



September

2005

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Presidents Notes

The ESC ended last season with an April cookout, and pool party at my home. About 40 of you attended, and everyone seemed to have a great time. We have our volunteer's to thank for arranging all of that wonderful food, as well as the hard work of getting things set up and going so smoothly. A big shellers hand of thanks to Jackie McLean, Linda Pollock, Fran Summerman and Jan Plumber! Also to Joe Bao and Glenn Freeman who manned the grill.

While attending the COA convention in July, I had a wonderful surprise. Our own Dick Forbush won a Neptune Award! The following is a quote from the presentation: "Richard (Dick) Forbush of Venice, Florida. Dick has been a COA member since 1977 and has served as Secretary and President. He assisted greatly in the early days of the Clearwater Jamboree and was President of the Cleveland Shell club" Congratulations Dick!

As we launch into another shell club season I would like to ask all of you to consider lending a hand in the many activities that we have each month. If everyone did just a little then it would be so much easier for our chairperson's as well as the club as a whole. For instance, our newsletter takes a great deal of time to put together. I may not have that kind of time this year to devote to it, and I would hate to see the Shell Scoop fade away. If any of you would like to pitch in on this, or any of the other projects we have, please let me know. I promise you that your help would be most appreciated.

I have a date for our Christmas meeting. It will be held Monday, December 12, at the Boca Royale. See last page of this newsletter for details and a meal order form.

Our first ESC meeting is Tuesday, October 25, at Lemon Bay Park. We will have a show and tell of the shell related things you did this summer, so remember to bring your favorite project, or shell for all to enjoy.

Hope to see you there!

*Debbie Freeman*

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A Word From Your Old Librarian  
Anita Wilson

Remember how exciting it was to find all those non-shell creatures in Sarasota Bay on our Carefree Learner trips last winter? There were sea urchins, sea hares, squirting sea pork and so many other critters. This year go prepared! How? By checking out the three volumes of "The Illustrated Encyclopedia of the Animal Kingdom" edited by H. Kondo and owned by the Shell Club library! Brush up ahead of time, so you know what you are seeing.

One book covers Lophophorates through one-celled animals. Another will tell you about shells and more; it describes Mollusks through Cephalopoda. The third volume includes Lancelets through Arrowworms. I could tell you what a lophophorate or lancelet is. But I will let you check out the books to discover these facts and more! I'll share just one little experience I had with these books. I have a lovely, but drab brown, sea star basket that my Dad brought me when he returned from the Navy and his years of service in the Pacific Theater of Operations in WWII. I found that *Culcita schmideliana*, the scientific name of this treasure, wasn't always drab khaki colored. When it was alive and plump, it was a colorful combination of red, blue, green and yellow! What do you think you'll discover reading one of these books?

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Programs

Ann Croteau is getting our guest speakers ready for our upcoming season. In November Bobbi Rogers from Cedar Point Park has agreed to speaking about watersheds. Joe Bao will be telling us all about the shells of Panama and Padau in Jan. Dick Forbush will be speaking in Feb. In March we are hoping that Larry Strange will be able to join us. Keep your fingers crossed that his calendar is open.

## ShellCrafter Alert

Start limbering up your fingers and steadying your eye; ShellCrafter sessions will begin again in November. The Board is delighted to report that Doris Brown, Carolyn McCallum and Sandy Terwilliger have agreed to be a tripartite steering committee to lead ShellCrafters this year. Tringali Center is reserved for the second Friday afternoons of November, January, February, March and April.

We decided to be whimsical, rather than artistic for the first meeting Friday, November 11 at 1 p.m. Doris Brown will lead the group in making shell animals that will be perfect Holiday stocking stuffers for little ones or the young-at-heart. Doris will have a sign-up sheet and handout for supplies at the October meeting.

Carolyn and Doris will have information about the January session at the November meeting. Rumor has it that they were thinking about shell-trimmed picture frames or mirrors for January 13, but thoughts considered last May could have changed greatly by November! In fact, remember, this is your steering committee. The committee welcomes your ideas for ShellCrafters. The Board, the new committee, and all the ShellCrafters thank Rosemary Kurt so much for leading ShellCrafters so ably for its first two years of existence. A heartfelt bouquet of Shell Roses goes out to Rosemary!

### Trips

Marilyn Boyd will be setting up boats for our first trip of the season, the end of October. If you have an interest in going please contact Marilyn after the 19th of September. (941) 474-2500.

Ruth Middlebrooks is setting up two trips in November. One will be a visit to the Bailey Mathews Museum, and the other is a fossil dig with Mark Renz. She will have these dates at our Oct. meeting.

Debbie Freeman has the Carefree Learner trips ready to go on December 15, 2005 and January 30, 2006.

Debbie also has rented two ocean front condo's on the Isle of Palms, South Carolina for February.

the 4th through the 11th. There is room for 12 people. The cost to be divided, and will roughly be \$200. per person, not including food and transportation. It will be a car pooling trip.

In March we offer the Passa Grille and Shell Key Shuttle in St. Pete's

More information as well as sign up sheets will be given out at the October meeting.

Our seasons first board meeting will be held on October 18, Debbie's home, at 10 a.m. Officers, board members, and chair persons please mark your calendar's!

Our first general meeting will be on Tuesday, October 25, Lemon Bay Park , at 1 p.m. Please come early to help set up tables and chairs. Thank you.

## Shells for Outreach

Anita Wilson

The Outreach Committee will be all set with shells for fall classes in local elementary schools thanks to a gift of shells from Grace Gilbert. Grace is a friend of Audrey Grant's. Grace will be moving soon and, thanks to Audrey, thought Englewood Shell Club would be a grand recipient of her excess shells. Five boxes of shells now reside in Anita Wilson's garage, all ready for fall projecting. In fact, says Anita, "I think that if ShellCrafters would like some shells, we could spare more than a few. We have at least 1500 apple murex, plus a box of fighting conch and another box split between Olives and Calico (checkerboard) Clams!"

The Outreach committee encourages everyone to think of classroom ideas to use these shells. The committee stressed they are still looking for disk dosinia and other shells with holes to make necklaces. Give them to Outreach co-chairs Linda Powers or Jane Guy or any member of the committee. Thanks, Grace, for your gift!

### In Terms of Shelling

**Chank:** pear or top-shaped gastropod; conch shell.

**Conchitic:** limestone or marble where you can see the remains of shells.

**Diaulic:** two separate channels that open to the surface.

**Heteropod:** sea snail with a compressed foot adapted for swimming.

**Turian purple:** an ancient purple dye made from murex and purpura.

**Vertex:** the top, apex, or highest point.

**Zonate:** marked with zones or bands of color.

### Officers for 2005/2006

President: Debbie Freeman

Vice President: Anita Wilson

Secretary: Audrey Grant

Treasurer: Joe Bao

### Board Members

Irene Murray

Jackie McLean

Judy Curtin: Immediate Past President

Barb Myers, Honorary

### Chair Persons

Membership: Anita Wilson

Trips; Ruth Middlebrooks

Programs & Publicity: Anna Crouteau

Library: Marilyn Price

Outreach: Linda Powers and Jane Guy

Crafts: Needed