The Beauii



A newsletter published by the Sarasota Shell Club

www.Sarasotashellclub.com

We meet on the 2nd Thursday, 7:00 pm (September to April)

Room 206, Albritton Center Bee Ridge Presbyterian Church 4826 McIntosh Rd Sarasota, FL

Summer, 2023 Edition

Greetings from Goshen . . .

In a statement published in last summer's edition of the Beauii, I suggested that SSC might be most enjoyable if we spend our efforts toward an appreciation of shells and shelling and the development of relationships around that common



interest. I hope that we have made strides in that direction. But I am under no illusion that we have maximized what SSC might yet be.

To provide more information for the Board as it leads SSC, Nancy Cadieux led an effort to survey the membership. Many thanks to Nancy for the time and energy she put into formulating the survey, getting it to members, and tabulating the results. And thanks to the members who took the time and energy to share their thoughts with us.

The results confirm what should perhaps be obvious, i.e., that shells and relationships are important to members. Field trips and speakers were also frequently mentioned as among the appealing features of SSC. For members of the Board, these findings affirm that many of the things we are doing are expected and appreciated.

However, as we hoped, the findings also suggest a few items which the Board will consider as we move into the 2023-24 "shell club year." In brief, these may be labeled (a) meeting schedule, (b) beach walks, (c) shell studies, and (d) craft workshops. By way of beginning the conversation, let us consider the first two.

The major issue with reference to meeting schedules is the fact that many of our members do not drive at night. The quick response might be that

we move to an afternoon meeting time. But immediately a number of logistical questions emerge. Would our current meeting location be available? Would SSC members still working now find it difficult to attend? Would it be best to move to another day? Would it be harder to get speakers?

As we consider such practical matters, perhaps we should expand our horizons to dream (hallucinate?) other possibilities. How about both the 2 pm and 7 pm options? Same speaker? How about a live-stream option? Or consider alternating months, one-month evening meeting, the next month afternoon? Could we make our meetings a YouTube video?

I am sure the more creative in our club can think of even more possibilities. In any event, the conversation is begun—please let Board members know of your ideas and options.

Second, beach walks. I will look into this possibility as soon as I return south and can talk with locals and check the conditions. At the very least I assume we want a beach with shells and learning options, no red tide, and a nearby location for food!

Duane Kauffmann President



Officers & Board Members

President Duane Kauffmann Vice-President Ron Bopp

Recording Secretary open*

Board Members: Nancy Cadieux (3); Amy Bentley (2); Sally Peppitoni (2); Karen Huether (2); Donna Krusenoski (1); Debbie

Alexander (1);

Treasurer

Committee Chairmen

Artisans tba

The Beauii Ron Bopp Historian open*

Field Trips Gary Martinez
Librarian Frankie Grover

Membership Lisa Kinney

Shell Show tba

Sunshine Frankie Grover Webmaster Bruce Paulsen

- * Meetings are held on the second Thursday of September through April at 7:00 pm.
- * **Dues** are \$30.00 for new single members and \$40.00 for family members (at the same address).
- * Renewals are \$25.00 for single and \$30.00 for family.

Alan Banko

Contact the Editor - email Ron Bopp at rbopp1@tampabay.rr.com or call at 918-527-0589 if you have something to include in *The Beauii*.

Important . . . Same Location New Building

Yes, we are still meeting at Bee Ridge Church at 4826 McIntosh Road, Sarasota.

However, our meetings will be in the Albritton Center, Room 206. This is the administration building for the church, and there is ample parking.

A 2023—2024

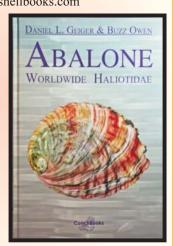
Membership application is attached to this Newsletter

Library Notes

Our Sarasota Shell Club library is located at the Bee Ridge Presbyterian Church in Sarasota. A list of our books is on our website www.sarasotashellclub.com. For more info on some of our books, go to www.mdmshellbooks.com

Books in the Sarasota
Shell Club Library can be
accessed by contacting
Frankie Grover at
952-250-1481 or
frankiejogro@gmail.com
In addition persons needing information about
shells and shelling can be
assisted in contacting
club members with relevant expertise.

There is a whole world of seashells and marine life out there!



Frankie Grover

Positions Needed

Our Shell Club needs members to fill the following important positions. Please consider volunteering for one of these: SECRETARY & HISTORIAN

Contact President Duane Kauffmann at duanerk@goshen.edu for more information.

^{*} If you want *The Beauii* printed and mailed it is an extra \$15.00 to your dues.

Mark Your Calendars — — Save The Dates

We look forward to seeing you at all our events. "Eyeball" this space in each issue for additions, more information or changes.

September 14 First SSC Membership Meeting (Bee Ridge Church, Room 206)

Activity: **Shoe Box Exhibits** (more information elsewhere in this newsletter)

Time: 7:00 pm

October 12 Membership Meeting (Bee Ridge Church, Room 206)

Speaker: Alan Gettleman: "Shells from the Most Extreme, Most Exotic Locations

on Earth" Time: 7:00 pm

/

November 9 Membership Meeting (Bee Ridge Church, Room 206)

Speaker: John Jacobs: "Strombidae, Rostellariidae, Seraphsidae - An Introduction"

Time: 7:00 pm

December 14 Holiday Party (site to be determined)

Dinner, Auction and Merriment

Time: ?

January 11 Membership Meeting (Bee Ridge Church, Room 206)

Speaker: Clair Beckman: "Shells Around the World"

Time: 7:00 pm

February 8 No meeting — **Shell Show** (February 9 & 10)

Potter Building (Robarts Arena complex)

March 14 Membership Meeting (Bee Ridge Church, Room 206)

Speaker: Dennis Sargent: "My Life with Seashells"

Time: 7:00 pm

April 11 Membership Meeting (Bee Ridge Church, Room 206)

Speaker: Ron Bopp: "A Tale of Two Trips"

Time: 7:00 pm

April 13 Annual Sarasota Shell Club **Picnic** (Coquina Gulfside North Pavilion)

Details to follow in future newsletters

Time: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

June 11-16 Conchologist of America Convention

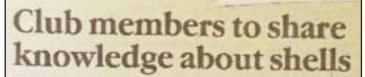
Melbourne, Florida

Convention Chair: Alan Gettleman

June Bailey

by Fran Schlusemann

Jane Bailey, born in September 1924 passed away on January 21, 2023. Her ashes were scattered in the Gulf of Mexico so she could receive her wings and her mermaid's tail. June was a close friend of mine and a friend of all who loved seashells. She won a lot of blue ribbons for both artistic as well as scientific displays. She received many "Best of Show Shell" plaques over the years. She served as President of the Sarasota Shell Club multiple times (1985-1987; 1995-1997; 2002-2003) as well as various shell show committees. A *Herald-Tribune* photo shows her alongside club member Charlie Hertweck planning exhibits for a 1984 Shell Show (held at the Exhibition Hall on Tamiami Trail in Sarasota).



By Dorothy Stockbridge-Pratt

Finding the shells is the easy part. Finding out their names and something about them can be difficult.

The Sarasoca Shell Club is offering an unusual chance to get those answers at its 34th annual Sarasoca Shell Show on Friday through Sunday at Sarasota Municipal Auditorium.

"We like for people to bring their shells for us to identify. There's nothing we like better than talking about shells," said club President June Bailey. "We'll have a variety of shells found around here and on distant shores."

The club's booth will sell local shells and shell crafts made by members. Bailey has counted 86 entries from students at Pine View School for the Gifted.

Club members and shell dealers from St. Petersburg to Naples will have exhibits. Some exhibits are being brought from as far away as Califorms and Maryland.

One display will feature ancient shells from a now-closed fossil pet at 17th Street and Honore Avenue in Sarasota. Scientific exhibits are planned for the serious conchologists. But hobbyists are the show's "We like for people to bring their shells for us to identify."

JUNE BAILEY, Sarasota Shell Club

target, and many have played imporant roles in advancing marine science.

"Arasteur collectors have contributed significantly to the scientific knowledge about mollusks by noticing unnamed species, verifying geographic ranges of species and dunating mollusks to museams." Bailey and.

The exhibits will show where and how the animals that left the shells live, how the shells are used and other aspects of shells. Shell photography, jewelry, needle crafts, framed shells, "flower" arrangements and mirrors made with shells also will be featured.

Interested?

The show will be from 12:30 to 5 p.m. today and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Admission is \$2.50. Rance and expelic sensetedly frage, all over the world will be bestamed when the Surranda Shell Shew Set. Hickard Further, problem, while the problem is at 18th Shew boars are Jan 37, most to the server, and Charles the start of the server of the Shew boars are Jan 37, most to the server, shew charteness.

June not only entered and displayed shells but also judged other Shell Club's shell shows, including the 1986 Sanibel Shell Fair and others. She was often quoted in the news media as saying, "We like for people to bring their shells for us to identify." She also noted, "There's nothing we like better than talking about shells."



1990 Shell Show

1986 Shell Show

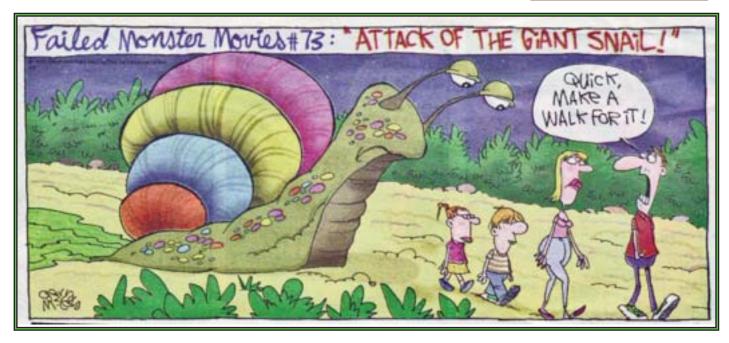


A happy group of Sarasota Shell Club members at the 2017 end-of-the-year picnic.

Save the Date: April 13, 2024

The Summer's Cartoon . . .

More information can be found on page 6..
You will want to attend!



Recycle Your Award Ribbons

I can recycle your Award Ribbons for our SSC shows, even if they have a date on the ribbons or writing on the back. I will even iron them!

Bring them to the membership meeting. If you can't make the meeting then contact me at luvseashells@gmail.com.

Thanks... Linda Greiner



Last of Birth Shell Articles—Just for Fun

Since I graduated from a midwestern college, our study was in entomology, not conchology or malacology We do have plenty of "bugs" in the North! In my backyard now I have Danaus plexippus (monarch butterflies) and some Papilionoidea (swallowtail butterflies). However, when it comes to the scientific names or families of seashells, I am like a "deer in headlights." I have always appreciated it when presenters give the common name as well as the scientific name. It has helped me to "connect the dots" and to learn. That stated, JUST FOR FUN, can you match up the birth shells with their scientific family name?

Limpet	Cancellaridae
Baby's Ear	Pectinidae
	Anomidae
Scallop	Terebridae
Jingle	Fasciolaiidae
Auger	Olividae
Tulip	Expitoniidae
Olive	Strombidae
Wentletrap	Pectinidae
Junonia	Naticidae
Conch	Fissurellidae
Lions Paw	Expitoniidae
Nutmeg	Volute

For the answers, email Carol Mae at carolmmae@gmail.com
(Please be aware, I am still a novice!)

I hope everyone has enjoyed this. Our last four birth shells and traits are the second last portion of this article. They are as follows (and pictured on the left):

June (conch) People with this birth shell are supposed to possess communication skills, and be witty, cunning, lively, and inquisitive.

July (**lions paw**) strength, energy, protective, and cautious.

August (**nutmeg**) People would exhibit traits of being broad-minded, faithful, and generous.

September (**limpet**) Clear thinking individuals with analytical attention to detail.

End-of-the-year Picnic

Yes, on April 13th, 2024 (that is a Saturday) the Sarasota Shell Club will have it's annual picnic. It will be at the same pavilion that we have used in the past at Coquina Beach Park. The picnic will be catered as before with members providing their favorite deserts. More details are forthcoming but now you know and set the date aside for a really great time. As a good friend has often said: "Be there or be square!"

Shelling in North Carolina—Online and by Mail

Amy Bentley

y recent foray into collecting shells found in North Carolina started this summer when I joined a couple of Facebook groups I found by accident called "Carolina Seashellers" and "Shell Traders United." Having never been to either North or South Carolina, I had no idea both states have so many great shelling spots.



I quickly learned about the many beaches and coastal islands in the Carolinas and the shells that beachcombers commonly find there. Carolyn, a very nice sheller in North Carolina, has become my virtual shelling buddy. She is a member of both Facebook groups and lives in Hubert, NC. She visits remote islands and beaches where she has found helmet shells and huge, beautifully colored whelks that she



has offered up for trade. Carolyn and I have traded shells several times as she was interested in adding some Southwest Florida shells to her North Carolina shell collection. The beauty of all this is that both of us have added great new shells to our collections for a small mailing fee. We agree via Facebook Messenger which shells we want to swap and for what, and the shells are free.

These "irregular" sea urchins--Hardouinia mortonis-date between 66 and 70 million years ago and come from the Peedee Formation in North and South Carolina. The formation name is derived from marine deposit exposures along the Great Pee Dee River. Modern day echinoderms include starfish, sea cucumbers and sand dollars. It is believed that the dredging along Holden Beach disturbed a bed of fossilized sea urchins, releasing them to wash up onto the shore in numbers never seen before.



Along with the gorgeous whelks I've received, I have started a small collection of the prized Holden Beach fossil sea biscuits. (See above description). These fossils began washing up on Holden Beach, NC, last year after a spring 2022 dredging effort there disturbed a bed of fossilized sea urchins. This sent shellers in NC to Holden Beach by the hundreds to collect the prized fossil sea biscuits before they were all picked up and gone. Some sea biscuits are still found on the beach or in the surf today, but their numbers are dwindling.

Carolyn wanted some shells from Florida that she can't easily find in North Carolina or in her area. Shells I have sent to Carolyn include a few banded tulips in different colors, a lace and an apple murex, a nutmeg, an alphabet cone, a baby's ear, a lightening whelk, a gaudy Nautica, a worm shell, and a spiny jewel box.

Next on my bucket list: a road trip to the best shelling beaches in South and North Carolina!

The Beauii—The newsletter of the Sarasota Shell Club—Summer, 2023 Mote Aquarium's World Ocean Day Celebration Donna Krusenoski Mote Aquarium hosted a world ocean day celebration on June 10th to help remind visitors that water connects us all. The decorated courtyard was host to several conservation organizations that presented displays. The Sarasota Shell Club was well represented with Nancy C and Donna K featuring a lovely table display displaying both artistic and scientific exhibits. They passed out flyers, shell packets, and engaged in a lot of conversations about our Shell club to both the visitors and locals. Hopefully, we will see some of the locals again as new Shell Club members.

Some Assorted Photos from the COA Convention





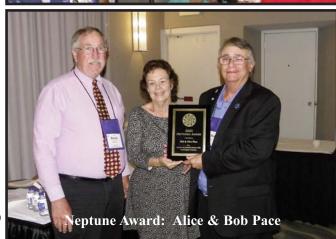












Photos courtesy of John Jacobs

Shoe Box Exhibits

Be prepared for the September 14, 2023 membership meeting as it will feature shoe box exhibits from any member who wishes to show off a small amount of shells. As seen in the photos below, the container can be anything from a simple box to a jewelery chest.

Members will have chance to view all the boxes and vote for the ones they think are best. As mentioned before, this is a good chance to prepare for a shell show entry. It is easy and fun . . . just ask those of us who have done it. (I have mine done . . . ED)

















Shell and Tell Recap

There were many presentations that were interesting from everyone about their favorite shell find, plus some intriguing stories.

OMG! So many people were so generous with their donations of food. It was very unexpected by me, I had purchased extra, thinking we would not have enough. I think we could have fed an army! Thank you to everyone for your generosity.

I hope the guest speakers this past season was interesting to you all. I have enjoyed being the vice-president for such a wonderful shelling group.

Sincerely, Carol Mae

"What to know about the sargassum seaweed blob hitting Florida"

I have the 10-page NPR reprint . . . if you would like a copy, email me and I will send you the reprint . . . Ron

bopp@tampabay.rr.com

"Restaurants in New Orleans are Recyclng Oyster Shells to save Precious Coastline"

was the title of an article that appeared on June 23, 2023 on PBS NewsHour. Local restaurants have been encouraged to save, not dispose of oyster shells: "Once you shuck 'em, don't just chuck 'em!" The recycled oyster shells are used to build reef beds. According to the article, volunteers spend time at oyster piles bagging recycled shells. The shells had been cleaned and cured for the last six months. Photo: Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana.



Frogs & Snails ... #1



At Auction at the COA



For us diehard fossil collectors the "Holy Grail" of fossils is the Ecphora shell. One of four silent auctions featured not one, but three different ecphora. The final bid was \$180.00... unfortunately your editor did not win. Maybe next time!

Meeting Minutes Bee Ridge Presbyterian Church April 12, 2023, 7:06 p.m.

- 1. The meeting was called to order by President Duane Kauffmann at 7:06 p.m. Thirty-six members and three guests were present.
- 2. No additions or corrections to the minutes of the previous meeting were noted.
- 3. The President explained that efforts to secure a nominating committee were unsuccessful. Fortunately, several persons stepped forward for nomination for the vacant positions (except for Secretary). The slate of nominees was published in the Beauii. Nominees are President, Duane Kauffmann, Vice President, Ron Bopp, Treasurer, Allen Banko, 3-year Board terms, Nancy Cadieux and Amy Bentley, 1-year Board term, Debby Alexander. Continuing members on the Board with two years remaining are Sally Peppitoni and Karen Huether and with 1 year remaining Donna Krusenoski.

Nominees were solicited from the members present. No nominations were received. Moved, seconded, and passed to accept the nominees for 2023-24.

- 4. Treasurer Allan Banko reported the current checking account balance is \$12031 (while emphasizing that \$12,000 has been transferred to a Money Market account at 2.96% interest and \$8,000 to a 9-month CD at 4.23%). He also reported a total Shell Show income of \$21372 and expenses of \$9320, yielding a profit of \$12052.
- 5. The recommendation from the Board for charitable giving was reported. Amounts are \$1,750 to Carefree Learner, \$1,500 to New College student research, \$500 to Baywatch Sarasota, \$500 to Bailey-Mathews Museum, and \$100 to Delaware Museum. There was no discussion. Moved, seconded, and passed to give these amounts.
- 6. The artisans reported a very successful fair, March 17 to 26.
- 7. The Interview was with Guelda Wooldridge.
- 8. The science report focused on the impending Sargassum invasion headed for FL. Duane gave an illustrated presentation on the community of organisms that calls Sargassum home.
- 9. It was announced that the Board is considering an invitation to host the 2026 COA convention. A final decision awaits further information from, and discussion with, COA personnel.
- 10. The program for the evening consisted of individuals displaying and talking about a notable shell they had collected. The buzz in the room and the questions and affirmations verbalized demonstrated this program to be a success.
- 11. The raffle concluded the meeting.
- 12. Adjourned.

Duane Kauffmann, Recorder

Sarasota Shell Club Policy Statements

The Sarasota Shell Club by-laws, Article IV, Section F, Item 1 gives the Board the responsibility to "formulate general policies." To inform the membership, the following was copied from recent Board minutes.

Vendors - Sarasota Shell Club considers vendors at monthly Club meetings as performing a service to the Club. Vendors will not be charged a percentage of sales. Vendors will be encouraged to keep track of sales and will be strongly encouraged to make semiannual donations to the Club.

Field Trip Fee - Beginning in fall 2023, Sarasota Shell Club will add a charge of \$5.00 to the cost of all field trips, except those on the Carefree Learner.

Guests on field trips -

Guests are welcome on Sarasota Shell Club field trips if the following conditions are met:

- a. they have been invited by a Club member.
- b. there is a place available after Club members have made their wishes known.
- c. they complete and sign the appropriate waiver.
- d. they pay all required fees.

Reimbursement for club speakers - Speakers for Sarasota Shell Club regular meetings:

- a. Club members. Club members are not paid.
- b. Others. Honoraria and expenses \$100, unless a larger amount is approved by the Board.

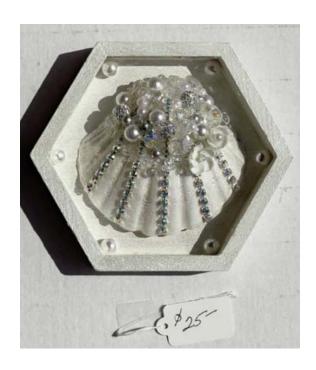
Artisan Items for Sale

They can bring them to the meeting if anyone is interested in purchasing them. Or they can come to the Artisans on Thursdays from 10:00 to 1:00 to make a purchase and see some of the other items we have for sale.

Lisa Kinney









EXPEDITION UNKNOWN: TREASURES FROM THE PAST

Nancy Cadaeux

When Jennifer Marlow asked me to announce the Estate Sale to our shell club members. I did not realize the magic that was laying ahead. The closed flowers/shell shoppe had not been opened since the year 2000. It was such an eerie feeling to search among piles of boxes and items. It reminded me of going through old attic scenes in some childhood movies. It was amazing to see the prices of 23 years ago. I found plenty of treasures such as a jar of sea horses for a few dollars, beautiful shells including Alabaster murexes, corals, and so much more at extremely reasonable prices. Despite my conviction that





I had screened every little niche, I was compelled to return two more times and kept finding more. One guy found a Junonia inside a large plastic bag full of mixed shells. Another fabulous aspect of this adventure was to mingle with all the club members who were there and to learn more about Jennifer's grandson, Bradford, a very polite and helpful young man, a member of our club whom I predict might be our president several years from now.

It was so much fun! Thank you, Jennifer!

Jack Oberle: 1963-1965, 1968-1968, 1972-1974 Louise Danforth: 1965-1967 Franck Rinck: 1967-1968 Thomas Robertson: 1969-1970 Evelyn Bradley: 1970-1972 Charles Hertweck: 1974-1979 Peggy Williams: 1980-1982,

1988-1989, 1992-1994, 2001-2002, 2005-2007

Vi Hertweck: 1982-1984 Richard Forbush: 1984-1985 June Bailey: 1985-1987,

1995-1997, 2002-2003

Bob Hansen: 1987-1988 Beverly Chouinard: 1989-1991 Bonnie Christophel: 1990-1992

Pat Amsel: 1994-1995 Debra Ingrao: 1997-1998 Cathy Aschliman: 1998-1999 Cathy Hollar: 1999-2001 2003-2004

Bob Horton 2004-2005

Joanne Chmielewski: 2007-2010

Ron Bopp: 2010-2012 Dennis Sargent: 2012-2014 Sally Peppitoni: 2014-2022 Duane Kauffmann: 2022-2024

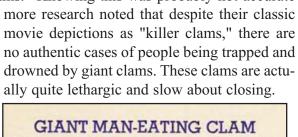
"Man-Eating/Killing Clam" and Sea Shell Stores (*Tridacna gigas*)

While surving the internet the Editor came across two historic postcards advertising their merchandise by way of featuring "Man Eating or Man Killing Giant Clams." Knowing this was probably not accurate



The shell shop in Ocean Grove, New Jersey which featured a "Giant **Man Eating** *Tridacna gigas*.

Associated injuries are quite common however. They typically involve hernias, back injuries, and smashed toes induced when people lift adult clams out of the water unaware of their formidable weight in air.



This is a specimen of the largest shell in the world... The Giant Clam which lives on the coral reefs of the South Pacific... Pearl divers stepping on the well-camouflaged mollusk have been instantly trapped by the animal, snapping shut its great shell, vise-like, and held thusly until drowned.

This specimen measures:
Length 42" — Width 30" — Depth 29"
This specimen was brought out of the sea from an island in the South Pacific, and took 3 days to loosen from the coral bed where it had grown...It was sent to Honolulu, then shipped to California, and on to Ocean Grove, N. J.

This shell is one of the largest ever to be shipped in to the United States.

The reverse of the Ocean Grove postcard.



The above postcard is the first of the two cards that featured a mollusk (*Tridacna gigas*) that 'eats or kills' humans. The second postcard (on the left and below) was from Gaylord City, Michigan. It's clam kills rather than eats men.



A photo of a live Tridacna gigas in situ.

Sarasota Shell Club 2023/2024 Membership Application

\$40	
Family	-
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☐ Renewal Member: Individual \$25 - Family \$30

(Add \$15 to receive newsletter by mail instead of email)

Join the Sarasota Shell Club by mailing a check, made out to SSC to:

Lisa Kinney 17052 Coral Key Dr Nokomis, FL 34275 All new and renewed memberships will receive their membershipcards/badges at the monthly meetings.

Date:	Name(s):	Local Address:	City, State, Zip:	Phone number:	Email address(s):	(Optional) Other address & phone:	Emergency contact & phone:	Month & Day of your Birthday:

Our Insurance Requires a Liability Release

l agree that I am individually responsible for my safety and my personal property. I will not hold the Sarasota Shell Club, its officers, field trip leader(s), or property owner liable for any damage or in-jury to me or my property that should occur.

Signature required for each member joining:

Ī	ľ
	5.

The SSC publishes a roster with names, address and emails for our member use only. Please check one:

it is **OK** to publish my information in the roster it is **Not OK** to publish my information in the roster

Meeting Location: Bee Ridge Church Community Room 206 4826 McIntosh Rd, Sarasota, FL 34233

(On the corner of Proctor Road and McIntosh Road)

Club Meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month, from September through April. Newsletters are sent out monthly.

The Artisan group meets year-round on Thursdays, 10am to 1pm – Feel free to join us to make shell art that benefits the club.

Look for us at: www.Sarsotashellclub.com

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/sarasotafloridashellclub Contact us: sarasotashellclub@gmail.com

(To be filled in by the Membership Committee)

Renewal Defence Date

Check Cash

Card Badge ordered