

Tidelines

November 2022

St. Petersburg Shell Club, Inc.
Founded 1936
Web site: stpeteshellclub.org



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.

Holiday Party

Where: Seminole Recreation Center

When: December 2

Time: 6PM

**Food: The club is providing Meatballs & Teriyaki Chicken.
Sign up or Call Cheryl to say what you are bringing from below:**

- Drinks**
- Side dish**
- Desserts**
- Appetizers**

Our annual Holiday Party is taking place in our usual meeting room at the Rec Center. To participate in the Gift Exchange, please bring a wrapped gift valued under \$15.

Please RSVP by Nov 25th so we have a head count.





A MESSAGE FROM THE DESK OF YOUR PRESIDENT

Hurricane Ian caused terrible damage to Florida. Sanibel, Captiva and Ft. Myers were particularly hit with much devastation and loss of life. The Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum had flooding and some structural damage. But time will tell of other damage to contents within the museum. The causeway to Sanibel had five sections washed away. A temporary road is up and usable. However, only residents and business owners are allowed onto the island. Please, do not attempt to go there on a sightseeing trip. This is a serious situation which will take some time and effort to fix. Also avoid Ft. Myers Beach which also suffered a lot of damage. The workers, residents and business owners need your consideration, not your curiosity.

Our regular meeting room at the rec center has been reserved for Dec 2nd for our Holiday Party. There is more detailed information inside this issue.

We have a field trip planned for Fred Howard Park on Oct 29th at 8AM. This is an easy access area. My camera is ready!

Florida shell shows are starting up again in January with the Broward Shell Show and the ATSC Shell Show. Shell shows are a wonderful experience providing the opportunity to see great exhibits, talk to other collectors about shells, and to just have a great time. Most shows have dealers where you can purchase desirable treasures to add to your collection. So come on out and enjoy the fun.

May all your holidays be safe ones.

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 open, Shell Show Cheryl Jacobs; Annual Picnic the Board; Raffle/Door Prizes Cheryl Jacobs & Peggy Dill; Facebook Cheryl Jacobs; Webmaster Cheryl Jacobs.

Forecast Minus Tides

November

- 8 Tue 5:57AM -0.2
- 9 Wed 6:33AM -0.2
- 10 Thu 7:10AM -0.3
- 11 Fri 7:50AM -0.2
- 12 Sat 8:35AM -0.2
- 22 Tue 4:51AM -0.2
- 23 Wed 5:34AM -0.5
- 24 Thu 6:20AM -0.6
- 25 Fri 7:11AM -0.6
- 26 Sat 8:07AM -0.6
- 27 Sun 9:08AM -0.6
- 28 Mon 10:12AM -0.4
- 29 Tue 11:15AM -0.2

December

- 5 Mon 4:43AM -0.3
- 6 Tue 5:13AM -0.5
- 7 Wed 5:50AM -0.5
- 8 Thu 6:26AM -0.6
- 9 Fri 7:02AM -0.6
- 10 Sat 7:39AM -0.5
- 11 Sun 8:19AM -0.4
- 20 Tue 3:52AM -0.4
- 21 Wed 4:41AM -0.6
- 22 Thu 5:31AM -0.8
- 23 Fri 6:22AM -0.9
- 24 Sat 7:13AM -0.9
- 25 Sun 8:05AM -0.9
- 26 Mon 8:56AM -0.7
- 27 Tue 9:45AM -0.5
- 28 Wed 10:31AM -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.



Strombus (Dilatilabrum) roegli (Harzhauser, 2001), Oligocene-lower Miocene, NW Greece



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

Nov 1 Suncoast Conchologists meeting: Silent Auction
Nov 4 Regular club meeting: Steve Geiger
 "Gastropod projects at the Fish & Wildlife Research Institute"
Dec 2 Special Holiday Meeting

UPCOMING SHELL SHOWS & RELATED EVENTS

Nov 19-20 55th Annual Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, Bead and Fossil Show, South Florida Fairgrounds Expo Center East, 3821 Lake Worth Road, Lake Worth, FL

Jan 14-15 Broward Shell Show, Emma Lou Olson Civic Center, 1801 NE 6th St, Pompano Beach, FL

Jan 21-22 ATSC Shell Show, Eau Gallie Civic Center, 1551 Highland Ave, Melbourne, FL

Feb 10-11 Sarasota Shell Show, 2896 Ringling Blvd, Sarasota, FL

April 15-16, 2023

Gulf Coast Shell Show, Panama City Beach, FL
 Panama City Beach Senior Center, 423 Lyndell Lane, Panama Beach, FL



Birthday Shells per R. Tucker Abbott

Happy Birthdays

November

- 4 – Rob Geater
- 7 – Isabel McKinney
- 9 – Carolyn Petrikin
- 11 – Robert Holzworth
- 13 – Marilyn Myers

December

- 5 – Elizabeth Hixon
- 12 – Robert Gould
- 21 – Isabelle Knott
- 26 – Dianna Gilmore

November—Thorny oyster/
 Chrysanthemum shell
 (*Spondylus* any species such as *S. americanus*)



December—Abalone (*Haliotis* any species)



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.

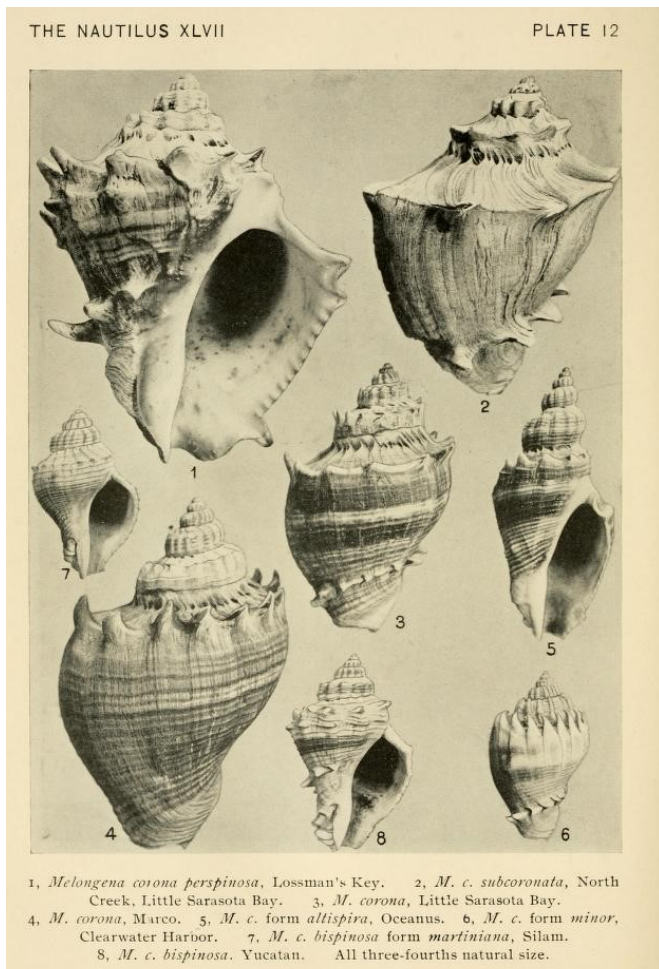
Finding old Literature by Steve Geiger (and the poem)

A great source for old literature is the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, (BHL), a digitized source of scientific literature (<https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/>). As an example, if you search on “*Melongena*”, the library holds 5600 articles that contain the term. Daunting. Add a second term, “*corona*”, and the list still includes 2290. Add in the term “Florida” and the list drops to around 1800. Reducing the search to articles with “*Melongena corona*” in the title returns only 4. Frustrating. It takes some practice.

What might you find?

An article in the Nautilus Vol. 8 from 1889 where Wilcox describes *Melongena* found in Florida, “The habits of Florida Intertidal Mollusks”.

There’s an article titled “*Melongena* and its races” (the Nautilus Vol 57: 1934) by Pilsbry and Vanata with this cool image:



An article by Clench and Turner “The Family Melongenidae in the Western Atlantic”. (1956, Johnsonia Vol. 3). And many, many other gems.

Another valuable source is **JSTOR** (<https://www.jstor.org/>). Here a similar search on “*Melongena*” finds 984 articles. A note of caution, it turns out *Solanum melongena* is a plant commonly known as the eggplant. In JSTOR adding the species name reduces the list to 102 papers on *Melongena corona*. The first paper that comes up rejoins many alleged *M. corona*

subspecies into one species. Hayes, Kenneth A., et al. “Phylogenetic Relationships of Crown Conchs (*Melongena* spp.): The Corona Complex Simplified.” Journal of Biogeography, vol. 36, no. 1, 2009: 28–38. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/20488331> And finally a short quote from one of the oldest papers that includes crown conch I could find: “The small oysters that are so common everywhere along the shore, growing near the high- water line, are not generally eaten except by the raccoons, hence the common name for them of “coon oysters.” On the under side of detached lumps of these we found many rare little shells,* and several of the larger species of mollusks the especially the thorny conch, *Melongena corona*, may be seen prowling around, or half buried in the sand, at the edges of the oyster bars. The last named species is a famous oyster eater; but the law of compensation here intervenes, for the animal of the thorny conch is in turn eaten by many kinds of fish, for which it is all excellent bait, and it is therefore much used by the fishermen; the gulf trout also collect them on their own account, and it is quite common to find large shells of this species in their stomachs.”— near Rocky Point, Cedar Key (Stearns, R.E.C. 1869. *Rambles in Florida. The American Naturalist. 3: 455-470.*)

Try it for your favorite species!

Please submit your articles:
(watt could go wrong)

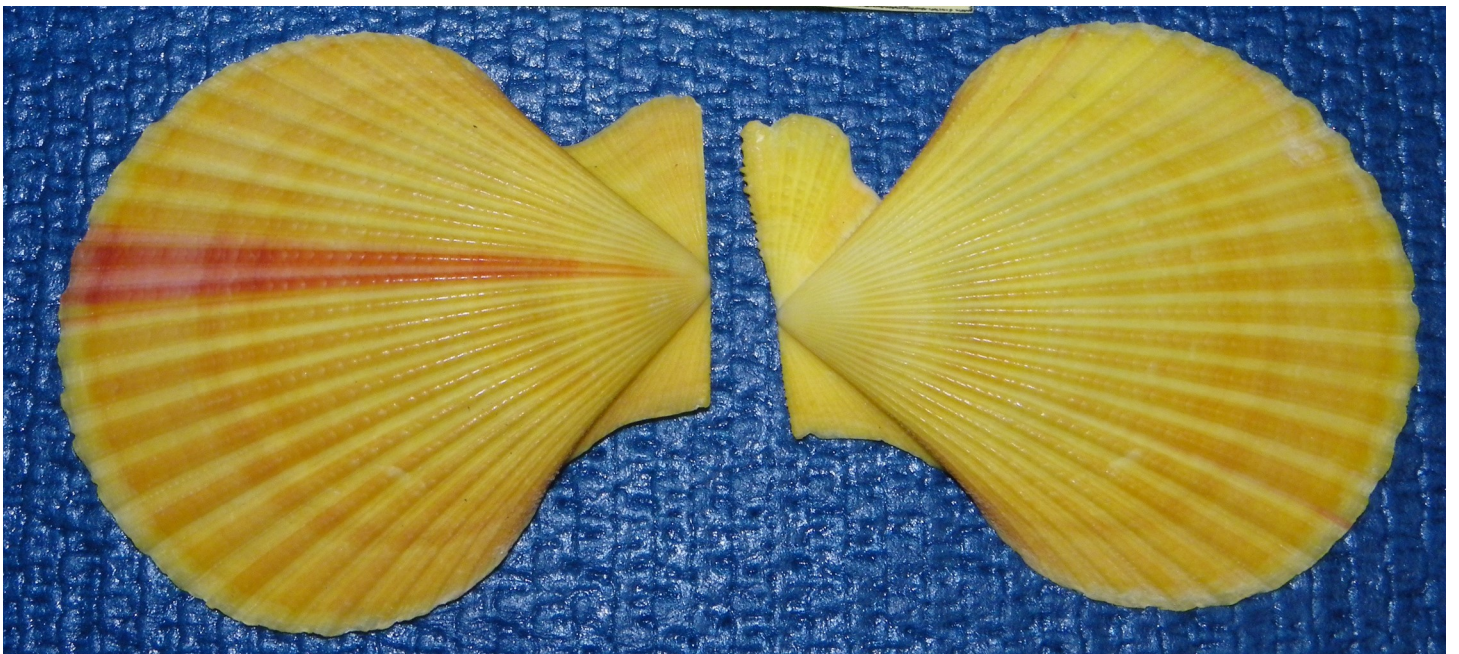
EYE HALVE A SPELLING CHECKER

I halve a spelling checker
It came with my pea sea
It plane lee marcs for my revue
Miss Steaks eye kin knot sea
Eye strike a key and tip a word
And weight fore it two say
Weather eye am wrong oar write
It shows me straight a weigh
As soon as a mist ache is maid
It nose bee fore two long
And eye can putt the err ore rite
Its rare lee ever wrong
Eye have run this poem threw it
I am shore your please to no
Its letter purr fetch awl the weigh
My cheque err trolled me sew.

For our October shoebox displays, John and Mary Ellen brought shells to show off. The theme was Freaky Shells. John showed a *Turbinella pyrum* with distorted siphonal canal, *Pleuroploca trapezium* with twisted siphonal canal, an elongated *Lambis lambis*, a juvenile *Charonia tritonis* with a very distorted shape, *Fasciolaria hunteria* with a stepped shoulder, and a dwarf *Lyncina lynx* with a large callous.



Mary Ellen's *Mimachlamys sanguinea* should have been solid yellow but decided to put an interesting streak of red on the right valve.



Molluscs on Stamps by John Jacobs

Japan issued this small sheet in 2016 containing two stamps depicting shells. Don't know what species the shells are, but I'm working on that.

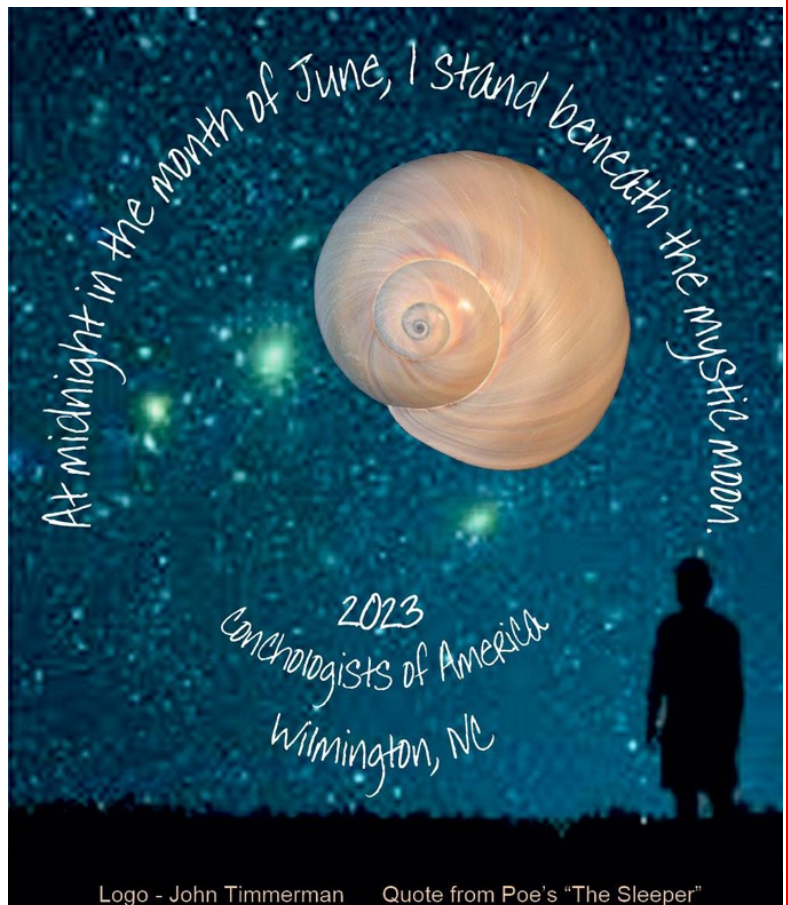


Conchologists of America, inc.

Conchologists of America 2023 Convention

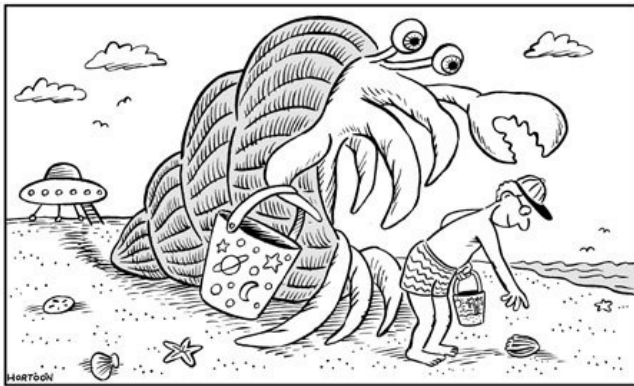
The North Carolina Shell Club will host the convention in Wilmington, NC May 31-June 4. To attend the convention and participate in the presentations, field trips, and silent auctions, you must be registered. Registration forms will soon be available on the COA web site conchologistsofamerica.org.

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.



Field Trip

We have a field trip planned for Oct 29 at Fred Howard Park meeting about 8AM. No need to sign up for the trip, just come on out to enjoy a nice low tide and have fun.



Shells – Crafts – Bags – Florida Books



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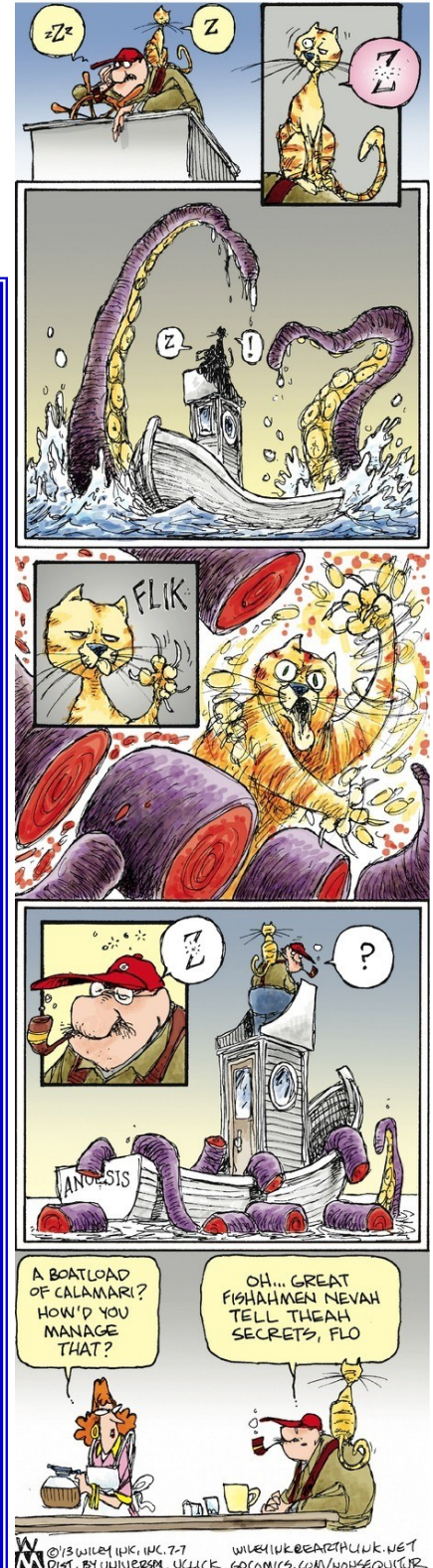
Shell Characters, Flowers and Trees all made on the
premises

One Stop Sheller's Supermarket

Open 10 am to 5 pm

Monday thru Saturday

NON SEQUITUR BY WILEY



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:

Donation to the Awards and Ribbons Fund for the Shell Show

 Print as you want to be listed.

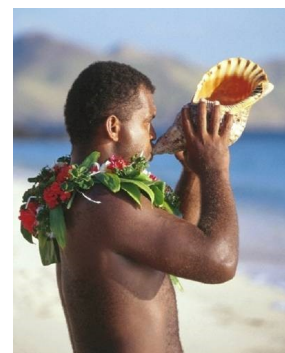
Return to: Membership Chairperson
 P. O. Box 3472
 Seminole, FL 33775-3472

Total Enclosed:
 Membership \$ _____
 Total \$ _____

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