

Tidelines

September 2023

St. Petersburg Shell Club, Inc.

Founded 1936

Web site: stpeteshellclub.org

Seashell
Diamonds
75th Annual
Shell Show

February 23-24,
2024

Shell Club meetings are held on the first Friday of the month, except June, July, August, & December at the **Seminole Recreation Center, 9100 113th Street North, Seminole**. The doors open at 5:30p.m. and the meetings start at 6:00p.m. The public is always invited.



Here is a great image of a Florida Cone, *Conus anabathrum*, halfway through a (relatively large) polychaete worm meal. Some species of cone snails are famous for their ability to stun and catch fish using a cocktail of toxins injected via the snail's hypodermic needle-like teeth. But most species of cones feed exclusively on polychaete worms (and other species feed on mollusks). Polychaete worms are closely related to earthworms, leeches, and peanut worms, which together comprise the Phylum Annelida.

Photo by Amy Tripp, Collier County, Florida. More? ShellMuseum.org/blog

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.



A MESSAGE FROM THE DESK OF YOUR PRESIDENT

Greetings all,

During May 31st through June 5th Cheryl and I attended the Conchologists of America convention in Wilmington, North Carolina where we had a most enjoyable time. The folks up there did a fabulous job and I thank them profusely. The silent auctions were filled with wonderful shells, and I came home with a few treasures for my own collection. The Welcome Party, Oral Auction, Banquet, Presentations, and the Bourse were excellent. Pre-convention Field Trips included a fossil collecting trip and a beach trip. It was a great event and I look forward to the next convention being held in Melbourne, Florida. Hope to see you there.

2024 will be an exciting year for us as we prepare for our 75th Shell Show. This is a tremendous milestone for our club. The only shell show I know of that has been around longer is the Sanibel show. We welcome our sister club, Suncoast Conchologists, as a partner in this wonderful event. Thus, this is considered a joint shell show. There is much to be done in preparation. Several exhibitors have already submitted their entries, so exhibit space is filling up fast. Signup sheets for the show will be available starting with our September 1st meeting. Members of both clubs have free entry to the show. I hope you will consider exhibiting in the show. The forms are available on our web site stpeteshellclub.org.

Thank you all. See you all September 1st.

John

Forecast Minus Tides

October

- 29 Sun 7:43AM -0.2
- 30 Mon 8:27AM -0.3
- 31 Tue 9:12AM -0.3

November

- 1 Wed 10:01AM -0.2
- 13 Mon 6:28AM -0.3
- 14 Tue 7:09AM -0.3
- 15 Wed 7:54AM -0.3
- 16 Thu 8:47AM -0.3
- 17 Fri 9:48AM -0.3
- 18 Sat 10:55AM -0.3
- 19 Sun 12:02AM -0.2
- 25 Sat 5:12AM -0.3
- 26 Sun 5:57AM -0.4
- 27 Mon 6:39AM -0.5
- 28 Tue 7:21AM -0.5
- 29 Wed 8:03AM -0.4
- 30 Thu 8:47AM -0.3

December

- 1 Fri 9:33AM -0.3
- 2 Sat 10:21AM -0.2
- 10 Sun 4:59AM -0.3
- 11 Mon 5:40AM -0.5
- 12 Tue 6:23AM -0.6
- 13 Wed 7:09AM -0.7
- 14 Thu 7:57AM -0.7
- 15 Fri 8:49AM -0.7
- 16 Sat 9:41AM -0.6
- 17 Sun 10:33AM -0.4
- 18 Mon 11:22AM -0.2
- 22 Fri 3:25AM -0.2
- 23 Sat 4:21AM -0.4
- 24 Sun 5:11AM -0.6
- 25 Mon 5:56AM -0.7
- 26 Tue 6:37AM -0.7
- 27 Wed 7:16AM -0.7
- 28 Thu 7:53AM -0.6
- 29 Fri 8:29AM -0.5
- 30 Sat 9:03AM -0.4
- 31 Sun 9:38AM -0.3

Tides are for Pass-a-Grille. Other specific locations may be up to 2 hours later or earlier. Listings from saltwatertides.com.

Club Officers and Committees

President John Jacobs; Vice President Robert Gould; Recording Secretary open; Treasurer Kathy Hofstad; Newsletter Editor Cheryl Jacobs; Directors at Large: Carolyn Petrikin, Peggy Dill, Jane McKinney, Otis Taylor; COA Representative John Jacobs; Refreshments open; Photographer John Jacobs; Field Trips Entire Board; Corresponding Secretary open, Shell Show Cheryl Jacobs; Annual Picnic the Board; Raffle/Door Prizes Cheryl Jacobs & Peggy Dill; Facebook Cheryl Jacobs; Webmaster Cheryl Jacobs.

Upcoming Club Meetings
 5:30pm Meet and Greet, 6pm Meeting

- Sep 1** John Jacobs will talk about the Wilmington COA Convention & Preview the 2024 convention
- Sep 5** Suncoast Conchologists meeting, 7PM. Nancy Holcombe "Lessons from a Novice Sheller"
- Oct 3** Suncoast Conchologists meeting, 7PM
- Oct 6** Regular meeting
- Nov 3** Regular meeting

UPCOMING SHELL SHOWS & RELATED EVENTS

- Oct 13-14: Sea Shell Searchers Shell Show**, Doris Williams Civic Center, Lake Jackson, TX
- Oct 21-22: Florida Fossil Hunters Fossil Show**, Sanford Civic Center, 401 E. Seminole Blvd, Sanford, Florida
- Oct 21-22: 23rd Gulf Coast Shell Show**, Panama City Beach Senior Center, 423 Lyndell Lane, Panama City Beach, FL
- Jan 20-21: 44th Astronaut Trail Shell Show**, Eau Gallie Civic Center, 1551 Highland Avenue, Eau Gallie, FL
- Jan 27-28: 57th Broward Shell Show**, E. Pat Larkins Community Center, 520 NW 3rd Street, Pompano Beach, FL
- Feb 9-10: 60th Sarasota Shell Show**, Potter Building at Roberts Arena, 2896 Ringling Blvd., Sarasota, FL
- Feb 23-24: 75th St. Petersburg Shell Show**, Seminole Recreation Center, 9100 113th Street North, Seminole, FL
- Mar 8-9: 86th Sanibel Shell Festival**, Marriott Sanibel Harbour Resort, 17260 Harbour Pointe Drive, Ft. Myers, FL
- Mar 16-17: Fossil Fest**, Tampa Fairgrounds, Tampa, FL
- Apr 13: Florida United Malacologists (FUM) meeting**, Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum 3075 Sanibel-Captiva Road, Sanibel, FL

Happy Birthdays

Birthday Shells per R. Tucker Abbott

September

- 2 – Otis Taylor
 10 – Linda Taylor
 11 - Sharlene Totten

October

- 11 – Barbara Fite
 19 – Doug Thompson
 21 – Earl Petrikin
 21 – Peggy Dill

September—Heliotrope Star Shell
 (*Astralium heliotropium*)

October—Superb gaza
 (*Gaza superba*)



© Jacksonville Shell Club

COA 2024 SHELL-OLYMPICS



Conchologists of America, inc.

2024 Convention

When: June 11-16, 2024

Where: Hilton Hotel, Melbourne, Florida

To attend the convention and participate in the presentations, field trips, and silent auctions, you must be registered. Registration forms will be available soon on the COA web site conchologistsofamerica.org.

The convention consists of several pre-convention field trips, the Welcome Party, Presentations/Talks, Silent Auctions, the Banquet, an Oral Auction, and the Dealers Bourse. No registration is required to attend the oral auction and the bourse. The bourse can consist of up to 10,000 square feet of space for dealers from around the world displaying a huge variety of shells and shell-related items.

Knights – vs – Snails

by Steve Geiger



Knight v Snail VIII: Switcheroo! It's a Monkey This Time (from the Gorleston Psalter, England (Suffolk), 1310-1324, [Add MS 49622](#), f. 210v)

A very fun topic came up in the conch-L listserv over the summer, the topic of illustrations in early publications. Not just early, but truly medieval. Before books were widely printed they were hand-drawn and the text was hand-written. The artisans would embellish the already fancy text with loops, squiggles, and often artwork in the margins.



Knight v Snail VII: A Pretty Comprehensive Defeat (from a fragmentary Book of Hours, England (London), c. 1320-c. 1330, [Harley MS 6563](#), ff. 62v-63r)

Curiously, they often featured images of knights in armor engaged in combat with snails. Theories about the symbolism include snails as symbols of the resurrection, snails as symbols of outcasts (for treason, usury, and non-chivalrous behavior). The snail may be seen antagonizing the knight, and often the knight appears to be losing.



Knight v Snail IV: The Snails Attack (from the Queen Mary Psalter, England, 1310-1320, [Royal MS 2 B VII](#), f. 148r)



Knight v Snail IV: The Snails Attack (from the Queen Mary Psalter, England, 1310-1320, [Royal MS 2 B VII](#), f. 148r)



Knight v Snail IX: Just for Fun: A Rabbit, Monkeys, and a Snail Jousting (from the Harley Froissart, Netherlands (Bruges), c. 1470-1472, [Harley MS 4379](#), f. 23v)

To see the whole blog post by Ancient, Medieval, and Early Modern Manuscripts go to: <https://blogs.bl.uk/digitisedmanuscripts/2013/09/knight-v-snail.html>

There are lots of links to related articles.

Florida Fossils text and pics by John Jacobs

Finding intact fossil scaphopods (tusk shells) is always a challenge because of their long slender shapes. In 2013, Cheryl came across the first specimen while collecting in the now defunct SMR Aggregates pit in Sarasota. It took a lot of literary digging to finally come up with the correct identification for this interesting species. William Healy Dall described this species in 1892, and that is the publication that revealed its identity.

Tesseracme prisma (Dall, 1892) in the family Dentaliidae has an unusual squarish shell which stood out for me as a key identifying feature. This is a late Pliocene species ca. 3.5-2.5 million years old. It grew to about 50mm in length.



75th Annual St. Petersburg Shell Show

Get ready for the second oldest shell show in the United States. **Seashell Diamonds** will take place February 23-24, 2024 at the Seminole Recreation Center, Seminole, Florida. Scientific exhibit entries are coming in fast, so don't hesitate if you wish to enter. While we haven't been known for a large artistic showing, I'm encouraging the artisans to consider entering this show. We will be honored to have your artistic endeavors displayed here. Shell Show packets are available on the club web site at stpeteshellclub.org.

Major scientific awards will be the DuPont, Smithsonian Museum of Natural History, Florida Museum of Natural History, and, of course, the Conchologists of America. We are pleased to have as our scientific judges Dr. José Leal of the Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum and Kevin Sunderland. Our artistic judge will be Linda Sunderland.

Help is always needed for the shell shows, so I encourage all members to participate in this year's show where possible. Sign up sheets will be available at the meetings or you can just email John Jacobs at johncheryl@earthlink.net or stpeteshellclub@gmail.com.

Mollusca on Stamps

by John Jacobs

The United States Postal Service (USPS) hasn't issued very many stamps depicting molluscs in one form or another but there is a new issue released August 10, 2023. It's called "Life Magnified" and consists of 20 different stamps. One stamp depicts a freshwater snail radula.

Check out the Mollusks on Postage Stamps facebook page.



The Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum

As of May 1st, the museum is closed for about six months to renovate the damage caused by Hurricane Ian. Museum staff will also incorporate a number of upgrades to existing exhibits. So when the Museum reopens in November, things will be different from pre-hurricane status. I encourage you all to visit the Museum then. Also, by becoming a member, you will be supporting this wonderful institution. Additionally, donations can be made via the Museum's website at shellmuseum.org. At the top of the home page is a donate button.

This isn't just a museum. Researchers here conduct vital research expanding our knowledge of molluscs, especially in the Florida, Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean areas. If you have a specific interest and wish to examine the Museum's specimens, you only have to ask.

To me, the Bailey-Matthews is a national treasure which deserves to continue its goal of educating and bringing awareness of these fascinating animals which have a lineage going back more than 500 million years. Let's keep the Museum going for generations to come.



Molluscs on Coins by John Jacobs

In 2022, Austria started a new set of collector coins called Luminous Marine Life. This is a series of 12 coins depicting various marine life that are bioluminescent. The images on the coins are in color, and, when subjected to ultraviolet light, glow. Thus far, three coins have been released. The first was that of the blue-ring octopus, *Hapalochlaena maculosa*. The second is a swell shark, *Cephaloscyllium ventriosum*. The third coin depicts the Antarctic krill, *Euphausia superba*. A scallop shell and sea star appears also. The obverse side of the coins has silhouettes of all 12 animals in the set. The face value is 3 euros. The coins are a copper-nickel alloy. The Austrian mint has a special album for the coins containing information on each species. At this time, due to “technical issues”, commerce between the US and Austrian mint is not possible.



Shells – Crafts – Bags – Florida Books



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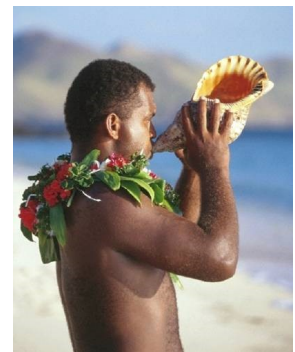
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Ken Lipe & Jim the Shell Man



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 shell?

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.

One Stop Sheller's Supermarket

Open 10 am to 5 pm

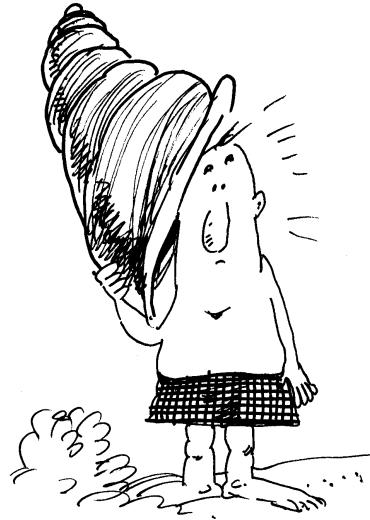
Monday thru Saturday

HAVE I RENEWED ?

Our club membership runs from January to December. If you are not sure if you have renewed, please call or email us.



Contact Cheryl & John Jacobs
stpeteshellclub@gmail.com
or 813-309-2608



“It’s never too early to renew.”

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 6:00p.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:

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

Membership \$ _____

Shell Show Awards and Ribbons Fund \$ _____

Total \$ _____

E-mail: stpeteshellclub@gmail.com
Web site: stpeteshellclub.org
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