



Suncoast Shorelines

September-October 2022

PUBLISHED BY SUNCOAST CONCHOLOGISTS

VOL. 39, No 1

President's Message

Whew! The summer has flown by, and I hope that you were able to get out and look for some summer seashells and stay cool! I hope that you are excited as I am to see each other in September. We have some exciting news and plans for 2022-2023 to share with you.

The Board of Directors and I have been busy this summer getting ready for our new Shelly Year. I have listed our members in our Board of Directors and Committee members in this newsletter. I would like to thank them for their dedication and great ideas that we have to share with you.

Take a look at what we have planned:

- Zoom meetings for our members who live out of state or not comfortable driving at night
- Holiday Shellabration for December
- Suncoast Conchology Seashell Show planned for early 2023
- Our 38th birthday in October
- Annual Picnic in May
- Field trips providing opportunities to get together, explore museums, and local shelling spots
- Guest speakers each month to share with you our love of shells
- Mini Box displays with fun themes for you to share your favorite shells with us and learn about them
- Refreshments and just fun talking about shells with our friends

You will find this newsletter filled with our events, speakers for September, and October along with mini box themes. Dig through some of your favorite shells and bring them to our mini box displays at our meetings. It is a fun way to see what everyone likes and learn about new shells.

We have new members that we want to welcome to our club. You are welcome to bring your friends to see if they would like to join. Membership dues start in September. Just \$20.00 a person or \$25.00 per family. A great way to learn about shells, get tickets to the Clearwater Marine Aquarium and Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum in Sanibel.

Enjoy our photos from our Annual Picnic in May, along with our entertaining articles in this newsletter. I look forward to seeing you all in September. Happy Shelling!

Debi McCreary
President



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: \$25 Family or \$20 Individual. 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. 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.

2022-2023 OFFICERS

President: Debi McCreary

First Vice President: Sharlene Totten

Second Vice President: Steve Geiger

Recording Secretary: Marion Fuller/Vicki Eis

Treasurer: *Open

Corresponding Secretary: Jennifer Kotimaki

2022-2023 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

COA Representative	Mary Ellen Akers, Carolyn Petrikin, Cheryl Jacobs
Education	Mary Ellen Akers
E-Mail	Debi McCreary
FaceBook	Cheryl Jacobs
Field Trips	Steve Geiger
Hospitality	Cathy Petre
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 and ZOOM	John Jacobs
Publicity	*OPEN
Raffle	Cheryl Jacobs
Refreshments	*OPEN
Treasurer Budget, Reports and Excel	*OPEN
Website	Cheryl Jacobs

PLAN AHEAD

Tuesday, September 6, 2022, 7PM, Suncoast Conchologists Shell Club meeting. The meeting will be held at Grace Lutheran Church, 1812 N. Highland Ave Clearwater, FL.

John Jacobs will be presenting a program – “Looking Great at 50!” Highlights from the 2022 COA Shell Convention held in Galveston, TX in June.

Friday, September 2, 2022, 6PM, St. Petersburg Shell Club meeting will be held at the Seminole Recreation Center, Seminole, Florida. John Jacobs will be presenting a program – “Looking Great at 50!” Highlights from the 2022 COA Shell Convention held in Galveston, TX in June.

Tuesday, October 4, 2022, 7PM, Suncoast Conchologists Shell Club meeting. Carolyn Petrikin will be our presenter. Her program will be, “Looking Back at 38 years of the Suncoast Conchologists Club.”

Friday, October 7, 2022, 7PM, St. Petersburg Shell Club meeting will be held at the Seminole Recreation Center, Seminole, Florida. Program to be announced.

Tuesday, November 1, 2022, 7PM, Suncoast Conchologists Shell Club meeting. **Sea of Sales & Beach Bazaar**. Bring in any shells or beach related items you are willing to donate to the club. We will have a sale for our members. Proceeds will go directly to the club. More info at a later date. Start saving your pennies for the sale now!

Mini Box themes:

September: “Fall color shells for the fall.” Take a look in your collection and see if you have something close to the color of fall that you remember from living up north! Since we do not have colors here, we thought we could get in the fall mood!

October: “If shells were a birthstone, which shell would represent you?” This is going to be a fun display. You have two months to think about your shell. An example could be: My birth shell is a lady’s slipper because I love pretty shoes.

November: “Turkey Wings and crafts designed with them”

Suncoast Conchologists Emblem Shell

Suncoast Conchologists *Strombus alatus*, is commonly known as a **Fighting Conch**, or Florida Fighting Conch.

This conch, in the Family **Strombidae**, named by Gmelin in 1791, grows to an average of 3 inches. It is yellowish to brown, often with spots or zig-zag stripes. The aperture is long, the lip is thick and flaring, with a notch below. Juvenile *alatus* do not have this flared lip.

Fighting Conchs live in various sandy locations through-out Florida. They may also be found as far north as North Carolina and as far west as Texas. Your founding members decided upon this special shell in September, 1984, at one of our “planning” meetings.

Carolyn Petrikin



A *Strombus alatus* In Our Aquarium

Reminder!

Don't forget to take advantage of the free admission for yourself and three guests to Clearwater Marine Aquarium. The facility has undergone major renovations recently. If you haven't been there in a while you “otter” go visit. It is “turtley” awesome and “dolphinitly” worth your while! During your visit don't forget to stop by the Suncoast Conchologists shell cases. You “shell” not be sorry you did!

For more information on the free passes, please contact Sharlene Totten or Debi McCreary.



**Charlie Meyerriecks
at CMA**

**Picture courtesy
of Debi McCreary**



NEGATIVE or LOW TIDES for Egmont Key

September 2022

Tue	6 th	-0.10	5:27	PM
Wed	7 th	-0.12	6:17	PM
Thur	8 th	-0.06	6:57	PM
Thur	29 th	+0.08	9:45	AM
Fri	30 th	+0.05	10:43	AM

October 2022

Sat	1 st	+0.07	11:55	AM
Wed	12 th	+0.08	8:57	AM
Thur	13 th	+0.08	9:42	AM
Wed	26 th	-0.15	8:00	AM
Sat	29 th	-0.24	10:42	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....

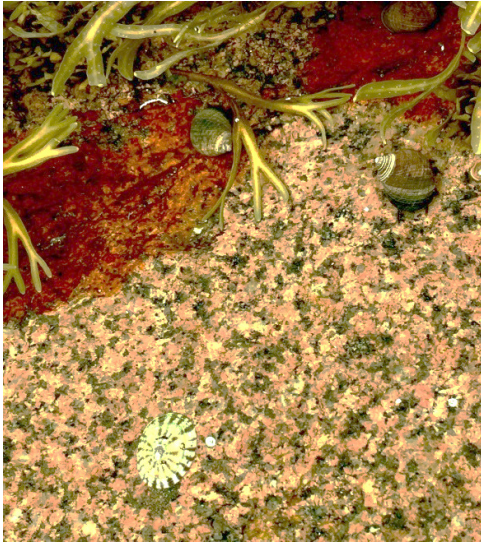
http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/tide_predictions.html

Did you know??

You can also receive free admission to The Bailey Matthews Museum in Sanibel by showing your Suncoast Conchologists Club membership card. It really does pay to be a member!!

Summer in Maine...

I visited Maine over the summer I did some tide pool searching, but also some true touristy stuff.



Can you spot the Periwinkles and Limpets?



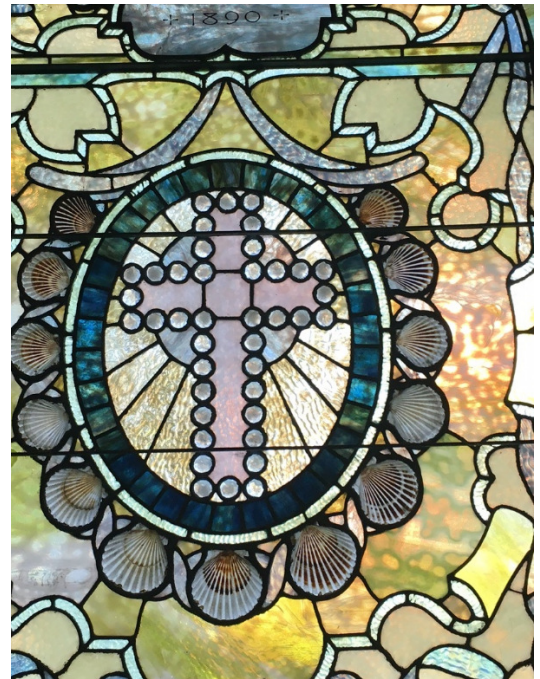
You can see The Bush complex, Kennebunkport, Maine.



You can also tour St. Anne's, the church the Bush family attends.



Baptistry – note the detail.



One of the stained glass windows.
Again, note the detail.



Steve Geiger

Member Corner

CONCH CHOWDER

INGREDIENTS

2 cups conch
8 cups water
2 tbs shortening (Crisco or Bacon fat)
2 cups onions, chopped
2 cups celery, chopped
1 cup green pepper, chopped
1 cup carrot, chopped
1 garlic clove, minced
3 quarts water
4 potatoes, peeled and diced (= 4 cups)
1 (10 ounce) can tomato puree
1 (6 ounce) can tomato paste
3 tbs fresh oregano, minced (or 1 tbs dried)
3 tbs fresh basil, minced (or 1 tbs dried)
2 bay leaves
hot sauce
salt
pepper

DIRECTIONS

Pound conch with a mallet to tenderize then chop into small pieces (3/4 - 1 pound, may substitute large shelled clams)

In a large saucepan (soup pot) over high heat, bring conch and 8 cups water to a boil. Drain and set aside.

In a large skillet over medium high heat, melt shortening (or bacon fat). Stir in onion, celery, bell pepper, carrot and garlic and saute until browned. You may have to cook in batches depending on size of skillet. Transfer vegetable to soup pot when cooked.

Add drained conch and 3 quarts of water to soup pot along with potatoes, tomato puree, tomato paste, oregano, basil, bay leaves and hot pepper sauce.

Put soup pot over high heat and bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer for 1 1/2 hours or until conch are tender and potatoes are cooked. Discard bay leaves. Add salt and pepper to taste.

<https://www.food.com/recipe/conch-chowder-131341>

Steve Geiger

Scallop Casserole

This recipe came from our first edition of *Shorelines*, Nov.-Dec. 1984

1 clove garlic, cut in quarters
1/4 cup butter
1/2 cup minced onion
2 1/2 pounds scallops
1/4 cup dry white wine
2 tbsp. flour
1 cup half and half
1/2 tsp. salt
1/8 tsp. white pepper

Topping

1/2 cup cracker crumbs
1/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese
1/4 cup unsalted butter
Parsley flakes

Heat oven to 400 degrees.
Sauté garlic in 1/4 cup butter in 9 in. skillet over medium heat for 2 minutes. Remove garlic. Sauté onion 5-7 minutes. Add wine; cook 3 minutes. Remove scallops. Whisk flour into pan juices; whisk in the half & half. Reduce heat; cook, stirring constantly until thickened and smooth, about 2 minutes. Season with salt and pepper.

Place reserved scallops in buttered 1 1/2 quart casserole. Pour sauce over scallops.

Combine cracker crumbs, cheese and melted butter in small bowl. Sprinkle over scallops. Bake at 400 for about 15 minutes. Garnish with parsley.

Submitted by Carolyn Petrikin



Happy Birthday



SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

7 ---Gail Duve

2---Barb Stauffer

9---J. Basil Read

21---Earl Petrikin

11---Sharlene Totten

23---Cathy Petre

24---Sally Mitchell



End of the Year celebration and Picnic

Phillippe Park May 14, 2022



The search for the hidden conch shells was loads of fun. The magical golden shell was never found!



The shells were well hidden by Carolyn!



John Jacobs - The master chef at work grilling up a feast!

The master eaters enjoying the feast!!



C
H
E
E
S
E



The food was plentiful and delicious!





We had quite a turnout for our first picnic in two years!



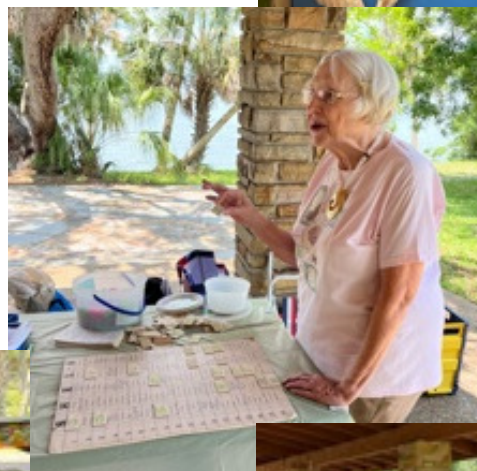
Good Food



The "Name the Bits and Pieces" game tested our shell knowledge!
Mary Ellen was the Master Caller for "SHELL_O".



Good
F
R
I
E
N
D
S



GREAT
F
U
N



A warm welcome to our newest members!!

All Members - Please add these
New Members listings to your
Current Membership Directory.
(And greet them at the next meeting.)

Paulette and Johnny Canta
Largo, FL 33770
marathonjohn26@yahoo.com

Sarah Darling
Largo, FL 33773
slanoie@yahoo.com

Pat Dempsey
Oldsmar, FL 39677
padempsey@me.com

Gail Duve
Clearwater, FL 33764
samurisam@gmail.com

Jill Goettel
Tarpon Springs, FL 34689
cnchfrttr1@gmail.com

Tim Marshall
Dunedin, FL 34698
tim.marshall@dunedinet.com

Joni Merillat
Clearwater, FL 33767
joni@midwestfoundations.com

Ann Shinnars
Dunedin, FL 34698
amshinnars@gmail.com

Diane Young
Oldsmar, FL 34677
youngdyan@gmail.com

Dianna Kellie
Anaconda, MT 59711-2834
northgogglesgeyser@yahoo.com



SUNCOAST CONCHOLOGISTS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Annual Dues with E-mail copy of Suncoast Shorelines

Individual:	\$20.00
Family	\$25.00

For a printed copy of the newsletter, add \$10.00.

Life Membership:	
Individual	\$150.00
Family	\$200.00

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

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

All members please complete and return for our Membership Directory: Date_____

Name(s)*_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____ Zip Code_____

Telephone_____ Cell Phone_____

E-Mail Address_____ Birth Date (month & day)_____

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

Address_____ City_____ State_____ Zip Code_____

E-Mail Address_____ Telephone_____

List all family members included in membership: _____

Membership Category:

() Individual () Family () Lifetime

Are you paying the extra \$10.. for a printed copy? Yes_____ No_____

Return this renewal form with your check to the Membership Chairman at our September meeting or mail to the above P.O. Box address before Oct. 20th.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Membership Renewal

Picnic PHOTOS!

Recipes



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