



ENGLEWOOD SHELL CLUB

THE SHELL SCOOP – SHELL SEEKERS

SEPTEMBER 2021

www.Englewoodshell.club

Co-Presidents: Meredith Blain & Martha Dehne

Hello Shell Seekers!

When I received the text letting me know that it was time to write the greeting for our 1st newsletter it was a complete shock! Where did the summer go and how is it possible that we are so close to having in person Englewood Shell Club meetings? Well, it is and we are! Reservations have been made at the Elks Club and plans are being made for Guest speakers, Shell Study, Shell Crafters and Excursions. It is already looking like a great year!

There have been a few changes in our team leaders over the summer. Our friend, Deb Hubbard has moved to Daytona Beach. She won't be joining us this year. After years of kindly volunteering, she has passed the Beachwalk flag over to Kathy and Walt Cycak. Deb, you will be greatly missed. Candy Niziol has passed the Librarian position on to Jackie Hall. Jackie has already given the library her own touch. Make sure to check it out. Gay Barlow has retired as co-chair of Membership. Sandy Ouderkirk will be joining Linda Schmoyer to keep our membership going strong. Colleen Fosnough has stepped down as our Social Director. Pam Desruisseaux & Pam Orozco have volunteered to take over and already have the Holiday Luncheon and the end-of-year picnic on the books! Cindy Boyd and Colleen Fosnough will be working alongside Leslie Furmage to keep us all shell crafty!

Thank you so very much Deb, Candy, Gay, and Colleen for your years of dedication to the Englewood Shell Club. Each one of you put so much time and effort into your position and we, as a club, are so grateful!

If any member, old or new, is interested in joining one of our committees or just have ideas that you'd like to share, please see one of the team leaders at our October meeting. We would appreciate any help that you'd like to give.

Until then, please visit the ESC website and check out the calendar. Also, on the website is the 2021-2022 Membership Application. The fee is discounted for those who submit dues by October 1.

I hope you enjoy the rest of your summer and return to ESC ready to have a great year!

Happy shelling!

Martha Dehne, co-president

APPLICATION FOR ESC MEMBERSHIP 2021-2022

(October 1, 2021-September 30, 2022)

Complete application (please print) & include your check payable to the Englewood Shell Club

Send to: Sandy Ouderkirk, 8984 Bantry Bay Blvd, Englewood, FL 34224

Please circle or check your membership choice

| <u>Individual Membership</u> | | <u>Family Membership</u> | |
|------------------------------|---------|------------------------------|---------|
| Renew Member by October 1 | \$25.00 | Renew Family by October 1 | \$40.00 |
| Renew Member after October 1 | \$30.00 | Renew Family after October 1 | \$45.00 |
| New* Member by October 1 | \$35.00 | New* Family by October 1 | \$65.00 |
| New* Member after October 1 | \$40.00 | New* Family after October 1 | \$70.00 |

Note: Fee for new members covers one-time cost of name tag & membership folder

Name _____ Spouse (Optional) _____

Florida Address:

Street _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone# _____ Cell # _____

Email _____

Other Address:

Street _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone # _____ Cell # _____

Would you be willing to serve on one of our many committees? Yes _____ No _____

RELEASE OF LIABILITY

Pictures taken during Englewood Shell Club activities may be displayed in ESC publications. I agree that I am individually responsible for my own personal property when I participate in any club field trip activity. I will not hold the Englewood Shell Club, field trip leaders, or the property owner liable for any injuries should they occur.

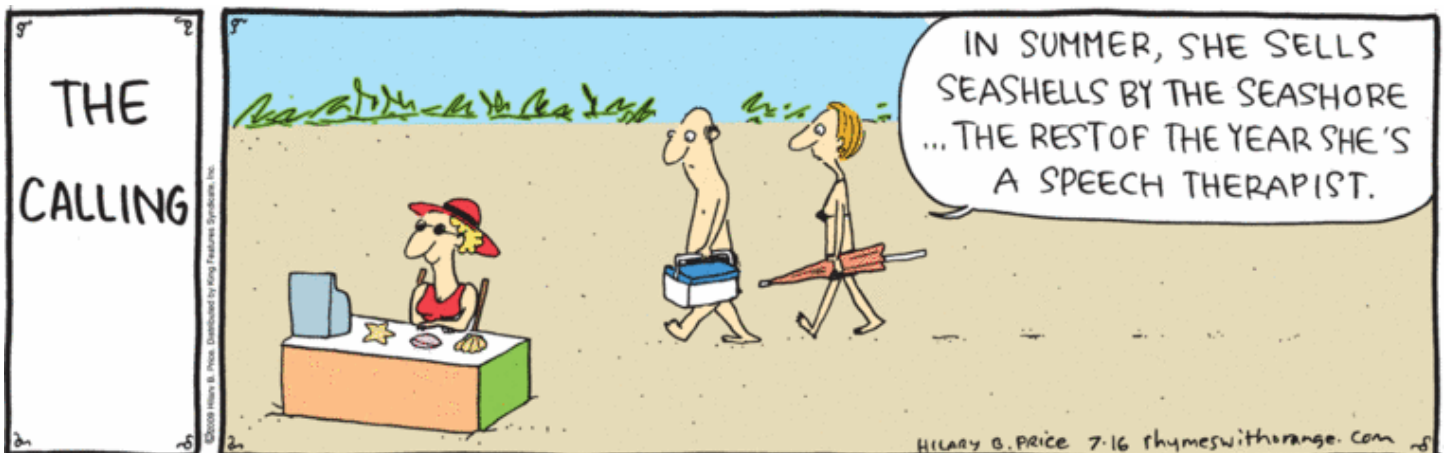
Signed _____ Date _____

DO NOT COMPLETE BELOW (For Membership records only)

Check # _____ Amount _____ Dated _____

Pocket Your Membership Card and Have Fun Saving Money!
PARTICIPATING DISCOUNT MERCHANTS INCLUDE:

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>BAILEY-MATTHEWS SHELL MUSEUM 3075 Sanibel-Captiva Rd., Sanibel, FL Phone: 239-395-2233</p> | <p align="center">FREE ADMISSION</p> |
| <p>BEACH ROAD BOUTIQUE 11350 Beach Rd., Englewood, FL Phone: 941-474-6564</p> | <p align="center">10% DISCOUNT</p> |
| <p>CREATIVE FRAMING & GIFT GALLERY Holiday Center 2357 S. Tamiami Trail # 6 Intersection of US 41 & 776, Venice, FL Phone: 941-493-2276</p> | <p align="center">10% DISCOUNT</p> |
| <p>GASPERS DIVE 'N BOARD 2961 Pacida Rd. Suite 3, Englewood, FL Phone: 941-698-0499</p> | <p align="center">10% DISCOUNT Snorkeling Gear and Other Items</p> |
| <p>HATCH GALLERY 14375 Pambar Ave., Port Charlotte- El Jobean FL Phone: 941-764-8838</p> | <p align="center">10% DISCOUNT</p> |
| <p>HOOKED ON SUP 6950 Placida Rd., Englewood, FL Phone: 941-504-1699 www.hookedonsup.com</p> | <p align="center">10% DISCOUNT On-site rentals</p> |
| <p>PIRATE'S DREAM 3250 Placida Rd., Englewood, FL Phone: 941-830-8860</p> | <p align="center">20% OFF</p> |
| <p>SWIM MART Merchants Crossing 150 Placida Rd., Suite D-8, Englewood, FL Phone: 1-800-210-6221</p> | <p align="center">10% DISCOUNT Off 1 Item</p> |



2021-2022 Board of Directors and Team Leaders

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Co-Presidents | Meredith Blain & Martha Dehne |
| Vice President | Leslie Furmage |
| Treasurer | Judy Kauk |
| Secretary | Anita Wilson |
| Founding President | Barb Myers |
| Past President | Colleen Fosnough |
| Directors-at Large | Linda Masterson, Candy Niziol, and Sandy Ouderkirk |
| Beachwalks | Kathy and Walt Cycak |
| Excursions | Carol Ayres and Marty Atkins |
| Greeters | Marilyn Boyd |
| IT Tech | Open |
| Librarian | Jackie Hall |
| Membership | Sandy Ouderkirk and Linda Schmoyer |
| Merchandise | Patti Redmond |
| Newsletter | Lisa Ketner |
| Outreach | Open |
| Parliamentarian | Marilyn Boyd |
| Programs | Meredith Blain |
| Shellcrafters | Leslie Furmage, Colleen Fosnough, and Cindy Boyd |
| Social | Pam Desruisseaux and Pam Orozco |
| Study Group | Martha Dehne |
| Sunshine | Cindy Boyd |



A message from the Board of Directors:

“We encourage members to practice social distancing and the wearing of masks is optional.”

25th Anniversary Shellabration Recap by Anita Wilson

Approximately 50 people, including Barbara Myers, ESC Founder and three other Founding Members, attended the Englewood Shell Club Shellabration in honor of the club's 25th anniversary on April 20, 2021. This was also the seventh general meeting for the 2020-21 year and replaced the yearly picnic. The original plans for the day had been for a BBQ luncheon and other festivities at Maxine Barritt Park in Venice since the Covid pandemic is still a reality. However because of the forecast for severe weather including 6-8 inches of rain and tornadoes in the area the day before, it was decided to seek an alternative site. The Elks Club in Englewood agreed to accommodate the group. The Shellabration took place from 11-2 with beautifully decorated tables featuring Lightning Whelk (ESC Club Shell) centerpieces, lovely aqua-painted decorated scallop shell favors for each person (completed under Leslie Fumage's direction by the ShellCrafters group), programs developed by Lisa Ketner and shell themed placemats. The Social committee in charge of the event was chaired by Colleen Fosnough with Lisa Ketner as a very able second.

The first 30 minutes (11-11:30) was spent mingling with friends many people had not seen in person all year and bidding on the twenty-plus silent auction items. Candy Niziol was in charge of this project. Auctioned shells came from the Cedar Point collection the club developed years ago; other items were donated by Cindy Boyd (wine basket with junonia), Meredith Blain (canvas prints), Sue Ross (books), Marilyn Boyd (green flash photo print on aluminum by photographer Paula Kaye) and Carol Ayres (shell sculpture). There was a sign-up sheet for summer beach walks, which will be chaired by Linda Powers from her condo property near Englewood Beach, and other sign-up sheets for 25th anniversary book orders (book being developed by historian Karen Blackford), luncheon payment to Colleen, and attendance. Members could pick up 25th anniversary tie-dye t-shirts and view the 2019-20 memory book created by Karen Blackford. Slides of the year's shelling and activities were shown while the group mingled. Tim Blain graciously served as tech guru for the day.

Co-presidents Meredith Blain and Martha Dehne welcomed the group after everyone was seated at 11:30. They awarded the Founder's Shell to Lisa Ketner for her excellence in producing the newsletter and updating the website. This award goes yearly to a fairly new member of the club who has contributed significantly to the club. Marilyn Boyd then recognized the club's founder Barbara Myers, who had come from Orchard Park, New York for the event. Anita Wilson presented Emeritus Memberships to Joe Bao, Amie Barnicle (in absentia) and Ruth Middlebrooks for their significant long-term contributions to the club. Linda Schmoyer sang a wonderful song developed to commemorate our club's 25 years; she wrote all the lyrics and performed to the tune of "My Favorite Things."

A commemorative video produced by Historian Karen Blackford was shown while luncheon was served. The luncheon was a lovely chicken salad and warm breadsticks

plus beverage. The Elk's Club chef was commended for producing such a delightful lunch with less than 48 hours of notice. Members also voted for the person they thought came in the best costume. Rules for the costume were that it should include silver and aqua and be nautical in theme. Linda Powers who was dressed as a mermaid won the contest. Members also bought raffle tickets for a beautifully shell flower-decorated lightning whelk art piece made and donated by Diane Herger.

Marilyn Boyd made arrangements for Photographic Images by Heidimarie to attend. She mingled throughout the event taking candid photos. Group photos included Barb Myers and other Charter members Joe Bao, Marilyn Boyd and Linda Powers; past/present presidents; current Board members; Emeritus recipients; Founder's Award recipients; costume contest winners; and all attending members. Candy Niziol had arranged for press coverage by the Venice Gondolier and a rep from the Englewood Sun also attended. Auction winners were announced by Candy Niziol.

The silent auction made \$1670 for the club and the raffle contributed an additional \$187 to the treasury. Dessert included cupcakes arranged to make a 25 made by Colleen Fosnough and amaretto brownies made and provided by Cindy Boyd.

Closing remarks by the presidents included thanks to Darrel's BBQ for being willing to not charge for the canceled BBQ. Anita Wilson made a motion the club give an honorarium of thanks with amount decided by the presidents to Darrel's. The motion was seconded and passed.

Cindy Boyd presented a beautiful crown that she had made to Barbara Myers, as our Queen of the Day. Barbara then gave a lovely and informative summary of the club's founding. She included many other memorable events that happened on that January day of 1996 when the club had its first meeting. It was also interesting that 29 people came to that first meeting and 28 showed up again for meeting number 2.

Members continued informal conversation, made final payments, and picked up gift bags of shells donated by Barb Myers before leaving for the day.

Respectfully submitted
Anita Wilson, secretary

Membership News



Welcome to all our new and returning members! We look forward to seeing you this year! Please be sure to sign up for membership by December 15th in order to be included in the directory available January 1, 2022. Also, in order to participate in any ESC activities/trips, you must be a member in good standing. Hope to see you at the first ESC meeting on Tuesday, October 19!

Submitted by: Sandy Ouderkirk and Linda Schmoyer, Membership co chairs

Englewood Shell Club 25th Anniversary Song

Sung to the tune of "My Favorite Things" by Richard Rodgers
Lyrics by Linda Schmoyer (with apologies to Oscar Hammerstein)



Celebrate milestones, it's year twenty-fi-ve,
Thanks to old members the shell club's alive;
Organization and spreading the word
Gave birth to ESC just as you've heard.

Elsie, Barb Myers, Joe, Freeman, and Ruth;
Built our foundation, we're telling the truth!
Marilyn, Amie, Anita, Jane Guy...
Add Homer, Powers, & others....no lie!

Long ago leaders kept planning and dreaming;
Englewood Beach boasts of shells that are teeming!
Surfside or deeper (some mollusks will hide);
Thrill of the hunt describes this wild ride!

Hail to Queen Conch, & the King's Crown,
Found in Neptune's home.
Which mollusk? Oh, savor it,
Make it your favorite,
LIGHTNING WHELK be....our own!

Conch shells or scallops with olives or bonnet,
Wandering beaches, collecting what's on it;
This makes us happy, a hobby like this:
Joy of collecting is giving us bliss!

Look at that shell pile! You can't wait to find more;
Each tells a tale as you plan "shell-ish" décor;
Buckets-full, back pain, your knees hurt, oh my!
Skipping a beach day, well, maybe I'll try!

Members renewing and those Honorary
Give us momentum, beyond ordinary
Studying shells on our Florida coast
So many places, which one's worth the most?

Oh! Palm Island? or Nokomis?
Beach walks make our day
On Boca, or Venice,
The choice won't upset us;
As long as there's sun.....we'll play!

Guest speakers, shell crafters, fun times, and caring.
Study group lessons, we welcome the sharing;
Every activity makes our life great
Low tide is here now there's no time to wait!

Sanibel Island, well-known for its beauty,
Stump Pass or Marco whenever you're moody;
Feeling the surf and the sand on your toes,
Many excursions to try, Heaven knows!

Dreams of Conchology swimming around us;
Complex biology tries to confound us;
Finding new mollusks we've not seen before,
Sharing our knowledge is what we're here for!

Our obsession is a hobby,
You must have it, too;
Just find a Junonia,
The beach will soon own ya,
Addictions are noth...ing new!

Englewood Shell Club, you've given us pleasure!
Happily flaunting each magical treasure;
Hearts overflowing, both grateful and proud--
This "Shellabration" we're singing aloud.

God bless the Shell Club and all members in it;
Shells are the prize and we all seem to win it!
Friendships are formed we will never erase;
Nature abounds with such amazing grace!

It's quite a milestone, we owe thanks to many:
Board members, team leaders, volunteers—any!
Your input helps keep this vision alive...
Let's spread the magic way past twenty-five!

Thank you, founders, for your vision...
We're still here today;
From your inspiration
We're filled with elation!
Our mem'ries won't fade...away!

Sanibel Trip NEW News from Marilyn Boyd

For anyone who is going to Sanibel in October, I have schedule a shelling trip for Cayo Costa on Friday, October 29. The cost will be \$57. I need to know by Friday, September 16 so I can give the Cruise director a number. Thanks!



Founding Mother's Reaction to Shellabration

Dearest friends,

What a celebration!!

My family has never thought that I could be at a loss for words, but when I returned home from our MAGICAL "Shellabration" April 20, I truly had no words to describe the wonderful event. What a delightful day it was for our Englewood Shell Club—shell seekers all, former friends, and new members to meet!

How do I begin to thank you all for the thoughtful planning and hard work that went into preparing the many exciting things that we enjoyed? Being greeted by our members in hilarious and clever shell costumes, plus having time for visiting and checking the auction table was a great beginning. Thanks to the Elks for the elegant and delicious lunch they provided spur of the moment. The tables were so beautiful with the centerpieces and favors for everyone. We appreciate all those who worked on them.

Our special thanks to Colleen for Chairing this celebration, and for the yummy cupcakes. Lots of great planning!

I had hoped to get around to all the tables during lunch to meet more of you, but the day flew. And I'm sorry I didn't think to mention that Linda Powers' parents were both at our first meeting and Linda, though still working in Ohio, joined the club right away and supported us before moving to Englewood.

The video of our 25 years was just mind-blowing! I cannot imagine time and effort that went into that beautiful achievement, and we owe so much to Karen Blackford and all those who worked with her to produce it...a professional job. Thank you, thank you. It is a treasure for all of us.

Linda Schmoyer's Shelling Song was beyond clever and so much fun...and right on the money! Thank you Linda!

Congratulations to Aime, Ruth, and Joe on their well-deserved Emeritus awards. It was a joy to have Ruth and Joe with us, and our thoughts are with Aime for improved health.

Congratulations also to Lisa Ketner for receiving the Founder's Shell- it was the first time I've been there with you to see the award given. Added thanks to Candy Niziol for the auction table with such variety, resulting in the huge addition to our treasury.

The exquisite shell crown that was so lovingly made by Cindy Boyd was an over-the-top surprise and sincerely appreciated. But I truly don't feel that I deserve so much honor and credit. It is all of you wonderful members who have stepped up over the years to dream, create, plan, and carry out all the things that we do as a club. You can be so proud of the enthusiasm and willingness to work that has made Englewood Shell Club what it is.

This "covid year" has been a real challenge for all organizations. So heartfelt thanks to our co-presidents Meredith and Martha for their willingness to make things work to keep our club going. Many of us who are out of town have loved the Zoom meetings so that we again feel part of the club.

My sincere thanks to the club for the gift of the crystal starfish and the handsome shell photo art that Meredith creates. They are proudly displayed in our home and are a treasured reminder of this wonderful occasion.

As I write this I am sure that I have not recognized many of you who have helped with the 25th "Shellabration," please know how appreciated all of you are. My heartfelt thanks for making it a highlight of my life and our club. I know the club is in good hands and will go forward to the next 25 years. I love this club and I love you all!

Barb Myers



Cindy Boyd, left, and Marilyn Boyd presented an amazing crown made from shells by Cindy to ESC Founding Mother, Barb Myers.

Produced and Directed by Historian, Karen Blackford



Click on center of the whelk shell to activate video

Emeritus Award Recipients Lauded at Shellabration!

(Note: Quotes are excerpts from speeches.)



“First, Amie is so enthusiastic and so upbeat,” said presenter Anita Wilson. “Secondly, she is also so knowledgeable and willing to share that knowledge. She has been an active participant in Study Group and has led or helped with Outreach from its inception. Amie is always ready to volunteer both with ideas and if no one else volunteers for a project, Amie's hand shoots up.”



“Joe (Bao) is a Founding Member of the club and was our first treasurer. Presidents came and went every two years, but Joe remained our guiding light and steadying influence as the club moved forward,” said presenter Anita Wilson. “He has been very active in Study Group and has given programs to both the club and Study Group.”



“Ruth (Middlebrooks) always knows everyone's name; she welcomes everyone and sees that new members are always included,” said presenter Anita Wilson. “Ruth has planned, executed and led literally hundreds of ESC excursions. Ruth is so creative—She has led so many seasons of Shellcrafter. Ruth always attends Beach Walks. And she contributes so much to Study Group.”



Co-Presidents, Meredith Blain, middle, and Martha Dehne, right, presented the Founder's Shell to Lisa Ketner

Silent Auction and Raffle at Shellabration a Big Hit!

The Silent auction, organized and run by Candy Niziol, brought in a total of \$1,670.00. Special thanks to the winners: Grant Walker, Martha Dehne, Jackie Hall, Marilyn Boyd, Cindy Boyd, Colleen Fosnough, Jane Guy, Kathy Cycak, Carol Mae, Carol Ayres, Anita Wilson, Meredith Blain, Sue Castle, Christina Anglin, Lisa Ketner, Linda Masterson, Kitty Saddler, Marty Atkins, and Judy Landry.

A Raffle added another \$187.00 to the ESC kitty!



Back left, Grant Walker, front left, Marty Atkins, Back right, Marilyn Boyd, front right, Candy Niziol



Goody bags made by secret members & frosted cupcakes baked by Colleen Fosnough!



OFF the SHELF

Wowzer! This book will take you on a dreamy stroll down memory lane. As you flip through the pages of our “2020-2021 Englewood Shell Club 25th Shellabration Edition” yearbook, beautifully laid out, and breathtaking photographs evoke a fondness of friends and fun times.

Opening with the special 25th Anniversary Shellabration and a look back through the years, chapters highlight this year’s activities, excursions, and wrap up with a timeline of milestones along the way.

Kudos to Historian Karen Blackford (and her team) for putting together a keepsake that is a true treasure. I certainly think it will compliment my collection.

I give it a 5 Lightning Whelk rating.



P.S. When asked, as the new librarian, if I would highlight one book a month, my first thought was OH NO! But this one just made the job easy. It also reminded me what a fabulous group you are. So, if you did not order yourself a copy, be sure to stop by the library and check-it-out!

Respectfully submitted, Jackie H



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY, ENGLEWOOD SHELL CLUB!

C.O.A. NEWS from Linda Powers

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COA New Membership Challenge

Maybe it's time to think "outside the box." Time to create new ways to recruit new COA members.

C.L.A.M. (Committee Looking Ahead [for] Members) was formed at our 2021 Annual Convention. We were tasked to come up with new ways to attract members. To that end, we are announcing our **First Annual New Membership Challenge**. Starting September 1, 2021, and running until May 1, 2022, the shell club which brings in the most new members will receive a \$150 cash prize to be presented at the 2022 COA Convention in Galveston, TX.

Do you know a child who is interested in shells? Give them a membership. Even if they are a little too young to understand, perhaps their parents will also become interested. Do you have a friend or relative who loves shells and is impossible to buy a gift for? Give that person a birthday, Christmas, Christmas-in-July gift of an annual COA membership. An appropriate card will be included with a gift notation. Does your club have monthly raffles? Raffle an annual COA Membership.

A new Membership Application form is included in the September 2021 issue of *American Conchologist*. Additional forms can be obtained from the membership director, Linda Powers (linda.powers1@gmail.com). If your club decides to participate in the **Challenge**, assign a membership chairperson, complete the membership form as indicated, and batch your new memberships to Linda monthly.

In addition to the **Challenge**, every junior exhibitor in a local shell show sponsored by COA will receive a new COA annual membership.

Last but not least, COA will provide a shell club with up to two free annual COA memberships to promising student winners of science fairs, local club scholarship winners, etc. A club may, of course, choose to sponsor more COA memberships paid for by the club. These student winners must be verified by a teacher or sponsor. Memberships paid for by COA do not qualify for the **Challenge**.

Steven Coker, José Leal, Harry Lee, Everett Long, Linda Powers

C.L.A.M.