

The Beauii



A newsletter published by the
Sarasota Shell Club

www.Sarasotashellclub.com

We meet on the 2nd Thursday, 7:00 pm
(September to April)

Room 206, Albritton Center
Bee Ridge Presbyterian Church
4826 McIntosh Rd
Sarasota, FL

September, 2023 Edition

Greetings to all SSC folks,

As I write this short essay, we in northern Indiana land and are just leaving behind a most Sarasota-like day. Yesterday in Goshen, IN it was 98 degrees with very high humidity and a real feel temperature of 118! I should be well acclimated for my journey south in early October.



I want to give a very well deserved shout out to V. P. Ron Bopp for attending to the local needs of SSC during the summer including a very productive board meeting. And special thanks also for preparing for, and leading, the September regular meeting. I also want to acknowledge Karen and Allan for moving us forward on Shell Show dates and venue, to Linda for attending to innumerable tasks, to Nancy for the survey and report, to Bruce, Amy, and others for dealing with Web issues, and to the artisans for their production and sales. If I missed someone, sorry, let me know and I will

include you in next meeting or newsletter.

As we prepare for the 2023-2024 “year” of SSC activities, let us not forget two primary foci: shells and relationships. Shells are the reason for our being, we are the Sarasota SHELL Club. Let us enjoy as we appreciate their beauty, acknowledge their owners (i.e., the snail!) importance in river, lake, forest, and ocean ecology, learn about their identity and idiosyncrasies, and fasten them into artistic creations.

Relationships are integral to our very character as human beings. They enrich our lives and stretch our horizons. To be sure we all have our personal idiosyncrasies, our likes and dislikes, our joys and gripes. I wish for SSC members this year a full measure of joy at mutual interests and personalities and an equally full measure of forbearance as we navigate the inevitable dislikes and disagreements.

May the rest of the summer go well, and I look forward to seeing you all come the October meeting.

Duane K

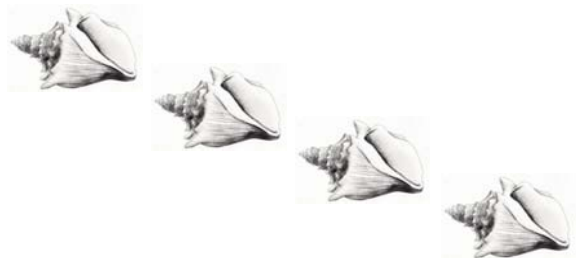
Duane Kauffmann
President

Recycle Your Award Ribbons

I can recycle your Award Ribbons for our SSC shows, even if they have a date on the ribbons or writing on the back. I will even iron them !

Bring them to the membership meeting. If you can't make the meeting then contact me at luvseashells@gmail.com.

Thanks... Linda Greiner



From the Treasurer

When renewing your membership please make your check out to “SSC.”
No cash please!

September's Meeting: Show Box Exhibits . . see page 10 for more details

Officers & Board Members

President	Duane Kauffmann
Vice-President	Ron Bopp
Treasurer	Alan Banko
Recording Secretary	open*

Board Members: Nancy Cadieux (3); Amy Bentley (2); Sally Peppitoni (2); Karen Huether (2); Donna Krusenoski (1); Debbie Alexander (1);

Committee Chairmen

Artisans	tba
<i>The Beauii</i>	Ron Bopp
Historian	open*
Field Trips	Gary Martinez
Librarian	Frankie Grover
Membership	Lisa Kinney
Shell Show	Ron/MaryJo Bopp
Sunshine	Frankie Grover
Webmaster	Bruce Paulsen

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- * **Meetings** are held on the second Thursday of September through April at 7:00 pm.
 - * **Dues** are \$30.00 for new single members and \$40.00 for family members (at the same address).
 - * **Renewals** are \$25.00 for single and \$30.00 for family.
- * If you want *The Beauii* printed and mailed it is an extra \$15.00 to your dues.
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Contact the Editor - email Ron Bopp at rbopp1@tampabay.rr.com or call at 918-527-0589 if you have something to include in *The Beauii*.

Important . . . Same Location New Building

Yes, we are still meeting at Bee Ridge Church at 4826 McIntosh Road, Sarasota. However, our meetings will be in the Albritton Center, Room 206. This is the administration building for the church, and there is ample parking.

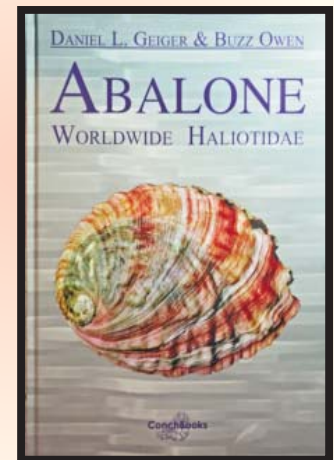
**A 2023—2024
Membership application is
attached to this Newsletter**

Library Notes

Our Sarasota Shell Club library is located at the Bee Ridge Presbyterian Church in Sarasota. A list of our books is on our website www.sarasotashellclub.com. For more info on some of our books, go to www.mdmshellbooks.com

Books in the Sarasota Shell Club Library can be accessed by contacting Frankie Grover at 952-250-1481 or frankiejogro@gmail.com In addition persons needing information about shells and shelling can be assisted in contacting club members with relevant expertise.

There is a whole world of seashells and marine life out there!



Frankie Grover

Positions Needed

Our Shell Club needs members to fill the following important positions. Please consider volunteering for one of these: SECRETARY & HISTORIAN
Contact President Duane Kauffmann at duanerk@goshen.edu for more information.

A Page of “This’ and That’s”



A pair of colorful mollusk cartoons submitted by Carol Mae and Nancy Cadieux.



Vi and Charlie Hertweck photographed in 1986 at the COA convention held in St. Petersburg, Florida. Our shell show fossil award, the Hertweck Award, is named after the Hertwecks who were active fossil mollusk enthusiasts.

Shoe Box Exhibits

Yes, the Shoe box exhibits are coming back. Bring yours to the September meeting!



Sarasota Shell Club members posed for a group photo at the COA Convention in Key West, Florida in 2017. From left to right are: Nancy Marini, Donna Timmermann, Ron Bopp, June Bailey, Duane Kauffmann, Donna Cassin, and Mary Jo Bopp.

Mark Your Calendars — — — Save The Dates

We look forward to seeing you at all our events. “Eyeball” this space in each issue for additions, more information or changes.

- September 14 First SSC Membership Meeting (Bee Ridge Church, Room 206)
Activity: **Shoe Box Exhibits** (more information elsewhere in this newsletter)
Time: 7:00 pm
- October 12 Membership Meeting (Bee Ridge Church, Room 206)
Speaker: **Alan Gettleman**: “Shells from the Most Extreme, Most Exotic Locations
on Earth” Time: 7:00 pm
- October 30 Shelling Trip: Mullet Key/Blackthorn Park
Low tide (-0.5) at 7:51 am
Time: to be announced
- November 9 Membership Meeting (Bee Ridge Church, Room 206)
Speaker: **John Jacobs**: “Strombidae, Rostellariidae, Seraphsidae - An Introduction”
Time: 7:00 pm
- November 29 Shelling Trip: Sanibel Island
Low tide (-0.7) at 8:30 am
Time: to be announced
- December 9 **Holiday Party**: Bird Key Yacht Club
Luncheon, Auction and Merriment
Time: TBA
- December 14 Shelling Trip: Carefree Learner
Low Tide (-0.75) at 7:30 am
Time: to be announced
- December 16 Shelling Trip: Keewaydin Island
Low Tide (-0.6) at 9:34 am
Time: to be announced
- January 11 Membership Meeting (Bee Ridge Church, Room 206)
Speaker: **Clair Beckman**: “Shells Around the World”
Time: 7:00 pm
- January 11 Shelling Trip: Carefree Learner
Low tide (-0.98)
Time to be announced
- January 16 Shelling Trip: Kice Island
Low tide (-1.1) at 7:20 am
Time: to be announced

- February 8 No meeting — **Shell Show** (February 9 & 10)
Potter Building (Robarts Arena complex)
- March 9 Shelling Trip: Missouri Key
Low Tide (-0.73) at 6:47 am
Time to be announced
- March 14 Membership Meeting (Bee Ridge Church, Room 206)
Speaker: **Dennis Sargent**: “My Life with Seashells”
Time: 7:00 pm
- April 11 Membership Meeting (Bee Ridge Church, Room 206)
Speaker: **Ron Bopp**: “A Tale of Two Trips”
Time: 7:00 pm
- April 13 Annual Sarasota Shell Club **Picnic** (Coquina Gulfside North Pavilion)
Details to follow in future newsletters
Time: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm
- April ? Vieques, Puerto Rico
Details and Dates to follow
- June 11-16 **Conchologist of America Convention**
Melbourne, Florida
Convention Chair: Alan Gettleman

Historian’s Report for September 2022

50 Years Ago

Twenty-six members attended the September 13, 1973 meeting of SSC which was called to order by President Jack Oberle. Routine business included approval of minutes, Treasurer’s report, and adoption of the yearly budget.

Program was by Officer Kendall of the Sarasota Police Department. He provided valuable information on ways to protect one’s home from thieves.

Following a report on the annual AMU meeting, the meeting ended with a raffle of “fine shells.”

25 Years Ago

The Sarasota Shell Club meeting was held September 19, 1998; no count of members was given but there were 2 guests. Treasurer’s report showed balance of \$3753.

Other items in the minutes included (a) articles are needed for the newsletter, (b) there are several new books in the library, and, (c) field trip to Cedar Key on Dec. 19.

Helen Gardner initiated a new monthly activity, i.e., a report on a shell by a member.

The program for the evening consisted of member show and tell.



A page from
Sowerby's 1839
*A Conchological
Manual.*

A Note from the Membership Chair

It is the time of year to pay your membership dues for the Sarasota Shell Club 2023/2024 season. Please complete the membership form at the end of the newsletter and mail a check or sign up at our September meeting. I am looking forward to seeing all of you again and to another year of shelling trips, meetings and our annual shell show. This is a great club to be a part of full of interesting, like-minded shell enthusiasts. I hope to see you all soon!

Lisa Kinney
Membership Chair

Kice Island Shelling Trip

The Kice Island trip is currently scheduled for January 10. This is a great opportunity to visit Kice during a super low tide. We have selected a new provider, Florida Adventures, to ensure we get the kind of experience we are looking for. We would like to go for six hours this time so we're not rushed to get back. We need to make the deposit as soon as possible to reserve the boat for this date.

The cost for this trip is \$170 per person, which is in line with current prices in the industry. It also includes a newly instituted fee of between \$5 and \$15 (in this case \$7) to provide an insurance subsidy for the club. The gratuity is not included and is up to each participant to decide.

If you would like to reserve a spot, please send to me a check made out to Sarasota Shell Club. My address is 1061 Euclid Ave. #102, Miami Beach, FL 33139. Write in the memo section "2024 Kice Trip". Anyone planning to go on the trip must be a member in good standing or must join the club in advance of the trip.

Gary Martinez (yonsider@msn.com or 310-347-8942)

An Artisan UPDATE!

The artisans will be bringing several items we have created to the September club meeting. These items will be available for sale to raise funds for our club. Be sure to bring your checkbook as you will most likely see items you would like to purchase. The artisans meet on Thursdays from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. Join us in creating seashell works of art and having fun conversations. We welcome all club members to participate if they enjoy creating items with seashells.

Lisa Kinney
Sarasota Shell Club Artisan member



Freshwater Snail Tongue (*Radula*) Stamp



Books and articles have been written about shells on stamps -- but what about radulae on stamps? Well, the US Postal Service recently released a set of 20 stamps of microscopic objects, including the "tongue of a freshwater snail" -- probably the first time a radula has been the subject of a stamp, at least in the USA !

It appears to be a taenioglossate radula, probably from the Hydrobiidae or a related family, as that is the most studied of the freshwater gastropods with a taenioglossate radula. There's also the Ampullariidae, but those radulae are more sculpted than the one on the stamp—Alan Kabat.

The Life Magnified series stamps are issued in panes of 20 and are classified as Forever stamps, which means they will always be equal in value to the current First-Class Mail 1 ounce price. The series can be purchased directly through the USPS online store for \$13.20 or at Post Office locations nationwide. The stamps can also be ordered as a framed set for \$39.95.

https://store.usps.com/store/product/buy-stamps/life-magnified-stamps-S_484004

The Snail Fish

Snailfish are a family of marine ray-finned fishes that make up the Liparidae family, which is classified within the order Scorpaeniformes. They are widely distributed from the Arctic to Antarctic Oceans, including the oceans in between, and contain more than 30 genera and about 410 described species. Snailfish species can be found in depths ranging from shallow surface waters to greater than 8,330 meters. They have tadpole-like bodies and are similar in profile to the rattails. Their heads are large in comparison to their body and they have small eyes. Their bodies are slender but deep and they taper to very small tails. The extensive dorsal and anal fins may merge or nearly merge with the tail fin.



April 13, 2024 End-of-the-year Picnic

Yes, on April 13th, 2024 (that is a Saturday) the Sarasota Shell Club will have it's annual picnic. It will be at the same pavilion that we have used in the past at Coquina Beach Park. The picnic will be catered as before with members providing their favorite deserts. More details are forthcoming but now you know and set the date aside for a really great time. As a good friend has often said:

"Be there or be square!"



Helen Scales is a British marine biologist who published *Spirals in Time* in 2015. In this book, she relates how mollusks and their shells have survived mass extinctions over the course earth's history, have had many uses and representations in human culture, and are now facing challenges from human-caused changes in the ocean environment. Her discussions are thorough and delightful presentations, not just of particular species, but also their natural history, representation in human culture, and significant factors affecting their continued survival.

The author begins with a preface in which she shares the beginning of her lifelong love for shells. She then takes us through a history of the evolution of the various kinds of mollusks, discusses how the snails follow a plan with mathematical precision to construct their shells, and relates ways shells have fascinated humans for as long as we have been on earth, taking them even to our graves. She writes about the historic role of shellfish as a food source, their importance to our economy, and the management of this resource.

The author focuses on a few species, mostly the ones we all find fascinating, to provide representations of significant themes. She gives special attention to oysters, mussels and similar species that filter the water and build offshore reefs. She discusses the hilarious habits of hermit crabs and their use of discarded shells. She gives a very interesting history of the production of legendary and precious sea silk, a product of the lowly pen shell. Extensive attention is given to the intriguing nautilus and argonauts. There's a delightful presentation of cone shells and their toxins.

Finally, she presents the story of the origin of the science and the rise of formal shell collecting. She ends with a deep look at the effects of increasing ocean acidification and how it has already begun to limit the ability of mollusks to construct their shells, followed by a discussion of shell collecting and how to collect responsibly. This book is a compelling read; it has something for anyone with an interest in shells.

Book review by Gary Martinez

September Membership Meeting: Shoe Box Exhibits

Be prepared for the September 14, 2023 membership meeting as it will feature shoe box exhibits from any member who wishes to show off a small amount of shells. The container can be anything from a simple box to a jewelry chest.

Members will have chance to view all the boxes and vote for the ones they think are best. As mentioned before, this is a good chance to prepare for a shell show entry. It is easy and fun . . . just ask those of us who have done it. (I have mine done . . . ED)



A recent postcard featuring Florida sea shells . . . do you have all of these?

Sarasota Shell Club Past Presidents

Jack Oberle: 1963-1965,
1968-1968, 1972-1974
Louise Danforth: 1965-1967
Franck Rinck: 1967-1968
Thomas Robertson: 1969-1970
Evelyn Bradley: 1970-1972
Charles Hertweck: 1974-1979
Peggy Williams: 1980-1982,
1988-1989, 1992-1994,
2001-2002, 2005-2007

Vi Hertweck: 1982-1984
Richard Forbush: 1984-1985
June Bailey: 1985-1987,
1995-1997, 2002-2003
Bob Hansen: 1987-1988
Beverly Chouinard: 1989-1991
Bonnie Christophel: 1990-1992
Pat Amsel: 1994-1995
Debra Ingrao: 1997-1998
Cathy Aschliman: 1998-1999

Cathy Hollar: 1999-2001
2003-2004
Bob Horton: 2004-2005
Joanne Chmielewski: 2007-2010
Ron Bopp: 2010-2012
Dennis Sargent: 2012-2014
Sally Peppitoni: 2014-2022
Duane Kauffmann: 2022-2024

Sarasota Shell Club 2023/2024 Membership Application

New Member: Individual \$30 - Family \$40
(Includes a membership name tag)

Renewal Member: Individual \$25 - Family \$30

(Add \$15 to receive newsletter by mail instead of email)

**Join the Sarasota Shell Club by mailing a
check, made out to SSC to:**

**Lisa Kinney
17052 Coral Key Dr
Nokomis, FL 34275**

All new and renewed memberships will receive their
membershipcards/badges at the monthly meetings.

Date: _____
Name(s): _____
Local Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Phone number: _____
Email address(s): _____
(Optional) Other address & phone: _____
Emergency contact & phone: _____
Month & Day of your Birthday: _____

Our Insurance Requires a Liability Release
*I agree that I am individually responsible for my safety and my
personal property. I will not hold the Sarasota Shell Club, its
officers, field trip leader(s), or property owner liable for any
damage or in-jury to me or my property that should occur.*

Signature required for each member joining:

1. _____
2. _____

The SSC publishes a roster with names, address and emails for our member
use only. Please check one:

_____ it is **OK** to publish my information in the roster
_____ it is **Not OK** to publish my information in the roster

Meeting Location: **Bee Ridge Church Community Room 206**
4826 McIntosh Rd, Sarasota, FL 34233
(On the corner of Proctor Road and McIntosh Road)

Club Meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month, from September
through April. Newsletters are sent out monthly.
The Artisan group meets year-round on Thursdays, 10am to 1pm – Feel free to
join us to make shell art that benefits the club.

Look for us at: www.Sarsotashellclub.com
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/sarasotafloridashellclub>
Contact us: sarasotashellclub@gmail.com

(To be filled in by the Membership Committee)

Renewal <input type="checkbox"/>	New Member <input type="checkbox"/>
Amount paid _____	Date _____
Check# _____	Cash _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Card	<input type="checkbox"/> Badge ordered