

Tidelines

Celebrating our 80th
year!

January 2017

St. Petersburg Shell Club, Inc.

Web site: stpeteshellclub.org

Shell Club meetings are held on the first Friday of the month, except June, July and August, at the **Seminole Recreation Center, 9100 113th Street North, Seminole**. The doors open at 6:30p.m. and the meetings start at 7:00 p.m. The public is always invited.



HOLIDAY PARTY Dec 2, 2016 at the Golden Corral

Everyone seemed to have a good time. We ate our fill, exchanged gifts and played Shell-o. We wish everyone a great New Year and hope to see you all very soon.



A MESSAGE FROM THE DESK OF YOUR PRESIDENT

Happy New Year! Welcome to 2017!

I hope you all had a great holiday season, and are ready for a fun and active shell season. We have a filled fossil collecting trip coming up on January 7th which should satisfy everyone's craving for fossil shells. The following weekend on Sunday January 15th is a South Sunshine Skyway field trip. Come out and enjoy a day of collecting or just seeing the varied marine life in this area. Low tide is at 8:17am, and I plan to be there at about 7am.

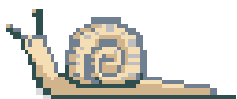
Cleaning shells, both live and fossil, can be a chore if you don't use the correct techniques. I'll be discussing these techniques at our January meeting.

The Conchologists of America convention in Key West this year is building up to be a fabulous event. Thanks to the generosity of individual donors, the Oral Auction and Silent Auctions are going to have some outstanding specimens available. Speakers are being accumulated, and will present some fabulous talks. The first evening will have the Welcome Party, and will be a blast. The Dealers Bourse at the end of the convention will host dealers from around the world offering shells of all kinds. More information is available on the conchologistsofamerica.org web site. I hope to see you there!

Our own shell show is fast approaching. We need help in all areas from the membership. There will be sign up sheets at the Suncoast Conchologists and our meetings. You can also email me if there is an area you would like to help in.

I wish everyone of you a great 2017 filled with wonderful shells and shell events. See you on the 6th.

John



Club Officers and Committees

President John Jacobs; Vice President Robert Gould; Recording Secretary Sandy Boddy & Cheryl Jacobs; Treasurer Betty Lipe; Newsletter Editor Cheryl Jacobs; Directors at Large: Peggy Dill, Marilyn Wall, Jane McKinney, Meredith Myers; COA Representative John Jacobs; Refreshments Open; Photographer John Jacobs; Field Trips Entire Board; Corresponding Secretary John Jacobs; E-mail contacts John Jacobs; Director of Education Open; Shell Show Cheryl Jacobs & Betty Lipe; Webmaster Bill Hoefer; Annual Picnic open; Raffle/Door Prizes Cheryl Jacobs & Peggy Dill; Facebook Cheryl Jacobs & Betty Lipe.

Tides are for Mullet Key Channel (Skyway). Other specific locations may be up to 2 hours later or earlier. Listings from saltwatertides.com.

Forecast Minus Tides

Jan 2017

1 Sun 8:15AM -0.5
2 Mon 8:54AM -0.4
3 Tue 9:35AM -0.3
8 Sun 2:57AM -0.3
9 Mon 3:56AM -0.6
10 Tue 4:50AM -0.7
11 Wed 5:38AM -0.8
12 Thu 6:22AM -0.8
13 Fri 7:03AM -0.7
14 Sat 7:41AM -0.6
15 Sun 8:17AM -0.5
16 Mon 8:51AM -0.3
17 Tue 9:26AM -0.1
22 Sun 2:49AM -0.2
23 Mon 3:41AM -0.3
24 Tue 4:25AM -0.5
25 Wed 5:04AM -0.6
26 Thu 5:40AM -0.6
27 Fri 6:12AM -0.6
28 Sat 6:44AM -0.6
29 Sun 7:16AM -0.6
30 Mon 7:48AM -0.5
31 Tue 8:21AM -0.3

Feb

1 Wed 8:56AM -0.1
5 Sun 1:33AM -0.2
6 Mon 2:49AM -0.5
7 Tue 3:51AM -0.6
8 Wed 4:43AM -0.6
9 Thu 5:27AM -0.6
10 Fri 6:06AM -0.6
11 Sat 6:39AM -0.6
12 Sun 7:09AM -0.4
13 Mon 7:37AM -0.2
20 Mon 2:03AM -0.1
21 Tue 3:04AM -0.2
22 Wed 3:54AM -0.4
23 Thu 4:35AM -0.4
24 Fri 5:11AM -0.5
25 Sat 5:44AM -0.5
26 Sun 6:14AM -0.4
27 Mon 6:44AM -0.3
28 Tue 7:14AM -0.1

Upcoming Club Meetings

6:30pm Meet and Greet, 7pm Meeting

Jan 3 Meeting of Suncoast Conchologists, Robert Gould

Jan 6 Regular Meeting
Speaker John Jacobs on Cleaning Shells

Feb 3 Regular Meeting

Feb 7 Meeting of Suncoast Conchologists

Feb 23 Shell Show Set up 10AM

Feb 24-25 Shell Show: Fri 10AM-6PM, Sat 10AM-4PM

UPCOMING SHELL SHOWS & RELATED EVENTS

Jan 14-15, 2017 **BROWARD SHELL SHOW** Emma Lou Olson Civic Center 1801 NE 6th St, Pompano Beach FL
www.browardshellclub.org

Jan 21-22, 2017 **ATSC SHELL SHOW** Eau Gallie Civic Center 1551 Highland Ave, Melbourne, FL New Location for show.

Feb 3-5 **54th ANNUAL SARASOTA SHELL SHOW** Bradenton Area Convention Center, 1 Haben Blvd. Donna Cassin—dcassin941@gmail.com

Feb 18 **FUM** Deland, FL Allen Hall, Stetson Univ. Sims Kline—skline@stetson.edu

Feb 24-25 **70th ANNUAL ST. PETERSBURG SHELL SHOW** Seminole Recreation Center see article on page 5.

Mar 2-4 **80th ANNUAL SANIBEL SHELL FAIR** Sanibel Community Center. Mary Burton—marybsanibel@hotmail.com

Mar 9-11 **MARCO ISLAND SHELL SHOW XXXV** United Church of Marco Island. Jae Kellogg—pjsailkw@gmail.com

Mar 11-12 **TAMPA BAY FOSSIL CLUB FOSSIL FEST** Florida State Fairgrounds, Tampa, FL

Courtesy of Donald Dan and others

In Memorium: A Loss to the Shell World



Debbie Freeman here pictured with Jose Leal and Kimberly Nealon. She and Glenn were members and friends. Always with a quick smile and wry wit, she will be missed. She displayed in our show and won, she was also a Judge.

Deborah Freeman passed away November 16, 2016 in Englewood, Florida

Debbie was a long time shell art, valentine, and scientific advocate.



THE SHELL COLLECTOR'S CODE OF ETHICS

I realize that molluscs are part of our precious national wildlife resources, therefore:

I WILL make every effort to protect and preserve them not only for my own future enjoyment, but for the benefit of generations to come.

I WILL always leave every shelling spot as undisturbed as possible.

I WILL take only those specimens needed for my collection and for exchange at the time... Shells in a box cannot reproduce while I am waiting for a place to send them.

I WILL leave behind the damaged and the young specimens so that they may live and multiply.

I WILL **NOT** collect live egg cases unless they are to be used for study, and then, only in small quantities.

I WILL **NEVER** "clean out a colony" of shells.

I WILL practice and promote these conservation rules in every way possible.

Shell Trip Outing, November 17, 2016

By Sandy Boddy

Robert Gould, Doug Boddy and I headed out at 5:50am from Largo, to do some shelling on the mud flats by South Sunshine Skyway Bridge. It Was 56° F when we left home. Low tide was predicted about 7:30am, so we thought we'd arrive a little early and do some exploring. It was a cold, windy day, and the tide was not out enough until about 8am, so we stayed in our cars to keep warm.

Even though there were not a lot of shells to find on the mud flats, we did find a good variety for the 1 1/2 hours we were shelling. Most abundant were the nassarus and ceriths. We also found quahogs, sunray venus clams, Stearn's



cones, Giant Atlantic Cockles, lightning whelks, augers, pear whelks, a King's crown, olives, carditas, a Morton's Egg Cockle, and prickly cockles. Bob found a nice pitted murex. I found a pretty colored prickly cockle and Doug found a nice sized disc dosinea.

We also spotted horseshoe crabs, a starfish, and orange and yellow sea sponges.

I recommend shelling the mud flats at low tide by South Skyway Bridge. It's very accessible and a good variety of shells can be found. All in all, it was a trip worth taking.

Photo by John Jacobs from prior field trip

Egmont Key Discover the Island November 12 & 13, 2016

Our Clubs were invited to participate in this fund raising event for the Egmont Key Alliance. The St. Petersburg Shell Club and Suncoast Conchologists both sent volunteers to the event.

All the Volunteers: Stan and Marilynn Myers, Earl and Carolyn Petrikin, Bob and Pat Linn, Steve Geiger, Jane and Isobel McKinney, Shirley Anderson, Betty Scheetz, and Vicki Eis. Thank you to everyone. There may not



have been lots of people attending the event, but there were some that seemed to be interested. Let's hope they show up to a meeting. We have been asked back for next year and both Boards will discuss it. Please tell us what you think of the idea.

70th Annual Shell Show

Wow, did you know we are celebrating our 70th Shell Show? I want to invite you to participate in the show. We have many positions to fill where you can help out. It takes a lot of people to put on a show and we can not do it without you. There is still time to do a small display for the show. I know many of you have never done one. Don't let that stop you, this is the year to try it out. It can be just one case to start out with. You never know, it can grow from there. I started with just one case, and kept getting ideas for even more, so give it a try. There is even a single specimen category, and I know you ALL have a shell you could show off. If you need help, just ask, many members can help you out. Some may even have cases you can borrow. Show off your shells, and in the process learn something about the shells you enjoy. We need both scientific displays and artistic displays, so get out your glue guns and get working on something for the show.



Single specimen



Artistic



Single case



As you can see from the pictures, you do not have to do a long display. You can start with just one thing, or several things, or even a case of things. Try it, you'll like it.

Show Dates and Times:
Set up Thursday 10am; Dealer/
Exhibitor set up about noon

Show open Friday 10am-6pm
Saturday 10am-4pm

Verella vellella: have you seen me?

Edited by Cheryl Jacobs

Verella vellella Linnaeus, 1758

Verella is a genus of free-floating hydrozoans that live on the surface of the open ocean. There is only one known species, *Verella vellella*, commonly known as sea raft, by-the-wind sailor purple sail or little sail. Each individual *Verella vellella* is actually a hydroid colony. They are about 7 cm long and deep blue in color with a small stiff sail that catches the wind and propels them over the surface of the sea and can strand them on our beaches. They are carnivorous and generally eat plankton, which they catch with their tentacles and sting them with nematocysts, their toxins are effective against their prey and relatively benign to humans..

Verella vellella live in warm temperate waters in all the world's oceans. Each "individual" *Verella* is really a hydroid colony with many polyps that feed on ocean plankton. These are connected by a canal system that enables the colony to share whatever food is ingested by individual polyps. Each colony is either all male or female. Each *Verella* colony produces thousands of tiny jellyfish (medusa) by asexual budding., they are about 1mm in size. Each medusa are provided with many zooxanthellae that utilize sunlight to provide energy to the medusa. The medusa develop to sexual maturity in about 3 weeks and their free-spawned eggs and sperm develop into a planktonic larva called conaria, which develops into a new floating *Verella* hydroid colony.

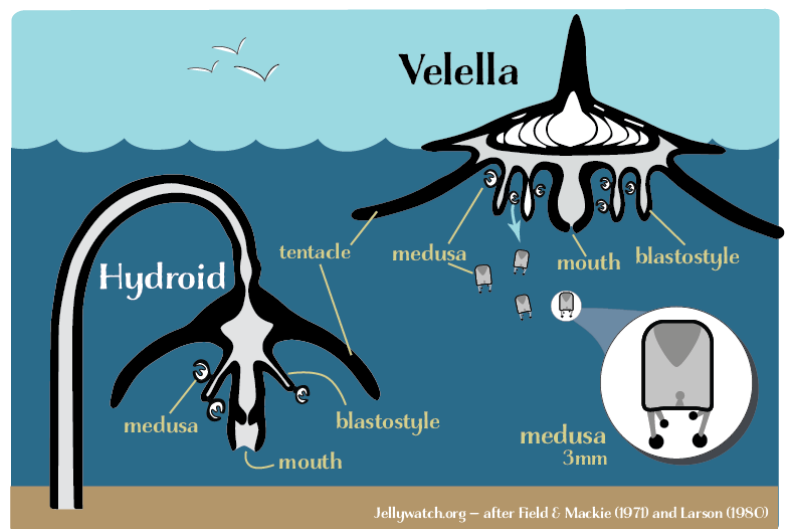
The sea slug *Fiona pinnata*, sunfish *Mola mola* and violet snail *Janthina janthina* prey upon the *Verella vellella*.

It is now thought that the *Verella* and not a colony but rather a single very large hydrozoan polyp. Here is a graphic that shows what a normal Hydroid is and what the *Verella* is. Most hydroids are attached to a hard substrate.



Photo: techtimes.com

Wikipedia
Animaldiversity.org
Eol.com encyclopedia of life
Jellywatch.org



Jellywatch.org – after Field & Mackie (1971) and Larson (1980)

Facebook

Have you checked out our Facebook page. I have been posting pictures of the meetings and the field trips. You can post pictures too if you have them. We would love to see some of the shells you found recently. I would like to know if you enjoy the pictures and want to see more. We have lots of people that check out our page from all over the world, so come join us.

Notes

MEMBER NEWS

It is time to renew.
Check with Betty Lipe on your renewal status.

Karla Mason has Moved
4976 Gulf of Mexico Dr
Villa #18
Longboat Key, FL 34228
Welcome to Florida

Send in any member news to John Jacobs
Email
johncheryl@earthlink.net

Would you like to have your picture in the Directory? If so please email or send us a picture. We can scan in and return your picture to you. You can also bring it to a meeting. Would love to have everyone pictured. We can then put a face to a name. Thank you.

Shells – Crafts – Bags – Florida Books



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Happy Birthdays

Jan

6 – Tamara Hein
25 – John Jacobs

Feb

6 - Martin Tremor
25 – Juliette Pastirjak
25 – Pat Linn

Mar

8 - Betty Fearn
14 - Phyllis Diegel



St. Petersburg Shell Club, Inc.
Founded 1936
Annual Dues: Individual \$15.00
Family \$20 (1 copy of TIDELINES per household)

Meetings are held on the 1st Friday of the month, except June, July and August, at the **Seminole Recreation Center, 9100 113th Street North, Seminole**. Meetings start at 7:00p.m. and include educational short programs, social times, opportunities to identify shells, and a main program on some aspect of the shell collecting hobby. The club publishes "**TIDELINES**" 5-6 times a year with a special edition at Shell Show time. The membership year begins Jan 1st and dues are delinquent after Apr 1st. Please make your check payable to the St. Petersburg Shell Club.

Return the application to the membership chairperson at the address below.

Please complete—Detach and Return

New Member: Individual _____ Family _____
 Renewal: Individual _____ Family _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Apt# _____

City, State, Zip: _____

E-mail: _____

Birthday: _____ Shell Interests: _____

If you use another address part of the year, please list where & when here:

Donation to the Awards and Ribbons Fund for the Shell Show

Print as you want to be listed.

Return to: Membership Chairperson
 P. O. Box 3472
 Seminole, FL 33775-3472

E-mail: blipe@tampabay.rr.com
 Web site: stpeteshellclub.org
 Like us on Facebook

Total Enclosed:
 Membership \$ _____
 Awards and Ribbons Fund \$ _____
 Total \$ _____

Show 'n Tell

Bring that special shell to the meeting and talk for a few minutes about it. What was it that appealed to you about that specimen? Was it the color, the family, the location it came from? Whatever the reason, Blow your horn, show it off.



Time to Renew your membership

Just a reminder that our membership runs the calendar year...so all dues are up on December 31st. You can check with Betty Lipe on your renewal status for 2017.

Email: blipe@tampabay.rr.com

Holy Mole by Rick Hotton

