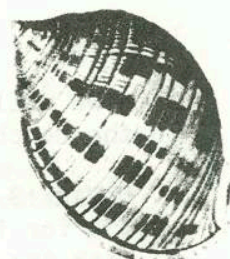




Scotch Bonnet

NORTH CAROLINA SHELL CLUB

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Durham, N. C. 27712
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SUMMER MEETING

YAUPON BEACH -- LONG BEACH, N.C.

JUNE 5-6, 1987

The two beaches are on Oak Island about 30-35 miles south of Wilmington.

MEETING PLACE: The Long Beach Recreation Center, 3003 E. Oak Island Drive, in Long Beach. This is on the main road through the island, not the beach road.

Friday, June 5, 1987

7:00 p.m. Registration; refreshments; shell identification; selling; trading.

8:00 p.m. Door prizes.

North Carolina Reef Diving by Bill Mansfield.

A musical about shell collectors by Dean and Dorothy Weber.

Book review, announcements, more door prizes.

Saturday, June 6, 1987

7:00 p.m. Registration; refreshments; shell identification; selling; trading; entries for the find of the day.

8:00 p.m. Business Meeting.

Why Shells are WHERE They Are by Dr. John Ferguson.

Find of the Day.

Announcements, door prizes.

LODGING

We will be using these two adjoining motels in Yaupon Beach, which are on the beach road on the side away from the beach:

NEWARK'S DRIFTWOOD MOTEL, 919-278-6114, \$30 for two people using one bed, \$35 for two people using two beds. To get these prices, say that you are with the North Carolina Shell Club. This motel has air conditioning, cable TV including HBO, and a small refrigerator in each room. There are about 15 rooms.

WINDS PATH, 919-278-5442, \$26 for a single room, \$39 for a double room without kitchen, \$50 for a double room with kitchen. The double rooms all have two beds. If we occupy ten rooms or more, the above prices would reduce to \$18 for a single room and \$36 for a double room, with or without kitchen. Thus make it clear that you are with the North Carolina Shell Club. We won't know until late in the game how many rooms we have, so plan on the higher price. This motel has air conditioning, cable television, swimming pool, tennis court, and a telephone in each room. There are about 33 rooms.

It is most important to make your reservation early! These motels can fill up quickly in June. For example, by March 30, Winds Path was already full for June 7, which is the day after our meeting.

Here are some other options:

OCEAN CREST MOTEL AND PIER, 919-278-3333, at 1411 E. Beach Drive, Long Beach. This is the only oceanfront motel on the island. Singles start at \$42 and go way up. Doubles start at \$52 and go way up. Reservations can be made between 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

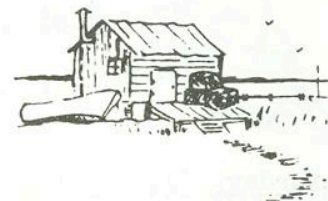
ISLAND INN, 919-278-3366, at 5611 E. Oak Island Drive. Prices not checked. On the highway, not near the beach.

COASTAL MOTEL, 919-278-5544, E. Oak Island Drive. Prices not checked. On the highway, not near the beach.

CAPTAIN'S COVE MOTEL, 919-278-6026, 6401 E. Oak Island Drive. Prices not checked. On the highway, not near the beach.

RESTAURANTS

There are restaurants of all kinds all over the island.



SHELL COLLECTING

You will be on your own for shelling, with about nine miles of ocean beach available to you. The morning is recommended, for low tide is at 9:06 a.m.

Caswell Beach is one place that has been good in the past, but visitors are not entirely welcome and there is only one parking lot for them. Drive east to get to Caswell Beach, find the parking lot on your right, and walk further east along the beach. The far end of Long Beach, the west end, may be rewarding.

PROGRAM NOTES

On Friday, Bill Mansfield, formerly a biologist with the Institute of Marine Biomedical Research, and currently working with Corning Glass Works, will talk about North Carolina reef diving. Bill has been diving in N.C. for over 20 years, and has an extensive collection of shells taken from the reefs 20 to 40 miles offshore. Some of the live-collected specimens will be on display for examination and discussion. The slide presentation will include discussion of the reef origins, and the types of fish and invertebrate life inhabiting them. Besides being a diver and shell collector, Bill is also a salt water aquarium enthusiast.

On Saturday, Dr. John Ferguson gives us yet another in the fine series of authoritative and interesting programs that he is noted for and has been giving to us for many, many years. This time the subject is where shells are. Dr. John, now an honored life member, has been with the club throughout the entire thirty years of its existence. He lives in Chapel Hill with his wife Doris and their poodle Poo. The dog has been to many of our meetings and knows more about shells than most of us. Dr. John may know more about shells than all of us put together.

The aftermath of a sleet storm around the beginning of March prevented Rusty and Mary Louise Spain from getting home to Raleigh and kept them trapped in Wilmington. While there, they watched a musical performed by Dorothy and Dean Weber. Seeing raw talent in these unseasoned troupers, Mary Louise prevailed upon Dean to write a musical about shells, to be presented at one of our meetings. The rather bizarre result will be offered on Friday.

HOW ABOUT BALD HEAD ISLAND?

For a different kind of trip on Saturday, you could consider an excursion to Bald Head Island. Norma Hattman described a visit there in our spring newsletter. The current cost for a round trip to the island is \$15.00 for the day; this only gets you there and back. Golf carts or bicycles can be rented if you don't want to be on foot. Drive a few miles to Southport and make all the arrangements at the Bald Head dock.

OCTOBER SHELL SHOW

The period of October 22-25, 1987, will be here before you know it, so now is the time to sift through your ideas and select your best for the Shell Show at Independence Mall in Wilmington.

DOOR PRIZES

We invite you again to bring door prizes to the meeting, and we are most grateful to those who contributed the fine collection of prizes at the spring meeting.

MEMBER PROFILE: VICKY WALL

Vicky's shell-collecting career started at 13 when her sister bought a packet of shells at a souvenir shop. She was impressed. She started buying shells of her own at first but quickly switched to collecting. The first major find was a big lightning whelk, which remains the favorite shell in her collection, although she has a thousand species now. Another favored shell is a rhododendron cone (Conus adamsonii), a rare and valuable shell which she purchased for a dollar during her buying days. It was evidently mislabeled by the seller.

Her shells are displayed in four cabinets at her home in Mayodan, North Carolina, above Greensboro near the Virginia border. Before that, her dad's work for the federal government led to stays in Massachusetts, New York, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Virginia. She is married, with no children, and teaches high school biology.

Vicky is one of the younger members of our club. She has been with us two years and with the COA (Conchologists of America) the same length of time. She made the COA convention in Florida last year and is headed for St. Louis this year.

She entered our shell show for the first time last year and walked away with blue ribbons for a novice collection, shell-related crafts, and a specialized collection of lion's paw scallops. Our spring meeting in South Carolina was the first that she was able to attend; the trip with her husband took five hours, one way.

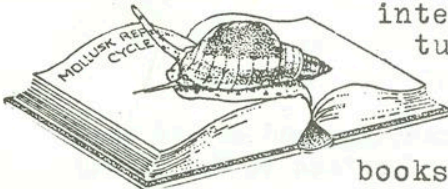
Vicky's collecting territory has been quite limited so far. She has found shells mostly in Florida, with some coming from Massachusetts and some from once-a-year summer trips to Carolina beaches. Consequently, she is looking forward to a "real" trip and has her eye mainly on Australia.

FAREWELL

Bill and Trudi Ernst of Goldsboro leave us in late June for a permanent move to Hawaii. They have been valued members and we will miss them. The next meeting will be their last, and we will have an opportunity there to say goodbye.

BOOK CORNER

At our summer meeting there will be a table for books, articles, periodicals, and other information that members feel would be of interest to the club. This will be an opportunity for us to browse through each others' favorite shell material and perhaps discover items we would like to have in our own library. With the high cost of many shell books, it is often impossible to purchase expensive books sight unseen. So, share your favorite book with us. Before you leave for Long Beach, tuck that book or magazine into your bag.



TURTLE TALE

by Renate W. Skinner

After Bruce Lampright's excellent nature program at Pawley's Island, a club member asked if I had ever seen sea turtles hatching. A long-ago memory flashed back.

Two decades ago I lived for eight months in Karachi, former capital of Pakistan, large seaport city by the Arabian Sea near the mouth of the Indus. Making friends with the Fishery Department was helpful for fieldtrips to off-coast Manora Island and for getting to know the shorelines. There we collected Cypraea pallida Gray, 1824 and C. turdus Lamarck, 1810, plentiful on wood pilings in rather murky water. Purpura persica (L., 1758) and Trochidae were found on surf-splashed rocks. I bought my first Cymatium ranzanii (Bianconi, 1851) at Clifton Point and still dream about a Pecten (?) of gigantic size, which I left behind. (This year one of those won a blue ribbon at Sanibel.)

What does a small group of American and European Christians do in a totally Moslem society on Christmas Eve? We went to celebrate at a beach house far beyond city suburbs near the vast mountainous desert. Under the star-filled, velvety sky we sang our carols and let our thoughts drift to each's homeland, envisioning bright lights, Christmas trees and all one takes for granted during that wonderful time of the year. On this moonless night of all nights, we witnessed something rare, moving and unforgettable: cruel, wise and beautiful nature.

Long before midnight, several huge sea turtles made their way with jerky motions but decidedly out of the water, up the 700-foot wide beach close to our beach bungalow which stood in dry sand dunes without any kind of vegetation. Their arrival was like a miniature "Battle of the Bulge."

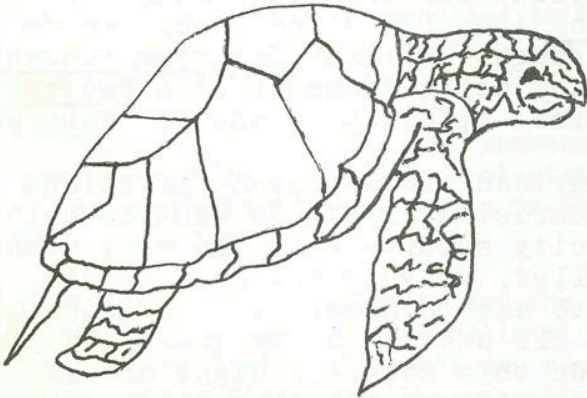
One of these huge animals plowed the sand and dug a hole of considerable size and depth quite near us. Then it marched on to a place about twenty feet further repeating the dig. The turtle's breathing was loud and rustling as if someone got choked. Sand was thrust out on both sides as the powerful paddle feet worked like shovels. This animal is not equipped to live on land. Only females venture out of their wet element for disposal of eggs of which the incubation time is fifty days.

We sat respectfully at a distance of six feet and watched. The turtle mother, we observed, dug three holes as a precaution. With two she tried to deviate and mislead rapacious enemies, predators like stray dogs (of which Karachi had thousands), birds, and people. Finally, into the third crater she started laying eggs, perhaps a total of ninety. Her pushing motions were accompanied by noisy moaning and a whistle-like breathing. During the egg-laying procedure the animal stayed in a tilted position almost upright, its forefeet on the crater's rim. We felt a great urge to help--bring water, wipe her clistening sand-smeared nostrils, anything--as she seemed to reach out, mouth gaping wide open and then collapsed every few seconds.

By then it was 3:00 a.m. and the exhausted animal made a last big effort to cover that deep burrow she had filled to a quarter

with opaque white eggs similar to ping pong balls. The last touch of camouflage was important--life or death. After a job well done, one by one they slowly and indirectly retreated towards the water's edge. Their imprinted trails covered the wide beach everywhere until the tide washed over it.

There was no chance to find out exactly what became of these eggs. Crows and other birds came by the thousands during daytime to search the beaches for food. However, about five or six weeks later we saw to our delight a swarm of little creatures struggling hurriedly towards the sea. Taking a just-born turtle baby up in your hand, one is amazed about its ready energy to fight for survival and setting it down at the perfect instinct of its direction.



Sea Turtle
Cheloniidae

Caretta caretta

Some facts about this species:

Length: $3\frac{1}{2}$ -4 ft.

Weight: 400 lb.

Color: Dark brown

Diet: Invertebrates--preferably mollusks and shrimp



SEA BITS



. . .My soul is full of longing
For the secret of the sea,
And the heart of the great ocean
Sends a thrilling pulse through me.

--Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

To me there is something
Completely and satisfyingly restful
In that stretch of sea and sand. . .
Complete peace and complete fulfillment.

--Anne Morrow Lindbergh

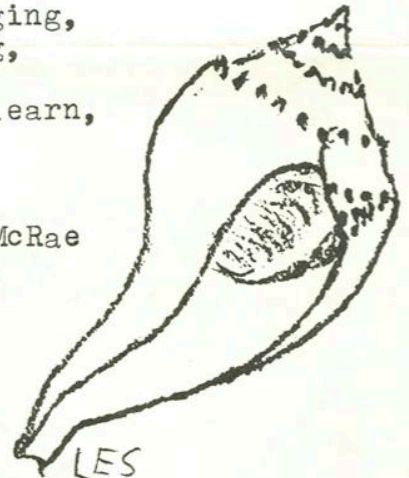
Let me find a quiet shore
Where laughing waters play
And warming beams of morning's sun
Melt all life's cares away.

--Unknown

SHELL COLLECTORS

Here's to the sunburn, the sprain in your back,
 The windburn, the chill, the weight in your sack,
 The bottles and bags, the unpackable gear,
 All strapped around you and banging your rear.
 Here's to the barnacle gash and the bruise,
 The salt in your eyes, the sand in your shoes.
 Here's to the smell in the kitchen at night,
 The boiling, the cleaning, and scrubbing just right.
 The searching through crud 'til your eyes dull with pain,
 For the needed elusive unspellable name.
 Here's to the polishing, boxing, arranging,
 Consulting, re-sorting, re-naming and changing.
 Here's to the weariness, lameness and cuts,
 And to all the people who think we are 'nuts.'
 We go on collecting foul weather or fair,
 Not minding at all with a glassy-eyed stare,
 For the sake of this world who look on in surprise,
 We keep right on looking for that wonderful prize,
 For the shell with a bump, some spots or a twist,
 Ah! this shell is best and hard to resist.
 So you keep right on walking, or diving or dragging,
 By now you are sagging, and lagging and bragging,
 It's time to head back and on your return,
 You still look for more, you'd think you would learn,
 So you stumble along, keep collecting and pray,
 That to-morrow will bring another good day.

--Kay McRae

ATTENTION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE!

The Executive Committee will have a dinner meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, June 5, at the Kountry Kitchen, 5601 Oak Island Drive, Long Beach. All committee members are asked to meet at the restaurant. The meeting will be brief so that we can get to the Recreation Center on time.

Conchologists of America



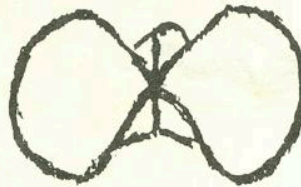
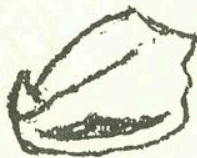
The following news is passed along by C.O.A. representative Alta VanLandingham:

The Conchologists of America Convention is scheduled for St. Louis, Missouri, from Tuesday June 23 to Saturday June 27, 1987. Hosts are members of the Greater St. Louis Shell Club. Centered at Days Inn at the Arch, activities include slide lectures, shell auction and sales and a dinner cruise on the paddle wheeler "Huck Finn". Registration forms and specific information can be obtained from: Alan Gettleman, 4045 Central Lane, Granite City, IL 62040.

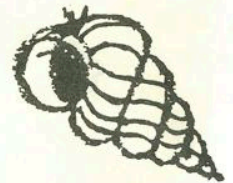
New C.O.A. Bulletin editors are looking for writers and contributions to the Bulletin. If you are interested, write Lynn Scheu, 1222 Holsworth Lane, Louisville, KY 40222

The C.O.A. awarded two grants at the 14th Annual Convention in Fort Lauderdale. A \$1,000 grant was awarded to the U.S. National Museum of the Smithsonian Institute to help defray expenses of graduate students doing research on the molluscan collection. A \$500 grant was awarded to Rudiger Bieler for color plates for his forthcoming monograph on Architectonidae. Guidelines for awarding the grants are as follows: "To grant monies to persons or organizations for projects that will help further the interests of conchology/malacology and are in keeping with the purposes and goals of the C.O.A." Request for 1987 grants must be submitted in writing no later than May 15, 1987 to Richard W. Forbush, 1104 Sklar Dr. E., Venice, Florida 33595

Congratulations to Alta on the publication of her article, "Six Years of Living With Busycon carica," in the March, 1987, C.O.A. Bulletin.

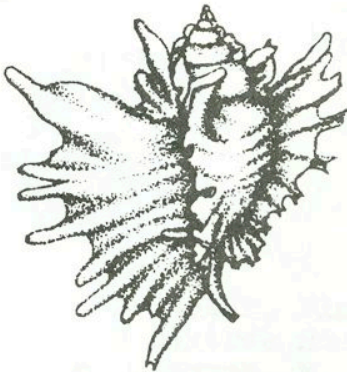


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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Thanks to our Vice President for another great job of making meeting and program arrangements. Our programs at Pawley's Island were interesting and informative. Hopefully the good time we had at our meetings and on our fossil trip will compensate for our lost sleep. My apologies for the rowdiness of our fellow guests from the Wake Forest fraternity. Dean Weber has made meticulous plans for our next meeting, so make your reservations now. See you in June!



SHELL CLUB TOURS

Alta Van Landingham
P.O. Box 542 Hampstead, NC 28443 U.S.A.
(919) 686-7537

LET'S GO SHELLING!!

- May 10-22, 1987 Egypt and Sinai in the Red Sea. Price of \$2750 includes it all. Roundtrip air from New York to Cairo and back, Deluxe hotels, meals, airfares in Egypt, boat trips, bus trips, sightseeing, and more! Find over 500 different species of shells.
- June 1-8, 1987 Eleuthera in the Bahamas. Price of \$825 includes airfare from Miami to Eleuthera and back again, cottage rentals, car rentals, and sightseeing. (not included is food) Collect up to 200 different species of shells.
- September, 1987 Tonga, Fiji Islands, and more. Price (approx. at this time) of \$2750 includes airfare from Los Angeles to Tonga and back home again, all accommodations during trip, meals, boats, sightseeing, and much much shelling. 11 days in all.
- November, 1987 Keyna and the Seychelles for 15 days. Price (approx. at this time) of \$3150 includes roundtrip airfare from New York to Keyna, all meals, deluxe accommodatiouns throughout the trip, boating through the islands, sightseeing, and very good shelling. The trip is 15 days in all.
- January, 1988 Palau in the Caroline Islands of Micronesia. Price (approx. at this time) of \$3150 includes roundtrip airfare from Los Angeles to Palau and back, deluxe accommodations at the Palau Pacific Resort, right on the beach, daily boat trips through the hundreds of islands that make up Palau, 2 meals a day, nightly entertainment, sightseeing, and more shells than you will be able to bring home. In January of this year, our group found about 220 different species, including Conus gloriamaris, Cypraea aurantium, and Murex annandalei.

About the above trips, Egypt-Sinai and Eleuthera the prices and dates are firm. The other three trips prices are approximate at this time, but I do not expect much change. Firm dates will be available very soon.

People on my mailing list will automatically receive more information about these trips. If you are not on my mailing list and are interested in a particular trip, please do let me know and I will forward firm information when it is available.

My trips are limited to 15 people. I feel this is a nice sized group and more would not be as compatible! I have not advertised my trips, as I usually find my clients from the various shell clubs that I belong to, or do programs for. Doing business in this way, I usually know personally, all the people going on the trips, and know that we will be compatible and have a nice trip together.

Join us for a good time, a lot of shelling, and a lot of shell talk!!

National Capital Shell Club
Douglas A. Wolfe
9101 Rosemont Dr.
Gaithersburg MD 20877



FIRST CLASS

North Carolina Shell Club
5300 Fair Oaks Road
Durham, NC 27712