

Englewood Shell Club

The Shell Scoop

Shell Seekers

Volume 7 Number 3

October 2011 www.EnglewoodShellClub.org ◀



President's Message Nancy Weborg

Welcome back Shell Seekers -

I hope everyone enjoyed their summer vacations. I'm sure everyone will have tales to tell.

There have been a few changes since last year. Our regular meetings this year will be the 3rd Tuesday of the month with the first meeting being held on October 18th.

The meeting place will be the same - the Elks Club, 1:00 PM. We will be meeting in our new room, too. I do believe this will better serve the club.

Remember our first meeting is "Show and Tell" - so bring a craft you worked on over the summer to share - or a shell you found on the beach - or something new you learned. Whatever it is, everyone will enjoy it.

This is going to be a great year for the club. There are lots of things planned so you won't want to miss any of our meetings. Our trip-master, Ruth Middlebrooks, is working on some trips for us to venture out on. The crafty Eleanor Langlois is getting Shellcrafters in order. The well known Debbie Freeman has scheduled Carefree Learner trips. Rita Stonehouse has been walking many beaches to plan for our beach walks. And this is just the beginning!!!!!!

So stay tuned - don't miss anything - attend the meetings - get involved - join a committee - meet and greet - all the committee chairpersons will be glad to have new people involved.

Member Profile



Eunice Herr

My husband Jack and I have been year round residents for over six years now and are very happy being here in this southern paradise.

I grew up in Maryland in a small town called Camp Springs. After graduating from High School, I went to work for a government office as a secretary, which was located near where I lived. I married and in time became a stay-at-home Mom to raise two sons and one daughter. Those were fun years being active in their school activities, scouting, and so many things they were involved in.

Our oldest son graduated from the Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland and now resides in San Francisco with his family, and is in private industry. Our youngest son has a successful business in Maryland and our daughter is doing well in her career. They reside in Maryland with their families. We have eight grandchildren, some still in college.

I retired from the Department of Commerce - The Census Bureau as a secretary, with a break to be a travel agent for a few years. Jack was in the construction business for many years. We lived in San Francisco, CA for about five years and then returned to Maryland. My mother lived with us after our return and we enjoyed doing so much together, especially being outside working in our beautiful gardens. After losing my mother, and our beloved toy poodle, Peppie, We moved to Englewood in 2005.

I enjoy so many activities here, from growing orchids, to making beaded jewelry. And belonging to our Shell Club. Having made many friends that enjoy the beautiful shells found on our beaches, shell crafts, beach walks, trips, shell studies, picnics and other activities, where else would you want to be?

Shell Club Board of Directors

President - Nancy Weborg

Vice President - Katherine Gudgel

Treasurer - Eileen Tabone

Secretary - Shari Loechler

Founding President - Barb Myers

Past President- Christina Anglin

Three Directors-at-large:

Eunice Herr

Richard Eckart

Linda Hamilton

Contact Persons

President, Nancy Weborg,

941 493 3255, Mrsweebs581@aol.com

Vice-president, Katherine Gudgel,

941 475 7296 ksgudgel@insightbb.com

Newsletter/website Christina Anglin

941 473 0829 anglinc@comcast.net

Englewood Shell Club Calendar

2011 -2012 Season

General Meetings

Third Tuesdays October through March

Elks Club

401 N. Indiana Avenue, Englewood, Fl 34223

September

9/01/11 Deadline for October Newsletter.
9/30/11

October

10/10/11 Deadline for November Newsletter
10/04/11 ESC Board Meeting -Elsie Quirk Library 10 AM
10/18/11 ESC General Meeting - 1 PM - Elks Lodge
 Program: Members Sharing past activities
10/26-28/11 Trip to Key West

November

11/01/11 Board Meeting - 10:00 AM Elsie Quirk Library
11/7/11 Study Group Debbie Freeman's 1PM
11/09/11 Beach walk 10:00 AM Location to be determined
11/15/11 ESC General Meeting 1:00 PM Elks Lodge (second meeting room on left)
 Program: Alan Gittleman "Land Snails of Western Dominican Republic"
11/18/10 ShellCrafters - 12- 2PM Englewood Sport Complex

December

12/05 /11 Decorate Christmas tree at Cedar Point Park 10 AM
12/05/11 Study Group 1PM at Debbie Freeman's house
12/06/11 ESC Board Meeting - 10:00 AM Elsie Quirk Library
12/10/11 Deadline for January newsletter
12/12/11 Carefree Learner - 6:30 AM - Marina Jack
12/13/11 Christmas Luncheon - Gulf View Grill 11 AM-2 PM
12/14/11 Beachwalk 10 AM location to be determined
112/16/11 Shellcrafters - 12:00--2:00 PM Englewood Sports Complex

* No General Meeting in December

January

- 1/02/12 Undecorate Christmas Tree - Cedar Point Park 10 AM
1/02/12 Study Group 1PM Debbie Freeman's house
1/03/12 ESC Board Meeting Elsie Quirk Library 10 AM
1/11/12 Beachwalk 10 AM location to be determined
1/17/12 ESC General Meeting Elks Club 1 PM
Program: Jean Airey, "Native Burial Excavation on Manasota Key
1/20/12 ShellCrafters 12-2 PM Englewood Sports Complex
1/25/12 Carefree Learner - 6:30 AM Marina Jack

February

- 2/07/12 ESC Board Meeting 10 AM Elsie Quirk Library
2/08/12 Beach walk 10:00 AM location to be determined
2/10/12 Deadline for March Newsletter
2/17/12 ShellCrafters 12-2PM Englewood Sports Complex
2/20/12 Study Group Debbie Freeman's 1 PM
2/21/12 ESC General Meeting - Elks Lodge 1 PM
Program: Charlotte LLOYD Thorpe "Shells of northeast Florida

March

- 3/05/12 Study Group Debbie Freeman's 1 PM
3/06/12 ESC Board Meeting 10 AM Elsie Quirk Library
3/14/12 Beachwalk 10:00 AM location to be determined
3/16/12 ShellCrafters 12-2 PM Englewood Sports Complex
3/20/12 ESC General Meeting 1:00 PM Elks Lodge
Program:Elizabeth Staugler "Lemon Bay Scallops"

April

- 4/02/12 Study Group 1:00 PM Debbie Freeman's house
4/03/12 ESC Board Meeting Elsie Quirk Library 10:00 AM
4/17/12 ESC Farewell Picnic - Englewood Gardens Beach Club 11-4

June

- 6/16 -24/12 Conchologists of America COA Annual Convention
Crowne Plaza Hotel Philadelphia

* Deadline for September Newsletter is 9/10/12

May - September

Summer Beach Walks - 1st and 3rd Wednesdays

Shell Club Committee

Chairmen

Programs: Linda Powers

Membership: Katherine Gudgel

Excursions: Ruth Middlebrooks,
Marilyn Boyd, and Debbie Freeman

Social/Sunshine: Jackie McLean

Librarian: Judy Green

Historian: Sue Rundle

Communications: Christina Anglin

Merchandising: Shirley Kastner

Study Group: Debbie Freeman

Shell Crafters: Eleanor Langlois
and Suzanne Skalski

Outreach: Amie Barnicle

Beachwalks: Rita Stonehouse

Greeters: Marilyn Boyd

Outreach

We finished up the last season with two programs on Boca Grande. They were a contest for Innovative Shell Projects held by Gasparilla Inn and the Great Shell Hunt sponsored by Boca Grande Lighthouse and Museum.

ESC members lending a hand were: Brenda Steele, Eileen Tabone, and Diana Leonhardt. Your donated shells were well used for the year's programs. Marilyn Boyd was supplied with a collection of fossil shells for each of her students as well as additional display specimens used at Englewood Elementary School.

Currently there are two requests for presentations during the coming season. Our storage of a wide selection of local shells have been sorted and ready for whatever.

Amie Barnicle

Committee Notes

Excursions

Get ready for a Key West bus trip. We will leave for the Hampton Inn in Islamorada at 7 A.M. on Wednesday, October 26, 2011. A great breakfast comes with your suites (4 to a room). Let me know your room mates. Total room cost per person is \$106.32 and covers two nights. Tentative plan is to travel to Key West late afternoon on arrival day and see the Southern tip of our USA with a sunset visit at the Square. Shelling at the bridges and Boca Chica State park will be fun on Thursday October 27th. Shopping on the return trip on Friday October 28th. Meals other than breakfast are on you. Bus and parking fees to be determined later. Marilyn and I are looking at islands off of Marco. Shell Island and Egmont Key for possible trips. Debbie and I have discussed the Panhandle and she is doing the Carefree Learner. Looks like fun excursions. I will only be in Florida September and October this fall. Feel free to contact me on any of your ideas for winter and spring trips. **Ruth Middlebrooks**

Programs

I am thrilled to be ESC's new program chairperson. We have an exciting line up of speakers for this season.

At the November 15th meeting, Alan Gettleman, who was just awarded COA's prestigious Neptune Award, will speak on Land Shells of the Dominican Republic. This trip is a continuation of the trip ESC members took in July 2010, with 3 of our members participating in the land snailing portion of the trip. From talking to those that took this trip, it should prove interesting and entertaining. 2012's programs will concentrate on our local environment. January's speaker, Jean Airey from the Lemon Bay Historical Society, will present an absolutely fascinating look at a Native American Burial Excavation on

American burial excavation on Manasota Key. And wait until you hear how our local shells played a big part in the history. February's speaker is Charlotte Lloyd Thorpe of the Jacksonville Shell Club. Charlotte's photography of live shells is often featured in the American Conchologist magazine. She will be speaking about The Shells of Northeast Florida, which will feature her pictures from this newly introduced book authored by Dr. Harry Lee. We will wind up the season with a lecture by Elizabeth Staugler, Florida Sea Grant Agent. Betty will be speaking about our local bay scallops. Several ESC members have assisted Betty in the past several years with the Lemon Bay Scallop Count and by raising scallops. Betty will teach us how we can help with the recovery of this very important sentinel species. I hope you will enjoy the programs this year as much as I've enjoyed finding interesting speakers for you. **Linda Powers**

Study Group

Our Study Group will meet on the first Monday of the month unless noted otherwise. Dates are different for January and February because I will be out of town, so please note these dates:

Mon., Nov. 7; Mon, Dec. 5; *Fri. Jan. 27; *Mon. Feb. 20; Mon., March 5; Mon. April 2.

We will meet at my home at 1p.m. Our first meeting in November we will be discussing our summer shelling finds, and helping with identification. We will also decide shell topics for the rest of the season so bring ideas as well as your shells! For questions or directions please email me

at :Limpet@comcast.net or call 473-3359.

Debbie Freeman

ShellCrafters

The first Shellcrafters session November 18 will focus on making Shell encrusted Christmas trees built on a foam cone base. Crafters can supply their own cones.

Eleanor Langlois

Merchandising

We still have caps, visors and pins for sale. The last t-shirt was won as a door prize at our picnic in April. I'm still looking into new items for the coming year. I hope to bring some new ideas to the October board meeting.

Shirley Kastner

Communications

The newsletter will be available on our web page on October 1st, November 1st, January 1st and March 1st. The User name and password are the same as last year. Deadline for each issue is the 10th of the preceding month. It is a great savings to have members access the newsletter online rather than paying printing and mailing costs. For those who are concerned about printing costs there are several options. You can, of course read it online. If you want a printed copy, it can be printed in black and white instead of color. Or if you only want certain pages or pictures, you can request printing for those parts only. This works well for Membership forms or coupons. If you have questions please contact me. anglinc@comcast.net. I encourage members to submit items of interest and photos to the newsletter and for inclusion in our gallery on the web page **Christina Anglin**



Outreach Members
Work with kids on
Boca Grande. A
Great time for all!



Pam Orozco with a prize
Whelk found near her dock.



Pam has a prime location for shelling at Chadwick Cove.

Recent treasures include a banded tulip. A lightning whelk and a very large whelk.

Summer Shell Fun

Shell Club Members, Judy Green, Linda Powers, Rita Stonehouse, Nancy Weborg, Darlene Gallentine, Eunice Herr and others made favors for our holiday luncheon on December 13. The design will remain a secret until our luncheon at the Gulf View Grill.



Busy Shell
Club
Members
Making shell
Favors.

ELEUTHERA SHELLING TRIP-

Linda Powers

Eight intrepid ESC shellers traveled to Eleuthera, an outer island of the Bahamas on May 13-20, 2011 for a fantastic shelling trip with experienced guide, Jim Cordy. Some had been on this trip before, and a few of the girls were on their very first international shelling trip. All agreed that it was a great experience, with a large variety of Caribbean shells found.

We traveled to different environments each day. At the sandy beaches we found beautiful sunrise tellins and milk conchs. At the rocky beaches, we found West Indian tops, chitons, limpets and nerites. We snorkeled a salt pond and found the small black murex (*Chicoreus dunni*), the only place on earth where it is found. We also collected the tiny dark-brown marginella named after Jim Cordy (*Volvarina jimcordyi*) in Sweetings Pond.

Queen conchs were discarded everywhere we went. We found a pile of fresh-dead, and spent a lot of time picking the best of the best. Queen conch are commercially threatened, but when found with the hatchet mark indicating the natives harvested them for food, are legal to take. Sadly, Bobbi Cordy, Jim's wife and past Secretary of COA, passed away earlier this year. We were honored to attend Jim's ceremony to spread her ashes at her favorite beach, Millar's. Ruth Middlebrooks read a beautiful poem and we put together a bouquet of local flowers. It was a very touching service and we were all very moved.

Pictured below are: Ruth Middlebrooks, Jim Cordy, Linda Hamilton, Marilyn Boyd, Brenda Steele, Kathy Cevoli, Eileen Tabone, Linda Powers, and Rita Stonehouse.

Here's a sample of the Eleuthera bounty and a live picture of the Jim Cordy marginella



Shell Seekers on the Go!



COA Convention - Englewood Pirates

Englewood Shell Club was well represented at the COA convention in Port Canaveral. Members above are Matt and Dona Blaine, Lynn Foster, Bet Hamilton, Christina Anglin, Rita Stonehouse, Linda Powers, and Gary Schmelz.

Also attending the convention were: Debbie and Glenn Freeman, and Charlie and Kris Barr, Judy Kauk, Pam Orozco, and Kathy Cevoli joined us at the end of the Week for the famed Bourse.

The picture at the right is the convention site, The Radisson Resort at the Port. The convention was interesting, informative and fun for all participants.



Pioneer Days



The end of summer in Englewood is celebrated with a festive week of fun activities called Pioneer Days. Fun runs, A colorful parade, a Shipwreck Dance, Diaper derby and many competitions. Were held. The Shell Club participated with a watermelon eating contest. Here, Linda Powers is presenting medals to the winners. Linda was assisted by Rita Stonehouse, Nancy Weborg, Judy Kauk and Pam Orozco. It was a messy but exciting, popular, event.



Summer Beach Walks

Linda Powers was in charge of twice monthly beachwalks this summer. Although the Shelling was not abundant, there was a good supply of sand dollars available at Pelican Point. The Beachwalks were popular and well attended, often ending in great lunches at local restaurants.

Beach babes above are; Pattie Mihalik-Allen, Carol Ayres, Judy Green, Linda Powers, Darlene Gallentine, Eunice Herr and Diana Leonhardt.

Seashells ... bet you can't pick up just one

Most people who have ever walked a beach know that seashells are not a scarce sort of beach toy. Why else would people sit on the sand and collect them?

On a windy day last week at Englewood Beach, children with buckets squealed with delight as they added to their stash of shells.

An old man who had trouble walking nevertheless bent over to retrieve shells that caught his eye, proving that no matter how many times you've picked up seashells, when you see another one you're likely to bend down and pick it up.

Linda Powers has been



collecting for decades. Because she lives along Beach Road in Englewood, she's at the beach almost daily, in good weather and bad.

When it comes to shell enthusiasts, Linda and her Rita Stoenhouse represent two ends of the spectrum. "After all these decades of collecting seashells, I've gotten selective about what I pick up," Linda says. "I

have to be a bigger or better specimen than what I already have. If not, I think there is too much on the beach to pick up."

Rita is less selective. "The first thing I think about when I pick up a shell is what can I make with this? It seems like I've always had a gig going in my hand, gluing a shell onto something else. It doesn't matter if it's a broken shell. I've found a way to use it in a craft project," she says.

Although both are artists, Linda credits Rita with being the creative force behind their shell projects. "It's amazing to see what she creates with seashells," Linda says.

"From the time I picked up my first shell years ago, my mind was thinking about what I could create with it," Rita says.

Neither collects buckets of shells just to have them sit on shelves. Instead, they clean and sort by size and color, knowing they'll be used in a project.

Both women share their shells and craft ideas with members of the Englewood Shell Club. They hold classes, helping others cross-shell necklaces and arrange shell projects.

When the Englewood Shell Club celebrated its 12th anniversary last year, Linda and Rita gave gold-colored sand dollar necklaces to each member. It was a lot of work to clean, sort and paint 100,000 sand dollars, but they wanted to create something special.

over 100 sand dollars on Englewood Beach? "By being there every day, especially during low tide after a storm. Sometimes, piles of shells no one's seen can be found if you are there at the right time," Linda says.

They have found sea urchin, sea urchin and even large fighting crabs, some of which are all that's left on Englewood Beach. Unusual discoveries are one of the reasons because they're volunteers with the local marine patrol.

"While on the beach before 6:30 a.m. each day so we can spot any fish tracks and monitor nests," Linda says. "So much stuff, if there is anything of interest, we'll find it."

The marine biologists also volunteer to monitor the health of boy swallows in Sarasota and Lakewood. When it comes to shells, Rita calls herself an "accidental" Linda, on the other hand, is a certified beach lover, learning all she can about each shell.

"This space for knowledge started when I first came to Lakewood and found a whole egg-cake shell," she says. "I was excited if it was a snail's shell. It led me to start to read shell books and to get to identify shells by their 'proper' name."

That was 30 years ago. She still devoted to shelling.

Her collection is displayed on a wall and throughout the house. It's impossible to walk



Linda Powers stands in front of a wall now housing her seashell collection. Regardless of seashell facts about shells, she attends Geology of America event and enjoys studying each piece.

without being aware that she's a conchologist — a serious shell collector.

In addition to combing Florida beaches, the two women tried to top-shelling the areas of the world on shell expeditions.

Linda especially likes the Philippines, "the best of the best shelling," she says, and Brothers, an area island in the Bahamas.

"There are no garnet-sea occasions," she says. "Often, accommodations are primitive and there is none of the normal tourist amenities. No way when the



Rita Stoenhouse says she seldom sees a shell she can't use in a craft project. With her artistic talent, she turns a pile of shells

Shell Club members make the news! See full articles on display at the meeting in October.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Shell club steps up for Watermelon Eating Contest

The Englewood Shell Club will host the Watermelon Eating Contest, an Englewood tradition, at Englewood's 59th annual Pioneer Days Festival Sept. 5. Pictured here, practicing for the contest, are Shell Club members Pam Grocco, Judy Kaul, Linda Powers and Rita Stoenhouse. This year, watermelons will be provided by J&L Produce. Contestants must eat their piece of watermelon down to the rind with no red showing. The first to finish wins. Sign-up is on the day of the contest at Festival Park. Clubs, organizations and individuals are needed to help with a variety of activities for Pioneer Days. For a listing of volunteer jobs and an online sign-up, go to www.pioneerdaysinneed.com and click on the "volunteer" link.



I'm happy to announce that this year's Holiday Luncheon will be held on Tuesday, December 13, 2011 at the Gulf View Grill, 2095 North Beach Road, Englewood at 11:30 AM. There are 3 entrees to choose from: Flat Iron Steak, Chicken Marsala or Salmon. Rice, vegetable and beverage are also included along with a light dessert (Tiramisu.) Only club members may attend and the cost is \$22 per person.

There will be a gift exchange so if you wish to participate, please bring a gift that is shell related at a cost of approximately \$15. In the past, this has been fun but remember, only those who bring a gift can receive a gift.

If you would like to attend, complete the coupon at the back of the newsletter. Send the coupon and your check to me after October 14, 2011.

Brenda Steele

Holiday Luncheon

December 13, 2011 11:30AM-2:00PM
Gulf View Grill
Englewood,FL

Name _____

Luncheon Selection-circle one:

Fat Iron Steak

Chicken Marsala

Salmon

Make your check out for \$22.00 to the Englewood Shell Club and mail it after October 14, 2011 to:

Brenda Steele, 1470 San Jose Drive, Englewood, FL 34223

Englewood Shell Club RSVP Coupons

Checks are non-refundable and payable to the Englewood Shell Club

Stub to keep:

Key West Trip

ESC Key West Trip

October 26,27,28, 2011

October 26,27,28

\$130 bus transportation.

Deadline: Oct. 10

\$130 bus

Sent to:

Name: _____

* See article on excursions for details on lodging/food

Ruth Middlebrooks

Mail check to: Ruth Middlebrooks,,

1936 Greenlawn Dr

Englewood FL 34223

Date: _____

Stub to keep:

Holiday Luncheon

ESC Holiday Luncheon

Gulf View Grill Tuesday, December 13 - 11:30 AM

December 9, 2010 Noon

\$22

Name(s) _____

Sent to: Brenda Steele

\$22 per member

Deadline: November 26

Mail check to: Brenda Steele

1470 San Jose Drive

Englewood FI 34223

Date: _____

Stub to keep:

Carefree Learner I Excursion

ESC Carefree Learner

December 12: Sailing from Marina Jack at 7 AM

Dec 12 7:00 AM

Name _____

Phone _____

Sent to: Debbie Freeman

\$12

Mail check to Debbie Freeman,

P O Box 339,

Englewood, FI 34295

Date: _____

Deadline: November 22

Stub to keep:

Carefree Learner II Excursion

ESC Carefree Learner

Jan. 23, 2012: Sailing from Marina Jack 7 AM

Jan 23, 2011 7:00 AM

Name _____

Phone _____

\$12

Sent to: Debbie Freeman

\$12

Mail check to Debbie Freeman

P O Box 339

Englewood FI 34295

Date: _____

Deadline: January 5, 2011

Application for Englewood Shell Club Membership

Please complete application and include your check made payable To: Englewood Shell Club.

Send to: Kathryn Gudgel
1132 Yosemite Drive
Englewood FL 34223

Individual Membership	Family Membership (2)
____ New \$27.50*	____ New \$50.00*
____ Renewal \$20.00	____ Renewal \$35.00

*Includes one time cost for name tags

Name _____

Spouse Name (optional) _____

Florida Address: _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Other Address: _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ eMail _____

Would you be willing to serve on one our many committees?

Yes _____ No _____ Maybe _____ Preference _____

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 _____

DO NOT COMPLETE

Check _____ Amt. _____ Dated _____

Englewood Shell Club

The Shell Scoop

Christina Anglin, Editor

10030 Charlemont Avenue

Englewood FL 34224