

# Englewood Shell Club

*The Shell Scoop – Shell Seekers*



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Henry David Thoreau

"Nature spontaneously keeps us well. Do not resist her!"

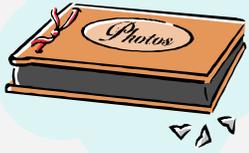
## President's Message – Nancy Weborg

.Happy New Year, Shell Seekers! As I sit at my computer gathering my thoughts, I find it remarkable how fast 2012 has flown by. By the time you read this edition of the ESC Newsletter, Christmas will be over, New Year's Eve will be here and gone and we will be starting 2013. I hope everyone enjoyed their holidays. I know those who attended our Christmas Party had a fabulous time. Be sure to check out pictures from the party on our Club's Photo Album section on the ESC website.

<http://www.EnglewoodShellClub.org/photos/index.html>



## President's Message Con't.



A big thank you to Carol Ayres, Sandy Ouder Kirk, Dottie Swann, LeAnn Bowers, Darlene Gallentine, Diana Leonhardt, and Shirley Kastner who joined me in demonstrating their decorating skills on the Club's Cedar Point Christmas tree. It's a beautiful tree. For those who did not have an opportunity to see it in person, you can see a picture on the Club's Websites Homepage The Club Photo Album can be found at: <http://www.inglewoodshellclub.org>.

You have one more opportunity to see our Club tree in person though as we will be taking down the tree on Jan. 3 at 10:00 a.m. and volunteers are needed for this task.

The Club has enjoyed an incredible year. Members were able to take some wonderful trips and our Shellcrafter classes have been amazing. Our Club has been very fortunate to have wonderful speakers. All this is possible because of the involvement and commitment of many Club members.

As we look forward to 2013 there are still some great trips to go on and more great Shellcrafters classes to attend. Our picnic is starting to take shape for April. We will once again hold the picnic at the Manasota Garden Club. More details about the picnic will be forthcoming.



Election of officers and at large members will be coming up soon. If you are interested in any of the positions or would like to suggest a club member, please contact Judy Greene, Ruth Middlebrooks or Helen Gardner. Being a ESC Club member is great, getting involved is better!

## Newsletter Editor – MaryLinda Coward

I'm not much for New Year's resolutions. Goals such as eating healthier, exercising more, being better organized or losing/gaining weight should be a planned and thoughtful lifestyle change. I prefer to set goals to live by each day, but it's not always easy in the crazy world we live. I'd like to share a quote from the American author, editor, scholar, pastor and teacher, William Arthur Ward, for you to read and contemplate as you think about how you will live and enjoy each day ahead of you in 2013.

“Another fresh new year is here  
Another year to live  
To banish worry, doubt and fear  
To Love and laugh and give

This bright new year is given me  
To live each day with zest  
To daily grow and try to be  
My highest and my best

I have the opportunity  
Once more to right some wrongs  
To pray for peace, to plant a tree  
And sing more joyful songs.

Happy New Year!



Remember the club's email account for club members to communicate any changes you may have for your phone numbers, email or snail mail addresses or to provide comments for the Board or Chairpersons.

Email is: [escnewsletter@aol.com](mailto:escnewsletter@aol.com).

Happy Shelling!

MaryLinda



## Shell Crafters - Sandy Ouderkirk & Dottie Swann

Shellcrafter  
Meetings  
Held at:

THE SUNCOAST  
WORSHIP CENTER  
881 S. RIVER ROAD  
ENGLEWOOD, FL

Happy New Year! We are looking forward to many exciting Shellcrafter projects for the new year. Remember we are holding these sessions at the Suncoast Worship Center on River Road.

We had a very successful November craft led by Eunice Herr. Eunice did an outstanding job helping 24 Club members who thoroughly enjoyed making shell bracelets. Thanks, also, to Sue Ross for her assistance.

Our December 13 Shellcrafters went very well. Club members made Christmas trees and Christmas ornaments. I'm sure they were a nice addition to the Holiday decorations for many.

### Location Times Costs

Classes will be held at the Suncoast Worship Center at 881 S. River Road. For more information you can contact Sandy at 315-404-5313 or email at sandioud@yahoo.com

The cost for each class is the same as last year, \$7. In some cases there may be additional charges based on the particular craft. Be sure to look at the costs for each session you plan on attending.

Classes are three hours and will be held on Thursdays after the Tuesday monthly meeting (in most cases) from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Upcoming Shellcrafter sessions for the 2012 – 2013 Season are as follows:

January 17 – Mirrors by Linda Maggiore. The cost for this craft session is \$14.00. \$7.00 will be for the session and \$7.00 will be for the mirrors, frames and hangars. Be sure to bring a glue gun, glue sticks and any shells you would like to cover your frame with. Use one kind of shell, a variety, or even shell flowers.

Another option is to glue clam or scallop shells around the outside and then fill in the frame itself. Be Creative! The Shell Club will supply some shells but there may not be enough to get the results you want, so be sure to bring any special shells you will need. You can still sign up at the January 15 meeting for this Shellcrafter session.

February 21 - Flowers by Diane Herger and Cindy Gettle. An additional \$2.00 will be charged for shells. Be sure to sign up at the January 15 meeting.

March 21 – Baskets decorated with shells. More information in the next newsletter – Stay tuned!



## ESC Merchandise - Shirley Kastner



Be sure to check out the ESC merchandise Shirley has for sale. Luggage tags, caps, visors, pins and checkbook covers are a great way to show your support of ESC and promote the Club to others. They are eye-catching items and are sure to bring a smile to your face when using or wearing them.

## Library Update

We still have some outstanding books that need to be returned so other Club members can enjoy them. Please be sure to check your personal home library and see if there is anything that needs to be returned.

Remember our Club library is open at each general meeting for use by club members. Books may be checked out and returned in a timely fashion. Stop by and see what books are available. Nothing beats a Winter day in Florida than a good book and some beach time.

## ESC Study Group – Debbie Freeman

Whether you are a new ESC member or have been an ESC member for a while, you might need some help or maybe you can help others in identifying shells or learn more about new ones. That's what the ESC Study Group is all about



Meetings are held on the first Monday of each month - 1:00 p.m. at the home of Debbie Freeman. Call Debbie if you have any questions at 941-473-3359. If you've never been to a Study group meeting, come join us this year.

For new ESC members information, The ESC Study Group was started many years ago by our club founder, and past president, Barbara Myers. Past President of the COA, Dick Forbush, also joined the Study group and provided his expertise until his retirement. The Study group started as a small group, but with our membership growing by leaps and bounds so has the attendance at our study group meetings.

## Christmas Luncheon Report

A great time was had by all who attended the ESC Christmas luncheon at Howard's Restaurant, Englewood FL. Santa was on hand to be sure to hear everyone's wish list. Thanks to Sheila and her elves for arranging a fun get together for Club members to enjoy some camaraderie and Holiday joy. Be sure to check out the photos from the luncheon on the Club's online Photo album:

<http://www.Englewoodshellclub.org/photos/index.html>

## Bay Scallop Larvae Released in Charlotte County

ESC Club Members Linda Powers, Rita Stonehouse, Judy Kauk, and Judy Green participated in the 2012 Scallop Count summary. and were active participating in the Bay Scallop project the last several months. Linda has shared a report from Betty Staugler, who presented to the ESC members last Spring.

Thanks for the update, Linda!

December 11, 2012 (Charlotte County, FL) – Bay Scallop recovery efforts in the waters of Charlotte County will be getting a much needed boost on Sunday when 8 million young scallop larvae are released into local waters.

The release is being spearheaded by Florida Sea Grant agent Betty Staugler with the University of Florida IFAS Charlotte County Extension, with assistance from area volunteers, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, and Bay Shellfish Company, and with funding support from the West Coast Inland Navigation District.

"This release is the first of what will likely take many more to restore a bay scallop fishery that collapsed some 30 years ago due to water quality issues, loss of seagrass beds and overharvesting. Today, water quality and seagrass conditions appear to have improved enough to again support these fragile creatures," said Staugler.

The Florida bay scallop is a bivalve mollusk that grows and lives in seagrass beds in relatively shallow coastal water, 4 to 10 feet deep. At one time bay scallops could be found from Palm Beach to Pensacola, and supported both recreational and commercial fisheries in Florida. Today, consistently healthy populations can only be found in selected locations along Florida's Big Bend, north of Weeki Wachee to Port St. Joe.

Bay scallops live the majority of their very short lives in shallow water seagrass meadows. They live just 12 to 18 months, and prefer high salinity waters and require good water quality conditions. Each fall adult bay scallops reproduce, sending millions of tiny eggs into the water column. Fertilized eggs become floating larvae within 36 hours. After another two weeks they become tiny spat and settle out on seagrass blades. From here, they develop their shell and eventually drop into the seagrass beds for protection, remaining there the rest of their short lives.

The larval release is made possible through a collection effort that began earlier this summer, shortly after the conclusion of the all-volunteer Great Bay Scallop Searches sponsored by Sea Grant in Charlotte and Lee counties. Approximately 70 adult bay scallops were collected from a protected spawning area in August then transported to a commercial aquaculture firm where they could spawn in closely watched conditions. "By spawning them in the hatchery and raising them to a stage where they are ready to settle out on the seagrass blades, we get them past the free floating stage which is their most vulnerable period," according to Staugler.

The bay scallop larval release taking place in Charlotte County is being coordinated with other releases occurring elsewhere in southwest Florida. "This is just one step in our ongoing partnership with organizations such as the National Estuary Programs, Mote Marine Laboratory, Charlotte and Sarasota County Governments, Sarasota BayWatch, those previously mentioned and others to restore the region's Florida bay scallop populations," said Staugler.

Volunteer opportunities exist for the public to assist in evaluating bay scallop populations in August of each year. Now in its fifth year, the Great Bay Scallop Search is a no-harvest citizen science event, designed to document the health and status of the bay scallop population in our local waters. According to Staugler, "Volunteers never cease to amaze me. They have really rallied around, and in many regards, helped drive the restoration efforts of this charismatic little species with tiny blue eyes."

For more information about the Scallop project, see:

[http://charlotte.ifas.ufl.edu/seagrant/publications/EAS\\_081912\\_003\\_2012BayScallopSummary.pdf](http://charlotte.ifas.ufl.edu/seagrant/publications/EAS_081912_003_2012BayScallopSummary.pdf)



## Carefree Learner

### Next Excursion is January 11, 2013

ESC members who planned on the Carefree Learner trip on Friday, Dec 14, had the unfortunate rare experience of finding their trip cancelled due to mechanical problems with the boat.

Debbie Freeman has rescheduled those who were impacted to the January 11 2013 excursion so they will still be able to go into Sarasota Bay and walk on the exposed sand flats where they will find many shells common to our area of Florida.

If you are interested in joining the January 11 trip, please contact Debbie at: [Limpet@comcast.net](mailto:Limpet@comcast.net) or call 941-473-3359.

The price of the Carefree Learners is \$20.00 and includes tips. Carefree Learner Excursion is a nonrefundable trip. Please send your check made out to Englewood Shell Club. A phone number where you can be reached is a must, and please send a note letting Debbie know if you can take passengers for carpooling. Give or mail checks to: Debbie Freeman P.O. Box 339, Englewood, FL 34295

Check out this link for more information on the Carefree Learner: [http://carefreelearner-shs.com/Home\\_Page.html](http://carefreelearner-shs.com/Home_Page.html)



### Beach Walk Update from Darlene Gallentine

How ironic that there would be 12 ESC members to show up for the 12-12-12 beach walk on Manasota Beach. My poor "flip flop" flag was rained on for the first time, but the early morning rain didn't last long before the sun came out and it turned out to be a good day for shelling.

The walk ended at 12:00 with a nice lunch at the Lock and Key Restaurant. The next beach walk will be January 9, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. on Englewood Beach across from the Lock and Key Restaurant. As always, look for my small "flip flop" flag by my chair and join the fun.

Be sure and check out the pictures from this event at the Club's photo album: <http://www.EnglewoodShellClub.org/photos/index.html>

Here's more beach walk locations for this season:

February 13 - 10:00 a.m.  
Boca Grande Beach

March 13 - 10:00 a.m.  
Blind Pass Middle Beach

Charlie Barr is proud to present the next two ESC Meeting presenters who are looking forward to the opportunity to share their knowledge and experiences with our club members.

January 15 – Karen VanderVen – “From Sea to Shining Sea”

Karen is an experienced, knowledgeable and widely traveled shell collector and exhibitor. A member of the Conchologists of America, she has authored numerous articles on her shell collecting trips in its quarterly publication, American Conchologist, as well as shell club newsletters. She has many friends and acquaintances in our club and has graciously agreed to visit us again to show and tell about her four interesting and productive shell collecting trips in 2012:

- Winter – Sanibel, Florida – Wading & beach combing
- Spring – Trujillo Bay & Utila, Honduras – Night diving
- Summer – Steinhatchee, Florida – Snorkeling for scallops
- Late Summer – Panama City, Florida – Wading & wreck diving

February 19 – James Cordy – “Eleuthera 2012”

Jim is highly respected in the malacological community by virtue of his being a longtime shell show exhibitor with lots of major awards, member of the Astronaut Trail Shell Club, member of the Conchologists of America, Curator of Mollusks at the Brevard Museum of Natural History, and also for many years, along with his late wife Bobbi, producing the annual Space Coast Shell Festival/Show plus arranging & leading frequent shell collecting excursions to the Bahamas and elsewhere.

Jim will show and tell his 2012 shell collecting on Eleuthera in the Bahamas. We might also learn of opportunities to join him on future shell collecting trips

## Excursions

Ruth Middlebrooks, Marilyn Boyd, Debbie Freeman

On Friday, November 16, 2012 over 40 ESC members sailed off to Palm Island for a fun filled day of golf carting, shelling and lunching at the delicious tropical restaurant, Rum Bay. While shelling was on the minds of most Club members, Anita Wilson had a pleasant surprise of finding an enormous shark's tooth!

Now we all come across these little black teeth if you walk most of our beautiful beaches, but this one is definitely something Anita would be happy to “show and tell” all about. Congratulations, Anita.

This is just an example of what maybe encountered on any excursion trip Ruth, Marilyn or Debbie put together – it's always an adventure with these ladies in charge.

The next excursion on January 22, 2013 will be a trip to Useppa Island. The Tropic Star boat will pick Club members up at Boca Grande. We will visit the museum and have lunch in their Country Club. The total cost is \$62.00



Ask Anita to show you what she found while “shelling” on Palm Island



# Palm Island Shark Tooth



February 26 – 27, 2013. This trip is filled but there is a wait list. The trip will include a 2 night bus trip to Cedar Key with lodging at the Cedar Cove Resort and an excursion on Captain Doug's boat. We will visit the Cedar Key museum along with other quaint things to see and do on Cedar Key.

March 2013 The Excursion Team is finalizing details for the March trip. Final trip details will be provided soon.

## Membership Dues 2012 – 2013

In case you haven't had a chance yet, be sure to fill out your application and submit your membership dues for this season. Your club is very active with many opportunities to learn, have fun and meet people. And, while you are enjoying your membership, please consider volunteering on your favorite committee. Your enthusiasm and willingness are always welcome!

## Membership Roster 2012 - 2013

The ESC 2012-2013 Club Membership has been updated and is now available on the Clubs' website under the secure "Members Only" section. Please be sure to verify your information is accurate. If you have any updates, email them to [ESCnewsletter@aol.com](mailto:ESCnewsletter@aol.com).

2012-2013  
ESC Club  
Membership  
Roster is now  
updated and  
available  
online.

## About Our Organization

The Englewood Shell Club was formed January 23, 1996 to bring together people interested in seashells. Club members share their enthusiasm and experiences of mollusks of all kinds, but we are most interested in Florida shells.

Englewood Shell Club  
President: Nancy Weborg  
4564 Pompano Rd.  
Venice, FL 34293

The Englewood Shell Club General meeting meets one Tuesday a month. The General Meetings are held at 1:00 p.m. October through April at the Elks Lodge #2378, 401 N. Indiana Ave., Englewood FL 34223. Please check the calendar for the Tuesday date for the monthly meeting.

Individual Membership:

Renewal .....\$20.00  
New\*.....\$28.00

Family Membership:

Renewal.... .....\$35.00  
New\*.....\$56.00

\*New members fee include onetime cost for name badge.

# APPLICATION FOR ESC 2012-2013 MEMBERSHIP <sup>9</sup>

Please complete this application and include your check made payable to the Englewood Shell Club. Send to:

Katherine Gudgel  
1132 Yosemite Dr.  
Englewood, FL 34223

## Individual Membership

- Renewal \$20.00  
 New\* \$28.00

\*Covers one-time cost of name tag

## Family Membership

- Renewal \$35.00  
 New\* \$56.00

\*Covers one-time cost of name tag

PLEASE PRINT:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Florida Address:

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City / State / ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Cell # \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Other Address:

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City / State / ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Cell # \_\_\_\_\_

Would you be willing to serve on one of our many committees?  Yes  No  
 Maybe?

Areas of interest to help out \_\_\_\_\_

## RELEASE OF LIABILITY

I agree that I am individually responsible for my own safety and my personal property when I participate in any club field trip activity. I will not hold the Englewood Shell Club, the field trip leaders, or the property owners liable for any injuries I sustain should they occur.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

DO NOT COMPLETE THIS AREA

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Amt. \_\_\_\_\_ Dated \_\_\_\_\_