



The Epitonium

November Meeting

Have you ever wondered how the Houston Museum of Natural Science acquires specimens for the exhibits and what criteria is used for accepting donations? Our own Tina Petway, HMNS Curator of Malacology, will explain the interesting process to us at the next meeting on **Sunday, November 13**. Come and join us at **2:00 pm at the Immanuel Lutheran Church** where you can get a glimpse of behind-the-scenes work at the Museum. Normally we meet on the 3rd Sunday of the month, but the meeting was moved up a week because of Thanksgiving. If you want something to drink or a snack, please bring your own

President's Message

By Leslie Crnkovic

Hello HCS Members,

It was so good to see you at all the Jamboree and Shell Show, and hope to see you at the November meeting. As we enter the holiday season there are lots of fun activities to participate in from the HGMS show, the HCS Tree at HMNS, and the HCS Xmas Party.

To keep up, please check out the calendar we put together for the HCS club year and see you all at the meeting!!!

Leslie

Jamboree/Shell Show Thanks

Most of these people performed multiple jobs which are too numerous to list, so here are the highlights:

Wanda Coker, thanks for helping us secure

the great venue. Wanda, Patty Humbird, Dave & Linda Green, along with Lucy & Jerry Clampit, thanks for the hours of planning & work to make the Jamboree/Shell Show happen.

Other HCS members working diligently include: Angie Haneiko – registration; Lucy, Darwin Alder & Sandy Clark – silent auction; Rusti Stover – goody bags; Mary Harris – Banquet centerpieces; Linda Green – puzzles and room layout; Angie and Jerry – cashiers; Cathy Betley – raffle and guess how many; Darwin & Lucy – door prizes; Dave – Master of Ceremonies; Lucy – programs; Alan Gettleman, John Jacobs, Gene Everson, Tina Petway, & Kelly Drinnen – speakers; Angie, Mary, Sandy, Cheryl Hood, & Lisa Alderman – silent auction tables; the Brazosport Museum of Natural Science – Welcome Party. Thank you!

Dave, thank you for organizing the oral auction and being an auctioneer, and thanks to Darwin for helping with the auctioneering.

Wanda & Patty, thank you for your help organizing the meals along with Karen Dean and hamburger chef Steven Coker. Thanks to everyone who brought snacks.

A big thank you to everyone who donated items for the auctions. The list is too long to name everyone, but a special thanks to the late Virginia Joiner and the Houston Museum of Natural Science.

Most importantly, thank you for coming and spending your hard-earned money. We made enough money to keep **continued on page 2**

Minutes continued from Page 2 Leslie mentioned the Bylaws revisions that were discussed at the Board Meeting in July, asking for volunteers for the Revisions Committee. Rusti, Leslie and Linda Green volunteered. Part of the review will be the addition to the bylaws designating the September Meetings becoming the Annual Meeting.

In Open Floor Discussion, Tina mentioned that Dr. Hans Bertsch, a Professor in California, is writing a book about women who have made significant contribution to Malacology in the last one hundred years, so Tina is looking for pictures of Connie Boone.

There being no further business, Wanda Coker made a motion to adjourn, Sandy Clark seconded, all approved; meeting was adjourned at 3:13 pm.

After the meeting, Lucy Clampit gave a program of photos from the COA Convention in Galveston. There were a few member exhibits set up for viewing by meeting attendees.

HCS Christmas Party

Please mark your calendars. The Christmas Party will be **Sunday, December 11, 2:00 pm**, at the home of Nancy and John Mustachio. More details next month



Immanuel Lutheran Church Address

The church where the HCS usually meets is in the Heights area of Houston, between Cortlandt St. and Arlington St. The editor has been using the Arlington address in the newsletter, but that gate is rarely open. We usually enter through the gate on E. 15th St., so this will be the address used in future newsletters: 306 E. 15th St.

Jamboree Find

By Sandy Clark

I didn't have an agenda for the Jamboree, but just wandered around picking up what spoke to me. I've always been partial to bivalves and lately to the "spikey" ones. The Malleus oyster has always been on my want list and - there It was - with a Spondylus attached! Two for one. Some of the other shells were purchased from the auctions and sales table. When I got home, I decided to make an arrangement for my enjoyment and thought others might enjoy it as well. At the top is *Spondylus americanus*. Left of it is *S. limatus* and *S. americanus*. To the right is *Chama Lazarus*. The next row (left to right) is *Pinctada imbricata*, *Malleus w/S. sinensis*, and *Mercenaria campechiensis*. Below the Malleus is *Lopho frons*. The bottom row is a Pinna sp. followed by *Acesta rathbuni* and Pinna sp.



Shell Show Winners

The Shell Show featured some wonderful scientific & arts/crafts exhibits that made the judges' decisions very difficult. The awards were divided into 3 categories: Major Awards – included trophies & plaques, Ribbons – outstanding exhibits, & the Gnome Awards – humorous, seasonal awards. The list of winners is too long for this newsletter, so a few are pictured here, but a complete list is on the HCS website: www.houstonshellclub.com.

A big thank you to the judges:

Scientific &

Winners continued from page 3

Gnomes – Alan Gettleman & John Jacobs;
Art/Crafts – Ron White President of the Brazosport Art League.

Thanks to everyone who took the time to prepare a display/s. They made it a wonderful event!

T. E. Pulley Award

In 2002 HCS members established the T. E. Pulley award to honor his many contributions to the club. The late Dr. Tom Pulley was the Director of the Houston Museum of Natural Science where he helped to establish the Museum’s Malacology Department. He was instrumental in organizing the Northwest Gulf of Mexico Marine Mollusk Survey during the 1960s.

He was a valuable asset to a young Houston Conchology Society. Dr. Pulley taught malacology and conchology workshops at the Museum. Many members joined the HCS after attending one of his seminars. He was generous with his time. Members benefited from his educational programs at meetings and from his expertise on field trips. He was very supportive of the *Texas Conchologist* and contributed many articles to it.

Member Tina Petway designed the Award to be presented to a shell show exhibitor for an outstanding Texas marine shell. The award would be presented in the name of an HCS member who has made outstanding contributions to the club. The first T. E. Pulley Award was presented in the name of Barbara Hudson. The Sea Shell Searchers of Brazoria County shell show was the venue for the first award. Sea Shell Searchers member Irene Norris won for her *Busycon contrarium* display.

This year, the Award was presented to Janey Nill at the Sea Shell Searchers Shell Show in the names of Lucy and Jerry Clampit. Janey displayed an Atlantic Geoduck (*Panopea bitruncata* Conrad, 1872) that she dug up in

the bay at South Padre Island. **Congratulations, Janey!**



Steven Coker won the COA Award for his exhibit “A Dash of Nutmeg... Cancellariidae”.



Dave & Linda Green won the DuPont Trophy for their entry “Abalone of Western North America”.



In the Minor Family category, **Wanda Coker** won the Clara Lucille Green Memorial Award for "The Cymatiidae Family".



The category for Scientific Under 10 Feet, was won by **Leslie Crnkovic** for "The Millionaire's Shell".



Jamboree Puzzle Winners

A big thank you goes to Linda Green who suggested the bottles of sand with 37 tiny items hidden inside. She and a friend filled the bottles, and she donated them to the Jamboree. They were a big hit! Winners in order of correctness were: Patty Humbird, Jim Brunner, Karen Dean, Mary Harris, and Cheryl Hood.

Gene Everson from Louisville, KY won the Wayne Humbird Memorial Award for his "Seashells of the Indian Ocean – Self Collect-



A Quick Trip To the Oldest Public Beach In the Nation

by Rusti Stover

I had not had the opportunity to travel much in the past year, until my daughter told me I was going with her and her boss on a quick trip to Boston and New York City, as her birthday present to me this year. We got to Boston on October 26th, where we spent a day and a half before flying to New York, and doing lots of touristy things for a few days, including walking the Brooklyn Bridge, which was awesome. I checked off a lot of bucket list items on this trip (also walking part of Central Park).

Our hotel in coastal Massachusetts was right on the street across from the Oldest Beach in the Nation, (its official designation) Revere Beach, in Revere City, a Boston suburb. Imagine walking on the same beach as Paul Revere and 3 signers of the Declaration of Independence (Samuel Adams, John Hancock, Robert Treat Paine), who are all buried in the Boston Granary Burying Ground Cemetery, which we also saw on the trip! The 5 miles of beach is now a quiet curve of sand, as all the carnival rides and other venues of the past have been removed. Just a beautiful stretch of sand that people love to walk!



We got up early on the 27th, and bundled up in 52-degree sunny weather to walk the beach. Many large Atlantic Surf Clams were lying in the tide line, along with seaweed and some Sharks Eye or Moon Snails. Some of the Moon Snails had Slipper Shells (*Crepidula*) attached. There were also empty Blue Mussel shells, and I saw one Skate or Ray egg case, and the carapace of a red Jonah Crab. And of



course, I got a sand sample for my sand jar collection, which will be the 682ND sand specimen, according to my spreadsheet. I am also a birder, and noted 2 types of gulls on the beach, that also winter in our area, Ring Billed and Herring Gulls. It was altogether awesome to be there! I took the photo of the vintage seahorse sculptures along the covered walkway, as I know a few of our members like seahorses as a collectible.



Pictures from the Jamboree and Shell Show:





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Editor: Lucy Clampit

10532 Hammerly Blvd., Houston, TX 77043

Phone: (713) 468-0610

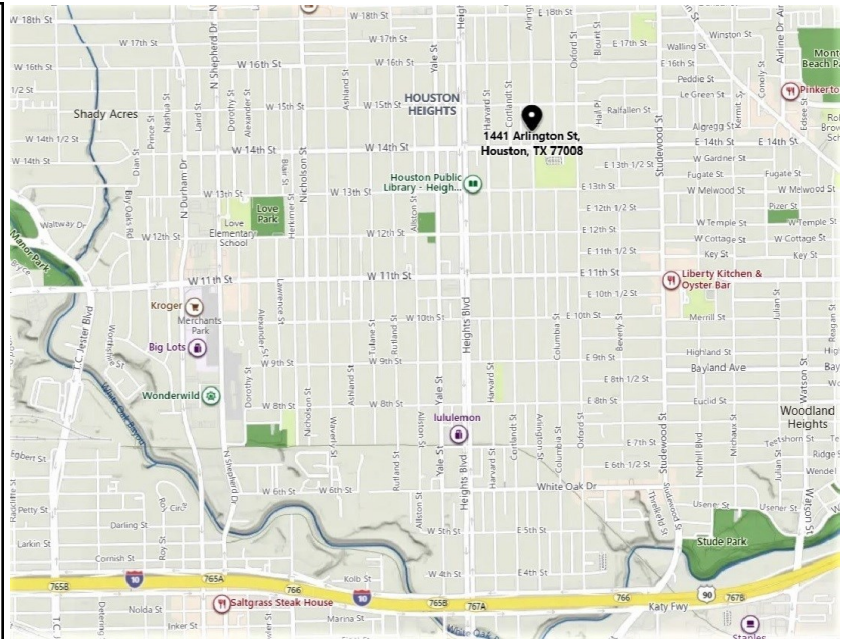
E-mail: lclampit@comcast.net

The Society holds regular meetings on the third Sunday of September, October, November, January, February and April. There are seasonal events and a yearly shell auction scheduled in the other months.

VISITORS WELCOME!!!

Membership year extends from June 1 through May 31.
Annual membership dues: Family \$20; Single \$15; Junior (under 18) \$6.

Make checks payable to Houston Conchology Society and send to Angie Haneiko, 11407 Blackhawk Blvd., Houston, TX 77089.



Immanuel Lutheran Church

306 E. 15th Street

HOUSTON CONCHOLOGY SOCIETY

Lucy Clampit, Corresponding Secretary

10532 Hammerly Blvd.

Houston, Texas 77043