
ENGLEWOOD SHELL CLUB

THE SHELL SCOOP – SHELL SEEKERS



Volume 12, Issue 4

February 2017

Newsletter Editor – MaryLinda Coward

CLUB WEBSITE:

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www.inglewoodshell.club

President's Message

Linda Powers

Happy New Year to everyone! A new year always heralds changes and a lot of individuals were glad to say goodbye to 2016. Let's hope 2017 provides all with happiness and good health!

There are also changes within our community that are noteworthy to our club members. The owner of the Shell Shop on the east side of 776 near the Beach Road intersection passed away. However, a new owner stepped forward, and it will now be called Sheryl's Shell Shop. Sheryl Toth is looking forward to working with the Englewood Shell Club and may become one of our preferred discount vendors. Let's welcome this new entrepreneur to our community.

Another big change is happening on Manasota Key. Sadly, the armoring of the beach has started and continues. My own condominium community is involved. No one seems to be happy about the sea walls but, unfortunately, they are a necessity to protect the properties. The re-nourishment of the beaches may happen by either May or November 2019. Dredging of Stump Pass and the installation of rock groins is proceeding on schedule. All of this will impact the shelling on our beaches. For the good or for the bad, who knows? Let's just say things will change.



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President's Message Cont.

Have you noticed the changes on the Lemon Bay High School campus? What a gem for our community. Thanks to Diana Leonhardt, a few of us could tour the new marine laboratory under the direction of Mia Conlon. After seeing this first-class facility, we are reconsidering our scholarship program to perhaps help fund the laboratory itself. Look for plans for club members to tour the facility in the future.

Changes are also happening within our club. Ruth Middlebrooks is heading up the nominating committee. We have a few openings on the board this year. Doris Wall is completing 2 years of service and will step down as secretary. Tori Weaver is not continuing as Outreach chair. And we would like to see a new director-at-large step up. Please contact Ruth if you would like to become more involved in our amazing club.

Change is often not welcome. But change is vital to keep things fresh and new. "Blessed are the flexible, for they shall not be bent out of shape." Time and time again club members have taken on new responsibilities as needed. Thank you to all of you for constantly revitalizing the Englewood Shell Club

A Message your Newsletter Editor

MaryLinda

January – gone. Super bowl – over. Valentine's day – still time to remember your special people - friends and family--if you do so soon.

Yes, time moves on. As our president, Linda, has mentioned; change is ongoing at our club. One additional change will be the membership roster list. It will still be available in February, but it will not be available in a print format. You'll be able to find the roster in the club's member section of the newsletter which requires a password. The roster is available in an Adobe (.pdf) format for members' printing. If you don't recall the password, you can ask a Board member or email me escnewsletter@aol.com.

Now, the one thing I'd like to see move on is this red tide!

Beach Walks

Deborah Hubbard

Our January Beach Walk was well attended by club members and guest at Boca Grande Beach with lunch afterwards at Miller's Dockside.

It was a beautiful day for the walk, and the lunch afterwards was enjoyed by those attending. Our next beach walk will be held on February 8, Blind Pass Beach (6725 Manasota Key Rd, Englewood) at 10:00. We'll enjoy a luncheon afterwards at a nearby restaurant. Looking forward to seeing everyone!



Outreach Programs

Tori Weaver

Thank you for everyone that contributed to our Outreach presentations and displays during the month of February at Englewood's Elsie Quirk Library. In addition, we could not have a program without the support of the staff at Englewood's Elsie Quirk Library. They provided two displays which we were able to use for three months prior to our presentations and a room to use for them. As a result, we had a number of people interested in the many facets of shelling in our area and who also attended our shell presentations during the Lemon Bay Festival. Their questions and comments showed their curiosity and appreciation for the presenter's contributions of shell identification and crafting information. They also enjoyed a free Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program calendars with Worthington's centerfold illustration of The Animals whose Shells We Collect and a free shell from one of our local beaches. The shells that we provide are contributed by our many members and are always welcomed into the Outreach program. There are many, who after receiving a shell from a friend, identify that moment as their entry into the world of appreciating and collecting shells. So many thanks to all of you who have shared your "surplus" with the program.

What's next? The Outreach program also hosts two presentations for the Cedar Point Park summer program for children. The dates will be announced in our next and last newsletter of this season. If you are interested in assisting our 1 hour shell group or have program ideas, please contact Tori Weaver at 941-800-7805 or email vVw@juno.com.

Shell and Book Sale

Linda Hamilton

A shell and book sale is being planned and will be held at the February General Meeting. The club will offer some of Bet Hamilton's wonderful collection of shells and shell books. The proceeds from those items will go towards our scholarship fund.

In addition, members will have an opportunity to sell some of their own shells and shell organizing/storage related items. **Please note: this is not a craft sale.**

There will be a \$5.00 fee per table to participate in the sale. More details will be announced at the January General Meeting. Please direct any questions to Linda Hamilton.

Excursions

*Ruth Middlebrooks, Marilyn Boyd,
Carol Ayers*

Two additional excursions are scheduled to Useppa with a wait list started. Useppa is a beautiful access limited island. Shelling will not be part of this excursion, but this will be a great opportunity to take a nice boat ride to an island which is part of our area's charm.

Additional information will be available for other excursions at the general meeting.

General Meeting Program and Special Guest

Sherry McKinney

Several months ago, Linda Powers asked if I would do a program on our November trip to the Dominican Republic. Obviously, she knows I love to take pictures so I will have plenty to share when I speak at our February meeting.

It was a great trip with fantastic shelling, lots of good food and fun times with one of the best groups I've ever traveled with. It was quite an experience and, of course, I will have shells to show and stories to tell.

See you in February!

Shell Home Tour

The Shell Home Tour outing is scheduled for Saturday, February 25th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. This year's tour will feature the homes of Colleen Fosnough, Diane Herger and Linda Masterson will be on the tour. You won't want to miss it.

Shell Crafters

Martha Dehne & Leslie Furmage
Hello Shell Crafters!

We can hardly believe that we only have two more Shell Crafter meetings! Boy, are they good ones! On February 24th Diane Herger will be instructing us in the art of making shell flowers. As in the past, Diane has been generous enough to put together kits-including the shells! If you have signed up for the class, please see our table at the General Meeting on the 21st for a supply list so you'll be ready to create at 10:00 a.m. on the 24th. Back by popular demand Ruth Middlebrooks will be our instructor in March. Ruth is going to teach the group how to make some of the eye-catching wire wrapped shell pendants that we all admire. The class will be held on March 24th at 10:00 a.m. Remember to sign up as space is limited.

We would like to give a big thank you to Pam Orozco for leading us in January's crystal clay pendant class. We really have a creative group and the finished products were something else!

Thank you not only to our instructors but, to everyone that signs up and participates in Shell Crafters. We have had fun and lively meetings and always look forward to seeing everyone! If any of you have crafting ideas or would like to share your talents by teaching a class, please contact Leslie or Martha....we'd love to hear about them!

Leslie & Martha

Founder's Shell Presentation
January 17, 2017
Recipient – Deborah Hubbard

Brenda Steele inaugurated the Founder's Shell Award last year in January 2016. Barbara Myers, the Englewood Shell Club's founding mother, initiated the award to honor a member who has given thoughtful support, service, and/or contributions to the club in the past year. In Barbara's words "This Founder's Shell is our club shell, the lightning whelk, and I found it on one of the club's early Carefree Learner trips in Sarasota Bay on December 4, 1998. I hope that it will be passed on each January in appreciation of a club member selected by the Englewood Shell Club president."

Fittingly enough, this member attended her first Carefree Learner trip on Friday. I am happy to announce this year's recipient of the Founder's Shell Award is Deborah Hubbard. Deborah is a recent new member and immediately stepped forward to organize the beach walks for the club. Now I know that the beach walks job is not the most challenging position within the club. But let me tell you that Deborah took this task to heart, using the assigning of the locations as a way for her to get to know the area, having recently relocated from Key West. Deborah now lives in Punta Gorda, but makes sure she knows how to get to all the local beaches and can guide club members there. She even took on the task of emailing summer residents about the beach walks, with very little experience with the internet.

Deborah's dedication to the Englewood Shell Club is very much appreciated and I am proud to present Deborah Hubbard with the second annual Founder's Shell Award.

EDITOR COMMENT: Check out www.EnglewoodShell.Club for a picture of the Founder's Shell. It's really beautiful!

Library
Judy Kauk

Be sure to come early for the library book and shell sale at the February meeting as there will be a great selection to choose from. Our library continues to integrate new and donated books onto our shelves every month and would appreciate any suggestions of books you would like to see added. Anita Wilson will be giving the "Shell of the Month" talk for February on our club shell, the Lightning Whelk.



Merchandising Info
Connie Cummins

Tee shirts ordered at the January meeting will be available for pickup at the February meeting.

The inventory of all prior ESC merchandise with our retired logo will be sold at half price. Come check out what's available.

Other merchandise will also be available before, at the break, and after our general meeting. It's cool to be retro ☺

Study Group

Anita Wilson & Linda Powers

The ESC Study Group will meet Wednesday, February 22 at 2:00 p.m. at Cedar Point Park. Please bring recent shells finds to share with the group, including information about shells you saw on the February Carefree Learner trip. We will see if the Bay versus Ocean habitat preferences discussed at the January meeting held true on the February trip. We also plan to discuss mollusk egg cases at the February meeting so please bring egg casings you want to share with the group.

I am not aware of any good books to identify egg casings. If you know of any book or if you know which mollusk species produced your casings, please be willing to share this information as well as telling when and where you found your treasures.

Membership Roster

Sandy Ouderkirk

The updated 2016-2017 membership roster will be available online in the member's only cloud on our website around February 21st. Remember, the membership roster is for the exclusive of shell club members' use only and not for purposes of solicitation. Thank you for protecting our members' personal information.

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

<u>Individual Membership</u>	<u>Family Membership</u>
<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 _____