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# ENGLEWOOD SHELL CLUB

THE SHELL SCOOP – SHELL SEEKERS



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Newsletter Editor – MaryLinda Coward

**NEW CLUB WEBSITE:**

[escnewsletter@aol.com](mailto:escnewsletter@aol.com)

[www.inglewoodshell.club](http://www.inglewoodshell.club)

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## **President's Message by Brenda Steele**

It's hard to believe that my second term as President is coming to a close.

As I reflect on the meetings, programs and guest speakers, all the social events, Shell Crafters Groups, Shell Study Groups, beach walks and luncheons, the Outreach programs, and the excursions, I am so thankful to Team Leaders who were beside me all the way. Others helped to broaden ESC merchandise, organized and maintained our library, keeping records of our activities, communicating warm words to members and welcomed members and guests at our meetings.

Our Newsletter Editor works many hours behind the scenes, and is always open to new ideas.

The Executive Board members have been supportive and have advised and guided me through out my term.

Heartfelt thanks go to all these wonderful people for doing an exceptional job. You all made my job easier!

Thank you all for being on this journey with me.

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**Thank you ESC members  
From Eunice Herr**

*Thank  
You*

Thank you for all the cards, calls, visits, food, thoughts and prayers for me after my recent surgery. It was so appreciated. I am doing well and look forward to seeing you soon.

**Social - End of Year Picnic  
Pam Orozco**

Remember to mark your calendars for our annual end of the year picnic on Tuesday April 19th from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The picnic will be held at the Englewood Gardens Beach Club on Manasota Key 2560 N. Beach Rd. Englewood, FL. Parking is on the east side of Beach Rd

The club will provide hot dogs and hamburgers. Please contact Pam to sign up so she can plan sufficient quantities of food.



**Library  
Judy Kauk**

With the Shell Club season coming to a close I have been doing an inventory on books that have not been returned to the library.

Please take a minute and look through your shelling books as it is so easy to misplace or forget to return them. All books need to be returned no later than the Shell Club picnic on April 19th.

Here is a partial list of missing library books from our library: "Clean Your Shells", "Shellcraft Designing", "Seashells of Southern Florida, Bivalves", "Florida's Living Beaches", "Florida's Fabulous Seashells and Other Sea Shore Life", "Shellcrafting II" by Anne Joffee.

Thanks for using our library to assist you in your shell questions and projects!

**Membership  
Sandy Ouder Kirk**

The 2015-2016 membership listing is now available on the website under the "Members Only" cloud.

Please review it and let Sandy Ouder Kirk know if any changes need to be made. An addendum will be published in April.

*This membership list is for the personal use of members only and not to be used for solicitation or provided to others who are not current members of the Englewood Shell Club.*



Fossil Shells from an excavation fossil trip

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

Weather has caused us to cancel a few trips this season, but we still have several on tap for our members.

A March 11th trip is planned to Marco Island. We board the bus at 6:00 a.m. from the Elks parking lot in Englewood FL. There will be two boats which will take us to off shore islands for shelling and then we will enjoy the afternoon at the Marco Island shell show. To allow more time for us to spend at the shell show, we will not be making a stop for lunch, so be sure to pack your lunch to eat on the bus. There is a cancellation for this trip so contact Marilyn Boyd if you have interest in going.

Fossil trips to Bermont Quarry are planned for March 26th and April 12th with our favorite guide Dr. Gary Schelmz. Each trip will end with lunch at the Country Roads Cafe (good reasonably priced food) and Dr. Schelmz will conduct a GIANT fossil giveaway.

Dr. Schmelz is our guest presenter this month, so if you have never been on a fossil trip, you will have the opportunity to ask him more about this type of 'shelling'.

## **Programs - Sherry McKinney**



Our guest speaker for the March general meeting will be Dr. Gary Schmelz. Dr. Schmelz received his Ph.D. in biology from the University of Delaware. He is a past president of the Bailey Matthews Sanibel Shell Museum. Dr. Schmelz is a Field Research Associate with the University of Florida where his main investigative interests are in the area of paleomalocology.

Dr. Schmelz will be presenting on the *Wonderful World of Nudibranchs* and will also discuss the upcoming fossil shell trips he will be leading including our Club's trip on March 26<sup>th</sup> to Bermont Quarry near Punta Gorda, FL.

Dr. Schmelz will have copies of his latest book, "*Fabulous Florida Fossil Shells*" for sale for the wholesale price of \$20 (cash or check) and he will be available to sign the books afterwards.

## **Study Group Linda Powers**



An enthusiastic group met on January 27 to discuss arks and the finds from both the Carefree Learner trip of January 25th and the recent "perfect storm" for shelling the beaches of Boca Grande and Manasota Key. A big thanks to Anita Wilson for the fascinating facts about arks and to Homer Rhode for sharing his world-wide collection of arks.

February 24th's meeting focused on cleaning all those wonderful treasures.

The last study group of this season will be on Wednesday, March 30th. Continuing the theme of the local shells that have been abundant lately, we will identify and discuss the articulated bivalves that a lot of us have been finding.

Study group starts at 2:00 and is held at Cedar Point Environmental Park, 2300 Placida Road, Englewood. As always, you are encouraged to bring shells for identification. Also bring any shell-related books you have handy in your personal library.

I look forward to seeing you all there!

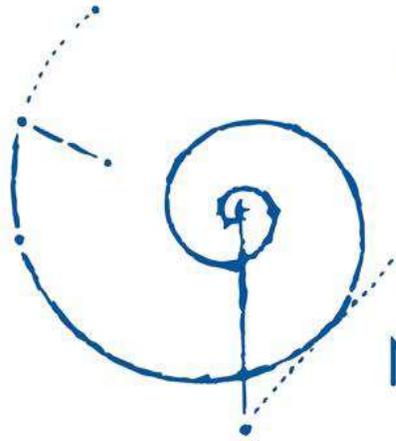
## **Shellcrafters Martha Dehne and Leslie Furmage**

Hello Shell Crafters! We can hardly believe that another season of ESC is coming to an end! We would like to thank all of you who participated in Shell Crafters. Not only all of the instructors who so generously taught the classes but, all of the crafty girls who attended. You fill each class with fun and excitement- thank you for joining us!

Our February class was led by Anita Wilson. We made beautiful driftwood/shell wind chimes. Anita taught us that there is so much more to making chimes than just stringing shells. There is also weight and balance. Who knew? It made all the difference in the way the shells hung; but they turned out great! Thank you again, Anita! March 18th will be our final class for the season. Ruth Middlebrooks will be the instructor and we will be learning how to wire wrap beach treasures to make lovely pendants. There is a lot of excitement about this class as we have all admired the beautiful handcrafted pendants that Ruth wears!

We have a few exciting classes lined up for next season but, are always looking for instructors and/or new ideas! Please let us know if you see anything that you think would be fun for a Shell Crafters class. Thank you again for a great season! Leslie and Martha

If you attended the February General Meeting you saw the bags and bags of sorted shells for the shell sale. A big thank you goes to Leslie for taking so much time and care when sorting and bagging them! Job well done!



# mollusks in peril 2016 forum

presented by  
The BAILEY-MATTHEWS  
NATIONAL SHELL MUSEUM

Stefanie Wolf, Marine Biologist from The Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum has requested we let ESC members know that the Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum will be hosting a 2- 1/2 day forum titled "*Mollusks in Peril*" May 22-24, 2016. They will be bringing together some of the country's foremost experts on current large-scale threats to molluscan populations to discuss; through presentations and panels, the challenges facing the second most diverse group of animals on earth.

As our planet is subjected to unprecedented rates of human-induced environmental change, populations of mollusks inhabiting a wide range of habitats are being exposed to exceptional amounts of ecological stress. These stressors include, but are not limited to, alterations caused by climate change and other large-scale environmental disturbances.

"*Mollusks in Peril*" will provide a forum for discussion on the possible ecological drivers of extinction risk, the synergies that enhance ecological stress, and the taxonomy, ontogeny, and geography of change in and risk to marine, freshwater, and terrestrial mollusks.

We hope to see you there!

**Registration is Now Open** <http://mollusksinperil.org>

