

**ENGLEWOOD SHELL CLUB  
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES  
OCTOBER 20, 2020**

The first general meeting of the Englewood Shell Club for the 2020-21 year was scheduled for Tuesday, October 20, 2020 at 1 p.m. Via Zoom because of the Covid 19 pandemic. As people checked in, there was general conversation and updating, which set a convivial atmosphere for the meeting. By using Zoom, Barbara Myers, ESC Founder, and several members who were still Up North could attend. Thirty four members participated.

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 by Martha Dehne, co-president. Martha welcomed everyone and thanked Karen Blackford and Linda Masterson for the training session. She gave a brief review of the year's plans and mentioned that the club will be celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in January and thanked Barb Myers for organizing the club. She thanked Patti Redmond and Karen Blackford for developing the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary stickers and mentioned they are for sale at all in-person events for \$3 each or 2 stickers for \$5.00. She mentioned that she and Meredith were looking for and always elcome new ideas for the club this year.

Following that introduction, Martha formally called the business meeting to order at 1:15. Meredith Blain, co-president mentioned there were several changes to the club calendar and that evryone should check the calendar on-line shortly. She specifically mentioned the Study Group will be meeting this month on Wednesday, October 28 at 10 a.m. At Lemon Bay Park pavillion. She emphasized meetings were moved to the morning, so it would be cooler since we will be meeting outdoors because of Covid. The second change was that ShellCrafters will be Friday, October 30 also at 10 a.m. At the Lemon Bay Park pavillion.

**TEAM LEADER REPORTS;**

**Beach Walks: Deborah Hubbard** announced we had a very successful beach walk last Wednesday with 14 people attending, three of whom were new members. All walks will be at 9 a.m., rather than last year's 10 a.m., on the second Wednesday of each month. The November beach walk will be at Boca Grande starting at the lighthouse.

**Excursions:** Meredith announced for Carol Ayres that the Carefree Learner trip is still scheduled for January 15 at 7:45 a.m. Leaving from Marina Jack's marina in Sarasota. Fifteen spots remain. Call Carol to reserve a spot.

**Marty Atkins** announced there would be a trip to **Keewaydin** leaving from Rose Marina on Marco on Wednesday, Dec. 9. They normally leave at 9:30, but if we have a full boat (21-22 people), they will take us earlier, at 8:30-9 a.m. Cost is \$48.40. Linda Powers asked if that included tip and suggested price be raised to include tip, if it did not. It was decided the trip cost should be set at \$55. Later it was mentioned to send Marty checks for \$55 payable to ESC to reserve a spot. Marty announced the fall **Palm Island** excursion had been canceled because eating inside the restaurant would not be possible with the pandemic, but it was later clarified that he would be setting up a trip there for March or April. Marty mentioned that he had talked to Roger Portel who said the **University of Florida** was not allowing any visits by outside groups this semester, but that Marty should call again in January and that things looked positive for a March trip. A member asked about a trip to **Shell Island**; Marty asked for clarification about which Shell Island and it was clarified the one out of Goodland, not Passa-Grille. He will look into that.

**Marilyn Boyd** announced that it would be possible to get reduced room rates at the **Sanibel Resort**, formerly Holiday Inn, April 25-26, because spring break would be over. They are getting back to her with cost. Two people could share a room, but not four because Covid could spread more easily with more people sharing a room.

**INTERMISSION:** Meredith showed the first half of a delightful video clip featuring last year's activities.

**Historian: Karen Blackford** is seeking clippings, pictures, etc. for our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary book. Please email or call her. She thanked Sue Ross for a package with all sorts of great items that she can use. Marty suggested the book be sent to Mixbooks for duplication so as many members as had reserved and paid for a copy could get one. He felt that would be a good moneymaker as well as souvenir of the club.

**Librarian: Candy Nizio** announced the updated list of **library holdings** is on the web site. She thanked Martha for donating copies of

**Beachcombing** magazine to the library. She still needs two volunteers for Shell of the Month talks for the Feb. and March meetings.

Candy announced the new newsletter feature **Marketplace**. Any member can purchase an ad (\$5 for 40 words/issue). Send the ad to Candy and she will submit them all together to Lisa.

Candy also announced that there would be an **auction** of fantastic shells at the Christmas luncheon.

**Merchandising: Patti Redmond** announced some members still have not picked up **last year's merchandise** and need to do so. She also thanked Karen B for designing the great **stickers**. Marty suggested patches could be made from them and someone else suggested putting them in Tervis tumblers.

**Newsletter and Website: Lisa Ketner** was thanked by Martha and Meredith for the fantastic new website and an excellent first newsletter . Lisa asked everyone to send stories, pictures and ideas for the newsletter to her.

**Outreach:** Martha announced that although Covid meant limited Outreach could be done this year, she asked for volunteers to put together a display for **Elsie Quirk Library** as we have done in the past. It was also mentioned that **Cedar Point Park** has asked the Club to develop a **display of SW Florida shells** for a new case in their currently-being-remodeled building.

**Programs: Meredith** announced the speaker for the November meeting will be **Dr. Eileen Maldonado**, Mote Marine, Chemical Cues in the Ocean. The January speaker for the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration will be **Dr. Jose Leal**, Bailey Matthews National Shell Museum Acting Director, who will speak about local shell clubs and particularly ESC. Please send her suggestions for February and March speakers.

**ShellCrafters: Leslie Furmage** said the Oct. 30 session would involve making favors for the Christmas party. Only a few people have signed up thus far. Please do so! Bring small shells if you have them and also tacky glue. It was announced later that Sue Murray's health will not allow her to join the club this year, so Leslie would appreciate a volunteer to serve as co-chair with her.

**Shell Study: Martha** asked members to volunteer to lead study group sessions. She mentioned the October meeting topic led by Judy Kauk and herself would be land snails. It will be at 10 a.m. Oct. 28 at the Lemon Bay Park Pavilion.

**Social:** Colleen Fosnough is out of town. The presidents announced she is making a reservation for a brown bag **Christmas Picnic** at Venice Maxine Barritt Park, but they have not heard from Colleen if the reservation has been confirmed. They also announced that because of Covid, it has been decided to move the anniversary party from January to April and combine it with the annual picnic. Location for that picnic is still undetermined.

**Sunshine: Cindy Boyd** asked that people text, rather than email, her information about members who need cards. Her number is 732.859.3076.

**Greeters: Marilyn Boyd** said that with Zoom, greeting was different. If anyone has a way to make it special, please let her know.

**Membership: Gay Barlow and Linda Schmoyer** announced there are currently 65 members who have paid for this year, including six new members: **Carmelle Awad, Amanda Collett, Lisa Gunnels, Jackie Hall, Eve Marino and Barbara Rosol**. Anyone who did not get their name tag at the end of last year when we stopped meeting abruptly, should call Linda at 610.737.2962. Gay and Linda have sent email reminders to all of last year's members who have not renewed at this time. Marty mentioned that he does not look at emails because he gets so many; his text number is 203.592.4040.

**TREASURER'S REPORT: Judy Kauk**, treasurer, announced the current balance is \$4131.54.

### **THANK YOU PRIZES FOR LAST YEAR'S MEMORY BOOK**

**SUBMISSION:** Meredith announced and showed three of her lovely photo canvas prints which were awarded to Diane Herger, Deborah Hubbard and Karen Blackford.

**DRAWING FOR SHELL PRIZES FOR ATTENANCE TODAY:** Linda Powers, Leslie Furmage and Linda Masterson won this month's shells.

The meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Anita Wilson, secretary  
Approved: Nov. 3, 2020