



May- June, 2017

Volume 58 (no. 3)

Upcoming programs

The **May** meeting of the Jacksonville Shell Club will be held at the usual venue, the Southeast Branch <<http://www.yelp.com/biz/jacksonville-public-library-southeast-regional-jacksonville>> of the Jacksonville Public Library on the customary fourth Thursday, the **25th**, at 7:00 PM. Rick Edwards will give the main program. Among the ports-of-call on their latest Caribbean cruise, he and Roz put ashore on the Windward Island of Grenada, which afforded Rick the opportunity to do some diving and beachcombing. Experience has taught him (and us) that no two Caribbean localities, mainland or insular, provide the same shelling and underwater experiences, so we vicarious travelers will certainly see some novel shells and photographs. Harry Lee will present the Shell-of-the-Month, *Falsiluna harryleei* Grego and Szekeres, 2011, an unusual doorsnail from southeastern China. See if you can determine what prominent character sets it apart from the majority of its confamilial relatives by looking at the images on the **R**. Photos by Jozef Grego, image editing by Bill Frank and Harry Lee.



Rick Edwards

The club will meet on June 22 at the customary time and place time and place (see above). Rick Edwards will present the Shell-of-the-Month, *Semele proficua* (Pulteney, 1799), the Atlantic Semele (L). It is one of several kinds of smallish white clams (SWC's) that one encounters on our beaches. Although this often pure white inch-long species appears nondescript to a casual beachcomber, Rick will show us how to distinguish it from other northeast Florida (NE FL) SWC's. Harry Lee will present the main program. He'll make an analysis of the genera of micromollusks he and Rick have found at the SMR 10 fossil locality in Sarasota Co., FL, where the Upper Tamiami Formation and its Pinecrest beds are exposed. He'll offer evidence that these shells, dating to the Upper Pliocene Epoch, ~ 3,000,000 years ago, represent an extraordinarily diverse fauna by comparing it to various other Cenozoic assemblages, including that of present-day NE FL. Photo by

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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 <<http://jaxshells.org/letters.htm>> 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.

Corrigendum/addendum

In the last issue of the *SOG*, the editor reported that Don Swenson found two shells of *Fissurella nimbosa* (Linnaeus, 1758), the Rayed Keyhole Limpet, on the beach of Coral Cove County Park, which straddles the Martin-Palm Beach Co. border in SE Florida. Shortly afterward Don corrected the editorial error: He actually picked up the two specimens figured in the report at Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge, somewhat over 11 miles up the coast from Coral Cove and wholly within Martin Co. However, some of the egg can be removed from the editor's face since Don dug into his collection and found that he **had** actually taken a specimen of this species from Coral Cove - back in 2013. Checklists of the mollusk remains found by Don at the respective sites are posted at <<http://jaxshells.org/coralcove.htm>> and <<http://jaxshells.org/hobes.htm>> respectively.

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
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2017 SHELL SHOWS & RELATED EVENTS (June – December)

- Information subject to change. Please confirm with individual show sponsors -

Jun. 10-11, 2017

GULF COAST SHELL SHOW, Panama City Beach, FL
Panama City Beach Senior Center, 423 Lyndell Lane
Jim Brunner, 2511 Parkwood Drive, Panama City, FL 32405
Email: jili@knology.net Tel. (850) 215-2086

Jul. 1-2 , 2017

TOWNSVILLE SHELL SHOW, Townsville, Queensland, Australia
Orchid Society Hall in Kirwan
Jack Worsfold
Email: jnw_48@yahoo.com.au

Jul. 8-9, 2017

KEPPEL BAY SHELL SHOW, Yeppoon, Queensland, Australia
Gus Moore Pavilion at the Yeppoon Show Ground
Jean M. Offord, 277 McDougall St., N. Rockhampton, Qld. 4701, Australia
Tel. 61 (7) 4928-3509

Jul. 16-21, 2017

AMERICAN MALACOLOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING, Newark, DE
Clayton Hall Conference Center, U. of Delaware Laird Campus, Newark, DE
www.malacological.org (*Meeting information and registration*)

Jul. 28-30, 2017

SHANGHAI SHELL SHOW, Shanghai, China
Science Education Center of Shanghai Zoo
2381 Hongqiao Road, Changning District
He Jing E-mail: shellsfromchina@hotmail.com Facebook: He Jing
Tel: 86-21-67737531 Mobile: 86-13501623943

Aug. 15-19, 2017

CONCHOLOGISTS OF AMERICA ANNUAL CONVENTION, Key West, FL
Doubletree Grand Key Resort, 3990 S. Roosevelt Blvd.
Karlynn Morgan e-mail: karlynnmorgan@earthlink.net Tel. (336) 692-4492
www.conchologistsofamerica.com (*Convention information*)

Aug. 18-20, 2017

JERSEY CAPE SHELL SHOW, Stone Harbor, New Jersey
The Wetlands Institute, Stone Harbor, New Jersey
Sue Hobbs e-mail: suehobbs@verizon.net Tel. (609) 884-7601

Aug. 19, 2017

CHATSWORTH SHELL FAYRE, Derbyshire, UK
Cavendish Hall, Chatsworth Estate, Derbyshire
Brian Hammond, Sulwath, Dornockbrow
Dornock, Annan DG12 6SX, UK
E-mail: brianandedna@btinternet.com Tel. 44 146 170 1096

Aug. 25-Sept. 4, 2017**OREGON SHELL SHOW**, Salem, OR

Oregon State Fair Grounds – Jackman-Long Bldg.,
2330 17TH St. NE

Marici Reid, 673 Cessna St., Independence, OR 97351 Tel. (408) 891-5643

E-Mail: marici@earthlink.net

Aug. 26-27, 2017**WEST COAST SHELL SHOW**, San Diego, CA

Casa del Prado, Rm 101 Balboa Park

Dave Waller, 505 Willowspring Drive

Encinitas, CA 92924

Tel. (858) 768-1864

E-Mail: dweller@dbwipmp.com

Sept. 16-17, 2017**NORTH CAROLINA SHELL SHOW**, Wilmington, NC

Cape Fear Museum of History & Science

814 Market Street, Wilmington, NC 28401

John Timmerman, Show Chairman

(910) 798-4368

E-mail: jtimmerman@nhcgov.com

Sept. 23-24, 2017**ANNUAL GERMAN SHELL FAIR**, Oehringen, Germany

KULTURA Hall, Herrenwiesenstr. 12

Kurt Kreipl, Hoehenweg

D-74613 Oehringen-Cappel, Germany

61 (7941) 62-826

E-mail: meeresmuseum@t-online.de

Oct. 14-15, 2017**XXII PRAGUE INTERNATIONAL SHELL SHOW**, Prague, Czech Rep.

KULTURNIDUM LADVI Buresova 1661, Prague 8

Jaroslav Derka, Holeckova 51/370

15000 Praha 5, Czech Republic

42 (2) 5731 6246

Email: jderka@volny.cz

Web sites: <http://www.cksl.cz>

Oct. 28, 2017**BRITISH SHELL COLLECTOR'S CLUB CONVENTION**, Essex, England

Theydon Bois Community Centre, Theydon Bois, Epping, Essex

Debbie Rolfe, 15 Dene Holm Road, Northfleet, Kent DA11 8LF, U.K.

Email: Deborah@deborahrolfe.orangehome.co.uk

Oct. 28, 2017**SYDNEY SHELL SHOW**, Sydney, Australia

Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club, 117 Ryedale Rd., West Ryde, Sydney

Steve Dean, 166 Narabeen Pk Pde

Mona Vale, NSW 2103

Tel. 61 (2) 9979-5736

E-mail: steve@easy.com.au

Cell: 61 (4) 1175 1185

Oct. 28-29, 2017

PHILADELPHIA SHELL SHOW, Philadelphia, PA

Academy of Natural Sciences, Parkway & 19th St.

Al Schilling, 419 Linden Ave., Glenside, PA 19038

E-mail: odtaa31@comcast.net

Tel. (215) 886-5807

Submitted by **DONALD DAN**, COA Awards Chairman • 6704 Overlook Drive • Ft. Myers, FL 33919 • U.S.A.

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Shells in Aruba

by Rick Edwards

I've been fortunate to visit Aruba in the Dutch West Indies several times. It is located about 18 miles off the coast of Venezuela. It is known for its tropical climate, as a resort with a party atmosphere, and beautiful waters. Each time I visit, I try to go to the beach or go scuba diving. Sometimes I am fortunate to do both. As a result, I have accumulated quite a few underwater pictures of various marine life found in the surrounding waters. These include some shells, lots of fish, like the stonefish (**below L**) and cowfish (**below R**), various corals, and other marine life. Also, I have found that the beaches do have an array of shells worth looking at. Some of these are not found in the Florida environs even though Florida has many similar shells and fish as in Aruba.



Although shells being brought back to the states can be problematic, I have had no problems, so far. I do not collect live shells when traveling. Each shell is soaked in rubbing alcohol for five minutes and allowed to dry.

They make nice souvenirs of a visit to the islands.

Photos by Rick Edwards

A list of beach shells I have encountered on Aruba:

Ancilla eburnea* (Deshayes, 1830)
***Bostrycapulus aculeatus* (Gmelin, 1791)**
***Bulla occidentalis* A. Adams, 1850**
***Cerithium litteratum* (Born, 1778)**
***Chione cancellata* (Linné, 1767)**
***Columbella mercatoria* (Linnaeus, 1758)**
***Conasprella jaspidea* (Gmelin, 1791)**
***Ctena orbiculata* (Montagu, 1808)**
***Diodora cayenensis* (Lamarck, 1822)**
***Diodora listeri* (d'Orbigny, 1847)**
***Eoacmaea pustulata* (Helbling, 1779)**
***Jaspidella jaspidea* (Gmelin, 1791)**
Leukoma subrostrata* (Lamarck, 1818)
***Lirophora paphia* (Linné, 1767)**
***Lithopoma tectum* (Lightfoot, 1786)**
***Melampus monile* (Bruguière, 1789)**
***Modulus modulus* (Linnaeus, 1758)**
***Montfortia emarginata* (Blainville, 1825)**
***Naticarius canrena* (Linnaeus, 1758)**
***Nerita versicolor* Gmelin, 1791**
***Oliva fulgurator* (Röding, 1798)**
Prunum prunum* (Gmelin, 1791)
***Tellina radiata* Linnaeus, 1758**
Vokesimurex chrysostoma* (G.B. Sowerby II, 1834)

*Caribbean species not found in the northern portion of that sea, Bermuda, Florida, the Bahamas, or the Gulf of Mexico [ed.]

Note that over 40% of these species was named by Carl von Linné (né Carl Linnaeus) or his student, Johann Friedrich Gmelin [ed.].

A Shell Name by Rick Edwards

When I returned from a trip to Aruba, I asked Dr. Harry Lee to look at some of the shells I had picked up in Aruba. My sources for identifying the shells were mainly limited to sources used for Florida identification. I have learned when using older books for identification, to check the World Register of Marine Species (WoRMS) Online Data Base for **current acceptance** of a shell's name.



I had a clam half that appeared to look like a Cross-barred Venus, and that is what I thought the shell was. I did notice that the pattern on top was a little different and the color of the pattern was reddish. I assumed it was a Cross-barred Venus with a slight variation. That was not the case. Dr. Lee said this clam was found further south and was not known to Florida, but from Brazil and areas somewhat north of Brazil. He indicated it might be a *Chione subrugosa*, but I should verify it.

Verifying a name that does not show-up in the WORMS data can be a problem. Generally, that database is pretty accurate, but there are occasional errors when some data has not been updated, or shells just haven't been included the data yet. The name, *Chione subrugosa*, did not show up in WORMS or The

World Shell Catalog, another database I use that includes pictures. Usually, a synonym can be used to pinpoint an accepted name, even if the name is slightly misspelled.

In both databases I checked the genus lists for *Venus* and *Chione*. No luck. I also checked species lists for *subrugosa*. No luck there for the clam. I did find a species *subrugosa* for a gastropod.

So I was back with a name that I could not verify. A follow-up with Dr. Lee did shed new light on the shell. At one time, it was named *Venus subrostrata* Lamarck, 1818 and later renamed *Chione subrostrata* (Lamarck, 1818). It had additional synonymized names *Venus beauii* Récluz, 1852 and *Venus portesiana* d'Orbigny, 1842. It seems that whenever species are studied scientifically in the presence of other similar species, the shells' characteristics can result in the creation of a new genus, movement to a different genus, a new name for various reasons like to avoid two species with the same name or an earlier name being recognized, or no change. I have also found that lots of shells with various endings like *-ata*, *-us*, *-ia*, and others can change over time. Anyway, trying to correctly attach the accepted name to the right species can sometimes be time-consuming and frustrating, but rewarding once completed. An accepted name was found.

Short version: the name of the look-alike clam from Aruba is ***Leukoma subrostrata* (Lamarck, 1818)**.

Photo by Rick Edwards.

***Euglandina sowerbyana* (L. Pfeiffer, 1846) - a true champion shell**
by Harry G. Lee



Tabasco State, Mexico. Collected by Marcos Vinagrillo, who provided the photo (image editing: Bill Frank)

In the March-April *SOG*, a new species of *Euglandina* from southeastern Mexico was treated. It belonged to a truly remarkable group of carnivorous snails mostly from the highlands of Mexico and Central America - some of which **exceeded four inches** in height. Through the magic of the Internet, a concatenation of subsequent events led to the discovery of a truly remarkable mollusk shell belonging to a closely related species, also apparently limited to Mexico. The specimen figured above is believed to be the largest native terrestrial snail shell ever found in North America, which includes Central America.

Before the discovery of this leviathan, the largest known shell belonged to a congener, but it was not identified as to species (see **sweepstakes** tabulation on p. 9 taken mostly from the literature cited below). Now the sweepstakes winner is clearly Sr. Vinagrillo's specimen. **Olé!**

Giant carnivorous snail sweepstakes:

<u>Euglandina sowerbyana</u> (L. Pfeiffer, 1846)	~140 mm
<i>E. sp.</i> not designated	116 mm (Schileyko, 2000: 869)
<i>E. titan</i> F. Thompson, 1987	112 mm
<i>E. gigantea</i> Pilsbry, 1926	105 mm
<u>E. vanuxemensis</u> (I. Lea, 1834)	100 mm
<u>E. new species</u>	98.5 mm
<i>E. aurata</i> (Morelet, 1849)	94 mm
<i>E. encladus</i> F. Thompson, 2014	94 mm
<i>E. hyperion</i> F. Thompson, 2014	92 mm
<u>E. rosea</u> (Férussac, 1821)	87.0 mm (Bill Frank! NE Florida)
<i>E. pan</i> F. Thompson, 1987	70 mm.

Only the four [underlined](#) species are known to occur in Mexico.

On dating the description of this species (L. Pfeiffer, 1846: 32, sp. 20; read March 24):

20. ACHATINA (GLANDINA) SOWERBYANA, Pfr. *Ach. testâ ovato-fusiformi, tenuiusculâ, diaphanâ, longitudinaliter confertim plicatâ, striis spiralibus, inæqualiter distantibus decussato-granulatâ, fulvo-rubellâ, strigis remotis, fuscis ornatâ; spirâ conicâ, apice acutâ; suturâ albo-marginatâ, crenulatâ; anfractibus 7½ planiusculis. ultimo ¼ longitudinis subæquante; columellâ arcuatâ, basi abruptè truncatâ; aperturâ acuminato-oblongâ; peristomate simplice, marginibus collo tenui junctis, dextro repando.*
 Long. 88, diam. 38 mill.
 From Totontepec, Mexico; on decayed vegetable matter.

Seeing that this description appeared in the *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London* 1846, the writer sensed a bit of déjà-vu after a recent experience collating Louis Pfeiffer's descriptions of [Helix](#)

[strumosa](#) and [Tudora nobilis](#), which were read to the Zoological Society of London on March 9, 1852, appeared in the *Proceedings* ... 1852, but saw actual publication over two years later. Thus some research seem prudent. The issue was finally resolved after the discovery of on-line version of the *Proceedings* (ZSL, 1893), which is a concordance of the early years of this journal. The process of discovery was long and tedious due to the byzantine organization of the digital library directories involved. As it turns out, the Pfeiffer description of our champion snail species was published later in the year of its reading.

Pfeiffer, L., 1846. Descriptions of thirty new species of Helicea, belonging to the collection of H. Cuming, Esq. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London* 1846: 28-34. May. ([On-line](#))

Schileyko, A.A., 2000. Treatise on Recent terrestrial pulmonate molluscs 6. Rhytididae, Chlamydephoridae, Systrophidae, Haplotrematidae, Streptaxidae, Spiraxidae, Oleacinidae, Testacellidae. *Ruthenica supplement 2*: (ii) + 731-880 incl. numerous text figs. Dec.

Thompson, F.G., 1987. Giant carnivorous land snails from Mexico and Central America. *Bulletin of the Florida State Museum* 30(2): 29-52. 1 April. <<http://ufdcweb1.uflib.ufl.edu/UF00095799/00001/1j>>

Thompson, F.G., 2014. Two new giant carnivorous land snails of the genus *Euglandina* (Gastropoda: Pulmonata: Spiraxidae) from Honduras. *The Nautilus* 128(3): 97-100. 30 Sept.

ZSL (Zoological Society of London), 1893. List of the dates of delivery of the sheets of the "Proceedings" of the Zoological Society of London, from the commencement in 1830 to 1859 inclusive. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London for the year 1893*: 436-440. ([On-line - Page 438](#))



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