



# Penophora

NEWSLETTER OF THE PHILADELPHIA SHELL CLUB



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NOVEMBER 2013

## Another Successful Philly Shell Show!

*More Than 1,700 Attended "Variations on a Theme" October 19 & 20 at the Academy*

The Philadelphia Shell Club enjoyed another high-profile October thanks to the return of the annual shell show. A total of 1,773 shell enthusiasts, not including club members and exhibitors, attended "Variations on a Theme," October 19 and 20 at the Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University.

The popular event featured a number of outstanding displays in both the scientific and artistic categories in the Ewell Sale Library and African Hall, which, for the second year in a row, both proved to be



*photo by Regis D'Angiolini*

Touchdown! One of the many amazing specimens from Rich Kirk's award-winning *spondylus* exhibit. For the full list of special award winners, please see page 3.

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*photo by Regis D'Angiolini*

**EVER HEAR ABOUT THE THANKSGIVING SHELL?** No? Well, that's because there isn't one. Please enjoy this lovely *Voluta ebraea* instead. It was collected at 20-30 meters in coral sand off Northern Natal Rio Grande do Norte in a country that has no idea what a late-November North American food coma is—Brazil. Have a wonderful Turkey Day!

## Our Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Philadelphia Shell Club will be held **Thursday, November 21 at 7:30 pm.** at the Academy. Our speaker is the Academy's **Roger Thomas, an aquatic biologist.** His talk will be "**Past and Present Freshwater Mussel Research at the Academy.**" Interesting freshwater mussel shells from the Academy's collection will be on display during the meeting, and **we encourage members to bring a few mussels from their own collections.** If you have mussels you would like to talk to our speaker about or just have a fascinating shell with a story behind it, we would love for you to share it with the club.

Refreshments will be provided by **Nick and Betty Ruggeri**, and **Sue Hobbs** will have beautiful mussels and other shells for sale. Don't forget: next month's meeting—scheduled for Thursday, December 19—will be our annual holiday potluck. Look for details in the December newsletter and on our website.

# Another Successful Philly Shell Show!

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desirable locations for the central part of the show.

Among the scientific entries were a multi-award winning exhibit on *Calliostomatiidae*; a colorful array of *spondylus* species; a seven-foot model shipwreck featuring seashells from artificial coral reefs; a focus on freshwater mussels of Maine; fascinating *cucullaea* fossils; the saga of *Hyotissa mcgintyi* in North Carolina; and the amazing variety of mollusks one can discover simply by walking a beach.

Artistic exhibits included two- and three-dimensional interpretations of the precious wentletrap, a sci-fi themed alien diorama, a highly detailed mosaic of ballroom dancers, and intricate doll house/shell shop models, mirrors, and sailor's valentines, both traditional and contemporary.

Once again the show featured fascinating behind-the-scenes tours of the Academy's enormous malacology collection, an amazing variety of shells for sale in the marketplace, and free shells for kids at the club table. New this year for the club table were shell raffles both Saturday and Sunday thanks to the kind donations of Nick and Betty Ruggeri. At the end of the day Saturday, a short awards ceremony was held in the Academy's auditorium followed by the shell show dinner at the nearby restaurant Asia on the Parkway. If all of that wasn't enough, this year's show coincided with the second weekend of the Academy's brand-new special exhibit—Dinosaurs Unearthed—featuring life-size, animatronic dinosaurs. This highly advertised event provided extra exposure for the show and the club.

Congratulations to everyone involved for another truly wonderful year!

--Regis D'Angiolini



photo by Mike Gage

See pages 4-9 for photos of the 2013 special award winners.

## 2013 Special Awards

### Artistic

Judge's Special Award, **Suzanne Marie Dietsch**

Judge's Special Award, **Peter Gabel**

Best Single Sailor's Valentine, Hobbyist, **Beverly Hartzell**

Best Double Sailor's Valentine, Hobbyist, **Lauren Bergey**

Best Artistic Exhibit Exclusive of Valentines, Hobbyist, **Sheila Nugent**

Best of Show, Traditional Sailor's Valentine, **Connie Miller**

Best of Show, Traditionally Styled Sailor's Valentine, **Hatsue Iimuro**

Best of Show, Contemporary Sailor's Valentine, **Suzanne Marie Dietsch**

Best of Show, Objets Trouves Sailor's Valentine, **Hatsue Iimuro**

Best of Show, Double Sailor's Valentine, **David Rhyne**

Best of Show, Artistic Exhibit Exclusive of Valentines, **Peter Gabel**, "Mermaid's Doll House"

### Scientific

Judge's Special Award, **Doug Wolfe and Anne Fogleman**, "*Hyotissa mcgintyi*"

Judge's Special Award, **Tom Grace**, "*Calliostomatiidae*"

Best Shell of Show, **Tom Grace**, "*Calliostoma obesulum*"

Best Self-Collected Shell of Show, **Cathy Young**, "*Melania sylvaeurpis*"

John Dyas Parker Award, Most Creative Scientific Exhibit, **Regis D'Angiolini**, "Seashells from Shipwrecks"

Robert B. Fish Award, Best Small Scientific Exhibit, **Allen Bennett**, "*Umbilica*"

R. Tucker Abbott Award, Best Scientific Exhibit by a Philadelphia Shell Club Member, **Vicky Wall**, "Marveling at Mollusks"

Leonard Hill Award, Most Aesthetic Scientific Exhibit, **Tom Grace**, "*Calliostomatiidae*"

Conchologists of America Award, **Rich Kirk**, "*Spondylus: The Great Disentanglement*"

Dupont Trophy, **Sheila Nugent**, "Freshwater Mussels of Maine"

2013 Variations on a Theme Award, **Tom Grace**, "*Calliostomatiidae*"

2013 Conrad Award, **Kari Shankle**, "*Cucullaea*"

Masters Award, **Sheila Nugent**, "In Search of the Acadian Subprovince"

# 2013 Philadelphia Shell Show Special Awards Artistic Division

Photos by Mike Gage



Judge's Special Award,  
Best of Show  
Contemporary  
Sailor's  
Valentine  
**Suzanne Marie  
Dietsch**



Best  
of Show  
Traditional  
Sailor's  
Valentine  
**Connie  
Miller**



Best of Show  
Objets Trouves  
Sailor's Valentine,  
Best of Show  
Traditionally Styled  
Sailor's Valentine  
**Hatsue Imuro**

