



The Epitonium

2017 Auction

The auction committee hopes that you have been saving your money. The committee has prepared another special event for **Saturday, March 18**.

As usual, there will be something for everyone. Most major shell families will be well represented. If you like cones, cowries, olives, strombs, or murex, you should find some great additions for your collection. A nice oral auction item is a group of Cuban tree snails from the Alex Bermudez collection. If you need identification books or coffee table books, there will be a wide selection. Several pieces of coral will also be available. The oral and silent auctions contain nice décor items to brighten your home. Crafters will find nice shells for their projects. We have several pieces of beautiful shell jewelry including some James Avery. There will be a shell cabinet that is 58 inches tall, 48 inches wide, and 20 ¼ inches deep. The purchaser will need to have transportation to get it home. You will find a picture of it along with pictures of other oral auction items in this newsletter.

In addition to the oral auction, shoppers will find great buys on both the silent auction and sale table. There will also be nice raffle items, door prizes, and the popular “guess how many.”



The **first silent auction** will begin at **10:00 am**. The sale table will open at 10:15, and the **first oral auction** will begin at **11:00**. Sandwiches, chips, and drinks will be provided by the club.

HCS members, please bring dips, salads, desserts, etc. to supplement the sandwiches. Come and join us at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 306 East 15th Street, in Houston's Heights area. A map and directions are included in this newsletter's inserts.

Profits are used for educational grants and donations to the Houston Museum of Natural Science. Invite your friends and neighbors. The more the merrier!

President's Message

By Leslie Crnkovic

Hope you all enjoyed my program last month. It is an exciting time of year. Spring is near. Our Annual HCS Shell Auction is upon us, and it's time for the election of a fresh slate of officers.

Reminder: at the auction we will begin selling the **May 20th** banquet tickets for \$20.

Hope to see you all at the auction on the **18th!!!**

Sea Shell Searchers Shell Show

The Sea Shell Searchers of Brazoria County will be hosting a shell show **May 6-7, 2017**. It will be held at the Center for the Arts and Sciences in Clute, TX. The rules and the entry form are available at this web site: <http://bcfas.org/museum2/SSSBC/ShellShows/SS2017/SSSSS2017.html>.

President:

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Vice President:

Rusti Stover
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Treasurer:

Sandy Clark
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Recording Secretary:

Tina Petway
713-436-4052

Corresponding Secretary:

Jerry Clampit
713-468-0610

Visit HCS online at
www.houstonshellclub.com

CALENDAR

3-18	HCS Auction
4-18	HCS Meeting
5-6 & 7	SSS Shell Show
5-20	HCS Banquet

Auction Item

Shell mirror



February Minutes

Submitted by Tina Petway

The meeting was called to order by President Leslie Crnkovic at 7:25 pm on Feb. 21, 2017. The minutes were approved as written. The treasurer's report was given by Lucy Clampit, in the absence of Sandy Clark, and accepted.

Leslie announced the change of date for the annual Banquet this year to May 20th. It will be held at the Monument Inn. Tickets are \$20.00 and will be available at the March auction.

The Sea Shell Searchers' Shell Show will be held May 6&7 at the Brazosport Museum in Clute.

The program in April will be given by Lucy Clampit on her recent travels.

The nominating committee made up of Tina Petway, Rusti Stover, and Leslie Crnkovic announced its slate of officers for the coming year. They are:

President – Angela Doucette

Vice Pres and Programs – Darwin Alder

Treasurer – Sandy Clark

Recording Sec. – Rusti Stover

Corresponding Sec. – Jerry Clampit

There were no other nominations from the floor. Voting will take place at the meeting during the auction.

Lucy reminded members about the annual auction on March 18th at Immanuel Lutheran Church in the Heights. A map will be printed in the next newsletter. The club will provide sandwiches and paper goods. Members are asked to bring chips, dips, snacks, desserts, fruit, salads etc.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 and Leslie Crnkovic presented a program on the history of the common name of *Pleurotomaria hirasei* – “The Emperor’s Slit Shell”.

Darwin gave out door prizes and announced the winners of the raffles.



Auction items

Left: Shell cabinet. 56" tall, 48" wide, and 20 1/4 " deep.
Person winning bid must be able to provide transport home.

Below: Shell bracelet



New Shell Stamps

On January 28 the post office issued new 34 cent seashell stamps for postcards. "Four new postcard stamps celebrate the wonder of seashells. Each stamp depicts one iconic shell found in North American waters: the alphabet cone, the Pacific calico scallop, the zebra nerite, and the Queen conch, commonly known as the pink conch. The highly stylized stamp art expresses a lighthearted, artistic view of shells. The horizontal swaths of white and blue in the background suggest waves washing the shells onto a beach. Art director Greg Breeding designed the stamps. Sergio Baradat created the stamp art."



Native American Shell Trivia

Submitted by Allison McHenry

Heishe or **heishi** (pronounced "hee shee") are small disc- or tube-shaped beads made of organic shells or ground and polished stones. They come from the [Kewa Pueblo people](#) (formerly Santo Domingo Pueblo) of New Mexico, before the use of metals in jewelry by that people. The name is the word for [shell bead](#) in the [Eastern Keresan](#) language of the Santo Domingo Indians. The oldest specimens of heishe date back to around 6000 BCE, although the same technique was used in northern Africa 30,000 years ago, using ostrich eggshell. Modern heishe beads are commonly mechanically mass-produced; however, some artists still hand make beads. The beads are hand-chipped, with holes drilled through their centers using pointed stones.

From Wikipedia

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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.

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The Society holds regular meetings on the third Tuesday of 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.

Make checks payable to Houston Conchology Society and send to Sandy Clark, 2475 Underwood St. #288, Houston, TX 77005.

5555 Hermann Park Drive, Houston, TX



HOUSTON CONCHOLOGY SOCIETY

Jerry Clampit, Corresponding Secretary

10532 Hammerly Blvd.

You Are Invited

to

The Houston Conchology
Society

Annual Auction

Saturday, March 18, 2017

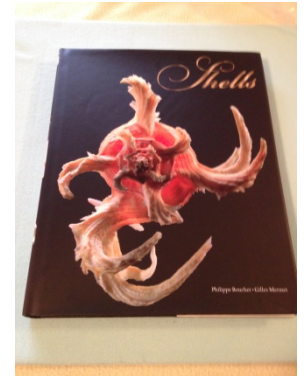
at

The Immanuel Lutheran Church

306 East 15th Street

Houston, Texas

(map opposite this page)



First silent auction begins at 10:00 am

First oral auction begins at 11:00 am

Lunch provided

Followed by a silent auction

and another oral auction

Sale table, raffle and door prizes throughout auction

Shells from most major families available
along with shell books, craft shells and many shell related items.

Bring your wish list. There will be some great bargains.

All lovers of seashells welcome!

**HCS 2017
Oral Auction List**

Item#	Description	Donated By	Notes
O-1	Raymond Waites "Oceana" Ceramic Collection	Angela Doucette	
O-2	Sailors Valentine Book & Small Valentine	Lucy Clampit	
O-3	<i>Seashells of South Africa</i> Book	Alan Seccombe	
O-4	<i>Voluta vesperilio</i> Color & Pattern Variations (10)	HMNS	
O-5	Collection of 3 Cones	Richard Yuill	
O-6	<i>Oliva foxi</i>	Wanda Bermudez	
O-7	<i>Cypraea argus</i>	Tina Petway	
O-8	<i>Murex tribulus</i> & <i>M. pecten</i>	HMNS	
O-9	<i>Spondylus princeps</i>	Richard Yuill	
O-10	Cuban Land Snails (15)	Wanda Bermudez	
O-11	Pectens in Glass Box	Lucy Clampit	
O-12	Coral	Jim Kosub	
O-13	<i>Strombus taurus</i>	Richard Yuill	
O-14	Ornamental Plate with Stand	Lucy Clampit	
O-15	Trivia Collection	HMNS	
O-16	Coral & Book	J. Kosub & L. Clampit	
O-17	<i>Conus betulinus</i> HUGE	HMNS	
O-18	<i>Tridacna squamosa</i>	Jim Kosub	
O-19	James Avery Bracelet & Ring	C. Betley & M. Harris	
O-20	<i>Lyropecten nodosa</i> (2)	Richard Yuill	
O-21	<i>Oliva porphyria</i> (2)	Wanda Bermudez	
O-22	Macrame Wall Hanging	Lucy Clampit	
O-23	<i>Strombus galeatus</i>	Richard Yuill	
O-24	Shell Encrusted Egg w/ Bell Jar	Lucy Clampit	
O-25	Chama Collection	Lucy Clampit	
O-26	Pelican Figurine	Lucy Clampit	
O-27	<i>Shells</i> Book	Cathy Betley	
O-28	Murex Collection (3)	R. Yuill & T. Petway	
O-29	Coral	Jim Kosub	
O-30	Cypraeas (2)	HMNS & T. Petway	
O-31	<i>Strombus gigas</i> Growth Series (5)	L. Clampit & J. Elkins	
O-32	<i>Voluta broderipii</i>	Jim Kosub	
O-33	Cone Collection (3)	HMNS	
O-34	<i>Cymbiola glans</i>	HMNS	
O-35	<i>Turbinella angulata</i> (3)	Judy Elkins	
O-36	<i>Pleuroploca gigantea</i> & <i>Kingdom of the Seashell</i>	L. Clampit & R. Stover	
O-37	Shell Cabinet – H 56", W 48", D 20 1/4"	HMNS	
O-38	Silver & Shell Bracelet	Cathy Betley	
O-39	Decorated Mirror	Nancy Mustachio	
O-40			

	Description	Donated By	Paddle#
O-41	Queen Size Reversible Bed Spread	Cathy Betley	
O-42	Volute Book & 2 Volutes	HMNS & L. Clampit	
O-43	Harp Collection (4)	HMNS	
O-44	<i>Spondylus americanus</i>	Tina Petway	
O-45	Brain Coral	Lucy Clampit	
O-46	<i>The Book Of Shells</i>	Lucy Clampit	
O-47	<i>Conus leopardus</i>	Kay Klaus	
O-48	<i>Astraea heliotropium</i>	Tina Petway	
O-49	Colorful Pectens (5)	Richard Yuill	
O-50	Seahorse Windchime	Gary Olson	
O-51	<i>Cardium elatum</i>	Sandy Clark	
O-52	<i>Cypraea tigris</i> (2)	HMNS	
O-53	<i>Aulica imperialis</i>	HMNS	
O-54	<i>Texas Coral Reefs</i> Book	Lucy Clampit	
O-55	<i>Murex alabaster</i>	Richard Yuill	
O-56	<i>Spondylus americanus</i>	Richard Yuill	
O-57	<i>Living Corals</i> Book	Lucy Clampit	
O-58	Coral	Jim Kosub	
O-59	Cypraea Collection (4)	HMNS	
O-60	<i>Oliva incrassata</i> 3 color forms	Wanda Bermudez	
O-61	James Avery Charm & Earrings	Lucy Clampit	
O-62	Miter collection (17)	HMNS	
O-63	<i>Cypraea hesitata</i>	Kathy Keenan	
O-64	<i>Cymatium femorale</i>	Richard Yuill	
O-65	<i>Cassis cornuta</i>	Lucy Clampit	
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