

# Suncoast Shorelines

September-October 2019

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VOL. 36, No.1

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

September is here and it is time to begin a new Suncoast Conchologist year. Our first meeting is **September 3<sup>rd</sup> at the new time of 7:00 PM.**

A number of our members attended the COA 2019 Convention at South Seas Resort on Captiva in June. See the pictures and article on the convention from the rookie (me) in this issue of Shorelines. The convention was quite a success this year and several of our members – Carolyn, Sharlene, Mary Ellen, John and Cheryl -- contributed a lot of time and effort to help make it so.

Your Suncoast Conchologist Board, comprised of the elected officers and several committee chairs, met twice this summer to begin planning our coming year. I am happy to report that we now have a new treasurer, Pat Snair, who was elected at the August Board Meeting following Katherine's resignation. In addition to a new treasurer, we have a new editor for our Shorelines newsletter, Cathy Petre, and several new committee chairs. My thanks to all of our new folks and to the returning committee chairs for volunteering to serve with me this year.

We have a **new email:** [suncoastseashells@gmail.com](mailto:suncoastseashells@gmail.com)

The Board is working to make this year interesting, educational, and fun with programs and field trips. Any club member is welcome to attend the Board Meetings to make suggestions, share ideas and/or help plan activities and programs for the year. This is **our** club and I encourage every member to take an active part. There is always a need for volunteers to help in some capacity at meetings and activities and with planning.

I hope everyone has had a wonderful summer and that you have treasures from your summer adventures to bring and share at our meeting on September 3<sup>rd</sup>. In addition, I want to remind everyone that if you are not a Life Member, your dues are due now for the 2019-20

year. The renewal form is in this Shorelines. Fill it out and either bring it to the meeting with your check or mail it in ASAP.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone September 3<sup>rd</sup> and getting started on the new year. Be sure to bring your "Summer Treasures" for display and discussion during break.

Here's to a great new year!

*Nancy*

## PLAN AHEAD

**Tuesday, September 3, 7:00 PM,** Suncoast Conchologists Shell Club Meets at the Grace Lutheran Church, 1812 N. Highland Ave., Clearwater, Florida. Our program tonight is titled "A World of Shells-Captiva, 2019 COA Convention", and will be presented by John Jacobs. The Mini-Box theme is "Summer Acquisitions".

**Friday, September 6,** St. Petersburg Shell Club meets at 7PM at the Seminole Recreation Center. John Jacobs will present his program "A World of Shells-Captiva, 2019 COA Convention".

**Thursday, September 12** Board Meeting, 7 PM, held at the home of Charlene Totten. All members are welcome to attend.

**Tuesday, October 1,** 7:00 PM, Suncoast Conchologists Club Meeting. Our program is titled, "Adventures Along the SC Shoreline", and will be presented by our President, Nancy Holcombe. The Mini-Box theme is "Shells from any one place- NOT Florida"

**Friday, October 4,** St. Petersburg Shell Club meets at 7PM at the Seminole Recreation Center. Program to be announced.

## 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:** [cpetre@windstream.net](mailto:cpetre@windstream.net)

**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.

### 2019-2020 Officers

President: Nancy Holcombe

First Vice President: Sharlene Totten

Second Vice President: Steve Geiger

Recording Secretary: Marion Fuller/Carolyn Petrikin

Treasurer: Pat Snair

Corresponding Secretary: Elda Thomas

**E-Mail:** [suncoastseashells@gmail.com](mailto:suncoastseashells@gmail.com)

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

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 **Happy Birthday** 

### SEPTEMBER

11—Sharlene Totten

23---Cathy Petre

24—Sally Mitchell

### OCTOBER

2—Barb Stauffer

19---Karen Harbauer

21—Earl Petrikin

### Meet our Newest Member!

At our May meeting WENDY HAYWARD joined our Suncoast Conchologist Club. She is from Massachusetts and has lived in Florida 14 years. Wendy is a member of the Audubon Club and Sea Turtle Watchers. She found us on Google. Please add her to your directory: 2098 Seminole Blvd. Largo, FL 33778. [haydesign@aol.com](mailto:haydesign@aol.com)

### NEGATIVE or LOW TIDES for Egmont Key

#### September 2019

Tues	24 <sup>th</sup>	-0.09	3:59	PM
Wed	25 <sup>th</sup>	-0.16	4:43	PM
Thurs	26 <sup>th</sup>	-0.14	5:22	PM
Fri	27 <sup>th</sup>	-0.05	5:57	PM
Sun	29 <sup>th</sup>	-0.08	6:31	AM
Mon	30 <sup>th</sup>	-0.22	7:19	AM

#### October

Tues	1st	-0.25	8:09	AM
Wed	2nd	-0.17	9:02	AM
Sun	27th	-0.17	5:42	AM
Mon	28th	-0.39	6:28	AM
Tues	29th	-0.49	7:13	AM
Wed	30th	-0.47	7:59	AM
Thurs	31	-0.35	8:48	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.

### 2019-2020 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

COA Representative	Mary Ellen Akers
Education	Mary Ellen Akers
E-Mail	Nancy Holcombe
FaceBook	Cheryl Jacobs
Field Trips	Steve Geiger
Hospitality	Cathy Petre
Library	Shirley Anderson
Membership	Betty Scheetz
Mini-Box Displays	Vicki Eis
Newsletter Editor	Cathy Petre
Newsletter Distribution	Jennifer Kotimaki
Phone Contact	Mary Ellen Akers
Photography	John Jacobs, Deb Allen
Programs	Sharlene Totten
Projectionist	John Jacobs
Publicity	Elda Thomas
Raffle	Katherine & Murray Smith, Bill Turner
Refreshments	Cheryl Putnam
Website	Cheryl Jacobs



## End of the year fun!

Our May picnic at Phillipe Park was a lot of fun.  
Everyone was a winner at Shell-o.





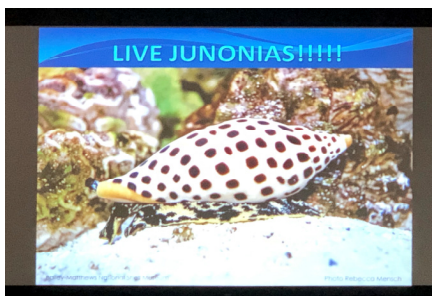
## Nancy in Shell Wonderland

Wow! Now I know how Alice felt when she fell down the rabbit hole. The 2019 COA Convention on Captiva was my first ever shell convention, and I felt like I had fallen into Neptune's treasure chest. What an exciting time! How best to describe my fantastic adventures – new people, shelling, programs, shells, social gatherings with food, of course, shells and the BOURSE (more shells – the likes of which I never knew existed). I can't cover everything here, but will highlight a number of my favorites.



**Cayo Costa and Bailey-Matthews Museum** – My adventure started by picking up my dear friend Mary Reeves who flew in from Greenville, SC, to attend the convention with me. On Tuesday we took the pre-convention tour to Cayo Costa. It started out with rain on the boat ride over but turned into a beautiful day to be there. While the shelling was not great, we did learn a lot of history about the islands and collected a number of sea urchins on the beach and made new friends from our fellow travelers on the tour. We ended the day by attending the Bailey-Matthews Museum reception at the Sanibel Community House.

Unfortunately, the museum renovations, which are quite extensive, have not been completed so there was a program on what the new museum is going to look like. Oh my, it is going to be awesome, and they are going to have a huge aquarium with LIVE Junonias in it. I can't wait to go back and see this when it is completed, which is supposed to be mid-January 2020.



**Convention Opening and Reception** – The convention opened Wednesday afternoon and the first presentation finally acquainted me with who Tucker Abbott was. I know, pretty remarkable isn't it that here I am a shelling enthusiast who had never heard of Tucker Abbott. By the end of the convention, I had a very good understanding of not only who he was, but also what a remarkable person he was. Really wish I could have met him. When I got home, I found that the shell book my neighbor had given me was co-authored by him.

The opening reception was quite an affair, beginning with a beautiful piano concert by Sylvard Kool, malacologist and professional pianist. The buffet was impressive with whole grouper that was at least three feet long (this is not a fish tale) and quite a variety of interesting shell-themed outfits.



Nancy and Mary at reception



Dessert at Reception

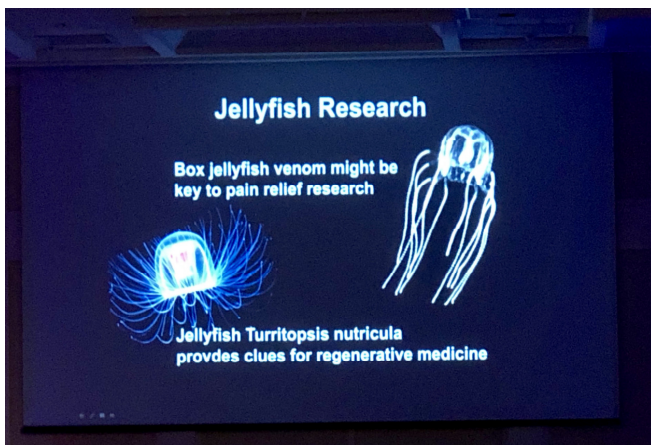


Banquet Centerpieces created by Anne Joffe

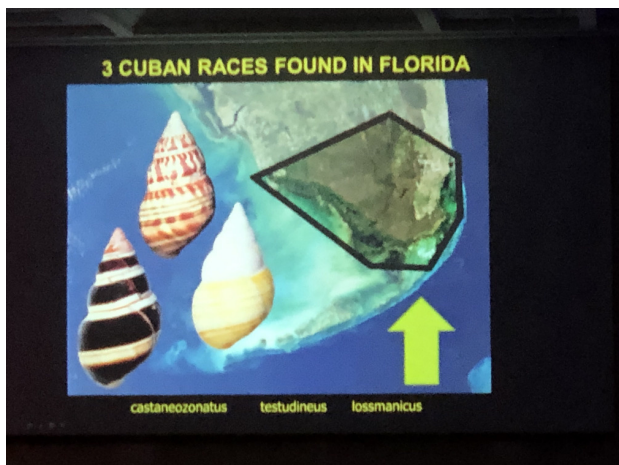


**Convention Programs** – The convention programs continued Thursday, Friday and Saturday morning with some very educational and fascinating presentations. Three of my favorites were:

- “Black Water Mollusks” by Linda Ianniello, professional underwater photographer whose pictures, taken at night of tiny sea creatures (sea butterflies, sea angels, sea elephants, paper nautilus) magnified, were amazing.
- “Drugs from the Sea” by Anne DuPont, professional underwater photographer and researcher, about the research being done in the field of medicine with various sealife, particularly venomous varieties like jellyfish and cones.



- “Liguus the Flamboyant Tree Snails” by Peter Krull, author, and Adrian Gonzalez Guillen, writer. They discussed theories on how these snails got from Cuba to Florida and showed many beautiful pictures from their new book on these colorful snails. I was particularly interested in this program because of the educational on liguus that Mary Ellen did at one of our shell club meetings this past year.



**Mary Ellen, Carolyn and Charlene "Snailed It"**

**Snail Parade** – The Snail Parade was on Thursday and I was fortunate to get to help with this. Yes, I said fortunate because I got to enjoy some very creative displays and met some very interesting people. The most exciting acquaintances for me were Cindy Sullivan and her husband Ken from just north of Boston and Robert Abbott from Canton, GA, Tucker Abbott’s daughter and son. They were attending the convention since it was celebrating their dad’s 100th birthday. What gracious and delightful people to meet! They were very excited about the Snail Parade and spent time talking with Carolyn Petrikin, who was in charge of the parade, and Sharlene Totten and Mary Ellen Akers who assisted her. They were very impressed with all of Mary Ellen’s artwork and even participated in the game *Dream Up a Punchline* for the cartoon drawings that Mary Ellen had done. And lo and behold, they won!

**Cindy Abbott Sullivan  
And  
Robert Sullivan  
(Tucker's Children)**



**"Snail of the Show" won by  
Linda Powers of the Englewood Club**



**Fashion and Crafts** – Being somewhat of a fashionista and interested in crafts, I was particularly interested in all the shell fashions I saw – like shell and leather purse, and shell jewelry and meeting Anne Joffe and getting to see all of her neat shell-themed outfits. I particularly liked the ladies from the Englewood Shell Club who sat at the table behind me at the reception and all had on beautiful shell tiaras like daughters of Neptune. What a novel idea! I also saw a number of very nice craft ideas made from shells which gave me ideas for some of the shells I have piled in boxes at home. Now I just have to find time to do them.



**Banquet** – The banquet was quite an affair – speakers telling very entertaining tales about Tucker Abbott that made him seem so real, a big birthday cake for Tucker’s birthday, appreciation awards for John and Sheryl and all the work they did on silent auctions, appreciation awards for Carolyn, Sharlene and Mary Ellen for all their work on the Snail Parade and Mary Ellen’s art including her design for the program cover that was also used for the birthday cake and awards, amazing shell centerpiece of Tucker Abbott made by Anne Joffe, and certainly not least was the delicious meal and gifts of a shell night-light.



Anne hand embroidered all the shells on her slacks



Cheryl and John Jacobs



Anita from Englewood Club



Carolyn, Nancy, Mary Ellen and Charlene



**Shells** -- Oh and did I mention the shells? What is a shell convention without shells -- lots and lots and lots of shells -- the Bourse, overwhelming to this rookie, and also numerous silent auctions and a live auction. Mary and I bid on some shells in the silent auctions but didn't win any of them. I did buy a shell I had never seen at the Bourse for a good price. It is known as a Japanese Wonder Shell and is quite lovely I think. In addition, Mary and I did run out several mornings at 6:30 to go shelling at Turner Beach/Blind Pass and had pretty good luck finding a variety of nice shells. We even made it down to the lighthouse on Sanibel but didn't have much luck shelling. We did see a number of starfish in shallow water and even a marriage proposal. I hope she said yes because he spent a lot of time collecting and laying out the question in shells.

Whew! I'm exhausted just remembering all of this. And there was more. In fact, Mary had such a good time, that she joined the NC Shell Club and will be going to conventions in the future!

Shelling at Turner Beach



Not a bad haul from Blind Pass



A very unique way to propose



## More Pictures from the Convention



Anne Joffe's handiwork



Mary Ellen with her artwork



A beautiful shell pendant made by one of the attendees



Shell art from the Bourse



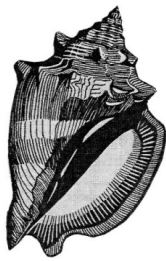
Tucker Abbott's children, Cindy Abbott Sullivan and Robert Abbott, with some of our Suncoast Conchologist members.



The lovely ladies from the Englewood Club in their tiaras



# SUNCOAST CONCHOLOGISTS



## Membership Application

	<u>Annual Dues</u>	<u>Life Membership</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Junior (under 19):	\$10.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual:	\$15.00 with emailed newsletter	Individual \$150.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual:	\$20.00 with printed newsletter	
<input type="checkbox"/> Family:	\$20.00 with emailed newsletter	Family \$200.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Family:	\$25.00 with printed newsletter	

The membership year begins September 1st. Please make checks payable to: SUNCOAST CONCHOLOGISTS, P. O. Box 1564, Palm Harbor, FL 34682-1564

*Return this application with your check to the Membership Chairman at our next meeting or mail to the above address.*

Meetings are held at 7:00 PM at Grace Lutheran Church, 1812 N. Highland Ave., Clearwater the 1st Tuesday of each month, except June, July, August and December

ALL members, including Lifetime and Honorary, are requested to complete the following information for our Annual Membership Directory:

If you would like more information, e-mail: [suncoastseashells@gmail.com](mailto:suncoastseashells@gmail.com)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s)\* \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

\*Please list all Family members to be included in membership. \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Shell Specialty \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date (month & day) \_\_\_\_\_

If you have an alternate address for part of the year, indicate mailing address and dates below:

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Dates From/To) \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

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