SHELL·O·GRAM

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JACKSONVILLE SHELL CLUB, INC.

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Programs

The Club will next convene at 7:00 PM at the Southeast Branch Jax Public Library on Thurs., March 25. After the Shell-of-the-Month presentation by Rick Edwards on *Ensis megistus* Pilsbry and McGinty, 1943, the Minor Jackknife, he and Harry Lee will conduct an ID clinic for worldwide shells, and they will accept "all-comers." Bring those recalcitrant specimens from anywhere in the world and let these guys have a crack at them.

Brian Marshall will tell us all about *Daedalochila bicornuta* (Pilsbry, 1940), the Two-horn Liptooth at the same time and place on April 22. His presentation on this striking Florida landsnail, endemic to only a few west-central Florida counties, Charlotte Thorpe and Harry Lee will give us a talk on the family Turridae, with emphasis on taxonomy and life history. Charlotte's fine color photographs will illustrate the presentation.

44th Shell Show

The Jacksonville Shell Club will hold its 44th Shell Show at Morocco Shrine Center at 3800 South St. John Bluff Road, Jacksonville, Florida. The exhibit hall will be open to the public from Friday, May 28th, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm; Saturday, May 29th, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm; and on Sunday, May 30th, from 10 am to 3:00 pm.

Exhibitors will display their shells according to their favorite categories. Most of the shells are marine, but there will be freshwater shells, as well as land snails that you may find in your backyard. Exhibitors come from several states and from all over Florida. They will exhibit different, beautiful seashells from all over the world. In fact, many of these beautiful seashells you may never have seen before. You will see different forms, shapes, and sizes of shells. There are categories for students as well as for beginners. Judges that are experts in the field of malacology will judges the best in each category with trophies and ribbons awarded to first, second, and third place; and special trophies for selected categories.

Also, shell dealers from all over the country will be there to sell seashells from a dollar and up, to several hundred dollars, even few thousand dollars.

Jacksonville Shell Club, Inc.
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This club meets each month at the Southeast Branch of the Jacksonville Public Library, 10599 Deerwood Park Blvd,, Jacksonville, Florida. Please address any correspondence to the club's address above.

The *Shell-O-Gram* is issued bimonthly and mailed to all regular members. Annual membership dues are $15.00 individual and $20.00 family (domestic) and $25.00 (foreign). Lifetime membership is available. Please send checks for dues to the above address and made out to the Jacksonville Shell Club.

We encourage members to submit articles for this publication. Closing date for article submission is two weeks prior to the first of each month of publication. Articles may be republished provided full credit is given the author and this newsletter and one copy of the complete publication in which the article appears is sent to the above address.

Welcome new members

Robert & Annette Winters

Beginners Beach Walk

Learn about NE Florida Beaches and Shelling. 9:00 AM. 27 March at the GTM South Beach Parking Lot. Walk conducted by Rick Edwards. Call for information and reservations 823-4500. A $3.00 parking fee per vehicle applies.

President's Corner

Hi Everybody.

It feels like things are falling into place.

We are well on our way with Shell Show planning. Now all we need is for everyone to step up and do their part. Committee chairmen might need help and we always need entrants for the scientific and craft competitions as well donations for the silent auction and door prize drawings. We all need to spread the word about the show and about club meetings and membership.

We are also working on school kits and have our first shell walk scheduled. Check out the info elsewhere in the SOG and think about a walk you would like to suggest. We hope these outings will be an opportunity to know each other and share interests in a congenial setting.

Special thanks to Rick for editing the SOG and to all who have submitted articles.

See you at the next meeting.

Barbara

P.S. A little housecleaning: I have someone's fruit bowl and red slotted spoon from the Christmas party. Please call me so I can get it back to you. (737-4708)

Membership Dues are Due Now
Please send in your dues: Individual $15.00 Family $20.00 to
Charlotte Thorpe
1010 24th St. N
Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250
Want to know your due date? Look at your *S-O-G* address tag and if the date has passed or is close to today's date -Your Dues are Due

Shell Show (Continued)

There will also be Arts and Crafts consisting of various art forms- painting and drawing of seashells, photography, needle work, mirrors of various sizes, flower arrangements, other shell craft, and even Christmas related items.

You will be asked for a small donation at the door to offset the expenses for the show. The Shell Club store will be selling seashells and all kinds of shell related items. Seashell jewelry will also be available to the public at the show.

This is a new world of experience to all ages. Free seashell(s) will be offered to kids accompanied by parents. Bring the family to the show and have a family day of it. You may use the ticket you get the first day of the show to come back the next day.

Parking is free to the public.

JSC judges the NE FL Regional Science and Engineering Fair

By Harry Lee

Beginning bright and early Monday morning, February 20, Harry Lee and Rick Edwards, representing the Jacksonville Shell Club, judged the Northeast Florida Regional Science and Engineering Fair. The event was held in a spacious venue on the first floor of the University of North Florida's University Center, the same building where our club met a few years ago. As in the past several years, we used the criteria: "excellence in malacology, invertebrate zoology, and/or marine science."

We are proud to announce our two winners:

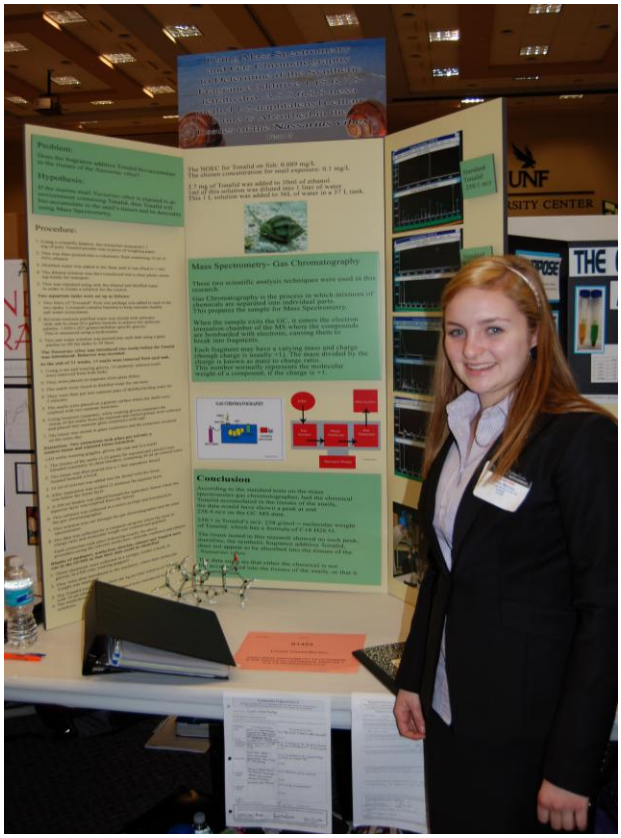
Junior Division: Lucas Buford (exhibit J0812). "The effect of pH on the reproduction of Ramhorn snails." Lucas, an eighth-grader at Episcopal High School, slowly increased or diminished the acidity of the ambient water in some of the one liter aquaria into which he had introduced 13 adult snails [quite possibly *Planorbella duryi* (Wetherby, 1879)]. After two weeks the two control aquaria (which maintained a steady pH of 7.2) the number of shells (most alive) were found to have approximately doubled vs. day 1 and in any of the four experimental systems - two alkalinized (pH 8.0) and two acidified (pH 6.8). He offered potential explanations for the adverse impact of the chemical change he induced as well as examples of how similar pH changes might occur in natural environments through human activity.

Senior Division: Louise Burton (Exhibit S1454). "Using mass spectrometry and gas chromatography to determine if the tonalid is absorbed in the tissues of *Nassarius vibex*." Louise, a junior at Douglas Anderson School of the Arts, knew that tonalid, a synthetic perfume, was known to produce deleterious effects in at least some vertebrates by attaching to estrogen receptors. In her study she looked at an invertebrate, namely the Bruised Nassa, to see if tonalid was concentrated in its soft tissues after exposure in her laboratory to various non-lethal concentrations of that substance dissolved in seawater. As some experiments inevitably conclude, despite the application of sensitive and sophisticated probes, no tonalid could be detected in the homogenized tissues of the experimental animals. Louise convincingly explained the possible mechanisms for lack of take-up in the test snails.

We were particularly gratified to see mollusks used as test subjects to measure the effects of anthropogenic environmental change, by the scientific rigor of these and several other projects, and by the students' abilities to present and interpret their work.

Lucas was awarded a check for fifty dollars, and Louise seventy -five at the awards ceremony held the next evening at the University Center.

Lucas Buford, Junior winner with data display



Louise Burton, Senior winner with data display

The Mislocated Shell

By Mary Reynolds

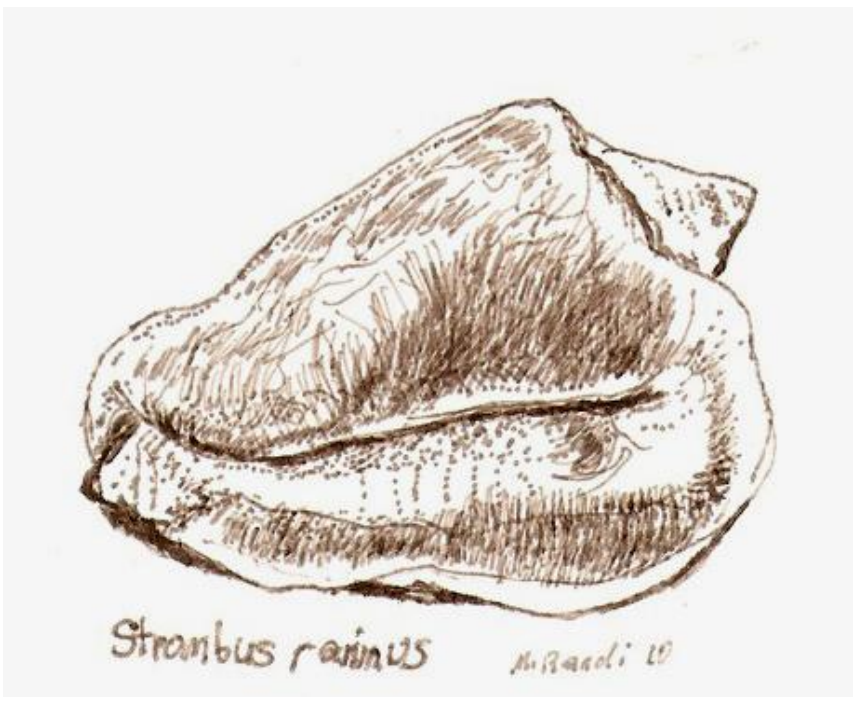
Strombus raninus is a Gulf of Mexico shell often found towards south Florida. This one was found on the shore of Cedar Key.

Cedar Key is a pleasant place to go. It is a picturesque town on the Gulf of Mexico, a beeline west of Gainesville on Hwy 24. My boyfriend, Jimbo, likes to go there to spend the day and partake of the fine

dining. He grew up in Cheifland and lives in Trenton, which is a good hour drive. Me, I discovered Cedar Key through shell club trips. Most of the time there is a yearly low tide when people belonging to the club like to look for shells. On December 1st, when some members of the shell club were scheduled to go there, Jimbo and I decided we might meet them there. We got there about 11:00 and went to the shoreline. Apparently the low tide had already come because the water was at its normal line. I showed Jimbo some shells and living species and how to look for shells that are not apparently visible.

Some *Littorina irrorata* were on mangrove trees and *Spartina* in a slough but I didn't pick any since I had plenty of them. When we came back to the beach area, we saw three loose piles about 20 feet apart of picked over shells. In the piles were whelks and a couple of quahog clams, all in beach worn condition. I then found a relatively nice specimen of a conch shell with gloss in the aperture. My other finds were a disk shaped bone and ½ shell of a quahog to be used as a change bowl. I have become selective in my shell collecting over the years. Jimbo brought a few home for his mother. He was most fascinated by a dead horseshoe crab. We discussed how the piles might have come to be, including somebody emptying out a collection from their home. However, the conch was a mystery since I knew it and *Strombus gigas* both come from warmer waters farther south. That is why I guessed the shells came from a collection somebody had brought down to the shore to deposit for other people to pick up.

When we got home, I confirmed it was *Strombus raninus* with a location further south. I had another like shell in my collection, but this was the first time anybody had found one at Cedar Key.



Ensis megistus at Anastasia Island Beach February 8

Is it luck or good planning; Vermont campaign continues to thrive

By Harry G. Lee

The preceding sixteen months, the time elapsed since the last family outing to The Homestead in Manchester Center, VT, provided time to refine the landsnailing strategy that had never failed to increase the biodiversity inventory of surrounding Bennington Co. The impact of diminishing returns had been felt, but one way or another (*e.g*., Lee, 2008c), net accretion had been achieved in each of six campaigns spanning 47 years through May, 2008. One new destination haunted me, the riparian flanks of the Batten Kill about a mile northeast of The Homestead. Here VT 11 crosses the famous trout stream in a relatively treeless valley running north-south between the Taconic and Green Mts.

Near that point is a tiny settlement called Barnumville, which, my in-laws told me, was originally a summer retreat for members of P.T. Barnum's circus. I could find no independent confirmation of this history on an Internet search, but these familial sources have never disappointed me in the past - ably guiding me to obscure and productive collecting sites elsewhere in the county.

Unconcerned with such minor matters, I headed out to Barnumville in the morning of September 19, 2009. The dog days of summer somehow had skipped that day's calendar; although clear, it was sweater and windbreaker weather. I reached the destination I had envision for many months, parked the car, and descended from the northeast bridge approach into what appeared to be a low grassy area - a habitat somewhat different from what I'd exploited over the preceding years of collecting the area. To my chagrin, the water table and the riparian marshland coincided, and the surface was soft enough to allow a generous sampling of very cold water into my shoes. That experience quickly forced a retreat and the redesign of a collecting strategy. The safe refuge provided by the bridge embankment allowed an inspection of the vertical wall of the concrete bridge abutment. Surprisingly the surface was studded with hundreds of *Pupilla muscorum*! The new strategy was obvious - collect lots of these little gems - then search for other micro's in the vegetation and soil below.

Eventually I inspected all four quadrants of the bridge abutments and embankments and confirmed , espec-ially in the southeast sector, the presence of plenty of snails. As has become my custom, collecting by visual surveillance collecting was supplemented by generous soil/vegetation sampling.

Two days later, I climbed with a family delegation to the "upper" marble quarry on Mt. Aeolus first visited in on the preceding trip of May, 2008 (Lee, 2008c), where soil samples were also obtained. The results from the two trips' samplings accrued over the following two weeks and are reported in the appendix below.

I culled the quarry sample first. The contents were pretty much as expected until I plucked one, then a second *Strobilops labyrinthicus* (Say, 1817) Maze Pinecone. Bingo! A new county record, number 56 on the native snail tally from Bennington Co. (see appendix). A shutout was averted in the late innings!

But there was more to be reckoned with, and things **really** got interesting during the analysis of the Barnumville stuff. The first stunner was the sheer number of shells from the Barnumville bridge southeast embankment: 527 specimens of 14 (13 landsnail) species. As Hubricht (1985) indicated, concrete is a snail attractant, and the provision of even a little calcium in this granitic landscape can be critical. Second was the discovery of a new non-native snail for Bennington Co. in the southwest embankment sample, *Discus rotundatus* (Muller 1774) Garden Disc Snail. This is a species I had never collected before, it's quite pretty, and there were 58 of them, many taken alive. Before magnification, I had suspected these were a native *Discus*, two species of which I'd collected (see below) at higher altitudes in far less disturbed habitats. I hadn't given an alternative diagnosis any thought until the obvious leapt at me through the microscope. This species probably arrived from NW Europe, as did *Oxychilus cellarius* (Muller, 1774) Cellar Glass-snail, with which it occurred in the same sample. The situation was now an embarrassment of riches.

Yet there was one more even greater surprise, number three. In this southwest Barnumvile sample, four specimens of a *Punctum* species were found. These shells ranged from 1.45 to 1.65 mm in maximum diameter, had an umbilicus about 1/3 that measurement, and were a translucent light reddish brown. They appeared distinct [see **Figure 1** L to R: *P. pygmaeum*

Barnumville, *P. minutissimum*, Mt. Aeolus upper quarry; *P. vitreum* Bullitt Co., KY; scale line 1.0 mm] from each of the (smaller) four nominate species from eastern North America - and a fifth, un-named but described by Nekola (2004: 33).

Fig. 1

Unexpectedly, they matched the description of the European *P. pygmaeum* (Draparnaud, 1801) in Kerney and Cameron (1979: 101) as well as its differential diagnosis vs. *P. minutissimum* given by Pilsbry (1948: 645). Typical specimens of the latter are easily collected in the region, but they are much more closely associated with upland forest habitat than a ruderal situation like that of this station. Furthermore, their shells, aside from being smaller overall, have whorls of a much smaller caliber [see **Figure 2** L to R, top to bottom: *P. minutissimum*, Mt. Aeolus upper quarry; *P. vitreum* Bullitt Co., KY; two *P. pygmaeum* Barnumville; scale line 1.0 mm]. Although Kerney and Cameron (*Idem*) characterize *P. pygmaeum* as "holoarctic," I was unable to confirm the presence of *P. pygmaeum* in North America using all my available library resources. Although there were historical records for North America, these were debunked by Pilsbry (*Idem*). Further, Dr. David Robinson (pers. comm. 1 Dec., 2009) confirmed that no *bona fide* occurrences of *P. pygmaeum* had been reported in the six decades since Pilsbry's analysis.

This had gotten **really** interesting! My next step was to visit the Florida Museum of Natural History (Gainesville), where, among other projects, I compared my four VT *Punctum* to the museum's holdings of *Punctum pygmaeum* (Draparnaud, 1801), numbering about eight lots. As suspected, my shells appeared identical to specimens those specimens of *P. pygmaeum* from NW Europe. Shortly afterward I presented an selected array of *P. pygmaeum*, two of my four specimens, and two selected VT *P. minutissimum* to Malacology Collections Manager John Slapcinsky, and he concurred with the diagnosis! A week later I received two lots of *P. pygmaeum* (Netherlands and Germany) from Dr. Wim Maassen of the National Museum of Natural History, Leiden. As expected by then, all those shells likewise matched the four Barnumville specimens beautifully.

Instead of succumbing to cold stochastic probability, the Sept., 2009 Bennington Co. expedition proved to be provident beyond expectations: a previously unreported native species (total now 56), an increase by two non-native species (now four; total 60 overall), and, among the latter, a first for the Western Hemisphere! If I were superstitious, I might suggest that seven, which is believed to be a lucky number in many cultures, trumped math and science on the occasion of this, the seventh, regional snailing campaign. Before committing this notion to belief, however, one should reconsider P.T Barnum's adage regarding the natal frequency of the vulnerably gullible. This August we'll see if the charmed life of this biodiversity juggernaut will continue.

Hubricht, L., 1985. The distributions of the native land mollusks of the Eastern United States. *Fieldiana 24*(1359): pp. 1-191 + viii. June 28 [Summer, 1985: 27 spp.; 25 collected by HGL in 1961; two not until Fall, 2003]

Kerney, M.P. and R.A.D. Cameron, 1979. A field guide to the land snails of Britain and north-west Europe. Collins, London. Pp. 1-288 + 22 color plates.

Lee, H. G., 2004a. Advancing Vermont malacology - or - finding lime recycled after half a billion years of mineral inertia. *Shell-O-Gram 45*(1): 2-5. Jan. - Feb. see <http://www.jaxshells.org/vermont.htm> [1961; Winter, 1965; Spring, 2001; Fall, 2002, 2003]: 41 spp. in paper version; 42 with addition of *Vallonia excentrica* (2004) to Internet version on 9/11/04].

Lee, H. G., 2004b. Marble quarry/natatorium also produces conchological gold. *Shell-O-Gram 45*(5): 6-8. Sept-Dec. See <http://www.jaxshells.org/vermontnew.htm> [Fall, 2004: 43 spp.].

Lee, H. G., 2008a. Five years later new discoveries continue in the Vermont Reunion Roundup. *Shell-O-Gram* 49(2): 3-6. March-April.; see <http://www.jaxshells.org/vermont07.htm> [Fall, 2007: 52 spp.].

Lee, H.G., 2008b. [September, 2006 - June, 2007"]. Native snail surveys in Bennington County, Vermont. *New York Shell Club Notes 377*: 8-15. April; see <http://www.jaxshells.org/vermont06.htm> [Fall 2005, 2006: 50 spp.].
Lee, H. G., 2008c. Growing the Bennington Co., Vermont landsnail inventory. A testimonial to armchair collecting. *Shell-O-Gram 49*(6): 3-6. Nov.-Dec. see <http://www.jaxshells.org/vermont08.htm> [Spring, 2008: 55 spp.].
Nekola, J. C., 2004. Terrestrial gastropod fauna of northeastern Wisconsin and the southern upper peninsula of Michigan. *American Malacological Bulletin 18*(1-2): 21-44. May 7.
Pilsbry, H. A., 1948. *Land Mollusca of North America north of Mexico vol II part 2*. Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia. xlvi + 591-1113.
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. F. 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. (unpaginated).

APPENDIX:

Account of collections made in Bennington Co., VT 19 to 21 September, 2009

USA: Vermont, Bennington Co., 300 m E Barnumville, 2.0 mi NE Manchester Ctr. VT 11, **NE** bridge approach, embankment and adjacent floodplain marsh along L bank Batten Kill. H. Lee! 19 September, 2009.
Pisidiuma species
Fossaria species
Carychium exiguum (Say, 1822) Obese Thorn
Cochlicopa lubrica (Muller, 1774) Glossy Pillar
Gastrocopta tappaniana (C. B. Adams, 1841) White Snaggletooth
Pupilla muscorum (Linnaeus, 1758) Widespread Column
Vertigo elatior Sterki, 1894 Tapered Vertigo
Vertigo ventricosa (E. S. Morse, 1865) Five-tooth Vertigo
Vallonia pulchella (Muller, 1774) Iroquois Vallonia
Punctum minutissimum (I. Lea, 1841) Small Spot
Catinella vermeta (Say, 1829) Suboval Ambersnail
Nesovitrea electrina (Gould, 1841) Amber Glass
Zonitoides nitidus (Muller, 1774) Black Gloss
***Oxychilus cellarius* (Muller, 1774) Cellar Glass-snail**

USA: Vermont, Bennington Co. 300 m E Barnumville, 2.0 mi NE Manchester Center. VT 11, **SE** bridge approach, well-drained embankment vegetated with lawn grasses above L bank Batten Kill. Harry G. Lee! 19 September, 2009.
Fossaria species 3
Carychium exiguum (Say, 1822) Obese Thorn 1
Cochlicopa lubrica (Muller, 1774) Glossy Pillar 41
Pupilla muscorum (Linnaeus, 1758) Widespread Column 89
Vertigo elatior Sterki, 1894 Tapered Vertigo 1
Vertigo ovata Say, 1822 Ovate Vertigo 1
Vertigo pygmaea (Draparnaud, 1801) Crested Vertigo 18
Vallonia costata (Muller, 1774) Costate Vallonia 178
Vallonia excentrica Sterki, 1893 Iroquois Vallonia 101
Vallonia pulchella (Muller, 1774) Lovely Vallonia 7
Catinella vermeta (Say, 1829) Suboval Ambersnail 2
Nesovitrea electrina (Gould, 1841) Amber Glass 78
Zonitoides nitidus (Muller, 1774) Black Gloss 1
***Oxychilus cellarius* (Mller, 1774) Cellar Glass-snail** 6

USA: Vermont, Bennington Co. 300 m E Barnumville, 2.0 mi NE Manchester Ctr. VT 11, **SW** bridge abutment and adjacent well-drained embankment vegetated with tall weeds and shrubs above R bank Batten Kill. H. Lee! 19 September, 2009.
Cochlicopa lubrica (Muller, 1774) Glossy Pillar 8
Gastrocopta tappaniana (C. B. Adams, 1841) White Snaggletooth 1
Pupilla muscorum (Linnaeus, 1758) Widespread Column 8
Vertigo pygmaea (Draparnaud, 1801) Crested Vertigo 4

Vallonia costata (Muller, 1774) Costate Vallonia 25
Vallonia excentrica Sterki, 1893 Iroquois Vallonia 1
***Punctum pygmaeum* (Draparnaud, 1801)** 4
***Discus rotundatus* (Muller 1774) Garden Disc Snail** 58
Nesovitrea electrina (Gould, 1841) Amber Glass 3
***Oxychilus cellarius* (Muller, 1774) Cellar Glass-snail** 20

USA: Vermont, Bennington Co., 1.0 mi N Manchester Center, 70 m SW VT 7A, just NW North Road. Low, wet grassy area at edge of pasture. H. Lee! 20 September, 2009.
***Arion fasciatus* (Nilsson, 1823) Orange-banded Arion** 12
Note the six records for the four non-native species in **boldface a**bove. Of these, I had taken, but not reported, *Arion fasciatus* and *Oxychilus cellarius* in Bennington Vo., VT previously.

USA: Vermont, Bennington Co. Mt. Aeolus, upper quarry east flank. Leaf litter at base of north-facing marble scarp. H. Lee! 21 September, 2009.
Cochlicopa morseana (Doherty, 1878) Appalachian Pillar 1
Columella simplex (Gould, 1841) Toothless Column 1
Gastrocopta pentodon (Say, 1822)Comb Snaggletooth 15
Vertigo bollesiana (Morse, 1865) Delicate Vertigo 3
***Strobilops labyrinthicus* (Say, 1817) Maze Pinecone 2**
Anguispira alternata (Say, 1817) Flamed Tigersnail 3
Discus catskillensis (Pilsbry, 1896) Angular Disk 12
Guppya sterkii Dall, 1888) Tiny Granule 3
Striatura exigua (Stimpson, 1850) Ribbed Striate 3
Striatura ferrea E. S. Morse, 1864 Black Striate 8
Striatura milium (E. S. Morse, 1859) Fine-ribbed Striate 1
Zonitoides arboreus (Say, 1817) Quick Gloss 5
Vertigo gouldii (A. Binney, 1843) Variable Vertigo 24
Punctum minutissimum (I. Lea, 1841) Small Spot 72
Euconulus fulvus (Muller, 1774) Brown Hive 24
Euconulus polygyratus (Pilsbry, 1899) Fat Hive 13
Nesovitrea binneyana (E. S. Morse, 1864) Blue Glass 8
Nesovitrea electrina (Gould, 1841) Amber Glass 5 **Boldface** indicates new Co. record

Cumulative account of all known Bennington Co., VT native land snails as 1 March, 2010
[year first collected by author; first publication of record]

Carychium exile H. C. Lea, 1842 Ice Thorn [2003; 2004a]
Carychium exiguum (Say, 1822) Obese Thorn [1961; 1985]
Cochlicopa lubrica (Muller, 1774) Glossy Pillar [1961; 1985]
    Cochlicopa morseana (Doherty, 1878) Appalachian Pillar [2003; 2004a]
    Columella simplex (Gould, 1841) Toothless Column [2003; 2004a]
Gastrocopta armifera (Say, 1821) Armed Snaggletooth [1961; 1985]
Gastrocopta contracta (Say, 1822) Bottleneck Snaggletooth [1961; 1985]
Gastrocopta corticaria (Say, 1817) Bark Snaggletooth [2006; 2008a]
Gastrocopta pentodon (Say, 1822) Comb Snaggletooth [1961; 1985]
    Gastrocopta tappaniana (C. B. Adams, 1841) White Snaggletooth [2005; 2008a]
Pupilla muscorum (Linnaeus, 1758) Widespread Column [2007; 2008b]
Pupoides albilabris (C. B. Adams, 1841) White-lip Dagger [1961; 1985]
Vertigo bollesiana (Morse, 1865) Delicate Vertigo ["2008;" 2008c]
    Vertigo elatior Sterki, 1894 Tapered Vertigo [2005; 2008a]
    Vertigo gouldii (A. Binney, 1843) Variable Vertigo [2003; 2004a]
Vertigo ovata Say, 1822 Ovate Vertigo [1961; 1985]
    Vertigo pygmaea Sterki, 1894 Crested Vertigo [2007; 2008b]
Vertigo ventricosa (E. S. Morse, 1865) Five-tooth Vertigo [2003; 2004a]
    Vallonia costata (Muller, 1774) Costate Vallonia [2004; 2004b]
Vallonia excentrica Sterki, 1893 Iroquois Vallonia [2004; 2004b]
    Vallonia pulchella (Muller, 1774) Lovely Vallonia [2005; 2008a]
Strobilops labyrinthicus (Say, 1817) Maze Pinecone [2009; 2010]
Haplotrema concavum (Say, 1821) Gray-foot Lancetooth [1961; 1985]
Punctum minutissimum (I. Lea, 1841) Small Spot [1961; 1985]

Helicodiscus parallelus (Say, 1817) Compound Coil [1961; 1985]
Helicodiscus shimeki Hubricht, 1962 Temperate Coil [2003; 2004a]
Anguispira alternata (Say, 1817) Flamed Tigersnail [1961; 1985]
Discus catskillensis (Pilsbry, 1896) Angular Disk [1961; 1985]
Discus whitneyi (Newcomb, 1864) Forest Disc [2005; 2008]
Catinella vermeta (Say, 1829) Suboval Ambersnail [1961; 1985]
Novisuccinea ovalis (Say, 1817) Oval Ambersnail [2003; 2004a]
Oxyloma retusum (I. Lea, 1834) Blunt Ambersnail [2001; 1985]
Euconulus alderi (Gray, 1840) Shiny Hive; first record from New England! ["2008;" 2008c]
Euconulus fulvus (Muller, 1774) Brown Hive [1961; 1985]
    Euconulus polygyratus (Pilsbry, 1899) Fat Hive ["2008;" 2008c]
    Guppya sterkii Dall, 1888) Tiny Granule; first record from New England! [2005; 2008a]
Glyphyalinia indentata (Say, 1823) Carved Glyph [1961; 1985]
Glyphyalinia rhoadsi (Pilsbry, 1889) Sculpted Glyph [2005; 2008a]
    Glyphyalinia wheatleyi (Bland, 1883) Bright Glyph [2005; 2008a]
Hawaiia minuscula (A. Binney, 1841) Minute Gem [1961; 1985]
Mesomphix cupreus (Rafinesque, 1831) Copper Button [1961; 1985]
Mesomphix inornatus (Say, 1821) Plain Button [2003; 2004a]
    Nesovitrea binneyana (E. S. Morse, 1864) Blue Glass [1965; 2004a]
Nesovitrea electrina (Gould, 1841) Amber Glass [1961; 1985]
Paravitrea multidentata (A. Binney, 1840) Dentate Supercoil [2003; 2004a]
Striatura exigua (Stimpson, 1850) Ribbed Striate [1961; 1985]
Striatura ferrea E. S. Morse, 1864 Black Striate [1961; 1985]
Striatura milium (E. S. Morse, 1859) Fine-ribbed Striate [1961; 1985]
Zonitoides arboreus (Say, 1817) Quick Gloss [1961; 1985]
Zonitoides nitidus (Muller, 1774) Black Gloss [2001; 2004a]
Vitrina angelicae Beck, 1837 Eastern Glass-snail [1965; 2004a]
Appalachina sayana (Pilsbry, 1906) Spike-lip Crater [1961; 1985]
Euchemotrema fraternum (Say, 1821) Upland Pillsnail [1961; 1985]
Neohelix albolabris (Say, 1817) Whitelip [1961; 1985]
Triodopsis tridentata (Say, 1817) Northern Threetooth [2003; 1985]
Xolotrema denotatum (Ferussac, 1821) Velvet Wedge [2003; 2004a]
56 species; 29 new county records, of which 13 are new state records [indented; and two of these 13 New England records as noted] vs. Hubricht (1985).

Native land snail species reported from VT by Hubricht (1985) but not found in Bennington Co. by the author as of 1 March, 2010 (six of 49 reported)
Carychium exile canadense G. H. Clapp, 1906
Cochlicopa lubricella (Porro, 1838) Thin Pillar
Cochlicopa nitens (Gallenstein, 1848) Robust Pillar
Vertigo milium (Gould, 1840) Blade Vertigo
Zoogenetes harpa (Say, 1824) Boreal Top
Neohelix dentifera (A. Binney, 1837) Bigtooth Whitelip*
* Collected by the author in nearby Cheshire Co., NH and Albany Co., NY.

Adding the two lists above, we get a hypothetical Bennington Co. fauna of 62 native species, similar in composition and only 25% lower in biodiversity than that reported for 22 counties in NE Wisconsin and the contiguous SE Upper Peninsula of Michigan (Nekola, 2004: 82 spp.). The latter region, while much larger in area and varied in ecosystems sampled, lies on roughly the same latitude despite being some 750 miles west. The Bennington Co. tally, even without the hypothetical addenda, closely approximates the inventories of two more southerly US counties closely- and similarly-studied by the author: Duval in FL (64 species) and Nelson in KY (60 species) [Lee, unpublished; based on analysis and addenda, respectively, to <http://www.jaxshells.org/checklis.htm> and <http://www.jaxshells.org/blitz08.htm>, respectively].

SHELL WALK at LITTLE TALBOT ISLAND

Our first Shell Walk is planned. Lets get this going. Shelling, Lunch, Info, Fellowship.

Place: Little Talbot Island State Park, 12157 Heckscher Drive (ask ranger for pavilion location)
Date: April 10th
Time: 11:00 AM
Bring: A sack lunch (drink machines available)(cookies & chips will be provided) and shelling gear
What: We will gather at the pavilion for a visit with a park ranger who will tell us about what we can expect to find as well as info on park background and tides at Little Talbot. We will then have lunch and get out for shelling by the low tide at appx. 12:30.
RSVP: Please let Barbara Cathey (737-4708, blcathey@bellsouth.net) or Laura Rowley (395-7598) know if you will be there. We need some kind of count for the park.
Fee: Single occupant car - $4. 2-8 in car - $5 (you might want to carpool)

School Shell Kits

Those interested in helping to clean out the shed and sort shells for the school kits are invited to meet at Claire Newsome's house on 13 March at 9:00 AM. Her address is 3875 Copper Circle (Off of Emerson just east of Phillips Hwy).For additional information or directions call (904-398-6383)

Shell Show Badges

If you have your badge from past years, please plan to use it for the show. If you need one or have misplaced yours contact Brian Marshall by e-mail for a replacement. Please do this as soon as possible.