



Scotch Bonnet

## NORTH CAROLINA SHELL CLUB

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303 Wall Road  
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Scotch Bonnet

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## WELCOME TO 1995 - SHELL CLUB'S 39TH YEAR

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The next meeting will be March 31 - April 2, 1995, on Ocracoke Island.

Meeting Place: The Island Inn, Ocracoke, N.C.

Schedule: Friday, March 31st. Registration at 7:30 pm

8:00 pm "Mostly for Beginners" Dottie Weber will open with a discussion on Bubble Shells.

"Our 1994 Shell Show" by Vicky Wall will be a special treat for those who did not get to attend the show in Wilmington and a refresher for those who did attend. Vicky will be presenting slides of the various exhibits and personalities of the show. (Wonder what she means by that?)

Saturday, April 1st. Registration at 7:30 pm

8:00 pm "Mostly for Beginners" by Betsy Roberts on Mussels.

"Black's Dredge" by Fred Leonard from Winston-Salem, NC. He will be showing a slide presentation on the dredge material obtained by the late Captain J. Riley Black of Fort Myers, Florida, called Black's Dredge! Capt. Black and his wife Donna were considered to be the greatest ever for obtaining deep water dredge material for collectors world wide. This should be worth the trip!

We will end with The Spring Quiz, and the Find of the Day award.

A DAY TRIP FOR SATURDAY IS TO BE ARRANGED AT A LATER DATE, DEPENDENT ON THE WEATHER.



At least 5 restaurants on the Island should be open at that time and several motels will be available:

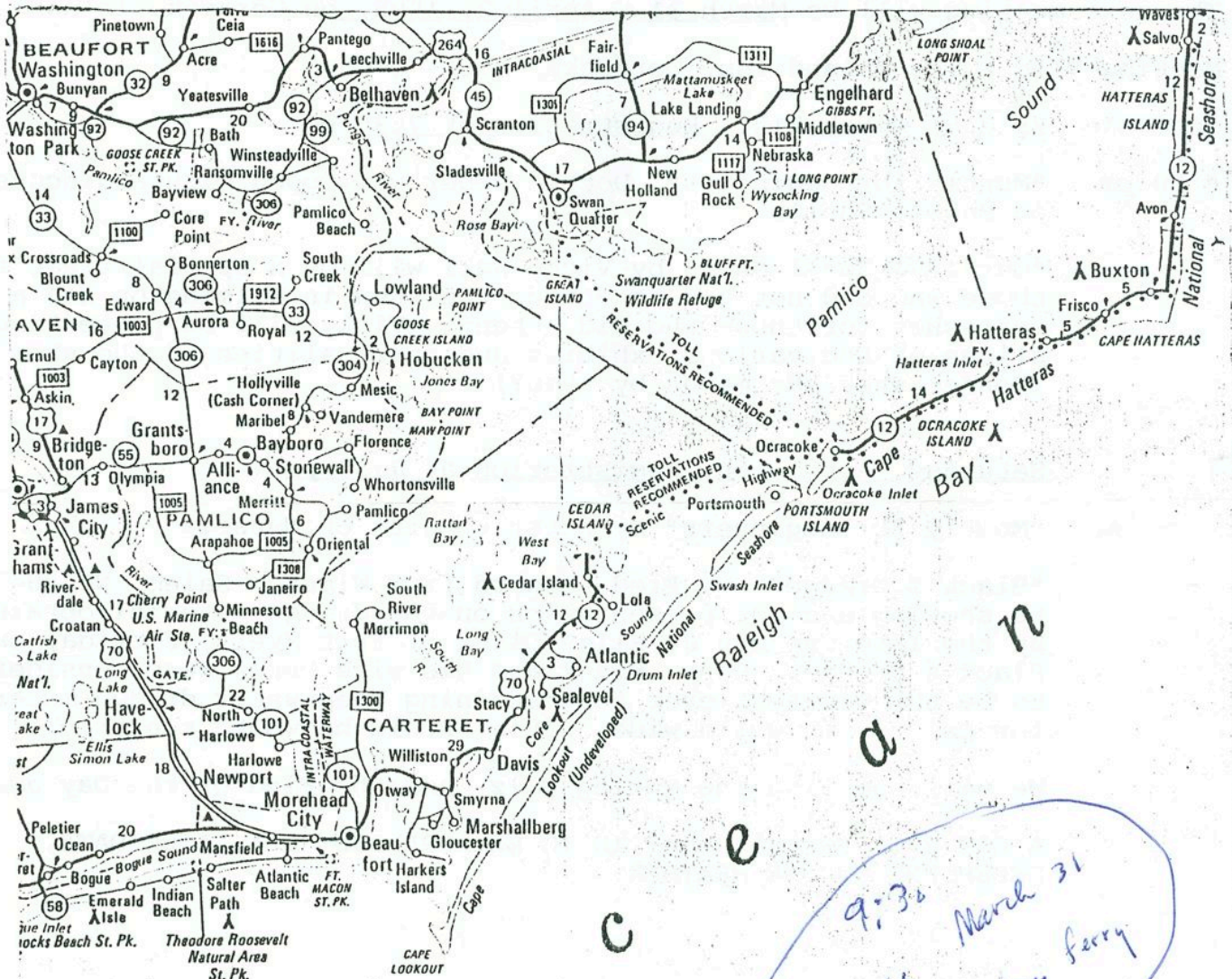
ISLAND INN: \$55.00 per nite, 10% discount if ten rooms are rented. Restaurant on site and possibility of special group service for guests. (order early-have ready at appointed time)  
CALL: 1-919-928-4351

PONY ISLAND MOTEL: Rooms, \$40.00 double bed, \$48.00 two double beds and \$54.00 for an efficiency. They also offer a 10% discount if 10 or more rooms are rented. CALL: 1-919-928-3584

You will need to take the Cedar Island Ferry to Ocracoke Island. The ferry leaves Cedar Island at 7:00, 10:00 am, 1:00, and 4:00 pm. The ferry leaves Ocracoke Island at 7:00, 10:00 am, 1:00 and 4:00 pm. The cost is \$10.00 per Auto and it will hold 50 cars. A pedestrian may go over for \$1.00.

RESERVATIONS ARE RECOMMENDED: Call 1-919-225-3551 for Cedar Island. 1-919-928-3841 for Ocracoke.

DIRECTIONS: From Morehead City take Rt. 70 to end (Cedar Island). There will be signs to the ferry.





From the President:

Here's a warm welcome to each of you and a sincere hope that 1995 will be a successful year for the North Carolina Shell Club and its members.

After three weeks in the cold North, it was good to be back home (even though it was sorta' cold here), and shelling has been good, especially after the storm.

The weekend of the planning meeting was rainy but we still braved the elements, got in some walking, and found a few shells at Ocean Isle Beach.

News from Alta & Van says that they're still collecting-wild flowers, rocks, minerals and fossils. She has been giving programs for schools in the area and sends her love and regards to members of the club.

If anyone has news of any of the members, please contact Virginia Loester or me in order for us to let the membership know.

A special thanks to Dean (he's a hard act to follow!), who has been so helpful for a smooth transition of officers. I really appreciate his organizational skills and willingness in helping this "disorganized" person get moving, hopefully in the right direction! Too, everyone has been most willing to assist and I thank all of you.

I hope to see many of you at Ocracoke, I understand the shelling has been good there this winter.

*Happy shelling,  
Betty*

Mark your calendars for the following dates and as usual you will receive more detailed information on each Shell Club meeting in the Newsletter proceeding the actual happening.

These are subject to change as plans are finalized.

| DATES                 | LOCATION   |
|-----------------------|--|
| 1: MARCH 31 - APRIL 2 | Ocracoke, NC   |
| 2: MAY 19 - 21        | Pawleys Island, Georgetown, SC                       |
| 3: SEPTEMBER 22-24    | Pine Knoll Shores<br>(Auction to be held)            |
| 4: NOVEMBER 17 - 21   | Wilmington, NC<br>SHELL SHOW at the Cape Fear Museum |

Now is the time to start thinking about putting together an exhibit for the Shell Show. There is a special need for children's exhibits, those youngsters may be the exhibitors of the future if we can appeal to their natural curiosity today.



## Newsworthy Items sent in by Members

From Robert Tomlinson:  
A current event that we are  
watching closely.

**New York Times, January 1995: A Million-Dollar Fight Over 100 Acres of Scrub Oak and Marsh. Sunset Beach, NC.**

The article starts out with a walking trip to Bird Island in which Rees Poag, the son of the owner of Bird Island, is present. The walk and a luncheon was sponsored by the Bird Island Preservation Society.

If you haven't been following it, Bird Island is one of the last privately owned undeveloped Islands on the East Coast. The owners are trying to get permission to build a bridge and a small development and those against that are trying to get enough money to purchase the Island and we hope, to have it remain in its natural state. The whole island was bought by Mrs. Poag's first husband for less than \$7,000.00 thirty years ago.

Today, the town of Sunset Beach sets its value at about \$1.2 million. But, if a bridge was built (there had been one in the past) the island would be buildable and the value would skyrocket out of sight, the value may then be \$10 to \$20 million according to the article.

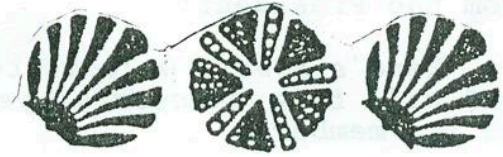
Mr. Tomlinson also sent a copy of the Newsletter from The Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum.

A new Shell Museum is being built along the Sanibel-Captiva Road in Florida. R. Tucker Abbott is the Museum Director.

Of 36 planned exhibits, 17 are completed and it should become the area's center of information on mollusca. The planned opening is early March. A preview center is open now in which cowries and cones collected in Fiji, are displayed as well as an exhibit of zebra mussels.

Funding is still needed for new exhibits and donations are being accepted by the museum. The address is The Shell Museum & Education Foundation, Inc. P.O Box 1580, Sanibel, FL 33957.

If you plan to be in Florida, it should be a great place to visit for enjoyment and learning.



Some people are accusing Mr. Poag of seeking the bridge permit as a means to greatly increase the amount the State would have to pay for the land if indeed they did decide to purchase the land. This was denied by Mr. Poag, who feels like his property rights are being infringed upon.

So for now its a wait and see situation with tempers flaring on both sides. It's anybody's guess who will be the winner in this situation. A lot hinges on whether the Coastal Resources Commission allows development of this uninhabited island that juts into the South Carolina coastline.

Either way, there will be a winner and a loser, a family's right of the use of their land, weighed against preserving one of the few natural habitats left along the North Carolina coast.

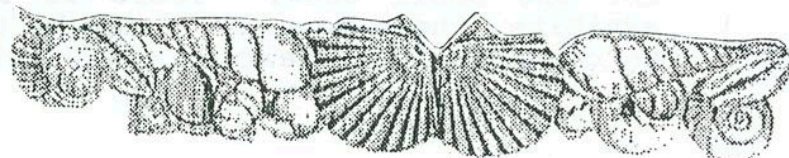
In the meantime, you can still wade over to the island at low tide and enjoy a quiet walk along the ocean's edge.

On Friday the 13th of January 1995, I was shelling on the North end of Ocean Isle Beach with Betty Muirhead and some friends. A wave rolled in a beautiful bunch of yellow Gorgonia which I quickly grabbed up.

Monday, back home in Swansboro, while sorting through the goodies I discovered, to my surprise, the Gorgonia was full of tiny Atlantic Wing Oysters, *Pteria colymbus* (Roding 1798)-13 of them.

Friday the 13th--13 Little Gems.

Marguerite Thomas





## SOME SHELLING

In August 1994, seven of our family and friends spent a week on the West end of Emerald Isle, NC, near Cape Carteret. Shelling was fairly good, but the flies took over the beach by mid week due to a northern breeze.

On Wednesday August 24th my wife Betty suggested we go to Fort Macon Beach, the extreme other end of the Island, to avoid the flies and to look for more shells.

If you have been to Ft. Macon, you know you have to walk over sand dunes and past rock jetties before you get to the beach. Just as soon as we had passed the last jetty of rocks, we headed for the water's edge. Well, upon arriving there, each member of the group began to find Olives (Olive sayana) washed up on the sand. We picked up dozens of olives. In the water, you could hardly walk without stepping on olive shells. So after filling several buckets and bags with Olive Shell, we returned to our cottage for lunch.

After lunch, we returned and filled more containers with olives, before long we actually became bored with picking up olives, and left. It took two men to carry a five gallon bucket of shells back to the parking lot.

We spent the afternoon at the cottage, cleaning up, eating and watching television.

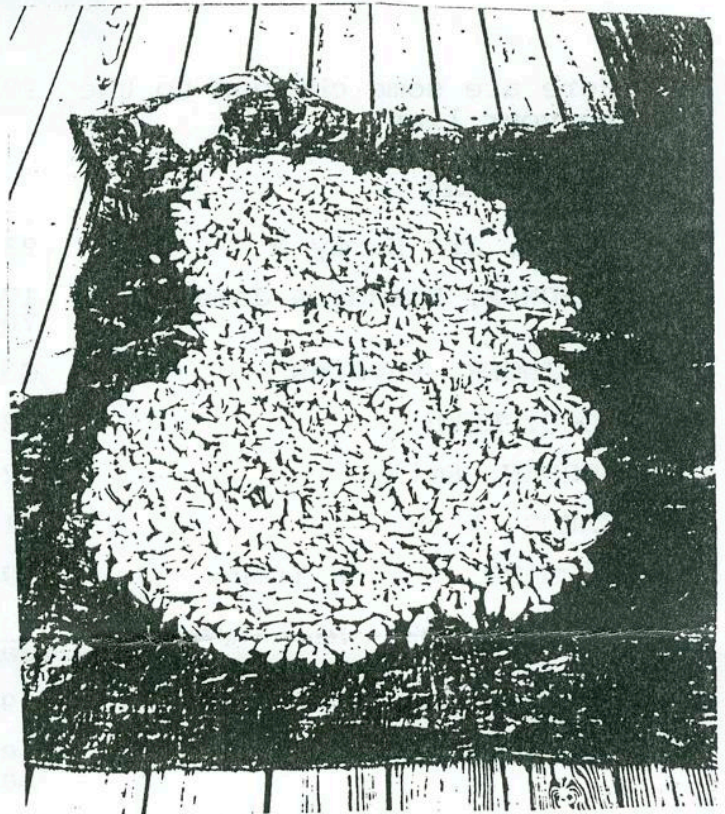
Polly, our friend was heard telling her daughter on the phone that she thought we must have picked up 5000 olives 'we laughed', but this brought on a discussion as to how many olives we had picked up and bets were made by each person as to the actual count. Most were 1200 to 2400 range, but Polly had to stick to her 5000 guess. The next morning we each counted our shells, to our amazement, the final total for all was 5,559. Of course, Polly won the bet.

My wife and I brought home a five gallon bucket, filled to the brim with olive shells (about 2300 count).

I have handled each of our shells at least three times, washing them cleaning out small shells, and rubbing them with mineral oil. They were sorted into two groups, fair or good, many had nice lettering on them.

We plan to display them in lamp bases and other containers. It will be a long time before I will be looking for olive shells on the beach again!

Submitted by: Frank Peterson



### THE LEARNING CORNER

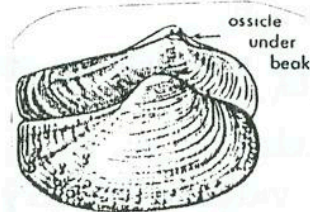
This month's shell is: *Lysonia hyalina* Conrad

Commonly known as Glassy lysonia

The family Lysonsidae has many species of *Lysonia* in American waters. This very thin, fragile shell can sometimes be found in the drift that is formed as the tide is receding near the low tide line. It measures 0.6". It is gaping, pearly and has a toothless hinge. It has a shelly ossicle, or loose bone up under its beaks. The Periostracum is coated with fine grains of sand. The *Lysonia* is common in sandy mud at 1 to 100 feet.

Look for the Glassy *Lysonia* on display at the Ocean Isle Museum on Ocean Isle Beach during your next visit there.

Ruth Hood



Glassy *Lysonia* 0.6"

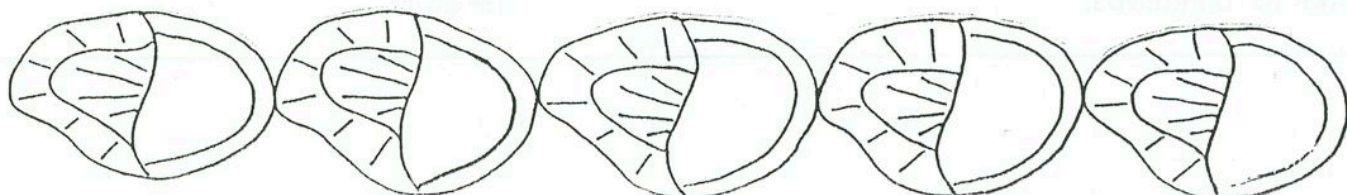
KEEP THE ARTICLES COMING, IT'S GOOD TO SHARE OTHER PEOPLE'S EXPERIENCES, SO IF YOU HAVE ANY INTERESTING SHELL STORIES, OR PERHAPS YOU HAVE FOUND A NEW PLACE TO SHELL, SEND IT IN AND SHARE WITH FRIENDS.

The Editor



Here are some changes to the 1995 Membership list. Please attach to your list.

| <u>MEMBER</u>  | <u>CHANGE TO</u>   |
|--|--|
| DOYLE, Jr. Harry N   | 9301 Briarwood Place   |
| GARDNER, Brenda & James  | 172 Brer Fox Trail<br>704-528-5085   |
| GERINGER, Phylliss   | GERINGER, Phyllis, ,Newport, NC  |
| HOOD, Ruth   | 221 Azalea Circle SW   |
| JORDAN, Emily  | 129 Ocean Oaks Drive   |
| KAKOS, Kathy   | 616 Oyster Bay Drive   |
| LEONARD, Fred & Irene  | (910) 760-9375   |
| McINNES, Mrs. Cornelia   | 200 W. Cornwall Rd.<br>Cary, NC 27511-3870                                     |
| MORGAN, Walter & Margie  | 29006-4008   |
| NEAL, Patricia & Gene  | 102 Fairway Ridge<br>Lake Wylie, SC 29710-9205                                 |
| OWEN, Carolyn  | (910) 643-6428   |
| OWENS, William   | OWENS, Lillian   |
| POE, David, Peggy &  | & Rachel   |
| RHODES, Joyce  | 910-754-3414   |
| RULON, Louise  | 105 Oak Dr.<br>Brandywine Bay<br>Morehead City, NC                             |
| TIMMERMAN, John & Mary   | TIMMERMAN, John & Nancy  |
| TRUCKNER, Carl & Janet   | 27701  |
| VOGT, Fran & Larry   | 226B Brunswick Ave   |
| WALKUP, Lorren &   | & Earlene, Box 1220  |
| WALL, Vicky & Anthony  | 303 Wall Road  |
| <u>Remove from list.</u>   |  |
| DARDEN, Ruth E.  | WENZEL, Walt & Elsa  |
| JOHNSON, Mrs Kenneth L., this is Charlotte Johnson, now in<br>Hampton, VA.             |  |
| <u>Add to list</u>   |  |
| BLANCHARD, Valerie & Jerry<br>1421 Garrison Rd.<br>Charlotte, NC 28262<br>704-547-0667 | HAMILL, Bettye & Jerry<br>Rt. 3 Box 330<br>Enfield, NC 27823<br>(919-445-3293) |
| HUGHES, Gail<br>3304-6 Selwyn Farms Ln.<br>Charlotte, NC 28209<br>704-523-3261         |  |





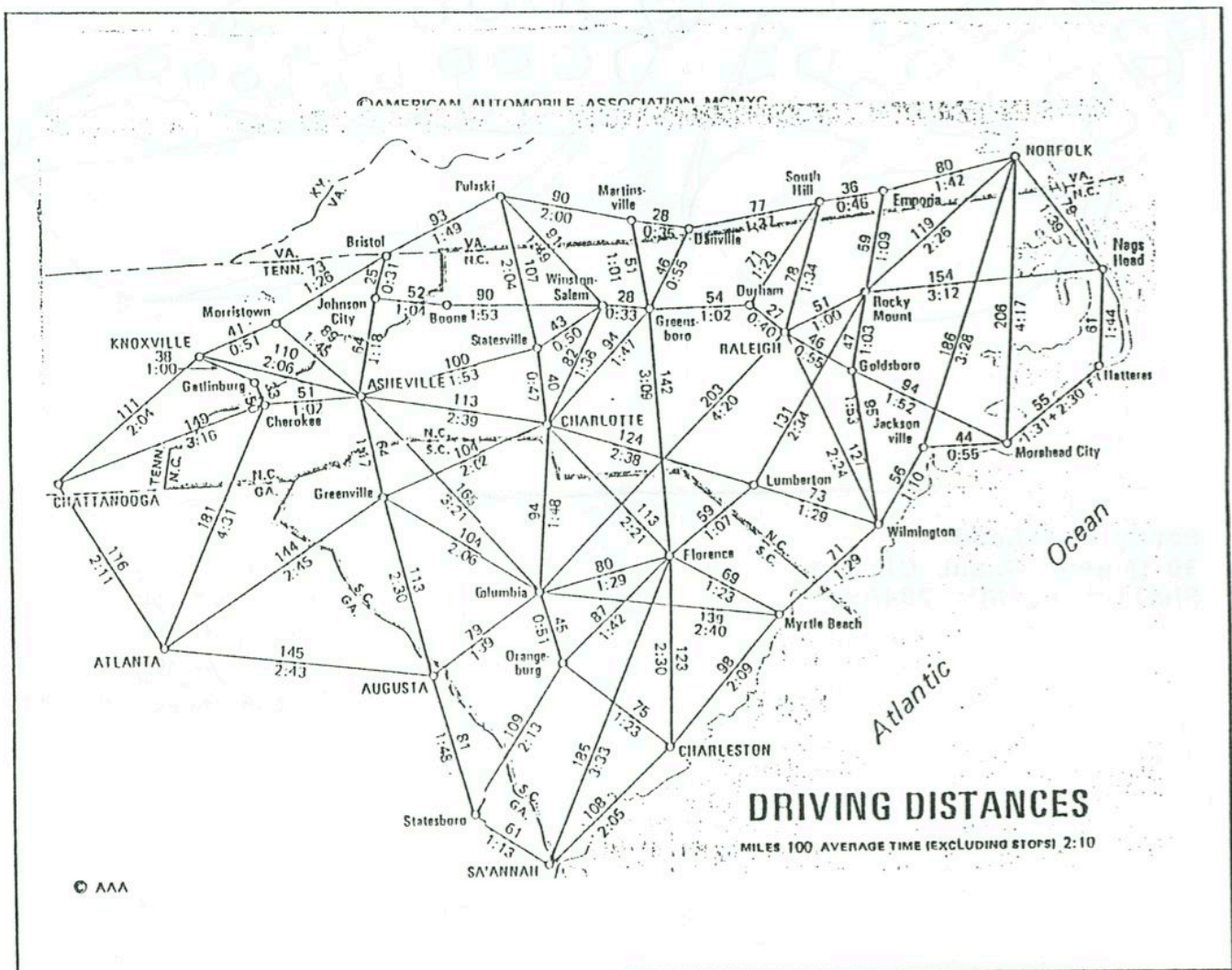
NEXT NEWSLETTER:

WE hope to feature a biography on Marg & Bob Tomlinson.

Janet Durand will share memories of her trip to Florida. Several members have sent in news items and newsletters from other clubs which are appreciated. We will print some of those articles also.

I hear John Timmerman is busy writing a book on fossils, which should be quite interesting.

We hope to feature a different shell in each bulletin. If you have a particular one you would like to see featured, send me the information and I will try to get a picture of the shell and see that it gets published.

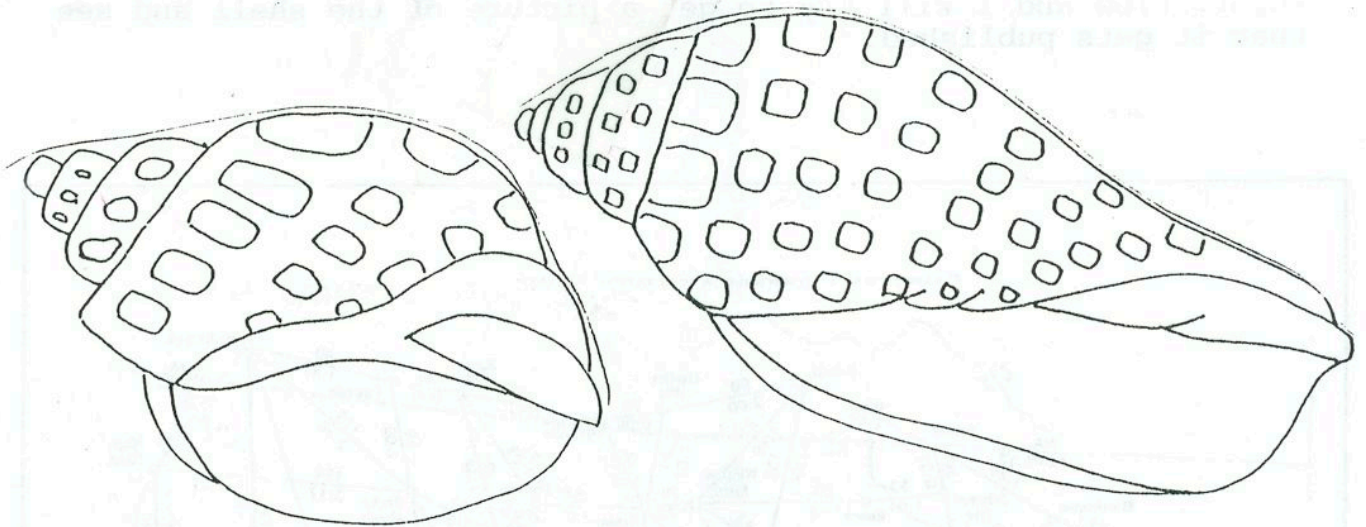


## A MESSAGE FROM OUR TREASURER:

Some members have NOT paid their 1995 dues. Please either send them in to Janet Durand or be prepared to pay them at your next meeting. This will insure that you continue to receive newsletters and to support our fine organization.

INDIVIDUAL DUES: \$10.00 per year

FAMILY DUES: \$12.00 per year



Betty Muirhead  
30 Queens Grant Circle  
Shallotte, NC 28459



Marguerite Thomas  
P. O. Box 721  
Swansboro, NC 28584

