SHELL·O·GRAM

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JACKSONVILLE SHELL CLUB, INC.

November-December 2010 **Volume 51 no.6**

Programs

The November meeting of the Jacksonville Shell Club (JSC) will convene at 7:00 PM at the Southeast Branch Jacksonville Public Library, our usual venue. As has been the custom for years, because of the timing of Thanksgiving, we will meet on the third (not the fourth) Thursday, November 18. Our speaker will be Wayne Harland of Crystal River, who will relate his experiences collecting, mostly by SCUBA-diving, in the Solomon Islands. Wayne is a very accomplished diver and collector, and his passion for cone snails is renowned. Harry Lee will present the Shell-of-the-Month, *Conus gloriamaris*, Chemnitz, 1777, a species with which Wayne will make us even more familiar.

President Barbara and husband, George Cathey, with able assistance from daughter Linda Rowley, will host the annual JSC Christmas party on Saturday, Dec. 11. Plan to arrive at 7:00 PM. The address is 5444 Rollins Ave., which is in Lakewood on the Southside. The Rollins cul-de-sac is south off of Cornell Rd. which can be reached from San Jose Blvd or from University via Stanford Ave. (see map on page 2). As has become customary, each attending member should bring a shell-related gift (about $10.00 in value) for a member of the same gender (the method of distribution will be made apparent later). The club will provide a ham, a fowl, and beverage set- ups. BYOB and a covered dish. Call Barbara at (904) 737-4708 or email blcathey@bellsouth.net for additional further details.

"World of Shells"
Presented by the Jacksonville Shell Club, Inc.

The Jacksonville Shell Club will present a multi-faceted look at shells including the scientific, cultural, and aesthetic aspect of these natural creations. Featured components of the exhibit at the Beaches Museum and History Center, exhibited from November 9, 2010 to January 8, 2011 will be regional mollusks, shells and mollusks in fine art, jewelry, craft work, and day to day usage through time. Major themes will be the science of malacology, including breathtaking photographs of living mollusk animals and their shells, and the wonders of shell collecting. The club's 2009 group project, a book treating 803 local marine shells titled "Marine Shells of Northeast Florida" will be on display and available for purchase. It may also be bought through www.neflshells.org.

Jacksonville Shell Club, Inc.
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Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250

Editor: Richard Edwards
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This club meets each month at the Southeast Branch of the Jacksonville Public Library, 10599 Deerwood Park Blvd,, Jacksonville, Florida. Please address any correspondence to the club's address above.

The *Shell-O-Gram* is issued bimonthly and mailed to all regular members. Annual membership dues are $15.00 individual and $20.00 family (domestic) and $25.00 (foreign). Lifetime membership is available. Please send checks for dues to the above address and made out to the Jacksonville Shell Club.

We encourage members to submit articles for this publication. Closing date for article submission is two weeks prior to the first of each month of publication. Articles may be republished provided full credit is given the author and this newsletter and one copy of the complete publication in which the article appears is sent to the above address.

Map for the Christmas Party

President's Corner

Greetings to everyone,

We've had a busy couple of months. In September we had elections, but were unable to get a chairman for the Shell Show. That disappointment has been somewhat softened by the opportunity that Charlotte found for a shell exhibit at the Beach's Museum (see report on page 1). It is looking wonderful and you all will have an opportunity to see it at a special reception on November 27th from 2:00 to 4:00 at the museum at Beach and 4th (across from the train building). Bring family and friends.

Thanks to Harry for arranging the wonderful trip to the Marine Science Research Institute at JU. What a fabulous place! It is the fulfillment of some lofty dreams. A special thanks to Dr A. Quinton White, Director, for a wonderful tour of a well thought out facility.

It's time for a party. I hope to see you all at the Christmas party at my house (5444 Rollins Av) on Saturday, December 11th. As usual, the club will provide the meat and beverages and mixers. Please bring a side dish and your bottle of choice. Also bring a gift for the exchange if you wish to participate

Barbara Cathey (737-4708)

Membership Dues are Due Now
Please send in your dues: Individual $15.00 Family $20.00 to
Charlotte Thorpe
1010 24th St. N
Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250
Want to know your due date? Look at your *S-O-G* address tag and if the date has passed or is close to today's date -Your Dues are Due

Marine Science Research Institute Visit

The Shell Club visited the new Jacksonville University's Marine Science Research Institute on October 27. Dr. A. Quinton White, its director, hosted the informative visit. The institute, incorporating many structural concepts not found at any other research center, had opened in August and was the result of over 20 years of development. Pictures of the visit can be found on page 9.

The Mollusca of the Crosby Sanctuary, Clay Co., Florida

by Harry G. Lee

Abstract: Two mollusk collections, roughly spanning the 30-year existence of the Crosby Sanctuary, are reported. Selected zoogeographic, historic, nomenclatorial, and taxonomic aspects of this fauna, numbering 30 species, are discussed relevant to three large aquatic gastropods, *Viviparus georgianus*, *V. intertextus,* and *Pomacea paludosa.*

The Duval Audubon Society (DAS) administers a tract of 408 acres of predominantly bottomland hardwood swamp donated by J. Ellis and Addie Weltch Crosby in the early 1980's. This land is a segment of a major wildlife habitat corridor between the Ortega River (McGirts Creek), on which I live, and Black Creek, in Duval and Clay Counties respectively.

On June 22, 1980, during the lengthy process of land-transfer, I accompanied Lenore McCullagh, who served as DAS liaison with the Crosbys, and her husband, Henry, my partner in medical practice, on a riverine reconnaissance of the property with a focus on its malacofauna. After parking on the west side of Blanding Blvd. near the Duval-Clay boundary, we launched our canoe from the right bank of McGirts and paddled upstream about an half-mile. Almost immediately we reached the NE corner of the tract and traced its northern boundary on our left while we proceeded roughly westward. Progress was leisurely as we sampled the sandy bottom and submerged vegetation in the tannin-stained but clear waters. Girding the serpiginous watercourse through much of this stretch is paralotic swampland. Here we occasionally put ashore in the cool shade and prospected for land snails on habitable patches within the hydric hammock, in which Bald-cypress, Red Maple, Sweetgum, and Tupelo were the dominant cover.

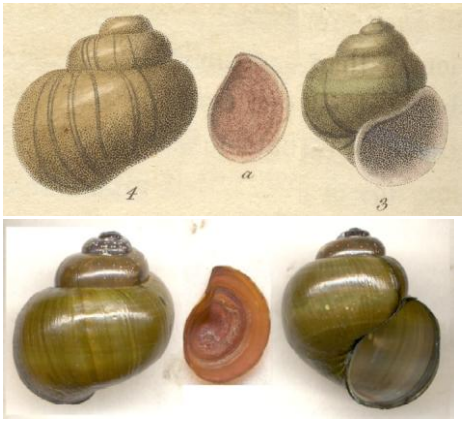
It was a pleasant excursion. Furthermore, the periodically-edited species account in my field log indicates 22 species, all but four aquatic, were collected at this (extended) station. That's a healthy chunk of biodiversity - maybe not by ornithological standards, but reasonably robust by NE Florida molluscan measure. These taxa are among those tabulated in the appendix below.

In May of this year, Jacksonville Shell Club (JSC) member and scientific author, Heather McCarthy (McCarthy and Lisenby, 2010), asked me about the status of a NE Florida aquatic snail, *Amnicola rhombostoma* (F. Thompson, 1968) the Squaremouth Amnicola, described from Peters Creek in Clay Co. and historically known from less than a dozen places in Clay, Putnam and St, Johns Cos. Heather could find no evidence the species had been collected since 1981. Since I had reason to believe it might be living in McGirts Creek, Heather called a meeting at the newly-opened Marine Science Research Institute of Jacksonville University (site of the October 27 JSC meeting). On September 13 I met Heather and two St. Johns Riverkeeper professionals, Jimmie Orth and Kelly Savage, in Jimmie's office. We ultimately decided to join forces with DAS President Pete Johnson, who kindly allowed Heather, Kelly, and me entry through the south gate of the Crosby at 427 Aquarius Concourse in a quiet NW Orange Park neighborhood three weeks later. Pete also served as our guide for about three hours as we trekked through parts of the sanctuary. The initial segment of the walk was through disturbed, mostly-cleared high ground. Shortly, we entered the bottomland swamp and later emerged at the power-line sward less than a half mile to the north. This area is a very boggy grassland maintained by the power company. We then slogged approximately eastward in the sward and encountered what appeared to be a southern tributary of McGirts Creek.

Although we failed to find the Squaremouth Amnicola, we did encounter lots of aquatic snails along the trek, and they, along with a brace of clams and eight land snails yielded a total count of 16 species for the portion of the tract we managed to cover. All are included in the appendix below and bring the cumulative Crosby Sanctuary mollusk species inventory to 30 species. The three largest aquatic snails have particular resonance with the Crosby Sanctuary, the St. Johns River, and in the history of science. Each is discussed below.

***Viviparus georgianus* (I. Lea, 1834), the Banded Mysterysnail, has the distinction of being one of the 51 species described in the first scientific conchological publication by an American author (Say, 1817). Although he suspected it was somewhat different, Thomas Say (1787-1834) nonetheless identified his material as *Lymnaea vivipara* and referred to *Helix vivipara* Linnaeus (1758: 772-773; species 603) as presented by the Englishman William Donovan (1801: plate 87). This latter taxon is now recognized as exclusively Old World in distribution. Seventeen years later, a fellow Philadelphia Quaker, Isaac Lea (1792-1886), recognized this, described it as new to science, and gave it a new name, *Paludina georgiana.* This cognomen, after generic reassignment, is how we know this snail today. The type locality is not far from here: "Hopeton, near Darien, Georgia" (Lea, 1834: 116: pl. 19, fig. 85). Many other non-marine mollusks were originally collected in or very near Hopeton, the plantation of James Hamilton Couper, a renaissance man who played a prominent role in the elucidation of the malacofauna of the Old South (Lee, 1978: 4-5). Taxa like *Littoridinops tenuipes* (Couper, 1844), *Triodopsis hopetonensis*, and *Anodonta couperiana* commemorate his industry. The Banded Mysterysnail has a very wide distribution in eastern North America (Clench, 1962), and its relevant taxonomic history dates to the dawn of binominal nomenclature and even earlier (see Linnaeus, 1758).**

To my initial bafflement, two living adult *Viviparus intertextus* (Say, 1829a: 244), each about an inch in height, were found by blindly netting the swampwater substrate at a culvert under the earthen causeway which was our northward pathway (see image at top of page). The point was about half the 0.4 mi distance from the gate to the power line swath. The Rotund Mysterysnail is predominantly an inhabitant of the Ohio-Mississippi and Mobile River Systems (Clench and Fuller, 1965), and its presence in Florida had previously only been hypothetical (Thompson, 1984: 17; 2004) and then possibly only in the panhandle (Thompson, 2004: species 13b). Say's description of *Paludina intertexta* was reprinted in Binney (1858: 146) and is reproduced below. While there was no type figure, the author redescribed and figured this species in his magnum opus, *American Conchology,* two years later (Say, 1831: pl. 30, fig 3, 3a). Just above, those figures, depicting two different shells, are juxtaposed with images of one of the Crosby specimens above.



A few days later, I dissected the two specimens and found about a dozen juveniles in the "uterus" of each. The very friable, flat-topped shells of these "embryos" varied in size from 2 to 3 mm and had a very different appearance from the adults and from unborn of *V. georgianus*. They are perfectly represented in an engraving taken from Haldeman (1871: pl. 10, figs. 5, 6). Besides yielding some insight into the allometric growth of this species and the fundamental morphological differences between it and *V. georgianus*, this discovery unequivocally documents reproduction in this novel, isolated population.

PALUDINA INTERTEXTA.—Shell subglobose, yellowish-green or brownish, wrinkled, and with minute, very numerous, obsolete revolving, deciduous lines: spire depressed conic, obtuse, truncated, eroded at tip: volutions nearly four: suture rather deeply indented: umbilicus closed by the lateral extension of the columella.

Greatest breadth, from four-fifths to one inch; length about the same. Inhabits Louisiana.

We collected many of these shells in the marshes near New Orleans and on the banks of the Carondelet canal. It is remarkable for its globular form and for the numerous obsolete lines which seem like equidistant deciduous corrugations of the epidermis, having no effect whatever in modifying the calcareous surface, upon which it exhibits no trace.

In their own small way, these Rotund Mysterysnails and their story emphasize the value of aquatic preserves and lend the Crosby Sanctuary a little more credence as a refuge in this world of rampant growth and habitat destruction.

***Pomacea paludosa* (Say, 1829) is aptly dubbed the Florida Applesnail as it is endemic to our state. Like the Banded Mysterysnail, when it was originally reported in the scientific literature, the name applied to it required correction. In this instance, it was not a misidentification but a nomenclatorial gaffe that accounted for the problem. Initially the name *Ampullaria depressa* Say, 1824 was introduced for snails collected by Say in 1818 at "Mr. Fatio's Plantation" (Say, 1824: 12, 13; plate 14, fig. 3) and by John Eatton LeConte (1784 – 1860), who conducted an official expedition to discover the source of the St. Johns River under the auspices of Secretary of War John C. Calhoun in 1822 (Lee, 1978: 6-7). This LeConte, like his brother, son and nephews of the same surname, was a renaissance naturalist in the style of their Georgia low country neighbor, James Hamilton Couper (Lee, 1978: 4-7). Beside bringing to light several mollusks, J. E. LeConte discovered new herps, mammals, insects, and plants during his peregrinations in the American Southeast in the service of the US Army Corps of Engineers**.

It seems quite likely a son of Francis Philip Fatio (1724-1811), a Swiss immigrant turned Florida planter <http://www.jaxshells.org/fatio18.htm> on the St. Johns River in New Switzerland, St. Johns Co., was host to Thomas Say and his party in early 1818 (see Lee, 2007). Beside the first scientifically-collected Florida Applesnail, Say found the type material of the Florida endemic landsnail, *Polygyra* [now *Daedalochila*] *avara*, in the "orange groves of Mr. Fatio" (Say, 1818: 276) during the visit.

As mentioned above, Thomas Say's original name for this applesnail, *Ampullaria depressa* is not legit. From the early days of binominal nomenclature, and as now codified in the provisions of the "Code" (ICZN, 1999: Article 52), the name *A. depressa* Say was unavailable for purposes of taxonomic nomenclature because it is a primary junior homonym of *A. depressa* Lamarck, 1804 [a Middle Eocene marine moonsnail-like fossil and type of the genus *Ampullina* Bowdich, 1822 (now Campaniloidea: Ampullinidae)]. Five years later, after Say had rusticated himself in New Harmony, Indiana, he indicated the nomenclatorial predicament and replaced his *Ampullaria depressa* with *A. paludosa* (Say, 1829b: 260; Say, 1840: 22). It is by this time-honored cognomen, after generic reassignment, that the Florida Applesnail has been known since. A rendition of a living specimen is figured below (Haldeman, 1845: No. 8 *Ampullaria,* plate 1):

Thus, through just the small lens of malacology, the history of geographic and biological exploration has weaved a fine fabric, one which envelops Riverkeepers, ecologists, conservationists, and other votaries of natural environment. The vision of the Crosbys and the DAS, who have endowed posterity with the framework to appreciate this rich heritage, should be applauded.

Acknowledgements: The author expresses his gratitude to the DAS and Pete Johnson for the opportunity to conduct this study and for the provision of the habitat photograph used in this report, to Heather McCarthy for the germination of the project, and to these two individuals and Kelly Savage for excellent leadership and assistance in the field. William Frank is thanked for professional editing of the images and formatting the text and Richard I. Johnson for sharing his copy of the "holy grail" of American malacology, Thomas Say's first conchological work (Say, 1817).

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On-line at <http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/33429#24> [see pp. 20-21]**

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APPENDIX:

Mollusca of the DAS Crosby Sanctuary, Orange Park, Clay Co., Florida
Phylogenetic order and <linked to figure(s), not necessarily Crosby Sanctuary specimens>:
1980 = A; 2010 = B

Aquatic species
***Elliptio ahenea* (I. Lea, 1847) Southern Lance A**
***Elliptio buckleyi* (I. Lea, 1834) Florida Shiny Spike A**
***Elliptio icterina* (Conrad, 1834) Variable Spike A B**
***Toxolasma paulum* (I. Lea, 1840) Iridescent Lilliput A**
***Uniomerus carolinianus* (Bosc, 1801) Florida Pondhorn A**
***Eupera cubensis* (Prime, 1865) Mottled Fingernailclam A**
***Pisidium nitidum* (Jenyns, 1832) Shiny Peaclam A**
***Sphaerium occidentale* (Lewis, 1856) Herrington Peaclam A B**
***Campeloma floridense* (Call, 1886) Purple-throat Campeloma A**
***Viviparus georgianus* (I. Lea, 1834) Banded Mysterysnail A B**
***Viviparus intertextus* (Say, 1829a) Rotund Mysterysnail B**
***Pomacea paludosa* (Say, 1829) Florida Applesnail A B**
***Amnicola dalli johnsoni* (Pilsbry, 1920) North Peninsula Amnicola A**
***Aphaostracon rhadinum* F. Thompson, 1968 Slough Hydrobe A**
***Floridobia fraterna* (F. Thompson, 1968) Creek Siltsnail A**
***Pseudosuccinea columella* (Say, 1817) Mimic Lymnaea A**
***Physella heterostropha* (Say, 1817) Pewter Physa A B**
***Planorbella duryi* (Wetherby, 1879) Florida Rams-horn A B**
***Laevapex fuscus* (C.B. Adams, 1841) Dusky Ancylus A**

Terrestrial species
***Gastrocopta tappaniana* (C. B. Adams, 1841) White Snaggletooth B**
***Pupisoma dioscoricola* (C.B. Adams, 1845) Yam Babybody B**
***Oxyloma effusum* (L. Pfeiffer, 1853) Coastal Plain Ambersnail A**
***Punctum minutissimum* (Lea, 1841) Small Spot A B**
***Euconulus trochulus* (Reinhart, 1885) Silk Hive A B**
***Glyphyalinia umbilicata* (Singley in Cockerell, 1893) Texas Glyph B**
***Hawaiia minuscula* (A. Binney, 1840) Minute Gem B**
***Ventridens demissus* (A. Binney, 1843) Perforate Dome B**
***Euglandina rosea* (Férussac, 1821) Rosy Wolfsnail A**
***Mesodon thyroidus* (Say, 1817) White-lip Globe B**
***Polygyra cereolus* (Mühlfeld, 1816) Southern Flatcoil B**

A greatly expanded Internet edition of this report is available at <http://www.jaxshells.org/crosby.htm>.

2011 SHELL SHOWS & RELATED EVENTS (Jan. – Jul.)

Provided by Donald Dan, COA

- Following information is subject to change. Please verify with individual organization -

Jan. 15-16 **SPACE COAST SEASHELL FESTIVAL**, Melbourne, FL
2011 The Melbourne Auditorium, 625 E. Hibiscus Blvd.
Jim & Bobbi Cordy, 385 Needle Blvd.
Merritt Is., FL 32953 (321) 452-5736
E-mail: corshell@earthlink.net

Jan. 22-23 **BROWARD SHELL SHOW**, Pompano Beach, FL
2011 Pompano Beach Recreation Center, NE 18th Av. & NE 6th St.
Nancy Galdo/Richard Sedlak, 4266 Chase Ave.
Miami Beach, FL 33140-3008 (305) 531-0036
E-mail: nancygaldo@gmail.com

Feb. 11-13 **SARASOTA SHELL SHOW**, Palmetto, FL
2011 Palmetto Convention & Civic Center, 1 Haben Blvd.
Sandy Pillow, 11017 Jasmine Circle
Bradenton, FL 34209 (941) 567-5982
E-mail: spillow6@comcast.net Cell: (810) 516-6120

Feb. 26-27 **ST. PETERSBURG SEA SHELL SHOW**, Seminole, FL
2011 Seminole Recreation Center, 9100 113th St. N., Seminole, FL
Bob & Betty Lipe, 348 Corey Avenue
St. Pete Beach, FL 33706 (727) 391-2197; FAX: 360-3668
E-mail: blipe@tampabay.rr.com.
Exhibit form available at web site: http://www.stpeteshellclub.org

Mar. 3 - 5 **SANIBEL SHELL SHOW**, Sanibel, FL
2011 Sanibel Community Center, Periwinkle Way
Irene Longley, 2823 8th Ave.
St. James City , FL 33956-2133 (239) 283-7417
E-mail: milsfrills@cs.com

Mar. 5 - 6 **XXIIéme RECONTRES INTERNATIONALES DU COQUILLAGE,** Paris, France
2011 Bourse de Commerce, 2 rue des Viarmes**,** 75004 Paris, France
M. & D. Wantiez, 88, Rue du General Leclerc
95210 Saint Gratien, France 33 (1) 34-17-00-39
E-mail: wantiez.mada@wanadoo.fr

Mar. 10-12 **MARCO ISLAND SHELL CLUB SHOW XXXI**, Marco Is., FL
2011 Marco Presbyterian Church, Elkcam Circle
Linda Shockley, 348 Colonial Avenue
Marco Island, FL 34145 (239) 394-5416
E-mail: marco-sheller@earthlink.net

Apr. 30 **BRITISH SHELL COLLECTOR'S CLUB CONVENTION,** Essex, England
2011 Theydon Bois Community Centre, Essex
John Whicher 44 196 336 3715
email: john@whicher.plus.com

May 14-15 **XXI BELGIUM INTERNATIONAL SHELL SHOW**, Antwerp, Belgium
2011 "Extra Time" Sports Hall, Louisalei 24, Hoboken
Charles Krijnen, Burgemeester Jansenstraat 10
NL-5037 NC Tilburg, Nederland 31 (13) 463 0607
E-mail: bvc.shellshow@planet.nl
Web site: www.bvc-gloriamaris.be/beurs_e.htm

Jul. 13-17 **CONCHOLOGISTS OF AMERICA ANNUAL CONVENTION,** Cape Canaveral, FL
2011 Radisson Resort at the Port, 870 Astronaut Boulevard
Bobbi Cordy - corshell@earthlink.net (321) 452-5736
Doris Underwood - dunderwood13@cfl.com (321) 622-4372
Web site: www.conchologistsofamerica.org

Jul. 2 - 3 **TOWNSVILLE SHELL SHOW**, Townsville, Queensland, Australia
2011 Orchid Society Hall, Charles Street, Kirwan
Glenda Rowse, 19 Farrell Street
Kirwan 4814, Queensland, Australia (7) 4773-2817

Jul. 9 - 10 **KEPPEL BAY SHELL SHOW,** Yeppoon, Queensland, Australia
2011 Gus Moore Pavilion at the Yeppoon Show Ground
Jean M. Offord, 277 McDougall St.,
N. Rockhampton, Qld. 4701, Australia (7) 4928-3509

Jul. 13-17 **CONCHOLOGISTS OF AMERICA ANNUAL CONVENTION,** Cape Canaveral, FL
2011 Radisson Resort at the Port, 870 Astronaut Boulevard
Bobbi Cordy corshell@earthlink.net (321) 452-5736
Doris Underwood dunderwood13@cfl.com (321) 622-4372
Web site: www.conchologistsofamerica.org

Details pending **AMERICAN MALACOLOGICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING**, Pittsburgh, PA
Website: http://www.malacological.org/meetings/next.html

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Marine Science Research Institute continued
1. Dr. A. Quinton White discussing the Marine Science Research Institute
2. Lower level "wet" area
3. A lab with specimens
4. Maggi Wheldon, a past member, who donated her collection to the University
5. Part of the Maggi Wheldon Collection on display at the institute

Jacksonville Shell Club Represented at National Workshop

By, Matt Blaine

The Jacksonville Shell Club was well represented in Saint Louis, Missouri at the FMCS 2010 Workshop, Regional Fauna Identification and Sampling, Oct 19-21, 2010 and at the field trips that followed.

JSC members in attendance were Henry McCullaugh, Dona Blaine, and Matt Blaine.

The workshop concentrated on teaching members how to identify different species of fresh water mussels which is not an easy task. Unlike marine mollusks, fresh water mollusks can look exactly alike and be different species or look quite different and be same species. The actual collecting location is important in the identification.

This difficulty in identifying is not limited to less experienced people either. Even the experts sometimes have trouble with identification of members of certain species. The workshop covered the various regions in the United States presented by experts from those regions. Specific populations of fresh water mussels endemic to each region were presented and specific key points of identification were mentioned. Many of the regions are experiencing a shocking decline in species population and numbers. This is caused by a variety of factors such as the construction of dams on the river systems, pollution, and extreme weather phenomenon.

Many species have been elevated to endangered or threatened designations on a regional basis and some on a national basis as a result.

Other interesting things brought out in the presentations were videos of the unusual techniques that the mussels use to attract the fish that their glochidia (baby mussels) will attach to for a short time. Members of Unionidae use this unusual technique to disperse their offspring. One group has parts of its mantle that imitate a crayfish, another actually lures the unsuspecting fish between the mussel's open valves and shuts on the fish like a mouse trap. The captured fish is released a short time later with the glochidia attached.

There were specimens of all species available for participants to look at and even some that could be touched. This was available in "shell time" which punctuated the presentations. In addition there were discussions about ongoing efforts to breed and release mussels in an attempt to repopulate areas and rejuvenate populations.

A highlight of the Workshop was a selection of two fieldtrips on which mussels were surveyed by several techniques and identified by the participants. One went to fairly deep water on the Meramec River and used the traditional brail hooks and divers to collect. This was an alternate location, as the original was planned to be on the Mississippi River but had to be changed as a result of high water. That group found 8 species in total. The other group went to a shallower area on the Meramec River and was able to collect 28 species!

Interestingly the technique of using brail hooks to drag the bottom and allow mussels to clamp down on them is still legal and in use. Now days it is one technique used to survey populations as is scuba diving, snorkeling, and wading.

In the past few years advances in farming fresh water mussel pearls and the development of artificial implants for the marine pearl industry has lessened the harvest of Unionidae for their shells. The development of plastic buttons also had an impact.

In Missouri and other states, the collection of Unionidae is prohibited without a license. This prohibition even includes the collection of dead shells. Fortunately the Blaines were able to acquire licenses to bring dead shells back for study and incorporation into their collection. All in all it was a wonderfully rewarding and interesting experience.
Photos of the second spot are included below.

IN MEMORIAM

James L. Smith, 3 May, 1936 - 5 September, 2010

Many of us, including veteran members of the Jacksonville Shell Club (JSC), mourn the loss of a friend and colleague, Jim Smith, who was active in all aspects of club life during the early-to-mid-1970's. Although he moved his residence to Chunchula, AL, he maintained his club membership and kept in touch with us, most notably with an appearance at the 2008 shell show, where he exhibited some of the prizes he collected in Okinawa. At that time he was obviously not feeling well, which made his two-day-long trek from the farm and back seem like a pilgrimage of devotion to those of us who knew the man.

Jim was born in Eilar, AL, a temporary lumber town lost from the memory of almost everyone (including the Internet). After graduating from high school in 1953, he enlisted in the Marine Corps. After basic training and specialty schooling, his first overseas billets were Korea and Japan. After his 1957 discharge he took a civilian job with U.S. Army Headquarters. Two years later he became the Court Recorder for the U.S. Civil Administration Ryukyu Islands. In 1965 he became a Management Analyst, a position that took him to various countries in Asia. Later, the Army transferred him to Korea to serve as a comptroller at the Headquarters of 8th Army, for a year serving as an Advisor to the U.N. Command.

Jim married Rose in 1964, and she was his abiding companion until her passing in 1989. I don't remember seeing Jim without her at his side until 2008.

Jim valued education and hard work. In Okinawa, he'd ply "his day job," attend University of Maryland from 6:00 P.M.to 9:00 P.M., and then serve as night editor of the only Angloscript civilian news paper in the Far East. He was elected to Pi Sigma Alpha, the Political Science National Honor Society while attending college at night.

In 1968 Jim and Rose moved back to Okinawa, where he became a Supervisor. Early in this, his last overseas billet, he called on his USMC SCUBA training, resumed diving, and began collecting mollusks. The latter began as a culinary enterprise, but the beauty of the shells soon captivated him. He amassed quite a collection of them and made many special discoveries, among them habitat of *Vexillum (V.) stainforthi* (Reeve, 1841). In fact, the specimen featured on the jaxshells website <http://www.jaxshells.org/stainfor.htm> was collected by our Jim Smith. Jim and Rose moved to Jacksonville in 1972 and shortly joined the JSC. Among his many contributions to the club was his leadership of field trips. The most memorable of these was my first experience collecting Angelwings under his careful tutelage on the flats of Horseshoe Beach, Dixie Co.

Although Jim retired in 1974, he was called upon once again by the U.S. Army, and he and Rose moved to Ft. Sheridan, IL and finally to his native Alabama a few years later. There he fulfilled his lifetime dream of becoming a farmer (while working a day job as a Tax Assessor for the state, naturally). He had cattle, chickens, geese, peafowl, turkeys a garden with fresh vegetables, melons and tomatoes, and he kept bees. He lost Rose in the Spring of 1989 and married Margie, Rose's best friend and the former wife of Jim's Okinawa diving buddy, Sig, that autumn. The newly-weds had been neighbors for many of the 30 years they had known each other.

Although land-locked, Jim never lost his interest in shells. In September. 2009, he began a quest to identify a novel-appearing *Scaphella* Volute trawled in the Gulf. He never completed the task, but he did finish a life well-lived, one in which he demonstrated humility, generosity, keen wit, and industry in all he did.

This gentleman will be missed by those of us who had the good fortune to have crossed his path. We offer sympathies to Margie, who helped me fill in some of the biographical details I hadn't heard from Jim, some of which can be attributed to his pervasive modesty.

Harry G. Lee