

# The Shell Club Englewood Shell Scoop

January 2004

Volume 2, Number 1

## President's Notes

Happy New Year! My new year wish is that each of you finds a whole Junonia in 2004!



Our holiday luncheon was a big hit. I have been told that our guest speaker was most informative. Dr. Freeman's grasp of shelling fashion and equipment was impressive, and I have thanked him personally for sharing his expertise with us. Perhaps he will join us again in the near future.

We have reached the halfway point of our shelling season together, and it amazes me how much we have accomplished. Still, we have a few months ahead of us with plenty left to do. I hope you continue to enjoy what our club has to offer, and will take part in helping us to make it the best it can be. Lend a hand, have fun, and enjoy the season's low tides. *Debbie Freeman*

## The Study Group

The January study group was held at the home of fellow member Dick Forbush. Dick was kind enough to show us his wonderful shell collection, and to share his shelling stories and expertise. All of us would like to thank you for your hospitality Dick, and for teaching us more about shells and their environment.

Our next study group will meet at Cedar Point Park, Monday, Feb. 9th, at 1 pm. We will be taking a look at Florida tellins and clams. Hope to see you there!

## Last Call For Roster Entries!

In order to make it into the 2004 ESC roster your dues must be to Marilyn Price by Saturday Jan. 31st! You will not be able to participate in further shell club activities until you pay your dues.

This includes trips, crafts, the club shell sales and receiving the *Shell Scoop*.

Annual dues are \$20 for the first year, and \$15 thereafter. Family membership \$30 the first year, and \$25 thereafter. Make checks out to Joe Bao. Send or give them with the required membership form to Marilyn Price, 2031 Forked Creek Dr., Englewood 34223.



## Out And About

On Saturday, Jan 10, Tringali Park Recreation Center held an open house. From 10 A.M. to 3 P.M. they featured local clubs who held classes at Tringali Park. ESC was invited to set up a table with displays and information about our club. We have Rosemary Kurt and her shell craft classes to thank for getting us in the door.

Many people stopped at our table to admire the shell displays, but I think the biggest hit of the day was Marj Battista with her sand box of shells. She attracted curious children all day long, and every one of them left with pockets of treasured shells.

Please let our volunteers know that you appreciate them being there - Rosemary, Marj, Ethel Safigan, Anna Croteau, Wanda & Dave Pulaski, Arlene Poetz, Marty Sanders, Betty Turner, Jackie McLean and Debbie.

## February 24th Meeting

We begin with our shell sale, 10 A.M. to noon. The regular meeting follows at 1 P.M. Our guest speaker will be Dr. Jose Leal from the Bailey Mathews Museum.

## Question And Answer

By Linda Powers

**Q:** What makes some shells so shiny?

**A:** Olives and margin shells are two examples of southwest Florida's naturally glossy shells. This is because the live animal's soft body, or mantle, extends beyond the opening of the shell, and secretes glossy layers on the outside of the shell. The mantle's movement over the shell constantly polishes the shell, giving it that natural glossy finish. Never clean these shiny shells with bleach. Simply polish with baby or mineral oil.

## A Good Move

Moving our general meetings to Lemon Bay Park has an added perk. We now have a safe and convenient home for our library. Our books and magazines are now kept under lock and key at Lemon Bay. You will be able to check books in and out at each meeting with our librarian Anita Wilson. Anita has been kind enough to volunteer to keep tabs on our growing library. Thanks so much Anita!



Do you need to find out what a *Distorsio clathrata* looks like? Check it out!



## CRAFT CORNER

by Rosemary Kurt

The craft portion of the November meeting was a huge success! There were five crafts taught: kitten paw flower, basket of mini shells, sand dollar ornaments, wreaths, and hummingbirds.

In December, a group of five met to create favors for the Christmas luncheon.

Our first craft class at the Tringali Park was Friday, Jan. 9th. Twenty-six of us made barnacle floral arrangements.

Our next class will be on Friday, Feb. 13th at Tringali, 1 to 4 P.M. We will be creating Sailor's Valentines using a kit that includes all the shells you will need for assembly, and the box in which to make the Valentine. The price varies from \$45.00 to \$55.00, depending on the box you choose. You can still sign up.

We ask for payment in advance for each class. Your cost includes rental of our room, and defrays the costs for extra supplies.

Claire Johnson has resigned as co-chairperson. Linda Thompson has agreed to take co-chair. A special "thank you" to Claire for her help since last spring. Welcome aboard Linda!

Any questions, contact Rosemary Kurt 473-0844, or E-mail: [rokurt@comcast.net](mailto:rokurt@comcast.net).

## Florida Shell Shows 2004

Feb. 13-15 (Fri-Sun)  
SARASOTA SHELL SHOW  
Sarasota Municipal Auditorium  
801 North Tamiami Trail, [Sarasota](#)

Feb. 20-22 (Fri-Sun)  
NAPLES SHELL SHOW  
The Nature Conservancy  
14th Avenue N, [Naples](#)

Feb. 27-29 (Fri-Sun)  
ST. PETERSBURG SHELL SHOW  
Treasure Island Community Center  
106th Ave, one block east of Gulf Blvd. [Treasure Isl](#)

March 4-6 (Thur-Sat)  
SANIBEL SHELL SHOW  
Sanibel Community Center  
Periwinkle Way, [Sanibel](#)

March 11-13 (Fri-Sun)  
MARCO ISLAND SHELL CLUB SHOW  
Wesleyan United Methodist Church  
350 South Barfield Dr, [Marco Island](#)

## Conchologists of America

The COA will be meeting in Tampa, June 26 - July 3, 2004, at the Hyatt Tampa Bay. Any questions contact Debbie, or see the COA web site for further information: <http://coa.acnatsci.org/conchnet>

## A New Trips Chairperson

Ethel Safigan has just made me very happy. She has volunteered to take care of setting up our shelling trips for next year. This should make you happy too!

Ethel has taken on a job that will give her the opportunity to get to know our club members on a more personal basis. I am sure she will enjoy this as much as I have. There is no doubt that Ethel will fill this spot perfectly, and I can't thank her enough.



Ethel, you make me smile. *Thank You!*

## Did You Know?

The life span of the Chambered Nautilus is at least 16 years ~~~~~

The largest bivalve is the Giant Clam, *Tridacna*, weighing up to 500 pounds ~~~~~

There are roughly 140 species of *pelagic* gastropods that spend their lives having never touched the bottom of the ocean, or ever reaching the shore ~~~~~

## In terms Of Shelling

**Endemic:** Restricted to a geographical area.

**Lamellate:** Covered with thick scales or plates.

**Maculated:** Spotted or blotched.

**Naceros:** Resembling mother of pearl.

**Nudibranch:** A family of mollusks that have no shells.

**Pelagic:** Living in open oceans and seas.

**Periostracum:** Fibrous, skin like outer covering on many shells.

**Stria / Striae:** Fine raised or grooved lines on the surface of a shell. Sometimes an indication of growth.

**Umbilicus:** The lower open axis around which the whorls of a gastropod are coiled.

## Monthly Meetings

ESC - the fourth Tuesday 1 P.M., October - April, Lemon Bay Park. Contact Debbie Freeman: 473-3359 or E-mail: [limpet@comcast.net](mailto:limpet@comcast.net)

Study Group - the second Monday, 1 P.M., Cedar Point Park. Contact Barb Myers: 473-2124 or E-mail: [barbjerr@comcast.net](mailto:barbjerr@comcast.net)

Craft Group - the second Friday, 1 to 4 P.M. Tringali Recreational Center. Contact Rosemary Kurt: 473-0844 or E-mail: [rokurt@comcast.net](mailto:rokurt@comcast.net)

## Officers

President: Debbie Freeman,

Vice President: Marilyn Price

Secretary: Audrey Grant,

Treasurer: Joe Bao

