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# ENGLEWOOD SHELL CLUB

## THE SHELL SCOOP – SHELL SEEKERS

### DECEMBER 2020

**CLUB WEBSITE:** [www.englewoodshell.club](http://www.englewoodshell.club)

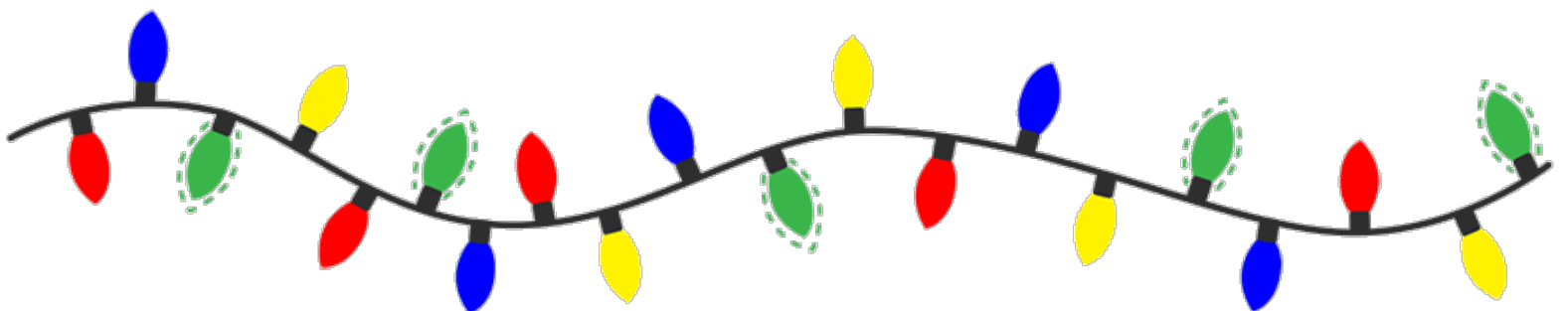
Co-Presidents: Meredith Blain & Martha Dehne

Hello and Happy Seashell Greetings!

The holidays are upon us and will continue to remain challenging this year. While our celebrations with our families will be smaller and maybe even distant, we can still safely connect with our shelling family. In December, there is an excursion to Keewaydin, and a Holiday Picnic outdoors at Maxine Barrett Pavilion from 10-2. Bring your own food and a lawn chair, so that we may spread out for safety. There will be a shell auction (thank you Candy), door prizes, and grab bags. We will also be collecting gift cards or cash for the Jubilee Center of Englewood. Bring your mask and have fun! January will kick off the 25th year of the Englewood Shell Club. Our special guest speaker will be Dr. Jose Leal of the Bailey Matthews Sanibel Shell Museum. We have decided to finish out this year with the Zoom meetings until further notice. All of our outdoor activities have been well received, so we hope that you can join us and keep our club thriving. The Board of Directors has decided to combine the annual picnic with the 25th anniversary celebration, so stay tuned for upcoming details. Martha and I are beyond grateful and blessed for each and every one of our club members.

Wishing everyone a healthy and happy holiday season.

Co-President Meredith Blain





**SAVE THE DATE**  
**HOLIDAY PICNIC**  
**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8**

**MAXINE BARRETT PAVILION FROM 10-2**

**Bring Your Own Food and Beverage**  
**Please wear a mask**



**Party Favors!**



**Join  
the  
FUN!**

**Door  
Prizes!**



**Silent  
Auction!**



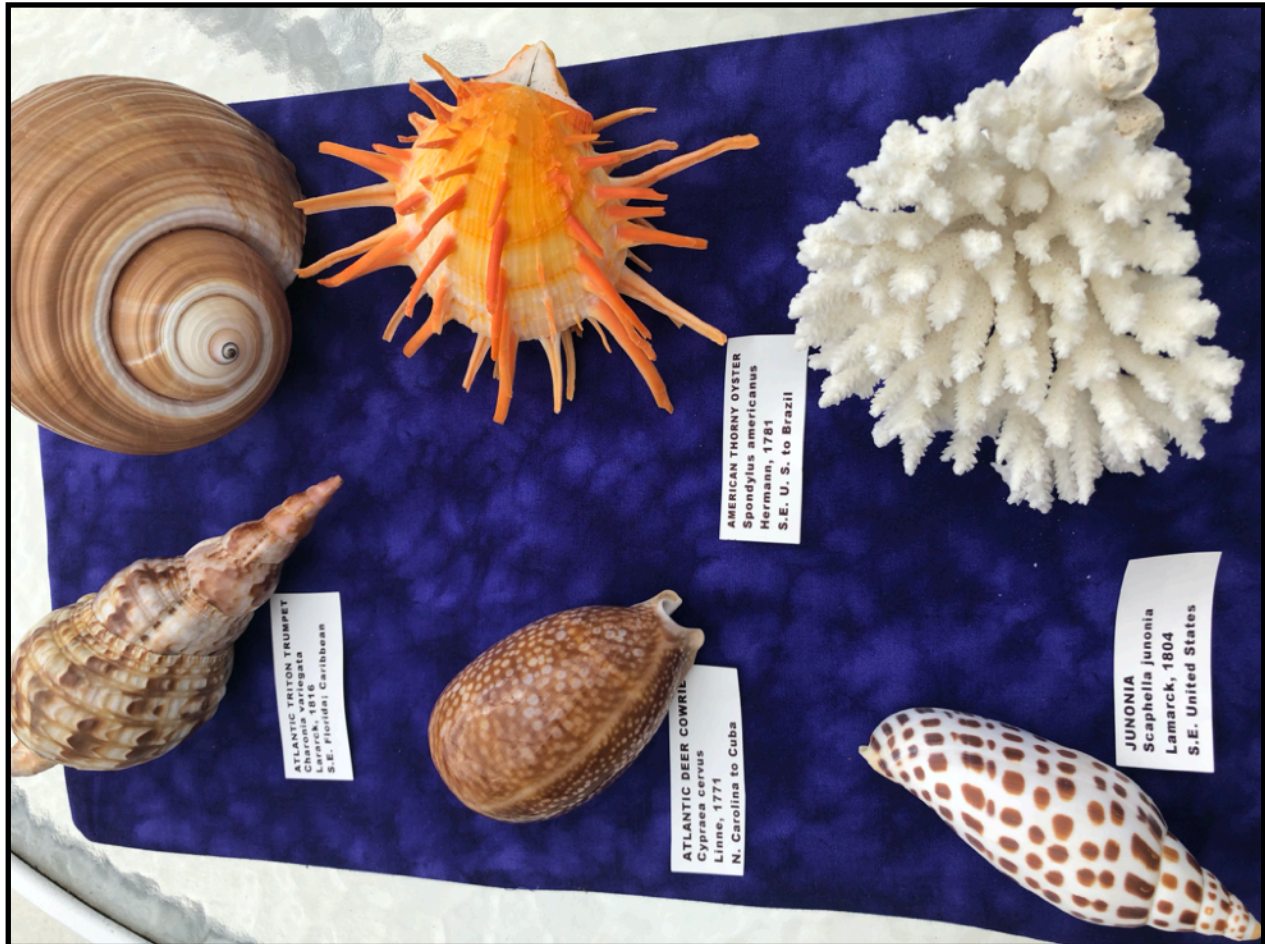
**\$5 Grab Bags!**

If it is in your heart, please bring a \$10 Walmart or Target gift card. Cash donations also welcome. Your generosity will support the Saint David's Jubilee Center of Englewood, a non-profit religious organization dedicated to helping those in need.

Please bring singles or \$5 bills if you wish to Grab a Bag (or more!)

## Holiday Picnic Silent Auction!

Be sure to bring cash or your checkbook and bid on the fabulous shells that will be in our silent auction at the Holiday Picnic on December 8. *To name a few: Spondylus, Triton, Coral, Tun-*the rest you can check out and bid on at the picnic.



**AHOY, IT'S OFF TO KEEWAYDIN WE BE GOIN' MATES!**

**Co-Team Leader Marty Atkins**

Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020. Time: 8:45 a.m.

Price: \$55, includes tip. Boat has capacity of 22.

If we get enough interest and book the whole boat, time could be flexible on the early side. If you want to go on this excursion, contact Marty Atkins via text.





# 25th Anniversary ENGLEWOOD SHELL CLUB Collecting Memories and More!

Do you have fond memories of ESC people, trips, special events, amazing shell finds, etc.? Do you have copies of articles featuring the club and/or its members? Do you have copies of new or old club related photographs? If so, please connect with Historian, Karen Blackford. Pickup is available!

## A Bit of History by Anita Wilson

As the Englewood Shell Club celebrates its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, Anita Wilson used the year's **American Conchologist**, the official journal of the Conchologists of America, our parent organization, to do a little reminiscing and was amazed at how much our members have accomplished. While Anita is not a charter member of ESC, she has been active for 20 of the 25 years we have been in existence.

The very first article in the March 2020 issue, page 7, shows the snail *Articulipoma rhodei*, which is named for our member Homer Rhode. Homer is a world renowned land snail specialist who has traveled the world studying them. This snail lives high in a sparsely populated mountain range in Hispaniola. In normal years, we have the opportunity to interact with Homer at all our meetings. Besides having a snail named for him, Homer also received the Neptunia Award from COA and quite recently served as co-chair of the club's Shell Study group. Homer was mentioned again toward the end of the journal on page 26, because he has donated rare shelling books to COA which were going to be auctioned at the club's annual meeting last summer. That meeting was postponed because of the pandemic, but it is scheduled again for Melbourne next year with the same program and plan.

Another member, Linda Powers, also has a shell named for her. She actually discovered this shell, *Jaspidiconus lindapowersae* in waters off Las Salinas, Dominican Republic. Linda, a former president of ESC, is currently membership director of COA. One of her many duties in this role is making the roster and providing a quarterly mailing list for **American Conchologist**. Members of COA receive their journals promptly and correctly because of Linda's work.

On page 27 of the same March issue in full color are two pictures of a 30 inch Sailor's Valentine table made by one of our former presidents, Debbie Freeman. Debbie passed away much too young a few years ago. Once again, the table will be raffled at COA. Money from these raffles and auctions fund scholarships for students studying marine science.

Then came the June issue of **American Conchologist**. In the spotlight on Doris Underwood, COA President 1992-94 on page 6, our former member Dick Forbush is mentioned and I quote: "only once before have we had a two term COA president— Dick Forbush in 1983-85...." This was written in 1993. Dick and his wife Jane retired to Venice and joined ESC. They came from Cleveland where he was president of their club as well as COA. Dick was very active in our club and is best remembered as the first and long-term leader of Study Group. Dick had shelled the world over and taught us so much. He also was very generous and shared his shells with club members as he grew older. He passed away a few years ago.

The June issue had a fascinating article on tulip shells. Study your tulips along with this article and you may find you have more than True and Banded Tulips. Anita is still studying her shells, but quickly found a new one *Fasciolaria hollisteri*, Weisbord 1962, from Margarita Island, Venezuela. Anita's shell was a gift from Ruth Middlebrooks, who was one of the ESC members who visited Margarita a few years ago.

Congratulations ESC members! Which of you will be our next contributor at the national level?

## Candy's Kitchen: Yummy Crescent Rolls

### Here's what you will need:

- 2 cans Pillsbury butter crescent rolls
- 2 (8oz) packages cream cheese (softened)
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1/4 cup butter (melted)

Cinnamon & sugar (I used about 1/4 cup sugar and 1 tbs cinnamon)

**Directions:** Unroll & spread 1 can crescent of rolls on the bottom of a non-greased pan. Combine softened cream cheese, sugar, & vanilla. Spread mixture over the crescent rolls. Unroll and spread remaining crescent rolls over mixture. Spread melted butter over the top and sprinkle with cinnamon and sugar. Bake at 350 degrees for 20-30 minutes. Enjoy!





## 9 a.m. Beachwalk

**Please wear a mask**

Get your jingle on & go shelling on beautiful Nokomis Beach Wednesday, December 16.



## Get Your Craft Fix!

Join the fun and be creative with friends at Lemon Bay Park pavilion. Fri., Dec 18, 10 a.m.

**Please wear a mask**



This colorful 4" by 3" sticker, designed by ESC Historian Karen Blackford, is **NOW** available for purchase!

Price: one for \$3 or two for \$5.

All monies raised after printer's fee is paid, support club expenses such as events & rental fees. Stickers can be purchased at Beach Walks, Shell Crafters, and Study Groups.

**CAREFREE LEARNER TRIP:** 7:45 a.m. Friday, January 15. Cost: \$20 per person. Space is limited to 20 participants. To reserve your seat or for more information, please contact Excursion Co-Team Leader Carol Ayers.



## Thank You, Colleen

In addition to organizing our club's social events, Past President Colleen Fosnough has recently taken on the role of assisting ShellCrafters Team Leader Leslie Furmage. They invite everyone to share their project ideas with them.

## Member of the Month: Linda Hamilton

What is your favorite shell? The wentletrap

What is your favorite find? Florida Royal Miter and my dream is to find a junonia.



What is your most unusual find? A few years ago, the beach in Boca Raton was being re-nourished. There were walls of shells. I love to dig and that's how I found the Florida Royal Miter.

What is your favorite beach? John Lloyd State Park in Dania, FL

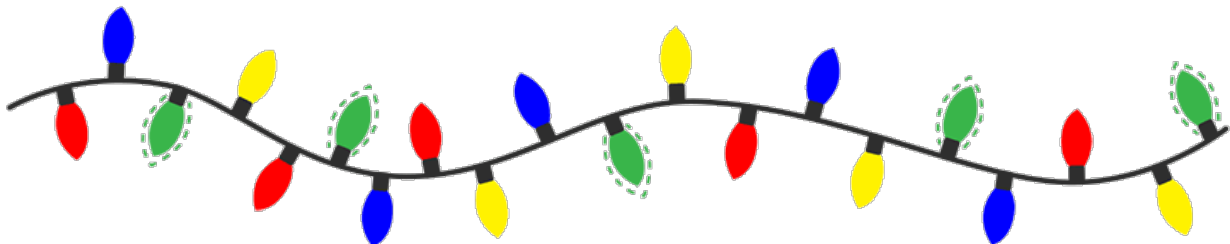
How long have you been a ESC member? Around 12 years, I've been a member-at-large and co-chaired Shell & Craft Sale.

Fun fact about you? In addition to shells, I collect rocks, minerals, arrowheads, and Indian artifacts. I am also a church organist.

My mother and aunt played in church and I started taking lessons in grade school and did up until I finished high school. After a 20 year break, I started playing in my hometown church again; nearly every week last summer.



Linda and her two siblings grew up on a grain and livestock farm in Marysville, Ohio. She has fond memories of tending lambs disowned by their mothers. Linda's father died two years ago at age 94 and her mother, now 94, still lives on the farm. Since 2007, Dennis and Linda, high school sweethearts, have been splitting time between Englewood and a home built on acreage adjacent to the family farmland. In January, Linda and Dennis will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. They have a son who has a boy and a girl and their daughter has a son. Linda worked in the Environmental Health and Safety department of Ashland Chemical until an early retirement after 35 years in 2007.



Both articles submitted by Candy Nizio  
Below: Author is Alex Scott



## THE WORLD'S MOST EXPENSIVE SEASHELL

Of the more than 100,000 known species of shells, one of the most rare and the most valuable is *Conus gloriamaris*, the glory of the sea cone shell. Like many cone shells, this large, slender cone shell is found in the Pacific and Indian Oceans. Fine, chestnut hieroglyphic-like markings cover the shell of this animal in two or three bands.

For centuries, the glory of the sea cone was considered the rarest shell in the world, as only a few specimens had been found. These shells were worth thousands of dollars, and belonged to wealthy collectors and museums. The reason for the rarity is due to the animal's habitat, which is deep on the sandy sea floor near the Philippines and Indonesia. In the 18th century, a *conus gloriamaris* sold for three times the price paid the same year for Vermeer's now-priceless painting *Woman in Blue Reading a Letter*.

In 1969, the habitat of *conus gloriamaris* was discovered, and since then hundreds have been collected. The value of the shell has dropped significantly since then. However, the glory of the sea is still highly collectible, both for its shape and coloring and also for its history.

## New hotline for Mote needs

STAFF REPORT

SARASOTA — Mote Marine Laboratory & Aquarium recently announced a new 24/7 hotline for reporting distressed, injured or dead sea turtles, manatees, dolphins or whales in the Sarasota/Manatee region.

The toll-free line is 888-345-2335.

Mote's Stranding Investigations Program responds to reports of distressed, injured or

deceased sea turtles, manatees, dolphins or whales throughout Sarasota and Manatee counties, it said in a news release.

Members of the community are strongly advised to report to the hotline, and are advised to not attempt to assist any distressed or injured animal on their own.

In the rest of Florida, call Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission at 888-404-3922.



“It is perhaps a more fortunate destiny to have a taste for collecting shells than to be born a millionaire.”

Robert Louis Stevenson submitted by Gale Bakalik/Lisa Ketner



**Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission  
Division of Law Enforcement Weekly Report  
September 4, 2020 through September 10, 2020**

**CHARLOTTE COUNTY**

Officers Salem, Goggin, and Lieutenant Ruggiero were on patrol when they saw a group of men wading around in the water and collecting shellfish. The officers saw the men putting shellfish into various buckets and coolers and carry them onto an island. A resource inspection found they were in possession of twenty-one scallops, forty-four fighting conchs, 102 cross-barred Venus clams, lightning whelks, fan shell mussels and some undersized hard-shell clams. Taking scallops in Charlotte County is prohibited. The officers sorted through all the shellfish and allowed the men to keep their daily bag limit of shellfish but the portion over the bag limit was returned to the water alive. Six misdemeanors and ten written warnings were issued. Submitted by Linda Powers



**Library News: Thanks to Kathy Cycak for her book donation of 'Junonia' by Kevin Henkes.**

**Got Shells and or Shell Related Items to Sell?**

Then why not place an ad in our monthly newsletter? Ads can be no longer than 40 words and must contain your name. Cost: \$5.00 per ad/per newsletter. All ad material, plus payment (check made out to Englewood Shell Club) should be mailed to Candy Niziol two weeks prior to the upcoming issue. Candy's home and email address as well as her and phone number can be found on the roster in the Members Only section of the website.

**Candy's Kitchen: Yummy Blessing Cookies**



Melt 2 lbs of almond bark (cake baking section of grocery, I found at Walmart)  
1 cup peanut butter  
The above works great in the microwave  
Stir in 2 cups salted peanuts (cocktail)  
3 cups Rice Krispies  
2 cups miniature marshmallows

Drop spoonfuls on wax paper then place in refrigerator to cool & harden. Enjoy!

**happy  
holidays!**