



# SHELL•O•GRAM

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Jan. - Feb, 2021

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## **Update on the January 12, 2021 Cedar Key field trip**

by Paul Jones

Hi all fellow shelling fanatics,

I'm following up on the earlier email I sent about our club plans for a shelling boat trip out to the Seahorse Key shoal near Cedar Key, Florida on January 13th, 2021 (a Wednesday), first thing in the morning. I just need to confirm the number of attendees for the boat trip.

I've been in contact with boat captain Joey, and he is standing by to work with us on details of getting us over to the shoal and back. As of the moment, the unconfirmed number of attendees on the trip is 12. I wanted to make sure I did not miss anyone who would like to go... so please, let me know soonest if you are in for the trip and a headcount of folks who may come with you.



If we exceed 12 attendees, we will probably have to schedule two separate boat trips over two days, so final confirmed headcount is imperative! Most folks who want to come should probably plan to spend at least one, if not two nights at the Beachfront Motel in Cedar Key. We can hit other great shelling spots in the area on the other day. Cost of the boat trip is only \$20.00 per person!

So, again, please let me know soonest if you want to come along, it will be an epic adventure! Feel free to call, text or email me with questions, Paul (904-347-7254).

## **Upcoming meetings (see also p. 2)**

The club will have no January meeting of the JSC. For the record, our venue is the Branch Jacksonville Public Library Southeast Branch <[Southeast Regional | Jacksonville Public Library \(jaxpubliclibrary.org\)](http://jaxpubliclibrary.org)> Function Room D. We meet at 7:00 PM, usually on the fourth Thursday of the month.

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The club meets monthly at the Southeast Branch of the Jacksonville Public Library, 10599 Deerwood Park Blvd., Jacksonville, Florida <<https://www.jaxpubliclibrary.org/locations/southeast-regional>>. Please address any correspondence to the club's address above. Annual membership dues are \$15.00 individual, \$20.00 family (domestic) and \$25.00 (overseas). Lifetime membership is available. Please remit payment for dues to the address below and make checks payable to the Jacksonville Shell Club. The club's newsletter and scientific journal, the *Shell-O-Gram* (ISSN 2472-2774) is issued bimonthly and mailed to an average of 15 regular members and friends by specific request and no less than ten scientific institutions with permanent libraries. An electronic (pdf) version, identical except for "live" URL's and color (vs. B&W) images, is issued the next day and sent to about 200 individuals who have demonstrated an interest in malacological research. These pdf's (ISSN 2472-2782) have also been posted to <<http://jaxshells.org/letters.htm>> since November, 1998. We encourage members and friends to submit articles for publication. Closing date for manuscript submission is two weeks before each month of publication. Articles appearing in the *Shell-O-Gram* may be republished provided credit is given the author and *Shell-O-Gram* Editor-in-Chief. As a courtesy, the editor and author should receive a copy of the republication. Contents of the *Shell-O-Gram* are intended to enter the permanent scientific record.

### Upcoming meetings (cont'd)



Our second meeting of the year **may be on Thursday February 26th** at the customary time and place. We'll first hear from Paul Jones, who has selected *Asaphis deflorata* (Linnaeus, 1758) on the L [credit Femorale Shells] as his Shell-of-the-Month. As with many of the shells Rick presented at the preceding meeting, this 2-3 inch variably-colored clam is found only south of us on the Florida coast and points beyond. Paul has been an outspoken proponent of bivalve collecting, and he intends to show us why. Harry Lee will present a discussion of the valid species proposed in 1786 by Rev. John Lightfoot. The

topical publication, an auction catalogue of curios left behind by the late Dutchess of Portland (U.K.), has a long and somewhat tortured history in the annals on molluscan taxonomy and nomenclature. There is a general consensus as to the validity of 53 nominal species in this publication, but a couple more, with more contentious standing, will receive fuller treatment by Harry. The array of specimens on the **R** belong to Kristi Hathaway, who collected them in the Indian R. near Jupiter, FL.





October 20, 2020

Jacksonville Shell Club Inc  
1010 N 24th St  
Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250

Dear Shell Club members,

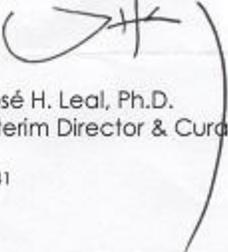
I'm amazed by your generosity. I'm so honored that you chose to send us a gift. Your support today is helping us teach environmental conservation and better understand molluscan biodiversity.

You are doing amazing things. I'm delighted to be able to write to you. I'm also honored to be able to count you among the people who are helping to advocate for a better, cleaner ocean and healthy animals within it.

Thank you so much for your gift of \$1000.00. It was needed, and we promise to use it well and wisely.

You are a big deal to us!

In gratitude,



José H. Leal, Ph.D.  
Interim Director & Curator

2441

*The Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum is a 501(c)(3) organization. EIN 59-2775992.  
This letter serves as the official receipt for your gift to our Museum. No goods or services were received in return for this gift.*

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A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll-free within the state. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the state.*

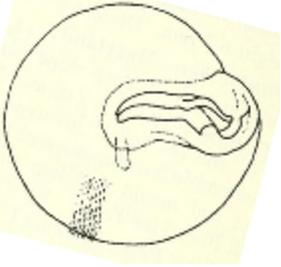
*Stenotrema burringtoni* paratypes compared with *S. hirsutum*



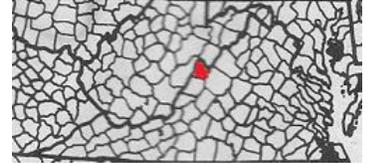
See article on facing page 5 (facing).

## Burrington's Slitmouth

by Harry G. Lee, B. Alex Kittle, Sean Roberts, Lori Schroeder, and Roger Portell



Recent readers may recall seeing a general treatment of the slitmouths, the Stenotremini, a group of air-breathing land snails (Lee *et al.*, 2018). In reviewing the group, the senior author encountered *Stenotrema burringtoni* Grimm, 1971 described from Highland Co., VA [R]. That taxon has recently been treated at The Virginia Land Snails website of the Carnegie Museum of Natural History (Pittsburgh, PA) <[https://www.carnegiemnh.org/science/mollusks/va\\_stenotrema\\_burringtoni.html](https://www.carnegiemnh.org/science/mollusks/va_stenotrema_burringtoni.html)> in a manner quite consistent with Grimm's description & iconotype [above, L]. However, Hubricht (1974: 34; 1985: 40) synonymized the topical taxon with *S. hirsutum* (Say, 1817) based on topotypes, but Turgeon, Quinn, *et al.* (1998: 153 [probably the opinion of editor Fred Thompson]) treated it as provisionally valid.



None of the three authorities opining on this species' validity provided any indication that type material:

- Holotype: National Museum of Canada 61545
- Paratype(s): National Museum of Canada 61546 n=1 (possibly more)
- Paratype(s): Delaware Museum of Natural History DMNH 41544 n=2

was examined. Since there only seems to be two illustrations of this species in the literature (both umbilical views), we are presenting three-view images (p. 3; facing) of the two paratypes in the DMNH.

Note the distinct differences between *Stenotrema burringtoni* and *S. hirsutum*:

- *S. burringtoni* has a higher spire and a higher periphery on the body whorl (conoid vs. pill-shaped)
- its parietal tooth is closer to the basal lip, is more sinuous, and is flexed further into the aperture at its lateral end;
- its basal notch is narrower, deeper, and flanked laterally by a more prominent tooth;
- its interdenticular sinus is narrower and deeper and
- its fulcrum points to 6:00 as opposed to 7:30.

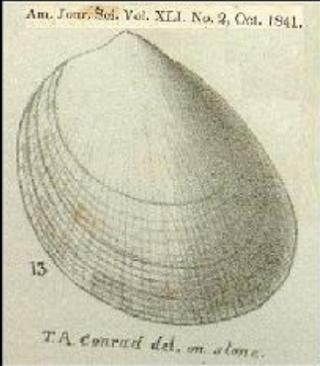
It is the opinion of the senior author that *Stenotrema burringtoni* is a valid species – **and not just provisionally**. [Editor's note: see slitmouth sequel on page nine.]

1. Grimm, F.W., 1971. Two new species of *Stenotrema*, with notes on *S. hirsutum* and *S. barbatum*. *The Nautilus* 85(1): 12-17. July <<https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/8516108>>
2. Hubricht, L., 1974. A review of some land snails of the eastern United States. *Malacological Review* 7: 33-34. [vidi]
3. Hubricht, L., 1985. The distributions of the native land mollusks of the Eastern United States. *Fieldiana* 24(1359): pp. 1-191 + viii. 28 June. <<https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/2843162>>
4. Lee, H.G., R. Winters, and B. Frank, 2018. The Slitmouths, Stenotremini Emberton, 1994 (Pulmonata: Polygyridae: Polygyrinae) *Shell-O-Gram* 59(2): 4-9. March. <[Shell-O-Gram March-April, 2018 \(jaxshells.org\)](https://www.jaxshells.org/)>
5. Turgeon, D.D., J.F. Quinn, Jr., A.E. Bogan, E.V. Coan, F.G. Hochberg, W.G. Lyons, P.M. Mikkelsen, R.J. Neves, C. E. Roper, G. Rosenberg, B. Roth, A. Scheltema, F.G. Thompson, M. Vecchione, and J.D. Williams, 1998. Common and scientific names of aquatic invertebrates from the United States and Canada: mollusks, 2nd edition. *American Fisheries Society, Special Publication* 26, Bethesda, Maryland. ix + pp. 1-509 + 16 pls.



iconotype

holotype



*Cardium sublineatum* Conrad, 1941  
 Holotype ANSP 30605  
 H 35.5mm; L 33.1mm; W 9.8mm

mirror image

*Laevicardium wagnerianum*  
 Olsson & Harbison, 1953 holotype  
 ANSP 18861 H 53.1mm



## On the Giant Atlantic Egg Cockle

by Harry G. Lee, Katy Estes-Smargiassi, Bill Frank, and Roger Portell

Any veteran of the era of the scallop fishery, around these parts in the 1980's, knows that one of the more common of larger bivalves in the bycatch of this enterprise was a two to three inch egg cockle that is seldom cast on the beach. Further, it differed from the smaller, glossier, less elongate *Laevicardium serratum* (Linnaeus, 1758), then often misidentified as *L. laevigatum* (Linnaeus, 1758), so characteristic of warmer waters to our south. This biotaxon was treated in Lee (2009: 34, 35; species 122 color plate 2; six local records) as *L. oviputamen* Reeve, 1844 and has been documented at seven other stations from NC to TX (including <<http://jaxshells.org/>>). Of late Lee (2020a, b) reported a more compelling identification, *L. pristis* (Bory de St. Vincent, 1827: 155) based on research by Hylleberg (2004). Bory de St. Vincent simply provided a name for the "orphan" figure in Bruguière (1798: plate 299, fig. 3) resuscitating it from two decades of anonymity. Various references, the Bruguière figure, the text and color figure from Lee (2009) are presented in Lee (2020a, b), the latter questioning Hylleberg's synonymy of *L. pristis* with the extinct *L. sublineatum* (Conrad, 1841).

The purpose of this communication is to demonstrate the greater similarity of the extinct *L. wagnerianum* Olsson & Harbison, 1953 to our Giant Egg Cockle than the extinct *L. sublineatum* has with it, suggesting the former being ancestral to our taxon. In fact, the holotype of *Cardium pristis* depicted in Hylleberg (2004: 895) resembles our species than does *L. wagnerianum*! This revelation impels us to delve more deeply into the relevant synonymies in search of a more secure identity. Stay tuned!

1. Bory de St.-Vincent, J.B.M. [ed.], 1827. *Tableau encyclopédique et méthodique des trois règnes de la nature vers, coquilles, mollusques et polypiers tome troisième*. Agasse, Paris. Pp. 1-180 + planches 1-95. 27 Sept. [text includes explanations for plates 1-488, part of which duplicated Lamarck (1816), who had already provided these for plates 391-488 contemporaneously.] <<https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/37125785>>
2. Bruguière, J.G. [ed.], 1798. *Tableau encyclopédique et méthodique des trois règnes de la nature vers, coquilles, mollusques et polypiers tome second*. Agasse, Paris. Planches 287-390. 29 April. <<https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/37559936>>
3. Hylleberg, J., 2004. A Lexical Approach to the Cardiacea Records, Annotated and Illustrated 3. *Phuket Marine Biological Center Special Publication 30*. [i] + 645-939. June. [vidi]
4. [Lee, H.G.], 2020a. New light shed on the big Carolinian eggcockle. *Shell-O-Gram 61*(1): 6. Jan. <<http://jaxshells.org/pdfs/janfeb20.pdf>>
5. [Lee, H.G.], 2020b. *Laevicardium pristis* (Bory de St. Vincent, 1827) part 2. A synonym? *Shell-O-Gram 61*(2): 4-5. March <<http://www.jaxshells.org/pdfs/marapr20.pdf>>

### Explanation of facing plate:

(L to R) **top** row: holotype *Cardium sublineatum* Conrad, 1841, a R valve (ANSP 30605): H 35.5mm L 33.1mm Depth (D) 9.6mm; iconotype (L valve); mirror image of holotype. **Middle** row: holotype *Laevicardium wagnerianum* Olsson & Harbison, 1953 R valve (ANSP 18861): H 53.1mm; *L. wagnerianum* (UFIZ 29778), R valve xxxmm/McAsphalt Shell Pit, Sarasota Co., FL. **Third** row: Giant Atlantic Egg Cockle [*Laevicardium* sp.] specimen no 1, R valve: H 68.5mm, W 54.9mm, D 22.3mm; *L.* sp. specimen no. 3 R valve H 65.8mm, W 51.7mm, D 21.9mm. **Bottom** row: *Laevicardium* sp. specimen no. 4 L valve: H 74.1mm, W 58.3mm, D 23.3mm; *L.* species specimen no. 5 exterior L & R valves respectively to show periostracum H 65.0/65.0mm, W 54.0/54.8mm, D 22.7/22.5mm.

**N.B.** Specimens in bottom two rows from collected as scallop bycatch taken by trawl 100 ft., 30 mi E Mayport, FL in 1983 [Lee Collection].

## Shellers from the past and the present

by Tom Rice and Frank Maartense

When I first started to scientifically collect shells, some 55 years ago, I noted the "authors" of the shell species. Who were these scholars? Through the next half-century I would meet many of them, as well as others, like myself, who simply enjoyed the form, color and complexity of the animals we call mollusks.

Shift to the present day. Several years ago I ceased research and publications of several directories, my magazine – *Of Sea and Shore*, which at its peak reached collectors in more than 60 countries – and the infamous “Rice’s Prices” (aka “*A Catalog of Dealers’ Prices for Shells: Marine, Land and Freshwater* [1965-2007; 23 editions]). I undertook several short-term projects but soon found myself feeling that I wasn’t keeping my brain active. What to do?



Tom Rice

Over the years I had accumulated a number of photographs of shellers met during conventions, shelling trips around the world, or as visitors to my shell museum (Of Sea and Shore Museum of Shells and Natural History, Inc. in Port Gamble, Washington [State], U.S.A.). Now going back through these I wondered, “whatever became of these people and their collections”? So I began to gather information. Fortunately this new-fangled technological marvel, the Internet helped a great deal. My file of information started to grow, as did the one of photos. Then I came across two wonderful sources of information that caused me to greatly expand the scope of this project. First was the American Malacological Society’s “2400 Years of Malacology” which listed thousands of malacologists from around the world and throughout the centuries. Second was the BEMON (Biographical Etymology of Marine Organism Names) blog, which gave more information on many of those in the 2400YM, as well as others for whom species (and genera) of mollusks were named.

As my files grew I became more and more interested in adding names and information. Suddenly I had more than 20,000 names on my “list” and several thousand photos in files. I had planned this entire project as an exercise for my mind and planned to use it for myself only. I then took a CD of the files to show Guido and Philippe Poppe and they encouraged me to continue my research and to agree to put my files onto their web site and invite others to add names, information, photos, correction, etc... This sounded exciting and I readily agreed.



Frank Maartense. His report begins on p. 9

With "Shellers From the Past and the Present" Tom Rice brings us back to the founding fathers of our mutual hobby. Tom's magnificent database is one of a kind. It gives us a great insight in how people dealt with shells in earlier times and how they look at it nowadays: Tom built a bridge from the past to the present. But, above all, Tom strengthens the shellers' community by bringing people together. This really appeals to me.

I have been given the great opportunity to work on the database. It is of great importance and therefore it should remain accessible for the coming generations too. When future shellers search for names, they will find you: then you are the shellers from the past. I look at it this way: "Shellers from the past and the present for the benefit of the shellers in the future".

I've been collecting shells for over 35 years, fascinated by their color, form, habitat, people behind them, and why their names were given. My collection at my home in The Netherlands gives me a good window into the huge diversity of shells and, of course, the many shellers from the past and the present.

Please have a closer look to all these wonderful people <[Shellers From the Past and Present | Conchology](#)> and add yourselves if not done yet. It is so easy. Become part of the family.

Tom: <[ofseaandshore@gmail.com](mailto:ofseaandshore@gmail.com)>

Frank: <[frank@tarrant.nl](mailto:frank@tarrant.nl)>

### Stenotreme sequel - A chimeric congener

by Harry G. Lee, Bill Frank, and Bob Winters

This species, averaging about nine mm, has eluded identification. The very prominent buttress and inflexed lateral terminus of the prominent parietal tooth suggest *Pilsbrelia* Emberton, 1995, but the invisible to very short, chubby fulcrum and moderate interdenticular sinus recall the somewhat protean *S. stenotrema* & *S. magnifumosum* of the nominotypical subgenus. See <[Shell-O-Gram March-April, 2018 \(jaxshells.org\)](#)> for terminology of shell characters.

These characters and the unusually globose silhouette are quite consistent in a suite of over two dozen specimens collected by Bob Winters in Van Buren Co., Tennessee:





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