



ENGLEWOOD SHELL CLUB

THE SHELL SCOOP – SHELL SEEKERS

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Inside This Issue

President's Message
Newsletter Editor Message
Sarasota Shell Show
Excursions
Shell Crafters Schedule
Study Group
New Member Tea
Outreach Program
Library Update
Beach Walk Schedule
Program Speaker
Membership Roster

President's Message – Debbie Freeman

Dear Shell Club Members,
This has been a busy season for the ESC. When I look back over my notes I can't believe how much we have accomplished! Beautiful shell crafts, the great trips, the outreach programs, knowledgeable guest speakers, ribbons and trophies won, and beach walks. There have been additions to our library, donations made for shell related education, and some great shell logo merchandise. Let's not forget the fantastic website and newsletter, the tour of homes, the Christmas tree at Cedar Point Park, and a new member's tea! I'm sure I missed some things, but you get the point. We are an active club with lots to do.

It has been a rewarding season. We managed to get our new projector up and running for both the guest speakers and outreach programs. We have added an audio / visual committee, as well as a public relations team. Our study group has made a big step towards creating a shell identification cloud that we hope will soon be on our website.

For me personally? I am very grateful to all of you who have worked so hard to make this club what it is. I have made several new friends, and continued to learn about the shells I enjoy so much. I can't ask for more than that.

In March we will vote on our new president. Please welcome her and our board and chairpersons. Help them to make the next shelling season one of the best. Wishing you all many great beach treasures.

Debbie Freeman

Newsletter Editor – MaryLinda Coward

As we wrap up another great season of shelling, meetings, lunches, crafting, learning and living along the Gulf coast; either seasonally or permanently, let's be sure to thank our club president, board members, chairpersons, and the volunteers who make our club the success it is. The ladies and gentlemen spend many hours preparing the events for our members to enjoy. Please consider how you can share your talents with the club. There are many ways you can participate in making our club the best.

This is the last issue of the ESC Newsletter – The Shell Scoop for the season. The next issue will be October 2014. But, in the meantime, there will be updates of events posted on the website along with pictures of the club outings. Be sure to check them out periodically.

Happy Shelling!

*Happy St. Patrick's Day
May the road rise to meet you,
may the wind be ever at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
and the rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again,
may God hold you in the palm of his hand.*



The Sarasota Shell Show Debbie Freeman

The Sarasota Shell Show was a winner - and so were a few members of the Englewood Shell Club! Ribbon's won in the Artistic division went to member Karen Paulson who won a blue, first place ribbon for her shell mosaic face mask. Jeannine Emond took three second place ribbons. They were for her nightlight, a shell tree, and a beautiful candle older. In the Scientific division Harry Barryman won the Mote trophy for the best scientific, as well as a ribbon for the most beautiful exhibit, both for his Philippine Cones. Harry also won a trophy for the smallest exhibit for his cape Verdi Cones. Congratulations everyone!

Excursions

Ruth Middlebrooks, Marilyn
Boyd, Carol Ayers & Debbie
Freeman

A new trip on the Calusa Queen is now confirmed by Capt. Will for Wednesday, March 19th. Please confirm your place on this trip at our March 18th meeting with your payment of \$26.00.

We had a great trip on February 18th. Besides finding various shells, we were treated with a sighting of these aquatic friends off of Cayo Costa.



Excursions

Ruth Middlebrooks, Marilyn Boyd, Carol Ayers & Debbie Freeman

A good time was had by all on Friday February 28th when the ESC members adventured to Palm Island for shelling and lunch at Rum Bay. Thank you, Ruth, for making it happen. Check out other pictures from the group's excursion on the club's website - <http://englewoodshellclub.org/>



Shell Crafters

Sandy Ouderkirk, Jan Plummer & Leslie Furmage

On February 21st, Leslie did a great job teaching club member how to make shell wall hangings. More pictures of this class are on the club's website.



Study Group – April 7th

We still have two study group meetings left. Our March 3rd meeting we will be featuring Xenophora, or carrier shells.



We will help with shell identification at any meeting, so please bring your questions. Come and enjoy the fun of learning.

Next Shell Crafters

March 21st

Glass Cube Light

Eunice Herr will lead this class starting at 9:00 a.m. at the Elks Lodge in Englewood.

Materials needed:

- 1) Glass cub block – size and shape of your choice
- 2) String of white electric lights with white cord
 - 50 light string
 - 35 light string or
 - 20 light string for a small glass cube
- 3) Gauze or netting (6" x 6")
- 4) Your choice of shells, shell flowers, shell ornaments
- 5) Glue gun or glue pot – E6000 (small amount)

Any questions, contact Eunice at 941-475-4527.

New Members' Tea -Debbie Freeman

On February 13th, Debbie Freeman, President, hosted a New Members Tea at her home. It was held to give new members an opportunity to meet the board members and chairpersons, and learn more about the club. Everyone pitched in to make our new members feel welcome.

Besides a selection of different teas, there were finger sandwiches, biscuits with strawberries and cream, and other assorted treats. There was plenty of good conversation, exchange of information, and laughter.

Thanks to Debbie for opening up her home for this event.



Outreach Program Jane Guy and Ami Barnicle

Englewood Shell Club's outreach team took part in the Lemon Bay Fest celebration giving a "Seashells from the Shore" presentation at the Elsie Quirk Library to an audience of about 40 participants. Co-chair Jane Guy opened the program introducing two major Florida shells. Amie Barnicle gave an overview concerning local shell beach finds possible. Assisting and sharing their interest were member volunteers, Linda Hamilton and Diane Herger. Two additional presentations are scheduled; the first on March 17th at 11:00 am to be held at the Boca Grande Memorial Chapel in Lighthouse Park and the second is scheduled for March 20th at 10:30 am at Cedar Point Park. This is an ESC public service and admission is free. Please come and bring a guest.

Library Update

Please be sure to check and see if you have any books that need to be returned to the Library before you leave to head North-East-West (not sure how much further South travel will allow) so that books can be inventoried and ready for next season. Our Club library is open at each general meeting for use by club members. Club books may be checked out and returned in a timely fashion. Thanks for using the Library this season and be sure to check us out next year.

Program Speaker

Tom Ball will be presenting on the topic of "Musical Molluscs". Tom is an active shell collector and a musician from Ft. Lauderdale. Working as a computer tech for Carnival Corp. as his main vocation, he also performs with the Florida Grand Opera (in the opera chorus), sings in barbershop quartets and has directed choruses, arranged and written music for various groups.

Tom will take us on an excursion through the list of musical shells with lots of pictures and discuss the etymology of many of them and their namesakes.

Membership Roster

The 2013-2014 Membership Roster has been updated. Copies are available at the general meeting or in the "Members' Only" cloud on the ESC website. As a reminder members' contact information is for club members' use only.

Please check your information for accuracy in the Club Membership listing. If you have any updates, email them to ESCnewsletter@aol.com.

The next publication of the ESC Newsletter will be October 2014. Have a wonderful summer!

Summer Beach Walks

Summer beach walks will continue through the summer months. The schedule will be updated on the ESC website once they are scheduled.

Here are some members who enjoyed our February beach walk at Stump Pass

