



# The Epitonium

## October Program

By Rusti Stover

The **October 20, 2015** program will be a 30-minute movie we will watch. It is titled **RAINBOWS IN THE SEA, A GUIDE TO EARTH'S CORAL REEFS**, produced by the Coral Reef Alliance and Earthwise Media. At the end of the movie, we will also see a 5-minute taxonomic review of animals that live in the coral reefs, including mollusks. The program talks about current threats to coral reefs, as well as actions being taken to save them. We will explore reefs from the Caribbean to the Indo-Pacific and the creatures that survive in these complex ecosystems. I hope you can join us for this presentation.

## October Meeting

The next HCS meeting is **Tuesday, October 20** at the Houston Museum of Natural Science. Come at 7:00 to socialize, shop at the sale table, and enjoy finger food refreshments prior to the meeting at 7:30.

## 2016 Jamboree Date Change

The Jamboree will be hosted by the Sea Shell Searchers. The date has been moved up. **Please mark your calendars for April 22-23, 2016.**

## President's Message

By Leslie Crnkovic

October is here and the weather is cooler. Yeah!!!

We are looking forward to a great set of programs and activities this year.

To mention a few:

- . We are planning a winter field trip and picnic at a beach house on Crystal Beach.
- . The Texas Shellers' Jamboree will be **Friday-Saturday April 22-23**, at the Brazosport Museum on Natural Science.
- . Followed by our Banquet on **May 21st** at Brady's Landing!

See you at the meeting!

## Christmas Tree

By Tina Petway

This year's tree will have as its theme "Inspiring Sunsets to Brighten Our Days". (Get it?) Anyway, I would love to have sunset photographs or pictures from our members to use on the tree. Our color palette for the tree will be oranges, purples, lavenders and peachy/pinks. We will begin work on the decorations later this month and into November, so anyone interested in helping with decorations please call my home or cell numbers, and I will make sure to include you in notifications of work dates. Or you can email me at the Museum: [tpetway@hmns.org](mailto:tpetway@hmns.org). You can bring pictures to the October meeting or email them to the Museum.

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**Corresponding Secretary:**  
Lucy Clampit  
713-468-0610

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

## CALENDAR

10-20	HCS meeting
11-17	HCS meeting
12-?	HCS Christmas Party
3-5	HCS Auction
4-22-23	Texas Jamboree
7-27-16	COA in Chicago

## 2016 Auction

The annual HCS auction is scheduled for **Saturday, March 5, 2016**. Please mark your calendars. The committee is accepting donations. You may bring them to a meeting or contact Lucy Clampit at: [lclam-pit@comcast.net](mailto:lclam-pit@comcast.net) or 713-468-0610.



# September Minutes

Submitted by Rachel Zelko

Houston Conchology Society Meeting – 15 September 2015

**Meeting called to order at 7:33 pm** by President Leslie Crnkovic.

### Approval of Minutes

Motion: No minutes to approve from the August social

### Business

Treasurer's report by Nancy Mustachio was approved

Brazoria County Fair is coming up soon so get your shell exhibits ready lots of spaces still available

Texas Jamboree is being sponsored by the Seashell Searchers of Brazoria Co. in April of next year

Motion from Leslie Crnkovic: To hold the club banquet again at Brady's Landing

Vote: All in favor

Resolved: Motion carried

Amendment: Confirm date May 21, 2016 with restaurant

62<sup>nd</sup> Gem, Mineral, Jewelry and Fossil show is being held on September 25 to September 27 in Humble Texas

Motion from Leslie Crnkovic: To have a weekend field trip to Crystal Beach with overnight stay for a cost of \$75 per night at his boss's beach house on Crystal Beach during low tide in January 2016

Vote: All in favor

Resolved: Motion carried

Amendment: Exact date to be determined

Next year COA is being held in Chicago sometime in July

Rusti Stover announced that future club programs are set for the rest of this year. For October we get to watch a 35 minute video on Coral Reefs and in November we welcome back the Galveston Bay Foundation with a program on the salinity of the bay and the closing of Rollover Pass.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.**

## Nautilus Rediscovered

Thanks to Sandy Clark and Cheryl Hood for sharing these two Web sites:

Approximately 30 years after the fuzzy and slimy *Allonautilus scrobiculatus* was first discovered, it was rediscovered in Papua New Guinea. This time digital images of the animal in the wild were taken and tracking devices were attached.



shutterstock - 90930266

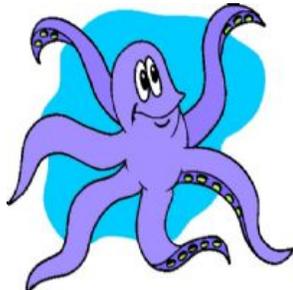
<http://voices.nationalgeographic.com/2015/08/24/fuzzy-nautilus-rediscovered-and-filmed/#.VfWrkeJJm7M.email>

<https://www.newscientist.com/article/mg22730390-100-living-fossil-nautilus-re-emerges-after-30-years-of-hiding/>

## Octopus Making Burrow

Thanks to Gary Kidder from the HMNS for sharing this Web site:

The southern sand octopus shoots jets of water into the seafloor creating quicksand that allows it to vanish.



<https://www.newscientist.com/article/dn28194-zoologger-octopus-makes-own-quicksand-to-build-burrow-on-seabed/>

## Sea Silk

For centuries the byssus of *Pinna nobilis* from the Mediterranean Sea was used to make spe-

cialty items like gloves, caps, stockings, and collars. Chiara Vigo, on the Sardinian island of Sant'Antioco, is thought to be the only person left who harvests the byssus, spins it, and treats it, so that it shines like gold. Her studio is known as the Museum of Byssus. Early on spring mornings she dives to collect the byssus. Since it is a protected species, she is accompanied by members of the Italian Coast Guard. She does not sell the fabric she weaves but gives it to people who come to her for help. She believes that the byssus is the soul of the sea and is sacred.

For more information about this unique woman, go to this Web site: <http://www.bbc.com/news/magazine-33691781>

## Gulf Coast Shell Show Winners

During the summer, the Gulf Coast Shell Club in Panama City, FL hosted their 18<sup>th</sup> Gulf Coast Shell Show. HCS members Leslie Crnkovic and Wayne and Patty Humbird won awards for their entries. The Humbirds won first place for their "One Small Family" exhibit and "Single Specimen." Leslie entered his exhibits about shell club pins and freshwater mussels from China and won multiple awards for them. Congratulations!

## Brazoria County Fair Winners

HCS members Janey Cormier, Leslie Crnkovic, Angela Doucette, Patty Humbird, and Rusti Stover entered exhibits in the Fair this year. Most of them had multiple entries and won several awards. Rusti won "Shell of the Show" for her large Horse Conch, and Leslie won "Best Exhibit of Show" for his China Freshwater Mussels. The exhibits are open for viewing through **October 17**. Congratulations to everyone!