



A newsletter published by the
Sarasota Shell Club

www.Sarasotashellclub.com

We meet on the 3rd Thursday at 7:00 pm
(September to November)

The Green Room
Cooperative Extension Office
Twin Lakes Park
6700 Clark Road, Sarasota, FL

Summer, 2026 Edition

President's Message

Hello, Fellow Shellers!!

A new season for the Sarasota Shell Club will start in September. We have a lot to do too! The first meeting will be Thursday, September 10 at 7 PM at the Twin Lakes Park Green Room off Clark Rd. The program will be our annual Shoebox Shell Show. It's a lot of fun so I encourage everyone to attend and participate. Just get an empty shoebox, or really just any box, and create a shell exhibit of your favorite shells. Maybe your favorite genus or family, or your favorite region, or shells you collected on a trip. Make some data labels for your shells so everyone can see what they are and where they were found. This will be fun to see all the different types of exhibits! We will vote on the exhibits for a first, second and third place winner. Don't miss out on the fun! Start working on it now!



Next, don't forget that annual dues should be paid to the membership chair, Barbara Evans, at the September meeting. Have your check and a copy of the updated renewal form filled out and ready. There should be a copy attached to this newsletter.

Also, we will be signing up for field trips, including the Carefree Learner (CFL). Those of you who signed up last year but were not able to attend the April meeting, I still have your money from the trip cancellations. You can get it from me at the September meeting. There will be a new policy in place for CFL sign up. Each person pays \$5 CASH for each trip you wish to go on. Checks will not be accepted for CFL trips. Please make sure you bring cash to the meeting. Once you pay your \$5 cash, then I will sign you up on the digital form. There will be no physical sign up sheets. You will receive a slip of paper with your CFL trip date on it. Because of the weird tides this year, all of the CFL trips are in January. Your choices will be Jan 8, Jan 20 and Jan 21. We will leave the dock at 7 AM for all three. Make your choices now and bring your cash to the meeting.

Next on my list of important items, because of new laws dealing with the administration and bylaws of 501-C(3) non-profit organizations, we have had to use this summer to work on appropriate changes to our bylaws. We've also taken the time to clarify parts and clean up others. The new bylaws document with changes should be attached to this newsletter for your perusal. Changes are marked through with a black line and the red will be the new language. We are sending this now so that you have the appropriate 30 days to review the document and then the membership will discuss and subsequently vote to accept the new bylaws at the September meeting. Thank you to Nancy Cadieux, Karen Huether, Allan Banko and Guelda Wooldridge for their very hard work on this. They spent a lot of time and effort to go through the new laws and make sure that we are in compliance.

Wow! That was a lot wasn't it? Well, the board has not stopped working at all this summer. We worked very hard in June to make sure that the annual Conchologists of America convention, which we hosted in Bradenton, was a huge success. Everyone that attended had a blast! The pirate costumes were fabulous! Dressing up was so much fun! The key speakers were very informative and so interesting, I always learn new things. The artisans did a great job with their "class" on how to improve your shell club with an artisan group. They also did an absolutely phenomenal job with the table decorations for the welcome party and the banquet! Everyone raved about them. And finally, we all spent way too much money buying shells and books in the silent auctions and, of course, at the bourse. It was just the best COA convention yet! I hope that next summer, those of you that didn't get a chance to go will attend COA convention in Kissimmee. There will be so many things to do there.

See you in September!

Sally Peppitoni, President

Officers & Board Members

President: Sally Peppitoni
Vice-President: Karen Huether
Treasurer: Allan Banko
Secretary: Blanton Rowan

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

Committee Chairmen

Artisans: Debby Alexander & Gelda Wooldridge
The Beauii: Ron Bopp
Field Trips: Gary Martinez
Librarian: Debbie McDermott
Membership: Barbara Evans
Shell Show: Ron Bopp
Sunshine: Debbie McDermott
Webmaster: Amy Bentley

***Meetings** are held on the third Thursday of the Month, September through April; note: no meetings in December or February.

***Dues** are \$30.00 for new single members and \$40 for family members at the same address. A membership form is attached at the end of each *Beauii*.

***Renewals** are \$25.00 for a single and \$30.00 for a family.

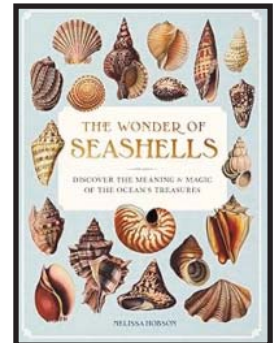
DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING FOR THE BEAUII? Contact the **Editor** at 918-527-0589, or email Ron at rbopp1@tampabay.rr.com.

The Shell Club's Library

Our Sarasota Shell Club Library is located at our new Artisan facility on Fruitville Rd. A list of our books is on our website: www.sarasotashellclub.com.

Books in the Sarasota Shell Club Library can be accessed by contacting Debbie McDermott at washashore76@yahoo.com. In addition, members 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



Shell Share and ID

... will meet again starting in September ... we can't wait to see what shells you have acquired over the summer! Please join us in the Artisans Room at Oakwood Manor from 1:30 to 3:00 pm on the Wednesday following the general meeting. Contact Debbie McDermott to sign up for the meeting and she will send you directions on how to get to the meeting room.

Sarasota Shell Club Past Presidents

Jack Oberle: 1963-1965; 1968-1968; 1972-1974	Vi Hertweck: 1982-1984	Cathy Hollar: 1999-2001; 2003-2004
Louise Danforth: 1965-1967	Richard Forbush: 1984-1985	Bob Horton: 2004-2005
Franck Rinck: 1967-1968	June Bailey: 1985-1987; 1995-1997; 2002-2003	Joanne Chmielewski: 2007-2010
Thomas Robertson: 1969-1970	Bob Hansen: 1987-1988	Ron Bopp: 2010-2012
Evelyn Bradley: 1970-1972	Beverly Chouinard: 1989-1991	Dennis Sargent: 2012-2014
Charles Hertweck: 1974-1979	Bonnie Christophel: 1990-1992	Duane Kauffmann: 2022-2024
Peggy Williams: 1980-1982	Pat Amsel: 1994-1995	Sally Peppitoni: 2014-2022; 2024-2027
1988-1989; 1992-1994; 2001-2002; 2005-2007	Debra Ingrao: 1997-1998	
	Cathy Aschliman: 1988-1999	

Mark your Calenders and “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.

Look for the Calender Dates in the September issue!

Comments from the 2026 COA Convention Co-Chairs

As observed by COA officers and board members as well as my partner-in-crime, Duane, the 2026 COA Convention was a unqualified success. This could not have happened were it not for the dedication and work of Sarasota Shell Club members. While many club members jumped in to perform the multiple duties of hosting an international convention it was the Artisans portion of the club that really made this convention shine. Whether it was the unique table favors; the outstanding centerpieces; or the unique and first-of-a-kind do-it-yourself classes as part of the speaker sessions, the efforts and attention of the Club’s Artisan were quite evident. This has made our 2026 COA Convention stand out, and above, for conventions to come.

This being said, Duane and I would like to personally give a huge “**THANK YOU**” to all of the Sarasota Club’s Artisans, as well as our other club members that made this effort, and made this happen!

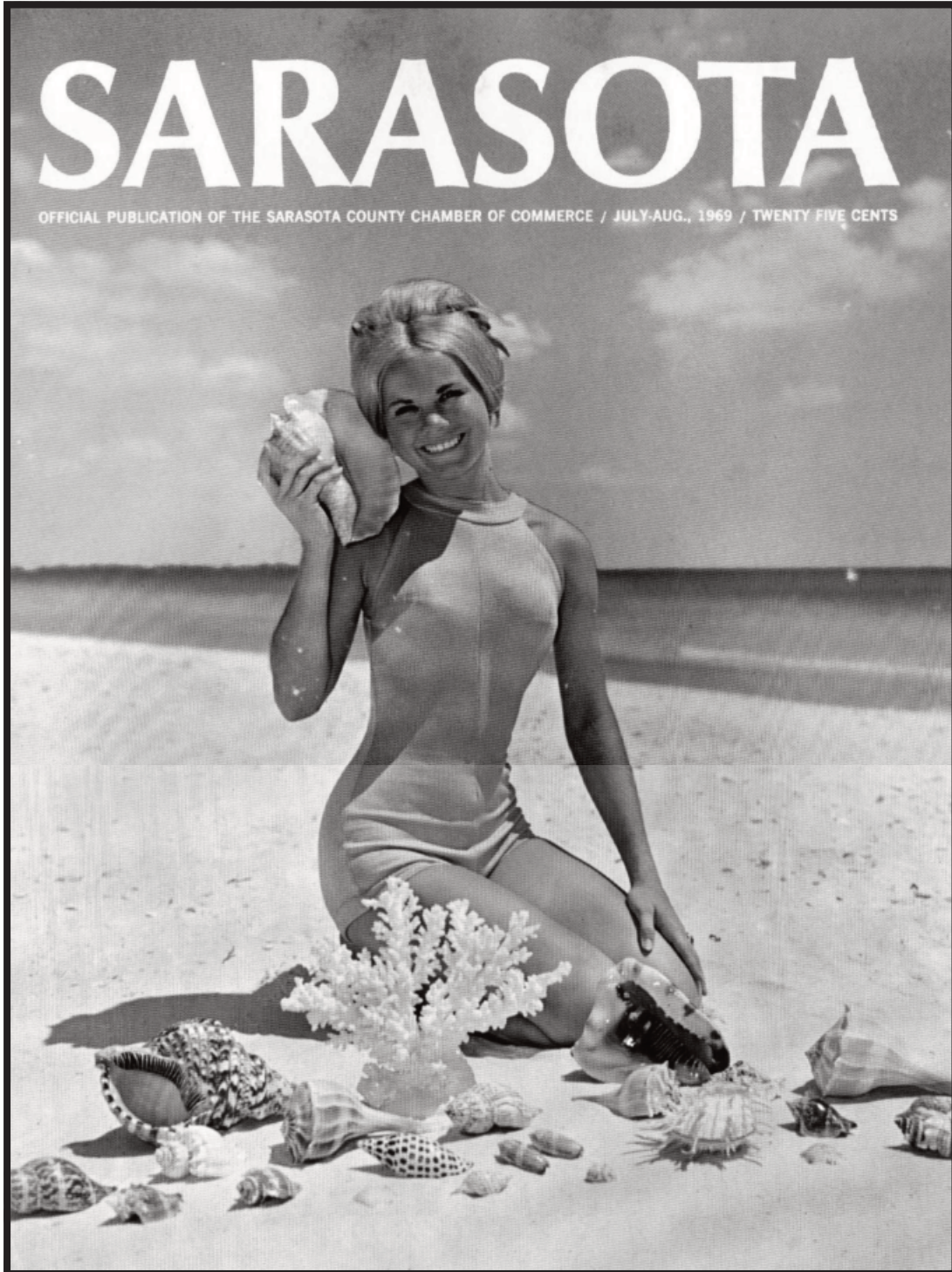
Duane Kauffman & Ron Bopp
2026 COA Convention Co-Chairs



A 1907 postcard featuring the Hotel Chelsea, in Atlantic City, NJ and a beautiful scallop.



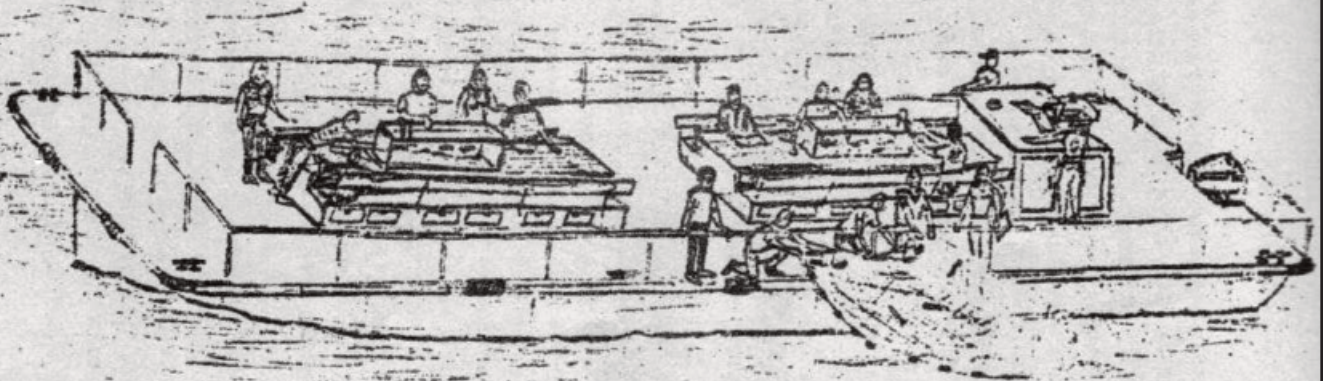
**Seashells Featured on Sarasota Magazine
July/August, 1969**



Proposed publicity for the 6th Sarasota Shell Club's Shell Show (February, 1969) was postponed until the "Miss Sarasota" issue in July. Featured on the cover is Miss Kerry Nagle, Miss Sarasota of 1969. The photograph was taken on Lido Beach with Florida seashells loaned by Charles Oberle [*Our first Shell Club President—Ed*].

The Beginnings of the CAREFREE LEARNER

THE CAREFREE LEARNER



A FLOATING CLASSROOM
FOR SARASOTA COUNTY



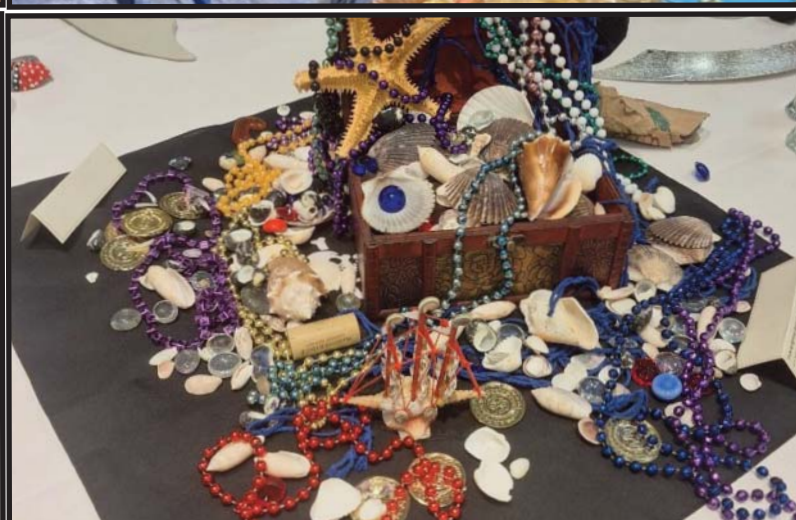
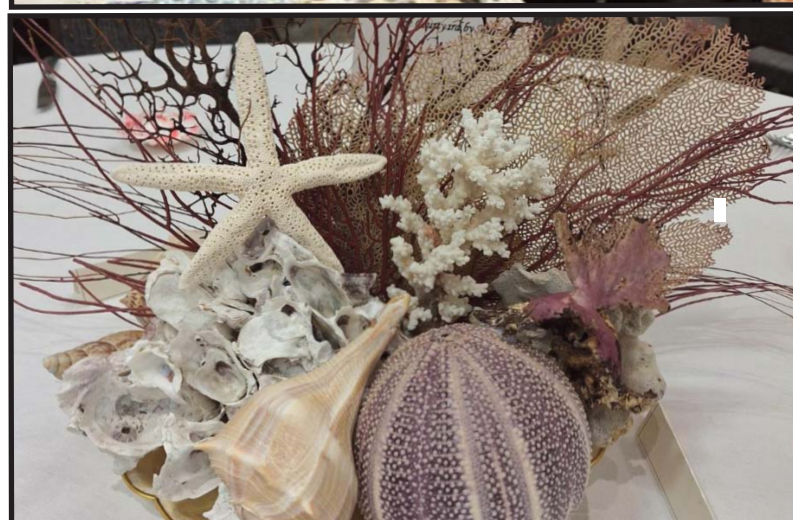
THE CAREFREE LEARNER WILL BE A 41 FOOT COAST GUARD INSPECTED AND DOCUMENTED VESSEL SUITABLE FOR USE IN THE BAYS FROM CAYO COSTA TO TAMPA BAY. SHE WILL TRAVEL ABOUT 10 MPH AND ONLY DRAW SEVEN INCHES WITH HER LOAD OF 32 PASSENGERS AND CREW. THE DESIGN AND EQUIPMENT WILL PROVIDE A VERSATILE FLOATING CLASSROOM AND AN EFFECTIVE RESEARCH TOOL. THE BOAT IS BEING CONSTRUCTED BY A GROUP OF VOLUNTEERS UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF A RECOGNIZED BOAT BUILDER. A STATE GRANT AND LOCAL CONTRIBUTIONS OF MONEY AND HELP WILL FINANCE THE OPERATION.

THE CAREFREE LEARNER WILL ULTIMATELY BE USED FOR THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES:

- 5000 STUDENTS FROM THE FOURTH THROUGH THE TENTH GRADE WILL MAKE A VARIETY OF EDUCATIONAL TRIPS EACH YEAR. EVERY STUDENT IN THE COUNTY WILL USE THE FACILITY A MINIMUM OF 3 TIMES IN THEIR SCHOOL CAREER.
- MANY TRIPS FOR MARINE SCIENCE CLASSES AT SARASOTA AND RIVERVIEW HIGH SCHOOLS
- 50 ADVANCED MARINE ECOLOGY STUDENTS AT SARASOTA HIGH SCHOOL WILL USE THE CLASSROOM TO REGULARLY
 - A. MONITOR PHYSICAL, CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL PARAMETERS IN THE BAY. DATA IS AVAILABLE IN ANNUAL REPORTS AND FROM THE DER COMPUTER.
 - B. MARINE VEGETATION RESTORATION.
 - C. DEVELOP MATERIALS FOR USE BY OTHER SCHOOL GROUPS.
- ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES.
- EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS AND TRIPS FOR TEACHERS AND COMMUNITY GROUPS.
- TRIPS FOR AREA COLLEGES.
- SAFE BOATING CLASSES.
- OTHERS AS IMAGINATION SHOWS THE WAY.









*2026 FUM
Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum, Sanibel, FL
April 11, 2026*



Sarasota Club Members identified with red circle.

Why Some Snails can't Reproduce!

Because the coiled shells of gastropods (such as terrestrial snails) are asymmetric, they possess a quality called “chirality,” which is the “handedness” of an asymmetric structure. That being said, most snails are right-handed (“dextral”—meaning if you face the opening of the snail, you will enter it using your right hand). Occasionally, a snail appears as a freak and is left-handed (“sinistral”—the opposite of dextral). Most snails are dextral.

This occurrence is caused by a single gene mutation.

The land snail genus, *Amphidromus*, however, frequently has sinistral (as well as dextral) species. An example in this display is *Amphidromus perversus*. Another example of land snails that more often than not are sinistral are the door snails, family Clausiliidae.



Being sinistral had both its advantages and disadvantages: being sinistral can often protect the animal from predators who are structurally engineered to enter dextral prey. Examples are certain crabs and even snakes (*Pareas iwasakii*—“Iwasaki’s Snail-eater”).

Perhaps the disadvantage of more importance is that dextral and sinistral snails have difficulty in mating: their genitalia are mismatched. A limerick by Lydia Hiller helps explain the problem:

For those not in the know of escargot, this is a rare and unfortunate trait, 'cause the way our shells twist determines where our bits exist, which sadly means I cannot procreate.

SSC Members at Florida Palentology Society Dig at Hale Quarry, Punta Gorda

On May 16th, 2026, several SSC members (Steve Zinn, John & Cheryl Jacobs, and Amy Bentley and Ron Bopp ([pictured])) participated in a fossil shell dig at the Hale Quarry, out of Punta Gorda. After two and 1/2 hours in the 96 degree temperature and much sweat, all found several nice fossil species. Just some are photographed below. Interestingly enough, this pit was also the site for the field trip associated with the 2026 COA convention.



WANTED: MEMBERS WITH SOCIAL MEDIA SKILLS

WANTED: Members with social media skills to join the Shell Show Publicity Committee, chaired by Amy Bentley. We need your help in publicizing the annual shell show online and on social media. If you are on Facebook, YouTube or TikTok, or any other popular social media, please join us volunteering to help spread the word about our annual show in February. The bulk of the work is the two months prior to the show and you can help us from your home, on your own time. It takes a village, and we need your help!

Thanks. . . Email amybentley1@yahoo.com to learn more.

DO YOU HAVE OLD RIBBONS YOU DON'T WANT???

Shell club member Linda Greiner wants them really bad!
Please bring to the September or October meeting. . .
Linda really has FUN recycling them!

Membership Renewal Time for 2026-27

It's time to renew your membership with the Sarasota Shell Club for 2026-27. Thank you for being a valued part of the Sarasota Shell Club over the past year. Your current membership is set to expire on September 1, 2026, and we would love to have you stay with us for another year.

By renewing your membership, you will keep uninterrupted access to your favorite perks, including our monthly *Beauii* newsletter, holiday party, shelling field trips, monthly meetings (Sept.- April), weekly Artisan workshop, and our yearly Shell Show.

Renewal dues are Single \$25.00 and Family \$30. When you renew your membership, you will receive a new membership card for 2026-27. You can access the website at www.Sarasotashellclub.com and download the 2026-27 membership form and bring it to the September meeting or mail the form and your check to Barbara Evans, 212 Oakwood Blvd. West, Sarasota, FL. 34237. Membership renewal should be completed by Nov.1st.

Barbara Evans, Membership Chair

BRAND NEW! MONTHLY MEETING PILOT PROJECT

During the March Board meeting, the idea was discussed of having someone, at the monthly membership meetings, identify shells found by our members.

The information will be limited to the name of the shell only, giving our members the opportunity to research further online, or browse our extensive library or learn more at the monthly Shell Share get together.

Pilot starts at the September monthly meeting!

Please bring some of your shells if you would like them to be identified by some of our very knowledgeable members!



Nancy M Cadieux

???

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

**ATTENDING THE COA CONVENTION THIS YEAR HAS
ALLOWED THE EDITOR TO ACQUIRE SOME
INTERESTING MATERIAL FOR THIS YEARS BEAUII!**

**VINTAGE COPIES OF "THE AMERICAN
CONCHOLOGIST" WERE AVAILABLE AND THE
EDITOR TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THIS**

**IN ADDITION A ORIGINAL 1907 CATALOG OF
"SEASHELLS FOR SALE" WAS OBTAINED.**

**BOTH OF THESE WILL RESULT IN SOME
INTERESTING ADDITIONS TO THIS SEASON'S
ISSUE OF THE BEAUII.**

SEA SHELLS
SHELL GOODS
SHELL JEWELRY
SOUVENIRS

A. L. HETTRICH COMPANY

508-510 WASHINGTON STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

LEATHER NOVELTIES
BEADS
BEAD NOVELTIES
MOCCASINS



No. 2.
PINK MUREX.
(*Murex bicolor.*)

Color—Light yellowish brown; aperture, pink.
Locality—Panama.
Size—3 to 5 inches.
Price—5c, 10c, 15c, 20c, 25c, 35c, 50c each.



No. 1.
WHITE MUREX.
(*Murex inflatus.*)

Color—White, the lips tinged with rose pink.
Locality—China.
Size—3 to 11 inches.
Price—15c, 25c, 50c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50, \$2.00 each.



No. 3.
BLACK MUREX.
(*Murex radix.*)

Color—Whitish, ribs and spines black.
Locality—Panama.
Size—3 to 6 inches.
Price—10c, 15c, 25c, 35c, 50c, 75c, \$1.00 each.



No. 4.
SPINY MUREX.
(*Murex plicatus.*)

Color—Purplish white, darker within the aperture.
Locality—Central America.
Size—2 to 4 inches.
Price—5c, 10c, 15c each.



No. 5.
CROWN MELON.
(*Melo diadema.*)

Color—Yellowish, with chestnut zigzag markings.
Locality—Indian Ocean.
Size—6 to 12 inches.
Prices—25c, 35c, 50c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50, \$2.00 each.

WHEN ORDERING STATE NUMBER! HOW MANY OF EACH! NAME AND PRICE!
Low Prices for Small Sizes—Higher Prices for Large Sizes.

Sarasota Shell Club

2026/2027 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:

Barbara Evans
212 Oakwood Blvd.

West Sarasota, FL 34237

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 email
address 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.

Look for us at: www.Sarasotashellclub.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/sarasotafloridashellclub>

Contact us: sarasotashellclub@gmail.com

(To be filled out by the Membership Committee)

Renewal ☐

New Member ☐

Amount Paid: _____ Date Paid: _____

Check# _____ Cash _____

☐ Card

☐ Badge Ordered

Revised Bylaws

These bylaws are for all club members in good standing to understand. They will be voted on in the September membership meeting. Note: all word that are ~~striketthrough~~ will be removed. All letters/words/sentences in **RED** have been added! Nancy Cadieux

Sarasota Shell Club, Inc.

~~By-laws~~ **Bylaws**

Article I, Name/Mission Statement

This organization will be known as the Sarasota Shell Club, Inc. (hereafter called SSC), a Florida 501(c)(3) corporation. The Mission Statement is "To promote the study and appreciation of mollusks and allied environments".

Article II, Purpose

Sarasota Shell Club shall be a ~~not-for-profit~~ **nonprofit**, non-political, non-sectarian, charitable, scientific, and educational organization dedicated to the:

- A. Promotion, in the Club **SSC** and in the community, of interest in the collecting and study of mollusks and allied fauna.
- B. Exchange of information among its members.
- C. Rendering of information, assistance, and materials to schools, museums, science clubs, teachers and other organizations or individuals interested in this branch of science.

All SSC activities shall be conducted in strict alignment with this mission and the highest standards of public trust.

Article III, Membership

- A. Membership in SSC is open to all persons interested in the purpose of the club **SSC** as stated in Article II. Membership is offered as a single, family or student (17 & under).
- B. A family membership consists of two individuals (with or without minor children) residing at the same address.
- C. Adult members in good standing **and with paid current membership** are eligible to vote.

Article IV, Board Structure & Board Duties

A "qualified director" is a person who does not have a "material interest" or a "material relationship" that would impair independent judgment relating to the matter in question.

- A. The elected officers of the Club shall consist of President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, and Treasurer, whose term of office shall be one year.
- B. There shall be six **non-related** Directors serving on the Board, each serving a three year term.
- C. Two of the six Directors shall be elected each year.
- D. To further continuity of the Board, the out-going President may be requested to fill one of the open positions for one year, if a director cannot be nominated/appointed for the position.
- E. All officers and directors shall assume their positions at the close of the April meeting at which they are elected to office.
- F. It shall be the Board's duty to:
 - 1. Formulate the general policies, procedures, programs, and encourage membership involvement in the **SSC** Club.
 - 2. Absorb the costs of bonding for the President and the Treasurer.

3. Propose dates, times, locations, for Club meetings, special meetings, or functions and activities.
 4. Propose any increase in dues when and if necessary.
 5. Receive and consider reports of all committees.
 6. Appoint a Nominating Committee before the November general meeting.
 7. Hold a minimum of four (4) scheduled Board meetings during the year. Special meetings may be called at the discretion of the President or of any other Board member.
 8. Review the ~~By-laws~~ **Bylaws** ~~at least annually~~ **when changing SSC operating structure or changing SSC Board composition and as needed, no less frequently than every 3 years. Revisions shall be shared with all SSC members and solicit input from general membership.**
 9. Newly elected officers and Board members shall be provided with a copy of the SSC's Bylaws. **SSC members shall have access to the SSC Bylaws via the "For members only" section of the SSC website.**
- G. Board issues may be discussed in person or virtually to facilitate communication.
- H. **After a quorum is established, decisions of the Board shall be made by majority vote of those Board members present or by proxy. Proxy appointment is permitted by electronic signature/transmission.**
- I. Should issues arise that need immediate Board attention, voting may be done electronically. A written record of these votes will be kept by the recording secretary as a matter of historical record.
- J. Any Board member missing three consecutive **unexcused** meetings will be deemed to have resigned his/her position. The Nominating **C**ommittee will present a candidate for **election appointment** to the Board to fill the unexpired term of said Board member ~~at the next Board meeting.~~ **The appointment will remain valid until the next Nominating election meeting.**

Article V, Standards of Conduct and Responsibilities of Officers and Directors

Officers and Directors must act in good faith, with the care of an ordinary prudent person, and in the best interest of the SSC.

Officers and Directors shall adhere to the SSC Code of Ethics policy.

Conflict of interest: SSC Governance follows a strict disclosure policy. Transactions involving interested directors are now permitted only if fully disclosed, approved by disinterested Board members, and entirely fair to the organization.

- A. The President shall be bonded and will:
 1. Serve as executive officer and official representative of the Club.
 2. Preside at all meetings of the Club and Board.
 3. Oversee the activities of all SSC officers and committee members.
 4. Appoint legal counsel if necessary, subject to Board approval.
 5. Serve as a signatory on all SSC accounts.
- B. The Vice-President will:
 1. Act in the absence of the President.
 2. Assume the position of the President, if the elected President is unable to complete his/her term of office.
 3. Consult, advise, and work with the President, as needed.

4. Serve as program chair and shall be responsible for, and present programs of interest and instruction at regular **the Board and membership** meetings.
 5. Introduce each speaker and be responsible for audio and visual equipment.
 - 6. Receive proxies for election.**
- C. The Recording Secretary will:
1. Keep **accurate** minutes of all Board, general **membership**, and special Sarasota Shell Club **SSC** meetings, **actions and official communications**.
 2. Present a recap of the previous meeting at the next general membership meeting.
 3. Maintain a Secretary's book/**electronic record**, available for reference, containing SCC ~~By-laws~~ **Bylaws**, minutes, standing resolutions and tally/names of attendance received from the Hospitality **Admission** Chair." **All SSC corporate records will be located in the SSC Library and will be accessible for member inspection.**
 - ~~4. Utilize the "action plan" for each meeting with internal follow-up.~~
 5. Keep an up to date list of officers and Board members along with their term of office.
- D. The Treasurer shall be bonded and will:
1. Be responsible for all receipts and disbursements, and keep accurate records thereof.
 2. Serve as a signatory on all SSC accounts.
 3. Present a financial report at each of the Board meeting and at other times that may be required by the Board.
 4. Report ~~to the membership~~ on all major items of income and expense at each business membership meeting.
 5. Prepare the necessary tax fillings and financial statements as required.
 - 6. Ensure the SSC maintains its valid tax-exempt status by securing a certificate renewal before its expiration date.**
 7. Be responsible for any government correspondence and maintain a **record** of the same.
 - **Sunbiz annual report: File between January 1st and May 1st every year.**
 - **IRS Form 990: File federal tax return by the 15th day of the 5th month after SSC fiscal year ends to protect your 501(c)(3) status.**
 - **Sales tax exemption: Ensure SSC Consumer's Certificate of Exemption (Form DR-5) is active with the Florida Department of Revenue to keep your state sales tax exemption**
 8. **Ensure that** core records will be maintained for three years.
 9. Submit a full financial report of the Shell Show, with the assistance from the Shell Show Chair, no later than ~~within~~ 60 days after the shell show has ended.
 10. Submit the **SSC's** books for an audit and financial review ~~at least every two years and~~ upon replacement of the Treasurer, prior to the new Treasurer installation and **no less than every 3 years** at the discretion of the Treasurer.

~~On or before the end of the applicable fiscal year, an auditing committee of two qualified members, neither of which serving on the Board, to be appointed for the purpose of auditing financial reports of the corporation. The committee shall report their findings at the next meeting of the membership following the audit.~~
- E. The Directors will actively:
1. Engage in the duties of the Board listed in Article IV
 2. Participate and provide support to at least one Standing Committee.

Article VI, Election of Officers/Directors

- A. Officers and two Directors shall be elected at the last ~~business~~ **members** meeting of the **SSC** year from a slate presented by the ~~Board~~, **Nominating Committee** and/or any nominations from the floor.
- B. All elections shall be made by ballot **in person or by proxy for election/vote** and a majority vote will elect. **Proxy appointment is permitted by electronic signature/transmission and must be submitted to the Vice-President. When there is less than one nominee, elections can be made by a show of hands including the votes by proxy.**
- C. The outgoing officers and directors shall complete activities and ~~turn~~ **hand** over reports to the incoming Board within 30 days.
- D. ~~Newly elected officers and Board members shall be provided with a copy of the SSC's By-laws.~~ **Note: moved to Article V, Responsibilities of Officers and Directors_ A. The President**

Article VII, Committees

All committee chairs shall keep a folder of activities with recommendations.

A. Standing Committees

- a. Shell Show: The chair shall ~~create a budget~~ **review financial expenses** in conjunction with the Treasurer, secure a co-Chair and committee members, as needed to support the mission of the SSC. The Shell show Chair shall prepare and present a final report of the Shell Show to the SSC Board within 60 days **of the show**.
- b. Promotion Newsletter: Shall publish matters of interest to the membership, for example in a newsletter, present copies to the newspapers and other media announcing meetings, activities, and results of elections.
- c. Website Management: Shall keep the SSC website updated and current.
- d. Outreach Education: Shall foster awareness of conchology throughout the community
- e. Librarian: Shall act as custodian of SSC books and shall maintain a list of publications available to members. Shall be responsible for keeping an updated list of publications.
- f. Historian: Shall keep a scrapbook of the Club, including publicity, clippings, photos, etc. that may be of historical interest. Scrapbook may be digital.
- g. Nominating: Shall be appointed by the Board. The committee should consist of a minimum of two members in good standing who will serve for a period of one year. No member of the Board may serve on the nominating committee with the exception of an outgoing member of the Board. The committee shall select one member as chair. In the event of a Nominating committee vacancy, the Board shall appoint a member in good standing, not currently on the Board. Duties of the committee shall be to prepare a slate for the election of officers and two Directors at large to be presented at the March meeting. This slate may include a nominee (s) for any un-expired term(s) of any Board member who has been nominated for office.
- h. Hospitality Admission: Shall greet members and guests upon arrival at meetings and request that they sign in. At the end of each meeting, turn over attendance and names to recording secretary. Be responsible for door prizes and raffles.
- i. Membership: Shall receive and respond to all applications for membership. The chair shall maintain an accurate database of membership **and records of resignations and terminations.**

- j. **Artisans:** Shall create decorative shell items by hand for the purpose of generating revenues that help cover rental and other costs. Shall assist interested members on exploring their talents and mastering shell art techniques.
- k. **Sunshine:** Shall recognize monthly members' birthdays as well as provide written support to those experiencing occasions and circumstances worthy of such.

B. Special Committees

- a) Special or Temporary Committees may be appointed by the President.
- b) **An auditing committee of two qualified members, neither of which serving on the Board, shall be appointed for the purpose of auditing financial reports of the corporation. The committee shall report their findings at the next SSC Board meeting following the audit.**

Article VIII, Financial Management

- A. The fiscal year of the organization will be from May 1 to April 30th.
- B. Dues shall be payable on or before September 30th of the current year. If dues are not paid by November 1st, members will be dropped from the membership.
- C. Receipts and payments shall be submitted to treasurer within 30 days of event.
- D. The Board Officers and Directors, Committee chairs and Committee members shall not accept any financial remuneration.
- E. **Board members shall act in good faith and always prioritize the best interests of the SSC over personal or financial gain.**
- F. **Whenever a director or officer has a direct or indirect financial or personal interest in any transaction, contract, or matter coming before the Board, that person shall: Fully disclose the material facts of the potential conflict to the Board prior to any discussion. Recuse themselves from all board discussions, lobbying efforts, and votes regarding the matter.**

Article IX, Notices & Meetings

- A. **Written notice may be communicated by mail, electronic mail, newsletter, facsimile, or other form of electronic transmission.**
- B. ~~Regular~~ **Membership** meetings shall be held ~~on the second Thursday of~~ each month from September to April. **Date and location to be determined by the SSC Board.**
- C. The season may be shortened or extended by ~~standing resolution~~ **standard approval of the Board and proper notification to the members** ~~or circumstances.~~
- D. The Board shall meet quarterly at the call of the President. In addition, any Board member may request an additional special meeting to discuss/resolve any specific item (s)/issue (s). **Board meetings can occur virtually via modern remote participation. Remote participants are deemed present by using reasonable verification measures.**
- E. All Committee Chairs may be invited by the President to attend the Regular Board Meetings in an Advisory Capacity

Article X, Quorum

- A. For a ~~regular~~ membership or special meeting, a quorum shall consist of all members in good standing attending **or by proxy.**
- B. For a Board meeting, a quorum shall consist of the majority of the entire Board members present in person or virtually.**
- ~~C. A quorum can be achieved in person or virtually.~~

Article XI, Amendments

- A. These ~~By-laws~~ **Bylaws** may be amended by a two-thirds vote of ~~attendees~~ **the entire Board members** in good standing at a regular or ~~meeting or a special membership~~ **Board** meeting. ~~provided that:~~
 - ~~a. The proposed amendment (s) has been approved by the Board.~~
 - ~~b. The proposed amendment (s) shall have been given to or sent to all members in good standing at least 30 days prior to being voted upon.~~
- B. Amendments shall become effective at the close of the meeting at which they are adopted unless otherwise designated at the time of adoption.

Article XII, Parliamentary Authority

- A. Roberts Rules of Order (latest edition) shall be followed, except when in conflict with these By-laws. **Bylaws**
- B. Shall govern ~~all regular,~~ **membership,** special, and Board meetings.

~~Article XIII, Standing Resolutions~~

- ~~A. For the purpose of these By-laws, a standing resolution is any resolution or rule which is intended to remain in force until rescinded.~~
- ~~B. Such resolution shall be prepared in writing, proposed, and read at a regular meeting and acted upon at the subsequent regular meeting.~~
- ~~C. A two thirds vote of the members in good standing present. Voting shall be required for adoption.~~
- ~~D. Any standing resolution may be rescinded if such action is proposed at a regular meeting and approved by a majority of the members present and in good standing.~~

Article XIII, Ethics and Compliance.

The Board of Directors shall formally adopt, maintain, and enforce a separate Code of Ethics and Conduct Policy governing all board members, officers, and volunteers.

Article XIV, Right of Inspection

- A. Officers and Directors are granted an explicit statutory right to inspect any corporate records at any reasonable time, provided it relates directly to their fiduciary duties.**
- B. Every member in good standing shall have the right to inspect and copy the corporation's books, records of account, and minutes of the proceedings of the members, the Board of Directors, and committees. Such inspection rights shall be subject to the limitations, conditions, and procedures set forth in Section 617.1602 of the Florida Nonprofit Corporation Act, Title XXXVI BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS.**

Article ~~XIV~~, XV, Dissolution

- A. In the event of dissolution, any remaining funds in the SSC treasury, after all debts are paid, shall be donated toward malacological research, ecology programs, or appropriate scholarship programs, by the Board.
- B. The Board shall also make the final decision on the disposal of any/all physical properties owned by SSC.