

# The Beauii



A newsletter published by the  
Sarasota Shell Club

[www.Sarasotashellclub.com](http://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

January, 2025 Edition

Happy New Year Fellow Shell-A-Holics:

I hope you've all enjoyed a wonderful and festive holiday season and are ready for a shellin' New Year!

I'm so excited that our shell show is right around the corner. Please remember to mark this on your calendar if you haven't already. We need all the help we can get to make this a great show. Nancy Cadieux will have the volunteer lists at the January meeting and there are lots of positions available



for you to participate in all the fun. I remember my first shell show after I joined the club. I had no idea what to do or expect and was very worried that I would look like an idiot. However, I quickly discovered that it is really very easy to help and someone is always there to explain what to do. I've had so much fun over the years helping and learning and wouldn't trade the camaraderie and good times we've had for anything! We get to meet so many knowledgeable and creative people from pretty much everywhere who've helped me learn more about shells than I ever thought I could. I strongly urge everyone who is hesitant to take the leap and try helping out. You will be so glad you did!

In other news, both of the Carefree Learner trips for the 14th and the 30th are now full but I will start a list of alternates for each one in case of cancellations. If you are still interested please let me know so I can put you on the alternate list.

Lastly, we still desperately need at least two people for a nominating committee for the 2025-26 election of officers in April. This committee is responsible for procuring a list of candidates for the offices of President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and two directors. The committee only needs to nominate one person for each position with that person's permission. The committee members themselves are not eligible for consideration for nomination. The list is to be submitted for approval to the Board before the March meeting where it will then be presented to membership. It must be presented at the March meeting so as to have at least 30 days for membership consideration before the election at the April meeting per the club's by-laws. Now, this may sound complicated but really...it isn't. The committee members simply first ask the incumbents if they will consider continuing in their respective offices. If so, submit the names. If not, ask for suggestions for replacements and then ask those that are suggested if they are willing. Please let me know if you are

## Membership Chair Position

I am looking for a volunteer to take over memberships. I work full time as a realtor and I no longer have the time to devote to the membership position. The Membership chair position involves updating and maintaining a spreadsheet when members pay and depositing checks periodically. Emails are written to new members to thank them for their membership and give some club information. Occasionally you will get email questions to respond to. Please let me know if you are interested in taking over memberships or if you have any questions.

Lisa Kinney



willing to take up this very important mantle for the club because without officers and directors this club would cease to function.

Sally Peppitoni  
President

## Officers & Board Members

**President** Sally Peppitoni  
**Vice-President** Karen Huether  
**Treasurer** Alan Banko  
**Secretary** Debbie McDermott

**Board Members:** Debby Alexander (3);  
 Donna Krusenoski (3); Nancy Cadieux (2);  
 Amy Bentley (2); Donna Cassin (1) and  
 Guelda Wooldridge (1).

## Committee Chairmen

Artisans	Debby Alexander & Guelda Wooldridge
<i>The Beauii</i>	Ron Bopp
Field Trips	Gary Martinez
Librarian	Debbie McDermott
Membership	Lisa Kinney
Shell Show	Ron Bopp
Sunshine	Debbie McDermott
Webmaster	Amy Bentley

- \* **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.

**Contact the Editor** - email Ron Bopp at [rbopp1@tampabay.rr.com](mailto: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 2024-2025  
Membership application is  
attached to this Newsletter**

### Library Notes

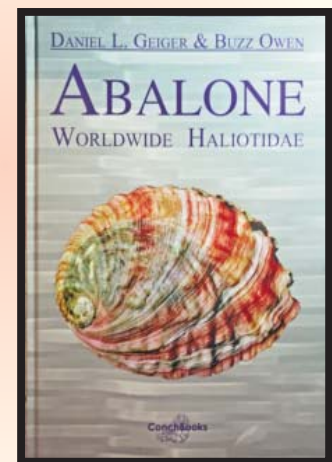
Our Sarasota Shell Club library is located at the Bee Ridge Presbyterian Church in Sarasota. A list of our books is on our website [www.sarasotashellclub.com](http://www.sarasotashellclub.com). For more info on some of our books, go to [www.mdmshellbooks.com](http://www.mdmshellbooks.com)

Books in the Sarasota Shell Club Library can be accessed by contacting Debbie McDermott at [washashore76@yahoo.com](mailto:washashore76@yahoo.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!

Debbie



### Artisans

The Artisans, as the name implies, is the artistic community associated with Sarasota Shell Club. You are welcome to come and join them. All meetings are Thursdays at 10:00 A. M. The location is at Bee Ridge Church in the small building bordering Proctor Street.

**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. The shelling trips are proposals at the time of this issue.

Jan 9, 2025 Membership meeting: **Dr. Emily Lancaster:** “Pushing the Boundaries - Investigating Physiological Limits of Invasive Species and eDNA detection methods”

Jan. 14, 2025 **Carefree Learner** (Tuesday)

Jan 29, 2025 **Keewaydin** (Wednesday) 7:20 am -068 low tide

Jan 30, 2025 **Carefree Learner** (Thursday) **Feb 7 & 8, 2025 SARASOTA SHELL SHOW**

Mar 1, 2025 **Peanut Island** (Saturday) 3:05 pm -0.81 low tide

Mar 9, 2025 **Missouri Key** (Saturday) 4:10 pm -0.23 low tide

Mar 13, 2025 Membership meeting: **Dr. Ashley Oliphant:** “Shark Tooth Hunting on Carolina Coast”

Apr 10, 2020 Membership Meeting: **Dr. Ron Bopp** “Shells and their Stories”

Apr 28, 2025 **Jacksonville** (Monday) 3:13 pm -1.11low tide

**Sarasota Shell Club 2025 Show Award Sponsorships**

Sponsors needed for Shell Show Trophies! Each year the club awards winning displays a trophy. The trophies cost the club and in the past, many, if not all, have been sponsored by club members. Many members have already stepped up to sponsor an award. The following awards still need sponsors ... recommended donations are \$50.00 for a trophy (may split sponsorship with another member) and \$25.00 for Special Awards (beautiful, large rosette ribbons). Explanations of the qualifications for each award may be found on the Sarasota Shell Club website, 2025 Shell Show. Please notify Linda Greiner of your intent to sponsor a particular trophy (cell 941-993-5161 or email [luvseashells@gmail.com](mailto:luvseashells@gmail.com) ) and make a check out to “SSC” and give or send to Linda Greiner (5321 Creekside Trail, Sarasota, FL 34243). Note: you will have a chance to offer your sponsorship at the January membership meeting.

\$50. Major Scientific Awards

**Mote Gold** Trophy-needs sponsorship

\$50. Special Scientific Awards

**Best Self-Collected Exhibit** Award-needs sponsorship

**Best Small Scientific Exhibit** Award-needs sponsorship

\$50. Major Artistic Awards

**Best of Art with Shell Motif**-needs sponsorship

**Nancy and Armand Marini Most Unique use of Fossil shells**-needs sponsorship

\$25. Special Awards (Rosette Ribbons)

**Shell of the Show**-needs sponsorship

**Fossil Shell of the Show**-needs sponsorship

**Most Beautiful Exhibit**-needs sponsorship

**Judges Special Merit Award – Scientific**-needs sponsorship

**Scientific**-needs sponsorship





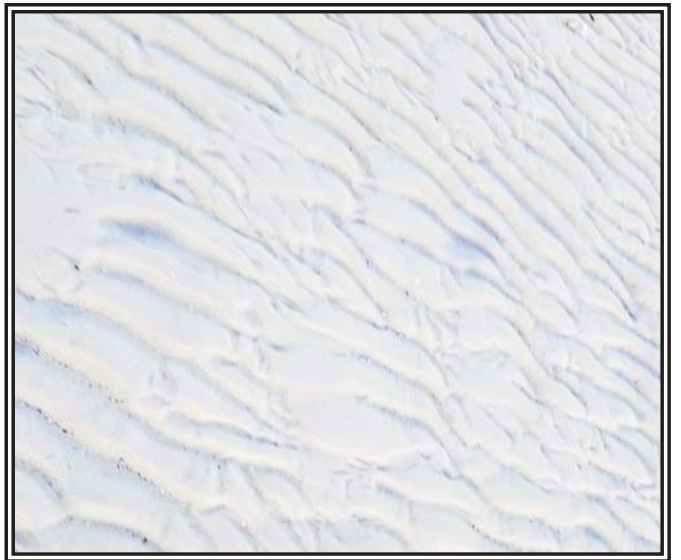
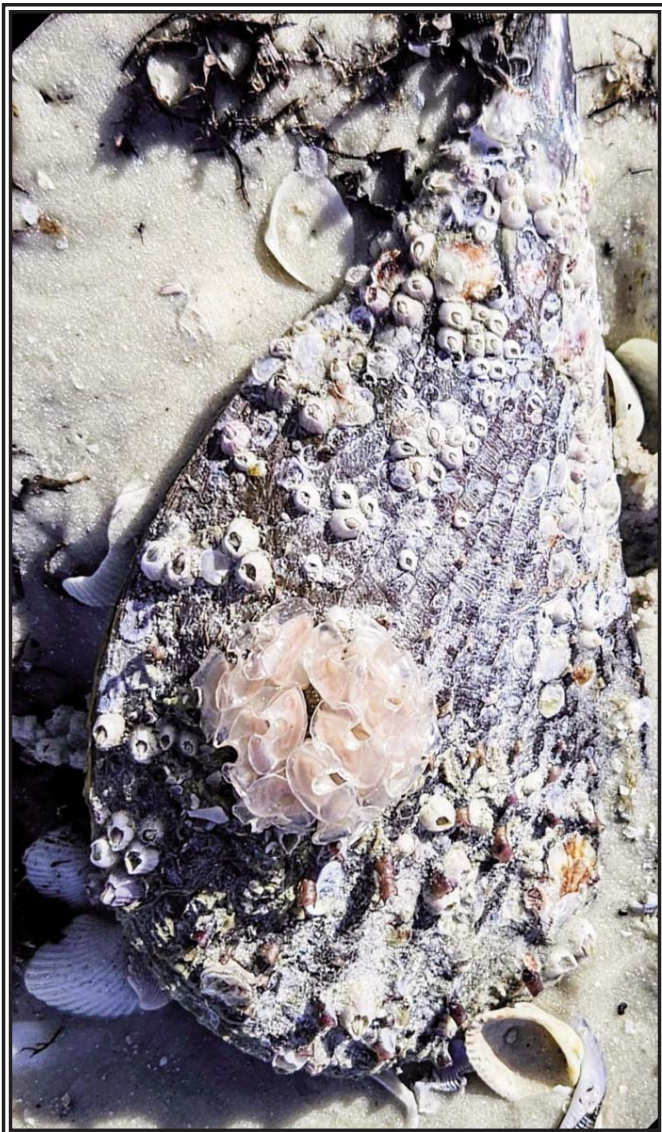
## Carefree Learner Photos (from Amy Bentley & Blanton Rowan)

About 15 members of the Shell Club enjoyed a warm and sunny excursion on the Carefree Learner boat to Sarasota Bay on Dec. 17. Shellers found large horse conchs, many whelks, tulips and a large variety of other shells. Members also observed many living species in the bay as well as a very healthy live lightening whelk population. The tide was extremely low and the weather warm which made the excursion even better. Many thanks to Sally Peppitoni for helping to set up this fun trip for our members. Two more trips into the bay at low tide are planned for the month of January. If you have not signed up and still are interested, check with Sally if there is space left on the boat.





### Kice Island Photos (from Frankie Grover)





## January's Featured Speaker—Dr. Emily Lancaster

Happy New Year to all. Hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. We have a fantastic speaker for our upcoming January 9th Sarasota Shell Club general meeting. Our Speaker is Dr. Emily Lancaster who is currently a Professor of Marine Biology at Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Her focus/research is on invertebrate zoology and environmental DNA. She has a Bachelor from Pepperdine University, a Master's from Moss Landing Marine Laboratories/Cal State, Monterey Bay, California and her PhD from University of Maine. Emily spends most of her time in the classroom teaching students or in her research labs but also spends much of her free time wandering tide pools looking for sea slugs (her personal favorites) and other mollusks. Emily recently took the position at Eckerd College and we are really fortunate to have her come to speak to us at our January meeting. Please invite your family and friends to hear and speak to Dr. Lancaster at our meeting. Looking forward to seeing everyone and enjoying listening to an expert in the field of Marine Biology. See you soon.



### 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](mailto:luvseashells@gmail.com).**

**Thanks... Linda Greiner**

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### Website Information

Please visit our website, [sarasotashellclub.com](http://sarasotashellclub.com), for 2025 Shell Show entry rules and entry applications in the Artistic and Scientific categories, and to view the new 2024-2025 club event and excursion calendar. Also, please refer your friends and fellow shelling enthusiasts you run into at the beach to the website for membership information as well. People interested in joining the club can get the membership form on our website. Thank you.

Amy Bentley

# Upcoming 61st Annual Shell Show

Friday and Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> 2025



**URGENT NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS  
THE SHOW IS IN ONE MONTH!!!!**

**Volunteers sign-up:** January monthly meeting  
OR Call/Text Nancy Cadieux 941-228-1758

**ALL NEW MEMBERS** are strongly encouraged to sign-up too. All that is needed to qualify is a big smile and the love of shells. Chairperson will teach you and support you!



Shell Show Chair: Ron Bopp  
 Assistant: Linda Greiner  
 Floor Plan: Bruce Paulsen  
 Vendors Coordinator: Sally Peppitoni

Treasurer: Allan Banko  
 Publicity/Social Media: Amy Bentley  
 Volunteers Coordinator: Nancy Cadieux

Volunteer Areas	Chairperson	Alternate just in case
Loading & unloading truck	Gordon Fushikoshi	
Tablecloths	Marilyn Parker	No need
Entrance/Admission	Rick Evans	Beverly Root
Artisans	Debby Alexander Guelda Woolridge	No need
Raffle	Daniel Hager	Linda Greiner (assistant)
Membership	Lisa Kinney	Margo Heck
Scientific	Ron Bopp	Assistant: Linda Greiner
Artistic	Sally Peppitoni	
Club Table	Duane Kauffmann	Gordon Fushikoshi
Lunch Area	Debbie Smith	
Children Education Table	Debbie McDermott	
Security (Theft)	Amy Bentley	

### SUMMARY OF EACH VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITY

**Tablecloths:** one time only for a few hours. Cover each table (excluding vendor tables) with a tablecloth and secure with binder clips.

**Loading the truck from the church:** A few hours. Follow instructions from the Artisans and from Duane. Men are welcomed for heavier items.

**Unloading the truck at the show and set-up:** Often done by the same crew who loaded the truck and many more. Unloading items and bringing them to the designated table. The Chairman of each table will provide instructions.

**Awards table set-up:** assemble the award ribbons on sticks planted on a base. Instructions provided by Linda Greiner.

**Lunch Area:** assist Chairman with the kitchen set-up, distributing the sandwiches/snacks/drinks and checking the list of volunteers and vendors receiving a lunch.

**Entrance/Admission:** Extremely busy table. People’s first impression of the Sarasota Shell Club. Must be a very personable individual to volunteer. Chairman collects the money for the admission, volunteers give “People’s Choice” ballots (2), a door prize ticket, and a little bag of shells to paid attendees. These volunteers maintain a log of admissions.

**Artisans table:** Show the beautiful Artisans’ creations, state the prices and wrap up the purchases. Chairman handles \$\$\$.

**Children Education Table:** games and exhibits readily available to interact with children. No shell show experience necessary. Very basic knowledge of shells is required (elementary school level).

**Guard of the Artistic Exhibits:** Answers questions about the exhibits & categories of ribbons, walks around the table or sits in a spot where he/she can watch the public looking at the exhibits and if needed to, quickly discouraging anyone from touching them as all are fragile. Visitors are frequently tempted to touch the exhibits...

**Awards packing:** one volunteer 1 volunteer collects & packs the sticks and the bases on Saturday afternoon after 3:45 P.M.



**Club Table:** answer questions, sell the shells that were donated to our club by private collectors & accept payment. Incredible finds are possible at discounted prices for the treasure hunters.

**Membership:** A perfect fit for a person who really loves our SSC. Answer questions about the club activities, membership fees, method of payment and provide brochure. Detailed written information will be provided to those volunteers.

**Raffle table:** Explain how the raffle works re: the drawing will be on Saturday at 4:00 P.M. and there is no need to be present to win. Sell tickets (detailed fees & instructions provided). Usually it is quite busy.

**Volunteers at large:** **super helpful if we are in a pinch.** Sign-up for the day and shift that you are available if you have no preference.

*Thank You! It takes a Village!!!! Nancy Cadieux*

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## Artisan Update

The artisans have had an awesome summer. We have been busy creating for the February Shell show. We have begun work on the Christmas party table decorations. Always a project in the works.

**Many new ideas this year.**

We are looking forward to the return of our seasonal members. We are continuing to meet at the Bee Ridge, Presbyterian Church, on Thursdays, 10 to 1 pm. If you are thinking of Christmas shopping, our items are available for purchase. Feel free to stop in on Thursdays and shop or just to say hello and check on the creative process. Welcome one and all to join in the fun. It's shared creativity at its finest.

A big thank you to Guelda for opening the studio each Thursday. See you there.

**Debby Alexander**

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## Frogs & Snails . . . #13

### A Snail and a Frog on a Fossil Hunting Trip

A snail and a frog on a fossil trip. That sounds like an adventurous duo! Imagine the snail slowly examining ancient rock formations with its keen eyes, while the frog hops around excitedly discovering hidden fossils. The unlikely pair could bring unique perspectives to their exploration—one noticing the tiny details, and the other spotting the bigger picture. It's quite a fun and charming scene to picture.



*Cut this out and give to your neighbors, club house, or anywhere!*

## **“Shellabrate”**

**at the 2025**

**Sarasota Shell Show, Feb. 7 & 8**

**(SARASOTA, FL) Seashell collectors and enthusiasts, beach-combers and artisans of all ages are invited to attend the 2025 Sarasota Shell Show. Last year’s annual show attracted thousands of visitors over the successful two-day event.**

**The Sarasota Shell Show offers a great way to learn about seashells and the critters that created and inhabited them, plus view unique shell art and learn from scientific exhibits. Visitors will enjoy a variety of vendors who display and sell common, exotic and rare shells, rocks and minerals; shell-inspired jewelry; clothing; shell crafts and art; and much more. There will be a raffle for shells and coastal-inspired prizes and shell crafts for kids.**

**“The Sarasota Shell Club hosts an annual Shell Show to share our interest in seashells, provide education about shells and shell collecting, share artistic creations made from shells, and generate some income to support our club and our yearly charitable giving. Shell shows are very fun,” said Sally Peppitoni, Sarasota Shell Club president.**

**The annual Sarasota Shell Show will be held Feb. 7 and 8, 2025 at the Sarasota Fairgrounds in the Potter building, 2896 Ringling Blvd., Sarasota FL. Hours are 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. both days. Guests receive a free bag of shells with their \$5 paid admission fee. Children 12 and under are admitted free with a paid adult and the cost is \$3 for students ages 12-18. Save the date and enjoy the opportunity to “shellabrate” with the seashell community at this unique event!**

**The Sarasota Shell Club always welcomes new members. Club activities include monthly meetings with guest speakers, exclusive shelling excursions, and social events. Learn more about the Sarasota Shell Show and Shell Club at [www.sarasotashellclub.com](http://www.sarasotashellclub.com).**



# Sarasota Shell Club

## 2024/2025 Membership Application

**New Member: Individual \$30 - Family \$40**

(Includes a membership name tag)

**Renewal Member: Individual \$25 - Family \$30**

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 membership cards/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  
*I 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(s) liable for any damage or injury to me or my property that should occur.*

Signature required for each member joining:

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
2. \_\_\_\_\_

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 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month, September through April. Newsletters are sent out monthly by email.  
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.Sarasotashellclub.com](http://www.Sarasotashellclub.com)  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/sarasotafloridashellclub>  
Contact us: [sarasotashellclub@gmail.com](mailto:sarasotashellclub@gmail.com)

(To be filled in by the Membership Committee)

Renewal <input type="checkbox"/>	New Member <input type="checkbox"/>
Amount paid \$ _____	Date _____
Check# _____	Cash _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Card	<input type="checkbox"/> Badge ordered