

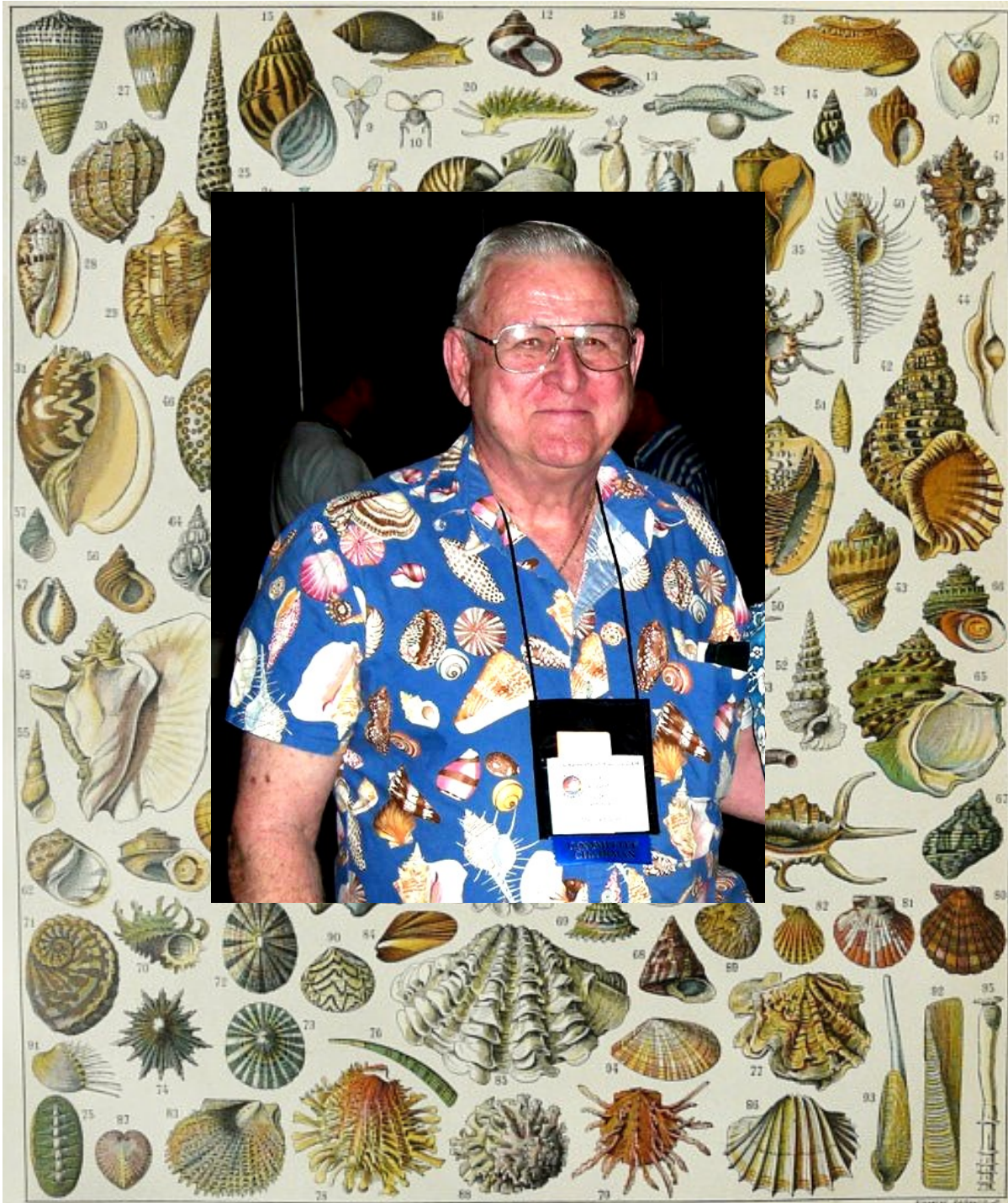
Tidelines

Sept 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.





A MESSAGE FROM THE DESK OF YOUR PRESIDENT

Hello fellow collectors.

Reporting the passing of one of our own is never an easy task. This has been a sad year because of the losses within our shelling community. Bob Lipe, along with his wife Betty, made up the backbone of the St.

Petersburg Shell Club for more than 50 years. It is truly the end of an era with his passing. It doesn't seem like enough to simply say that he will be missed. Bob and Betty supported the club and the shelling community for so long, it is difficult to believe they are gone. Also, remember Peggy Williams, Ruth Abramson, and for us with a Hawaiian connection, Wes Thorsson. All these wonderful people will not be forgotten.

The 2017 COA convention in Key West is now over, and we had a great time. Thousands upon thousands of shells were available during the silent auctions, oral auction, and, of course, the bourse. I will be presenting an overview of the convention at the September 4th Suncoast Conchologists meeting.

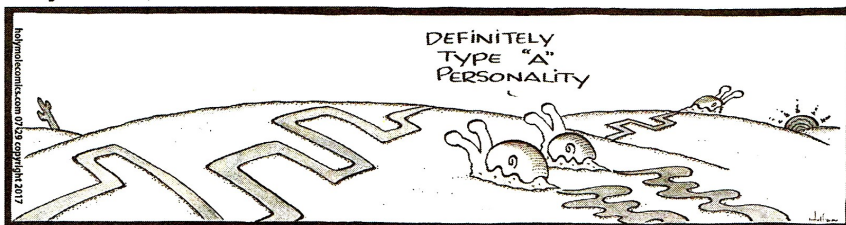
Find any additions to your collection over the summer? Let us know what you found. Bring your treasures in to a meeting, or send us a note (with a pic) to publish in the *Tidelines*.

Our late afternoon/evening field trips to South Sunshine Skyway were a success. We are planning an early morning trip to take advantage of the early low tides taking place this winter. Once we finalize the details, we'll let everyone know when the trip will occur.

Keep shelling, my friends.

John

Holy Molé by Rick Hotton



Club Officers and Committees

President John Jacobs; Vice President Robert Gould; Recording Secretary Toni Tredway & Sandy Boddy; Treasurer Tamara Hein; Newsletter Editor Cheryl Jacobs; Directors at Large: Peggy Dill, Marilyn Wall, Jane McKinney, Otis Taylor; COA Representative John Jacobs; Refreshments Bob Holzworth; Photographer John Jacobs; Field Trips Entire Board; Corresponding Secretary Martin Tremor Jr.; Shell Show Cheryl Jacobs; Annual Picnic the Board; Raffle/Door Prizes Cheryl Jacobs & Peggy Dill; Facebook Cheryl Jacobs.

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

Sep and Oct

No minus tides

Nov

4 Sat 6:55AM -0.1
5 Sun 6:42AM -0.3
6 Mon 7:32AM -0.3
7 Tue 8:28AM -0.3
8 Wed 9:30AM -0.2
18 Sat 6:01AM -0.1
19 Sun 6:34AM -0.2
20 Mon 7:08AM -0.2
21 Tue 7:45AM -0.2
22 Wed 8:26AM -0.2
23 Thu 9:11AM -0.1

Dec

1 Fri 4:16AM -0.2
2 Sat 5:03AM -0.4
3 Sun 5:50AM -0.6
4 Mon 6:39AM -0.6
5 Tue 7:29AM -0.6
6 Wed 8:21AM -0.6
7 Thu 9:15AM -0.5
8 Fri 10:10AM -0.3
14 Thut 4:01AM -0.1
15 Fri 4:41AM -0.3
16 Sat 5:18AM -0.4
17 Sun 5:52AM -0.5
18 Mon 6:24AM -0.5
19 Tue 6:57AM -0.5
20 Wed 7:30AM -0.5
21 Thu 8:06AM -0.4
22 Fri 8:43AM -0.4
23 Sat 9:23AM -0.3
24 Sun 10:05AM -0.1
29 Fri 3:12AM -0.2
30 Sat 4:06AM -0.5
31 Sun 4:57AM -0.7

Jan 2018

1 Mon 5:48AM -0.8
2 Tue 6:37AM -0.9
3 Wed 7:24AM -0.8
4 Thu 8:10AM -0.7
5 Fri 8:54AM -0.6

Upcoming Club Meetings

6:30pm Meet and Greet, 7pm Meeting

Sep 1 Regular Meeting COA 2017.

Wow the first meeting and on the First. That does not happen often.

Sep 2 Tampa Bay Fossil Club

Meeting tampabayfossilclub.com for more information.

Sep 5 Meeting of Suncoast

Conchologists. John Jacobs will be speaking about Shelling the COA.

Oct 3 Meeting of Suncoast Conchologists

Oct 6 Regular Meeting TBA

UPCOMING SHELL SHOWS & RELATED EVENTS

Sep 16-17 **NORTH CAROLINA SHELL SHOW** Wilmington NC, Cape Fear Museum, 814 Market Street. www.ncshellclub.com

Oct 29-30 **PHILADELPHIA SHELL SHOW** The Academy of Natural Sciences 19th and Benjamin Franklin Parkway. www.phillyshellclub.org

Club Field Trip Information:

Contact John at stpeteshellclub@gmail.com to sign up or sign up at a meeting.

Williams Farm Field trip in April 2018. We will have more info later.

May and June Night time Field Trips

Lucky to have a -0.5 tide at 8pm, we scheduled two night time field trips to see what we could find. The south end of the Sunshine Skyway Bridge has a rest area, which is a good place to start out to the tidal flats. Arrival time was set for 7pm so we would have about 1 hour to walk out with the tide and could turn and return with the tide. We had a good turn out and great weather for both trips.

List of shells and marine life we saw

3 species of stars	Horseshoe crabs
Arrow crab	Hermit crabs
Sand dollars	Shrimp
Sponges	
Kings crown - <i>Melongena corona</i>	
Olives	Sea hare
Marginellas	Nassarius
Cerith	Lightning Whelks
Pare whelk	Bubble
Prickley cockle	Sunray venus
Little venus clams	Tulips
Chitens	Siphonaria
Augers	Morton's cockle
Moon	Terebra
Baby ear	Wentletrap
Cardita	Pen shells
Fighting conchs	Razor
Mercenaria	Eggs of moon, tulip, whelk



Sunray venus



Banded tulip



Cockle



Baby's ear

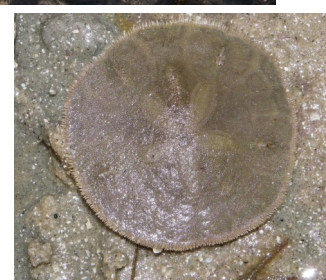


King's crown



Olive popping up

Sand dollar



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.



Photos: Banbury Springs lanx by Bill Mullins US Fish & Wildlife Service

From a post on Facebook by Molluscan Pictures. Cool Green Science blog:

Secret Snails of the Magic Valley

by Matt Miller June 21, 2017

Edited by Cheryl Jacobs

I'm staring at a creature that, to put it mildly, would be easy to overlook. It's a snail, but I wouldn't have known that if I hadn't been told. It just looks like a shell stuck to a rock, so tiny that I could easily drop it down the cap of my pen, and still have room for a couple dozen more. It blends in with the rock, so it basically looks like a little dimple. Nobody will accuse the Banbury Springs lanx of being charismatic megafauna. At first glance there is nothing remarkable about it. But when I look closer, and look around, *everything* about the Banbury Springs lanx is remarkable. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologists Greg Burak and Dave Hopper have invited me on their monitoring surveys for this snail species, found only in the Thousand Springs region of southern Idaho. The little snail we're seeking may be unassuming, but its story can tell us a lot about geology, conservation and water in the West.

Secrets in Magic Valley

I join Burak and Hopper in their truck on an overcast spring morning. We motor south out of Boise on

the interstate, getting off in an area along the Snake River known as the Magic Valley. Seemingly endless fields of irrigated agriculture stretch out before me, tilled and muddy. Those farms are periodically interrupted by large, confined dairy operations: thousands of cows mill around in their pens. Anywhere you look, it's an area dominated by intensive agriculture. It seems an unlikely place to be visiting crystal-clear springs, but that's what we're doing. In fact, the springs and the agriculture we're passing are tied inextricably together. The Snake River – the large tributary of the Columbia – winds its way through this part of Idaho. Along this section, crystal clear water bursts out of canyon walls, forming beautiful, Caribbean blue springs. This water originates more than 100 miles to the north, where several rivers flow out of the Rocky Mountains into the extensive lava fields of Craters of the Moon National Monument. The rivers sink into the porous lava, and they flow underground until they hit the canyon. Other rivers and creeks east of the monument also infiltrate into the groundwater, helping create one of the country's largest aquifer systems. The watery journey can take 200 years before it emerges purified, clear and cold. But land uses over the aquifer appear to influence its volume and quality. Historically, it must have been one of the wonders of the West, with thousands of springs cascading from the canyon. The area is still known as Thousand Springs. But all that clear water in the desert couldn't go unnoticed. As Idaho was settled, both the federal government and farmers worked to "make the desert bloom." That involved dams and irrigation, of course, but it also involved tapping those springs. The Magic Valley became the largest center of trout aquaculture in the country, with acres of fish pools being fed the clear water. But springs still remained scattered about the valley. These little jewels were popular among human visitors for their scenery: isolated desert canyons with blue waters, pretty waterfalls, bubbling springs. Some of the wildlife is quite apparent: golden and bald eagles soar overhead, thousands of waterfowl cluster on the surrounding Snake River. You might see a porcupine or even a bobcat scurrying into the rocks. The smaller species – the ones you don't readily see – are even more interesting.

Idaho's Galapagos

Any student of biodiversity knows that isolated islands often contain endemic species, creatures found nowhere else. The Galapagos is the most famous example: home to a variety of finches that rapidly evolved into new species, as well as iguanas, lava lizards, and more. Not all habitat islands are surrounded by water. In some cases, the islands *are* water. That's the case in the Thousand Springs area. Even prior to agricultural development, these springs were isolated: little pockets of cold water in the desert. And in these pockets there are species found nowhere else on earth, including two snails (the Banbury Springs lanx and Bliss Rapids snail) and a fish (the Shoshone sculpin). "The Banbury Springs lanx was first found in 1988," says U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologist Greg Burak. "Though lacking a formal scientific name the first two decades after its discovery, it was recently identified as a new species. It was listed as an endangered species before it even was given a formal scientific name." More recently, it was given its formal scientific name and, as it turns out, is so unique that the experts who described it placed it within its own unique genus, *Idaholanx*, with a species name that honors its discoverer, Dr. Terry Frest. "It's found in four springs in the region," says Burak. "Some populations are doing worse than others. Each population is isolated from the other. There's essentially no chance of genetic exchange between populations." How did these little snails come to inhabit the springs in the first place? One hypothesis suggests they were denizens of Lake Idaho, a massive and ancient lake that drained an estimated two million years ago, cutting canyons and leaving the snails perhaps clinging to existence in the springs. The springs themselves faced threats in the form of development. As Thousand Springs dwindled, conservationists feared the remaining habitat was doomed. One of the springs, Box Canyon, faced a particularly precarious future. About 300 acres of land in the canyon was privately owned, and the owner had a water right to develop a fish farm by diverting a huge percentage of water out of Box Canyon. The Nature Conservancy purchased the property and associated water rights with the help of the State of Idaho. The Conservancy held the property for a few years while funding was lined up for the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation to take full ownership and manage the site as a state park. The Nature Conservancy also worked to acquire and protect other properties in the area. These have all been transferred to the State of Idaho and are now managed as part of the Thousand Springs State Park complex. They are open for the public to enjoy. And they're home to tiny, rare species.

Lanx Patrol

Burak and fellow biologist Dave Hopper are monitoring snail populations in Box Canyon today. Like so many natural treasures of the Magic Valley, it's hard to find Box Canyon until you're almost in it. We bounce along a rutted dirt road, scaring the occasional marmot and then: a deep gorge, with gushing blue water flowing through the canyon floor. Books have been written on water in the arid West, but it's still largely unknown how the various uses of these springs affect the snails. "We still don't know a lot about the snails," says Hopper, who has been monitoring them for more than 10 years. "We are trying to determine what factors influence their populations. These springs could be affected by increased nutrients and sedimentation. New Zealand mud snails, an invasive species, are in the Snake River, but we don't currently find them cohabiting." Water quantity plays a significant role in the snail's survival, too. "Diversion of water influence their survival. They just can't move rapidly," says Burak. "When water levels drop, the snails may be left high and dry. If the depth of water drops, it also shrinks their available

In Remembrance of Bob Lipe

Bob and Betty were a great team. They were members of the club since 1959 and never stopped working for the club. Bob loved all the ladies and he made every lady feel special. You knew you had "made it" when you got one of his famous neck rubs. He was always generous in his support of our Shell Show, donating his time to the layout and shells such as golden cowries for the raffle. We are already missing Bob and Betty, and will always remember them.

Continued from page 5

habitat." Studying the snail is difficult. With so few in the springs, you can't collect them for laboratory research. "We're not even sure if we could replicate their habitat conditions and keep them alive in a laboratory," says Hopper. We get out of truck and head into the springs. In Box Canyon, the snails are found along the springs in a piece of habitat shorter than a football field. You can make it across the water in two leaps. Burak and Hopper set to work picking up rocks. The snails are limpets, cone-shaped snails that attach to rocks. Hermaphrodites, they lay eggs on submerged rocks and boulders; the young crawl away to graze on microscopic algae – that cling on rocks and boulders. As the biologists look at rocks, they



call out the snails they are finding, both juveniles and adults. They've done this before, but they are never certain what they will find. They've recorded anywhere from hundreds of snails to as few as 50 at this location, suggesting periodic population crashes. Burak calls me over and shows me a rock with 12 Banbury Springs lanx. The rocks look to be speckled with tiny lumps. Field wildlife research often conjures images of radio-tagging grizzly bears and jumping out of helicopters. Here, though, it's sifting through rocks. The canyon itself is striking, but the biologists are hunched over the stream, counting snails. Covering the entire length of the snail's habitat, even with the biologists' thorough searching, doesn't take long. They finish and add up their tallies: 110 snails. "That's twice as many as last year," says Burak. As a conservation writer in Idaho for the past 16 years, I've written a lot about the state's wildlife. With huge tracts of public lands, including wilderness, the state is still home to wide-ranging beasts like grizzlies and wolverines, as well as long migration routes for pronghorn and mule deer. Conservationists talk about landscape connectivity a lot – keeping big swaths protected so wildlife can move around. A pronghorn migration can cover 100 miles; a wolverine can cover even more. But landscape connectivity isn't just about big spaces. And biodiversity conservation isn't just about big creatures. The little snails we're counting are perfectly adapted to these springs, themselves created by their own unique combination of geology and water. I'm glad the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is tracking their populations and their needs. "Landscape scale is a relative term," says Burak. "Landscape scale for these guys is the length of this truck. But it is influenced by an entire watershed."

Tags: Agriculture, Connectivity, Endangered Species, Nature + People, Research, Water, Water Quality

Banbury Springs lanx (*Idaholanx fresti*) is a freshwater limpet in the family *Lymnaeidae* was first discovered in 1988 and named in 2017. It is endemic to Idaho in a 10 kilometer stretch of the Snake River, found in four complexes of springs, Thousand Springs, Box Canyon Springs, Banbury Springs and Briggs Springs. This snail is cinnamon red in color. The shell is conical in shape. It is up to 7.1 mm long by 6 wide and up to 4.3 mm tall. This snail is similar in its morphology to species in the genus *Lanx*, but genetic analysis reveals that it is genetically more similar to the genus *Fisherola*. In 1992 it was federally listed as an endangered species. Info from Wikipedia



In Memory of
RUTH Frances
ABRAMSON
May 9, 1935 - July 2, 2017

Ruth (Ruthie) Henshaw Rogers Abramson, 82, of Jacksonville, FL, died peacefully on July 2, 2017. Born to Emma and Lynn Henshaw in North Miami, Ruth attended Miami Edison High school, then received a teaching degree from FSU and a Master's Degree from UNF. After teaching High School American History on Channel 7, Ruth taught at Fletcher High School and Sandalwood High School where she was the Department Head. She was a dynamic and creative teacher who inspired enthusiasm in her students. For many years Ruth served the community through her involvement with the Jacksonville Shell Club and the Greater Jacksonville Coin Club. Ruth's greatest gifts were her endless creativity, her unrelenting graciousness and her ability to light up any room she entered. Ruth is survived by: Her beloved husband of forty years, Frank Abramson. They loved traveling the country with each other, exploring new things and meeting interesting people.

You may remember them for Shell Shows where they dealers that had shell stamps, coins, and other interesting items. She will be missed by all who met her.

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Happy Birthdays

Sep

2 – Otis Taylor
 4 – Wendy Spearman
 4 – Matt Spearman
 10 – Linda Taylor
 16 – Bob Lipe

Oct

19 – Doug Thompson
 21 – Earl Petrikin
 21 – Peggy Dill
 24 – Meredith Myers
 26 – Dolores Seagren

Nov

Tony Eyl
 4 – Rob Geater
 7 – Isabel McKinney
 7 – Gail Haseley
 9 – Carolyn Petrikin
 11 – Robert Holzworth
 14 – Toni Rose Treadway



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

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

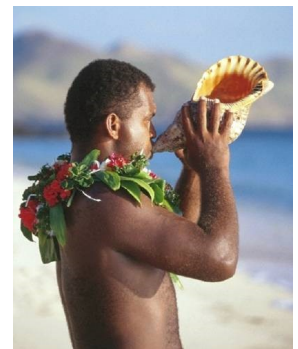
E-mail: stpeteshellclub@gmail.com
Web site: stpeteshellclub.org
Like us on Facebook

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?

Do you have a question on the identification of a shell?

Whatever the reason, Blow your horn, show it off.



WOW!

Check this Out We have a new e-mail

We set up a gmail account for the club. We can use this email for any and all club business. It will be put on all of our membership forms and other club flyers.

stpeteshellclub@gmail.com

The Club has 5 wooden Shell Cabinets to sell ...\$50 each. We also have some display cases (used for shows etc.) If you are interested we will have pictures. Please email us at the above address. Thanks

