



## The Shell Scoop February 2024

Lisa Ketner, Editor

General Meeting: Tuesday, February 20, 1-3PM

**DUE TO A SCHEDULING CONFLICT & OUR FEB SPEAKER CANCELLING,  
THERE ARE NEW TIMES FOR THE FEBRUARY MEETING.**

1pm - 1:45pm - DOORS OPEN TO THE SEASHELL MARKET

1:45pm - 2:30pm - GENERAL MEETING

2:30pm - 3:30pm - SHELL MARKET OPEN

Call to Order and Welcome

Treasurer's Report

The Nominating committee will present a slate of candidates. Additional nominations may be taken from the floor for candidates who have agreed to serve. The President then closes the nominations. The election will take place at the March General meeting. Terms of office shall commence immediately following the election.

Team Leader Reports

Shell of the Month: Laurie Leonardo, sand dollars

Adjourn

Raffle

**EXCURSION: Wed., March 27: Lovers Key State Park**

Located at 8700 Estero Blvd, Bonita Springs. Park opens at 8AM. \$8 fee per car. Meet up 8AM in parking lot #1 We will then ride the tram to the beach. Low tide is 9AM. A printable map is available on page 10. Sign up at the February 20 General meeting or by contacting Lisa Ketner.

Walk Nokomis Beach, 100 Casey Key Rd., Nokomis, Thurs., Feb 8 @10AM  
Did you know, Nokomis Beach is Sarasota County's oldest public beach?

ShellCrafters: February, 16, 10-Noon, St. David's Episcopal Church Fellowship Hall, 401 S. Broadway, Englewood. See page 9 for details.

### Co-Team Leaders' Enthusiasm Contagious at January 4 Study Group



Thank you Study group Co-chair, Judy Landry, left, who presented Angel wings. And Thank you, Co-chair Anita Wilson, (standing right), for hosting the gathering in your beautiful, holiday festive Englewood home which included cookies, hot/cold drinks, shell displays, and a spectacular array of holiday ornaments she had made over the many years as a ShellCrafters participant.

### Members Made Quick Work of an Annual Project on January 17

Middle to right: Diane Herger, Linda Schmoyer, Sandy Ouderkirk, and Lisa Ketner hooked up at Cedar Point Learning Center to remove and package the oodles of unique Christmas tree decorations created by the large number of members who have participated in ShellCrafters over the past 25 years.



Left: The tree was assembled and decorated on Dec. 7. Middle-right: it was dismantled on January 17.

## New Members' Tea Draws a Big Crowd on January 18

Thank you long time member and frequent volunteer, Pam Orozco for organizing this special event and for donating finger sandwiches, sweet treats, coffee, tea, and lemon flavored water. The Board of Directors also appreciates members Linda Peterson and Carolyn Robinette for helping Pam prepare her home and the edibles for the 15 new members who attended.

In addition to eating, mingling, and marveling Pam's extensive shell collection, Anita Wilson spoke of educational, fun activities as well as volunteer opportunities. Upon Lisa Ketner's request, each member introduced & spoke about her/himself.



Photo left: Linda Peterson and Pam Orozco. Photo right: Steve Nicely, Mary Kettleson, Lori Smith, and Debbie Sturm. Other new members in attendance were Donna Anderson, Rita Brackman, Jennifer Leader, Judy Sutherby, Cathy Nicely, Melody Keeler, Sandy Smyser, Devora Leogrande, Lisa Kinney, and Melody Keeler.

## Shells Bloomed into Gay Flowers January 19 ShellCrafters' Session

led by Diane Herger. She was assisted by ShellCrafters 'co-team leaders, Leslie Furmage & Carolyn Robinette.



New members Lisa Eloff and Debbie Sturm with their creations in full bloom.

## Jan. 25: Sarasota Bay's Critters Delighted Carefree Learner Participants

"The boat ride out to the sandbar was truly spectacular with the (almost) Full moon in the sky! Learning about all of the shells and their inhabitants was amazing! Seeing live whelk eggs, watching the "Hairy monster" (anemone) close up when touched, and finding a live Murex were the highlights of my experience! I would tell anyone who wants to see and experience sea life to go to on the Carefree Learner's trip." Lori Smith





Two Outreach Programs in the Wings.  
Pop Out and Cheer on the Teams.

# Lemon Bay Fest

*History With Zest*

**Feb 3-9, 2024**

SPECIAL SPEAKERS  
ALL WEEK.  
CHECK THE  
ELSIE QUIRK LIBRARY  
CALENDAR FOR  
SCHEDULE.

Englewood Shell Club Presents

## Shell 101

**Fri, Feb 9  
10:30 am**

*Elsie Quirk Library*




*Seashells 101*

**Favorite Seashells of  
Southwest Florida**  
FREE WORKSHOP  
Presented by  
Kathy Cycak, Diane Gallagher & Anita Wilson  
of the Englewood Shell Club

**FRIDAY - MARCH 1ST - 9AM**  
Picnic Pavilion - North Jetty Park  
1000 Casey Key - Nokomis, Florida

*Nokomis Beach Workshops Sponsored by Nokomis Institute*

## February 2024 Tides

Submitted by Karen Blackford

New Moon 2/9 Full Moon 2/24

### Boca Grande Pass

(add 1 hour for anything North)

Thurs., 2/8 6:07am -0.8

Fri., 2/9 6:47am -0.7

Wed., 2/21 5:40am -0.4

### Boca Grande Pass

2/8 - 2/12 Nice morning minus lows

2/21 - 2/25 Tides are minus lows.

Good early morning shelling on all those days. Hope for 20 knot winds from the west.

### South Lido Beach

Best day Friday 2/9 5:48am -0.9

## Let's Shellabrate!

### 2024 SARASOTA SHELL SHOW \* Hosted by the Sarasota Shell Club

- ❖ Exquisite Shell Art and Crafts on Display & for Sale
- ❖ Scientific & Artistic Exhibits
- ❖ Exotic & Rare Shells
- ❖ Raffle for Shells & Shell-Related Prizes
- ❖ Educational Programs & Membership Info.
- ❖ Plus Much More!



**WHEN:** Friday February 9 & Saturday February 10

10 a.m.- 5 p.m. both days

FREE bag of shells with \$5 paid adult admission \* Children 12 & under admitted free with paid adult \* Students 12-18, \$2.50 \* Free parking

**WHERE:** Roberts Arena in the Potter Building, Sarasota Fairgrounds

2896 Ringling Blvd., Sarasota FL. (Exit Fruitville Road off I-75 & go west)

[www.sarasotashellclub.com](http://www.sarasotashellclub.com)

## 2024



### Sanibel Shell Show

March 8-9, 2024

Marriott Sanibel Harbour Resort



## Home Shell Tours

### Thurs. March 21

### 11am-2pm

Sign up at the Feb. General Meeting or contact Pam Orozco

Englewood Shell Club Annual Picnic

# FLIP FLOP GALA

TUES., APRIL 16, 2024

11:30am-2:30pm

Located at Maxine Barritt Park  
1800 Harbor Dr S.  
in Venice

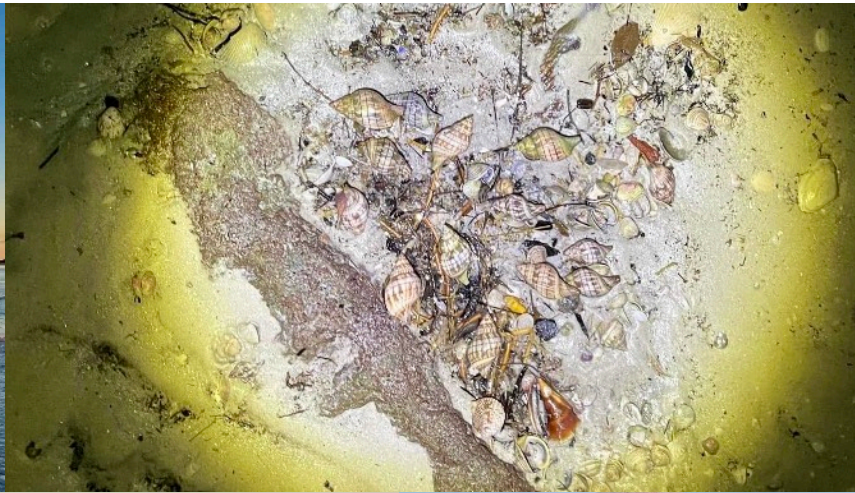
**\$25** per person  
Sign up at the Social Table at the General Meeting or Mail to: Pam Desruisseaux  
843 Blue Crane Dr  
Venice, FL 34285

Catered Lunch Raffle  
Silent Auction

Deadline to sign up is April 1st

## January 30: Sunrise Shelling at Dog Beach & Shell Key Preserve

January 31 Facebook: "Yes," Kathy Cycak wrote, "the trip to Pass-a Grille turned out to be chilly in the a.m., but warmed up later on. The sunrise as well as the low tide beach unveiled its beauty as thousands of colorful banded tulips appeared. Also as a treat were many ruby red channeled duck clams dotting the sand. Then onto the ferry to Shell Key Preserve which was a scenic place as well; however, by then high tide had rolled in. The key to finding the best winter shells is always getting up in the middle of the night to get to that beach at sunrise usually when low tide begins. The Early bird catches the worm, as they say."



Legend has it that in the late 1800s, a local Spanish explorer named Juan Gomez was attempting to navigate the treacherous waters of the pass between Pass-a-Grille and Shell Key. As he passed through the narrow channel, he exclaimed, "Por aqui paso a grillos" which translates in English to: "Here I pass through crickets!" in English. Over time, the name morphed into Pass-a-Grille, and the unique moniker has stuck ever since.





January 30: Members gathered at Elise Quirk Library to decorate a curio cabinet in honor of Englewood's Annual Lemon Bay Fest. The display will be available for viewing until the end of February. So perhaps you and a friend or two will pop in and admire the crafts loaned by seven talented members.



Shown left to right: Historian & Director at large, Karen Blackford, Bonnie Lytton, ShellCrafters Co-team Leader, Carolyn Robinette, Shell Study co-team Leader Anita Wilson, and Diane Casey.



**ShellCrafters: 10-Noon, Friday, February 16, St. David's Parish Hall**  
 Zippered Cross-Over Pouch: \$15 cash or check. Provided: pouch, decorative napkins, rulers, scissors, embellishments, some glue. Participant provides: your own favorite embellishments and decorative napkins to decoupage on your bag, an emery board or nail file, E-6000 glue or Fabri-Tac. Contact Co-ShellCrafters Team Leader, Carolyn Robinette to sign up (ESC members only).

### February 1: Study Group

In addition to presenting sand dollars to nearly a dozen and a half attendee, Laurie Leonardo treated everyone to shell shaped candy.





## Points of Interest

- |                    |                 |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Accessible Feature | Parking         |
| Beach Access       | Picnic Pavilion |
| Biking             | Ranger Station  |
| Boat Ramp          | Restrooms       |
| Fishing            | Rinse Station   |
| Hand Launch        | Shelling        |
| Hiking             | Swimming Area   |
| Observation Area   | Tram Stop       |
| Paddling           | Wading Only     |

## Multiuse

- |   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| <b>1</b> Eagle Trail                          | 1.6 mi / 2.5 km |
| <b>2</b> Black Island Trail                   | 2.6 mi / 4.2 km |
| Paddling Trail/ Canals<br>(paddling, one way) | 2.5 mi / 4 km   |

### Tram Info:

A tram is available 8 a.m. to sunset, daily, to transport visitors from the parking areas to the beach. The drop off point is 800 feet away from the beach.