

The SeaShell

Marco Island Shell Club Newsletter

January 7, 2019

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Welcome back to many of our members who are returning for the season! We have been busy at the last couple of workshops as we begin to prepare beautiful shell art to sell at our annual Shell Show in March. This is our major fundraiser of the year enjoyed by our own members and the community. Don't forget to look at the shell show information on our website at

www.marcoshellclub.com. The information on categories may give you an idea of something you could make for artistic, or a scientific display of some shells. The website also has pictures from the past few years of Shell Shows. Look in the gallery of photos and you may see some past entries which may give you some ideas of something you could enter yourself. Please try to enter something so that you can join in the fun of this event at the end of our season. If you haven't entered before and have questions, don't hesitate to ask Jae Kellogg or other members who have entered before.

We have an excursion trip to the Broward County Shell Show on Saturday, January 12. At the time I am writing this we are trying to get some more members to join us for the bus trip to this show so the bus fees are reasonable with a minimum of 30 members. If we are unable to arrange at least 30, we may have to arrange carpooling with each other. Because numbers are low we are allowing friends to sign up too. Hope to see many of you there. There will be shell vendors there if you want to purchase some shells for your projects at home.

Our January seminar is January 10 at 6PM. The Coastal Breeze had a nice advertisement of the seminar which will be presented by Rebecca Mensch from the Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum in Sanibel. She will discuss the Junonia Shell which is so difficult to find here on Marco. I hope to see many of you there. It is open to the public with no charge.

I will be looking for some members to help us set up the "End-of-the-Year" Celebration Luncheon in March. This luncheon is a treat for all of our members who work so hard during the year. The committee will simply arrange the food and decorations for the celebration with me. I will leave a sign-up sheet on the table by the large calendar if you would be willing to help. Thank you.

Karen Caster - President

SHELL SHOW CHAIR REPORT



Welcome back to all of our snowbirds and Marco members! Hope your Christmas Holiday was one of great celebration and making wonderful memories with your families! We had a very successful Fall Season and are now looking forward to an exciting Winter Season!

Shell show will be coming up fast - **don't forget to check out the Rules and Regs on our website** - There have been some changes made in Artistic(**in red**) and some new categories added. It actually needs to be printed off and in our hands at our workshop tables. Now is the time to ask questions and talk to veteran members who do the shell show each year. I will be at workshop to answer any questions, too - as we want a banner year in exhibits!

New categories are - 1. Beach Glass, Driftwood, Plastic and Trash! AND 2. Collectibles! Sailor Valentines and Valentine "Like" exhibits now have their own page and Cat. # in each class - it, too, is all in RED! There certainly is bound to be some exciting new exhibits in these categories!

Our Judges this year are Sue Hobbs/Phil Dietz for Artistic and Bob Pace/Dr. Ed Petuch for Scientific! Dr. Ed Petuch is a new judge for us, but not new to the shell world - he has a vast knowledge in every aspect of shells, has over 1200 new species he has named and also, has a special focus on fossils! I will have more details in the next issue!

Important Dates coming up -
February 26, 2019 - Entry Deadline
March 11-16, 2019 - Shell Show Week

Let me know if I can help you in any way with an exhibit!
Please read the R&R carefully and get ready for a great time!

Jae Kellogg — 2019 Shell Show Chair

WORKSHOP



As the Holidays wind down, our focus is now on Shell Club Workshops. We will start the 2019 Season on Tuesday, January 8.

Please plan to arrive about 8:45 to have time to socialize and have your glue gun hot and ready at 9:00. Table leaders will expect you to have tools such as scissors, tweezers, exacto knife to work on shell art projects.

We had a very successful Holiday Sale and now it is time to prepare for THE BIG EVENT--- THE SHELL SHOW. Table leaders are being really creative this year with all kinds of new shell art projects. There is always something new to learn. In the fall edition of the Newsletter, we provided a few suggestions for places to purchase shells. Everyone use your creativity and the skills you learned in Workshops to prepare an entry for The SHELL SHOW

Again, we remind you to arrive early and be prepared to start at 9:00. The table leaders have spent a lot of time preparing materials and projects and will expect you to be on time and ready.

Also remember, table leaders only are to be spraying outside. We need to be respectful of the church's property. Also remember table leaders only in the workroom and storage room. If you want to know what's in these rooms ask your table leader for a tour on a Workshop Tuesday BEFORE 11:15.

Looking forward to seeing our tables full and our storage room bulging with wonderful shell art. We just know it's gonna be a great season!

Becky Miller / Debbie Towey — Workshop Chair

PS: On a cold windy day, December 23, Residents Beach gave me a Christmas gift --a junonia. It was all alone on a clean portion of the beach --- no other shells around it. I know Pat Wood found one this season --- anyone else?????

The high winds and big waves in the Gulf brought in all kinds of shells --- mostly live ones. It is amazing to see the actual color of the live shells-- especially the brilliant oranges of the young horse conchs and Florida cones. The alphabet cones were also amazing.... but alive. I spent more time putting stuff back in the water than I did actually shelling. Wishing you luck in shelling this season.



MEMBERSHIP



Happy New Year and welcome back! My name is Cindy Wesolowski and I will be serving as your membership chair while Linda is out for her foot surgery. I am very excited for the start of our new season and look forward to seeing everyone at the workshops. There are a few housekeeping items that we need to take care of as we start a new year. I will be making new name tags for our new members and anyone else that needs one. There will be a signup sheet when you sign in at workshop that is for requesting a new name tag. All members are required to sign a "Workshop Release" form in order to participate in the workshops. If you have not signed a release please see me and I will get you the necessary form. And finally remember to renew your membership and pay your dues for this year. You must renew online and you can either pay for your membership online with a credit card or you may pay by check. Please feel free to see me at workshop if you have any questions concerning your membership.

Cindy Wesolowski — Membership Chair

WEBSITE



I have been sending test emails to members through a software program located on the club's secure website server. TO ENSURE THAT THESE EMAILS ARE NOT BLOCKED BY YOUR EMAIL PROVIDER, PLEASE ADD information@marcoshellclub.com TO YOUR CONTACTS LIST. Reminders about excursions and seminars will be sent this way, so you do want to be sure you receive the notices.

You can also contact the club by sending an e-mail to information@marcoshellclub.com and your query will be forwarded to the appropriate chair/board member by the president.

Joan Robbins — Website Chair

SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS



Florida Gulf Coast University held their annual President's Scholarship Luncheon November 16, 2018, honoring the recipients of the awards and the donors.

The focus of the program was “changing lives through the power of scholarships to inspire students who then inspire others.”

Our graduate student recipient was Taylor Hancock who is investigating what sawfish eat. He is a delightful, intelligent student who is well-versed in his subject matter.

Our undergraduate recipient is Kai Sacco who is studying the effects of acidic tidal flow on the growth of red mangroves over time.

Both students enthusiastically thanked us for our support.



From left to right in photo: Kai Sacco, Paulette Carabelli, Taylor Hancock and Karen Caster.

Paulette Carabelli Scholarship Committee

EXCURSIONS



We still need a few people to sign up for the bus to the Broward Shell Show on Saturday, January 12th. We have opened the website so more members can sign up for the Broward Shell Show bus trip. At the workshop on Tuesday we will determine if there are enough to hire the bus or if we carpool there. The show is Saturday, January 12. Doors open at 10AM, entry is free. The Broward Shell Club is expecting us and are saving a parking space for the bus. Bring your lunch so we can eat in the special room provided for us courtesy of the Civic Center!! We need to thank Alice Pace and Anne Dupont for this special treatment

If you have any more suggestions please let me know.
My email is excursions@marcoshellclub.com

Thank you for your interest.

Pat Wood – Excursion Chair

SEMINARS



On Thursday, January 10, 2019 the Marco Island Shell Club Seminar will feature Rebecca Mensch, a Marine Biologist at The Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum on Sanibel. She will present "The Search for the Live Junonia". This will be a fun and eye-catching presentation documenting the lengths (and depths!) to which one must go to find this renowned mollusk.

The seminar starts at 6:00 pm in the Dessler Hall at the United Church of Marco, 320 N. Barfield. All are welcome to attend. Light refreshments will be served.

Marge Tunnell – Vice President and Seminar Chair

PUBLICITY



.As you probably have heard, we have lost a dear friend, Herb Savage, husband of one of our Honorary members, Emily. He will be dearly missed by the entire Marco Island community. The Marco Island Historical Society will be holding a memorial event soon so keep your eyes open and plan on attending,



John Tunnell- Publicity Chair

2018-2019 OFFICERS AND CHAIRS

Officers

- President..... Karen Caster
President Elect
Vice President..... Marge Tunnell
Recording Secretary Sally Johnson
Corresponding Sec. Marsha Prunetti
Treasurer.....Christine Bergquist

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Chairs

- Shell ShowJae Kellogg
MembershipCindy Wesolowski
ScholarshipPaulette Carabelli
Education/Excursions..... Pat Wood
Publicity..... John Tunnell
Website Joan Robbins
Seminar..... Marge Tunnell
Workshop Becky Miller/Debbie Towey

