

Englewood Shell Club
General Meeting
November 18, 2025

1. Call to Order - Welcome

Lori Smith, President, called the meeting to order at 1:04 pm on November 18, 2025 at the St. David's Fellowship Hall. Lori welcomed all the members back and proceeded to make announcements.

2. Announcements:

Shellcrafters – Carolyn Robinette has had a family emergency and there will be no shell crafters meeting November or December.

Library – Terry Crouch reports that the library and its location will be up and running by January.

Introduction of the Board of Directors and Team Leaders for the 2025-2026 year – Lori Smith, President, Lisa Eloff, Vice President, also both team leaders for Excursions and Beachwalks, Debbie Smith, Secretary, Judy Landry, Treasurer, Lisa Kitner, Past President and Newsletter, Donna Anderson and Pam Desruisseau, Director's-at-Large, Karen Blackford, Communications Director and Outreach, Marilyn Boyd, Greeters, Kathy Baillargeon, Historian, Mary Ketelsen, Donna Anderson and Aria Catterson, Membership, Diane Casey, Merchandise, Carolyn Robinette, Shellcrafters, Homer Rhode, Study Group, and Linda Schmoyer, Sunshine.

Sunshine – As a reminder, please send information to Lori and she will provide the information to Linda Schmoyer.

Treasurer Report – The starting balance on October 8, 2025 was \$8,507.89 and the current balance is \$11,014.38. Income received was \$2,275.00 from mostly membership dues and the Egmont excursion. Expenses paid was \$1,127.61 for names tags, powers design, folders, printing, Egmont excursion, pot luck wreaths and storage.

Special Shell Crafting Workshop with artist Anna Chan on Saturday 20, 2025 at the St. David's Parish Hall. Cost is \$50.00 and please sign up for this wonderful opportunity.

Cancellations –Beachwalks or excursions, please check facebook or contact the team leader.

30th Anniversary – please see Nancy who is at a table to sign up and pay for the event.

Outreach – There are several opportunities for outreach and the sign up sheets are on the table. Please sign-up. We need volunteers.

Christmas Tree decorating at Cedar Point Environmental Park will take place on Wednesday, December 3, 2025 at 10:00 am. Please see Lisa Kitner for details. Lori also announced they are hoping to make new shell ornaments at a future shellcrafters class.

Fossil Dig is Thursday, December 11, 2025. We need 20 people to book at \$125.00 each. If 30 people book then the price is \$115 per person. A sign up sheet is available at a table.

Beachwalk dates have been announced with the next one taking place on Thursday, January 22, 2025 at the Nokomis Beach. There is also a beach walk in the plans for a beach clean up – dates to be announced for hopefully one in the fall and spring.

Donations – Thank you for all the donations that were provided today for the food bank and please remember to bring a donation at the next general meeting. It is very much appreciated.

New Members – Richard Smyser and Coke Wilson were welcomed to the club and each gave a brief bio of themselves.

Membership – Aria Catterson announced that the club has 103 paying members. New members' name tags have a starfish on them. And if you have not paid your dues to please do so that you are in good standing and can attend all the events.

Greeters – Marilyn announced that no greeters will be needed at the Pot Luck Holiday Lunch because there will be special greeters available.

Potluck – Marilyn reported that people have signed up to bring ham and beef dishes and that a fish or chicken dish is needed. No gift exchange will take place but to please bring food or pet items for donations to the food bank. There will be music, a shell raffle and door prizes at the potluck.

30th Anniversary Luncheon that will take place on January 20th – Marilyn shared a 30th anniversary charm that was made by Congressional Jewelers – a silver whelk for \$80 or \$85 for sale.

GUEST SPEAKER

Linda Powers introduced John Jacobs, who is originally from Boston, served 24 years in the U.S. Airforce and joined a shell club in Guam 1975-1976 and has since been a part of various shell and paleontological societies. After Guam, he was stationed in Omaha, Nebraska and then Hawaii, where he joined the Hawaiian Malocological Society. He retired from the military to Florida in 1996 and fully retired in 2019 from a second career.

John's interest focus on limpets, Strombidae, Cymatidae, Spandylidas and fossils particularly from Guam and Hawaii. He has received many awards for his exhibitions on Hawaiian fossils, including from the Smithsonian and the North Carolina Shell Show, and has judged numerous shell shows. Currently, John is the President of the St. Petersburg Shell Club.

John then shared his travels and interest and provided a very detailed powerpoint presentation on how to display and label shells for scientific shows.

3. More announcements were made before the break:

Lori announced that the carefree learners trip is scheduled for February 2, 2026 and to please sign up. The cost is \$30 and is lots of fun.

Amy Bently announced that the Sarasota Shell Show and Marine Life Festival will be held on February 6 and 7, 2026. Forms for both the artistic and scientific entries are available from their website.

Linda Hamilton displayed some shells from the Sanibel trip.

Merchandise – Diane Casey announced that if you placed an order for merchandise at the last meeting, your order is here and to please pick it up at the table.

BREAK

4. Adjournment

Lori adjourned the meeting at 2:39 pm and the shell raffle was held.

Respectively,

Debbie Smith
ESC Secretary