

March-April, 2008

Volume 49-2

"The Jacksonville Shell Club (JSC) will meet at 7:00 PM on March 27, 2008 at the Southeast Branch Public Library. Charlotte Lloyd will report on her recent shelling trip to the central Philippines, where she saw and photographed a variety of marine life including living mollusks. Those of you who have been privileged to see Char's marine life photography know what a treat this will be, and the newer members will be in for an unprecedented treat. Barbara Cathey will discuss some interesting aspects of the local clam, *Mytilopsis leucophaeata* (Conrad, 1831), the Dark Falsemussel, which she has found in a new habitat.

"The JSC will again convene at the usual time and place at 7:00 PM on April 24, 2008. Harry Lee will report on his recent filed trip to Cat Is., Bahamas. He plans to accompany a group of members of the Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum (Sanibel Is., FL) early that month. The Shellof-the-Month will be presented by Rick Edwards on *Epitonium angulatum* (Say, 1830), the Angulate Wentletrap, a very attractive species which can be found on our beaches." (I can scan the original description for you. HGL)

Shelling in St. Augustine

For those who attended the October field trip to the Inlet at St. Augustine, many finds were made. The area visited has continued to be productive and with each trip, I find it more interesting. Below are some pictures of some of my finds on February 15.







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

Membership: Charlotte Thorpe E-mail: charllovd@bellsouth.net

Editor: Richard Edwards E-mail: rozedwards@bellsouth.net

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.

President's Corner

Hello Everybody!

Just a few notes and comments since our last Shell-O-Gram.

Our January meeting was well attended with an excellent program presented by Rick Edwards. We also had several guests in attendance we hope they will continue coming to our meetings and decide to join us. A reminder to everyone, promote our club every chance you get.

The Board/Shell Show Committee meeting was held on Jan. 17 with 10 members in attendance. The Board's main topic was the Shell Show. Things are moving along and plans are being made (a report will be presented at the regular meeting). Remember! When you are asked to help, Please Say Yes! -- and then volunteer a little extra time to another area.

I hope some of you have started off the year right by being able to do a little shelling! Let us hear about your ventures.

Looking forward to seeing you at our next meeting!

> Best, Billie

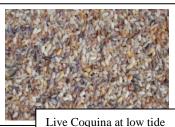
Reminder: Club membership Dues are Due Now For most members dues are due on September 1st of each year. If you joined on a different date, you can find that date by looking at your Shell-O-Gram label. Your due date is shown by month and year on the label. Dues cost: Individual \$15.00......Family \$20.00

(Continued from page 1)

The Anastasia Island beaches have also been productive at low tides. The beach wash areas are producing augers, drill shells, bivalves, moon snails, whelks, and baby's ears on a regular basis. Some tusk shells, wentletraps, and tulip shells have also been found.







Corrigendum to

Shelling Sequel: Snailer Schroeder's shelled species soars...

Corrigendum: After collaboration with snail expert Dr. Jeff Nekola of the University of New Mexico, who examined some of the Nelson Co., KY snails reported in my article* "Shelling Sequel ...," I wish to make the following corrections in the species identifications:

- The shell I called *Vertigo ventricosa* (Morse, 1865) is merely a short, stout form of *Vertigo gouldii* (A. Binney, 1843).
- Lucilla cf. nummus is better characterized as Lucilla cf. jacksoni (Hubricht, 1962)
- My *Euconulus fulvus* (Müller, 1774) is actually *Euconulus trochulus* (Reinhardt, 1883)
- My *Nesovitrea electrina* (Gould, 1841) is actually *Glyphyalinia* cf. *rhoadsi* (Pilsbry, 1899)

These emended identifications reduce the alters the total Nelson Co., KY species count found by JSC member Lori Schroeder and her husband Jeff by one - from 49 to 48.

*Lee, H. G., 2008. Shelling Sequel: Snailer Schroeder's shelled species survey soars significantly since second stage started (soil samples sorted). *Shell-O-Gram 49*(1): 3-9. Jan.-Feb.

Five years later new discoveries continue in the Vermont "Reunion Roundup"

As has become customary, the writer was once again a participant in a northbound pilgrimage of the Hadden clan, including in-laws such as he and very nearly three generations of sibs, cousins, nieces, nephews, aunts, and uncles to Manchester, in southwestern Vermont. Scheduling incompatibilities forced postponement of this annual reunion, usually convened on a mid-late Sept. weekend (see Lee, 2004a, 2004b, and 2008) to a time precariously on the latter side of Indian Summer. Despite the potential for cold weather, it was reasonably balmy with clear skies for the events. However, temperatures in the mid-twenties greeted the last few participants as they straggled homeward on Monday. It was as if the party had received a weekend pass from Jack Frost, who thereafter promptly returned to his appointed rounds.

Given an extra day to nose around the vicinity for land snails, I set out that Friday, October 26 to sample a somewhat different habitat, a fairly extensive marsh/swamp running southeast/northwest between the Prentiss Brook, a Batten Kill tributary, and Vermont Rte. 30 in the township of Dorset, a five mile drive northwest from The Homestead. Most of my collecting had been in the vicinity of marble exposures in woodlands, in pastureland, and in another low grassy area along West Brook, downstream of this feature, and near its confluence with the Batten Kill. A marshland might provide a new species to add to the 50 I had recorded over the years (Lee, 2004a, 2004b, and 2008) from Bennington Co. I knew the lamentable by inescapable effect of diminishing returns had already been felt in these annual snail hunts, and that new turf needed to be exploited to intelligently mitigate its impact.

I saw very little evidence of snails in the marsh and swamp (Station 1), so I stuffed my Ziploc with leaf litter, put into my backpack, and walked the half mile back to the campus of the swimming hole quarry (Lee, 2004b), where I'd been dropped off earlier that morning. Having seen no evidence of snails on a surveillance of the trails around the quarry, I turned my attention to a dry

culvert bordered by concrete rubble near the parking area used by visitors to the recreational area. To my surprise, I saw several small, but not minute, pupiform snails on the concrete. They were clearly living snails, and I reasoned they must be *Pupilla muscorum* (Linnaeus, 1758), the Widespread Column, so called because of its circumboreal distribution. Only then did I recall that Hubricht (1985: 7) had associated this species with concrete culverts. Despite all the strategizing I had found a "new" species quite by "accident" - well, not entirely, but certainly not by sticking to protocol!

Somewhat unexpectedly, it turned out that the litter sample I taken at the marsh/swamp had another "novelty," *Vertigo pygmaea* (Draparnaud, 1801), the Crested Vertigo, so maybe the strategy paid off to some extent. Yet the fact is, as revealed in the summary below, both these species proved to be common and widespread in the litter samples taken on Friday and Sunday. Furthermore some these samples were remarkably rich in numbers of specimens - to an unprecedented degree. As Bill Frank says: "You don't know if you don't go," and others have said: "Shells are where you find 'em." There will always be a certain randomness and unpredictability in this pursuit.

The basic analysis:

Station 1. USA: VERMONT: Bennington Co., Dorset. Swampy alder woods SE side Lane Rd., 0.3 mi SW US VT 30 (ca 1 m. SE Dorset) H. Lee! 10/26/07 2 liter soil sample:

- 10 Carychium exiguum (Say, 1822) Obese Thorn
- 13 Cochlicopa lubrica (Müller, 1774) Glossy Pillar
- 4 Vertigo elatior Sterki, 1894 Tapered Vertigo
- 4 Vertigo pygmaea (Draparnaud, 1801) Crested Vertigo
- 28 Punctum minutissimum (I. Lea, 1841) Small Spot
- 1 Euconulus fulvus (Müller, 1774) Brown Hive
- 4 Nesovitrea electrina (Gould, 1841) Amber Glass

Station 2. USA: VERMONT: Bennington Co., Dorset. Low grassy area between parking lot and VT 30 at Quarry Pond, (ca. 1.4 mi SE Dorset) H. Lee! 10/26/07 2 liter soil sample:

- 10 Cochlicopa lubrica (Müller, 1774) Glossy Pillar
- 16 Pupilla muscorum (Linnaeus, 1758) Widespread Column
- 10 Vertigo pygmaea (Draparnaud, 1801) Crested Vertigo
- 176 Vallonia costata (Müller, 1774) Costate Vallonia
- 10 Nesovitrea electrina (Gould, 1841) Amber Glass
- 5 Zonitoides nitidus (Müller, 1774) Black Gloss

Station 3. USA: VERMONT: Bennington Co., Dorset. On ledges of large boulder directly across from Quarry Pond parking lot VT 30 at Quarry Pond, ca. 1.4 mi SE Dorset) H. Lee! 10/26/07 2 liter soil sample:

- 10 Cochlicopa lubrica (Müller, 1774) Glossy Pillar
- 53 *Pupilla muscorum* (Linnaeus, 1758) Widespread Column 1 *Vertigo elatior* Sterki, 1894 Tapered Vertigo
- 22 Vertigo pygmaea (Draparnaud, 1801) Crested Vertigo
- 1 Vertigo ventricosa (E. S. Morse, 1865) Five-tooth Vertigo
- 182 Vallonia costata (Müller, 1774) Costate Vallonia
- 47 Nesovitrea electrina (Gould, 1841) Amber Glass
- 7 Zonitoides nitidus (Müller, 1774) Black Gloss

Station 4. USA: VERMONT: Bennington Co., Manchester, low grassy area along driveway 0.2 mi N jct. North Rd. and US7A (ca. 1 mi NNE Manchester Center) H. Lee! 10/27/07 2 liter soil sample:

- 10 Cochlicopa lubrica (Müller, 1774) Glossy Pillar
- 27 Vertigo pygmaea (Draparnaud, 1801) Crested Vertigo
- 10 Vallonia costata (Müller, 1774) Costate Vallonia

- 34 Vallonia pulchella (Müller, 1774) Lovely Vallonia
- 2 Novisuccinea ovalis (Say, 1817) Oval Ambersnail
- 3 Oxvloma retusum (I. Lea. 1834) Blunt Ambersnail
- 3 Nesovitrea electrina (Gould, 1841) Amber Glass
- 6 Zonitoides nitidus (Müller, 1774) Black Gloss

Station 5. USA: VERMONT: Bennington Co., Manchester, marsh 0.2 mi W jct. Overlook Rd. and North Road along driveway 0.2 mi N jct. North Rd. and US7A (ca. 1 mi NbyE Manchester Center) H. Lee! 10/28/07 1 liter soil sample:

- 1 Carychium exiguum (Say, 1822) Obese Thorn
- 5 Vertigo elatior Sterki, 1894 Tapered Vertigo
- 3 Vertigo ventricosa (E. S. Morse, 1865) Five-tooth Vertigo
- 3 Nesovitrea electrina (Gould, 1841) Amber Glass

Cumulative take (10/26-28/07):

- 11 Carychium exiguum (Say, 1822) Obese Thorn
- 43 Cochlicopa lubrica (Müller, 1774) Glossy Pillar
- 69 Pupilla muscorum (Linnaeus, 1758) Widespread Column
- 10 Vertigo elatior Sterki, 1894 Tapered Vertigo
- 63 Vertigo pygmaea (Draparnaud, 1801) Crested Vertigo
- 4 Vertigo ventricosa (E. S. Morse, 1865) Five-tooth Vertigo
- 368 Vallonia costata (Müller, 1774) Costate Vallonia
- 34 Vallonia pulchella (Müller, 1774) Lovely Vallonia
- 2 Novisuccinea ovalis (Say, 1817) Oval Ambersnail
- 3 Oxyloma retusum (I. Lea, 1834) Blunt Ambersnail
- 28 Punctum minutissimum (I. Lea, 1841) Small Spot 1 Euconulus fulvus (Müller, 1774) Brown Hive
- 67 Nesovitrea electrina (Gould, 1841) Amber Glass
- 18 Zonitoides nitidus (Müller, 1774) Black Gloss



Pupilla muscorum (Linnaeus, 1758),

Five stations; 33 lots; 796 individual snails of 14 species, two of which (with no less than 63 and 69 specimens respectively!) are new to the cumulative VT list iterated below. Note that Vallonia excentrica Sterki, 1893 Iroquois Vallonia, despite having been synonymized with Vallonia pulchella (Müller, 1774) Lovely Vallonia, by some authorities, is here still considered a valid species on the authority of Jochen Gerber (1996, 2007); thus both continue to be listed. Note also that latest addenda. Pupilla muscorum and Vertigo pygmaea are new county records, the latter also constituting the first reported occurrence in the state of Vermont.

Cumulative account of all known Bennington Co., VT native land snails as of year end 2007 [Year first collected by author; first publication]

Carychium exile H. C. Lea, 1842 Ice Thorn [2003; 2004a]

Carychium exiguum (Say, 1822) Obese Thorn [1961; 1985]

Cochlicopa lubrica (Müller, 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 elatior Sterki, 1894 Tapered Vertigo [2005; 2008a]

Vertigo gouldii (A. Binney, 1843) Variable Vertigo [2003; 2004a]

Vertigo ovata Say, 1822 Ovate Vertigo [1961; 1985]

The Shell-O-Gram

Vertigo pygmaea Sterki, 1894 Crested Vertigo [2007; 2008b] Vertigo ventricosa (E. S. Morse, 1865) Five-tooth Vertigo [2003; 2004a] Vallonia costata (Müller, 1774) Costate Vallonia [2004: 2004b] Vallonia excentrica Sterki, 1893 Iroquois Vallonia [2004; 2004b] Vallonia pulchella (Müller, 1774) Lovely Vallonia [2005; 2008a] Haplotrema concavum (Sav. 1821) Grav-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 fulvus (Müller, 1774) Brown Hive [1961; 1985] Guppya sterkii Dall, 1888) Tiny Granule; first record from New England! [2005, 2008a1 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 (Müller, 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 (Sav. 1817) Whitelip [1961: 1985] Triodopsis tridentata (Say, 1817) Northern Threetooth [2003; 1985] Xolotrema denotatum (Férussac, 1821) Velvet Wedge [2003; 2004a]





52 species; 25 **new county records**, of which 11 are new state records **(indented)** vs. Hubricht (1985).

N. B. Two non-native slugs taken at Station 4 by visual surveillance: *Arion hortensis* Férussac, 1819, Garden Arion, and *Arion fasciatus* (Nilsson, 1823), Orange-banded Arion.

Gerber, J., 1996. Revision der Gattung *Vallonia* Risso, 1826. *Schr. Malakozool.* 8:1-227. Gerber, J., 2007. Personal communication, Nov. 7.

Hubricht, L., 1985, The distributions of the native land mollusks of the Eastern United States. *Fieldiana 24*(1359): pp. 1-191 + viii. June 28.

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. Also http://www.jaxshells.org/vermont.htm.

Lee, H. G., 2004b. Marble quarry/natatorium also produces conchological gold. *Shell-O-Gram* 45(5): 6-8. Sept-Dec. Also http://www.jaxshells.org/vermontnew.htm.

Lee, H. G., 2008a. Snail Survey In Vermont Becomes An Annual Event. New York Shell Club *Notes*. In press. See also http://www.jaxshells.org/vermont06.htm.