# NORTH CAROLINA SHELL CLUB



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WELCOME CLUB'S 1993 -SHELL

Atlantic Beach/Pine Knoll Shores NC September 24th/25th, 1993 FALL MEETING Meeting place: NC State Aquarium at Pine Knoll Shores, Salter Path Road (Highway 58)

(from Atlantic Beach, go west on NC Highway 58; after about six miles, turn right at the Aquarium sign)

Friday, 24 September 1993

7:00pm Registration; refreshments; socializing; delivering Auction items; inspecting Auction items; etc. For this night only, we want an early start to allow time to contribute to the Auction and to study the items to bring forth good bids.

8:00pm Introduction by President Dorothy. Review of and map distribution for the Saturday field trip.

8:15pm The Auction, with Carl Truckner and a coterie of able assistants.

Saturday, 25 September 1993

(low tide about 10:35am)

8:30am Field trip at Emerald Isle with leader Everett Long. Get your map on Friday night showing the location of the meeting place.

7:30pm Registration; refreshments; submitting "find of the day" entries; buying T-shirts; socializing; etc.

8:00pm "Mostly for Beginners" with Roberta Tyler on "Limpets True and Untrue". "Come Shelling Here and There with Elsa and Walt" with The Wenzels.

Business Meeting

Award for "Find of the Day"

Door prizes

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## Friday night

#### AUCTION! AUCTION! AUCTION!

This is a very important event in the life of the NC Shell Club. For the information of new members, this is a once-a-year moneymaker which permits us to meet expenses for the year. Your dues and the money raised at this AUCTION provide for an excellent newsletter to all members, help to pay the cost of a Shell Show each year, and cover any other bills that need paying. No . . . your leaders do not take trips or go on elaborate retreats or eat out using up the funds. So . . . plan to be at the AUCTION with some things to be sold and with cash or a check to buy some things that interest you.

You can bring anything ! Most welcome are SHELLS and SHELL-RELATED ITEMS, such as books, pictures, clothing, lamps, stationery, etc, etc. But . . . the AUCTION items do not have to be shell-related . . . they can be anything that will loosen the purse strings of an eager bidder !

## Saturday Field Activity

low tide about 10:35am The scheduled field trip at 8:30am is one to Emerald Isle, where resident Everett Long will lead you to a Boque Inlet flat that may contain drills, sanddollars, tulips, olivellas, sharks' teeth and other shells. As much as 2 to 3 miles of beach may be available at low tide. A map distributed Friday night will direct you to the meeting place.

There are other possibilities for field trips. The ferry for the Cape Lookout National Seashore leaves from Calico Jack's Inn & Marina on Harker's Island at 10:00am and 1:00pm, returning at 12:00noon and at 4:30pm. On this day, with the earlier ferry, you would be arriving a few minutes after low tide (not bad). The round trip fare is expected to be \$12. The telephone number for more information is 1-919/728-3575.

Allow an hour to get to Harker's Island and take with you to the Cape water, lunch, hat, sun lotion, appropriate shoes, collecting equipment and . . . insect repellent.

Another destination by ferry is **Shackleford Banks**, which is entirely free of automobiles and trucks. That trip leaves from Beaufort and departure times are expected to be 10:00am and 1:00pm with returns at 1:15pm and 4:00pm and an expected round trip fare of \$12. If this trip is the one you want, we suggest verifying the information a few days ahead at 1-919/728-6888; that number is at a restaurant which may be open only during dinner hours. Take same items for Cape trip.

The entire stretch of beach between Emerald Isle and Fort Macon is also open to you for shelling.

### Saturday night

Roberta Tyler opens the program with a brief talk on limpets which includes some recently found in Costa Rica.

Then, Walt and Elsa Wenzel will take us on a tour of a number of places where they have collected shells . . . from New Jersey thru the west coast of Florida to Texas . . . on to southern California, Ensenada in Mexico, the Sea of Cortez in Sonora and on Baja . . . thence to Hawaii.

Everett Long, a new and very active member, has had some T-shirts made. They are Hanes 100% cotton, cream-colored, with a green circle containing a beach and scotch bonnet. "North Carolina Shell Club" is printed on the front and there is a message on the back about shell collecting being an affliction with the cure for it being to join the Club! Since Friday is AUCTION night, we won't sell the shirts until Saturday. The cost will be \$13 or two for \$25.

Following the above there will be a business meeting, an award for the "find-of-the-day" and some door prizes.



JOIN YOUR CLUBMATES for an interesting weekend at the beach in (hopefully) balmy September

8-93

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#### FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PAD

"This was a great meeting !"

"I really enjoyed the whole weekend !"

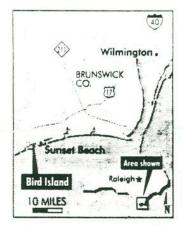
"This was the best Shell Club meeting we ever had !"

These were comments heard after our May meeting at Holden Beach. It warmed the cockles of the President's heart (Dinocardia presidentia) to hear these words.

The programs were good, weather cooperated on Saturday for shelling, refreshments were scrumptious and, including members and guests, we had 48 on Friday and 43 on Saturday. That's a turn-a-round in the right direction !

Our September weekend in the Pine Knoll Shores area should be interesting from start to finish too. So let's have a big REUNION of NC Shell Club members and friends!

- And, DID YOU KNOW . . . . that Hugh Porter and Lucy Piper have permanent displays at the NC Maritime Museum in Beaufort. Hugh's exhibit is "Shells and Their Eggcases" and Lucy has a collection of her shells. Both exhibits are near the back of the Museum ?
  - · that the Wenzels found four Krebs' wentletraps among the five wentletrap species picked up at Hilton Head SC ?
  - that Janet Durand, our Treasurer, says that the Merrimon shell piles are still there as of June? Janet took two house guests (non-shellers) to the piles and, after poking around, one called out "Is this any good ?", as she held up a perfect junonia! A few minutes later the other guest shouted the same question as she held up a perfect double lion's paw!
  - that Mark Johnson is now a Lieutenant in the USAF and recently graduated from flight school in Oklahoma ? He will be piloting the KC-10 Extender (an air-to-air tanker) at Seymour Johnson AFB in Goldsboro NC. He's been busy diving in Florida and NC and came up with Charonia variegata (Triton's trumpet), strombs, cowries, a ;6" horse conch, murexes and whelks. He's looking forward to spending time with the NC Shell Club.
  - that Betty Muirhead, our COA representative, left July 11th for Panama City FL and the big COA convention ? Our shell club is sharing a table with the Palmetto Shell Club from Columbia SC. Betty drove down with Connie and Fred Mersbach from the other club. Betty will bring back exciting news from the convention and said she wished that other NC members could have attended.
  - · that the mystery egg case found at our last meeting is now believed to be from an apple murex, Murex pomum ?
  - that Bird Island has been owned for 40 years by an individual living in Greensboro and that she has recently expressed an interest in selling the island to the State for preservation ?
  - that in updating "The Best Beaches" (see newsletters of 10/91 and 8/92), the Univ of Maryland's Lab for Coastal Research considers Hammocks Beach the best beach on the East Coast, following East Hampton on NY's Long Island ? Ocracoke is rated 4th following Assateague Island's 3rd place.



New Members: Maryann Adkins 4174 Spirea Drive, Wilmington NC 28403; 1-919/395-5897

Fran & Larry Voqt 266B Brunswick W, Holden Beach NC 28462; 1-919/842-4783

Changes:

Ann Buddenhagen

804 Westwood Drive, Raleigh NC 27607; 1-919/782-8903

Janet Durand 119 Bayview Boulevard

Lt Mark Johnson

1801 Azalea Drive, Wilmington NC 28403; 1-919/762-9571

Toby McCoy & Lyn Johnson 1-919/929-4578

## North Carolina Shell Club

Annual Shell Show, November 12 through 14, 1993

Dear Potential Show Participants.

12 June 1993

Some of you may have already heard that we are relocating the show this year. The date has also changed to about 1 month later than it has been in the past. Having the show at Independence Mall was becoming more difficult and several club members supported the idea of a new less "commercial" surrounding. The show will be competitive as it has been in the past with du Pont and COA trophies. This year the show is to be held at Cape Fear Museum in Wilmington, North Carolina.

Cape Fear Museum is a 35,000 square foot public institution devoted primarily to exhibiting the cultural and natural history of the Lower Cape Fear (southeastern) region of North Carolina. It is a beautiful well presented, modern museum which will be a complement to the show. The museum director is enthusiastic about hosting our club.

We will have use of the second floor auditorium and a gallery on the first floor directly beneath it. Depending on the size of the show we will be able to use one or both rooms. The lobby is large and spacious so we will be able to have plenty of promotional material to lead people to the show area or overflow the gallery spaces if need be.

Set up will be more relaxed than in the past. Because of the Veteran's Day holiday on Thursday, set up will be between 1 and 6 PM. The museum is closed for the holiday so the club will have to have a museum staff member there specifically for set up. The museum has excellent security features and a security guard on duty during business hours. Show days will be open during regular museum hours, 9AM to 5PM Friday and Saturday and 2 to 5 PM Sunday.

I'm confident that this will be an excellent show and am excited about our new location. I hope to see all the exhibitors that have participated in the past and new people as well. People interested in more information may contact me at the following address.

John Timmerman 32 JEB Stuart Dr. Wilmington, N.C. 28412 - 1700

phone # (919) 452 - 0943

Sincerely.

John

Our deepest sympathies go out to Mary Louise Spain whose brother, Robert Lee Ott, passed away on June 28th 1993. He was 68 and recently retired from being in the wholesale florist business.

In addition to the letter reprinted herein from John Timmerman, Shell Show Chairman, encouraging your participation in the Show, John has sent the following to the Newsletter:

## "Club Membership Table

"The Club will have its membership table at the Show as in the past. I would like to add a new twist to it this year. I need volunteers to bring in shells to present as an informal display at the Club table. Any shells are fine and the volunteer may talk about any shell-related subject they want or take it as the subject forms. The public is very curious about natural history. I seldom have a problem finding topics to discuss.

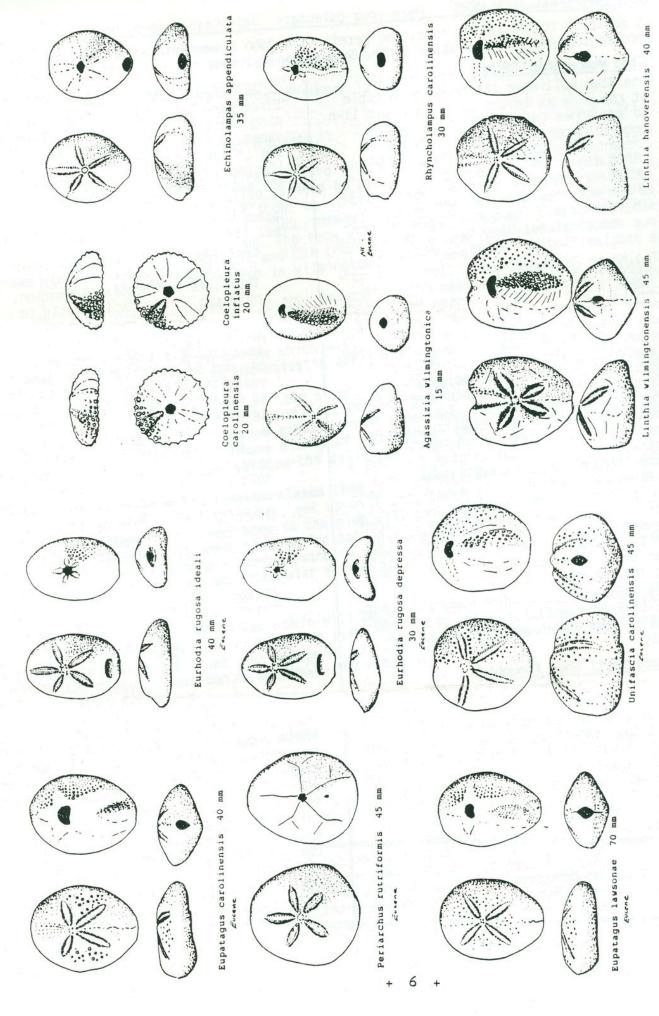
"The North Carolina Fossil Club has a noncompetitive fair once a year where the displays are of this nature. The public seems to enjoy speaking with collectors who have neat things to show and tell about. Exhibits vary from well-organized labeled collections to potpourris of specimens laid out on a table with no labeling. Members should consider bringing some specimens they could allow the public to touch in addition to precious ones that would stay out of reach. I think this approach would give the Club a more personal appeal to the public and give members a chance to talk about something they find interesting. I find it much easier to talk with the public when I have props such as shells as jumpingoff points for conversation. Also, children enjoy this approach to just exhibiting more static displays.

"This approach will give the public a better idea what the Club is about and perhaps recruit new members more successfully."

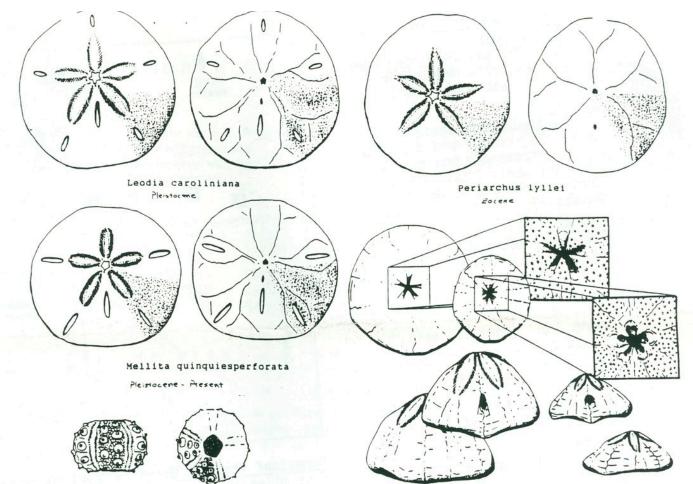
### "Future Shell Show Thoughts

"As I work on the 1993 Shell Show, one thing is constantly on my mind. That is the cost of producing a show. Having first lost two-thirds of our funding from the Mall earlier and then all of it when the Show was relocated, funding of future shows will be a major concern for the Club. I'm trying to hold down costs wherever possible. However, there are several places we are saving money this year that may not be possible in the future. Hopefully the treasury of the Club will easily accommodate a shell show and the following cutbacks will be unnecessary.

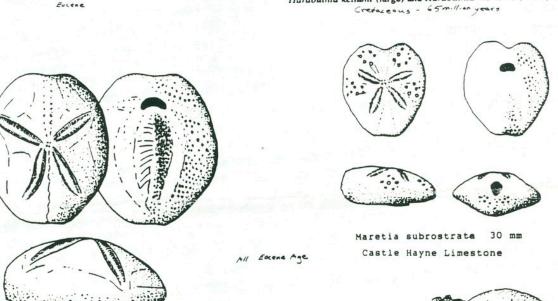
- "Future Shell Show Thoughts" continued
  "Since many show participants begin planning their exhibits a year or more in advance, I would like people to start thinking of ideas for future shows now. I am listing a few ideas here. Any suggestions are welcomed and encouraged. I will not approach anyone to work on future shows based on suggestions I receive, so . . . feel free to voice your opinion(s).
- "1. Less Awards. Reduce, broaden or eliminate some categories. Only award for 1st Place and Honorable Mention. The hardware of awards is costly to us.
- "2. Limit the space that a given exhibit in a category may occupy. This could save on table rental. However this may not be an option as in some past years the Chairman has had to scramble to obtain enough footage to produce a respectable show.
- "3. Have a theme show where all exhibits would be required to concentrate on a specific topic such as 'collecting', 'biology', etc. This may not be an option for the reasons mentioned in 2.
- "4. Biennial Show. Have a competitive show every other year. Some clubs do this without any apparent loss of interest. A small noncompetitive show might be held in the alternate years. It would probably be small since the chance for winning the big trophies would be absent, thus making it unlikely as many people would enter.
- "Since this is my first year at running a show, I am not familiar with all of the costs of running a show and am not able to readily predict the best way(s) to cut many of the costs involved. Any or all of these suggestions may be unacceptable to the membership and this is why I want to hear from members and exhibitors or anyone else who has experience managing a show or exhibition.
- "Let me assure everyone that this year's show is being run as close as it can be to the way that it has been for the past several years.
- "Please share with me your Shell Show thoughts, ideas and criticisms, good or bad. Thank you!"

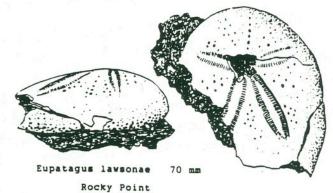


sponse to those of you who wanted to learn more about identities. In summary he notes that these On this and the following page you will find some of John Timmerman's great drawings of fossils. He submitted these as a follow-up of the trip last spring to the Castle Hayne quarry and in re-Echinoids include sand dollars, sea urchins and sea biscuits. However he adds that he does not know the common names for any of these and that he is not sure that there are any common names.









Hardouinia kellumi (large) and Hardouinia mortonis (small) - Three Views

Linthia harmatuki 90 mm

## Parker's Laws of Molluscan Identification

(by Bill Parker, reprinted from "Show and Tell", newsletter of the Gulf Coast Shell Club)

Law #1

If the shell book description does not jump out and grab you by the throat and shake you, then the shell is previously undiscovered and no description exists.

Law #2

The more one reads in searching for an identification, the dumber one gets.

Law #3

The number of contradictions among shell books increases in direct proportion to the decrease in the size of the shell.

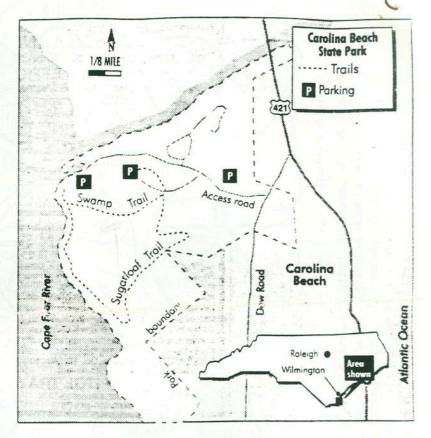
Law #4

If the description fits a shell found in the Gulf of Mexico, then the specimen is only found in the Pacific Ocean. (The converse is also true.)

Law #5

If the description, location, habitat and picture all fit the mollusk in question, then the name and author have been changed since the book was published.

(Ed: apologies to Ann & Dean)



Sugarloaf Trail at Carolina Beach State Park
Five miles of trails, including connector trails.
From Wilmington, take US421 south to Dow Road. Go right on Dow Road for 1/4-mile to park entrance.
The Sugarloaf trailhead begins at marina parking.
(The above was taken from Allen deHart's "North Carolina Hiking Trails" published by AMC Books at \$14.95. It also notes the Cape Hatteras Beach Trail, 75.8 miles from Whalebone Jct to Ocracoke!)

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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/misunderstarings so, if you are concerned, please verify rate with reservation

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

Confirmation # 1112

8/93