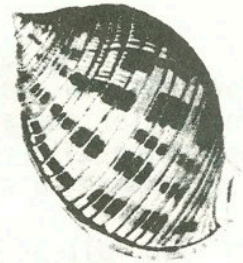


Scotch Bonnet

NORTH CAROLINA SHELL CLUB

T C (Van) Van Landingham , Pres.
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Hampstead, NC 28443
686-7537



Walter Wenzel, Vice Pres.
148 Hawthorne Dr. Rt. 3 Pks
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Hampstead, NC 28443
686-7537

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4104 Five Oaks Dr. #7
Durham, NC 27707
493-6527

SPRING MEETING--MARCH 3-4 SURF CITY N C

ALL MEETINGS WILL BE HELD AT THE SURF CITY TOWN HALL, WHICH IS ADJACENT TO THE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT ON HIGHWAY 210, (NEW RIVER DRIVE).

FRIDAY NIGHT, MARCH 3: Dr. Ned Smith, Director of North Carolina Aquariums of Pine Knoll Shores will speak to us about "Mollusks I've Kncwn and Loved-- Octopus vulgaris, (among others)."

Saturday Afternoon: From 1PM until 3PM Rose Bunch and Neal Schey will have a "Shell-Craft Workshop", again at the Town Hall. There will be demonstrations in shell-craft, materials to work with, questions about shell-craft will be answered, and hints given on entering the shows in this category.

Saturday field trips will be discussed at the Friday night meeting.

SATURDAY NIGHT, MARCH 4: Jo Ann Powell, whom we have met before will give us a talk about "Edible Mollusks and Other Strange Seafood". Jo Ann is Curator of Education of the North Carolina Maritime Museum in Beaufort, NC.

Throughout the meetings on Friday and Saturday night, DOOR PRIZES will be distributed, and on Saturday Night, there will be the PRIZE for the "BEST FIND OF THE DAY"--which is or may be any shell that you collected during the meetings. So, Please do bring your shells that you found, as you never know what may be considered the "BEST SHELL FIND".

Saturday Night will also b ring forth our usual business meeting. If you have any ideas of things for the club, please bring them up under the NEW Business portion of the meeting.

Both nights, we will begin at 7PM with our Social Hour, shell trading, shell selling, and shell identification. Both nights, the formal meeting will begin at 8PM.

WHERE TO STAY

As this newsletter goes to press--late January, a lot of the Motels and Hotels are closed for their own vacations, so we do not at this time have prices for the coming season. However, the following Motels will be open at Meeting time, so we have listed the three closest to the Meeting Place and their phone numbers:

Sunny Vee 328-3751

Sea Star 328-5191

Topsail Motel 328- 3381

30.00 P.O. Box 3064 Topsail Bl. 28445

THE PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

For this new year, 1989, we are going to have to try hard to keep up with 1988, to say nothing of surpassing it. In 1988 we gained far more members than we lost, so we are beginning this year with a fine membership. Let's all try to keep it up, and add a few new members to our club.

In 1988, all of our meetings were successful, and we had many good times. A group of 18 people met on January 7, 1989 to plan this year's meetings, and we have tried to put together another year of good meetings, good speakers, and good times. We have a lot of new members taking part this year, and expect they will give us some new "zip".

We can get bogged down with the same old members doing the same old things, so we are looking forward to the new things that the new members will add this year.

Our past Shell Show in October was one of the best to date, because although the total footage was less than some we have had, all exhibits were so top notch that the judges took a VERY long time deciding amongst them for ribbons and awards. In some cases, identical ribbons were awarded. This was not a show of "rare" shells, but a show of much thought and originality on the member's part--and THAT MAKES A VERY GOOD SHOW!! Most judges are tired of seeing case after case of rare shells. They are interested more in something new and different, and that is what they had at the last show.

Besides our usual field trips we have planned some workshops this year that should be of interest to a lot of members. It has been many years since we have had any sort of shellcraft workshop, and this year we are including that in our programs.

Below are listed our proposed meetings with times and places for this year:

March 3-4 Surf City May 12-13 Holden Beach September 8-9 Beaufort
 October 19-22 Shell Show at Wilmington November 11 Banquet at Beaufort

Please mark these dates on your calendar and try to attend all events, if possible. The Club needs your support by attendance.

OTHER CLUBS

The North Carolina Shell Club is affiliated with many other clubs, both local and international. Listed are a few, and who you may contact if you are interested or are going to be in the area of their meetings.

AMU (American Malacological Union) A yearly meeting of people worldwide. Contact Bob or Marj Tomlinson, address on page (1).

COA (Conchologists of America) A convention once a year at a different location. Contact Alta Van Landingham, address on page (1).

Gulf Coast Shell Club Panama City Area, Florida Jim & Linda Brunner

Palmetto Shell Club Columbia SC Carol Boswell

Treasure Coast Shell Club Stuart, FL Ruth Wischmann

ATSC Capsule Palm Bay FL M. H. Chanley

(All of these people are listed in our September roster)

MEMBER PROFILE: RUTH DIXON

by Dean Weber

Ruth has had many wonderful collecting days in more places around the world than most of us have been to, and the Red Sea in Egypt gets special mention. But her very best day was at Cape Lookout National Seashore in North Carolina in July, 1977, when the tide was the lowest she has ever seen. Along with other shells on that day, she found a white crested tellin, Tellidora cristata.

She began collecting casually years ago as she walked her two boys on the beach, but she became serious in 1961, which was the same year that she joined the North Carolina Shell Club. The murex family is her favorite. Ruth can always be relied upon to come up with one or more exhibits for our shell show, and she has also displayed her shells at the shows in Panama City, Florida.

Most of her shells are self-collected, which is to be expected when you consider that she has gathered shells in North Carolina, South Carolina, the Atlantic and Gulf beaches of Florida, Nassau, Eleuthera, Grand Cayman, Cayman Brac, two places in Mexico, Canada, Costa Rica, Hawaii, Guam, the Philippines, Palau, Egypt, and the Adriatic Sea in Italy. Along with the collecting, she loves to travel to new places to learn the customs of each country and become acquainted with the people.

Ruth has been secretary of our club and has served as president more often than anybody else. She is a medical secretary and has been working at Duke University Medical Center for 28 years. She lives in Durham, the city in which she was born. Although she left briefly to attend Catawba College in Salisbury, North Carolina, she has never lived outside the state.

She teaches an Adult Sunday School class in her church and has served on several committees there. She is active in Masonic affiliated organizations and is a past presiding officer in the Order of the Eastern Star and the Order of the White Shrine of Jerusalem. She has been the Scribe in the latter for about twenty years.

She is a gardener and says she also loves to walk through the woods identifying wildflowers (perhaps just the way she walks along the beach identifying shells).

Ruth keeps repeating a soliloquy which begins "To retire or not to retire". She had set July as retirement month, but, as July approaches, she keeps having second thoughts. If she does make the leap, she hopes to have more time for traveling leisurely, if the money holds out, and she is considering a trip around the world.

SHELL SHOW - - - - 1989

At our last meeting of the year, the club voted to have a show again in 1989, and it will be, as usual, at Independence Mall, in Wilmington. By now, everyone knows why we have had our show so many times at Independence Mall, or if not, this is a good time to hear it. Independence Mall in Wilmington finances our entire Shell Show. Since 1984, our show has not cost the club anything except effort!

With this in mind, and the dates are October 21-22-23 1989, it is not too early to begin thinking of a good exhibit for the coming show.

We have planned two workshops this year, one for shell craft, and one for scientific exhibits. The people who will be conducting these workshops are knowledgeable in that particular area, and will help you with any questions you have about any of the categories you may want to enter.

The shell show committee is open to any suggestions you may have about new categories, changing old categories, etc. If you do have ideas, please bring it up at the "new business" portion of any business meeting the club has. The show committee works with what we have available, and if no one speaks up about something new, then we will just continue on as we have done before.

In past years, we have already planned and sent to the printer all of the information for the show by the end of May. So if you do have some ideas, we need to hear them as soon as possible. Contact Dean Weber, Neal Schey, Van or Alta Van Landingham.

SHELL CLUB PINS

Our beautiful North Carolina Shell Club Pin, designed by Norma Hattman, and featuring our State Shell, the Scotch Bonnet, has been available since January, 1987. We have long ago paid for the pins, and the money we are now getting for them is profit for the club. The pin is \$3.50, or \$4.50 by mail. They have been sold at many clubs around the U. S., at the COA Conventions in 1987 and 1988, and even been sold as far away as New Zealand. It may amaze you to learn that many people collect "Shell Club Pins" as well as shells from around the world. At some conventions, we have seen people wearing hats, vests, ribbons, coats, etc. full of shell club pins. Seems to be no limit to what shell club people will do!! Just thought you would like to hear this bit of "shell pin tirvia".

SHELL CLUB TREASURY AUDIT

As required by law, our books have been audited at the end of the out-going officers year. Which in this case, was directly after the final meeting of the year on Nov. 12, when the new in-coming officers took office. The actual audit took place one week later, on November 18, done by CPA Ann Buddenhagen. The books were found to be in total order, and anyone interested may read a copy of the audit, which will be available at this meeting. Since we are a non-profit organization, this audit was done "gratis" by Ann Buddenhagen. As a club, we thank her, again.

PLEASE ADD THESE NEW NAMES TO YOUR MEMBERSHIP ROSTER:

Mary L. Baldwin
521 Park Place
Rocky Mount, NC 27804

Dr. & Mrs M. H. Bertling
2312 Princess St.
Greensboro, NC 27408

Wilbert & Johanna Cherry
Rt. 3 Box 1050-3
Shalotte, NC 28459

Janet Durand
P. O. Box 2090
Atlantic Beach, NC 28512

Louise Mason
23 E. Roberta Road
Sahlotte, NC 28459

Theresa (Terry) Morris
601 Jones Ferry Rd. Apt C-8
Carrboro, NC 27510
929-0042

Margaret Nance
220 Ridgecrest Rd.
Asheboro, NC 27203

Patricia H. Neal
228 Rudolph Dr.
Beaufort, N. C. 28516
728-5425

Gerry Petch
Rt. 1 Box 118
Supply, NC 28462

Ramona T. Robbins
306 Villa St.
Rocky Mount, NC 27804

Deborah Russell
Rt 1 Box 467
Beaufort, NC 28516
728-3866

Shirley M. Schoelkopf
P. O. Box 520
Ocracoke, NC 27960
928-6671

Willis Slane
P. O. Box 602
Ocracoke, NC 27960
928-4481

Kirby, Pat, & Megan Van Landingham
P. O. Box 542
Ocracoke, NC 27960
928-3631

Walter & Elsa Wenzel
148 Hawthorne Dr. Pks Rt. 3
Morehead Cith, NC 28557
247-4957

Edmund & Marion Woodburn
291 Champion Dr.
Hampstead, NC 28443
270-3315

PLEASE MAKE THESE ADDRESS CORRECTIONS:

(Old Address)

Nancy Lloyd
1305 North St.
Durham, NC 27701

Renate Skinner
49 Quail Ridge Road
Greenville, NC 27834

Barbara Albertson
128 Ann St.
Beaufort, NC 28516

David Tanner
2805 B Liberty Oaks Drive
Greensboro, NC 27406

(New Address)

Nancy Lloyd Tuck
11A Weather Hill Circle
Durham, NC 27705

Renata Skinner
1853 M Quail Ridge Rd.
Greenville, NC 27834

Barbara Albertson
1111 Hammock Lane
Beaufort, NC 28516

David Tanner
1605 Mine Crest CT.
Greensboro, NC 27407

SEA SHELLS

Shelling gets me up at the break of day,
 Pushing breakfast aside, I'm on my way;
 Searching for that precious gem of the sea,
 A rare collectible, God's gift to me.

Shelling is a hobby of great delight,
 From early in the morn, 'til late at night;
 What wealth of beauty to me it has brought,
 Scanning the beaches for shells I have sought.

After a storm, when the rough seas subside,
 Numerous shells wash ashore by the tide;
 While searching for shells along the beach,
 A perfect specimen was within reach.

When the roar of the ocean's blue resounds,
 And colorful shells are washed o'er the mounds,
 The foam gathers upon the spacious sea,
 And vast waves burst as far as one can see.

There is rapture upon the exotic shore,
 By the deep sea there's music in its roar;
 The rough waters disturbed the shells that lay
 Upon the ocean's floor or in the bay.

Finding a rare shell from the ocean floor,
 Nothing could thrill a shell collector more;
 One coveted specimen found each day,
 Is a sheller's dream, what more can I say!

Edith Seely, N.C. Shell Club

EXCHANGING SHELLS . . . (from American
JOY OR HORROR? Conchologist)

There is no more amiable way of sharing your extra shells with friends or building up your favorite group of mollusks than by exchanging. It may take patience, time and a little diplomacy to negotiate an exchange by mail, but when you finally put in place that lovely rare cowry new to your collection, you will wonder why you kept hoarding that duplicate cone so long.

Exchanging can make your collection grow in beauty and completeness. Even dealers exchange among themselves. But exchanges don't always run smoothly, particularly if you exchange with a stranger. Recently, some of our members from Florida, South Carolina and New York have been tricked into sending valuable shells in advance, only to receive in return utter trash or no shells at all. Glib of tongue, poetic with pen, and armed with false recommendations, a gentleman from the northeast has made exchanging shells a horror for several advanced shell collectors. When in doubt, contact a shell club editor or a reputable shell dealer. If there's anything worse than a bad apple in the barrel, it's a "con artist" in the exchange package! Meanwhile, happy exchanging and fruitful collecting! (R. Tucker Abbott)

2-2-89

(7)

YOU ARE NOW DUE TO PAY YOUR DUES!!

Dues for the North Carolina Shell Club are \$5.00 per year for an individual member, and \$8.00 per year for a family. New members or members who have lapsed and re-join are required to pay an extra \$2.00. This extra \$2.00 covers only the cost of adding a name to our mailing list. Our mailing list is handled professionally, by Commercial Printers in Wilmington.

If you have a change of address during the year, please send it to Alta Van Landingham, Treasurer and Membership Chairman.

During the year, if you do not receive the newsletters and you know you should have received them, again, please contact Alta Van Landingham.

Members not paying dues by 30 days after the first meeting of the year will be dropped from the mailing list. We always regret having to do this, but if you will think of the cost of printing and mailing, you will understand that we cannot afford to keep sending out the newsletters to non-paying members!!