



## The Shell Scoop

April 2024

Lisa Ketner, Editor

Dear Members,

Have you ever known something was true, yet found it hard to believe? Well, then perhaps like me, you are awed by how rapidly the 23-24 season has gone by.

I hope each of you has enjoyed exploring, learning, and having fun with fellow shell lovers and are looking forward to when we reconvene in October .

Sincerely,  
Lisa Ketner, president

### April Beachwalk



**Thursday, April 11**, Walk South Brohard Beach, 1900 Harbor Dr., S. Venice. Start time is 10AM. And, as always, look for the club's flag planted near the closest restroom. Co-Leaders are Kathy Cycak and Chris Hofer.

### FLIP FLOP GALA IS ALMOST HERE!

Don't miss out on our Summer send off celebration on April 16 which is guaranteed to not disappoint! Beautiful venue, great food, door prize, awesome raffle, silent auction, prizes, fellowship, and more all for \$25!



**Last Chance deadline sign up is April 8.** So be sure to notify organizer, Pam Desruisseaux, if you would like to experience this event designed to please all.

### A Message from Merchandise Team Leader, Patti Redmond



“All merchandise is delivered, including the tumblers. I apologize for all the confusion and delay this time around. I hope everyone is happy with their long awaited club wear. Thanks for your patience. Let's hope that our next order has a faster turnaround time. See you at the picnic and have great summer. “

## Thank you, Outgoing Leaders

The purpose of Englewood Shell Club is bringing people together persons interested in shells and shell collecting, and to foster knowledge and awareness of mollusks by providing opportunities for participation in related programs, projects, and events.

Thank you to each outgoing leader for putting your talents to work as a method of assisting the club reach its goals.

[Meredith Blain](#), programs team leader, 4 years

[Judy Landry](#), study group co-team leader, 1 year

[Anita Wilson](#), study group co-team leader, 1 year, parliamentarian, 3 years

[Leslie Furnage](#), ShellCrafters team leader, 11 years

[Carolyn Robinette](#), ShellCrafters co-team leader, 1 year

[Diane Gallagher](#), secretary, 2 years

[Kathy Cycak](#), director at large, 2 years, Beachwalk co-team leader, 4 years

[Chris Hofer](#), Beachwalk co-team leader, 2.5 years

[Lisa Ketner](#), excursion team leader, 1 year

[Linda Schmoyer](#), membership co-team leader, 6 years

[Jackie Hall](#), membership co-team leader, 2 years

[Pam Desruisseaux](#), social director, 3 years

[Pat Weaver](#), librarian, 2 years

## Thank you, Team players

The enthusiastic pulse of your collective contributions has significantly enriched club activities, programs, and events that occurred throughout the 2023-2024 season.

## Summary of March 2024

[March 1 Facebook post by Karen Blackford](#): “The ESC Outreach team took its Shell 101 program to the north Jetty this morning where 80+ curious people sat eager to learn more about seashells & the mollusks that live in them. The monthly free talks are a seasonal series sponsored by the Nokomis Institute founded and led by Ken & Ann Marie Proudfoot.

ESC members Anita Wilson, Kathy Cycak, and Diane Gallagher, engaged the audience with information of basic shell anatomy, differences between gastropods and bivalves, then shared lots of fun facts about the most common shells found on our local beaches.”



L to R: educational board created by Kathy Cycak, Anita Wilson, Diane Gallagher, Kathy Cycak, Karen Blackford, Educational attendees selecting a shell or two to take home.

**March 7 Facebook post by Karen Blackford:** "Co-Shell Study Leaders Anita Wilson & Judy Landry wrapped up the last study of the season with a fantastic talk on lightning whelks presented by ESC member Debbie Smith. With her talk illustrated with an informative display & tons of whelks of all kinds, the group was a buzz with a lively discussion on right-handed or left-handed. Karen Huether shared a treasure box display of her Bahamian finds from an Eleuthera trip and Judy Landry showed her pink queen conch from a recent Honduras cruise.



### Opportunity to Visit the Galapagos Islands

The National Shell Museum and Aquarium (NSMA) is organizing a trip to the Galapagos Islands in September 2024, and Science Director and Curator of the NSMA,

Dr. Leal will lead mollusk observations and present talks (among other activities during the trip) in that unique journey of exploration.

The Galapagos Islands are famous for their role in the development of Charles Darwin's theory of natural selection, which ultimately became one of the solid foundations of our current understanding of evolution. Due to their origin and type of geological development, oceanic islands are natural biological laboratories that allow researchers to study the evolution of terrestrial and marine organisms under conditions of increasing isolation.

Through field observations and aboard-ship lectures, we will discuss the molluscan fauna of the Galapagos, their origin, and biodiversity.

For more information visit [Holbrook Travel](#) or contact [info@shellmuseum.org](mailto:info@shellmuseum.org).

### March 15: ShellCrafters

### March 14: Boca Grande Beachwalk



Aria Patterson blow dries the resin Charcuterie board she created under the guidance of Team leader Leslie Furmage who was assisted by Carolyn Robinette.

## LEMON BAY EARTH DAY APRIL 20, 10AM-2PM

A **FREE** family event that includes: games, crafts, environmental exhibits, animal encounters, food, and a keynote speaker. Location: Cedar Point Environment Park, 2300 Placida Rd., Englewood.

## March 15: Members Tour Lemon Bay High School's Aqua-lab

March 15 Facebook posted by Kathy Cycak: "Yes, it was very interesting and informative at Lemon Bay High School today, taking their Aqua-lab tour and speaking to Mia Conlon and her marine biology students."



## March 19: General Meeting



ESC Member Homer Rhode shared memories of the shells he has collected over the past 80 years that mean something special to him.



### Installation of the 2024-2025 Board of Directors

Left to right: Donna Anderson, Director at large; Linda Hamilton, Director at large; Cindy Boyd, Vice President; Debbie Smith, Secretary; Karen Blackford, Communications director; Doris Wall, Treasurer; Pam Desruisseaux, Vice President; absent, Lisa Ketner, President.



### Founders Award Presented to Anita Wilson

Co-President, Pam Desruisseaux, spoke and presented the annual Founders Award to Anita Wilson on behalf of President, Lisa Ketner. “Englewood Shell Cub was founded by Barb Myers and Elise Doyle. At some point in time thereafter, Barb found a large lightning whelk in Sarasota Bay. In 2016, she christened this amazing shell the Founders Award and then presented to Connie Cummings in recognition of her outstanding contributions during the past year.

We like for enthusiastic nature, cheerful demeanor and appreciated for her smarts and 20 plus years’ of commitment to ESC, today we acknowledge Anita Wilson for her 2023-2024 service as Parliamentarian, Study group co-chair, Team Outreach participant, and member of the Constitution review committee.

Last but not least, thank you, Anita, for being my mentor and teacher.”

Anita’s texted Lisa later that day, “Thank you, Lisa. I was flabbergasted. I would never imagined such an honor, let alone changing the membership time perspective.”

The Library Book Sale added \$50 to the club's General fund  
Thank you, Pat Weaver, librarian

Shell of the Month: **Whelks**  
Thank you, Debbie Smith

### Shell Home Tours a Big Hit

Nearly a dozen and a half members toured the homes of Kathy Cycak, Diane Herger, and Colleen Fosnough on March 21. Thank you ladies for showing your treasures and thank you Pam Orozco for organizing the event. Photos provided by participant Donna Anderson..



March 27: **LOVERS KEY:** Just one shy of a 18 members took part in the last excursion of the season.



LOVERS KEY STATE PARK  
Fort Myers Beach, Florida

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