



# The Epitonium

## April Program

By Rusti Stover

**Tuesday April 18<sup>th</sup>** is our last scheduled meeting for the 2016/2017 season, at the Houston Museum of Natural Science. The program will be a travelogue and more, given by members Lucy and Jerry Clampit. I asked Lucy for info about it, and she wrote it up so nicely, I just copied their words here for you:

"Most of you know that we do not collect shells when we travel. Instead we take pictures of interesting, "shelly" things that we see.

We had the good fortune to be able to take three fantastic trips in 2016. We went with Jerry's band to Austria and Italy. Lucy spent a little time in the natural history museum in Vienna, Austria, so we will show pictures

taken inside it, along with a few other photos of the trip. We also went to COA in Chicago, where Lucy participated in an interesting field trip to the Malacology Department at the Field Museum. She took lots of pictures there, and you will see photos of HCS members and friends enjoying the convention. In early October we took a cruise up the St. Lawrence River, and, yes, we found shells without the mess of collecting and cleaning them."

Well, that sounds like a very delightful program to end this year's meetings, and I look forward to seeing it. Remember, our social time is from 7 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., then a short meeting, and this great program! Bring a finger food snack to share, and we will see you in our regular meeting room on the 18<sup>th</sup>.

## President's Message

By Leslie Crnkovic

We very much appreciate and thank all of you for coming out to participate in the auction and support HCS. It was a great time of fellowship and a pleasure to see all of you!

Congratulations to our new officers, they will be installed at the May **HCS Banquet at noon on May 20** at the Monument Inn. Thank you for allowing me to serve HCS these last 3 years.

Hope to see you at the April meeting, Lucy and Jerry Clampit will provide our program.

HCS Banquet tickets will be for sale for \$20 each, and you can pay 2017-2018 HCS dues: \$10 Individual, \$12 Family.

Again, thank you all!

## 2017-2018 Dues

Thanks to everyone who paid their dues at the auction. If you have not paid, and you receive a paper copy of the newsletter, you will find a renewal form enclosed. If you read it on the HCS web page, and you have not paid, you will receive an email with a form attached.

**President:**  
Leslie Crnkovic  
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**Vice President:**  
Rusti Stover  
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Sandy Clark  
713-926-6797

**Recording Secretary:**  
Tina Petway  
713-436-4052

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

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

## CALENDAR

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

## May Banquet

The annual banquet will be at noon on **Saturday, May 20**, at the Monument Inn. More information, including directions, will be in the May newsletter. Treasurer Sandy Clark will be selling \$20 tickets at the April meeting.



## March Minutes

Respectfully submitted by Tina Petway

The meeting was called to order by President Leslie Crnkovic at 12:23 p.m. The minutes and treasurer's report were accepted.

We were reminded that membership dues can be paid when you pay for your purchases.

Next month's program will be given by Lucy Clampit on recent travels.

Election of Officers was held. The slate was accepted by acclamation. The motion was made by Lucy Clampit and seconded by Sandy Clark.

The annual Banquet is May 20, at Monument Inn. Tickets are available for \$20.00 each.

It was approved to donate \$1,000.00 to the Houston Museum of natural Science for the purchase of an albino *Syrinx aruanus* from the Don Pisor collection.

The Sea Shell Searchers of Brazoria County will again host a shell show May 5, 6 and 7. Set up is the 5<sup>th</sup> and take down will be on the 7<sup>th</sup>. Registration deadline is April 16. Their web site has more information.

The Corpus Christi shell club will host the next Texas Sheller's Jamboree. More information will be forthcoming.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:28 p.m.

## San Diego Shell Show

Dear shellers and Club members,

Mark your calendars! The second annual West Coast Shell Show will take place on August 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017, in San Diego in Room 101 of the Casa del Prado building in Balboa Park. This is the big exhibit hall. Donald Dan of COA has given us their "COA Award" to issue this year as well. We are now taking registration from both dealers and exhibitors and look forward to seeing you all again this year.

Yours in shelling,  
David P. Berschauer, President, San Diego Shell Club

Here is the link to San Diego Shell Club events: <http://www.sandiegoshellclub.com/events/> .

## 2017 Auction

Thanks to teamwork from many club members, the HCS will be able to present educational grants again this year. The profit was just over \$2,900.

The auction committee: Darwin Alder, Cathy Betley, Lucy Clampit, Sandy Clark, Mary Harris, and Tina Petway, thanks everyone who helped with the auction and who spent their hard earned money. This would not have been possible without generous donors: Darwin Alder, Tuawanda Bermudez, Cathy Betley, Lucy Clampit, Sandy Clark, Victoria Craig, Angela Doucette, Judy Elkins, Dave Green, Mary Harris, the HMNS, Barbara Hudson, Patty Humbird, Kathy Keenan, Kay Klaus, Jim Kosuv, Laretta Marr, Nancy Mustachio, Gary Olson, Tina Petway, Mike Randall, Alan Seccombe, Rusti Stover, and Richard Yuill. Thanks to everyone who helped with the silent auction, especially Rachel Zelko who helped organize the bid sheets for our patient cashiers Jerry Clampit and Dennis Harris. We appreciate Frank Petway for getting the sandwiches and working in the kitchen along with John, Nancy, Georgia, and Phillip Mustachio. We thank Patty Humbird for her help with the oral auction and everyone who brought the tasty food. Thanks to everyone who helped set up and take down, especially John and Rachel Zelko and Gary Olson.

Rusti Stover and Lucy Clampit provided pictures of the event. Thanks again to everyone.



More Auction Pictures:



## COA Convention

The 2017 convention in Key West promises to be another great event. Field trips will be **August 13-14**. They include snorkel trips, a Big Pine Nature tour, a Conch Train tour, a Ghosts and Gravestones tour, a tour of 3 Key West attractions, and a dinner cruise. **August 15-17** will be filled with great programs, auctions, the banquet, etc. The **18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>** will find shellers spending their hard earned dollars at the Bourse – a sheller's most anticipated shopping event of the year.

You can find hotel information, registration forms, field trip information, and Bourse forms at the COA web site: <http://www.conchologistsofamerica.org/conventions/>.

### CONVENTION HOTEL



Doubletree by Hilton  
Grand Key Resort

3990 S. Roosevelt Blvd.  
Key West, Florida, 33040  
USA 305-293-1818  
FAX: 305-296-6962

Rates: Regular room \$179 + tax  
Upgrade to 1 bedroom suite \$100 additional  
Rates valid 3 days before and after the event

Toll free telephone (USA & Canada): 800-445-8667  
From other countries, telephone: 305-293-1818  
Or, online at [www.doubletreekeywest.com](http://www.doubletreekeywest.com)

With either method you must use the Group Code:  
COA to receive the special rate.

Free parking  
Free shuttle to airport  
Free shuttle to downtown Key West  
Free Wi-Fi  
Free pool and fitness room

### 2017 COA CONVENTION

Key West, FL  
August 15 - 19, 2017



Grand Key Resort  
Doubletree By Hilton

## Sea Shell Searchers Shell Show May 6-7

Patty Humbird needs to know how many tables they will need for the show. Even if you don't have your form ready, please give her an idea of the categories that you plan to enter. Her email address is: [whumbird@earthlink.net](mailto:whumbird@earthlink.net). She needs to know ASAP.

The rules and the entry form are available at this web site: <http://bcfas.org/museum2/SSSBC/ShellShows/SS2017/>

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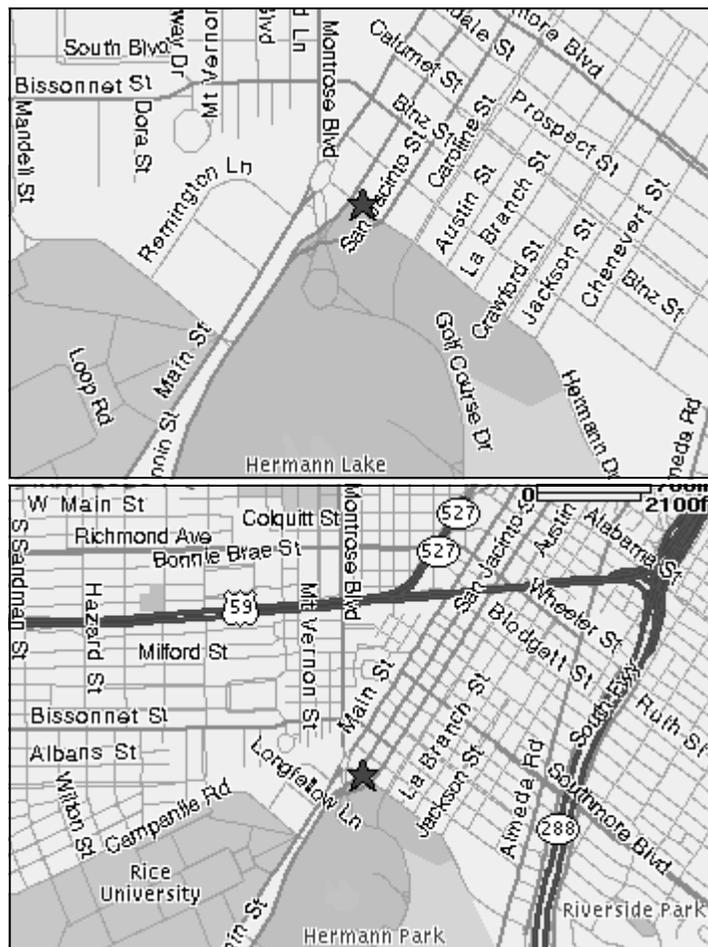
The Society holds regular meetings on the third Tuesday of September, October, November, January, February and April. There are seasonal events and a yearly shell auction scheduled in the other months. Meetings start at 7:30 PM at the Museum of Natural Science, 5555 Hermann Park Drive.

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

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