

# The SeaShell

Marco Island Shell Club Newsletter

February, 2023



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This season is rapidly flying by, and we only have a few workshops left. It will be March before we know it and it will be time for our Spring Expo and Sale which will be held on March 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am to 4:00pm both days at the New Life Community Church on Marco. If you haven't already registered to enter your exhibit, please do so by signing the sheet at workshop or dropping me an email. You just need to indicate if your exhibit is in the Artistic or Scientific category and the approximate width. Remember you can enter more than one exhibit. All exhibits must be dropped off on Thursday, March 9<sup>th</sup>.

At the February 10<sup>th</sup> General Membership Meeting held during workshop, I will outline proposed changes to the bylaws restructuring some of our committees. We will vote on these bylaw changes as well as the proposed budget for next season at our Annual Meeting which will be held on Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup> at Mackle Park. The meeting will start at 11:00 am. We will also be electing three new officers at the meeting. The meeting will be followed by our End of Season Celebration Luncheon, once again catered by Da Vinci Ristorante. In order to give the restaurant a head count to ensure we have food for everyone, you must register in advance to attend on the club's website.

It is easy to register, just click on the three bars in the right corner of the homepage of the website ([www.marcoshellclub.com](http://www.marcoshellclub.com)) and then click on the tab that says Social Events. Scroll down to the second paragraph and click on the word [HERE](#) where it says Register [HERE](#). Then on the next page scroll down and click on the button that says JOIN. Enter your name where it says Guest and fill in the rest of the form and

hit SAVE button at the bottom of the page. This is a wonderful event and I hope to see everyone there.

*Cindy Wesolowski* - President

## WORKSHOP



All members are encouraged to demonstrate your Shell Art skills and your shell hunting skills by entering an exhibit or two in the March 10 and 11 Expo and Shell Art Sale. I have been hearing about some great projects members are working on. I have been finding lots of coquina shells on the beach so look for my project which will feature coquinas.

The colors have been especially beautiful this year.

Workshop Fridays have been busy with a great variety of Shell Art Projects being completed. Tell your friends to mark their calendars to attend the Expo and Shell Art Sale.

We will soon be asking you to sign up to help during the Expo and Shell Art Sale. Besides helping the Club this is a great chance to get to know other members. Workshops are so busy it is not easy to meet other members--- so this is a good opportunity. And it is also a fun time and very rewarding to interact with the public who are appreciating and enjoying our efforts.

If you have questions about your Expo projects, ask me or other table leaders. I always have an idea to share -----

Happy shelling and crafting----

*Becky Miller* — Workshop Chair

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## CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

FEB 10

\*General Membership Meeting, 11:00 am, Mackle Park Community Center

FEB 11

\*\*Trip to Mote Marine lab and Aquarium and Sarasota Shell Show, 9:30 am  
Preregistration is required. (See website, [www.marcoshellclub.com](http://www.marcoshellclub.com), for more details)

FEB 21

\*\*Shelling Trip to Keewadin Island. The Excursion Chair has planned a shelling trip to Keewadin Island., taking the Hemingway Shuttle from Rose Marina on Marco Island. 7:45am to 12:30, Preregistration is required. (See website for more details)

FEB 25

\*\*Treasures in the Trunk, 8:00am to 12:00, Parking lot of San Marco Catholic Church, 851 San Marco Road

MARCH 3

\*\*Guest Lecture, Junonias presented by Rebecca Mensch, Senior Marine Biologist at the Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum, at the Marco Island Library, Rose Hall, 3:00 pm, 210 South Heathwood Drive

MARCH 10, MARCH 11

\*\*\*Spring Expo and Shell Art Sale, 10:00am to 4:00pm, New Life Community Church, 489 West Elkham Circle

MARCH 24

\*\*Annual Meeting and End of Season Luncheon, 11:00am to 1:30pm, Mackle Park

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Attendees will vote on the proposed budget and bylaws changes for 2023-2024, fiscal year and the election of officers, President Elect, Vice President, and Recording Secretary.

The Luncheon, which follows the Membership meeting will be catered by Davinci's Restaurant. Members need to register for the Luncheon in advance on the website.

### ***Information from Board Chairs***

## SCHOLARSHIP



**Prior to 2016, the Shell Club gave money to Florida Gulf Coast University as endowments. The University invested these funds and awards one undergraduate and one graduate research scholarship annually. Applicants for the Grants are reviewed, and recipient for undergraduate grant is chosen by FGCU and the graduate grant is chosen by the members of the scholarship committee.**

**This year's recipients are Tori Guarino and Laura Dunn.**

**Tori is working with plant diversity and nutrient profiling and will receive \$700 as an undergraduate student.**



Tori Guarino



Laura Dunn

**Laura Dunn received \$1500. She is studying wave attenuation over sea grasses in Estero Bay using acoustic Doppler current profilers to measure suspended sediment concentration in the seagrass beds. Laura is a graduate student.**



Paulette with Laura Dunn

**Had lunch with Laura Dunn, our FGCU graduate endowment student. She received her undergraduate degree from FGCU, taught high school chemistry and marine science in a Naples high school, then returned to FGCU for her master's degree. She is wavering between going for her PhD or going back to teaching which she thoroughly enjoyed after she completes her master's degree.**

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Paulette presenting check for \$1050 to Mr. Smith, Business Manager at Mason Classical Academy for Biology and Chemistry supplies.

**We also gave Marco Island Charter Middle School \$2103 for various scientific supplies such as a pH meter, moon phases model, grow box, etc.**

**Rookery Bay National Estuarine Reserve was the recipient of \$1638 for various scientific equipment: wind meters, binoculars, refractometer, trailcam, hydrometers, etc.**

**Marco Island Center for the Arts and the club partnered to supply art supplies and projects to indigent children so they could participate in something that they could not afford or to which they would not have the access. \$1000**

**\$2600 was given to Lyndsey Grossman at University of South Florida for her work on microplastics.**

**We provided \$1500 for the Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum to administrate the Mollusk on the Move program to five first grade classes at Mason Classical Academy.**

**We also allocated \$6500 for the Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum to administrate the Mollusk on the Move program to the following elementary schools in Naples: Poinciana, Sabal Palm, Lely-Kinder, Parkside-Kinder and Parkside.**

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**Sara Casareto, a graduate student at Florida International University was the recipient of \$5000 for her work on sharks in our 10,000 islands on boats out of Rookery Bay Reserve.**

**Kathy Schroeder, a marine biology high school teacher at Palmetto Ridge in Naples received \$105 for an art craft project with oysters.**

**The committee continues to work to find worthy recipients of your hard-earned monies. Thank you, committee members (Nella Neary, Kathy Benedik and Bruce Carabelli ) for your efforts over the years.**

**Thank you, Marco Island Shell Club members for your craft expertise.**

**You will find photos of students and children who are the recipients of our funds on two different posters which I have prepared for you to review at the Spring Expo.**

**Happy crafting!**

*Paulette Carabelli* — Scholarship Chair

## 2022-2023 OFFICERS AND CHAIRS

### Officers

President..... Cindy Wesolowski  
Vice President..... Jacqueline Lynch  
Recording Secretary..... Judy Arnold  
Corresponding Secretary..... Karen Caster  
Treasurer..... Christine Bergquist

### Committees

Membership.....Cindy Wesolowski

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Scholarship..... Paulette Carabelli  
Education/Excursions.... Karen Caster  
Publicity..... Karen Baldacci  
Website ..... Joan Robbins  
Seminar.....Jacqueline Lynch  
Workshop..... Becky Miller

To contact officers and chairs by email, use  
[information@marcoshellclub.com](mailto:information@marcoshellclub.com)

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