

Jan.-Feb., 2020

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Upcoming meetings

The January meeting of the Jacksonville Shell Club (JSC) will be held at the usual



place, the Southeast Branch of the Jacksonville Public Library http://www.yelp.com/biz/jacksonville-public-library-southeast-regional- jacksonville>, on the customary **fourth** Thursday (the **23rd**). The specific venue continues to be Function Room D and President Paul Jones will rap the gavel at 7:00 PM. Harry Lee will present the Shell-of-the-Month, Retlaskeya emersonii (C.B. Adams, 1839), Emerson's Miniature Cerith (L: 1.87 mm; **R**: 2.06 mm), a species found last May 24 on the JSC's feld trip to Cedar Key. Rick Edwards, a participant in that expedition, will, however, take us half way around the world to demonstrate and discuss glass fishing net floats, much sought-after beachcombing quarry, most notably in Okinawa, but pretty much along marine shorelines worldwide. Characteristics of these coveted objects allow him (and eventually his audience) to reconstruct the time and place of origin, specifc use, and high-seas itineraries of these



utilitarian mementoes. Rick reckons he's collected over a hundred such trophies,

certain selected examples of which he'll display to complement his report.

We'll next meet on Thursday **February 27** at the same tme and place as above. Paul Jones will select one of his favorite species from the January 11, 2020 JSC Cedar Key collecting trip. The main program will focus on the protoconch of FL marine snails past & present. The morphology of these remnants of a snail's early life provde many clues as to their lifestyle, zoogeographic



dispersal, evolution, and placement in the natural order of animal life. Each of the juxtaposed images has a special story to relate.





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This club meets monthly at the Southeast Branch of the Jacksonville Public Library, 10599 Deerwood Park Blvd,, Jacksonville, Florida http://jpl.coj.net/lib/branches/se.html. Please address any correspondence to the club's address above. Annual membership dues are \$15.00 individual, \$20.00 family (domestic) and \$25.00 (overseas). Lifetime membership is available. Please remit payment for dues to the address below and make checks payable to the Jacksonville Shell Club. The club's newsletter and scientific journal, the Shell-O-Gram (ISSN 2472-2774) is issued bimonthly and mailed to an average of 15 regular members and friends by specific request and no less than ten scientific institutions with permanent libraries. An electronic (pdf) version, identical except for "live" URL's and color (vs. B&W) images, is issued the next day and sent to about 200 individuals who have demonstrated an interest in malacological research. These pdf's (ISSN 2472-2782) have also been posted to <<u>http://jaxshells.org/letters.htm</u>> since November, 1998. We encourage members and friends to submit articles for publication. Closing date for manuscript submission is two weeks before each month of publication. Articles appearing in the Shell-O-Gram may be republished provided credit is given the author and the Shell-O-Gram. As a courtesy, the editor and author should receive a copy of the republication. Contents of the Shell-O-Gram are intended to enter the permanent scientific record.



Arts & Crafts winners from the 1975 Jacksonville Shell Show L to R: Hazel Walker, Don and Minnie Lee Campbell, Gertrude Moller, Marion Webb, Allan Walker (see p. 4).



Measled Cowrie on Volusia Co. Beach by Nancy Galdo

On December 13, 2019, while hiking on North Peninsula State Park's cinnamon colored beach, Joe Galdo found a Measled Cowrie, Macrocypraea zebra zebra (Linnaeus, 1758) shell [see above]. This is unusual because the locality, in Ormond by the Sea, is a little north of Daytona Beach in Volusia County, Florida. While this specimen is broken and somewhat worn, it was found well outside the generally accepted range of this species. Is it possible this represents a legitimate northern range extension? Is climate change contributing to the scenario?

[ed. note] While there are records for NC and GA, e.g., Rosenberg (2009), these may well be based on misidentifications of M. cervus (Linné, 1771)

Rosenberg, G., 2009. Malacolog 4.1.1: A Database of Western Atlantic Marine Mollusca. Electronic database <http://www.malacolog.org.org>

Membership Dues are payable in **September** each year. If you're not paid up, please send in your dues: Individual \$15.00; Family \$20.00, to Harry G. Lee, Treasurer, JSC 4132 Ortega Forest Drive Jacksonville, FL 32210-5813



Hazel Walker (June 9, 1921 – November 30, 2019)

The Jacksonville Shell (JSC) club lost its only remang Honorary Life Member late last year.

Hazel, a registered nurse, received her education at The Florida State School of Nursing and affiliated with Charity Hospital, New Orleans, Louisiana. She served as a U.S Navy nurse in Norfolk and Portsmouth, VA during the end of World War II. Hazel and her husband Allan [another JSC legend; see Lee, 2012], were married in Portsmouth during the war, and then when discharged, they spent 10 years in Providence, Rhode Island. This is where their two children, Alan and Lea were born. In 1955, they moved back to Florida and lived their remaining years in Jacksonville. Hazel spent much of her nursing career in hospitals in Jacksonville and last worked as Chief Nurse in Occupation Health for General Foods, Maxwell House Coffee. She retired in 1981. Hazel was a member of the American Nurses Association, a founding member of Covenant Presbyterian Church in Jacksonville, and later a member of Lake Shore Presbyterian Church in Jacksonville, and a member of American Legion Post #137.

Hazel was preceded in death by her husband of 67 years, Alan Bowen Walker. She is survived by her son Alan Barrs Walker, daughter Lea Beth Walker Reeves and husband Jerry Reeves, and two grandsons, Jordan Ryan Reeves and Matthew Walker Reeves.

A memorial service for Hazel was held on Friday December 27th at Lakeshore Presbyterian Church, Jacksonville. In lieu of flowers, Hazel directed donations should be made in her honor to Samaritan's Purse-International Relief; City Rescue Mission Jacksonville, FL; Big Bend Hospice, Tallahassee; American Legion Post #137, or the Jacksonville Shell Club.

For nearly half a century Hazel Walker was an active supporter of our group, serving in many capacities. Her love of shells and artistic gift conspired to gain her renown as a crafter of various métiers, including the quintessential Sailor's Valentine, a challenge daunting all but the most talented and perseverant. Along with

Shell Show reflections

Shell mirrors mirror more images of shell exhibits at the 18th annual Jacksonville Shell Show held last weekend at the Flag Pavilion. Thousands of visitors admired collections from all over the country as well as purchasing shells and shell crafts from dealers. These triple mirrors took Hazel Walker six months of work and won her a blue ribbon. Her husband, Allan Walker, proudly admires her work Walker was general chairman of the show. (Sun-times photo by Lou Egner)



Allan and the late Gertrude Moller (see p. 3 herein) she won recognition at our shell show, particularly during the halcyon years of the event (1974-1980; L), which were chaired by Allan and/or Don Campbell and drawing crowds numnbers n the thousands. Her work also won major awards

throughout the state, including the premier venue, Sanibel.

Yet there were two JSC activities that I recall as best characterizing Hazel (and Allan's; they were close to inseparable): educational outreach and the nonpareil Cedar Key hospitality event.

With the support of the JSC the Walkers conducted several dozen elementary school (and a few other audiences) presentations to introduce youngsters to mollusks and shells. As first exemplified by Aristotle, they stressed the importance of the animal within the shell in understanding the true biological nature of what kids often misunderstood as lifeless artifacts on the beach. Teachers loved this special curricular enhancement, and the hundreds of thank-you notes from them and their charges provide abiding testimony of appreciation.

The other uniquely Walkerian experience was their perennial seasonal hospitality at the Beachfront Motel, Cedar Key. Through an arcane collusion between terrestrial and astronomical phenomena, the lowest tides in that part of the land-seascape coincide closely with the coldest hours and days of the year. Back then (1970's-1980's) most of us could be found at work the Friday before the optimal weekend morning for shell collecting. That meant arriving by car after dark at a place with limited amenities, such as a restaurant. Not to worry, just head for room 202-203 where up to 20 shellers could find a hot seafood meal and the ultimate in fellowship and good cheer. Hazel and Allan ran a timely, enjoyable, and eminently memorable concession. RIP



1983: L: Hazel on the steps to room 202-203 at the Beachfront, Cedar Key. R (upper) Hazel therein with two giant pots of seafood potpourri ready to serve (note obtrusive sous-chef /editor); R (lower) Allen Walker (on R) supervising 10 year-old Bobby Lee as he extracts his first angel wing – a renowned JSC Rite of Passage.

Lee, H.G., 2012. Allan Walker (1921-2012). American Conchologist 40(1): 39. March.



New light shed on the big Carolinian eggcockle

Recently Laevicardium pristis ("Valenciennes" [Bory de St. Vincent], 1827: 155, the explanation of the iconotype <<u>https://biodiversitylibrary.org/page/37125895</u>>, plate 299, fig 3 (L). This biotaxon was treated in Lee (2009: 34, 35; species 122 [below] & color plate 2 [R]) as L. oviputamen, apparently a misidentification by your editor of a species found throughout the Carolinian Subprovince (of the Caribbean Province) and previously misunderstood over two centuries, i.e.,



122. Laevicardium oviputamen (Reeve, 1844) Velvet Eggcockie [1] 75 mm. Scalop tailings, Xalvis Is, HM, HL! 1985, (HL), Scalop tailings, St. Augustine, BH! 3/89, (BH). Dredged, 60 ft., Montgomery Reef, 8.6 mi, E. Mayport, JL! 5/29/77. (JL). Dredged, 70 ft., 14 mi, E.N.E. Mayport, CL,HL, "Reef Raider!" 6/11/89. (HL). Dived, 85 ft., sand near reef, 12 mi, E. Mayport, CL! 9/1/75, (CL), Ex batfish, trawled, 140 ft., 55 mi, E. Ponte Vedra, Scallop boats! 3/88, (HL), Vidal (1999: 327) examined the types of Cardium laevigatum Linnaeus, 1758 and designated a lectotype, which he considered synonymous with the Indo-West Pacific Fulvia papyracea (Bruguière, 1789). He also established a lectotype for C. serratum Linnaeus, 1758 from the same (Linnean) collection. The latter is the valid name for the Caribbean Laevicardium laevigatum of authors (e.g., Abbott, 1974), but our shells differ, being more inflated and less oblique (especially evident in shells of the same height), reaching a larger size, and possessing a thick, dark, velvety (vs. thin, pale and smooth) periostracum laid down in commarginal lamellae at about 0.1 mm intervals. Further, they are more conspicuously serrate at valve margins, which reveal about 75 ribs, obsolete externally, impressing about 60% of the ventrolateral margin between the distal lateral teeth, absent on the posterior 30% and anterior 10% or this arc. Under the periostracum the exterior is smooth and semi-glossy with regular microscopic commarginal grooves coinciding with the periostracal lamellae. Toward the valve margins it is marked with very fine discontinuous brownish radial lines coinciding with the inferred intercostal spaces; closer to the umbones this pattern is broken up with a tendency to coalesce into irregular vague commarginal bands. Although generally more consistently and extensively patterned, it is less lustrous and, except for a tiny crimson spot at the umbo, lacks the bright colors seen in numerous southeast Florida and West Indian specimens (HL) referable to L. serratum. Also Gulf and Franklin Cos. (HL) and TX (as the figure of L. Jaevigatum of Andrews, 1971: 181-182). Some shells described under C. serratum var. laevigatum Lamarck of Dall and Simpson [non Lamarck, 1819] are likely L. oviputamen. The holotype of Cardium serratum var. multilineatum Dall and Simpson, 1901 [vidi; USNM type collection] is close to our shells but has a yellow orange (vs. white) interior, is generally smaller, less ventricose, and has fewer ribs. Shells from Venezuela, Brazil (HL), and Trinidad (TW) are referable to the latter taxon. Cardium vite inum Reeve, 1844, C. citrinum Krebs, 1864, C, glabratum Römer, 1869, L, laevigatum Clench and Smith, 1944 (in partim: pl. 12, figs. 3, 4), and L, laevigatum of Macsotay, O. and R. Campos Villarroel (2001: 166-167: pl. 25, figs. 18, 21, 22, 25) are probably synonymous; L. multilineatum (Dall and Simpson, 1901) of Diaz and Puyana (1994: 77-78: pl. 17, fig. 167) and of McLean (1951: 73-74) appear to be correctly identified. Dall and Simpson (1901: 489) considered "Cardium lineatum Krebs ... not of Gmelin" [a misidentification, not a homonym, as Krebs' only usage of C. lineatum was that of Gmelin] synonymous with their trinomen. Krebs cited C. citrinum Chemnitz (1782: pl. fig. 189) as an indication for C. lineatum, however, Wood (1815: pl. 54, fig. 3) was the first to validly employ that binomen, indicating what appears to be C. serratum Linnaeus, C. lineatum Gmelin is here considered a nomen dubium; C. vitellinum Reeve, C. glabratum Römer, and C. multilineatum Dall and Simpson are available and synonymous; C. laevigatum Lamarck and C. citrinum Krebs are not available (primary junior homonymy); and C. citrinum Wood a synonym of C. serratum Linnaeus. "Oviputamen" is Latin for (birds's) egg shell; an apt cognomen for this species, which is typically more inflated and regularly ovoid than any Recent congener. See Colo. Plate 4.



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