

Englewood Shell Club
General Meeting Minutes
February 22, 2011
Englewood Elks Club

The meeting was called to order by President Christina Anglin at 1 p.m. Christina made the following announcements:

1. She congratulated Charlie Barr for winning Best of Show at the Sarasota Shell Show as well as numerous other awards and Carol Christianson who placed second in the Mirror division with her lovely pink mirror.
2. Christina congratulated the Outreach Committee for its presentation at the Lemon Bay Fest and the wonderful talk/slide show they presented which drew an audience of 40 interested people. She mentioned that Elsie Quirk will feature a display of Sailor's Valentines from Englewood Shell Club members during March. Members who have Sailor's Valentines complete or in process should contact Christina immediately, because the display goes up March 1.
3. The President thanked Marilyn Boyd for her year-long work with gifted kids in 4th and 5th grades at Englewood Elementary and thanked Patty Mahalik Allen for the wonderful article with pictures about Marilyn's work which appeared in a recent Englewood Sun.
4. Christina reminded members to turn off cell phones and to leave the room as we found it. She also announced that the March General Meeting will be March 15, rather than March 22, and will be in the room next door to accommodate the program on Shell Stamps which will be given by Tom Walker from Great Britain; Peter Dance will also attend this meeting. The program will be first and a fifteen minute break will follow during which the speaker and Peter will sign and sell books.

John Cologrande, today's speaker, was introduced by program Chair, Debbie Freeman. John gave a fascinating illustrated program entitled Cephalopoda: Not Just Calamari! We learned about everything from shellless octopi to colossal squid, from spirula to paper and chambered nautilus and extinct ammonites.

BUSINESS MEETING:

Constitutional Revisions: The first item on the business meeting agenda was discussion and vote on the constitutional revisions presented in writing at the last meeting. Nancy Weborg moved a wording change in Article V: Officers –B- the duties of officers- She moved that the word "audit" be changed to "review" in the last bullet point. The statement would read as follows: ...**shall make documents**

available for an annual review. The motion was seconded and the vote favorable. Members were instructed to vote on the constitution and bylaws change as amended on the paper ballots which had been distributed as members signed in before the meeting. Greeters collected and counted the ballots while business continued. After the ballots had been counted, it was announced that the constitution and bylaws changes passed by a 74/11 vote.

Minutes: Minutes as approved by the Board are posted on the web site.

Treasurer's Report: Eileen Tabone gave the treasurer's report: Beginning balance was \$3549.28; Income was \$2654.50; Expenses totaled \$2045.78 leaving a closing balance of \$4158.00. Although this sounds large, there are many outstanding expenses. The president stated that donations to be considered at the next meeting must be less than we gave last year in order to remain in positive fiscal condition.

Committee reports:

Programs: Debbie Freeman, program chair, elaborated on the announcement regarding the March 15 program by Tom Walker.

Excursions: Ruth Middlebrooks reminded members the bus would leave at 6:30 in the morning from the back of the Elks Lodge for the Honeymoon Island Trip. Bring snacks and money for the bus driver's tip and lunch at the Crab Trap.

The Sanibel Shell Show bus trip scheduled for March 3 will leave from the same location; that trip will be from 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

Members were reminded to pay for the Fossil trip to Immokolee on April 9 if they have not done so; this is a car pooling trip; more drivers are needed.

Ruth is working on a trip to Palm Island with lunch at Rum Bay for March 22, the normal March meeting date. More at the next meeting.

Beachwalks: Rita Stonehouse announced that the March 9 beach walk will be at Middle (Blind Pass) Beach because it has plenty of parking and beaches have been so busy recently.

Communications: Christina Anglin announced that she hoped the next newsletter as well as web page updates would be ready March 1, but she would send an e-mail announcement when both were on-line and ready for members.

Library: Eunice Herr thanked members for returning books they had checked out, but mentioned that more still need to be returned. She also asked that those interested in serving as librarian next year contact her.

Historian: Sue Rundle thanked members for articles, pictures, etc. and indicated more were welcome.

Membership: Nancy Weborg gave folders, name tags and lightning whelks to new members. Total club membership now stands at 183.

Social and Sunshine: Christina mentioned that Jackie McLean is working on the April 26 (11a.m.-3p.m.) picnic at Englewood Gardens Beach Club; sign-up for food and help will be next month. Donation of shell-related items to be given as door prizes are welcomed at the next meeting.

Merchandising: Joan Stegmeyer gave an entertaining announcement about the

various items the club has for sale.

Group Reports:

Shell Crafters: Eleanor Langlois indicated the March 18 session from noon –2 p.m. at the Englewood Sports Complex will feature floral arrangements in shells or on rocks. Ideas are displayed along with sign-up. Completed past projects are also displayed. Special thanks to Dottie Swann who has been in charge of set-up and take-down.
Study Group: Debbie Freeman announced the March 14 meeting on wentletraps and tritons will be at her home at 1 p.m. Debbie also announced a Tuesday afternoon session at her home for working on Sailor Valentines.

Outreach: Amie Barnicle expanded on Christina's earlier announcement on the activities at Lemon Bay Fest and upcoming library display. She and co-chair Jane Guy are also working on an April presentation at Englewood Elementary; this is in addition to Marilyn Boyd's gifted classes. Help is welcomed!

Old Business:

The president reviewed the policy for guest participation in Club activities. A guest may participate along with a member one time at an activity such as Shell Crafters. To participate again, one must become a member. Guests are allowed to participate in excursions only after the needs of all members have been met.

New Business:

Nomination of Officers for the coming year: Ruth Middlebrooks, nominating committee chair, announced the slate for the upcoming year on behalf of the committee which included Jackie McLean and Carol Genest.

President: Nancy Weborg

Vice President: Kathryn Gudgel

Secretary: Shari Loechler (please correct spelling)

Treasurer: Eileen Tabone

At-large Board members : Continue with Linda Hamilton, Dick Eckhart and Eunice Herr.

There were no nominations from the floor. The nominations were closed. Election and installation will take place at the next meeting.

Reminders of upcoming shell shows and COA were made.

Dick Eckhart gave an informative comparison of coin, stamp and shell collecting for the Shell of the Month presentation. Shell collecting came out nicely since they are natural, more and more species are being discovered, shells will continue only as long as we maintain safe clean seas, shells are beautiful display items, easy to share and a delight to be seen and appreciated. He pointed out that Carrier Shells are great collectors!

We have a new shelling celebrity. Linda Hamilton found 175 babies ears in one trip. She is the new queen of Babies Ears. (Marilyn Boyd is our longstanding Queen of Wentletraps)

The meeting was adjourned before 3 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anita Wilson, Secretary Pro-Tem