are avid shellers and always check the tide chart for any minus tides. To the left, is a picture of Don holding two sand dollars found in minus tide at St Joseph Bay in November (several years ago). They were next to each other on dry sand three hundred yards out in the bay!

#### **Don's Tide Report for March 2025:**

The best times in Port St Joe are Sunday March 9th at 7:13 am with a -.5 and March 10th at 8:08 AM at -.3. In Panama City Beach the low tides on March 9th are 5:32 AM at -.6 and March 10th at 6:13 AM at -.5. I expect Mexico Beach and Crooked Island to have about the same low tides on both of those days.

## FIELD TRIP TO CARRABELLE, FLORIDA

Exploring a new area can be exciting, and at times somewhat tedious. Two of us started our morning at Carrabelle Beach. It was dreary, and surprisingly quite desolate, so we quickly moved on to the next suggested spot, Turkey Point. Our spirits were crushed when we discovered it is now a newly developed gated community. We continued our drive east to Bald Point Road, and paid our four dollars to park. There, we found multiple Angel Wings (*Cyrtopleura costata*) and this silly-faced Scallop.

Others, "the professionals" as I like to call them, started their search at five in the morning. Each, only equipped with a flashlight, had already acquired multiple specimen before I even got out of bed. They chased the familiar trail of a White Baby's Ear (*Sinum perspectivum*) and scooped it up from the wet sand. Have you ever seen a live Baby's Ear? I once read its appearance being described as a, "poached egg" and honestly, I can't come up with anything better than that. Another notable early morning find by The Professionals, is the beautiful Pear Whelk (*Fulguropsis spirata*) pictured below. Common to find, but still always a thrill.



Live Baby's Ear



Scott and Kathy Dilbeck admiring their find.



### DJ MOORE

"We are ready to leave for our morning venture to Bald Island. We shelled (or ambled) just East of Carrabelle yesterday afternoon. Got a cup full of coquinas and lots of stones. Dinner at Marine St Grill. Luck changed a bit for most of us that reported better finds at Alligator Point."

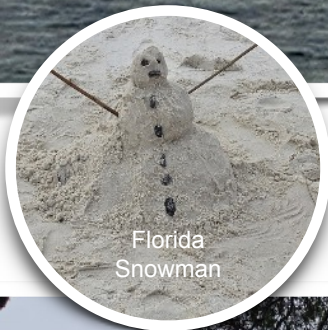


Coquina Clam  
(*Donax variabilis*)



The Professionals: DJ Moore, Kathy O'Brien, Kathy Brewton, Kathy Dilbeck, and Scott Dilbeck.





**Historic Crooked River Lighthouse**





**1). Micro-shells creating beautiful renditions of Picasso-style artwork. 2). Over 60 meticulously painted clam shells. 3). Abalone bodied Seahorse by G. Wooldridge. 4). Mermaid in the Mirror. Did you notice her wormsnail (*Vermicularia knorrii*) locks? 5). Vicky Wall's 1st place award for her exhibit of 231 self-collected mollusks species in Viti Levu, Fiji.**



### I THINK WE KNOW THESE TWO!

Jim Brunner proudly displaying his Dupont Award for, "Unusual Panhandle Shells."

Linda Brunner pictured with her Florida Museum of Natural History Platinum Award for "Worldwide Worms," and her Shell of the Show award!



# Conchologists of America

COA 2025 CONVENTION - CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS - JULY 7TH - 12TH



## Schedule of Events

Monday July 7th	Registration Opens Field Trip (AM)
Tuesday July 8th	Field Trip (AM) Opening Ceremonies COA Board Meeting Programs Silent Auctions Welcome Party
Wednesday July 9th	Programs Silent Auctions Oral Auction
Thursday July 10th	Club Rep Breakfast Programs Silent Auctions Banquet
Friday July 11th	Free Time (AM) Bourse
Saturday July 12th	Bourse

## Contacts

### Convention Chairman

*Dave Green* 713-435-9971  
dgreen2@entouch.net

### Executive Chairman

*Wanda Coker* 979-236-5274  
emptybobbins1@yahoo.com

### Registration

*Patty Humbird* 979-236-3589  
humbirdpatty@gmail.com

### Programs

*Lucy Clampit* 281-450-5950  
lclampit@comcast.net

### Oral and Silent Auctions

*John & Cheryl Jacobs* 831-309-2608  
johncheryl@earthlink.net

### Dealer's Bourse

*Linda Green* 407-810-8437  
lindakgreen@entouch.net

### Registration & Bourse Forms

Future posting of 2025 COA Convention  
registration and bourse forms will be  
available at:  
[www.conchologistsofamerica.org](http://www.conchologistsofamerica.org)

WELCOME TO THE  
COASTAL BEND OF  
SOUTH TEXAS



July 7 - 12, 2025

## Omni Corpus Christi Hotel

900 N Shoreline Blvd  
Corpus Christi, Texas 78401  
361-887-1600

Convention Chair: Dave Green | Email: [dgreen2@entouch.net](mailto:dgreen2@entouch.net)

COA Convention Room Code: 070425COA2025



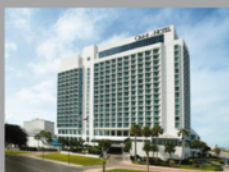
# Conchologists of America

**COA 2025 CONVENTION - CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS - JULY 7TH - 12TH**



## *Convention Hotel*

Omni Hotel  
Corpus Christi  
361-887-1600



Standard Room

Rates:

\$169 plus 17% tax

(1-2 guests)

\$179 plus 17% tax

(3-4 guests)

Covered Parking \$5.00  
per day



After 31 years, COA returns to the Coastal Bend of Texas. COA 1994 was held in Corpus Christi, and we are returning to the same hotel in 2025. The recently renovated Omni Hotel offers balcony rooms with bay or downtown city & marina views. The hotel offers a gift shop, full service salon, indoor/outdoor pool, fitness center, coffee shop, onsite dining. For a unique dining experience, make reservations to dine at the famous Republic of Texas Bar & Grill, located on the 20th Floor with panoramic views of the Corpus Christi Bay. The Republic of Texas offers delicious culinary flavors, including steak and seafood entrees.



## *Field Trips*

### **Texas State Aquarium**

Visit the Texas State Aquarium and see all the outstanding exhibits and the largest glass aquarium in the State of Texas. Spend time viewing the variety of sharks and other fish along with marine animals in a 400,000 gallon glass enclosure. Visit the exciting Caribbean Jungle featuring Flamingos, free-flying birds and two-toed sloth and other species in a naturally lit jungle habitat.



### **USS Lexington Museum**

Visit the USS Lexington, an Essex-class aircraft carrier built during World War II. See many restored Naval aircraft on the flight deck and witness Naval Aviation history. The USS Lexington was awarded 11 battle stars and a Presidential Unit Citation during World War II. The carrier was given to the City of Corpus Christi in November of 1992 and now serves as one of the U.S. National Historic Landmarks.

## *Around the Area*

Known to many Texans as the Texas Riviera, the Coastal Bend area offers fishing, golf, windsurfing, snorkeling, bird watching, and beach combing.

Padre Island National Seashore is just a short drive away and a must see for nature lovers.



## *Transportation*



## *Airport*

### *Corpus Christi International Airport*

Airlines that service Corpus Christi International Airport include American, Southwest, and United.

### *Shuttle to Hotel*

Complimentary hotel shuttle to and from Corpus Christi International Airport

**Convention Chair: Dave Green | Email: [dgreen2@entouch.net](mailto:dgreen2@entouch.net)**

**COA Convention Room Code: 070425COA2025**



**2025 Conchologists of America Convention**  
**Corpus Christi, Texas**  
**Programs July 8-10, Bourse July 11,12**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Partner: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name for Name Tags: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: Street: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Club: \_\_\_\_\_ First time attending COA? \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Fees**

**No. of Persons**

Registration <u>includes Banquet &amp; Welcome Party</u>	_____ \$175 per person	\$ _____
Late Registration (Postmarked after June 1)	_____ \$200 per person	\$ _____
Guests attending Welcome Party	_____ \$60 per person	\$ _____
Guests attending the Banquet:	_____ \$65 per person	\$ _____

Print Name for Guest Name Tags: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

**Banquet Choices – indicate the number of each meal you are ordering.**

A. Chicken Romano \_\_\_\_\_ B. Grilled 12 oz. Strip \_\_\_\_\_ C. Grilled Vegetable Terrine \_\_\_\_\_

Club Representative to COA? \_\_\_\_ Will you attend the club rep breakfast? Yes: \_\_\_\_ (one rep per club)

Do you require a Club table? Yes \_\_\_\_

**Field Trip(s)** Attach completed Field Trip Form to the Registration Form \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Dealer's Bourse** Attach completed Bourse Agreement to Registration form: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Convention Boosters** (Donations received by June 1 listed in Convention Program Guide)

Longhorn \$25-\$249 \_\_\_\_\_ Yellow Rose \$250-\$499 \_\_\_\_\_ Oil Baron \$500+ \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**GRAND TOTAL:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**SEND FORMS & PAYMENT to COA, PO Box 12, Clute, Texas 77531, USA**

**Payment:** Checks on U.S. bank only, make payable to COA.

Payment for convention & bourse may be made by PayPal® to: [coashells@gmail.com](mailto:coashells@gmail.com)

**Be sure to enter your name and purpose of your payment in the message window. Forms must be mailed or scanned and sent to: [humbirdpatty@gmail.com](mailto:humbirdpatty@gmail.com). Include a copy of your acknowledgement from PAYPAL® that payment has been made. REMEMBER to sign your name before scanning.**

**AUCTION DONATIONS** contact John and Cheryl Jacobs [johncheryl@earthlink.net](mailto:johncheryl@earthlink.net)

Registration: Patty Humbird [humbirdpatty@gmail.com](mailto:humbirdpatty@gmail.com).

For convention updates, please join our Facebook page COA 2025 Convention





Name\_\_\_\_\_

## COA 2025 Field Trip Registration

### Field Trip #1 Monday, July 7 Texas State Aquarium

Visit the Texas State Aquarium and see all the outstanding exhibits and the largest glass aquarium in the State of Texas. Spend time viewing the variety of sharks and other fish along with marine animals in a 400,000 gallon glass enclosure. Visit the exciting Caribbean Jungle featuring Flamingos, free-flying birds and two-toed sloth and other species in a naturally lit jungle habitat.

Cost: \$57 per person                      Number of persons\_\_\_\_\_      Total\_\_\_\_\_

Departure from Hotel: 9:30 am      Return to Hotel: 2:00 pm

Limited to first 50 persons to sign up.

### Field Trip #2 Monday, July 7 Sunset Cruise on Corpus Christi Bay

Come and enjoy a two-hour cruise on the **Texas Tease** along the Harbor front and around Corpus Christi. See the spectacular sunset in the background to downtown Corpus Christi and the beautiful homes around the Bay on Shoreline Blvd. Excellent chance to see live dolphins following our cruise boat. No food allowed on the boat but will have a fully stocked cash bar. First level is air conditioned and the upper level of the **Texas Tease** is open air and excellent for picture taking and viewing.

Cost: \$52 per person                      Number of persons\_\_\_\_\_      Total\_\_\_\_\_

Departure from Hotel: 6:00 pm      Return to Hotel: 9:00 pm

Limited to first 50 persons to sign up.

### Field Trip #3 Tuesday, July 8 USS Lexington Aircraft Carrier

Visit the USS Lexington, an Essex-class aircraft carrier built during World War II. She participated in several major campaigns in the later years of the war in the Pacific: Battle of the Philippine Sea, Battle of Leyte Gulf, raids on Tarawa, Wake Island, Gilbert Islands, Marshalls and operations on the Japanese home islands. She was awarded 11 battle stars and a Presidential Unit Citation during World War II. See the many restored Naval aircraft on the flight deck and witness Naval Aviation history. Most naval pilots after World War II made their first carrier landing on the Lexington, as she became the main training carrier for Naval Aviation and was stationed at Pensacola Naval Air Station in Florida for many years before being decommissioned in 1991. She was given to the City of Corpus Christi in November, 1992. The Lexington Museum is one of the U.S. National Historic Landmarks.

Cost: \$38 per person                      Number of persons\_\_\_\_\_      Total\_\_\_\_\_

Departure from Hotel: 8:30 am      Return to Hotel: 11:30 am

Limited to the First 50 persons to sign up.

## Oh, Where Art Thou Janthina?

If you've talked to me for any length of time, this article should come as no surprise.

I'm obsessed with purple shells. Stay with me, I know this particular purple shell is probably the last, or near-to-the last on your list. There are much bigger, cooler shells to collect, right? But indulge me for a moment while I lament over my inability to find one of these little vacant mollusk homes. Ever since I discovered a purple prize like this exists, I have desired to find it above all other shells, and for years, it has eluded me.

I grumble at the word, "common" in it's name each time I pass page thirteen in my well-worn shell id book (page 7 in my Seashells of the Florida Panhandle book) - "Common Purple Sea Snail" or "Common Janthina." I finally caved and purchased several just to have them in my hands, but every shell collector knows, part of the joy comes from combing the beach, and finding that sought after shell yourself.

Please feel free to take me by the hand and point one out to me, the next time you spot yours.

## Janthina janthina (Linnaeus, 1758)

Janthinas go which-ever-way the wind blows. No, not because of their easily swayed opinions, but because literally, that's what happens when they form their little bubble boats. Janthinas create an extension of mucus covered bubbles to stay afloat while waiting for their next meal. Fortunately for beachcombers, strong winds can bring dozens to shore at a time, and sometimes these thickened bubbles are still attached.

In my quest to find one, Linda Brunner shared with me a telltale sign your chances will be good. You see, Janthinas feed on By-the-Wind-Sailors, and Portuguese Man-O-War. When those begin to wash ashore, it's time to search. Casually, she mentioned the purple dye they can leave behind on your hands. I'm guessing when my mouth fell agape, she was reminded she was speaking to a novice. This purple dye came in handy for the clothing of Ancient Greeks. It sounds like I would have fit right in, or at least would have been happy to dye their clothes for them.

## **"Such a treat"**

References: Florida's Seashells (2nd Edition) by Blair and Dawn Witherington, and Seashells of the Florida Panhandle by The Gulf Coast Shell Club.

## VISITORS HAVING ALL THE LUCK AT NAVARRE BEACH!

Pictured right is Natasha Gerasimenko's recent self-collected Janthinas janthinas, which also includes one Janthina pallida. In her February Facebook post, she expressed that it was "such a treat" finding these.

She plans to add them to her smaller collection from a previous trip she took to Juno Beach.





## Shelling Out One Last Fond Farewell



Dear Jim and Linda,

Thank you for your many contributions to this club. There is not enough space on this page to even begin listing all the things you two have contributed over the years. Well noted, was your time, energy, effort, love, enthusiasm, and knowledge, which has been invaluable.

P.S. Thank you for welcoming me with open arms. Thank you for your faith in me, and allowing me to dive right in. I have found where I belong, and with that comes great joy.




-Angela

## Panama City, FL - Mar 2025

Date		High				Low						
		AM	ft	PM	ft	AM	ft	PM	ft	Rise	Set	Moon
1	Sat			12:23	0.3	6:35	0.1	5:25	0.0	6:06	5:42	☀
2	Sun	12:59	0.5	12:01	0.6	5:22	0.3	7:39	-0.1	6:05	5:43	☀
3	Mon	11:49	0.9					9:52	-0.3	6:04	5:44	☀
4	Tue			12:19	1.1					6:03	5:45	☀
5	Wed			1:06	1.3	12:13	-0.4			6:02	5:45	☀
6	Thu			2:06	1.3	1:43	-0.6			6:01	5:46	☀
7	Fri			3:30	1.3	2:50	-0.7			6:00	5:47	☀
8	Sat			5:23	1.3	3:45	-0.7			5:58	5:47	☀
9	Sun			7:44	1.2	5:32	-0.6			6:57	6:48	☀
10	Mon			8:46	1.2	6:13	-0.5			6:56	6:49	☀
11	Tue			9:41	1.0	6:45	-0.3			6:55	6:49	☀
12	Wed			10:36	0.9	6:59	-0.1			6:54	6:50	☀
13	Thu	12:30P	0.3	11:35	0.7	6:24	0.1	4:01	0.3	6:52	6:50	☀
14	Fri			12:16	0.5	6:00	0.2	5:37	0.2	6:51	6:51	☀
15	Sat	12:41	0.6	12:07	0.6	5:37	0.3	6:55	0.1	6:50	6:52	☀
16	Sun	1:56	0.4	11:41A	0.8	4:41	0.4	8:10	0.0	6:49	6:52	☀
17	Mon	11:48	0.9					9:29	-0.1	6:48	6:53	☀
18	Tue			12:17	1.1			10:53	-0.1	6:46	6:54	☀
19	Wed			12:56	1.2					6:45	6:54	☀
20	Thu			1:42	1.2	12:37	-0.2			6:44	6:55	☀
21	Fri			2:35	1.3	2:13	-0.3			6:43	6:56	☀
22	Sat			3:38	1.3	3:16	-0.4			6:42	6:56	☀
23	Sun			4:54	1.3	4:03	-0.4			6:40	6:57	☀
24	Mon			6:21	1.3	4:43	-0.4			6:39	6:57	☀
25	Tue			7:45	1.3	5:17	-0.4			6:38	6:58	☀
26	Wed			9:07	1.1	5:44	-0.2			6:37	6:59	☀
27	Thu			10:37	1.0	5:59	0.0			6:36	6:59	☀
28	Fri	11:33	0.5			5:54	0.3	4:43	0.2	6:34	7:00	☀
29	Sat	12:16	0.8	11:07A	0.7	5:21	0.5	6:23	0.0	6:33	7:00	☀
30	Sun	10:33	1.0					8:00	-0.2	6:32	7:01	☀
31	Mon	11:01	1.3					9:44	-0.3	6:31	7:02	☀



## Port Saint Joe, FL - Mar 2025

Date		High				Low						
		AM	ft	PM	ft	AM	ft	PM	ft	Rise	Set	Moon
1	Sat	1:43	0.9	2:33	0.6	9:40	0.6	6:07	0.1	6:14	0.0	11:43
2	Sun	2:54	0.7	9:59A	0.8	2:39	0.8	9:58	0.3	6:30	0.2	12:07
3	Mon	4:13	0.5	10:42A	1.1	10:16	0.0	12:16	0.1	6:50A	0.3	8:16
4	Tue			2:41	1.3	12:53	-0.2			7:01	6:43	
5	Wed			2:35	1.4	1:36	-0.4			7:00	6:44	
6	Thu			3:00	1.5	2:34	-0.5			6:59	6:45	
7	Fri			3:52	1.5	3:47	-0.5			6:58	6:45	
8	Sat			4:57	1.5	5:01	-0.5			6:57	6:46	
9	Sun			7:02	1.4	7:13	-0.5			7:56	7:47	
10	Mon			11:08	1.3	8:08	-0.3			7:55	7:47	
11	Tue			11:47	1.2	8:51	-0.2			7:53	7:48	
12	Wed			2:13	0.5	9:27	0.1	4:22	0.3	7:52	7:49	
13	Thu	1:07	1.1	2:43	0.5	10:39	0.9	5:52	0.2	5:22	0.3	7:51
14	Fri	10:22	0.6	3:08	0.6	10:56	0.7	6:15	0.2	12:43	0.5	6:16
15	Sat	3:16	0.8	10:44A	0.8	11:00	0.6	1:03	0.7	6:40A	0.3	7:07
16	Sun	4:06	0.7	11:03A	1.0	1:01	0.5	7:03A	0.4	7:54	0.1	7:47
17	Mon	5:06	0.6	11:24A	1.1	7:20	0.5	8:40	0.1	7:46	7:52	
18	Tue	11:49	1.2							7:45	7:52	
19	Wed			3:08	1.3	1:28	0.0			7:44	7:53	
20	Thu			3:46	1.4	2:01	-0.1			7:43	7:53	
21	Fri			4:25	1.4	2:44	-0.2			7:41	7:54	
22	Sat			5:15	1.5	3:41	-0.3			7:40	7:55	
23	Sun			6:15	1.5	4:43	-0.3			7:39	7:55	
24	Mon			7:17	1.5	5:39	-0.3			7:38	7:56	
25	Tue			8:49	1.4	6:32	-0.3			7:37	7:57	
26	Wed			10:18	1.3	7:22	-0.1			7:35	7:57	
27	Thu	1:38P	0.6	11:31	1.1	8:02	0.2	4:15	0.4	7:34	7:58	
28	Fri			1:48	0.7	5:24	0.3	5:25	0.2	7:33	7:58	
29	Sat	2:17	1.0	9:55A	0.9	5:48	0.4	6:26	0.0	7:32	7:59	
30	Sun	3:30	0.9	10:15A	1.3	6:13	0.6	7:24	-0.2	7:31	8:00	
31	Mon	4:38	0.8	10:49A	1.6	10:33	0.0	6:37	0.6	8:19	-0.2	7:29