

Shell and Tell

The newsletter of the Gulf Coast Shell Club



Argopecten irradians concentricus (Say, 1822)

Published by the Gulf Coast Shell Club, Inc.

July - October 2023



President
Phyllis Bernard

If you have one of the COA trifolds from the show or a club meeting please bring it to the next meeting. Some info is incorrect and John & Cheryl Jacobs have supplied us with corrections to attach.

This is a special issue commemorating our 24th shell show. There are a few extra tidbits of information and coming events mixed in with all of the photos. I hope you enjoy!

Linda



Inside

Gwen.....	2
Programs and Refreshments 2023.....	3
Events.....	3
Birthday Shells.....	4
Pacific Plastic Floats.....	4
And the Winners Are.....	5
Report.....	10



Congratulations to our winners and workers! Without Bob Granda, our Founder, none of us would have had so much fun or have been so tired!

L to R: Kevan & Linda Sunderland(Scientific Judges) and Bob with his Judges Special ribbon.

Please welcome our new members!

Leslie Alford
Pamela Anzivino
Liz & Rick Barnes
David Berschauer
Sharon Boyk
Stacey and Michelle Faircloth
Katelyn & Jeanette Howard
Kimberly Jones
Janis Laycock
Jim Main
Karlynn Morgan
Jane Shephard
Jeff & Roberta Smith

We're happy
you've
joined us!

Club Officers:

President - Phyllis Bernard
Vice President - Dave Clausen
Secretary - Susan Cole/D. J. Moore
Corresponding Secretary - Luke Cooley
Treasurer - Jim Brunner/Brant Holman
Tides - Scott Dilbeck
Membership - Phyllis Bernard
Librarian - Kathy Dilbeck
Newsletter - Linda Brunner
Nametags - Ernie Bernard/D. J. Moore

IN MEMORY
GWEN LAWRENCE
1929-2023

The Gulf Coast Shell Club lost one of its stalwart members in September. Gwen Lawrence, along with her husband Ferrell, joined the club in the early 1980's and immediately began contributing to its continuing success. Not satisfied with serving in club positions including President, Gwen took a special interest in ensuring that the social activities of the club would have appropriate accommodations. She opened her home to several Christmas parties and invited the club to join her at the Windmark Beach Club for several of our summer picnic outings. Many a shell show found us at a 'bagging party' on her side porch where we assembled items for the club booth.

Gwen had a deep appreciation for both for the beauty of shells and of the shell-craft items that could be created from them. She had a moderate collection of shells but one that demonstrated her keen eye for quality and, especially, size.

Perhaps the greatest impact that Gwen had on the club can be found on the title page of Seashells of the Florida Panhandle where a dedication is made to Gwen and Ferrell for being the driving force behind the creation of the publication. This single action freed the club from the financial constraints that had plagued it during its first 30 years and made it possible for the activities we enjoy today.

She was a gracious person, loving of her family, accepting of her friends, and understanding of the diversity of backgrounds of her fellow shellers. She will be greatly missed but her influence on the Shell Club will linger on for years to come. Gwen was not only a member but our friend.



Gwen receiving the first copy of the 1st edition and learning that it was dedicated to her and Ferrell.



A walk on the beach.





Ready to cut her 90th birthday cake!



**GULF COAST SHELL CLUB
2023 PROGRAMS AND REFRESHMENTS**

or
Ways to expand your mind and waistline simultaneously!

MONTH		PROGRAM	REFRESHMENTS
November*		Landsnails by Bob Granda**** + shoebox	DJ Moore & Charyl Dyson
December		3 Dec at 2pm Christmas Party Parkway Presbyterian Church 505 S. Tyndall Pkwy (Watch email for more info) No regular meeting in December. Just the social.	Potluck

****Remember the meeting is not on Tuesday this month but the second Wednesday, November 15 at 7PM

Coming Events

January 20-21, 2024

Astronaut Trail Shell Show

Eau Gallie Civic Center, 1551 Highland Avenue, Eau Gallie, FL 32935
Contacts: BJ Shouppé; email: bj.shouppé@yahoo.com Phone: 321-725-9991
Vicky Reiordan; email: bruvic@cfl.rr.com Phone: 321-777-9700
Website: spacecoastseashells.com

January 27-28, 2024

56th Annual Broward Shell Show, Pompano Beach, FL

E. Pat Larkins Community Center
520 NW 3rd Street, Pompano Beach, FL
Contact: Alice Pace; email: alicepace90@att.net Tel: 305-301-1296
Website: browardshellclub.org

February 9-10, 2024

60th Annual Sarasota Shell Show, Sarasota, FL

Potter Building at Roberts Arena, 2896 Ringling Blvd., Sarasota, FL
Contact: Ron Bopp; email: rbopp1@tampabay.rr.com
Tel: 918-527-0589
Website: sarasotashellclub.com

If you happen to be in Australia don't forget the following show. More details on the COA events page on their website.

February 16-18, 2024

17th Australian National Shell Show; (3rd Seashell Extravaganza)

Fremantle, Western Australia

February 23-24, 2024

75th St. Petersburg Shell Show

Seminole Recreation Center
9100 113th Street North, Seminole, Florida
Website: stpeteshellclub.org
Facebook; email: stpeteshellclub@gmail.com

Birthday Shells

For every month, much like birthday stones there are birthday shells. Since this issue covers several months

July



Lion's Paw
Nodipecten nodosus (Linnaeus, 1758)

Those born to this shell are thought to be emotional, enthusiastic, protective and cautious.

August



Common Nutmeg
Cancellaria reticulata (Linne, 1767)

Nutmeg people are faithful, broad minded and generous.
Photo from JAXSHELLS

September



Cayenne Keyhole Limpet
Diodora cayenensis (Lamarck, 1822)

You are a detail person, clear thinking analytical and reliable.
Photo: Femorale

October



White Baby's Ear
Sinum perspectivum (Say, 1831)

You are full of hope and believe in planning. You are also charming and idealistic.
Photo from JAXSHELLS

Pacific Plactic Floats

Most of us have heard or read about the massive islands of plastic and other non biodegradable materials floating in our oceans with most of it occurring in the Pacific Ocean. Much of this is due to natural phenomena such as tsunamis and typhoons sweeping trash and debris out to sea.

A recent observation has brought to light the adaption of some seafloor organisms (mollusks included) to these trash (debris) islands. In 2019 researches sailed more than 300 nautical miles to reach the Great Pacific Garbage Patch and what they found was a surprise. It seems that *Janthina* which we usually associate with the Portuguese-Man-o'-War is also hanging out with the trash island. Other adaptors included the Blue Button jellyfish and the By-the-Wind Sailor (see Shell and Tell, March-April 2023) known respectively as *Porpita porpita* and *Velella velella*. Equipped with their own self made floats these organisms travel the ocean currents along this island of trash. **From Nov/Dec 2023 Discover, p. 11**



Janthina janthina (Linnaeus, 1758)
Common Janthina

2024 GCSC SHELL SHOW

Scientific Division Winners*

Category	Name	Place
Novice	Julie Pounders	1st
NW Florida	Gary Gordon	1st
	Don Kotval	2nd
Large Family	Gerry Lowther	1st
	David Berschauer	2nd
Small Family	Karlynn Morgan	1st
	David Berschauer	2nd
Fla-Carib	Jim & Linda Brunner	1st
	Greg & Annie Curry	1st
Worldwide Multi	Gene Everson	1st
One Genus	David Berschauer	1st (Altiva sum)
	David Berschauer	2nd (Juno. CompX)
Self-collected	Vicky Wall	1st
	Tysor/Shuller	1st
	Amanda Baker	2nd
Specialized	Lola Amshoff	1st
	Vicky Wall	2nd
Single AS	Gene Everson	1st
	Greg Curry	2nd
Single SC	Gene Everson	1st
	Vicky Wall	2nd
	Lola Amshoff	3rd
Member SC	Al Johnson	1st
	Evie Amshoff	2nd
	Gerry Lowther	3rd
Educational	Wanda Coker	1st
	Kathy Dilbeck	2nd
Miniature	Indy Amshoff	1st
	Lola Amshoff	2nd
	Evie Amshoff	3rd
Student	Dominic Baker	1st
	Indy Amshoff	2nd
	Lola, Evie, Indy Amshoff	3rd
Non-Marine	Bob and Alice Pace	1st
	Bob Granda	1st
	Greg Curry	3rd

Category	Name	Place
Sealife	Amanda Baker	1st
	Bob and Alice Pace	2nd
Fossil	Kathryn Dilbeck	1st
	Margaret Hoffman	2nd
Creative	Amanda Baker	1st
Beach Shells	Amanda Baker	1st
*AS = any source SC = self-collected		

Artistic Division Winners*

Category	Name	Place
Shellcraft	Sandy Powell	1st
	Julie Pounders	2nd
	Scott Dilbeck	3rd
	Jeanette Howard	HM
S.Needlework	Linda K. Green	1st (orig)
S. Needlework	D. J. Moore	1st (kit)
	Earlene Gordon	2nd
	Katelyn Howard	3rd
Photography	Katelyn Howard	1st
	Charity Kotval	2nd
	Sandy Powell	3rd
Wreath	Sandy Powell	1st
	Jeanette Howard	2nd
	Leslie Alford	3rd
	Marci McKenzie	HM
Mirror	Sandy Powell	1st
	Katelyn Howard	2nd
	Leslie Alford	3rd
	Sandy Powell	HM
S. Decorated Objects	Sandy Powell	1st
	Sandy Powell	2nd
	Kathy Hofstad	3rd
	Amanda Baker	NM
Christmas	Susan Riley	1st
Flower Arrangements	Sandy Powell	1st
	Kathy Hofstad	2nd
	Kathy Hofstad	3rd

continued....

Category	Name	Place
Jewelry	Kathy Hofstad	1st
	Kathy Hofstad	2nd
	Kathy Hofstad	3rd
Sailor's Valentine	Kathy Hofstad	1st
	Kathy Hofstad	2nd
	Sandy Powell	3rd
	Kathy Hofstad	HM
Student A	Indy Amshoff	1st
	Evie Amshoff	2nd
Student B	Lola Amshoff	1st
	Olivia Baker	2nd

*HM - Honorable Mention

Major Scientific Awards

Judges Special Award	Bob Granda Wanda Coker	Amphidromus Trading Shells
Student Award	Dominic Baker	Shells of Fla Keys
Shell of Show Member SC	Al Johnson	<i>Hexaplex fulvescens</i>
Shell of Show SC	Jim & Linda Brunner	<i>Acmea mitchelli</i>
Shell of Show	Gene Everson	<i>Trophenella scotianus</i>
Exhibitor's Award	Lola, Evie & Indy Amshoff	Florida Specimens, SC
Frozen Dip-net	Gary Gordon	My Pets
Most Educational	Bob & Alice Pace	Helicophanta Found on Madagascar
Founder's Award	Greg & Annie Curry	<i>Scaphella junonia</i> & Sub Species
Helen Norton Award	Jeannette Tysor & Ed Shuller	Pickup From the Bar
Vokes Trophy	Vicky Wall	Discovering Vanauta
COA Trophy	Gene Everson	Shells of the Western Atlantic
Dupont	Linda & Jim Brunner	Fifty Years of Self Collecting: Part 1

Major Artistic Awards

Judges Special Award	Kathy Hofstad Katelyn Howard	Rhapsody in White Shell Mirror
Junior Craft Award(under 18yrs)	Lola Amshoff	Crocheted Shells
Originality Award	Amanda Baker	Sea Urchin Lamp
Artistic Excellence Plaque	Sandy Powell	"Keely" Mermaid

We came together for a shell show. We worked, we ate, we learned, we created, we laughed and made new friends. Then we rested. Some of us wrote reports about our experiences and all of us patted ourselves on the back for we are a success story!



From the beginning.....



Tables are marked and set up starts.



Time for some food.



Spyglass Treasures is set, Sheldon is in place and it is time to eat and relax.... Happy Hal!



Let's talk shells!



The porch bunch.



Carol is open for business.



Bob and Bandit have some quality time!



Making a deal?



Susan's booth is open and she is ready to sell!



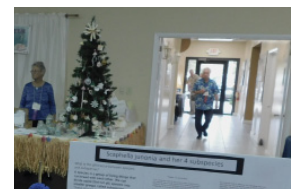
Randy shows his teeth!



Eye candy everywhere.



Don has diversified his stock!



Deborah manning the club booth.

More....



Jeannette and Ed with the Helen Norton.



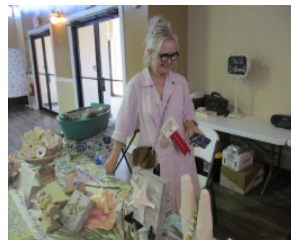
Evie, Indy and Lola with their Exhibitor's Award. Congratulations!



Kevan, Wanda & Linda and Wanda's Judges Special Rosette.



Gene with the COA.



Artistic judge Margaret exhibited in the Scientific Division learning all about a shell show.



Greg receiving the Founder's Award from the founder for his wonderful Junonia display!



With Frank on the left and Trudy, Kathy and customers on the right, Al fills the center with his MC Shell of the Show Award.



Lola is awarded the Student Artistic Plaque.



Vicky wins another Vokes Award!



Feed me and then I'll go to work!



Exquisite creations.



Mom accepting the Student Scientific Award for son, Dominic.

>>>>>



Gary wins the Frozen Dip Net Award.



Bob and Alice win the Most Educational Award!



Brunners win the Dupont Award.



Did Sheldon really paint that scallop?



And awards go to...Kathy and Scott!



Don, Carol & Kathy

This Rosette goes to Kathy H. for her "Rhapsody in White". It is so fine it looks like lace.



Our Katelyn wins a Judges Special for her elegant mirror.



Sandy with "Keely" who earned her the Artistic Excellence plaque.



Amanda wins the Originally Award for her sea urchin lamp.



Karlynn and her blue!



...and the 24th show is ending with tired workers. Only the children still have energy.

Thanks to DJ, Brant and Walt for the photos. My phone was taken so the club could charge sales and I did not have my camera. Also, thanks to all who helped with the reception, DJ, Vicky, Karlynn, Wanda and others who stepped up to lend a hand. .. and, as always to Sheldon!

REPORT FROM CO-CHAIRS OF THE 24th GULF COAST SHELL SHOW

From all reports, the 24th Annual Shell Show was a resounding success. Charity and I want to thank all the club members that volunteered their time this past weekend and in the months of preparation. Mere words cannot fully express our gratitude for your help. It was a team effort.

By the numbers: We had paid attendance of 255 adults and 17 children for the two-day show. Including members, exhibitors, judges, vendors, and other invited guests, we estimate that over 350 attended our show this past weekend.

Charity, our Youth Program Coordinator, served 25 children with her scavenger hunt, coloring of scallops, and scooping of shells. Each child scooped shells and picked out their favorites to keep. Each child was also treated with a free sand dollar and a small bag of area shells donated by club members. To say they went home ecstatic would be an understatement. Special thanks to Kathleen O'Brien and Jane Shepherd, one of the artistic judges and a new member, who helped with the children, and Bob Granda for his support. Charity was thrilled to receive the bags of shells and the Youth Sign Banner from Connie Morgan. Thank you so much Connie. Sorry we missed you at this show.

Our raffle was another success story. We had 16 raffle items donated and we were able to raise \$600 from raffle sales. Well done DJ as well as others who helped at the front table. I know Brant enjoyed drawing the raffle winners. Thank you to our generous raffle donors.

We have 17 new members and look forward to meeting each of you.

We filled the hall with 43 scientific exhibits and over 60 artistic exhibits. Carol Mitchell, the Artistic Chair, was instrumental in promoting the artistic division. I expect our next show to have over 100 artistic exhibits.

We had world class dealers with world class shells. Donald Dan's two *Syrinx aruanus* (Linnaeus, 1758) shells for sale were spectacular. One found a new home in Panama City.

We had a great banquet and an outstanding program.

But the biggest success story was our club booth that reported to us \$2,284.50 in profits.

Some interesting statistics from our survey cards. This year we asked our attendees to fill out a short survey card (one per group) at the front as they entered. Of those who participated in the survey results showed the following:

Total Surveys Submitted	133
Percentage attending for first time	50%
How did you hear about the show?	
TV commercial/interview	15%
Rack card/flyers	7%
Signs at the street	10%
From Members/Friends	49%
Online/website/FB	19%



Turkey Day is on its way!