



# The Epitonium

## September Program

The first HCS meeting of the new year will be **Tuesday, September 15** at the Houston Museum of Natural Science. Socializing and refreshments will begin at 7:00, and the business meeting will begin at 7:30.

Rusti Stover and Gary Olson will present the program. Here is Rusti's description of the program: "We have been searching out interesting things to see while shelling the Texas coast, photographing them, and put it all together over the past year, in an entertaining, sometimes silly, and slightly educational PowerPoint slide show that we hope you all will enjoy!" They are both good photographers, so it will be an outstanding program.

## Review of New Shell Book

By Harry Sharp

*Spirals in Time: The Secret Life and Curious Afterlife of Seashells* by Helen Scales. The British author has a great sense of humor and an amazingly clever and often funny way of dealing with very complicated scientific issues. She not only describes radulae, what they look like and how the various kinds function, but does it with a marvelous sense of humor. . The Wall Street Journal reviewed the book in August. Ms. Scales is a well educated practicing malacologist. I got it on my Kindle for \$9.99. It is not a picture book!!!. BUT it is

## President's Message

By Leslie Crnkovic

The summer was filled with a load of sheller's activity opportunities: a trip to Fredericksburg to see Kay Klaus, the Panama City Shell Show, a beach picnic with the Sea Shell Searchers, the COA Convention, and a social at Katz's. As we start up the new club year we hope that you will share with us some of your summer adventures.

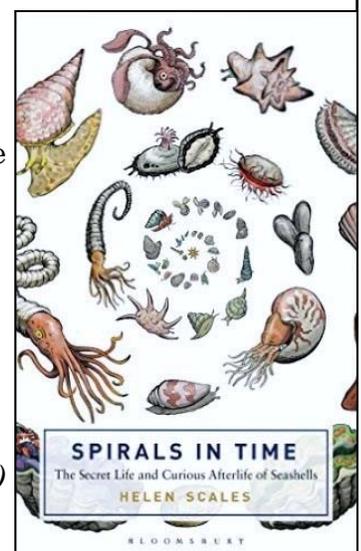
Rusti Stover has a great lineup of programs for us, and we will kick the September meeting off with a silent auction.

We also mourn the passing of some of our shell friends: Ruth Goodson and Jean Roe. We will miss them...

See you all at the meeting!

so interesting that I have found it difficult to put down. I am sure this lady is a great teacher.

(*Editor's notes: The book is available from Amazon and Barnes & Noble Web sites. Ms Scale's Web site is [www.helenscales.com](http://www.helenscales.com).)*



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Visit HCS online at  
[www.houstonshellclub.com](http://www.houstonshellclub.com)

## CALENDAR

<b>9-15</b>	<b>HCS meeting</b>
<b>10-20</b>	<b>HCS meeting</b>
<b>11-17</b>	<b>HCS meeting</b>
<b>12- ?</b>	<b>HCS Christmas Party</b>
4-29-16	Texas Jamboree
7-27-16	COA in Chicago

## In Memoriam

Two long-time HCS members passed away during the summer – Ruth Goodson and Jean Roe. They will be missed.

Charlie Roe thanks everyone for the outpouring of sympathy that he received after Jean’s death.

## Meeting Refreshments

Members really enjoy all of the delicious treats that everyone brings to the meetings, but the officers are asking for you to please bring finger foods only. As our membership ages, it is getting more difficult to find someone to drag boxes of plates and utensils back and forth to meetings. We cannot leave these items at the museum, so they will be available each month. The club will continue to provide drinks, but please bring food that does not need plates and utensils. Thank you.

## Fredericksburg Visit

In June Texas shellers gathered at the home of Kay and Del Klaus in Fredericksburg. A good time was had by all. Here are a few pictures taken by Cathy Betley and Rusti Stover.



## HMNS Needs Magazine Issues

The Malacology Department at the Museum of Natural Science is in need of the magazine *Of Sea and Shore*. Tina Petway says they need volumes **beginning with volume 12**. If you have some you can donate, please contact Tina at: [tpetway@hmns.org](mailto:tpetway@hmns.org) or 713-639-4677.

# HCS August Social

On August 18<sup>th</sup> HCS members gathered at Katz's Deli to eat great food and share summer adventures. Joaquin and Rose Inchaustegui brought several family members, so it was a large crowd. Rusti Stover shared a few pictures.



## 2015-16 Dues

Members who **have not** paid for 2015-16 will receive an email reminder or a renewal form in the paper copy of the newsletter.



## Gem and Mineral Show

The annual HGMS Gem and Mineral Show will be **September 25-27** at the Humble Civic Center – 8233 Clayton Parkway in Humble. Hours are: Friday and Saturday 9-6, Sunday 10-5. Find more details at: [www.HGMS.org](http://www.HGMS.org).

## Brazoria County Fair

By Patty Humbird

Fair display set-up will be on **October 3 starting at 8:00**, and take down will be on **Oct. 18 starting at 9:00**. We have plenty of space and cases are provided. Scientific displays are encouraged, but not required. If someone has pretty shells they can display beautifully, we will take the display. We also have a craft section. If anyone is interested let Wayne Humbird know at [whumbird@earthlink.net](mailto:whumbird@earthlink.net).

## 2016 Texas Jamboree

Mark your calendars. The Sea Shell Searchers will be hosting the Jamboree **April 29-30, 2016**. No other information is available at this time.

## COA 2015

In July about a dozen Texans enjoyed the Gala in the Glades hosted by the Broward Shell Club in Weston, Florida.

BSC members organized great field trips that included, among other things: a Liguus excursion, fossil collecting, a dive trip, snorkeling, a turtle talk and walk, and an alligator tour on an airboat. The alligator tour was fitting since the resort backed up to the Everglades!

There were many interesting and educational programs. A few that interested the editor were: "Worldwide Ranellidae" by Dennis Sargent (who is writing a book on the subject), "Two Decades of Molluscan Discoveries in the Gulf of Mexico..." by Emilio Garcia, and "Understanding Pearls – in Natural History, Human History, and Your Jewel Box" by Paula Mikkelsen (who helped develop the pearl exhibit that was at the HMNS several years ago). A favorite program was "Yo Ho Ho and a Bottle of Shells" by Jerry Harasewych. He talked about using a submersible to collect very old bottles in a harbor to see what mollusks had made their homes in the bottles. The shells were small, so some of us thought he should plant some bottles with bigger mouths to see if he could lure bigger mollusks. The banquet program was a presentation of Kevan Sunderland's fabulous photos of the Glades and its inhabitants.

Long-time HCS member John Jacobs and his wife Cheryl were presented a Neptunea Award for their years of work for COA.

Between the silent auctions, oral auction, and Bourse, we all found treasures to add to our collections and spent more money than we intended to spend.

Thanks for a great convention, Broward!

Make your plans now for COA 2016. **It will be July 27-31, 2016 in Chicago!**



## 2015 Banquet

On May 2 several HCS members attended the annual banquet at Brady's Landing. The food and company were outstanding. Here are a few pictures taken by Rusti Stover.

