



Suncoast Shorelines

September-October 2023

PUBLISHED BY SUNCOAST CONCHOLOGISTS

VOL. 40, No.1

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE September/October 2023

September is here! I have been waiting all summer long to get back together with our club members. Speaking of summer; WOW what a hot one it was! I hope that you got a chance to find some shelly treasures and most of all stay cool. I found two large pieces of Junonia's 25 yards apart after a large summer storm. Someday, I hope to find a whole shell.

I attended my first COA convention in Wilmington, NC. We had 9 members attend. We enjoyed the lectures, beautiful shell displays, auctions, and a Bourse. I was lucky enough to win a prize for my shell belt and necklace in the Jewelry category. Did you know that the COA 2024 convention will be June 11th -June 16th in Melbourne, Florida? Be sure to mark it in your calendar so that you can attend.

The Board of Directors have been busy this summer planning for our upcoming year. We have lectures, field trips, and our wonderful newsletter to keep you informed of all that we have going on.

The Suncoast Conchologists were featured at the Palm Harbor Library during the summer. A special thank you to Dr. Anita Freudenthal who connected with the Palm Harbor Museum to provide shells for the display at the Library. The theme was "Marine Life Under the Sea." Andrea Hutchinson, Jennifer Kotimaki, and Kathy Hofstad provided shells from their personal collection to share with our community. We had a nice brochure made to promote Suncoast Conchologists. I hope that you had a chance to stop by.

I hope that you enjoy our newsletter with our summer photos and events that we have planned. We look forward to seeing you soon. It is going to be a good year!

PLAN AHEAD

Friday, September 1, 6 PM, St. Petersburg Shell Club Meeting, at the Seminole Recreation Center, Seminole, Florida. Program will be a photo journey from the Conchologists of America annual meeting, June 2023, which was held in Wilmington NC, presented by President John Jacobs.

Tuesday, September 5, 7:00 PM, Suncoast Conchologists Club Meeting. Held at the Grace Lutheran Church, 1812 N. Highland Ave., Clearwater, Florida. The program will be titled "Lessons from a Novice Sheller" and will be presented by Past President of the club Ms. Nancy Holcombe. The Mini-Box theme will "*Your Summer Finds*".

Tuesday, September 19 Board Meeting, 7 PM, at the home of Sharlene Totten.

Tuesday, October 3, 7:00 PM, Suncoast Conchologists Club Meeting. The program will cover Florida fossil shells and will be presented by Ron Bopp of the Sarasota Shell Club.

Mini-box theme is "*Fossils*".

Friday, October 6, 6 PM, St. Petersburg Shell Club Meeting. program to be announced.

SHELL SHOWS !

Space Coast Shell Show January 20-21, 2024
Broward Shell Show, January 27-28, 2024
Sarasota Shell Show – February 9-10, 2024
St Pete Shell Show – February 23-24, 2024
Sanibel Shell Show – March 8-9, 2024
Florida United Malacologists April 13, 2024

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: \$30 Family, \$20 Individual. 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: 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: Debi McCreary

First Vice President: Sharlene Totten

Second Vice President: Cathy Petre

Recording Secretary: Marion Fuller

Treasurer: Betty Scheetz

Corresponding Secretary: Kathy Hofstad

E-Mail: Suncoastshells@gmail.com

Website: www.suncoastconchologists.org

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 **Happy Birthday** 

SEPTEMBER

7---Gail Duve

9---J. Basil Read

11---Sharlene Totten

23---Cathy Petre

24---Sally Mitchell

26---Sheri Schneider

28---Ying Tong

OCTOBER

2---Barb Stauffer

10---Tom Borawski

14 – Kalmar Stevenson

21---Earl Petrikin

Negative Or Low Tides:

Pass-a-Grille

September Lows

Sun	10 th	+0.17	5:56	PM
Sun	20 th	+0.24	10:57	AM
Fri	25 th	0.00	5:15	PM

October Lows

Sat	2 nd	+0.01	9:31	AM
Wed	18 th	-0.04	9:51	AM
Thur	19 th	-0.02	10:50	AM

Dunedin Causeway

September Lows

Tues	12 th	+0.24	6:08	PM
Sat	19 th	+0.23	9:20	AM
Mon	25 th	+0.04	4:26	PM
Tues	26 th	-0.07	5:15	PM
Sat	30 th	-0.10	7:27	AM

October Lows

Sun	1 st	-0.22	8:09	AM
Mon	2 nd	-0.21	8:52	AM
Teus	17 th	-0.16	8:23	AM

The low at St. Petersburg occurs almost 2½ hours after the low at Pass-a-Grille.

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

2023-2024 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

COA Representatives:

Mary Ellen Akers, Carolyn Petrikin

Education: Mary Ellen Akers

E-Mail: Debi McCreary

Facebook: Cheryl Jacobs

Field Trips: Cathy Petre

Hospitality: Cathy Petre

Membership: Paula and Charlie Meyerriecks

Mini-Box: Displays Vicki Eis

Newsletter Editor: Steve Geiger

Newsletter Distribution: Jennifer Kotimaki

Phone Contact: Paula Meyerriecks

Photography: John Jacobs

Programs: Sharlene Totten

Projectionist and Zoom: John Jacobs

Publicity: Debi McCreary

Raffe: Cheryl Jacobs

Refreshments: Cindy Housley

Website: Cheryl Jacobs

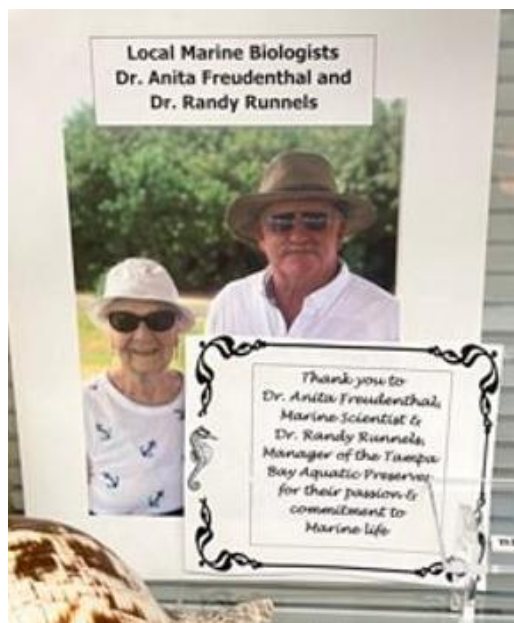
Palm Harbor Library



The Suncoast Conchologists were featured during the summer at the Palm Harbor Library “Marine Life Under the Sea” exhibition.



Dr. Anita Fruedenthal is active with the Palm Harbor Museum and helped to organize this exhibit. Featured are personal collections from Jennifer Kotimaki, Kathy Hofstad, and Andrea Hutchinson.



Diana Kellie (right) made this awesome banner! See it at club meetings on the podium.



Diana visits Florida

Carolina Moon Keep Shining!

(COA Convention Report) (part 1)

Mary Ellen Akers

That was the theme of the 2023 Conchologists of America Convention May 31 - June 4, at the Ballast Hotel in Wilmington, NC. The *Neverita duplicata* (Say, 1822), the famed Moon Snail, was the convention logo.



Suncoast Conchologists members who attended were Mary Ellen Akers, Sharlene Totten, Nancy Holcombe Robert (Buz) and Debi McCreary, Andrea Hutchinson (Andrea's daughter Tara Roberston attended too, and won the clever banquet centerpiece), and Cheryl and John Jacobs.



Photo MEA

Welcome pack included in the zippered COA convention bag were ID tag/tickets/wallet, NC club pin, convention pin, and this dandy fossil echinoderm.

John and Cheryl, with their numerous years of experience, helped with the Silent Auctions, and John was the official convention photographer.

There were pre-convention activities (field trips and dinner cruise) over the two days prior to the convention; and John and Cheryl, and Nancy and Sharlene participated in those.



Field trip to Masonboro Island --

Photo J Jacobs

Silent Auctions took place every day, and the shells and a few related items were of nice quality. The best specimens and other items were reserved for the Live Auction, which was open to the public. Many are unaware the moneys raised from all the auctions go into COA's Grant Fund. The interest the fund produces is given in annual grants to 10-12 students and post-grad folk in malacological studies. In recent years, the grants have totaled around \$25,000 annually.



Silent Auction

Photo J Jacobs

During the convention, there was an early breakfast meeting for COA club representatives, and writer was privileged to attend that. It's a great opportunity to share ideas and to learn how other shell clubs function. I am also preparing a report about that for our Prez Debi. The COA Business Meeting was the last formal event of the convention unless you count the Bourse!



Welcome party

Photo J Jacobs

There is always a Welcome Party and accompanying buffet dinner, as well as a smaller, special silent auction. There was a Beach Dress Contest with a variety of categories. Debi won in the jewelry division! She wore her own creation, which she also wears when volunteering at Honeymoon - a clever set of necklace and belt festooned with local shells which are lettered with their names. Later there was a talk and demonstration of the Shag, a post WWII dance created in the Carolinas. Debi and Buz already are Shag aficionados, and they were part of the large group which joined the smooth dance demonstrators.



D. McCreary – Best Shell Jewelry – COA '23

Door prizes were numerous over the three days. There were 19 daily programs and the banquet presentation by astonishingly highly qualified and interesting speakers. Space prevents recounting here; however, writer will bring program booklet and other convention mementos to our September meeting. At the final

Banquet, CoA's *Neptunea* awards were presented, and seven raffle prizes were awarded.



Nancy wins a raffle ! Photo J Jacobs

To be Continued next month ...The Bourse....



Blast from the Past – COA Tampa, 2004

Debi visits Montana members Kalmar Stevenson and Dianna Kellie. Note a small part of Diana's shell collection in the background.



Shells of the Minoan civilization

By Ying Tong

In August 2023, I traveled to Greece and stayed in Crete, the southernmost part of the Aegean Sea, for two days. This is the starting point of European civilization and the birthplace of the famous Minoan civilization.

In the early 20th century, British archaeologist Arthur Evans excavated the palace of Knossos in Greece, which is the legendary labyrinth of Minos. Many royal palaces and city ruins have also been found in Crete: the ruins of the Maria Palace, the ruins of Gurnia, etc. Many details of the Minoan civilization are still mysterious.

With archaeological excavations, a large number of cultural relics were unearthed. These cultural relics are displayed in the Archaeological Museum of Heraklion, which is the second largest museum in Greece. I visited this museum twice. The civilization in Greece is the marine civilization, and there are some objects related to shells. I chose a few to share with my friends.



The ruins of Knossos Palace.



Vases with light-on-dark decoration and others with dark-on-light floral motifs, dated to the early and mature Neopalatial period respectively. A series of strainers and a rectangular vessel decorated with

seashells in relief are distinctive. Poros Heraklion, 1700-1450 BC.



(Left) Large core of raw obsidian imported from Nisyros, triton-shaped rhyton and fragment of a vase of Nisyros obsidian, produced by Cretan workshops. Knossos, Hagia Triada, 1500-1450 BC.

(Right) Double-rim ritual ewer and rhytons of various types for liquid offerings. Gournia, 1600-1450 BC.

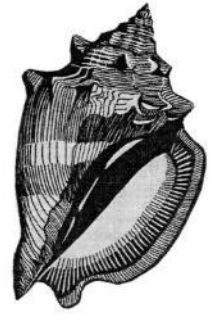


Alabaster libation vessel in the shape of a triton shell with a pouring spout at the top. Imported glass flask-shaped vase, Egyptian alabaster vessel and stone vase imitating an Egyptian prototype. Phaistos-Kalyvia, 1400-1300 BC.

Cylindrical stand for a clay offering vessel with relief decoration of dolphins and seashells, and other vases of the early 788-166d period. Phaistos-palace, 1700-1600 BC.

SUNCOAST CONCHOLOGISTS

Membership Application



Annual Dues include an e-mailed copy of the newsletter.

Individual membership: \$20.00 (_____)

Family Membership: \$30.00 (_____)

For a printed copy of the newsletter add \$10.00 (Y) _____ (N) _____

(Printed copies will be distributed at the break during meetings)

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 at Grace Lutheran Church, 1812 N. Highland Ave., Clearwater the first Tuesday of each month, except June, July, August and December

ALL members are requested to complete the following information for our Annual Membership Directory:

If you would like more information, e-mail: : Suncoastshells@gmail.com

Date:_____

Name(s)_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____ Zip Code_____

Landline 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_____ Dates (From/To)_____

City_____ State_____ Zip Code_____

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

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

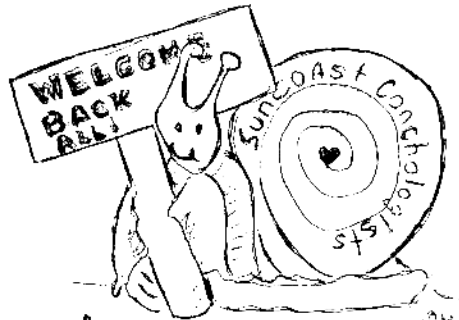
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Membership Renewal

COA Annual Meeting

PHOTOS! STORIES!



Are You Ready for a ^{NEW} 2011
New Year of Shelly
Adventures?

Drawing by Diana Kellie



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