



# Suncoast Shorelines

March-April 2021

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VOL. 37, No.4

## President's Message

March is here and spring is just around the corner. And with the advent of COVID vaccine, hope is on the horizon that we will get to meet in person before 2021 is over. Until that time comes, we are continuing to have our regular club meetings via ZOOM. Check out *Plan Ahead* for our March program by member Steve Geiger and our April program by guest Ron Bopp. Both promise to be informative and fun.

**A big reminder to all**—Read this issue of *Suncoast Shorelines* for all upcoming events and activities. The first big event is the upcoming Sanibel Virtual Shell Show March 5-6. All the information to attend is included in the show article in this newsletter. In addition, there is information on the 2021 COA Convention coming up in June. And for shell collectors, there is a great article by Frank Maartense about a project that he and Tom Rice are working on to which you can contribute.

And speaking of shelling, there is a FaceBook group called Florida and Gulf Coast Conchology who have been posting pictures of all the amazing shelling that has been going on the past two months all over the Florida coasts, particularly the 10,000 Islands and Sanibel-Captiva – lots of great finds including beautiful junonias. I do hope our members have had an opportunity to take advantage of the wonderful shelling opportunities available this winter.

I want to take this opportunity to thank our club members who are presenting club programs this year and sharing their area of expertise with the club. I also thank all who contribute to making our club a success in other ways, as committee chairs and volunteering for projects. And a special thank you to those members who have been supporting our club with attendance at our ZOOM meetings. As I keep saying,

this is **OUR** club, and we make it so by being active participants.

I shared this sign last year and feel it can stand repeating. It makes me think of so many members of our club who give and share of their time and talents.

*If you get, Give.*

*If you learn, Teach.*

***Happy Spring and Happy Shelling!***

*Nancy*

## PLAN AHEAD

**Tuesday, March 2, 2021, 7PM**, Suncoast Conchologists Shell Club and St. Petersburg Shell Club will have a joint ZOOM meeting. The speaker will be Steve Geiger. Program to be announced.

**March 5 & 6, 2021, 12PM-3PM**, Sanibel Shell Club will have a Virtual Shell Show on their clubs You Tube Channel. For information on how to access the You Tube Channel, refer to the article in this March-April Newsletter.

**Saturday, March 20-21, 2021**, The Tampa Bay Fossil Club will have their annual Fossil Fest at the Florida Fairgrounds in Tampa.

**Tuesday, April 6, 2021, 7PM**, Suncoast Conchologists Shell Club and St. Petersburg Shell Club will have a joint ZOOM meeting. Our speaker will be Ron Bopp from the Sarasota Shell Club. 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 \$10 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 7:00pm, at Grace Lutheran Church, 1812 N. Highland Avenue, Clearwater. Currently the meetings at Grace Lutheran Church have been suspended until further notice. Meetings will be held virtually by way of ZOOM.

**Articles, comments and suggestions for publication are solicited and should be sent directly to the Editor:** shellgirl@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.

### 2020-2021 Officers

President Nancy Holcombe

First Vice President Sharlene Totten

Second Vice President Steve Geiger

Recording Secretary Marion Fuller/Vicki Eis

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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## 2020-2021 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
Nominating	Anita Freudenthal
Phone Contact	Betty Scheetz
Photography	John Jacobs
Programs	Sharlene Totten
Projectionist	John Jacobs
Publicity	Elda Thomas
Raffle	Anita Freudenthal
Refreshments	Cheryl Putnam
Website	Cheryl Jacobs

### NEGATIVE or LOW TIDES for Egmont Key

#### March 2021

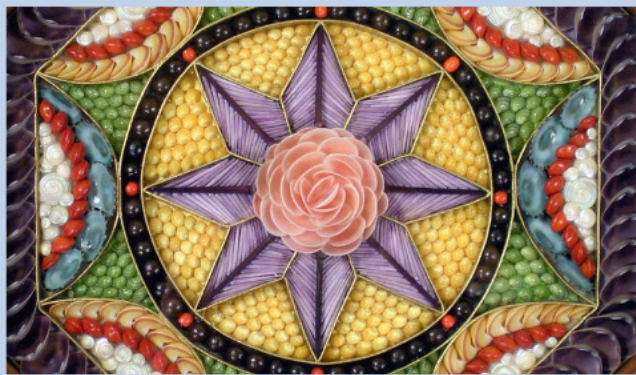
Tues	9 <sup>th</sup>	-0.2	3:43	AM
Wed	10 <sup>th</sup>	-0.2	4:23	AM
Thurs	11 <sup>th</sup>	-0.2	4:56	AM
Thurs	25 <sup>th</sup>	-0.2	4:55	AM
Fri	26 <sup>th</sup>	-0.2	5:28	AM
Mon	29 <sup>th</sup>	-0.2	7:12	PM
Tues	30 <sup>th</sup>	-0.3	8:03	PM
Wed	31 <sup>st</sup>	-0.3	8:59	PM

#### April 2021

Thurs	1 <sup>st</sup>	-0.2	10:03	PM
Mon	26 <sup>th</sup>	-0.4	6:19	PM
Tues	27 <sup>th</sup>	-0.6	7:07	PM
Wed	28 <sup>th</sup>	-0.7	7:58	PM
Thurs	29 <sup>th</sup>	-0.6	8:52	PM
Fri	30 <sup>th</sup>	-0.4	9:54	PM

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)



The  Show Must Go On!

# Virtual 2021 Sanibel Shell Show

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



[sanibelshellclub.com](http://sanibelshellclub.com)





The Sanibel-Captiva Shell Club is putting the finishing touches on the 35 original videos that will make up the 2021 Virtual Sanibel Shell Show. This is an event that is sure to be enjoyed by shell enthusiasts around the world. There is something for everyone. This free Virtual Shell Show will be premiered on the Shell Club's YouTube channel.

The videos cover diverse topics including live mollusks and other sea creatures in the waters around Sanibel Island; a visit to the studio of professional shell mosaic artist Suzanne Dietsch to see how she creates Sailor's Valentines; history of the Sanibel Shell Show; a trip "Behind the Tanks" of the Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum's new aquariums to see the live mollusks; plus several fun do-it-yourself videos of shell projects and a video of 101 ways to display your shells. Viewers will tag along on a fossil research trip with Roger Portell from the University of Florida Natural History Museum and can also take a virtual tour of some of the shell museums around the world.

Photographers entered over 300 photos taken in 15 different countries in the Virtual Shell Show photo contest. While the show is airing, you will be able to vote for your favorite contest finalist for the "People Choice Award."

Door prizes will be given continually throughout the show. To be eligible for a door prize you just make a comment on the video you are watching. Add your comments under the YouTube video; email us your comments to [info@sanibelshellclub.com](mailto:info@sanibelshellclub.com); or post a comment on our website on the "Contact Us" form at <https://sanibelshellclub.com/sanibel-shell-club-contact-us/>. Or enter comments all 3 ways!

Mark your calendars for March 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. The show will air from 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM EST. The schedule listing the videos and the times that they will play will be posted on the Sanibel-Captiva Shell Club's website in late February.

Virtual Shell Show webpage link: <https://sanibelshellclub.com/virtual-2021-sanibel-shell-show/>

Shell Club YouTube channel link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZMmVBBFU9aPxbeOwWR1puQ/videos>

For more information contact Clair Beckmann, 303-319-2435 or [clairann2000@yahoo.com](mailto:clairann2000@yahoo.com).



🕯️🕯️🕯️ *Happy Birthday* 🕯️🕯️🕯️

### **MARCH**

8—Betty Fearn  
31---Cheryl Putnam

### **APRIL**

14—Dick Mitchell  
15—Dick Fearn  
27--- Bob Marsh  
28---Katherine Smith



## In Memory of Hugo Freudenthal

Hugo's greatest professional legacies extend from sea to space. As a world renowned marine biologist, he is credited with unravelling the complicated life cycle and reorganizing the taxonomy of the zooxanthellae, thus creating the new nomenclature for *Symbiodinium microadriaticum* Freudenthal. This groundbreaking research on photosynthetic dinoflagellates was transformative for understanding coral reef ecosystems. In 2020 contemporary marine scientists named a new genus *Freudenthalidium*, in the Symbiodiniaceae family, in his honor. Two new species, *Freudenthalidium heronense* and *Freudenthalidium endolithicum* also honor his contributions to the field.

Watch Hugo present "Turds in Space" to EAA 282 (March 2018) to hear his entertaining and educational description of how he developed the space toilet for SKYLAB and contributed to the space program: <https://youtu.be/6gWGJOBPUyg>

Hugo D. Freudenthal, PhD Age: 90

He was born March 29, 1930 in Brooklyn, NY  
Passed Away January 17, 2021





December Field trip to Fred Howard Park in Tarpon

In attendance: Cheryl, John, Barb, Jen, Debbie,  
Shirley, Steve and Marion



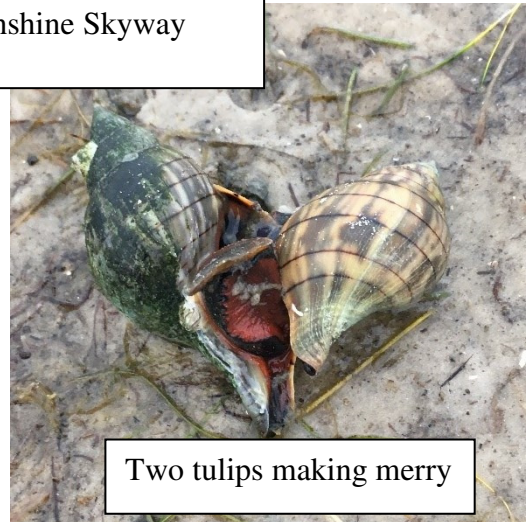
Lots of live minis were found



January field trip to Sunshine Skyway  
north



Steve, Marion, Cheryl, John



Two tulips making merry



Can you spot the murex?





**Conchologists of America, inc.**

***COA Convention—Return to the Future***

**June 14-20, 2021**

**Hilton Melbourne**

**200 Rialto Place Melbourne, FL 32901**

Conchologists of America—COA, is an international organization open to anyone with an interest in shells that may include the study and collecting of shells as well as their conservation. Membership in COA is not required to attend the convention; however, you must be registered for the convention to participate in the field trips, programs and silent auctions. Plan to register prior to May 13th to avoid a late fee.

Hotel reservations should be made with the Hilton in Melbourne. [www.hiltonmelbourne.com](http://www.hiltonmelbourne.com)

Group Reservation Code: COA2021 Phone: (321)768-0200

Field Trips are planned for Monday, June 14<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday, the 15<sup>th</sup>, and Wednesday morning. Programs will begin that afternoon along with the first Silent Auction (all chaired by our John and Cheryl), followed by the traditional Welcome Party at 6:00. On Thursday, the 17<sup>th</sup>, programs continue, as well as Silent Auctions with many great bargains. The Oral Auction will begin at 7:00. Programs and Silent Auctions continue Friday, followed by the Banquet that evening. The Dealers' Bourse, featuring dealers from around the world with a huge variety of shells and shell-related items for sale, will be open Saturday, the 19<sup>th</sup> from 1-8 PM, and Sunday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, from 9-2 PM—definitely a convention highlight!

You do not need to be registered for the convention to attend the Oral Auction or the Bourse. Members of COA received registration forms for the Convention, Field Trips, and hotel info in their December issue of *American Conchologist*. If you're not a member, go to the COA website for forms and info: <https://conchologistsofamerica.org/> Any questions? Call Mary Ellen, our Suncoast Conchologists COA Representative at 415-3907.



## SHRIMP SCAMPI

Enjoy this delicious shrimp dish—serve with garlic bread and tossed salad—4 servings

8 oz. linguine or angel hair pasta  
1/4 cup butter  
1/4 cup olive oil  
3 cloves minced garlic  
1/4 tsp. of each—dried parsley, basil & oregano  
1/4 tsp. black pepper  
1 pound large shrimp, peeled and deveined  
1/3 cup white wine  
1/3 cup lemon juice  
3/4 cup grated Parmesan or Romano cheese

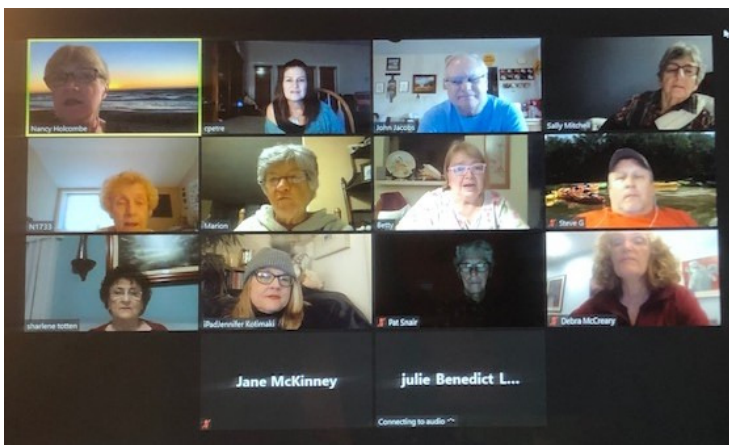


Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Stir in pasta--return to boil.  
Cook about 8-9 minutes, then drain well.

Melt butter in olive oil in a frying pan over medium heat. Stir in garlic, simmer 4-5 min.  
Cook, stirring constantly, 3-5 minutes, then add black pepper and seasonings, followed by wine, lemon juice and shrimp. Bring to a boil; cook on low 4-5 minutes, stirring constantly.

Add drained pasta to shrimp, stirring all ingredients. Place in serving bowl or on your serving plates, then sprinkle generously with cheese.

Earl and I love this--ENJOY!! Carolyn



A few pictures from the January and February Zoom meetings.

## SHELLERS FROM THE PAST AND THE PRESENT

By Tom Rice and Frank Maartense

“Every man on earth has his own story that is admirable in some sort of way”.

That certainly applies to us, shell collectors. We are all so eager to tell our beautiful stories and to share our treasures. Even more if it is well written down. And why not? Many of the shell stories have been recorded in “Shellers from the Past and the Present”, a database with the names of approximately 69,000 people who are or were engaged with shells. “Shellers from the Past and the Present” goes back to the early times of shell research.

The founding father of this magnificent database is Tom Rice. An American malacologist in heart and soul. When Tom started scientifically collecting shells some 60 years ago, he noted the "authors" of the shell species and immediately wondered “who were these scholars”? In the next half century, he would meet many of them. After Tom stopped with his shell magazine "Of Sea and Shore", which at its high peaks reached collectors in more than 60 countries, he looked for another challenge to, as Tom himself calls it, "keep his brain active". And he soon found out. Over the years, Tom had compiled a photo archive of people he'd met on many shell fairs and trips around the world. Not to forget the numerous visitors to his shell museum “Of Sea and Shore Museum of Shells and Natural History” in Port Gamble, US.

Tom asked himself whatever became of these people and their collections and began to gather information. His file started to grow, thanks also to the American Malacological Society's "2400 Years of Malacology", which lists thousands of malacologists from around the world and throughout the centuries. "Biographical Etymology of Marine Organism Names (Bemon)" became also an important source of information. And on a fine day Tom had gathered more than 20,000 names. What to do next?

Actually, he planned to use the project for himself ("an exercise for my mind") but showed a CD with all those names to his friends Guido and Philippe Poppe. That turned out to be a great decision. Guido and Philippe encouraged Tom to continue his research and agree to add the files on their Conchology website [www.conchology.be](http://www.conchology.be) and invite others to add names, information, photos, corrections, et cetera. Tom was very impressed and excited. In 2013 “Shellers from the Past and the Present” saw the light on [www.conchology.be](http://www.conchology.be). It immediately became a mega hit.

End 2018 Frank Maartense from The Netherlands added the Dutch zoologist Jan van der Hoeven (1801-1868) to “Shellers”. That was his first real acquaintance with the database. When studying Tom’s project, the continual description of knowledge about malacology really appealed to him. And of course, all those great stories behind the shell collectors. Frank wanted this knowledge to remain available to everyone in the future: "Shellers from the past and the present for the benefit of the shellers in the future", as he had in mind. Frank really would like to participate in the project and contacted Guido Poppe with the request to assist Tom Rice with his database. Guido thought it was a great idea, passed it to Tom and it all ended up with an immediate click between Frank and Tom. For two years now, Frank is together with Tom the co-editor and curator of these “Shellers from the Past and the Present”

“ Yes, and then you collect next to shells (I think I have quite an extensive collection after 35 years) also names of people who are dealing with shells. It is fantastic to read all these stories. Collecting itself has become even more fun for me”, says Frank.

“Every man on earth has his own story that is admirable in some sort of way”. We read this comment in an email from a South African lady who asked if we would put information about her father, the malacologist Hugo Wessels, on Shellers. A wonderful story about a farmer who, next to collecting shells, was a hunter and gold miner. And as a doctor of medicine, he worked among the native people of South Africa, where he was considered as a kind a saint. The story goes that after his death people broke into his grave to get a piece of hair or bone... as a relic.



Stories abound in Shellers. Often adventures, such as those of the famous American malacologist, world traveler and adventurer Ted Dranga (1901-1956). While gathering on the uninhabited northwest coast of Australia near Broome in 1939, he was arrested and taken by an Australian soldier for questioning. What he was doing there, because a war was going on. He assured his interrogators of his peace-loving mission - how else to call shell collecting - and Ted was released.

Another adventurer: Walter Jakob Eyerdam (1892 - 1974). An omnivorous collector from all over the world. Acclaimed by botanists, ornithologists and conchologists as a superior collector. For many years Eyerdam made a living making wooden barrels for whaling in Alaska, a cooper. His shell travels took him five times to Siberia (even a mountain is named after him there), the Pacific, Alaska (25 summers), South America and the Caribbean. And a good friend of Tom Rice.

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Nobel Prize winners are also on our list, such as Eric Richard Kandel who was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 2013. In his research on the biological mechanisms of memory storage he used the seaslug *Aplysia californica*, better known to us as the Californian sea hare. Other laureates mentioned are Bernhard Katz, Sidney Brenner and August Krogh. Katz studied synaptic transmission by using the synapse in the stellate ganglion of squids. Brenner initiated the sequencing of the genome of the *Octopus bimaculoides* and *Lottia gigantea*. Krogh studied the giant axon of the squid in order to understand mechanisms of action-potential generation...

Really all the big names in the field of malacology are listed in Shellers. But not to forget all those collectors who are simply fascinated by the color, shape, habitat and complexity of shells. And that is the vast majority. It's what makes "Shellers" so much fun.

If you want to be part of "Shellers from the Past and the Present" as well or want to add or amend information, go to [www.conchology.be](http://www.conchology.be) and scroll to 'Shellers from the Past and the Present'. It's user's friendly, easy, fun and informative. Kindly note that "Shellers from the Past and the Present" is a part of a public website: all contributions can be read by everyone.

You can also send us an email for more information:

Tom: [ofseaandshore@gmail.com](mailto:ofseaandshore@gmail.com)

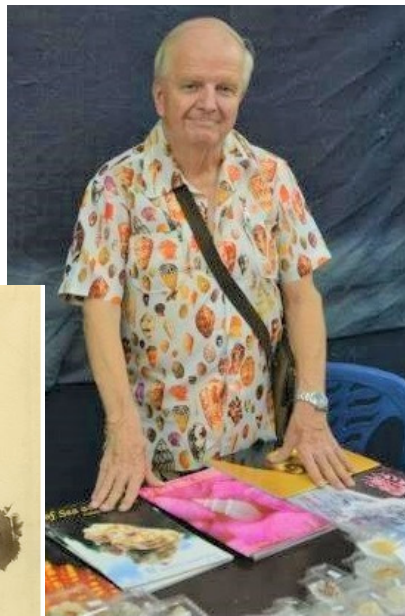
Frank: [frank@tarrant.nl](mailto:frank@tarrant.nl)

Tom Rice

Frank Maartense



Two ladies collecting shells. Manhattan Beach. New York, 1885. Collection of the New York Historical Society.



Tom Rice



Frank Maartense

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