



SHELL•O•GRAM

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Jacksonville Shell Club, Inc.
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Although meetings have been suspended for the last year and a half (see p. 2), the club customarily meets monthly at the Southeast Branch of the Jacksonville Public Library, 10599 Deerwood Park Blvd., Jacksonville, Florida <<https://www.jaxpubliclibrary.org/locations/southeast-regional>>. 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 *Shell-O-Gram* Editor-in-Chief. 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.

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

Upcoming meetings

The Jacksonville Shell Club, Inc. (JSC) customarily meets on the **fourth** Thursday of each month except for November (a week earlier due to Thanksgiving) in Function Room D of the Southeast Branch, Jax Public Library <<https://www.jaxpubliclibrary.org/locations/southeast-regional>>. At the time of this *Shell-O-Gram* issue, the library has given us the go-ahead to reprise our in-person meetings for the first time in 21 months! Of course, everyone in attendance is expected to have been fully vaccinated, be feeling well, and to comply with CDC recommendations for masking and social distancing. Consistent with our perennial November regimen, we'll convene on the 18th at 7:00 PM. We'll devote our time to a review of Rick Edwards' dive offshore of Jupiter Inlet (Martin-Palm Beach Co. border) last spring. He and son William piggy-backed a dive onto a JSC field trip led by Paul Jones in April and returned on the Fourth of July for a closer look. See his article in on p. 3. An Xmas party may be possible in December. Paul Jones will be in contact with us via email, and we may discuss such an event at the meeting.

CONCHOLOGISTS OF AMERICA 50th Anniversary

- ❖ 50 years of fabulous memories
- ❖ Terrific convention locations
- ❖ Outstanding dealer bourses and opportunities to purchase shells for our collections
- ❖ Educational programs
- ❖ Beautiful banquets with delicious entrees
- ❖ And, last but not least, all the wonderful long time friendships



Galveston, Texas

Howdy Y'all

May 31 – June 4, 2022



TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Tuesday, May 31 – Opening Ceremonies, COA Board Meeting, Programs, Silent Auctions, and Welcome Party

Wednesday, June 1 – Programs, Silent Auctions, and Oral Auction

Thursday, June 2 – Programs, Silent Auctions, and Banquet

Friday, June 3 – Club Rep Breakfast, Programs, Silent Auctions, Bourse

Saturday, June 4 - Bourse



COA GUEST RATE AT MOODY GARDENS

- ❖ \$179.00 per night plus tax
- ❖ Rates good for 2 days pre and/or post the convention
- ❖ Guest rooms consist of One King or Two Queens
- ❖ Rate is good for 1-4 guests per room



Shell show season in Florida is rapidly approaching

January 8-9, 2022. 56th Annual Broward Shell Show, Pompano Bch., FL: Emma Lou Olson Civic Center. Contact Alice Pace <alicepace90@att.net>

January 15-16, 2022. 41st Space Coast Seashell Festival/Show, Melbourne, FL (Astronaut Trail Shell Club): Eau Gallie Civic Center. Contact Alan Gettleman <lychee@cfl.rr.com>.

February 11-12, 2022. Annual Sarasota Shell Show, Sarasota, FL: Porter Building at Roberts Arena. Contact Donna Cassin <dcassin9411@verizon.net>.

February 25-27, 2022. 74th St. Petersburg Shell Show, Seminole, FL: Seminole Recreation Center. Contact John Jacobs <johncheryl@earthlink.net>.

Grunge micromollusks discovered over the last few months Part 2. Jupiter Reef

by Rick Edwards



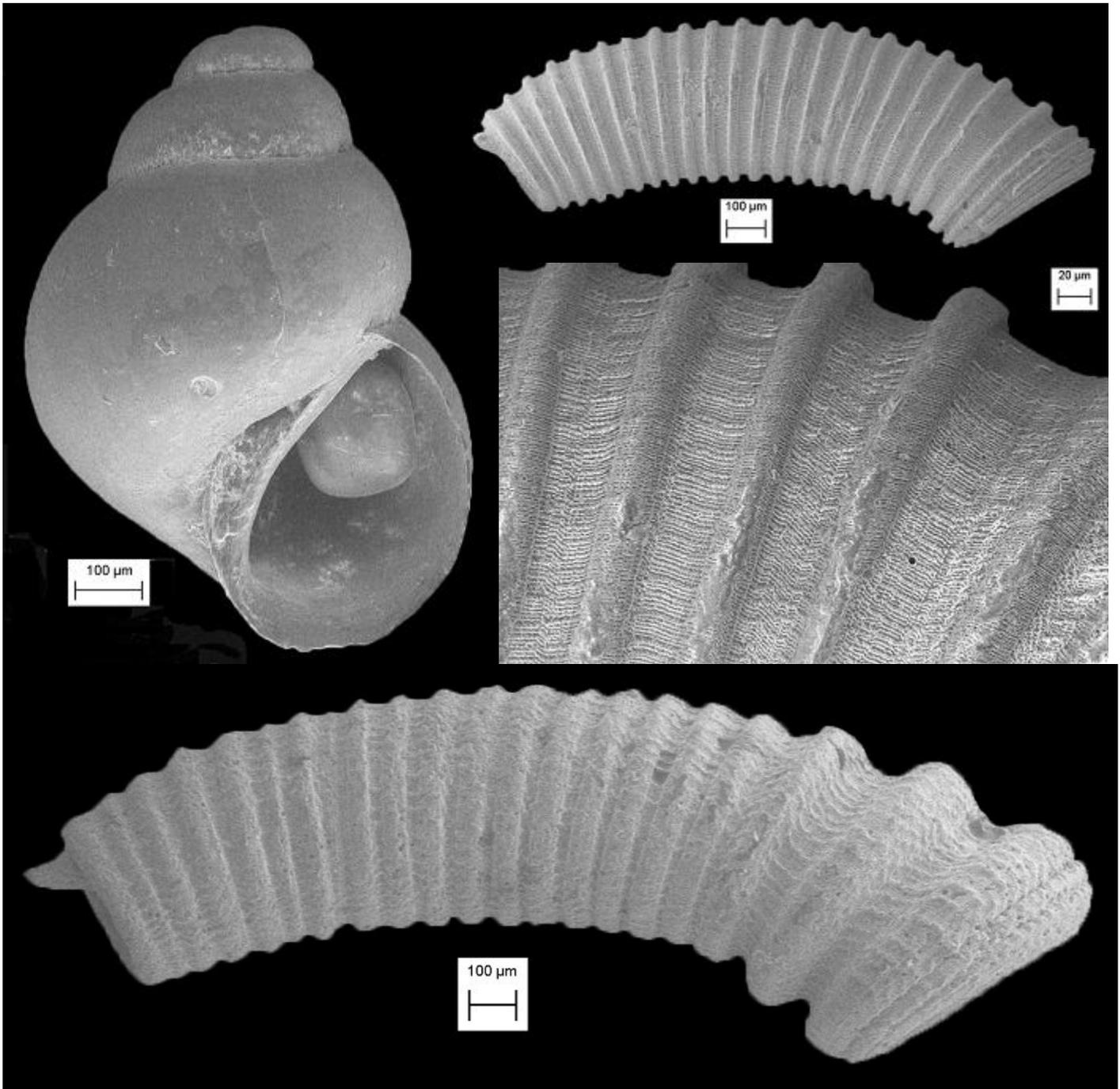
For those who know me, I love SUBA diving (certified since 1973) and go as often as I can and am able to afford. This past year, I got to dive off Jupiter, Florida in April and July. There is an ancient reef located about 1 ½ to 2 miles east of Jupiter inlet [**R lower corner of inset**] that runs north to south. It is easily reached by personal boat or by excursion through a dive shop. In April, the Jacksonville Shell Club, led by Paul Jones, arranged a shelling field trip to the area to work some of the beaches that he knew about. My son, William, who is a diver, had made a couple of dives there with some friends, so we decided to do some diving prior to the inshore shelling part of the trip.

The upper reef is about 60 feet deep, and the sand flats at the reef edge go down to nearly 80 feet. Since we joined a group through one of the local dive shops, we followed a divemaster while exploring a section of the reef. Such a foray is considered a “drift dive” since the boat is not anchored and the dive boat follows a buoy towed by the divemaster. When a diver surfaces, the boat picks him up and continues to follow the buoy until everyone is on board. During dives on this reef, sea turtles, sharks, assorted other fish, soft and hard corals, and other marine life can be seen. Other than a couple of empty clams, there were hardly any visible mollusks on the April trip.

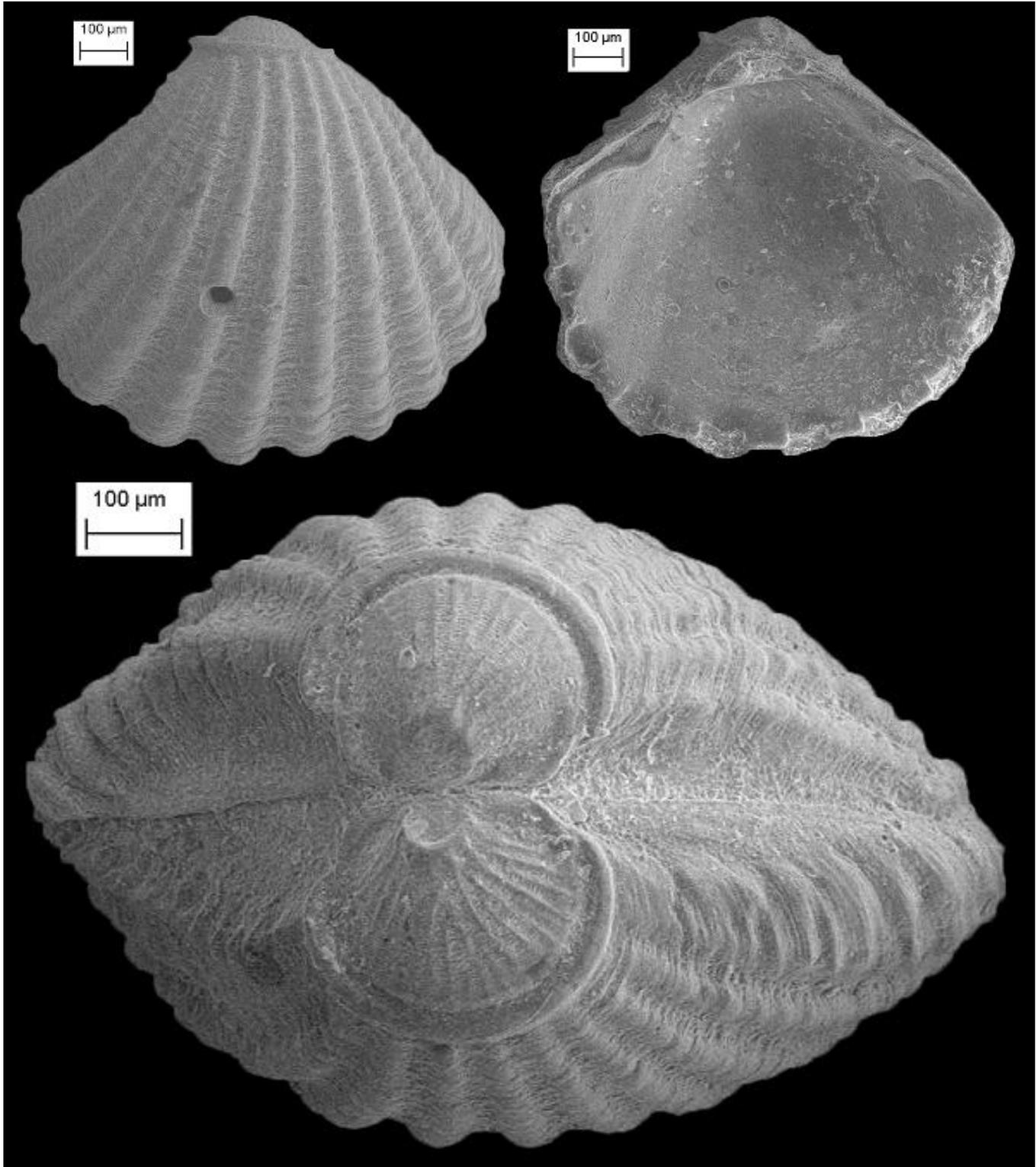
During the July 4th weekend, William and I dove Jupiter again. However, that dive was much more interesting. Dr. Harry Lee has had a standing request to bring some bottom samples back, if possible, for study. On the July 4th dive, I did collect a sample that I thought might be of interest. In the spot where we were diving, a large section of the reef had about a 1½ ft. drop at its edge. I followed the drop and collected a small (300 mL) sample of sediment (at the base of this shelf). Also, I collected several shells by direct surveillance on this portion of the reef. Included in this portion of the harvest were two Atlantic Gray Cowries, a Yellow Cowrie, a Coffeebean Triva, an Orange-banded Marginella, an *Arcopgia fausta*, and a *Trachardium magnum*. These shells were empty of their animal and in good to excellent condition. I was surely delighted with these finds, I was more impressed with the micro shells Dr. Lee had separated from the sample I had collected for him.

Below he presents just a few of the micromollusks from my little sample as captured by the University of Florida Department of Geological Sciences scanning electron microscope (SEM).

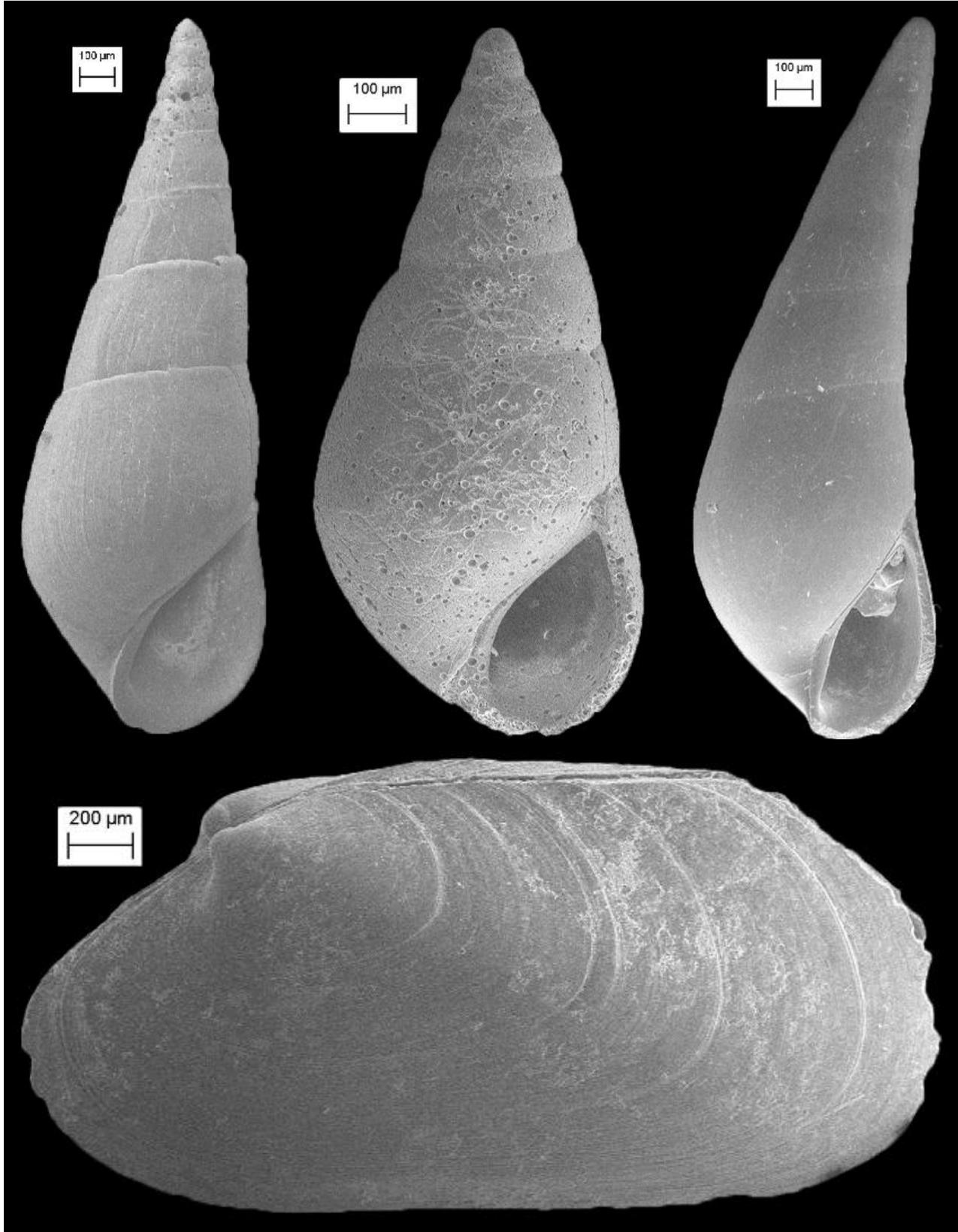
Below, clockwise from upper L: *Rissoella sanguinea* Caballer, Ortea, & Redfern, 2014 0.96mm UF IZ 570929 [first US record]; *Caecum donmoorei* Mitchell-Tapping, 1979 1.60mm UF IZ 571257; same at higher magnification [$\sim 6X$ greater]; *Caecum floridanum* Stimpson, 1851 2.27mm UF IZ 571256 [$100\ \mu\text{m} = 0.1\text{mm}$].

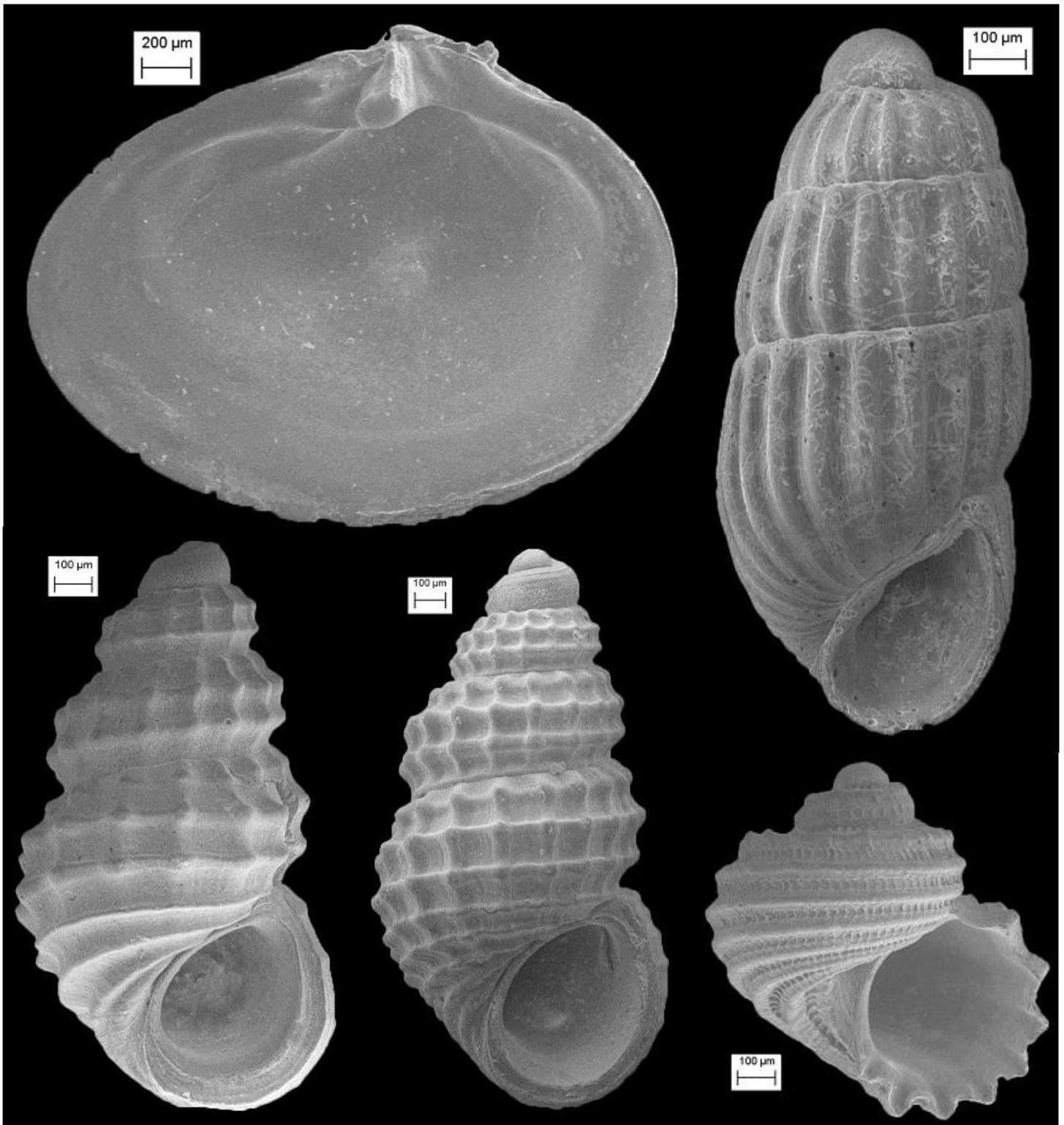


Below, clockwise from upper L: *Carditopsis bernardi* (Dall, 1903) 1.01mm R valve UF IZ 57093; the opposite valve (natural pair) UF IZ 570934; same species 1.05mm in apical view showing striking prodissoconch UF IZ 571248 [first US record].

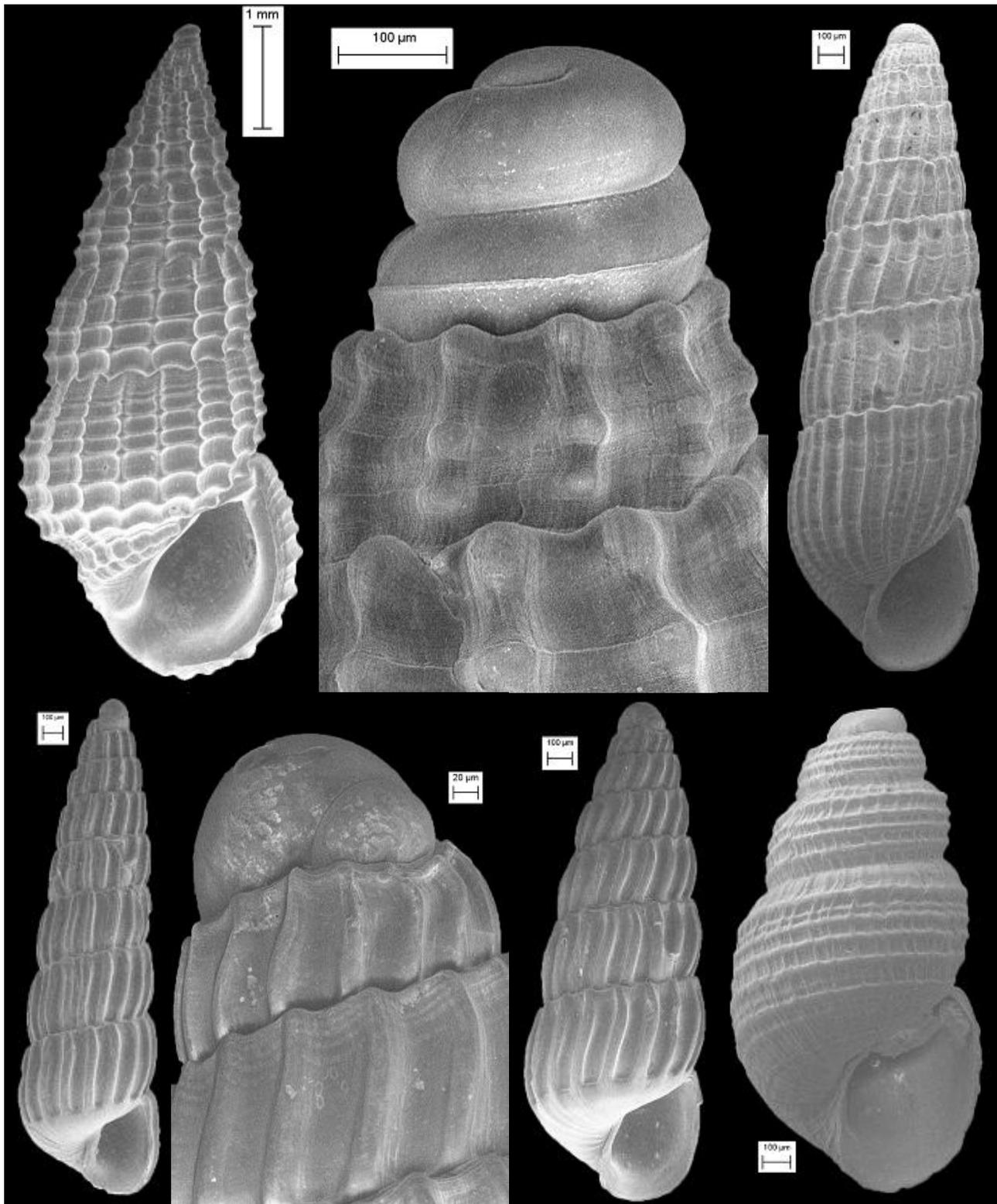


Below, clockwise from upper L: *Oceanida inglei* Lyons, 1978 2.05mm UF IZ 570913; *Vitreobalcis* species 1.25mm UF IZ 570928 [first US record]; *Vitreolina* species B (Redfern, 2013 no. 349) 2.02mm UF IZ 570932 [first US record]; *Coralliophaga coralliophaga* (Gmelin, 1791) 2.84mm juvenile [hinged pair].





Above, clockwise from upper L: *Planktomya henseni* Simroth, 1896 2.66mm R valve UF IZ 570910 [first US record]; *Odostomella fonteini* (De Jong & Coomans, 1988) 1.31mm UF IZ 570911 [first FL record]; *Parviturbo comptus* (Woodring, 1928) 0.92mm UF IZ 570914 [first US record]; *Simulamereлина* species (Redfern, 2013: no. 160) 1.57mm UF IZ 570919 [first US record]; *S. caribaea* (d'Orbigny, 1842) 1.81mm UF IZ 570917.



Above, clockwise from upper L: *Phosinella cancellina* (Rolán & Fernández-Garcés, 2010) 6.47mm UF IZ 570909 [first US record]; its protoconch (pc) [$\sim 10\times$]; *Turbonilla pupoides* (d'Orbigny, 1841) 2.60mm UF IZ 570924; "*Chrysallida*" sp. (Redfern, 2013; no. 651) 1.75mm UF IZ 570941 [first US record]; *Turbonilla abrupta* Bush, 1899 stout 2.05mm; pc [$\sim 5\times$]; slender 2.45mm UF IZ 570923, 570926. [article continued in next issue]

Angie's Shell Painting: Life Imitating Art

By Angie Marsland

Nearly a decade ago, whilst living in the UK, the British Shell Collector's Club was holding its annual competition at their Shell Show. I had only submitted entries twice before in the "single species" and "shell art" categories. This time I decided to enter the photography category – with a twist.

I'd been browsing online through shell still-life paintings by Balthasar van der Ast (1593-1657), an artist who produced many works during the Dutch Golden Age (circa 1588-1672). He was considered a pioneer in the genre of shell painting and he often included small lizards and insects. Other notable Dutch shell artists were Adrian Coorte, Antoine Berjon and Wenceslaus Hollar. In those days, the use of shells in paintings was to depict purity, birth, fertility and wealth. Only the wealthy could afford to have ownership of shells from distant lands.

An idea came to mind to reproduce one of his paintings with shells from my collection, plus a couple of props. My first challenge was to find a painting with shells that I already had in my possession. Secondly, they had to be the right size, relative to one another. Finally, I had to be able to source the other features of the painting (flowers, vases, fruits, etc.).

After reviewing all of his known works, I chose the painting with the simple title of "Seashells" dated 1630-1650. It fitted my criteria, as I have no aptitude for floral arrangements, nor ownership of antique vases and preserved lizards and insects! The following shell species were used:

Achatina achatina, *Aliger gigas*, *Amphidromus* species, *Cassis tuberosa*, *Charonia tritonis* x 2, *Chicoreus ramosus*, *Cittarium pica*, *Conus ebraeus*, *Conus textilis* (darkened the tents to simulate *Conus episcopatus*), *Mitra mitra* and *Nautilus pompilius*.

The dimensions of the van der Ast painting photograph is 4 x 5.5 inches and my own arrangement photograph is 8 x 10 inches. I had fun doing this project – the photography isn't great but not bad for an "aim and shoot" camera used ten years ago. I might try another one if I can improve on arranging flowers and sourcing some creepy crawlies!

ART IMITATING LIFE	LIFE IMITATING ART
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Adapted from November, 2021 issue of *The Epitonium*, newsletter of the Houston Conchological Society with permission of the author and editor, Lucy Clampit.



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