NORTH CAROLINA SHELL CLUB



Scotch Bonnet

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WELCOME TO 1991 SHELL CLUB'S 35 th

Atlantic Beach/Pine Knoll Shores NC FALL MEETING September 13th/14th, 1991

Meeting place:

NC State Aquarium at Pine Knoll Shores, Salter Path Road (NC Hwy 58) (from US Hwy 70, follow signs for Atlantic Beach, crossing high bridge over Intercoastal Waterway to the traffic light where NC Hwy 58 turns right and proceed about 6 miles to the sign on right for the Aguarium)

Friday, 13 September 1991 (low tide at Fort Macon 5:19pm, at Emerald Isle 5:16pm)

7:30pm Registration; refreshments; socializing; viewing lots to be auctioned; etc 8:00pm Comments by President Bob, including last-minute wrapup on Cape Lookout trip

The Auction, called by the incomparable Van VanLandingham, assisted by the in-8:15pm dispensable Carl Truckner and scorekeepers Alta and Mary Louise; let's hope that you'all have made this one of the biggest and best ever, with carloads of contributions, so that we can challenge Van, Carl, Alta and ML; the dear Cora Staples has already donated a big basket of her treasures; to the spectators: "bring money" to help the Club prosper while enriching your molluscan holdings !

Saturday, 14 September 1991 (low tide at Cape Lookout 5:33pm; can't win 'em all)

Ferry leaves from Harkers Island for Cape Lookout; be there half-hour earlier; ferries available at Cape Lookout for return trip at 1:45pm/4:30pm/6:00pm: see page 2 for other notes on long-awaited Cape Lookout trip and payment request (for those who do not make the Cape Lookout trip . . .)

Opening of the Watson Shell Collection Display at the NC Maritime Museum, Front Street, Beaufort, going on until 5:00pm closing time on Saturday and then on each day and hours that the Museum is open; parts of this magnificent collection have been on display but seeing "the whole thing" is a must for us shellers!

Registration (at the Aquarium); refreshments; "find-of-the-day" ogling; etc 7:30pm

8:00pm "Mostly for Beginners" with Maggie Blades on Nerites

"Freshwater Collecting" with Doug Wolfe, now a Maryland resident but a longtime member and former President of our Club, whom it's great to see again each Fall Business meeting (as well as "routine" items, what would you like to bring up?) Award for "Find-Of-The-Day" (should be some goodies from Core Banks & elsewhere) Announcements, particularly with regard to the October 18-20 NCSC Shell Show Door prizes . . . and, thanks for coming! We needed you!

Cape Lookout Field Trip

This trip has always been one of the most popular that the Club has to offer, as it is usually the most productive in the area for interesting specimens. As you know from previous Newsletter comments and from discussions, the National Park Service officially requires that a "Special Use Permit" (no charge) be obtained for the "Collection of Live Mollusk Specimens" at the Cape Lookout National Seashore; for anyone wanting to pursue this, their office is now in Suite F, 3601 Bridges St, Morehead City 28557, telehone 919/240-1409. Otherwise, there is a Cape Lookout regulation: "Seashell collection is limited to two gallons of uninhabited shells per person per day" (Ed note: I'd love to find just one gallon per day !).

There has been a change in the operation of the ferry from Harkers Island . . it is now in the hands of Mr Paul Hodges at Calico Jack's Inn & Marina, near where old friend and Club member, Debbie Russell, had the ferry ownership/operation for 12 years. The new ferry is larger, 47-feet long and holding 49 passengers, and is dubbed "Pristine Mistress". The round trip rate for us, as a group, is \$10.00 each, assuming that we get at least 15 to go; we will collect \$2 more upon departure, although highly unlikely. We will leave Harkers Island at 8:00am sharp on Saturday morning, September 14th. There will be a choice of 3 return trips: 1:45pm,

to adjust your provisions and endurance to take the 4:30 trip, as low tide is not until an hour after that; the 6:00 trip would be a little late to make the evening meeting, if you want dinner beforehand !) As for "gettin' up" time, figure on leaving a Beaufort lodging no later than 7:00am and an Atlantic Beach lodging no later than 6:30am.

On the Island, there is a "relief station" near the lighthouse but no other accommodations except a couple of shelters. Bring your lunch, plenty of thirst quencher, hat, walking footwear, collecting containers and an abundance of insect chaser (recommended: "Muskol" or, believe it or not, call your Avon Lady for a bottle of "Skin-So-Soft" Bath Oil and pamper your skin while chasing the little varmints). Quoting from the September 1989 Newsletter and the notes of a Resident Expert, Alta . . . "... a lot of shells have been found recently, on the Sound side of the island, in shallow water. Last year, several people found the very distorted form of the Banded Tulip; this is a very coveted "freak" shell. Also, at this time of year, there should be many of the beautiful red aperture Whelks, Busycon carica; these reddish-colored Whelks are sort of a specialty of Cape Lookout. And, at Cape Lookout, you occasionally find the elusive Kieners Whelk, that is, the distorted form of the Busycon carica, the one with all the swelling on the sides and the distorted knobs." (Ed. 4:30pm and 6:00pm, same day ! (You may want ! note: Also some beautiful unscratched Sunrays)

Please send your check for \$10.00 each to the President no later than September 7th. THANKS!

A Few Places to Stay (Unless shown otherwise, all are on Salter Path Rd, NC Hwy 58, in Atlantic Beach [AB] or Pine Knoll Shores [PKS], both Zip 28512; all rates for 2 persons/2 double beds; all rates plus NC 8% tax; the rates have been checked but there might be errors/misunderstandings so, if you are concerned, please verify rate with reservation)

Atlantis Lodge, PO Box 310, PKS; tel 1-800/682-7057; \$49 (efficiencies \$59) Holiday Inn, Box 280, AB; tel 1-919/726-2544; \$79 (oceanfront \$99) John Yancey Motor Hotel, Box 790, AB; tel 1-800/682-3700; \$55 (\$40 if you stay 3 nights) (efficiencies \$70, \$55 if you stay 3 nights)

Ramada Inn, Box 846, AB; tel 1-919/247-4155; \$58 Seahawk Motor Lodge, Box 177, AB; tel 1-919/726-4146; \$56 Whaler Inn Beach Club, Box 220, AB; tel 1-919/247-4169; \$59 (efficiencies \$73) Windjammer Inn, Salter Path Rd, AB; tel 1-919/247-7123; \$58 Beaufort Inn, 101 Ann St, Beaufort 28516; tel 1-919/728-2600; \$89 incl breakfast Buccaneer Motor Lodge, 2806 Arendell St, Morehead City 28557; tel 1-800/682-4982; \$56 Comfort Inn, 3012 Arendell St, Morehead City 28557; tel 1-919/247-3434; \$51

Have You Heard This One ? When a businessman visiting a small town lost his traveling companion, his treasured dog, he asked to have a notice printed in the local paper offering \$1,000 for its return. Evening came, but no paper appeared. The man waited for some time, then went to the newspaper office. But he saw no one around except the night watchman. "Isn't the evening paper coming out?" he asked. "I doubt it, sir," said the watchman. (from "Family Weekly"/Commercial Prtg) "The whole staff's out looking for a lost dog."

9/91

Ocracoke Meeting Post-Mortem

The Editor's reactions to the Ocracoke meeting in May are quite mixed! The Editor and her date did enjoy the weekend thoroughly! No regrets (although the School Gym lighting and cooling could have been better) However. the Editor and the Prez have very strong regrets for having been a party to scheduling the meeting for the holiday weekend with its lodging shortage (terrible) and the increased lodging costs. But, when the entire year was planned by the Board at the beginning of January, we did not appreciate that these drawbacks would be overwhelming to many members. We are indeed sorry for this. We think that the Portsmouth trip was successful (allowing for the "tripper" knowing what to expect); the final count for the trip was 21. One could have wished for better shelling, but

us veteran shellers should know by now that this avocation/hobby is usually "potluck". The two of us do believe that another meeting at Ocracoke in the near future should be planned, but only if in March/April or in September/October; most motels are open from early March until late October, though the Island Inn and the Pony Island are open "mostly" year-round. Having visitted Ocracoke off-and-on for over 20 years, the Prez and the Editor may be biased on liking Ocracoke (although a little less than in its more "primitive" days). Anyway, the Prez asks that each of you consider, for a September meeting hand-count, your wanting to return to Ocracoke for a meeting, at a more favorable time of year. Please vote honestly. This is your Club. Thanks!

Zida and Bill Kibler

In case you missed it, there was a fantastic article (most of 2 pages) in the "Scene" section of Raleigh's "News and Observer" on June 23rd, Sunday, covering the lives of our members, Zida and Bill Kibler. Lots of pictures, too. Although the Editor has not yet heard the reaction of the subjects to the contents of the article, they really got a nice spread. It goes into much detail on the building of their most unusual home near Shallotte & its furnishings, with much attention given to the

"super" number and contents of their collections. The "... local shell club ..." is mentioned, but "... her priceless collections of seashells, fossils & artifacts ..." are referenced at considerable lengths. The residence is called, no doubt appropriately, "Paradise" and is secluded away from Zida's roadside shop (The Collector's Cabinet) on Holden Beach Road (NC Hwy 130), a halfmile or so from Shallotte. For a photocopy of the article, send a 52¢ SASE to the Editor.

North Carolina Coastal Federation

The Editor wants to follow up on the meeting comments of the President (Bob, not George) regarding the NCCF. Each of you may wish to join this organization and further the interests of providing clean coastal waters and good shelling for us and our following generations. Not to mention good seafood! The Federation was started in 1982 and now has a

membership of over 2700. One of its Advisory Board is a Shell Club member . . Linn Garibaldi, and it goes without saying that Linn would be delighted to answer any questions about NCCF. Corner him at one of our meetings! You can join for as little as \$10 a year by sending a check to NCCF, 3223 Hwy 58, Swansboro 28584. Tax-deductible!

Upcoming 1991 Shell Shows

August 15-17	Jersey Cape Shell Show, Stone Harbor NJ contact: J B Sessoms, Box 24, Ocean City NJ 08226, tel 609/653-8017
August 30-Sept 1	Gulf Coast Shell Show, Panama City FL contact: Jim/Linda Brunner, Box 8188, Southport FL 32409, 904/265-5557
September 21-22	International Shells & Fossils Bourse, Ottmarsheim, France
October 12-13	German Shell Fair, Stuttgart, Germany
October 18-20	This is us, gals & guys ! Be in Wilmington with your best stuff !
October 19-Nov 3	Oregon Shell Show, Portland OR contact: Vivien Holden, 11945 SW Lynnfield Ln, Portland 97225
October 26	British Shell Collectors' Club Shell Show, London, England
November 9-10	Philadelphia Shell Show, Philadelphia PA contact: Al Schilling, 419 Linden Ave, Glenside PA 19038, 215/886-5807

IN MEMORIAM

It is with much sadness that we must report the passing of Caroline B Reynolds, a longtime member of the Shell Club, who lived in

High Point, passed away in early May 1991.

<u>Cornelia C Troutman</u>, another longtime member, known to all as "Connie", died on May 25th after an extended illness; she lived in Raleigh and is survived by a brother, a sister and several nieces and nephews.

Gertrude D Truckner, mother of Carl Truckner and mother-in-law of Janet, true pillars of our Shell Club, passed on July 18th after a long illness; she is also survived by a daughter, three other sons, a brother, nine grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren; she grew up in Alamance County but had lived in Durham since 1928 and was retired from being a nurse, as well as a matriarch. Our thoughts are with Carl and Janet.

Priceless Publicity

If you are not a member of The Conchologists of America and thus do not receive their COA journal "American Conchologist", you probably missed seeing the great publicity the Club received in the June 1991 issue in a half-page article by Nancy Gilfillan, taking . . . "A Closer Look" at the "North Carolina Shell Club"! Nancy lives in Bethesda MD but has been for many years strongly involved with her membership in our Club, particularly with the Show in October. The article covered the Club's beginning in 1957, its makeup, meeting format, our involvement with NC being the first state to have "a state shell", much on the Shell Show, how to join the Club and even the highlights in visiting the Wilmington area and seeing its many attractions. Well done article! Thanks much, Nancy and COA!

A Few Personal Notes and Editor's Thoughts

- The Editor has to thank Mary Louise Spain, Janet Truckner, Dorothy Watkins, Dean Weber, Alta VanLandingham (and probably some other thoughtful members the Editor forgot) for sending her news of Club members and shell news in general. It is greatly appreciated! And, it is a good time to observe, again, that the Editor would love to have more stories of a personal nature from the members to spice up the Newsletter. You know, like in school . . "What I Did This Summer"! Anything that would interest other members. Thanks.
- Speaking of "What I Did This Summer" . . . I'm sure that if Dean and Dorothy Weber had asked for someone to carry their bags, the line would have extended from here to Corolla! These rascals are now hobnobbing with the lemurs in Malagasy (that's "Madagascar" for us old folks who studied "joggerfee" a long time ago). Sheesh! The Editor is just jealous!
- We have been advised that another longtime Shell Club member, Fred Sener, of Winston-Salem has completed $3\frac{1}{2}$ years of study and is now entering the ministry. Congratulations, Fred !
- The Treasurer, Karlynn Morgan (who must also be officially "hated", along with the Webers, for now being in Egypt shelling for 5 weeks; double "sheesh"!), dear Karlynn has advised the Editor, with sadness, that it has been necessary to drop 20 members from our rolls for failing to pay dues. We cannot, as a Club, stand very many of these backward steps! While this drop will probably cover all of 1991, it is doubtful that replacement with new members on the rolls will reach even half this number. Not yet time to put circulars under auto windshield wipers, but we sure wish we could interest more shellers to join our Club! It's a great deal for just \$10 a year for singles and \$12 a year for couples/families!
- Along the same lines, Karlynn has also reported (in response to a question from Alta at the May meeting) that we have 142 memberships paid which includes couples/families totalling a membership of 197. Now, the next objective is to attract more of the 197 to our meetings. Should we try Sunday afternoon meetings with a "big screen" TV ?!
- The Editor has also received a copy of an article from the July 1991 "NC State Magazine", wherein someone named Marguerite T Thomas has asked a very interesting question about the lantern at the top of the Bald Head Island Lighthouse ("Old Baldy") being off-center! She noticed this during a visit. The Island authority responded that this was done to provide headroom for the Keeper climbing the inside winding staircase to service the light! Makes sense! Good question, Marguerite! The Editor also noted in another article that restoration of the exterior and lantern has been completed and that restoration of the interior will be completed soon. The trip over to Bald Head from Southport (via boat and golfcart; no autos permitted) is a worthwhile excursion if you're nearby. Ask Marguerite! Did you "newtimers" know that shelling trips to Bald Head, when it was public wilderness, were popular field trips in the Club's early years, 1950s and 60s?

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Charlotte has played an important role in the history of the club. She was a charter member, the second President in 1960, and chairwoman of the First Standard Shell Show we had in Crabtree Valley in Raleigh. She was given the job of getting the Scotch Bonnet (Phalium granulatum) introduced into and adopted by the State Legislature as the North Carolina State Shell in 1965. She was Historian of the club for a great many years and helped with a shell exhibit in the Museum of Natural History in Raleigh.

Her love for shells and collecting came naturally because she was reared in Florida, first in Tarpon Springs on the west coast and then in Miami on the east coast, where her father built and was first pastor of Riverside Baptist Church. She remembers paying five cents to get to Miami Beach by gitney on the only causeway there was at the time.

She graduated from Miami Senior High and then from Meredith College in Raleigh with a degree in Chemistry and General Science. It was at Meredith where she met and married her late husband Oral Surgeon Dr. Kenneth Johnson. Her husband and three children supported her shell collecting and would often surprise her with a book or rare shell on birthdays and other special days.

Charlotte was introduced to her favorite shell at the second meeting of the North Carolina Shell Club. The late Herman Weil, who was hosting the meeting at his home in Goldsboro, showed her a Precious Wentletrap (Epitonium scalare) and promised to get her one. When it came, she was so impressed with it that she sat down and wrote the sonnet which follows this article.

She credits Dr. John Ferguson with helping to provide much of her knowledge of shells through his lectures and through trips with Dr. John and Doris, whose friendship she treasures. After Florida, she went on to collect shells in North Carolina, South Carolina, Nassau, Eleuthera, Grenada and other places in the West Indies, the Red Sea in Egypt, Palau, England, Ireland, and Scotland.

She knows exactly which was her best collecting day. It was July 25, 1953, on Sanibel and Captiva Islands in Florida before the bridge was built. She came back on the ferry that afternoon in a scary hurricane but with 300 species in hand, including a junonia.

Charlotte is proud of the ribbons she has won for entries in our shell shows and particularly proud of her <u>nine</u> cases of Pectens which brought a First-place ribbon. She says that the Pecten family runs a close second to the Precious Wentletrap as her favorite.

She enjoys sharing her shells and knowledge with students and the blind. Her greatest satisfaction was the smile and thanks she received from a young, black, underprivileged, high school student who received an A on his science project "Shells from the Beaches of the World", after Charlotte gave him a book, the shells, and her assistance.

She also collects porcelain birds, antiques, historical bits and pieces, dolls, and regional cookbooks, especially those containing recipes for cheese cake. She plays the organ, writes a little poetry, spoils her seven grandchildren, and has plans to keep traveling, but she says that she will probably mostly relax and enjoy her second home on Emerald Isle.

TO A PRECIOUS WENTLETRAP Epitonium (Scalaria) Pretiosa (L., 1758)

If by some tyrannical decree
Were banished from the scene of earth and sea and sky
All things of beauty save one,
And were it mine the choice of which to stay,
Then choose I would from Triton's store
A treasure rare.
A simple thing whose spiral grace
Bespeaks perfection,
Whose alabaster gentleness
Compels the hand to trace its form
And, having traced,
Draw back in wonderment.

If this my choice be wrong, Scalaria, then know I not Why I am moved to tears at thy sheer loveliness.

C.G.J. February 17, 1960





Baked Sole Gourmet

2 pounds skinless sole fillets or other fish fillets, fresh or frozen

l teaspoon of salt Dash of pepper

1 packages (10 ounces) frozen asparagus spears or fresh asparagus

l tablespoon lemon juice

1 can $(10\frac{1}{2})$ ounces cream of celery soup

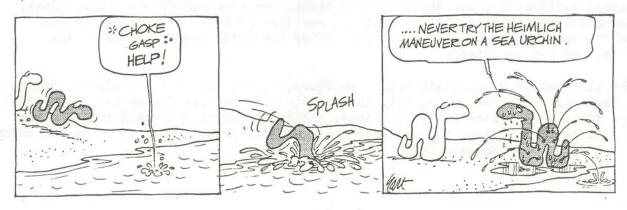
l teaspoon Worcestershire sauce

2 tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese

2 tablespoons toasted slivered almonds

(from "The Seafood Heritage Cookbook by Adam Starchild)

Thaw frozen fillets. Cut fillets into 6 portions. Sprinkle fish with salt and pepper. Cook frozen asparagus according to directions on package or cook fresh asparagus normally. Places asparagus spears on fish. Roll fish around asparagus. Place fish in a well-greased dish, 12"x8"x2". Combine lemon juice, soup and Worcestershire sauce. Pour sauce over fish. Sprinkle with cheese and almonds. Bake in moderate oven, 350°F for 20 to 25 minutes or until fish flakes easily when tested with a fork. Makes 6 servings.



THE NORTH CAROLINA SHELL CLUB INVITES YOU TO A WEEK-END OF NEW SHELLING ADVENTURES ON THE GLORIOUS OUTER BANKS Saturday, March 7, 1959

This is your opportunity to spend a delightful week-end at THE CAROLINIAN, famous for fun and hospitality.

PROGRAM

SHELL COLLECTING AT OREGON INLET ... At LOW TIDE ... 12:23 p.m.

BUSINESS MEETING AT THE CAROLINIAN..... 4:30 p.m.

OTHER TRIPS AT THE NORTH END OF THE BEACH WILL BE ARRANGED FOR EVERYBODY .. SECRETARY'S NOTE: unless the policy has changed, the Carolinian will supply individual lunch boxes as part of American plan... but if you want liquids, bring your own thermos.... the hotel will fill it. Now, Now! Coffee, Tea, and milk, that is!

- *** Mr. Herman Weil may be there with some unusual shells at a special price.
- *** The Jess Newman Shell Museum will be open to customers and/or lookers.

*** HOTEL RATES ***

MEALS
Breakfast \$1.50
Lunch 2.00
Dinner 3.00
\$6.50 per day

If you go "American Plan", the combined rate for room and meals will be \$1.00 less per day, e.g.; if you share a room with another person, your daily rate will be \$9.00... with two others... you figure it out.

** HOW TO GET THERE **

The best route from Raleigh, Rocky Mount, etc., is U.S. Highway #64, all the way to NAGS HEAD, via the ALLIGATOR FIVER FERRY. The FERRY is running on WINTER 3CHEDULE: from 6:00 a.m., every hour and twenty minutes up to 8:00 p.m. Distance from Raleigh to Nags Head is exactly 215 miles.

MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS DIRECTLY WITH MRS. LUCILE WINSLOW, THE CAROLINIAN, NAGS HEAD, AND SPECIFY WHETHER YOU WISH TO HAVE THE NOON LUNCH PACKED FOR YOU ON SATURDAY.

As they say at The Carolinian, "Y'all come!"

ALTA VanLANDINGHAM'S FAMOUS "SHELL CLUB TRIVIA QUIZ" (1991 Fifth Edition)

Since many of you missed the March Shell Club Meeting at Beaufort, the Editor decided that you missed an important part of that meeting that might be "rerun" in this Newsletter . . Alta's Quiz #5. It, as usual, is a "goodie" and the answers will be printed in the next Newsletter, following the September meeting. We wish to again commend our VP, Dean Weber, for missing only two answers; good show!

All questions are about North Carolina Seashells or about the North Carolina Shell Club. Unless otherwise required, you may answer shell questions with either the Common or Latin Name; both will be printed in the next Newsletter. Here goes

Name	; both will be printed in the next Newsletter. Here goes
1.	Name at least 3 Whelks found in NC
2.	Which North Carolina Whelk is left-handed
3.	What does the Scotch Bonnet (our state shell) feed on
4.	What is the only common Strombus or Conch found in NC
5.	What is the largest shell found in NC
6.	There are several Scallop Shells found in NC; name two of them
7.	What color eyes do Scallops have
8.	What is the largest Murex found in NC
9.	What large Olive is commonly found in NC
10.	What animal does the Ram's Horn or Spirula spirula come from
11.	What one feature identifies a "real" Conch or Strombus
12.	Who was our Club President last year (1990)
13.	In what year was our Club started
14.	Name three shells (common names) that are named for animals
15.	Name three shells named for food
16.	Do Quahog Clams or Mercenaria Clams ever produce a pearl
17.	Who is our receptionist, who has been on the job for a long long time, giving us our door prize tickets and name tags, checking us in, etc
18.	What industry has brought many many shells to NC that would not have been found in this state otherwise
19.	What very common shell is sometimes found stacked up, on top of each other, each of them taking the shape of the dead shell or whatever they're upon and each taking a different sex role, as needed, to reproduce
20.	What NC Shell Club member wrote "Seashells Common to NC"
21.	What is the very rare shell pictured on that book's cover
22.	What shells do we find that provide us with an "inner" shell instead of an outer shell; name one
23.	What are those small but beautiful shells that we can dig out of the sand with our toes, are used to make a great chowder, used for much shellcraft work and are found in larger sizes in NC than the same ones in Fla
24.	What common NC shell sounds like it came from a Dutch nursery
25.	Does NC have a poisonous shell

Sorry, no prizes, but we wish each of you "Good results"

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4.	What is the only common Strombus or Conch found in NC Fighting canch
5.	What is the largest shell found in NC horse conch
6.	There are several Scallop Shells found in NC; name two of them rough, deep sea, bay Ravenel's, Lion's paw, cal.
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25.	Does NC have a poisonous shell No mussels?
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