

NORTH CAROLINA SHELL CLUB

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Scotch Bonnet

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Marji Tomlinson, Corres. Secy 4104 Five Oaks Dr. #7 Durham, NC 27707 493-6527

SUMMER MEETING--MAY 12-13-HOLDEN BEACH, NC

ALL MEETINGS WILL BE HELD AT BRUSNWICK COUNTY COMMUNITY BUILDING, DISTRICT 2. IN HOLDEN BEACH. FROM HIGHWAY 130 TURN ON STANBURY ROAD, ABOUT ONE BLOCK, YOU WILL SEE SIGN FOR THE COMMUNITY BUILDING.

PLACES TO STAY:

HOLDEN BEACH:

Gray Gull Motel, Highway 130 Causway, Holden Beach, NC (919) 842-6775 46.00 degrit
SHALLOTTE: Z846Z 4-19-89

Twilight Motel, Highway 17, Shallotte, NC (919) 754-6801

Ocean Isle:

Island Inn Motel, on Island Causeway, Ocean Isle, NC. (919) 579-9001 The Winds, Ocean Front, Ocean Isle, NC (919) 579-6275 Island Motel, Causeway, Island Realty, Ocean Isle, NC, (919) 579-3599

PRICES HAVE NOT BEEN GIVEN AS WE WERE ADVISED AT TIME OF INQUIRY THAT THEY MAY GO UP FOR THE COMING SEASON

CONDO APARTMENTS-- for any groups of several people interested in sharing apartments for the weekend, there are some very good offers. Contact Shell Club member, Betty Muirhead, at Sloan Realty for prices and information. Work: (919) 579-6216 or at home in the evening (919) 579-6646.

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS FOR THE WEEKEND

Friday Night: Social hour at 7PM, with shell selling, trading, identification, etc.

Meeting begins at 8PM with any announcements, door prizes, then the Speaker for the evening will be from the Fort Fisher North Carolina Aquarium, with a talk on "Salt WAter Aquariums in the Home".

Then Suggestions for the Saturday shelling trips, more door prizes.

Saturday Night: Social hour at 7PM with shell selling, trading, identification, prize for best find of the day (during the field trips).

Program: by Walter Wenzel on "Unique and Different Shells"

Business meeting. At this time, please bring up any New Business you may want to attend to, or any old business that you feel was un-finished. This is the time for ideas.

Remaining door prizes will be given.

DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR BEST FIND OF THE DAY AND EXHIBIT IT ON SATURDAY NIGHT FOR A PRIZE.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well, our first meeting of 1989 held at Surf City certainly came off with top colors. Our speakers for Friday and Saturday night were two of the most interesting we have had in quite awhile. We heard many compliments from members about the programs. And the Shell Craft Workshop held by Rose Bunch and Neal Schey was popular and very well attended. To say nothing of the "Scallop Dump" shelling that went on Saturday. We know it was successful, as two of our house guests returned from there, dirty, smelly, and happy with large buckets full of shells.

This meeting at Holden Beach promises much also. Several members who live in this area have given a lot of time toward getting things ready for us. We have good programs lined up for the weekend, and hope all of you will enjoy all of it.

Contributed by: Doug Wolfe

ARGONAUTA ARGO--AN UNUSUAL RECORD FOR NORTH CAROLINA

Members of the National Capital Shell Club had a special treat at their regular meeting on November 17th. Former member Faith Cline brought in a lovely specimen of Argonauta argo, the common paper nautilus. The shell, which still contained remnants of eggs inside, was found at the water's edge on the beach at Nags Head on November 6, 1988 at about 2 o'clock in the afternoon. The nautilus was about 6 inches in diameter, and was in nearly perfect condition, with only a few small chips missing from the edge of the aperture.

Argonauta argo is a resident of warm tropical waters worldwide. The species was first recorded in the offshore waters of North Carolina by researchers on the steamer Blake in 1880, and J. Newman noted (North Carolina Shell Club Bulletin No. 2, 1965) that the species may wash ashore as a real treasure of the beach at Nags Head. According to Abbott's American Seashells, Tom McGinty observed the species laying eggs in Florida waters in late March. A live specimen with a 5-inch shell was found in shallow water in late summer 1970 near Miami (NMFS Employee Newsletter, December 1970). These scattered reports illustrate the rareness of the species along the coast of North America, much less North Carolina! For this treasure to wash ashore on Nags Head, everything had to be just right, with an eddy of the Gulf Stream separating from the main current and bringing the fragile shell to the beach. And then, Mrs. Cline had the extremely good fortune to be at just the right spot, before the delicate paper nautilus was crushed by the surf.and shifting sand.

MEMBER PROFILE: CARL AND JANET TRUCKNER

by Dean Weber

Janet and Carl are born collectors, so it is only natural that shells should be included. They have both had a hand in acquiring Tom Clark Gnomes and Woodspirits, and the number they now possess is astonishing. Janet has the collecting edge, however, for she also specializes in miniature pitchers (would you believe 569?) and old cookbooks, with some new cookbooks thrown in for balance.

They joined the club as a family (children Diane and James included) in March, 1968, at a meeting held in Topsail Beach and have been serving in many ways ever since. Both have been on the social committee, the Shell Show committee, and various nominating committees. Janet has been treasurer, corresponding secretary, membership chairman, and registration chairman. Carl has been vice president and a member of the executive and auction committees. They can always be counted on to help when needed.

Both became interested in shells at about the same time, and they became serious about collecting in the summer of 1967. Janet usually does the cleaning, while Carl does the identification. They have from 3,000 to 3,500 different species, located in three cabinets and lots of boxes. Many are still not catalogued, and they estimate that they will have to live to be 150 to get all their projects completed.

Some of the shells are self-collected from the coasts of North Carolina, South Carolina, and Florida. Some were purchased or obtained by exchange. And some were given to them by another shell collector whose husband gathered shells in Guam while in the navy. They report that their best collecting has been in the scallop piles at Harker's Island and Salter Path.

Carl specializes in cones and nerites, while Janet considers cowries, spiny oysters, and wentletraps to be her favorite shells. They have had many exhibits in our Shell Shows over the years.

Carl and Janet not only collect together, but they also work together — at Triangle Press Inc. in Carrboro, North Carolina. Carl is the manager of the print shop and will have been there 30 years in November. Janet is the bookkeeper, works in production, and has been there 21 years.

Both were born in Durham and have lived there all of their lives. They met at church and will have been married 35 years on April 16. They like to travel and they enjoy their grandsons of 7, 5, and 3 years. Janet takes pleasure in knitting and doing needlework, and Carl finds gardening and yard work to be fun. Carl is also in a dart baseball league and has been on the Bethany United Methodist Church team for 19 years.

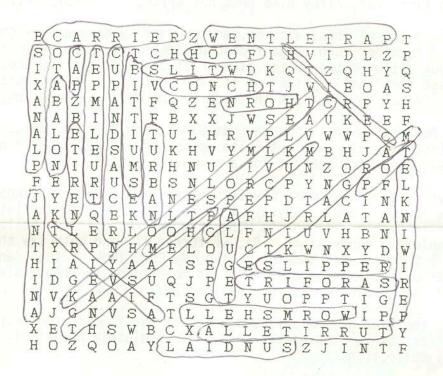
Janet has this to say about the club: "Carl and I enjoy doing things together. We enjoy our families and look forward to taking our grandsons shelling. The North Carolina Shell Club is a very special club to us. It has given us many happy memories of going to the beach and collecting shells together when our children were growing up. It is a wonderful hobby for families to participate together in. We have met lots of people and feel that we have made many very special friends in the club. We are proud to be members of the North Carolina Shell Club."

MEET ME AT THE DUMP---A NEW EXPERIENCE IN SHELL COLLECTING!

During the spring meeting at Surf City, N.C. March 3-4, 1989, several members. including myself, visited the Millis Seafood Scallop Dump in Snead's Ferry. This was my first trip to a scallop dump and it really was alot of fun to be able to find many shells not normally found on the beach. Since it was a cool and cloudy day, the smell was not that bad and we didn't have to fight off the seagulls. In fact, those seagulls probably appreciated us stirring up the shells for them! My parents came with me, although I think it will be their first and last trip to a scallop dump! They are game for about most anything, but I guess I should have prepared them better for this trip! At different times when we thought we might leave, someone would find a new shell and then we couldn't leave until we found one too. At one point, my dad asked when we could go home and I told him we would quit when one of us found a sundial. Well, wouldn't you know it, about 10 minutes later, here's my dad asking me to come over and look at a shell he had found that "looked a little different". He blew it. There was no way my mom and I would leave until we found a sundial for ourselves. We stayed at the dump for about 4 hours and we found over 30 different species of shells including: ark shells, slipper shells, atlantic murex, apple murex, scotch bonnets, tun shells, banded tulips, Sozon's cones, lettered olives, helmets, moon snails, sundials, carrier shells, and distorsios. Despite the rough treatment of being dredged and then dumped in piles, the shells were in great condition, many still with their operculums, and bivalves still attached. Cleaning these shells isn't the most fun you will ever have, but I recommend that all shell collectors give scallop dumps a try at least once. Oh, I almost forgot. We found a few calico scallops too!

SEA SHELLS

by: Eloise Walton



TRUE LIMPET
TOP
PHEASANT
TURRITELLA
PLANAXIS
CERITH
JANTHINA
CAP
CONCH

ABALONE
MARGARITE
TEGULA
NERITE
WORM SHELL
CAECUM
BITTIUMS
WENTLETRAP
CUP AND SAUCER
CARRIER

KEYHOLE LIMPET
CALLIOSTOMA
TURBAN
PERIWINKLE
SUNDIAL
HORN
TRIFORAS
HOOF
SLIPPER
TRIVIA

Find these shells in the puzzle! Up and down, straight across, backwards, or angled. If you complete the entire puzzle, present it to Alta Van Landingham or Neal Schey at the reception table, on Friday night for a "Grab-Bag" prize. Eloise Walton is not eligible for this contest!!

THE NORTH CAROLINA SHELL CLUB HAS BEEN INVITED----

Our Club members have been invited to attend the annual Picnic held by the Palmetto Shell Club, of Columbia, SC. The picnic will be at Lake Murray on May 20th. If you would like to attend, Please contact Carol Boswell at (803) 772-1906 or Arlene Lowman at (803) 781-5548. Either Carol or Arlene will give you directions, and more info about the picnic. A number of the Palmetto Shell Club members attended our past September meeting, and also our Shell Show in October. Several of our members have attended their meetings and given programs for their Club.

THE SHELL THAT GOT AWAY

By rights, my son, Kirby, should be writing this story about "The Best Shell I have found". But like, Van, Kirby also does not write, so I shall tell it my way.

Kirby goes on a lot of trips with me, and we usually have a very good system going. The two of us together turn large rocks, boulders, etc. and while the rock, boulder, is up, we look all over the bottom side of it and pick off any shells of interest. I always suggest the "buddy system" as it is so helpful. Then usually, we share what we have found. (After turning back the rock to the original position, of course.)

This worked for years, until one day, at Sinai, the Gulf of Aqaba. It was a half mile of shallow collecting--water was not quite up to our knees, it was a grand area, rocks, corals, grass, wonderful habitat for a number of shells.

I have always noticed that many Cowries prefer living under a large FLAT rock, as opposed to a rounded rock. Anyway, I found this large, long, flat rock, and yelled for Kirby to come help me turn it. They are much heavier in shallow water than they are when completely under water. So, we turned it, and both saw the shell at the same time. I think I said something like, My God, look at that, and at the same time Kirby said I got it. And he did. He left me holding the heavy slab while he admired a 4 inch Panther Cowrie, or Cypraea pantherina.

Well, it was the find of the day, and probably the find of the trip. It is the very Largest Panther Cowrie I have ever seen, and absolutely beautiful. I knew that it would end up in my collection.

Kirby is not so up on the cleaning of shells as he is of finding them, so I cleaned the Cowrie. Anyone who collects their own shells know that cleaning Cowries is not one of the easiest or more pleasant shells to clean.

The moral to this story is don't trust your son. That shell now resides in his own collection at Ocracoke. Now and then, I get to look at it. But--I still remember the whole thing, turning the rock, seeing that giant clinging to the underneath of that large rock slab, and what a real treasure it was. I just wasn't quick enough.

H. B. 602 CHAPTER 681

AN ACT TO ADOPT AN OFFICIAL STATE SHELL FOR THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

WHEREAS, the sea shell known commonly as the Scotch Bonnet (Phalium granulatum, Born) is found along most parts of the North Carolina Coast; and

WHEREAS, the shell is large and distinctive in its china white to creamy appearance with spiral bands broken into a series of squares of yellow to brown; and

WHEREAS, this handsome shell pays tribute to the Scot forebears who settled in this State, as well as to North Carolina's thriving shellfish industry; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Shell Club, representing over 200 members from all parts of the State, voted to recommend the Scotch Bonnet shell for a State shell: Now, therefore,

The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

Section 1. The Scotch Bonnet is hereby adopted as the official State shell of the State of North Carolina.

Sec. 2. All laws and clauses of laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.

Sec. 3. This Act shall be in full force and effect from and after its ratification.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified, this the 25th day of May, 1965.

DATELINE --- RALEIGH, 1965

Herman Lindsey found this recently, and thought some of our new members may be interested in the process of naming a State Shell!!

Remember--WE were the first to have a State Shell.

Scotch Bonnet

NORTH CAROLINA SHELL CLUB

Alta Van Landingham, Treas. P. O. Box 542 Hampstead, NC 28443

April, 1989



Please add these New Members to our Mailing List:

Carol Crider 28 Timothy Lane Candler, NC 28715

Yvonne & Donald Dudderar 1390 Moss St. NE Orangeburg, SC 29115

James & Jean Edwards 2617 Overlin Road Raleigh, NC 27608 Bill & Mary Fredrickson Rt 3 Box 3764 Burgaw, NC 28425

Virginia Loester 211 Shoreline Drive Sunset Beach NC 28459

Margaret Stevens Rt 1 Box 341 Hollly Ridge, NC 28445 Anne T. Roach 410 Crystal Oaks Townhouses Morehead City, NC 28557

Betsy Roberts 2224 The Circle Raleigh, NC 27608

Pat E. Williams 313 Ocean Blvd. E Holden Beach, NC 28462

Pleae make the following address corrections:

OLD ADDRESS

Mrs. L. Brunner-Gulf Coast S. C. P. O. Boxx 8188 Southport Fla 32409

Dr. Mary Gill Clarke 410 Moonridge Rd Chapel Hill NC 27514

Mrs. Emily Collymore Mandy Lane Morehead City, NC 28557

Vera Harold P. O. Box 951 Atlantic Beach, NC 28512

Bonnie Hine 732 Currituck Drive Raleigh, NC 27609

Ann & Brian Harper Rt 10 Box 44 Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Elaine Jessen P O Box 124 Long Beach, NC 28461

NEW ADDRESS

Jim & Linda Brunner P. O. Box 8188 Southport, FL 32409

Dr. Mary Gill Clarke 410 Moonridge Rd Chapel Hill NC 27516

Mrs. Emily Collymore P. O. Box 1363 Mcrehead City, NC 28557

Vera Harold 1713 Signature Place Wilmington, NC 28403

Bonnie Hine 209 Pensacola Ave Morehead City, NC 28557

Ann Harper 1 Blacksmith Circle Durham, NC 27707

Elaine Jessen P. O. Box 124 Long Beach NC 28465

(continued)

Address Changes, Continued:

OLD ADDRESS

Mary Mobley 56 Northwood Drive Wilmington, NC 28405

Anne B. McCrary 411 Summer Rest Road Wilmington, NC 28403

Madlon C. Landt 1100 Belnheim Drive Raleith, NC 27612

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

Lorren & Earlene Walkup 420 N Lake Park Blvd Carolina Beach, NC 28428

NEW ADDRESS

Mary D. Mobley 2421 Middle Sound Loop Road Wilmington, NC 28405

Ann B. & Everette McCrary III 411 Summer Rest Road Wilmington, NC 28403

Madlon Starbuck 1603 Canberry Rd. Raleigh, NC 27608

Nancy Lloyd Tuck P. O. Box 2192 surf City, NC 28445

Lorren & Earlene Walkup 714 N. Lake Park Blvd Carolina Beach, NC 28428

LAST MINUTE ADDITIONS--PLEASE ADD TO MAILING LIST NEW MEMBERS:

Carolyn Owen 5501 Bunch Road Summerfield, NC 27358

SOME BAD NEWS:

According to the North Carolina Club Policy, we have had to drop 35 members from the membership list--dues have not been paid, and we simply cannot carry them longer. Some of these 35 members who have been dropped have belonged to the club since the 1960's and 1970's. We hate to lose long time members, but the Club Policy was explained in the first newsletter of the year, and that is how it is. If any of you have a very good friend who doesn't receive this newsletter, please tell them to re-join. Members dues are quite low, \$5.00 for an individual and \$10.00 for a mamily. To re-join, is an extra \$2.00 to pay for the paper work of taking you off the mailing list, and then adding you back to the mailing list. This is costs we have to pay our printer. We are sorry when we have to drop a member, but always hope to get them back again.