



The Epitonium

November Program

The next HCS meeting will be **November 17** at the Houston Museum of Natural Science. The program will be presented by Anja Borski who is the Report Card Coordinator for the Galveston Bay Foundation.

Anja sent this summary of her presentation: "Galveston Bay Foundation has partnered with the Houston Advanced Research Center to produce the first Report Card on the health of Galveston Bay. Galveston Bay received an overall grade of C, indicating that the overall health of the Bay is adequate for now, but that there is still much to be done to ensure

that the Bay remains healthy and resilient in the future. Come learn about the Galveston Bay Report Card results, and what we can do to protect our Bay."



Come at 7:00 to enjoy snacks, socializing, and bidding on silent auction items.

Presidents Message

By Leslie Crnkovic

As we look forward to the winter shell collecting season, I've reworked the Texas collecting regulations for you in this newsletter. Hope to have some great low tides mixed with cooperative weather for some awesome beach collecting!

See you at the meeting.

New Membership Directory

The HCS will soon be printing a new membership directory. If your address, email, or phone number has changed since November 2013, Please send these changes to Lucy Clampit at: lclampit@comcast.net. The directory goes to HCS members only, but if you don't want to your information included, please let her know by **November 21**.

HCS Christmas Tree

Tina Petway is scheduling workshops for making decorations. If you would like to help, call her home phone or cell or email her at: tpetway@hmns.org.

HCS Christmas Party

Please mark your calendars for the annual Christmas Party on **Sunday, December 13**. It will be hosted by Nancy and John Mustachio. Details will be sent out in

President:
Leslie Crnkovic
713-784-7084 / 713-598-7084

Vice President:
Rusti Stover
713-614-4882

Treasurer:
Nancy Mustachio
713-526-7733

Recording Secretary:
Rachel Zelko
713-988-7286

Corresponding Secretary:
Lucy Clampit
713-468-0610

Visit HCS online at
www.houstonshellclub.com

CALENDAR

11-17	HCS meeting
12- 13	HCS Christmas Party
3-5	HCS auction
4-22-16	Texas Jamboree
7-27-16	COA in Chicago

NEW BOOK ANNOUNCEMENT

By Leslie Crnkovic

The Living and Fossil Busycon Whelks: Iconic Mollusks of Eastern North America by Edward J. Petuch, Robert F. Myers, and David P. Berschauer. October 2015. San Diego Shell Club.

Available Thru: The San Diego Shell Club, MdM Shell Books, .Amazon.com, ConchBooks, and NHBS.

October Minutes

Submitted by Rachel Zelko

Call to Order: A regular meeting of the Houston Conchology Society was held on October 20, 2015 at Houston Museum of Natural Science. It began at 7:35 pm and was presided over by President Leslie Crnkovic.

Approval of Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes of the previous September meeting was made by Lucy Clampit and seconded by Tina Petway. Vote: All in favor. Resolved: Motion carried.

Officers' Reports: Treasurer Report was presented by Rachel Zelko and approved. Membership Report was presented by Lucy Clampit. There are currently 74 members.

Main Motions: Motion from Tina Petway: For club to provide \$300 for Christmas tree expenses. Moved by Rusti Stover and seconded by Lucy Clampit. The motion carried with all in favor.

Motion from Lucy Clampit: For club to donate \$150 to the Galveston Bay Foundation that will be presenting the November program. Moved by Tina Petway and seconded Rusti Stover. The motion carried with all in favor.

Announcements: Nancy and John Mustachio will be hosting the Christmas party at their home this year for the club. Date to be announced.

The Texas Jamboree sponsored by the Seashell Searchers of Brazoria Co. moved the dates to April 22 and 23 of 2016.

The date for HCS banquet has been confirmed with Brady's Landing.

COA is being held the last week in July 2016 in Chicago.

Weekend field trip to Crystal Beach with overnight stay at the beach house of Leslie Crnkovic's boss has been set for January 25 during low tide. More details to come.

Rusti Stover asked if anyone is interested in doing a program for the club to please contact her. There is a need for programs for next year. And next month we welcome back the Galveston Bay Foundation with a program on the health of the bay and the closing of Rollover Pass/Gilchrist.

Adjournment: John Zelko moved that the meeting be adjourned, and this was agreed upon at 7:53 pm.

Texas Shelling Regulations Revisited for Winter 2015

September 1, 2005 the State of Texas 1st Shell Collecting Regulations went into effect, and have had changes since concerning Freshwater Mollusks.

Rule 1: You must have a Texas Salt Water Fishing License to collect live or crabbed marine sea shells.

A Freshwater Fishing License is required for collecting freshwater species.

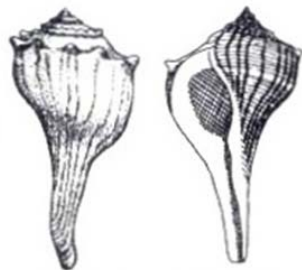
Rule 2: Daily aggregate bag limit of 15 living gastropods (all species).

Rule 3: Daily bag limit of 2 specimens each: Lightning Whelk, Pear Whelk, Tulip Shell, Horse Conch, Fighting Conch, and Florida Rock Shells. (see illustrations below)

Rule 4: South Padre Island - from Nov. 1 to April 30 annually, closed area for taking of any marine life (including empty shells); From the jetty all the way around past the causeway to W. Marisol Dr., out to 1000 yards from shore.

Rule 5: Freshwater Mussel collecting restrictions are complicated and can vary greatly between bodies of water and county, check the specifics with TPW.

Rule 6: Possession of live specimens of the invasive species of Channeled Apple Snail is strictly prohibited.



Lightning Whelk

Busycon perversum sinistrum
was *Busycon perversum pulleyi*



Pear Whelk

Busycotypus plagosus
was *Busycon spriatum plagosum*



Horse Conch

Trifolusus giganteus
was *Pleuroploca gigantea*



Banded Tulip

Fasciolaria lilium hunteri



Fighting Conch

Strombus alatus



Florida Rock Shell

Stramonita haemastoma flondana

Auction Donations

If you have donations for the **March 5** auction, bring them to the November meeting or contact Lucy Clampit at: lclampit@comcast.net or 713-468-0610.

Jamboree

The Texas Shell Jamboree will be **April 22-23, 2016**. No other details are available at this time.

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Permission is granted for reprinting articles, provided credit is given to *The Epitonium*, the writer, and the Houston Conchology Society and a copy of the reprint is sent to the editor of the newsletter.

Editor: Lucy Clampit
10532 Hammerly Blvd., Houston, TX 77043
Phone: (713) 468-0610
E-mail: lclampit@comcast.net

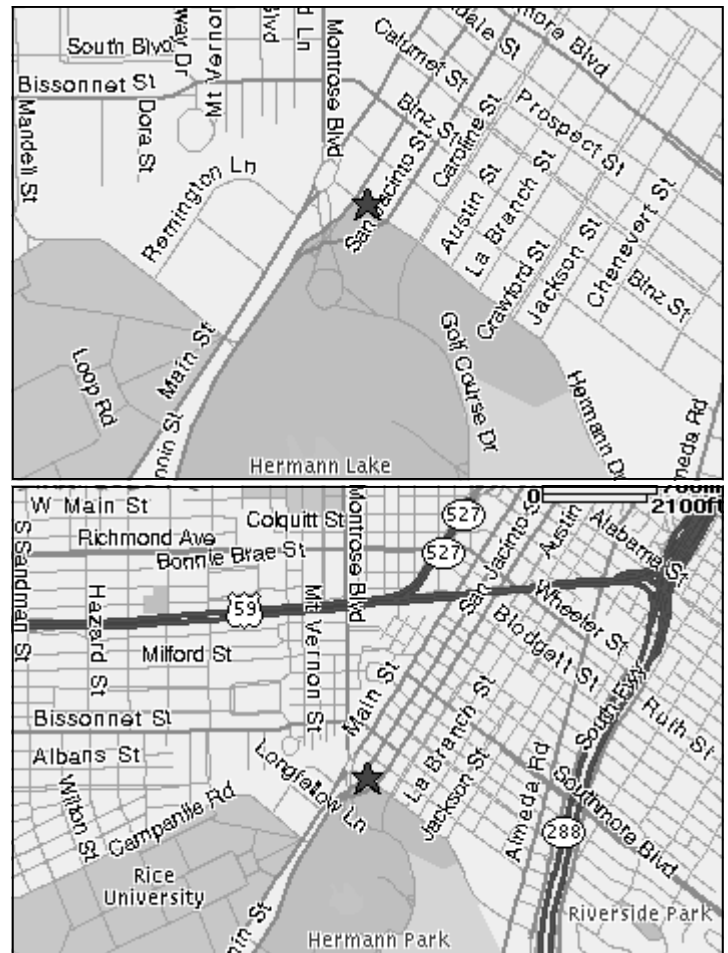
The Society holds regular meetings on the third Tuesday of August, September, October, November, January, February and April. There are seasonal events and a yearly shell auction scheduled in the other months. Meetings start at 7:30 PM at the Museum of Natural Science, 5555 Hermann Park Drive.

VISITORS WELCOME!!!

Membership year extends from June 1 through May 31.
Annual membership dues: Family \$12; Single \$10; Junior (under 18) \$6; Subscriptions only (Museums, Corporations) \$12; Foreign postage add \$8.

Make checks payable to Houston Conchology Society and send to Nancy Mustachio, 1932 Bissonnet, Houston, TX 77005.

5555 Hermann Park Drive, Houston, TX



HOUSTON CONCHOLOGY SOCIETY

Lucy Clampit, Corresponding Secretary

10532 Hammerly Blvd.

Houston, Texas 77043