

Tidelines

May 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.**

As this terrible pandemic continues, we hope you are all keeping safe and being vaccinated at your earliest opportunity. The more people are vaccinated, the safer we all will be, and the earlier we can get back to some semblance of normalcy in our lives. While I have enjoyed the opportunities presented that have allowed participation in webinars and various Zoom meetings, there is nothing like being with people of like minds physically. We are planning to start up physical meetings in September, and at the rate vaccinations are occurring, this shouldn't be a problem. With that said, I wish you all well, and look forward to September.



WARNING! SHELL POX

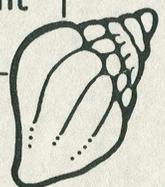
Very Contagious to both sexes

SYMPTOMS — Continual complaint as to need for fresh air, sunshine, and relaxation. Patient has blank expression, sometimes inattentive to rest of family. Has no taste for work of any kind.

Frequent checking of dealers' catalogs, and shell shops longer than usual. Secret phone calls to shell pals. Mumbles to self. Lies to rival collectors. Only one cure.

TREATMENT — Medication is useless. Disease is not fatal. Victim should go hunting as often as possible at beach and make frequent visits to his shell dealer.

My kind of contagion.





A MESSAGE FROM THE DESK OF YOUR PRESIDENT

Here we are at what would normally be considered the end of the club meeting season. But, in this case, we have not had any physical meetings this season like so many clubs. I sincerely hope that we will return to physical meetings in September, and at the rate people are getting vaccinated, this should not be a problem. I have submitted the proposed dates for our meetings to the Seminole Recreation Center. I've also sent proposed dates for our 2022 Shell Show.

We're a month and a half away from the biggest shell event of the year. The Conchologists of America convention in Melbourne, Florida is scheduled to start June 14th and run through June 20th. Delayed for a year, and not having any shell shows for over a year, I hope this event will see a nice attendance. Registration forms for the convention are available on the COA website: conchologistsofamerica.org.

Former member Dick McKelvey made a donation to the club of shells and books. Some of you may remember him from the 90s. We picked up the donation on April 18th, which was also his 94th birthday. Our house has a lot of shells donated to club including a large batch given by the late Peggy Williams. With meetings starting up again in September, we expect to bring some of these to the meetings for sale, or maybe a silent auction night.

In closing, please keep safe, and I look forward to seeing you all again.

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

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

June

- 8 Tue 6:41PM -0.2
- 9 Wed 7:16PM -0.3
- 10 Thu 7:52PM -0.3
- 11 Fri 8:30PM -0.3
- 12 Sat 9:10PM -0.3
- 13 Sun 9:52PM -0.3
- 14 Mon 10:36PM -0.2
- 22 Tue 5:54PM -0.4
- 23 Wed 6:47PM -0.6
- 24 Thu 7:39PM -0.6
- 25 Fri 8:29AM -0.6
- 26 Sat 9:17PM -0.5
- 27 Sun 10:03AM -0.3
- 28 Sun 7:03AM -0.3

July

- 8 Thu 7:06PM -0.2
- 9 Fri 7:43PM -0.2
- 10 Sat 8:19PM -0.3
- 11 Sun 8:54PM -0.2
- 21 Wed 5:54PM -0.3
- 22 Thu 6:47PM -0.4
- 23 Fri 7:34PM -0.4
- 24 Sat 8:16PM -0.3
- 25 Sun 8:53PM -0.2

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

May 4-Virtual zoom meeting 7pm

UPCOMING SHELL SHOWS & RELATED EVENTS

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

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



Happy Birthdays

July

- 11-Elaine Smith
- 24-Cynthia Beck
- 26-David Ward
- 28-Peggyann Ankrom

August

- 1-Gene Howard
- 3-William Turner
- 11-Gloria Gould
- 15-Bob Linn
- 24-Steve Geiger
- 29-Cheryl Jacobs

May

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

June

- 1-Jennifer Kotimaki
- 7-Maureen Keefe
- 12-Julianne Benedict-Dolney
- 13-Karla Mason

Birthday Shells per
R. Tucker Abbott

May—Emerald nerite
(*Smaragdia viridis*)



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

July—Strawberry top
(*Clanculus pharaonius*)



August—Cameo helmet
(*Cypraea cassis rufa*)



June—Pearl oyster
(*Pinctada margaritifera*)



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.

FOSSIL HIGHLIGHT

John Jacobs

Florida is a fabulous place for fossils, both vertebrate and invertebrate. The molluscan fossil assemblages here are truly wonderful with abundant species ranging in size from the very small to large species like horse conchs. A favorite amongst fossil shell collectors is a muricid species called *Subpterynotus textilis* (Gabb, 1873). The age range for the species is 20.43 to 0.781 mya. The size is known to about 56mm in length. This is one of five known species within the genus. It is unfortunate that we don't know the coloration of this shell, but the sculpture is exquisite.



Image: John Jacobs



Image: John Jacobs

Molluscs on Stamps: *Triplofusus giganteus* (Kiener, 1840), Florida Horse conch

John Jacobs

Our state shell is an example of limited depiction on postage stamps. As you can see below, there is only one stamp I've located depicting the second largest species of gastropod mollusc. Ironically, it is an African country, Tanzania, that issued this stamp on March 25, 2014. The range of this species is from North Carolina down around Florida and into Mexico. Also depicted are the Lettered olive (*Oliva sayana*), Chestnut cowrie (*Neobernaya spadicea*), and what appears to be a cockle.

The largest known specimen resides on display at the Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum, Sanibel Island, Florida. It measures 606 mm/24 inches. For gastropods, only *Syrinx aruana* grows larger.



Above is a living specimen of the horse conch. The bottom left is a juvenile shell next to the adult. An egg capsule cluster is shown to the right.





Conchologists of America, inc.

Conchologists of America 2021 Convention

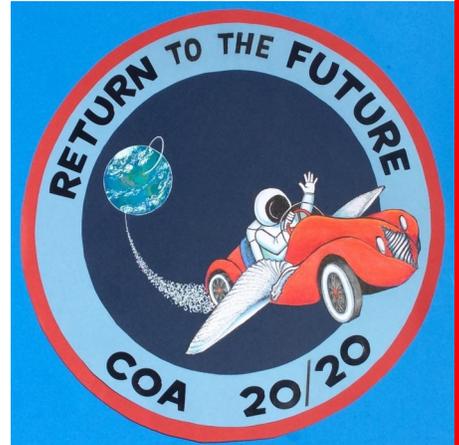
Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the planned conventions have all been delayed by a year. Here is the next scheduled convention.

When: June 14-20, 2021

Where: Hilton Melbourne Hotel, Melbourne, Florida

To attend the convention and participate in the presentations, field trips, and silent auctions, you must be registered. Registration forms are available 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 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.



From the Smithsonian website: www.si.edu

Did you know the Smithsonian oversees the world's largest biodiversity library? The Biodiversity Heritage Library (BHL) www.biodiversitylibrary.org, headquartered at the Smithsonian, works with libraries around the world specializing in natural history, botany, animal sciences, and related topics.

Together, this consortium is addressing a lack of accessibility to biodiversity literature by digitizing the materials in their collections and making them freely available online. The BHL portal provides open access to hundreds of thousands of volumes, comprising over 59 million pages, from the 15th-21st centuries.

Why does it matter?

Scientists have long considered the inaccessibility of biodiversity literature to be a major impediment to research. While natural history books and archives contain much of the information that is critical to this field of study, these materials have previously only been available in a handful of libraries globally.

By removing boundaries to access, BHL is making it easier to share and spread knowledge, thereby strengthening the efficiency and efficacy of research and conservation efforts on every continent.

How can I learn more?

The BHL search portal lets you explore over 59 million pages of key biodiversity literature at no cost. Dig in by year, subject, author, and more!

You can also discover fabulous natural history images from BHL's collection on Flickr. Over 250,000 images have been curated by book, subject, and contributor. These images have been viewed nearly 1 billion times! There's no telling what you might find while scrolling.

The BHL blog is a great way to learn about how scientists, artists, and educators use the library—and to see highlights from amazing natural history collections from around the world.

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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BY SCOTT HILBURN



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