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# ENGLEWOOD SHELL CLUB

THE SHELL SCOOP – SHELL SEEKERS



Volume 12, Issue 2

November- December 2016

Newsletter Editor – MaryLinda Coward

**CLUB WEBSITE:**

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## President's Message – Linda Powers

I am completely awed by the level of commitment by our team leaders and members. Working with this group of ladies and gentlemen makes the position of president one of the easiest jobs I've had in my over twenty years as a member of the Englewood Shell Club. They are a well-oiled machine, keeping me on the right track and always helpful and informative. I would like to encourage all members to attend the board meetings which are held on the first Tuesday of the month at the Elsie Quirk Library at 10:00a. You are always welcome to attend.

I dropped in on the Shellcrafter's first session on Friday and it was very well attended. Kudos to our new member Wayne Cormier for his new venture into shell crafting. He informed me this was his first time to handle a glue gun. Look forward to the crafters displaying their art at the November meeting. All the frames were different and very artistic. We have an amazing group of crafters and a big thank you to Martha Dehne and Leslie Furmage for continuing to come up with creative ideas.

We should all be so proud of Homer Rhode. As this year's Conchologists of America recipient of the Neptunea Award, our club is honored to have him as a member. This award represents the pinnacle of service within the shelling world. And Brenda Steele's insightful presentation of her experience attending her first COA convention was very informative and enlightening. I hope more members of our club also become members of COA and get involved in this international organization. Let's show COA what an awesome club we are by a large showing at the Key West convention August 13-19, 2017.

I'm very excited about our new logo which Connie Cummins presented. As our club enters its 21<sup>st</sup> year, a new branding of the club and a new look at merchandising should be fun and refreshing. Expect a close-out sale of the old merchandise and new items later in the club's season.

I failed to mention that Anita Wilson was filling in for Doris Wall as secretary at both the board meeting and the general meeting. Anita is a long-time member, past president, and has worn many hats for the club through the years. Thank you Anita for filling in for Doris. And Doris, we look forward to your arrival, probably no one more so than Anita. Minutes are a big job and I thank you both!

By the time this newsletter comes out, we will have had our first excursion thanks to Marilyn Boyd. Sanibel is a special place and ESC has lots of friends on the island who look forward to our invasion year after year. It will be fun to spend time with old friends and get to know new friends on this trip.

There is not room to mention each one of you individually for the support, time, and commitment you make to this club. We are gaining a reputation in the shelling world as a vibrant, growing club. And it is all due to members like you!

## **Study Group**

### **Anita Wilson & Linda Powers**

The November ESC Study Group will meet Wednesday, November 30, at 2 p.m. at Cedar Point Park, 2300 Placida Road, Englewood. Note that this is a change from the regular fourth Wednesday of the month meeting. We changed the meeting to the fifth Wednesday to avoid conflict with Thanksgiving. So come join the group to share and identify all the super shells you find over the Thanksgiving Holiday! If you have traveled far afield (or have just returned from "Up North" and haven't shared your summer finds), bring your shells. They do not have to be from Southwest Florida!!! This meeting, as all others, will begin with identification of shells brought by members.

Study group is chaired by Linda Powers, but since she is also President of the Club this year, Anita Wilson will be joining Linda as co-chair. All ESC members, both club veterans and newbies, are welcome at Study Group. The purpose of Study Group is to identify shells found by members and to learn more about those shells. For example, these questions and more may be answered: Am I most likely to find this shell on the beach or in the bay? What other shells are related to this one? What did the animal that lived in this shell look like? What did it eat? Where did it live? How did it reproduce? Just what do we mean by good shell etiquette? What can I do to assure that shells remain abundant on our beaches?

If you have copies, always bring the following books along with interesting shells to study group: "Florida's Fabulous Seashells and Other Seashore Life" by Winston Williams; "Florida's Living Beaches: A Guide for the Curious Beachcomber" by Blair and Dawn Witherington; and "Compendium of Seashells" by R. Tucker Abbott and S. Peter Dance. Bring any other favorites you would like to share with the group. Remember to attend the November meeting, since Study Group does NOT meet in December because of holiday events. We'll see you November 30 at 2:00 p.m.

## **Excursions & Carefree Learner**

### **Ruth Middlebrooks, Marilyn Boyd, Carol Ayers**

Our first excursion to Sanibel was great. Lots of Halloween fun and our members couldn't have been more creative with their costumes. I don't know how they come up with new costume ideas year over year, but they sure did.

Don't forget to sign up for the Carefree Learner, always a popular outing from Sarasota Bay. The dates of the two outings are Friday, January 13, 2017 7:00 a.m. departure and Friday, February 10, 2017 6:30 a.m. departure.

As this excursion is always subject to weather cancellations, we need a phone number or cell to notify you in the event the weather isn't behaving and we will have to cancel. The trip is 2-3 hours on the sand flats of Sarasota Bay. It's January and may be cold, and it will be muddy, so dress accordingly. Water shoes are a must. This is a non-refundable trip unless it is cancelled due to weather. **If you have any questions call Carol Ayres at 941-830-8252.** More information is available on the carefree learner website at <http://carefreelearner.com>

We are still working out details for excursions this year which could include a boat trip out of Fort Myers, a visit to Useppa Island, and a fossil trip. We are also looking at options for a trip to the East Coast and hope to have updates available soon. As you can see, we have a lot of excursions planned for our Englewood Shell Club members so get ready to GO! **Remember that you must be a member in good standing (paid dues) in order to participate in the club's excursions.**

## Beach Walks

Join our members for the monthly beach walks. The locations vary each month so be sure to check out the monthly location and time listed in the calendar on the ESC's website. You are welcome to join fellow members for lunch after the beach walks. Lunch location will be shared at the beach walks.

## ESC Holiday Luncheon Pam Orozco

The ESC Holiday Luncheon is scheduled for the 6th of December at the Gulf View Grill which is located at 2095 N. Beach Rd., Englewood, FL., on Manasota Key across from Englewood public beach. Lunch will be served at 12:00 but arrival can be at 11:15-11:30. Please check in at desk to receive your food choice place card. Carpooling is always appreciated.

There will be three choices to choose from. Cost will be \$25.00

Sign up will start at first general meeting. For those who will be still out of town, please email or call me at pcorozco54@yahoo.com - (248) 225-6974 if you are interested in going to the luncheon.

As always, we will have a gift exchange worth \$15.00 for those who are interested in that event. Gift must be of a shell related nature.

*They do exist!*



## Membership Sandy Ouderkirk

Welcome new members and welcome back to our current/past members. Our club continues to grow and be an active shelling club in Southwest Florida. Whether you are seasoned shellers or completely new to this hobby, ESC is the place to belong.

The Englewood Shell Club (ESC) was formed January 23, 1996 to bring together people interested in seashells. Club members share their enthusiasm and experiences of mollusks of all kinds, but we are most interested in Florida shells. Be sure to send in your membership applications so that you can participate in trips and events.

***You must be a paid member in order to participate in trips and events.***

ESC's annual membership runs from October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017. Individual membership is \$20 for returning members, \$30 for new members (which includes a name tag). Family renewal is \$35 and new family is \$60 (includes name tags).

A membership application can be found at the end of this newsletter or on the club's website.

We welcome you to a whole new exciting world of discovery & friendship!



## **General Meeting Programs Sherry McKinney**

We have some very interesting and informative programs lined up for the upcoming season.

The November program will be "Cleaning Shells". After we collect those beautiful shells we need to know how to properly clean them.

Our guest speaker in January will be Scott Robichaud. He will be presenting a program on his dive trip to Roatan, Honduras, to collect Caribbean mollusks.

In February we will have a presentation on "Shelling in the Dominican Republic".

Our March program will be presented by Allen Gettleman. The topic will be "Marine Shelling in the Philippines".

We are looking forward to another great year of shelling in Florida as well as learning about shelling in other parts of the world.

## **SHELL Crafters Martha Dehne & Leslie Furmage**

Well, our first Shell Crafters class was quite a success! Leslie taught us how to make rope frames/mirrors adorned with beautiful seashells. It's always so exciting to see how differently the finished projects are and, this one didn't disappoint!

Our next class will be held on Friday- November 18th at 10 a.m. It will be a Dip & Sip class taught by Denise Daly. Denise created a beautiful whelk for us to paint (on a variety of background colors). If you were unable to attend last year's class try not to miss this one...so much fun!

On December 16th Leslie and I will be instructing the group how to make two unique Christmas tree ornaments. Supply list will be at the Shell Crafters table at the November General Meeting. Please remember that Shell Crafters has changed time this year to 10 a.m. On Monday- December 5th at 10 a.m. we will meet at Cedar Point Park for our annual Christmas tree decorating event. This is such great way to visit with each other before everyone gets busy and really puts you in the holiday spirit. Hope you will join us! That's all for now! Leslie & Martha

## **Outreach Programs Tori Weaver and Darlene Gallentine**

First, we'd like to thank to Connie Cummins for chairing the Outreach Programs last season. Connie kept us organized and on time. We'll miss her as she moves onto another role in ESC. Second, we'd like to extend a welcome back to current and new members and invite you to become a part of the ESC's educational Outreach. As part of our team, you would receive guidance regarding our most common shells or, if you are a more experienced sheller, you would share your expertise about shells and their habitat. This is a great opportunity to both learn and teach about the wonderful shells available in local beaches.

This season we are invited to present Shell Collecting Part 1 and Part 2 at both of Englewood's libraries. We will also return to the two Cedar Point Environmental Park Children's Summer Camps. These are all one hour programs and we already have the information and shells prepared. So please consider joining us by contacting Tori Weaver or Darlene Gallentine. We are looking forward to hearing from you!

## Library Judy Kauk

We have some great new books that the club has purchased for our library this season, including a beautiful new book on sailor's valentines. We also have had some shell books donated recently so stop by at the October meeting and check out these great new additions. We need members to volunteer to give "shell of the month" talks this season so please consider giving a short presentation on your favorite shell or even your favorite place to shell and the shells you find there.



2016 Neptune Award  
Homer Rhode

## A Message from Eunice

I would like to thank you for your many cards, prayers, visits, phone calls, food, flowers, and so much more. You will never know how much all of your kindness and love has meant to me. I am feeling much better but still trying to get my strength back. I look forward to being back with you soon.

Much love to everyone - Eunice

## ESC is cleaning its "Closet"

And that may mean you can find just the shell or book you've been looking for to add to your collection or complete a craft.

Our dedicated team leads are clearing the decks making way for merchandise showcasing our new logo, minimizing inventory of books and shells as well.

Stay tuned for these items to be available for you at a general meeting early in 2017.

## A Message from MaryLinda

As the year comes to a close and we reflect on our experiences and opportunities in the last year, remember to thank God for the little things we enjoy – memories of our family members that have passed on, family members and friends we can still visit and talk with, a sunrise in the morning, the laugh of a child, the stories an elder shares. Be thankful for all we have and for each other – Happy Thanksgiving to each one of you and may your holiday season be a blessed time.

**APPLICATION FOR ESC MEMBERSHIP 2016-2017**

**(October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2017)**

**(PLEASE PRINT)**

Please complete application and include your check made payable to the Englewood Shell club. Send to:

**Sandra Ouderkirk  
8984 Bantry Bay Blvd.  
Englewood, FL 34224**

<b>Individual Membership</b>	<b>Family Membership</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal .....\$20.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal .....\$35.00
<input type="checkbox"/> New* .....\$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/> New* .....\$60.00

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Spouse (optional)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Florida Address:**

Street \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Cell # \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Other Address:**

Street \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Cell # \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Interested in** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please contact me to discuss opportunities within the Club**    Yes   Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**RELEASE OF LIABILITY**

I understand and agree that pictures taken during Englewood Shell Club activities in which I may appear may be displayed in ESC publications. 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 \_\_\_\_\_

*\*covers one-time cost of name tag*

**DO NOT COMPLETE**

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \_\_\_\_\_ Dated \_\_\_\_\_