

President's Message—

What a treat to see so many shell lovers at our October meeting. Welcome back everyone! Show and Tell had such a wonderful, diverse selection of shell projects. How fun was it to see Chris' mailbox, the truly inventive uses for shells and scales and such wonderful and imaginative uses for shells incorporated into jewelry creations? Congratulations one and all for your great accomplishments, your love of shell crafting was evident throughout your projects.

I hope you are all looking forward to our Christmas party; it's being held at the Manasota Beach Club on December 9, 2008 at noon. Please bring a \$12.50 present to swap at the party (but only if you wish). I've been looking forward to the party since last year. How lucky are we to have our party at one of the most prestigious beach clubs in all of Florida!

The newsletter editors are delighted to have so many members receive their newsletters by e-mail. Thank you so much everyone.

I feel our new slogan has been around forever, it just seems so right. It is really fun to see "The Shell Seekers" on our new jackets bags and t-shirts. I wish to thank Sue Ross, Jo Ann House, Ruth Middlebrooks, Jackie McLean and Ann Madden for all of their hard work throughout the summer. It was a great undertaking. Thank you so much. The Board has voted to continue with club merchandising. We need additional volunteers to come up with and carry through on any new ideas, Put your thinking caps on and help us to utilize this program to its fullest.

I hope you all have a wonderful year shelling on field trips, attending monthly meetings and socials, ShellCrafters and study group. Have a grand Holiday! Happy shelling everyone.

Doris Lyons

Welcome New Members—

Fourteen new members joined Englewood Shell Club at the October meeting. A hearty welcome to Sharon and Theron Craig, Joy's husband Harry Brandt, Brenda Tompkins, Pamela Orozco, Arlene Wild, Linda Geoghegan, Judy Green, Jan Beshoner, Jan Hayes, Joan Cheely, Libby Phillips, and mother/daughter team Sharon Weston and Faye Cooper!

Come Decorate the Tree

Thursday, December 4 at 10 a.m. will be the Holiday Tree decorating project at Cedar Point Park! You will get even more ideas than ever this year because Joy Brandt and Rita Stonehouse went through

all the boxes of old ornaments, repaired some, made more and will be sharing ideas of still more to be made by members at November 21 ShellCrafters. Be sure to add takedown day, January 8 to your calendar as well. This project is low stress since Bobbi Rodgers at Cedar Point puts up the tree and adds the lights before



we arrive! All we have to do is find space for all the ornaments. Trimmers often bring their cameras to take pictures of decorations they hope to replicate at home! See you then!

Exciting Programs Ahead—

Charlie Barr, new club member but long time sheller, will share useful tips and encourage members to enter upcoming shell shows at the November meeting, according to Sue Ross, this year's program chairman. Charlie's suggestions will help those with artistic expression entries and also those with scientific exhibits. His program will build on the one Harry Berryman gave last year. Programs in the new year will include Linda Powers, "Shelling in the Philippine Islands" and Dr. Jose Leal, Director, Bailey Matthews Shell Museum, Sanibel.

October's Show and Tell program presented by the members was fantastic. We saw surf clam magnolias, gar scale Christmas ornaments, pictures, a stunning sculpture featuring barnacles and Queen conch slice, original needlecraft, shadow boxes, pails of shells, a glamorous oyster shell wreath, and dramatic pussy willows from bubble shells. Many members shared jewelry making ideas. Christina Anglin brought pictures of her new mosaic mailbox and told about the Chattanooga riverside mosaic on 29 buildings. Chris was in charge of the seven-year project, which involved teaching more than 30 teachers and showcases art of 10.000 Tennessee children. The Officers' table was decorated with cute jack-o-lanterns made from orange painted sea urchins with sharks' teeth faces. They were the brain child of Judy Kauk and made by Joy Brandt and Rita Stonehouse.

Study Group Has New Venue—

A large group gathered at Debbie Freeman's home Monday, November 10 to study Florida's cone shells. The second half of the meeting was devoted to shell identification with specimens the group brought. Highlight of the meeting was getting the opportunity to view Debbie's beautiful, extensive shell collection.

The group will study *Strombus* at the December 8 meeting and Augers on Thursday, January 15 (date changed to avoid Carefree Learner trip). Debbie stressed that members are welcome to bring non-Florida shells for study. Bring your own chair to Debbie's; if the group grows larger, she won't have enough for all. All meetings are at 1 PM.



Seaglass Wrapping Class—

Sue Ross will teach a special beginner's Seaglass Wrapping class at the outdoor pavillion at Lemon Bay Park on Tuesday, December 2 from 9-12 noon. Rita Stonehouse and Ruth Middlebrooks will assist. Bring round needle-nosed pliers if you have them.

Dues are Due!

Christina Anglin, vice president and membership chairman, reminds us that dues are due now and must be paid before you participate in ShellCrafters or go on an excursion! Dues for renewing members are \$15/person; \$25/family. Dues for new members are \$22.50/person; \$40/family to cover cost of name tags. Remember checks are payable to Englewood Shell Club this year! Forms are available in this newsletter, on the club's web site <u>www.</u> <u>englewoodshellclub.org</u>. or by contacting Christina Anglin at 473-0829. Remember, a signed waiver form is required before any excursion. We'll be printing the membership roster in January!

"I have the world's largest collection of seashells. I keep it scattered on beaches all over the world. Maybe you've seen some of it?" - Steven Wright

From Ann Madden

ShellCrafters Will Be Busy—

The ShellCrafters will meet on the third Friday of each month at 1 $_{\mbox{\rm PM}}$.

Your monthly fee for crafting is \$5 which covers the cost of renting the craft room. Make checks payable to Englewood Shell Club. Checks and cash will be collected at our general meeting and also at the door on crafting day. We prefer that you pay in advance, because we must pay the rent at least two weeks before each meeting. Participation in the scheduled craft project is not mandatory. All are welcome either to attend craft classes or to create any project of their choice and share creative ideas. Don't forget to bring your glue gun or glue pot. We've received requests for assistance in using the Dremmel for shell crafting. If you have a Dremmel and would like to tutor our members, let us know. Any checks for special crafting supplies should be given to Rita Stonehouse, Joy Brandt, or Shirley Kastner.

Schedule for craft projects:

NOVEMBER 21st. - ONE STROKE PAINTING CLASS: Taught by Barb Kugler. Please bring your stretched canvas, 3/4 inch flat brush and #2 script liner brush. Bring paper towels and a cup or margarine tub to hold water. The club will provide shells. For those attending but not participating in the painting class, we will also be making SHELL CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS. The club will provide shells and ask that you bring any special supplies needed to create your ornaments. Any ornaments you generously donate from this crafting class will be placed on the ESC Christmas tree which is displayed at Cedar Point Park. Our tree will be decorated on Dec. 4th by our members.

DECEMBER 19th - TISSUE BOXES: Special thanks to Audrey Grant for generously offering to order the boxes for this project. The fee for the box is \$4 cash or your check payable to Englewood Shell Club.

JANUARY 16th - Sea Glass and Shell Jewelry.

FEBRUARY 20th - Shell Filled Beach Buckets and Shell Wreaths.

MARCH 20th - Shell Flowers

Joy Brandt



Summer Memories—



1st Annual Great Scallop Search—

On Saturday, August 23, Rita Stonehouse along with her son, Jonathon, and Linda Powers volunteered to participate in the inaugural event of The Sarasota Bay Watch organization, the first annual great scallop search. The purpose of the event was to gauge the health of Sarasota Bay. "Bay scallops (*Aequipecten irradians*) are like the canary in the mine", said Rusty Chinnis, president of Sarasota Bay Watch. A large population of scallops is indicative of a healthy ecosystem.



Each boat was provided with a 50-meter weighted transect line and two 1-meter lengths of PVC pipe. The transect line was laid in the sea grass in about 3 feet of water. The four snorkelers then aligned their 1-meter pipe perpendicular to the transect line, and used their hands to gently search among the sea grass for the scallops. Occasionally, a startled scallop would propel itself away from the snorkelers, snapping both bivalves to escape.

Over 26 boats participated, with 75 searches finding over 900 scallops. Rita, Jonathon, Linda, and their boat captain, Steve Carr, counted 226 scallops within their survey site. Rita and Linda thoroughly enjoyed the event and have joined the organization to participate in future bay preservation efforts.

Shelling Trip to Cayo Costa—

In the aftermath of hurricane IKE churning up the Gulf shores, the SUMMER SHELL SEEKERS were pumped up in anticipation of gathering the best shells of the season.

Linda Powers was burning up the telephone lines calling members to gather for an impromptu shelling trip to Cayo Costa. The experts say, the best day to shell is 3 days after the storm, so Saturday was **the** day.

We hit the road early for Pine Island Marina where we boarded a ferry to Cayo Costa escorted by dolphins swimming alongside.

We got lots of shells including a rare "Great Tellin" discovered by Linda Powers. Judy Kauk got a zigzag scallop. Rita Stonehouse found a beautiful top shell. Rita and Joy Brandt returned with big barnacle covered lightning whelks. There were lots of lettered olives, huge cockles, the biggest pen shells I have ever seen, moon snails, angels wings, sand dollars, and not often found, heart (mud) sea urchins.

After shelling, we picnicked in the shade and some of us took a cool shower before boarding the tram returning us to the ferry dock.

On the ferry ride back we were in for a special treat. The Captain took us to a Manatee Pool where to our delight, we watched several of these big sea cows swim lazily around and under our boat. The noise of the boat awoke a large alligator from his sleep along the shore and we got to watch him swim away to find cover.

We saw lots of native shorebirds, including cormorants, terns, pelicans, sanderlings, sandpipers, a flock of magnificent frigatebirds and a beautiful bald eagle perched on a nearby tree.

Thanks Linda for a fun day!! Joy Brandt

Editor Adds to Summer Shell Seekers—

The club's immediate past president was tickled pink with the Summer Shell Seekers. They are an informal addition to the club since the club's formal activities conclude with the April picnic and resume in October. This summer the action never stopped thanks to JoAnne House and Joy Brandt AND all the Summer Shell Seekers! Besides the Cavo Costa trip featured, the group met every two weeks all summer on local beaches for conversation, swimming, and shelling; the last meeting was mid-September. The group shared jewelry making ideas that led to the gorgeous work shown at the October meeting. Ruth Middlebrooks had a jewelry making workshop at her home in July. Sue Ross organized a fun trip to Palm Island complete with golf carts and lunch, A group even went shelling on Marco Island, something they think the club might try one of these days. Thanks everyone!

Englewood Shell Club Calendar 2008 – 2009

Tues., Oct. 21-First Board Meeting

Tues., Oct. 28—First Fall General Meeting, Lemon Bay Park, 1:30 P.M.

Thurs., Oct. 31—Beach Walk with Brenda, Manasota Beach, 9 A.M.

Nov. 5-7—Sanibel Excursion

Mon., Nov. 10—Study Group, Debbie Freeman's, 1430 Bayshore Drive, 1 P.M.

Wed., Nov. 12—Beach Walk with Brenda, Middle Beach, 11 A.M.

Fri., Nov. 14—Carefree Learner Excursion, Sarasota Bay, 7-11 A.M.

Tues., Nov. 18—ESC Board Meeting, Cedar Point Park, 10 A.M.

Fri., Nov. 21—ShellCrafters, Tringali Center, 1 P.M. Painting Seascapes/ Making Christmas Ornaments

Tues., Nov. 25—ESC General Meeting, Lemon Bay Park, 1:30 р.м. Charlie Barr, Speaker, Shell Show Tips

Tues., Dec. 2—Beginner's seaglass wrapping class at the beach by Sue Ross, 9-12 noon.

Thurs., Dec. 4—Decorate Christmas Tree, Cedar Point Park, 10 A.M.

Dec. 4-Jan. 8—Christmas Tree on Display to Public at Cedar Point Park

Mon., Dec. 8—Study Group, Debbie Freeman's Home. 1 P.M. Strombus.

Tues., Dec. 9—ESC Holiday Luncheon, Manasota Beach Club 12:00 noon

Fri., Dec. 12—Carefree Learner Excursion, Sarasota Bay, 7-11 A.M.

Fri., Dec. 19—ShellCrafters, Tringali Center, 1 р.м. HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Wed., Jan. 7—Beach Walk with Brenda 12 noon, site: TBA

Thurs., Jan 8—Take down Christmas Tree, Cedar Point, 10 A.M.

Mon., Jan. 12—Carefree Learner Excursion, Sarasota Bay, 7-11 A.M.

Thurs., Jan. 15—Study Group, Debbie Freeman's, 1 Р.м. Augers.

Fri., Jan. 16—ShellCrafters, Tringali Center, 1 P.M.

Jan. 17-18—Space Coast Seashell Festival, Melbourne Auditorium, 625 E. Hibiscus Blvd. E-mail: corshell@ earthlink.net

Tues., Jan. 20, ECS Board Meeting, Cedar Point, 10 A.M.

Tues., Jan. 27, ESC General Meeting, 1:30 p.m. Linda Powers, Speaker, Phillippine Islands Shelling

Jan 30-Feb 1—Broward Shell Show, Pompano Beach Rec. Center, NE 18th Ave & NE 6th St. E-mail: nancygaldo@gmail.com

Mon., Feb. 9—Study Group 1 P.M.

Feb. 13-15—Sarasota Shell Show, Municipal Auditorium, Tamiami Trail, E-mail: spillow6@comcast. net

Tues., Feb. 17—ESC Board Meeting, Cedar Point, 10 A.M.

Fri., Feb. 20—ShellCrafters, Tringali Center 1 Р.М.

Tues., Feb. 24—ESC General Meeting, Lemon Bay Park 1:30 p.m. Dr. Jose Leal, Director, Bailey Matthews Shell Museum, Sanibel

February: Date TBA: Fossil Shell Gathering Excursion (tentative)

Feb. 28-March 1—St. Petersburg Shell Show, Seminole Recreation Center, 9100 113th St. N., E-mail: <u>blipe@</u> <u>tampabay.rr.com</u>

March 5-7—Sanibel Shell Show, Sanibel Community Center, Periwinkle Way E-mail: milsfrills@cs.com

Mon., March 9—Study Group 1 P.M.

March 12-14—Marco Island Shell Show, Marco Presbyterian Church, 875 W. Elkcam Circle E-mail: marco-sheller@earthlink.net

Mon., March 16—Egmont or Caledesi Excursion (Bus trip)

Tues., March 17—ESC Board Meeting, Cedar Point Park, 10 A.M.

Fri., March 20—ShellCrafters, Tringali Park, 1 Р.М.

Tues., March 24—ESC General Meeting, Lemon Bay park, 1:30 р.м.

Mon., April 13—Study Group, 1 P.M.

Fri., April 17—ShellCrafters, Tringali Center, 1 Р.М.

Tues., April 21—ESC Board Meeting, Cedar Point Park, 10 A.M.

Tues., April 28—ESC Picnic. Final Formal Event of ESC Year.

May 29-31—Jacksonville Shell Show, Morocco Shrine Temple, 3800 St. Johns Bluff Rd., E-mail: <u>challoyd@</u> <u>bellsouth.net</u>

July 19-23 American Malacological Society Annual Meeting, Ithaca, NY

July 19-23—Conchologists of America Annual Convention, Hilton Clearwater Beach Resort.

Sanibel was Spectacular—

Thirty club members spent three lovely days on Sanibel November 5-7 and an additional carload came down for the day on November 6. The letter **"S"** starts Sanibel and that was a great letter for so many of our activities—Shelling, Shopping, Shelling, Sunny Snoozing, Starlight, Sunrise and Sunset Shelling, Sightseeing, Shellcraft-idea gathering, Schmoozing at Stranges, Shell Museum visits, Seeing Spoonbills, Scrumptous food, and Simply enjoying Sanibel.

Thanks so much to Marilyn Boyd for arranging the trip and to Larry and Carol Strange for having us to their spectacularly unique home for cocktail hour and *hors d'oeurves* followed by a pizza party Thursday evening. We marveled at their shells as well as their hospitality. We lunched together on Wednesday and fifteen of us met for lunch on Thursday.



Most of the shell treasures found were small ones, but there were many. Alabaster white lace murex with lovely pink tips and vividly colored apple murex were abundant at the lighthouse, where several people also found wentletraps, rose tellins and lovely brown thick-lipped drills with white edges. There were several shark's eye, baby's ear and gaudy *Natica*, lovely dark tulips, perfect lightning whelks, lovely red, orange and yellow coquina, tops, turbans, tinted cantharis, bubbles, bonnets and many little orange horse conch up to an inch long. We picked up black and deep brown branched sponges that we hope will become shell-decorated trees supported on driftwood or large shell bases. Many dolphin and 60 species of birds were seen.

MORE TO COME—The next excursions will be the three *Carefree Learner* trips to explore Sarasota Bay. They are Friday, November 14; Friday, December 12 and Monday, January 12. These trips were explained in the September issue of *The Shell Scoop*. They are coordinated by Debbie Freeman. If you have not experienced a *Carefree Learner* trip, read the stories about preparation and results on-line in the Nov. 2006, Jan. 2007, Nov. 2007, and March 2008 issues of *The Shell Scoop*. In February we are hoping for a fossil shell trip. Reserve March 16 on your calendar now! That day we plan a bus trip to Egmont Key or Honeymoon/Caledesi Islands, according to Ruth Middlebrooks and Marilyn Boyd, excursions co-chairs.

Beach Walks with Brenda Return—

Only Diana Leonhardt braved inclement weather for the first walk on October 24, so a second October 30 trip found at least a dozen shellers strolling Manasota Beach. The club met again Wednesday, November 12 at Middle Beach at 11 A.M. No beach walk is scheduled for December, but the January event will be at noon on Wednesday, January 7 with the location still to be determined. Thanks to Brenda Steele for organizing these fun days.

Summer Outreach at Camp and Library—

Doris Lyons and Linda Powers taught a shell segment for the summer camp at Cedar Point Park last summer. They met the children at Stump Pass beach where the campers gathered shells and identified them with Doris and Linda's help. The campers made a variety of shell crafts, which they proudly took home. "It was such fun! The kids practically teach themselves!," said Doris Lyons.

Later in the summer Jan Plummer taught a Shell identification class at Elsie Quirk library. Each participant got a pizza box with a shell ID guide and a big pile of shells. The students found the shells that matched the diagrams and secured them into the pizza boxes. Thanks for taking time to share your expertise!

Your Help Needed—

Sue Rundle, this year's historian, is looking for pictures and news articles for the scrapbook. Be sure to let Jackie McLean, social chairman, know if someone needs a get well card or such! Eunice Herr, librarian, reminds people that books can be checked out for one month; be sure to bring them back for others to use. Pictures and story ideas are always welcomed for the newsletters! Send or give them to Rich/Anita Wilson. The club is always looking for new ideas and people to help with activities! We truly welcome and need your help! Share your thoughts with Doris Lyons, president!

Meeting Time-



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E-mail			
Phone Numbers: FL	Out-of-State	Mobile	
Selections: • Dickies Nylon Navy Jacket	Orcle size(s): Unisex: M, L, XL, 2X, 3X	Quantity	Price: \$47 M, L & XL; \$49 2X& 3X
Dickies Nylon Royal Jacket	Orcle size(s): Unisex: M, L, XL, 2X, 3X	Quantity	Price: \$47 M, L & XL; \$49 2X & 3X
 Cream w/Navy Large Canvas Bag 	Geg	Quantity	Price: \$32/ea.
 Oream w/Light Blue Medium Canvas Bag 	anvas Bag	Quantity	Price: \$16/ea.
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Newsletter Format Changes—

The color edition of *The Shell Scoop* is available on line this year at our web site: www. englewoodshellclub.org for you to view and print. We are also having 100 copies of the newsletter printed professionally in black and white for members who do not have computers, can't access the web site and to give to new/prospective members. Members with computer access may pick up a black and white copy after those without access have theirs, if any remain. We experimented with the on-line version last year and it was quite successful. More than 35 members participated and only two had trouble printing. The change has several advantages, according to Rich and Anita Wilson, newsletter editors. It will be less expensive for the club, you will have the newsletter before the meeting, members can access copies from either summer or winter homes and it will allow more timely newsletters. Now that we are approaching 150 members, it would take Wilsons nearly a month to print color copies on their home computer. Currently, there are four issues of *The Shell Scoop* yearly. They are timed for the January, March, and November meetings; the September issue is mailed to members post Labor Day. Rich and Anita are delighted that Sue Ross will be transitioning into the newsletter editorship and will take over the March issue with Wilsons serving as her back-up! Sue has also agreed to be the club's liaison with Freeman Crosby, our Webmaster, beginning in February. Thanks, Sue! Web liaison slipped through the cracks since last April, but Wilsons agreed mid-November to do this for our President until Sue takes over.

International Shelling Opportunities—

The Club received information about four 2009 shelling trips to the Bahamas from Jim and Bobbi Cordy, Merritt Island. The Cordys have more than 35 years of experience shelling the Caribbean. May 17-24, 2009 they will lead an eight-day trip to Eleuthera for only \$900 per person A deposit of \$410 is needed by February 1. They will do a similar trip September 12-19 for \$750, with deposit required by June 1. The Club went with Cordys on a similar trip two years ago and we had a great time. These trips are limited to 12 people. June 20-27 they will go to the Sea of Abaco where each day will feature snorkeling from a 21 foot boat on a different cay. August 1-8, they will travel to South Bimini Island. These trips are \$1700 and \$1500 respectively and they include all meals. Shellers fly from Ft. Lauderdale in each case.

Talk to ESC members Charlie and Chris Barr, Linda Powers, and Marilyn Boyd about other international opportunities. Another contact is Peggy Williams of Sarasota, who also leads International shelling trips.

Join COA—

This is the perfect time to join our mother organization, the Conchologists of America (COA), because the 2009 silver anniversary convention will be July 19-23 in Clearwater Beach, Florida! You can either stay at the headquarters Hilton Clearwater

Beach Resort or drive back and forth part of the time. The meeting will feature educational and entertaining speakers. 10.000 feet of ballroom filled with shells for sale at the Bourse, a Suncoast Silver Spectacular. silent and verbal shell auctions, a Bon Voyage Sail Away Party and the Captain's Farewell banquet. There will be pre-convention field



trips: diving in the gulf, Florida Aquarium tour, fossil collecting, Weeki Wachee Springs, Tarpon Springs, and a boat trip down the Anclote River to Anclote Key. On Tuesday there will be a dolphin sighting trip and a dinner cruise or wading/shelling trip in Tampa Bay.

COA membership is only \$25 a year and includes four issues of the American Conchologist, the club's journal, as well as special rates on the convention. An extra \$5 includes first class postage to mail the journal. Each year ESC sends one official delegate to the convention and pays that person's meeting registration fee. The club president has first choice of delegate status. Debbie Freeman was the club's delegate to the 2008 meeting in San Antonio. The 2008 meeting was attended by more than 200 people from 14 nations and 22 states; 33 dealers from all over the world were there displaying and selling their shells. Besides a Texas version of some of the activities described above for 2009, one of last summer's favorites was a bargain table with nice clean identified shells for fifty cents each.

Memberships are for a calendar year and are retroactive, so join in January 2009. If you wish to join now while you are thinking about it, Doris Underwood, COA Membership Director, says just write "For 2009 membership" on your application. Make this your Christmas present to yourself! Apply to and send check (\$25 or \$30) and completed membership form to Doris Underwood, 698 Sheridan Woods Drive, W. Melbourne, FL 32904. As you know, the COA website can be accessed through our club's website and the application and much more information about COA viewed/printed. P.S. For newbies, a conchologist is a person who studies shells. You are one now! **Englewood Shell Club** Rich & Anita Wilson 935 Bayshore Drive Englewood, FL 34223-2203

Please complete application and include your check made payable to: Englewood Shell Club				
Individual Membership	Family Membership			
Renewal \$15.00	Renewal \$25.00			
New* \$22.50	New* \$40.00			
PLEA	SE PRINT			
Name				
Spouse Name (optional)				
Florida Address: Street				
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Other Address: Street				
City/State/Zip				
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E-mail Address				
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, field trip leaders nor the property owner liable for any injuries should they occur.

Signed _____Date_____

Signed _____Date_____ *Covers one time cost of name tag.

DO NOT COMPLETE			
Check No.	Amount:	Dated:	