

Tidelines

February 2021

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. **Due to the covid-19 pandemic, meetings will be held via Zoom jointly with Suncoast Conchologists until further notice.**



Ditropopsis biroi (Soós, 1911) Mount Sapau, West Sepik Province, Papua New Guinea, 4mm, pic by John Slapcinsky (Florida Museum of Natural History, Gainesville, Florida)

Fossil cephalopods such as ammonites do not hold a monopoly for having heteromorph shells. There are living gastropods, both marine and land, which exhibit this trait. The tiny shell above is a reminder of nature's spectacular variability and wonder, and why so many are fascinated by the Mollusca.



A MESSAGE FROM THE DESK OF YOUR PRESIDENT

Despite not having any live shell shows in Florida, I hope you all are taking advantage of some of the varied virtual programs that are available from many organizations. Our club and the Suncoast Conchologists have been holding joint Zoom meetings. By the time you receive this, I will have presented four programs this way; two for our clubs, one for the Sarasota Shell Club, and one for the Broward Shell Club. Many times, these talks from other groups are recorded and can be accessed later via their web site or YouTube channel. There are many varied webinar programs presented by organizations such as NOAA, Tampa Bay Fossil Club, museums, and aquariums. The beauty of these is that you don't have to drive anywhere.

Due to low dealer and volunteer participation, the Tampa Bay Fossil Club has reluctantly canceled their annual Fossil Fest scheduled for March. This is the largest fossil show held in Florida, and the second year in a row it had to be canceled. And the North Carolina Shell Club has canceled their shell show due to the pandemic; it was scheduled for May.

Despite nearly 40 million people getting their vaccinations, the battle is not over yet. Some people continue to ignore safety precautions or believe the false info that the pandemic is not real. We all need to maintain our vigilance if we ever want to return to as normal a life as possible. I look forward to the day when we can all shake hands or hug each other again.

Please be safe, my friends. Wear masks, clean your hands, and observe social distancing. Hang in there, everyone.

John

Club Officers and Committees

President John Jacobs; Vice President Robert Gould; Recording Secretary open; Treasurer Tamara Hein; 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 Pat Linn, Shell Show Cheryl Jacobs; Annual Picnic the Board; Raffle/Door Prizes Cheryl Jacobs & Peggy Dill; Facebook Cheryl Jacobs; Webmaster Cheryl Jacobs.

Forecast Minus Tides

March 2021

3 Wed 9:41PM -0.2
 4 Thu 11:00PM -0.3
 6 Sat 12:31AM -0.3
 7 Sun 2:01AM -0.4
 8 Mon 3:13AM -0.5
 9 Tue 4:08AM -0.6
 10 Wed 4:52AM -0.5
 11 Thu 5:26AM -0.4
 12 Fri 5:54AM -0.3
 23 Tue 3:35AM -0.2
 24 Wed 4:28AM -0.3
 25 Thu 5:11AM -0.4
 26 Fri 5:48AM -0.3
 27 Sat 6:22AM -0.2
 30 Tue 8:34PM -0.3
 31 Wed 9:30PM -0.4

April

1 Mon 8:44AM -0.3
 5 Fri 12:44AM -0.2
 6 Sat 2:09AM -0.5
 7 Sun 3:22AM -0.6
 8 Mon 4:21AM -0.7
 9 Tue 5:11AM -0.7
 10 Wed 5:52AM -0.7
 11 Thu 6:27AM -0.6
 12 Fri 6:57AM -0.6
 13 Sat 7:23AM -0.4
 14 Sun 7:47AM -0.2
 21 Sun 2:12AM -0.3
 22 Mon 3:16AM -0.4
 23 Tue 4:07AM -0.5
 24 Wed 4:50AM -0.6
 25 Thu 5:28AM -0.6
 26 Fri 6:02AM -0.6
 27 Sat 6:33AM -0.5
 28 Sun 7:03AM -0.3

May

1 Sat 11:41PM -0.4
 3 Mon 12:55AM -0.2
 11 Tue 7:26PM -0.2
 12 Wed 7:59PM -0.3
 13 Thu 8:36PM -0.3
 14 Fri 9:17PM -0.3
 15 Sat 10:05PM -0.3
 16 Sun 10:58PM -0.2
 24 Mon 5:56PM -0.2
 25 Tue 6:47PM -0.5
 26 Wed 7:38PM -0.6
 27 Thu 8:32PM -0.6
 28 Fri 9:27PM -0.6
 29 Sat 10:24PM -0.5
 30 Sun 11:21PM -0.3

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

Upcoming Joint Club Meetings
6:30pm Meet and Greet, 7pm Meeting

Mar 2-Virtual zoom meeting 7pm: Steve Geiger—"Baby pictures: incredible transformations in marine creatures"

Apr 6-Virtual zoom meeting 7pm: Ron Bopp

May 4-Virtual zoom meeting 7pm

UPCOMING SHELL SHOWS & RELATED EVENTS

Mar 5-6: **Virtual Sanibel Shell Show** (See page 8)

Mar 20-21: **Tampa Bay Fossil Club Fossil Fest at the Florida State Fairgrounds in Tampa.** The largest fossil show in Florida! ~~Cancelled.~~

May 21-23: **North Carolina Shell Show** ~~Wilmington, North Carolina, ncshellclub.com. Cancelled.~~

Jun 14-20: **Conchologists of America Convention** Melbourne, FL (See page 8)



Happy Birthdays

March

8—Betty Fearn

April

9—Mildred Sides
15—Dick Fearn
22—Gwen Howard

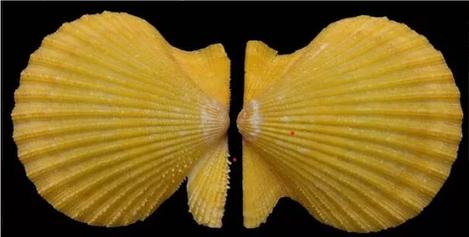
May

1—Jerry Puigdomenech
16—Tina Baldwin
20—Roger Smith
23—Mary Ellen Akers
24—Jackie Zajac

Would you like to help the club by sending out Birthday cards and more?
Contact Cheryl Jacobs at johncheryl@earthlink.net

Birthday Shells per R. Tucker Abbott

March—Lemon yellow pectin (*Aequipecten muscosus*)
Pic by Marlo Krisberg



April—Coquina shell (*Donax variabilis*)



May—Emerald nerite (*Smaragdia viridis*)



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.

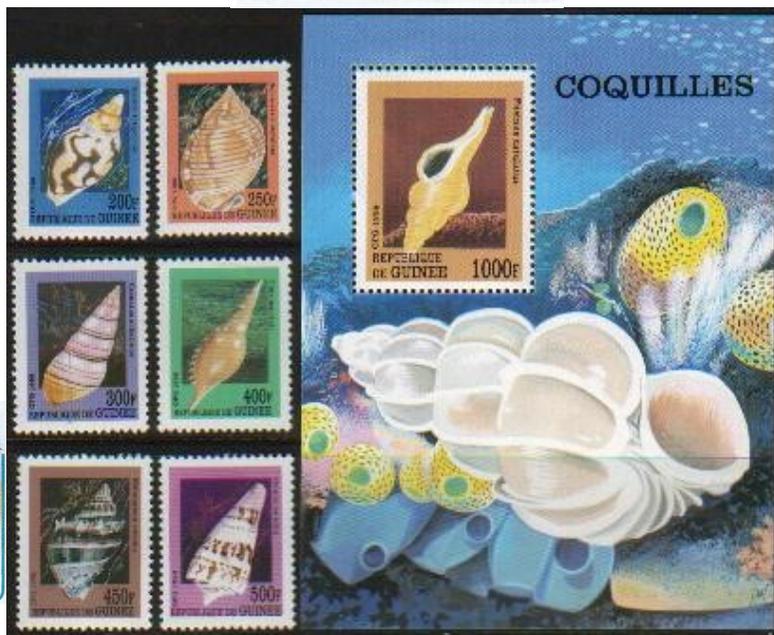
Molluscs on Stamps

by John Jacobs

While there are thousands of stamps from around the world depicting various molluscs, sometimes even the more common varieties haven't been depicted or there are very few stamps showing them. This is the case for our club shell *Melongena corona* (Gmelin, 1791) (King's crown/Crown conch). Shown here are the only stamps I've found depicting our club shell.

Guinea, located in west Africa, issued this stamp and souvenir sheet in 1998, which is interesting since *M. corona* is a Florida/Caribbean species. It is not unknown for countries to issue stamps depicting subjects that have nothing to do with that country. Regardless, it is a nice depiction, and they got the species name correct.

Montserrat, an island in the Caribbean under British control, issued a stamp in August 1988 with a colorful depiction of the shell. It was reissued in November 1988 with an overprint for the visit of Princess Alexandra and a surcharge changing the value from \$5 to \$1.50. In May 1989 the stamp reappeared with the overprint OHMS (On Her Majesty's Service), making it an official mail stamp.



Guinea-Bissau, west coast of Africa, issued this sheet in 2017. The fifth stamp shows a sinistral *M. corona*. The 1st stamp with *Strombus alatus* is also shown sinistral. Artistic license, I suppose.



A live *Melongena corona* September 26, 2003. South rest area Sunshine Skyway Bridge. Photo John Jacobs

Field Trips North Sunshine Skyway Rest Area

Story & pics by John Jacobs

January 13th saw a small group of four ready to brave the wilds of the north rest area to the Sunshine Skyway Bridge. We had a nice -0.6 low tide, very light breeze, and temperature in the 50s, making for a pleasant morning. I haven't done this end of the Skyway much, so I was very happy to go there.

The mud here is softer than at the south rest area, so one must be aware that your foot can sink a few inches. Having footwear that is snug on your feet is recommended. Access is easy here as you can see in the photo.



Asterias forbesi



Cerithium muscarum



Ceriantheopsis americana, tube anemone



Dinocardium robustum siphon pair



Ficus papyratia



Thyonella gemmata, striped sea cucumber



Vokesinotus perrugatus



New ammonite
John Jacobs

A newly described heteromorph ammonite from Hokkaido, Japan was discussed in the journal *Paleontological Research*. The above illustration of a live animal was created by Masato Hattori. Some of the actual specimens are shown below. A 23.5mm 10 yen coin is used for scale in the museum display.

Ref: Yusuke Muramiya and Yasunari Shigeta. 2020. "*Sormaites*, a New Heteromorph Ammonoid Genus from the Turonian (Upper Cretaceous) of Hokkaido, Japan" *Paleontological Research* 25(1), 11-18, (30 December 2020). <https://doi.org/10.2517/2020PR016>



Diplomoceratidae *Sormaites teshioensis* Muramiya & Shigeta, 2020, Turonian (Upper Cretaceous) of Hokkaido, Japan

PALEO

SOUTH WAVE Fossil Market

SATURDAY, March 6 - 9:00AM until 3:00PM
\$2 ENTRANCE FEE FOR SHOPPERS
Set up & Sell

FOSSILS - ROCKS - MINERALS
\$25 PER CAR. BRING YOUR OWN TABLE AND CHAIRS
(1 TABLE PER VEHICLE) TABLE RENTAL AVAILABLE \$5
TO RESERVE YOUR SPACE CONTACT Barbara Fite: bfite1@tampabay.rr.com

Location: AMERICAN POSTAL WORKERS UNION HALL
 4409 West Alva Street
 Tampa, FL 33614
 Questions? Contact Mike Searle: fossilnerd@msn.com



Subpterynotus textilis (Gabb, 1873)

Model of Lituites, Museum of Natural History of Stockholm

The  Show Must Go On!

Virtual 2021 Sanibel Shell Show

sanibelshellclub.com

featuring 35 original videos
Mar 5 + 6 from 12pm to 3pm EST
FREE on Sanibel Shell Club's YouTube Channel



Conchologists of America, inc.

Conchologists of America 2021 Convention

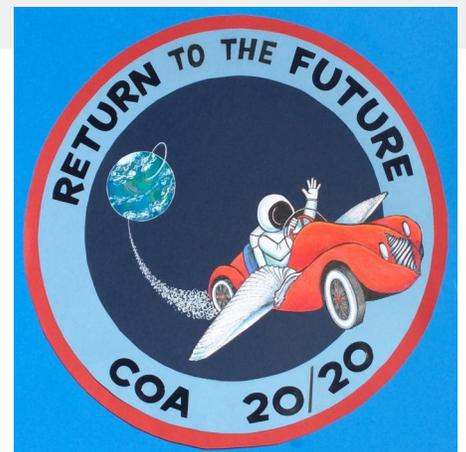
Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the planned conventions have all been delayed by a year. Here is the next scheduled convention.

When: June 14-20, 2021

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 should be available soon.

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 normally consists of about 10,000 square feet of space for dealers from around the world displaying a huge variety of shells and shell-related items.



MEMBER NEWS

If you would like your picture in the Directory. Ask John to take it or send us one. Got a shell question???

Send me an email. I will try to answer it in the Tidelines.

Send in any member news to Cheryl Jacobs

E-mail
stpeteshellclub@gmail.com



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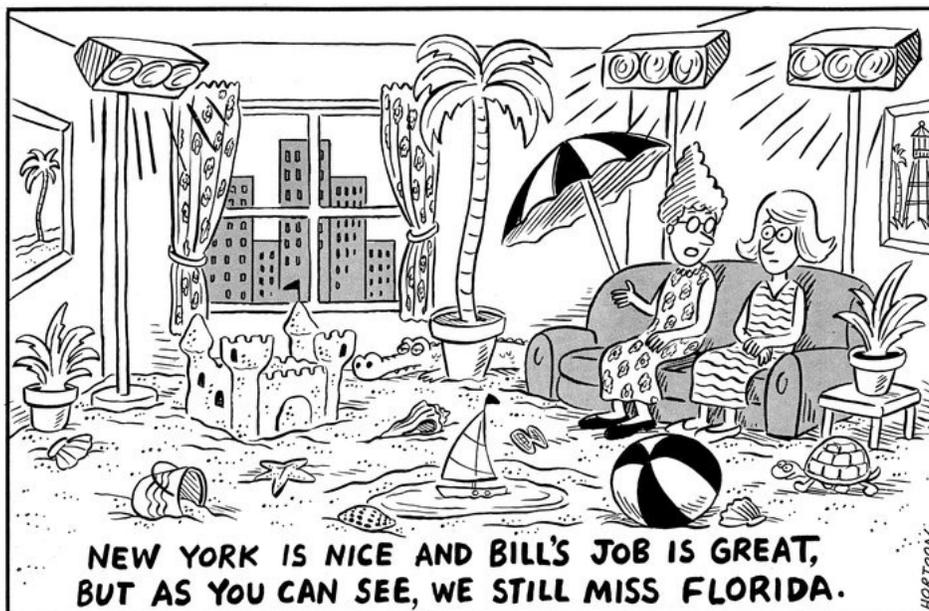
Home of do-it-yourself shell craft supplies.

Shell Characters, Flowers and Trees all made on the premises

One Stop Sheller's Supermarket

Open 10 am to 5 pm

Monday thru Saturday



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.



HAVE I RENEWED ?

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

Contact Cheryl & John Jacobs
johncheryl@earthlink.net
 or 813-309-2608