



# Suncoast Shorelines

March-April 2019

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Yes!! Spring and Daylight Savings Time will soon be here, "Shell Show Season" is almost over, and our 2018-19 club year is quickly coming to a close—certainly very hard to believe!

It was wonderful to see so many of you at our last meeting—the Silent Auction was enthusiastically attended, with many lovely shells sold at bargain prices. Suncoast Conchologists certainly benefited greatly by all the sales.

Congratulations to our members Pat and Bob Linn for their exhibit, "A Sampling of the Olividae Family," that won the Selma Lawson Award for the Most Beautiful Scientific Exhibit, as well as 1st Place in the Minor Family Category at last weekend's St. Pete Shell Show. Pat also created a huge wreath—"Lion's Paws in the Round," which received the first place blue ribbon in the wreath Art & Craft Category, featuring—guess what? Yes—beautiful, colorful Lion's Paw shells.

Even though it is only March, we must begin to think about planning for our next club year—this means that very soon it will be time for election of officers. Some of us who are now on your board have served multiple terms and wish to be replaced. If you are contacted by our Nominating Committee, please consider "stepping up" to help us continue what has been thirty-plus years of enjoyable Suncoast Conchologists—friends, meetings, shells, programs, field trips and more.

Planning our meetings and other events really isn't a huge undertaking if more members would become involved. Enjoying the programs and cookies is great; however, more members are needed to actively participate! You are urged to help fill the officer and chairmanship positions to insure our club's future. Please show that you really care, and say "yes"! Suncoast Conchologists needs your help and support.

*Carolyn*

## PLAN AHEAD

**Tuesday, March 5, 7:30 PM** Suncoast Conchologists Meeting Our program will be "Tiptoe through Two True Tulips: Overview of the Fasciariidae" presented by Dr. Steve Geiger. Mini-box theme: Opposites

**March 9-10, Fossil Fest, Sat. 9 AM-6 PM and Sun. 10 AM-4 PM.** Adults \$8, children under 12 are free. Florida State Fairgrounds, intersection of I-4 and Hwy. 301, east of Tampa.

**Monday, March 18** Board Meeting at the home of Carolyn Petrikin. All members are welcome to attend!

**Tuesday, April 2, 7:30 PM** Suncoast Conchologists Meeting Our speaker tonight is Ron Bopp from the Sarasota Shell Club; his program will be on Fossils. Mini-Box theme is "The Old (Fossil) and the New" (Current) matching shells.

**April 5, 7:00PM** St. Petersburg Shell Club meeting at the Seminole Recreation Center. The program will be about Horse Conchs.

**Saturday May 18** Suncoast Conchologists Picnic at Philippe Park, Safety Harbor. Details next newsletter.

### June 17-23 COA Convention

South Seas Plantation at Captiva, Celebrating the Centennial of Mr. Seashell, Dr. R. Tucker Abbott.

Go to [conchologistsofamerica.org](http://conchologistsofamerica.org) for information.

## Suncoast Conchologists

(Founded in 1984)

P.O. Box 1564 Palm Harbor, Florida 34682-1564

Suncoast Shorelines is issued five times per year to all members. Annual Membership with emailed newsletters: \$20 Family, \$15 Individual, \$10 Junior. Lifetime membership is available. Add \$5 if you would like a printed copy of the newsletters. The club usually meets the first Tuesday of every month (except June, July, August, and December) at 7:30pm, at Grace Lutheran Church, 1812 N. Highland Avenue, Clearwater.

**Articles, comments and suggestions for publication are solicited and should be sent directly to the Editor: [spgeiger2000@yahoo.com](mailto:spgeiger2000@yahoo.com)**

**Closing Date for publication is the 15th of the month prior to the Sept, Nov, Jan, Mar, and May meetings.**

Permission is hereby granted to reprint articles published in the newsletter providing the original author is acknowledged, and a copy of the reprinted material is sent to Suncoast Conchologists.

### 2018-2019 Officers

President: Carolyn Petrikin

First Vice President: Sharlene Totten

Second Vice President: John Jacobs

Recording Secretary: Nancy Holcombe

Treasurer: Katherine Smith

Corresponding Secretary: Elda Thomas

**E-Mail:** [suncoastshells@aol.com](mailto:suncoastshells@aol.com)

**Website:** [www.suncoastconchologists.org](http://www.suncoastconchologists.org)

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 **Happy Birthday** 

### MARCH

8—Betty Fearn

29—Hugo Freudenthal

31—Cheryl Putnam

### April

14—Dick Mitchell

15—Dick Fearn

27—Bob Marsh

28—Katherine Smith

29—Lynn Henderson

## NEGATIVE or LOW TIDES for Egmont Key

### March

Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> 0.01 4:27 AM

Mon 4<sup>th</sup> -0.01 4:55 AM

Sun 17<sup>th</sup> -0.26 4:23 AM

Tue 19<sup>th</sup> -0.28 5:44 AM

Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> -0.05 7:42 PM

### April

Thur 18<sup>th</sup> -0.08 6:05 PM

Fri 16<sup>th</sup> -0.25 6:49 PM

Sat 20<sup>th</sup> -0.31 7:34 PM

Sun 21<sup>th</sup> -0.28 8:20 AM

But remember, the low at St. Petersburg occurs almost 2½ hours after the low at Egmont Key, but Clearwater Beach is very similar, about 10 minutes behind Egmont....

[http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/tide\\_predictions.html](http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/tide_predictions.html)

## NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION AT MEETINGS

Your board has recently asked Jennifer not to distribute the printed copies of *Shorelines* until our meeting breaks. This is a courtesy to our officers and chairpersons who have news and information to share during the first part of our meeting.

Please put your newsletter away after the break so you may enjoy our guest speakers' presentations. We appreciate everyone's help and understanding with this.

## MEMBER NEWS

**Cindy Housley** is one of our new members. She has lived in Florida for 37 years and is retired from the Post Office. Cindy's favorite place to walk the beach looking for shells is Honeymoon Island. Some of her favorites are Kings Crowns and Tritons. We missed her birthday on January 2nd. Please update your Directory with Cindy's correct phone number, 727-772-7932.

Also a Directory update to the address of

**Roni Mucci**

374 Sheerin Drive

Hamilton, OH 45013

## A different kind of photo contest...

In each newsletter, I will put a photo of a small part of a shell. I am not giving you any other clues. It could be any part of any shell. All you have to do is send me the name in an email or give me the name before the next newsletter comes out. At the last club meeting I'll announce the winner.



Hint: This isn't Amsterdam!

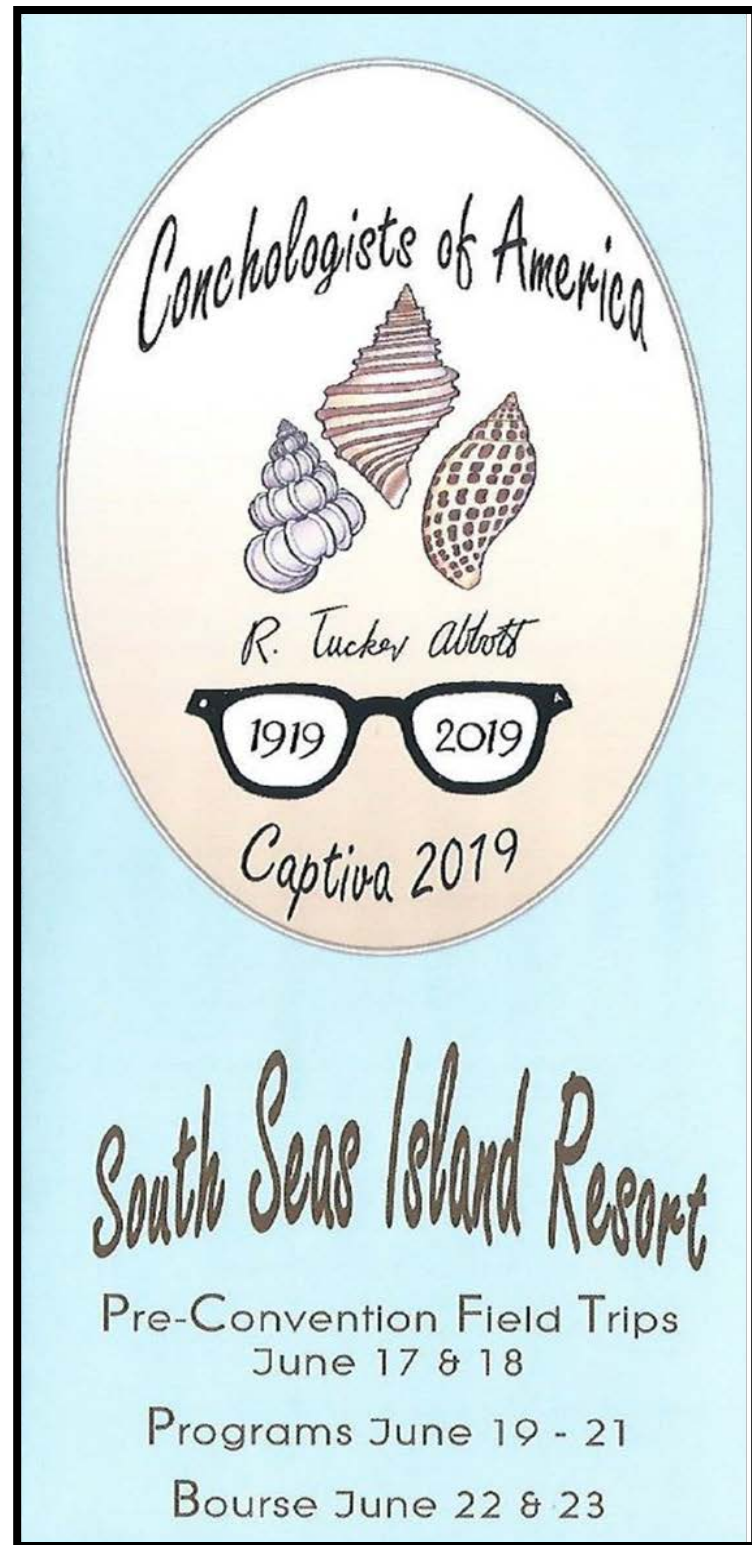
[spgeiger2000@yahoo.com](mailto:spgeiger2000@yahoo.com)

P.S. – Jan-Feb. = Lightning whelk  
*Sinistrofulgur sinistrum* (operculum)

Huguette Pittman has been a member of Suncoast Conchologist since 2009. She is moving from our area to Southern Florida to live with her daughter and family. Her donations of a shell lamp, many other large shells and the huge sea fan have been exciting. We will certainly miss her.



Mary Ellen, Huguette and Sharlene



The cover of Captiva's COA Convention brochure designed by Mary Ellen





*Shirley Anderson*

*Post-storm at Caladesi*



## 2019 SHELL SHOWS

**March 7-9 82nd Sanibel Shell Show, Sanibel  
Community Center, 2173 Periwinkle Way,  
Sanibel Island**

**March 14-16 39th Marco Island Shell Show,  
United Church of Marco Island, 320 North Barfield,  
Marco Island**

**May 31-June 2 22nd Gulf Coast Shell Club Shell  
Show, Panama City Beach Senior Center,  
423 Lyndell Lane, Panama City Beach, 32407**

**June 17-23**

**Conchologists of America Convention  
South Seas Island Resort  
Captiva, Florida**

**Information and registration forms for the  
convention can be found  
at [conchologistsofamerica.org](http://conchologistsofamerica.org)**



**Sharlene judging arts and crafts at the  
Sarasota Shell Club's annual show.**





The 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Broward Shell Show was held Jan 11-13, 2019. Pat and Bob Linn won the Neil Hepler Award for their exhibit, "A sampling of the Olividae Family. Pat won 3<sup>rd</sup> place for her *Cernina fluctuata* (G.B. Sowerby 1, 1825) exhibit and a red ribbon for her wreath. They also won Exhibitor's Choice Award for the scientific class. The show was a success with so many outstanding exhibits. Scientific Judges were Rich Goldberg and John Slapcinsky, and artistic judges were Phyllis Gray and Heather O'Keefe.

The display on Olives also was awarded the DuPont Trophy in Sarasota, and 1st place in Minor Family and the Selma Lawson Award at the St. Pete Shell Club's annual show.



Lions Paws in the Round

Joan and the late Bob Pierson donated the shells in our February Silent Auction



and a team effort helped prepare them for the event



## A NEW SPECIES FOR MY COLLECTION!

by Carolyn Petrikin

Many of you already know that on the very cold morning of January 21st, Earl and I bundled up in several layers and headed south to the Skyway. A minus 9 tide was calling! I knew that at 9:00 the 7AM winter tide would still be quite low. And—yes—LOW it was!



South Skyway, Manatee County--minus 0.9 tide,  
January 21st, 9 AM

We weren't looking for anything special—just something for our aquarium. I tied on my warm scarf and we set out to see how far we could go on that cold, windy morning! Some of the usual shells often found were there—Lightning Whelks, Banded Tulips, Lettered Olives, and while picking up some of these and taking photos, I came across two very dead shells—one a Lightning Whelk, the other a Pear Whelk. Believe me—most shellers wouldn't even have given either of those whelks a second glance! Each was covered with barnacles, algae and tiny shells—one even had an unusual growth about an inch long on it—definitely two shells for the aquarium!



Lightning Whelk in sand with a Spotted Limpet

I immediately noticed that each whelk had a slipper shell living on it that was very different than the usual species we commonly find in our area, the Atlantic Slipper Shell, *Crepidula fornicata*. These two Calyptraeidae both had a white background with very small brown spots on them. I'd never seen slipper shells with spots in Tampa Bay ever before!



Atlantic Slipper Shells collected on a RI beach--note the stack formation common with these Slipper Shells—and—no spots!

These slipper shells lived on the whelks' backs in our aquarium for 7-10 days before they each became dinner for some Kings Crowns. Several days later, I decided to get out a book or two. Yes—low and behold, there they were, the Spotted Slipper Shell, *Crepidula maculosa*! In all my years of shelling, with thanks to an extremely low -0.9 January tide, these are the first two in my collection!



Spotted Slipper Shell, *Crepidula maculosa*  
at home in our aquarium



Belated... MERRY CHRISTMAS!



Some scenes at our annual Holiday Shellabration

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Suncoast Conchologists  
PO Box 1564  
Palm Harbor, FL 34682-1564

