

# North Carolina Shell Club Oral Auction

## 11 November 2023

Katie B. Hines Senior Center  
308 Cape Fear Blvd.  
Carolina Beach, North Carolina

Welcome to the November 11, 2023 North Carolina Shell Club oral auction catalog. In the following pages you will find profiles of the lots we are offering. We have an exciting group of shells and related items to please many tastes, collecting styles and or bank accounts.

The provenance or history of a shell as it has changed hands is of increasing value for many collectors. In 2022 North Carolina Shell Club purchased the Everett Long collection from his wife Nancy. The club made an exception to its rule of not purchasing estates due to Everett's commitment to the club and knowing he would be happy the club is benefiting from the collection. I am not using the customary donor citation for the collection due to the club paying for its ownership. To indicate provenance I use the following credit, "Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection."

There are shells in the Long collection that do not have documentation. No catalog supporting the collection was recovered. It has been shared with me instances where some of those shells likely came from and in some instances I can make a good guess as to source. It is folly, not to mention poor science, to create data. There is no certainty for accuracy. In these instances there may be opportunity to pick up a nice shell for a lower price compared to a scientifically documented specimen.

There are lots where I credit the donor as a "Friend of North Carolina Shell Club" as no written notes or records were found after Everett's passing as to original donors. If there is an instance where I use this credit and it is your donation, I humbly apologize for the omission.

The lots will be on display for review at the Friday, November 10, meeting. I try to accurately image and note important aspects of the lots but seeing it in person is important. Sometimes the notes of flaws appear to be emphasizing the negative over the positive attributes of a specimen. My goal is to define all flaws as some may not be obvious in the images.

In the event of high potential value of a lot I may start the bidding above \$1. There is never a reserve. I apologize if this spoils the dream of bidding for and winning a multi-hundred dollar shell for a few dollars. Many collectors have stories to tell of scoring something amazing for "a song." We have many lots to sell and we don't want to stay up all night. If a start price garners no offer I will back it off until there is a bid. Bidding increments are as follows:

**\$1 - \$50 = \$1 minimum bid increments**

**\$50 - \$100 = \$5 minimum bid increments**

**\$100 - \$300 = \$10 minimum bid increments**

**\$300+ = \$25 minimum bid increments**

Of course we accept bids higher than the minimum increment. Keep the bidding in line with the bidding increment schedule. No fractions on the dollar!

The imaging, science and writing are by me. If there is a flub or typo, I apologize. In the end, despite a few mistakes that inevitably get through our team of proofers, the catalog should communicate successfully the content of the auction.

There are a few instances where I do not agree with the data tag included with a shell. I use the classification I researched and note that it is in disagreement with the data tag included with the shell. During the handling of thousands of shells, tags can get mix up here and there. Where possible, I confirmed nomenclature at the MolluscaBase website.

Kindest Regards,

John Timmerman, Chair, North Carolina Shell Club Oral Auctions



1

Florida Horse Conch, two shells  
*Triplofusus giganteus* (Kiener, 1840)  
Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection  
192-288mm; w/op.; smaller shell w/ periostracum

The larger shell has no collecting data. Two growth mends on the spire and a lightly trimmed lip do not noticeably harm the presentation of this always popular species. The smaller shell was self-collected by Everett Long in Georgia. The shell has scattered borings, some with the valves of the mollusks that made the holes still in place.



2

West Indian Chank  
*Turbinella angulata* ([Lightfoot, 1786])  
Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection  
293mm; w/op.; w/periostracum; self-collected by Everett Long

It's a large example! The spire is eroded which is typical to large specimens of the species. The lip is thin. There is a growth mend on the spire. The shell has been treated with oil to preserve the periostracum, which if left untreated, flakes off as it dries.



3

Mirror  
"One of a Kind"  
by Harold Brown  
Gift of Harold Brown  
Oval, 18.8" tall x 14" wide x 2.5" deep  
Worldwide shells, all shells are unique!



4

Giant Frog Shell 2 shells  
*Tutufa bubo* (Linnaeus, 1758)  
Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection

206-211mm

The smaller shell has no data. The lip is trimmed. The larger shell includes data and has a mature, untrimmed lip.



5

Scotch Bonnet, 21 shells  
*Seimcassis granulata* (Born, 1778) 52.1-85.8mm  
Gift of Richard Klein

The North Carolina State Shell is arguably the most sought after shell species on North Carolina beaches. The shells were collected over many years from North Core Banks. Specimens retaining color (spots) are especially prized as the pigment fades rapidly upon death of the mollusk. Included in the lot is an extra-large shell measuring almost 86mm. Any specimen over 80mm length is large. For many collectors, twenty-one additional Scotch Bonnets seems redundant but it is a species one never tires of picking up or adding to ones cabinets. I know of no one, serious collector or casual beach walker, that will not pick up one of these beauties when presented with the opportunity.



6

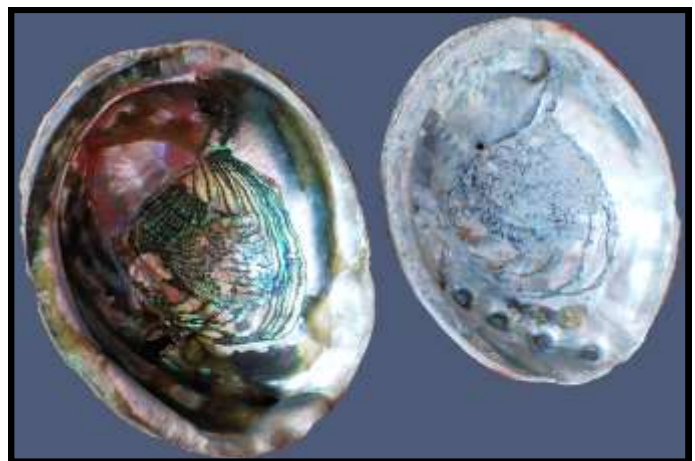
Two species of Classic Decorator Shells (no data)  
Bullmouth Helmet *Cypraecassis rufa* (Linnaeus, 1758) 153mm

Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection

China Clam, *Hippopus porcellanus* Rosewater, 1982, 2 shells (left and right valves but NOT a matched pair!) 176-196mm

Gift of Friend of North Carolina Shell Club

It's a red and white combination of shells for a striking presentation on the mantle or bookshelf.



7

Red Abalone, 2 Shells  
*Haliotis rufescens* Swainson, 1822  
Gift of Friend of North Carolina Shell Club  
193-202mm

It is a large West Coast USA species long used in the culinary trade. The population declined sharply in recent years. The shells at one time were readily available, sometimes for the asking, free from discarded piles at processing houses. Those days are gone. Both shells offered here do have problems. The smaller shell appears to have been outside as it is faded. The larger shell has been kept inside but one of the gill holes is damaged. Regardless, they remain a desirable pair of classic shells.

8



Oriente Tree Snail, 9 shells  
*Polymita picta* (Born, 1778)  
 Gift of Calvert Marine Museum  
 Endemic to Cuba (no specific data)  
 27.8-32.7mm

The species is CITES I listed meaning that no International trade is allowed. It remains legal for domestic USA trade of shells already in the country before the listing. The shells offered were sourced from an estate, collected and brought into USA many decades ago. Few land snails compare in beauty of this one. This is a vanishing opportunity to grace your cabinet with a series of this desirable shell. This is the last we have from the gift.

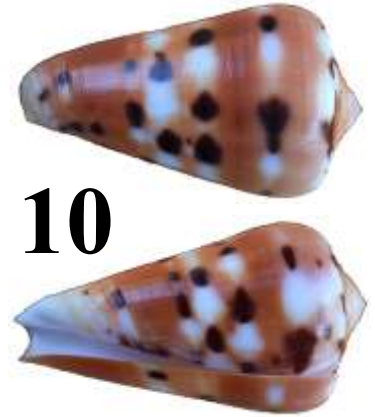
9



Porter's Cowrie  
*Raybaudia porteri* (Cate, 1966)  
 Gift of Mique Pinkerton  
 50.3mm

It continues to be a rare cowrie. Enterprising fishermen have been unsuccessful at catching many of this species.

10



Barthelemy's Cone  
*Conus barthelemyi* Bernardi, 1861  
 Gift of Friend of North Carolina Shell Club  
 54.7mm

It's a scarce cone and a stand-out in appearance. Scarce shells are often high in price. If they are beautiful in addition to being scarce, the quest to add one to your collection is a greater challenge.

11

Hawaiian Shell Collection  
 Gift of Dave and Jody Watts, Honorary members of NCSC

This is a large sample of the mollusk fauna found in Hawaii. The specimens are curated with the expert knowledge and hand of its donors. Imagine doing all this work yourself! It's a great opportunity to fill out or start a Hawaiian shell collection.

- Conus textile* Linnaeus, 1758 54.8mm
- Conus ebraeus* Linnaeus, 1758 41.7mm w/op.
- Conus purus* Pease, 1863 37.1mm (formerly leviteni)
- Conus litoglyphus* Hass, 1792 37.6mm
- Conus planorbis* Born, 1778 27.3mm
- Conus litoglyphus* Hass, 1792 32mm  
 (formerly *Conus circumactus* Iredale, 1929)
- Conus chaldaeus* (Röding, 1798) 25.3mm
- Conus abbreviatus* Reeve, 1843 21.2mm
- Conus sandwichensis* Walls, 1978 17.8mm
- Conus bandanus* Hwass, 1792 20.5mm  
 (labeled as *marmoreus bandanus*)
- Conus rattus* Hwass, 1792 13.7mm
- Conus miles* Linnaeus, 1758 25.2mm

List continued on page 5



# 11 Hawaiian Shell Collection Continued from page 4

- Conus imperialis* Linnaeus, 1758 30.1mm  
*Conus nussatella* Linnaeus, 1758 35.1mm  
*Conus obscurus* G. B. Sowerby I, 1833 17.8mm  
*Lyncina propinqua* (Garrett, 1879) 41.6mm (all cowries are labeled as *Cypraea*)  
*Mauritia maculifera* F. A. Schilder, 1932 58.7mm (formerly *Mauritia maculifera hawaiiensis* Heiman, 2005)  
*Lyncina sulcidentata* (J. E. Gray, 1824) 30.6 – 39.7mm, 2 shells  
*Naria helvolva hawaiiensis* (Melvill, 1888) 17 – 18.9mm, 4 shells  
*Monetaria moneta* (Linnaeus, 1758) 17.1 – 24.9mm, 2 shells  
*Cribrarula gaskoini* (Reeve, 1846) 16.1 – 17.5mm, 3 shells  
*Cribrarula esontropia* (Duclos, 1911) 12 – 15.4mm, 3 shells (formerly *Cribrarula fisheri* (Vayssière, 1911))  
*Cypraea tuamotensis takahashii* 14.2mm (cannot find nor verify via MolluscaBase or WoRMS)  
*Ovatipsa rashleighana* (Melvill, 1888) 20.2mm, dead taken  
*Lyncina schilderoorum* (Iredale, 1939) 30.2mm  
*Talostolida pellucens* (Melvill, 1888) 23.8mm (formerly *alisonae* C. M. Burgess, 1983)  
*Luria isabella* (Linnaeus, 1758) 20.3 – 26.4mm, 3 shells (formerly *contraversa* J. E. Gray, 1824)  
*Lyncina leviathan* (M. Schilder & F. A. Schilder, 1937) 73.1mm  
*Strigatella pudica* (Pease, 1860) 14.9mm  
*Carinomitra typha* (Reeve, 1845) 10.3mm (formerly *micans* Reeve, 1845)  
*Nebularia contracta* (Swainson, 1820) 36.7mm  
*Strigatella aurora* (Dohrn, 1861) 20.8mm  
*Mitra stictica* (Link, 1807) 37.5mm  
*Nebularia incompta* ([Lightfoot], 1786) 51.1mm  
*Vexillum unifasciale* (Lamarck, 1811) 15.5mm  
*Vexillum unifasciatum* (W. Wood, 1828) 22.2mm  
*Vexillum interstriatum* (G. B. Sowerby II, 1870) 28.5mm  
*Neocancilla papilio* (Link, 1807) 24.9mm  
*Terebra guttata* (Röding, 1798) 85.7mm  
*Oxymoris maculata* (Linnaeus, 1758) 36mm  
*Oxymoris suffusa* (Pease, 1869) 25.2mm, w/op.  
*Xenoturris kingae* 15.6mm (could not verify or find this on MolluscaBase or WoRMS)  
*Xenoturris lerithiformis* 23.2mm (could not verify or find this on MolluscaBase or WoRMS)  
*Xenoturris castanella* 17.7mm (could not verify or find this on MolluscaBase or WoRMS)



- Hastula hectica* (Linnaeus, 1758) 39.9mm, w/op.  
*Bacilis conoidalis* 30mm  
 (not verify or find this on MolluscaBase)  
*Hastula lanceata* (Linnaeus, 1767) 31.1mm  
*Swainsonia newcombii* (Pease, 1869) 25.6mm  
 (formerly *Scabricola*)  
*Rhinoclavis sinensis* (Gmelin, 1791) 29.9 – 44.6mm,  
 2 shells, smaller w/op.  
*Nassarius papillosus* (Linnaeus, 1758) 40.9mm  
*Cerithium echinatum* Lamarck, 1822 40.9mm, w/op.  
*Drupa ricinus* (Linnaeus, 1758) 15.4mm, w/op.  
 (formerly *aracunoidea*)  
*Drupa rubusidaeus* Röding, 1798 32.2mm, w/op.  
*Indomodulus tectum* (Gmelin, 1791) 22.3mm (Modulus)  
*Pterynotus elongatus* ([Lightfoot], 1786) 44mm  
*Harpa amouretta* Röding, 1798 22.8mm  
*Harpa major* Röding, 1798 53mm (*conoidalis*)  
*Tridentarius dentatus* (Linnaeus, 1758) 23.5mm (*Strombus*)  
*Canarium wilsonorum* (Abbott, 1967) 15.7 – 20.3mm,  
 3 shells (*Strombus wilsoni*)

- Monoplex aquatile* (Reeve, 1844) 51.9mm (*Cymatium*)  
*Monoplex nicobaricum* (Röding, 1798) 60.2mm (*Cymatium*)  
*Monoplex intermedium* (Pease, 1869) 37.3mm (*Cymatium*)  
*Distorsio anus* (Linnaeus, 1758) 40.6mm  
*Malea pomum* (Linnaeus, 1758) 60mm  
*Casmaria kayae* Buijse, H. Dekker & Verbinnen, 2013  
 64.4mm, very large, dead collected  
*Psilaxis radiatus* (Röding, 1798) 12mm  
 (formerly *Philippia*)  
*Vasticardium hawaiiensis* (Dall, Bartsch & Rehder, 1938)  
 47mm  
*Lioconcha hieroglyphica* (Conrad, 1837) 25.4 – 31.8mm,  
 3 shells  
*Scutarcopagia scobinata* (Linnaeus, 1758) 44.3 – 52.9mm,  
 2 shells (*Tellina*)  
*Tellinella crucioger* (Lamarck, 1818) 34.1mm  
*Spondylus candidus* Lamarck, 1819 37.2mm



12

Teramachi's Cowrie  
*Nesiocypraea teramachii*  
(Kuroda, 1938)  
Gift of Mique Pinkerton  
55.4mm

This is a sub-adult shell that was fresh dead collected.



13

Book  
Registry of World Record Size Shells,  
2015  
Published by Shells Passion &  
Topseashells

Though out of date, I have an even older edition of this publication which remains useful for providing a quick ballpark idea of what "large" is for a given species. Large is often a matter of reference. What is huge to one person may be average to another. Registered is the key. If it is in a collection but not documented it may be a contender for a size record. When I get a notion a shell could be a size record I crack the book to see if I am fooling myself or if it truly is large. The discovery is I usually do have a large "such and such" but once in a while it is large. An online database by subscription is available for the newest registered size records.



14

Bailer Shell  
*Melo amphora* ([Lightfoot, 1786])  
Courtesy of North Carolina  
Shell Club,  
Everett Long Collection

430mm (~ 17") There is some minor growth mends that are not visually distracting. The lip is trimmed. There are no borings in the shell. All spines on the early whorls are complete. The shell was originally purchased from Sue Hobbs.

The animal of *Melo amphora* is twice the size of the shell when it is crawling on the ocean floor. For an extra-large example of the species, shipping from Indonesia/Australia where it is found is not trivial. Buy this shell and dodge the cost of overseas shipping! This shell makes an impressive visual statement in home decor or a cabinet of natural history curiosities. I have seen these huge shells in homes where the owners do not otherwise collect shells.

15

Bailer Shell  
*Melo amphora* ([Lightfoot, 1786])  
Courtesy of North Carolina Shell  
Club, Everett Long Collection  
202mm; no data, North Australia-  
Indonesia growth mend next to  
aperture hides well in the color  
pattern.

This is a juvenile example of the shell offered in lot 14. The spines on the shoulder were just beginning to become obsolete. Juvenile shells of the species often feature bold markings that often become less pronounced or fully absent in adult shells. This specimen is a nice compliment to an adult shell.





**16 Pacific and Atlantic Geoduck Clams**

Gift of Doug Wolfe, **Honorary Life Member North Carolina Shell Club**  
*Panopea generosa* A. Gould, 1850, 172mm, matched pair

The Pacific Geoduck is a prized species utilized in the culinary trade. They make a delectable chowder! This pair was recovered by Doug Wolfe from under a clam house dock, likely castoff by a fisherman.

*Panopea bitruncata* (Conrad, 1872), 197mm, single valve (on right) the margin is extensively chipped

The Atlantic Geoduck is a scarce species. For a longtime it was considered extinct. Single valves occasionally wash up on NC beaches and are always a prized find. This single valve was trawled off Beaufort, NC. It is huge! I have seen a few fragments on beaches that appeared to be from shells of this size but never one approaching the completeness of this specimen. It easily exceeds the dimension on the North Carolina size records list!



Great Spotted Cowrie  
*Perisserosa guttata* (Gmelin, 1791)

Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,  
 Everett Long Collection  
 East China Sea  
 57.8mm

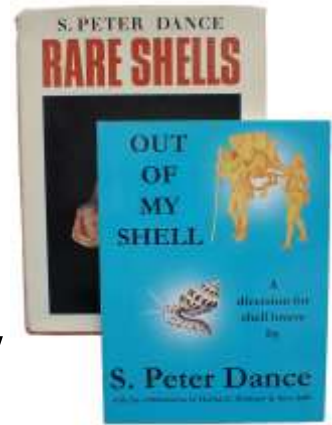
This is one of Dance's rare shells. In the past offering one specimen would have been a noteworthy accomplishment. In this auction we offer five but that is an artificial indicator of abundance. The species is indeed far more available to collectors than 50 years ago. Few cowries come close to the presentation of this one.



Great Spotted Cowrie, 2 shells  
*Perisserosa guttata* (Gmelin, 1791)

Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection  
 Philippines  
 52.1-56.4mm

One of the shells has an out of the ordinary raised spiral ridge on the dorsum. It does not interfere with the markings.



Two Books by S. Peter Dance  
 Rare Shells, Copyright 1969  
 Out of My Shell, A Diversion for Shell Lovers, Copyright 2005  
 Gift by Friend of North Carolina Shell Club

"Rare Shells" is an interesting book profiling fifty shells, many of which at the time of my writing we take for granted in their availability. In the not too distant past most were and several, exceedingly rare. Some still are. This book has been the basis of a shell show exhibits where a collector assembled all fifty species. Doug Wolfe produced the first such collection I that I saw.

"Out of my Shell" is an entertaining read that includes stories of the legends of shells, shell collectors and the shells.



Great Spotted Cowrie, 2 shells  
*Perisserosa guttata* (Gmelin, 1791)

Gift of Mique Pinkerton  
 61.5-65.8mm  
 Philippines

I used to marvel at the picture of the species in the Golden Guide, Seashells of The World. It was a shell of unimaginable beauty, the likes of which I had never seen much less heard of anyone with a specimen in their collection. I sometimes wondered if such a shell really existed as shown in the book. I concluded the shell in the book was a "museum" piece, the likes of which an amateur such as myself would never be able to own. I was incorrect.

21



### Fossil Mollusk Collection

Pliocene and Pleistocene mollusks from the Lee Creek Mine, Beaufort Co., NC

Collected by and a Gift of Richard Klein

- Aurina obtusa* (Emmons, 1858) 2 shells, 72.2-100.9mm  
(Synonym *Volutifusus typus* Conrad, 1866) (confirmed via Campbell)
- Busycon carica* (Gmelin, 1791) 5 shells, 69.5mm-174mm
- Busycon concinum* (Conrad, 1875) 5 shells, 54.3-102.3mm
- Busycon adversarium* Conrad, 1862 4 shells, 68.6-144mm (confirmed via Campbell)
- Busycon canaliferum* Conrad, 1862 1 shell, 88mm (confirmed via Campbell)
- Neverita duplicata* (Say, 1822) 1 shell, 37.8mm
- Carditamera arata* (Conrad, 1832) 1 valve, 43mm
- Carolinapecten eboreus* (Conrad, 1833) 1 pair – 92mm, single valve – 129mm
- Chesapecten septenarius* (Say, 1824) 6 single valves (no pairs) 50.6-94.5mm
- Chesapecten jeffersonius* (Say, 1824) 1 pair – 109mm, single valve – 157.3mm
- Placopecten clintonius* (Say, 1824) 1 pair – 133.9mm (single valve shown in image)
- Argopecten comparilis* (Toumey & F. S. Holmes, 1855) 1 pair – 45.6mm

The Lee Creek (phosphate) Mine is a world famous site for fossils. It has been over 10 years since the owner allowed amateur collectors into the mine. Access for fossil collecting was on Saturdays in the fall and spring only. At the beginning of a trip, 70 adults minimum 18 years of age, gathered at the company parking lot for a safety orientation and then crowded into the “tour bus,” in reality an old school bus, for a crowded, dusty ride into the mine. Excitement for the day’s discoveries ran high. Shark teeth, whale bones, fish and especially the most abundant fossil, mollusks abounded.

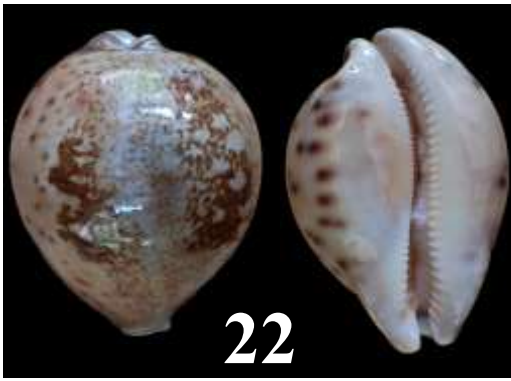
The collecting was in an open pit mine on spoil piles left by three of the largest draglines east of the Mississippi River. There was no shade or other protection from the elements, yet no one complained. Any fossil found, was fair game to keep. It was a special treat to be given access to the spectacular site.

At the end of the day tired, dusty and muddy collectors crowded back onto the bus for the bumpy ride back to the parking lot. There was lots of show and tell.

Toward the end of access to the site more groups were allowed in and the collecting area shrank. Fossils became harder to find but compared to other mine sites we had access to, this was still as good as it got! The terrain was challenging to navigate requiring collectors to be sound fiscally. Having good stamina did not hurt. Steel toed boots and hard hats were required. With no shade I often regarded that head gear as a solar collector on top of my head. No complaints!

The abundance of the mollusk fossils for our collections from this site unfortunately, is a thing of the past. No more access is a familiar story and one for this site as well. We offer a selection of fossils including the iconic *Chesapecten*. I write that the mollusks were abundant, but finding them in the condition we present here was a challenge. Then one had to hike them out of the mine up and down steep spoil hills and protect them from damage on the crowded ride out of the mine.





**22**

Prince Cowrie  
*Leporicypraea valentia* (Perry, 1811)  
Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,  
Everett Long Collection

92.5mm, very large

Fishermen put special effort into catching rare shells as the return for their time and resources is excellent. Another large and rare cowrie species, Golden Cowrie, has been found in enough quantity that a formerly expensive species is affordable to most. The Prince Cowrie has been equally sought after and found a little more frequently, but remains scarce. The price to buy one has come down compared to 30 years ago but an extra-large specimen still commands special interest.

Extra-large specimens of any species by virtue of attaining an exceptional size are scarce compared to their median sized counterparts. The scarcity spans all species and in the case of rare shells even if many are found, jumbo examples will decrease in value but not to the degree of median sized ones. The market for extra-large shells has always been and remains robust.



**26**

Ribboned Cone  
*Conus vittatus* Hwass, 1792  
Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,  
Everett Long Collection  
47.3mm  
Collected off Vera Cruz,  
(West) Panama, 2012



**23**

Court Volute  
*Cymbiola aulica* (G. B. Sowerby I, 1825)

Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,  
Everett Long Collection  
131.2mm; lip is lightly trimmed

This species was at one time rare and included in Dance's classic work. Many specimens are now available of this Philippine shell. They are variable in color and shape. Due to the increased supply, collectors have the luxury of selectivity of which shell they add to their collection and may end up assembling a series showing the high variability of the species. The shells often bear large, ugly growth mends resulting from attack by hungry crabs. This shell has a slight growth mend on the spire but the body whorl is free of blemishes. It is marked with fine writing or lines, a feature less often seen that stands this shell out from the pack.



**24**

Rosell's Cowrie  
*Zoila rosseli rosseli* Cotton, 1984  
Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,  
Everett Long Collection  
41.7mm

One of the very recognizable species of the very desirable *Zoila* Cowries of Australia, this never common, beautiful mahogany brown shell is a centerpiece of any collection.



**25**

Lyre-formed Lyria  
*Lyria lyriaformis* (Swainson, 1821)  
Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,  
Everett Long Collection  
85.4mm, fresh dead collected,  
growth mend on the spire, fully mature

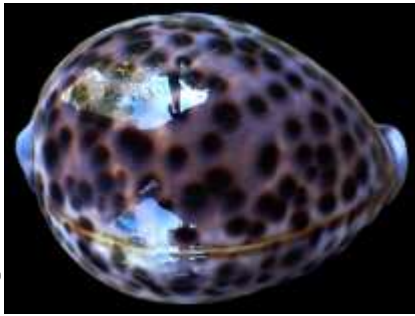
This attractive volute has never been easily obtained. It was purchased directly by Everett Long from his contact in Kenya.



**27**

Art, Glass Shell (207mm length)  
Gift Friend of North Carolina Shell Club  
Mollusk shells have long inspired artists. Offered here is a substantial representation of a gastropod shell made in glass. There is no artist signature of mark on the bottom of the "shell." You don't have to worry about burning this shell up in sunlight. Display it on sunny windowsill or in the garden!

28



(Hawaiian) Tiger Cowrie  
*Cypraea tigris schilderiana*  
C. N. Cate, 1961  
Gift of Vicky Wall  
96.3mm

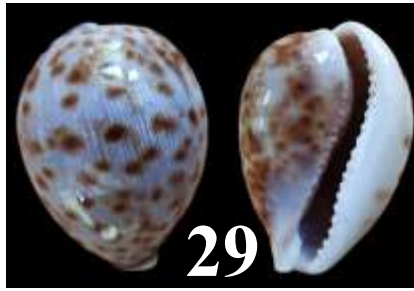
The Hawaiian Tiger Cowrie often attains eye popping size at maturity. Throughout most of the species large range the size of this specimen is regarded as large but in Hawaii, medium size. It is a strikingly beautiful shell easy to compare favorably with and a contrast with the larger shell offered in this auction. Many collectors classify the Hawaiian Tiger Cowrie *Cypraea schilderiana*. For the catalog I am adhering to the database that accepts it as a form of *Cypraea tigris* Linnaeus, 1758.



31

Indian Chank Shell  
*Turbinella pyrum* (Linnaeus, 1767)  
Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,  
Everett Long Collection  
219mm, w/op.; lip trimmed; spire eroded as is typical to large, fully adult shells, originally purchased from Sue Hobbs

This species tends to be heavy and this extra-large example is phenomenal in weight at 3.5 pounds. Ultra-rare sinistral specimens of this species are the Sacred Chank of the Hindu faith. Large dextral shells such as this are made into ceremonial trumpets by the faithful and decorated with elaborate carvings and ornamented with precious stones and metals.



29

Tiger Cowrie, Sub-adult  
*Cypraea tigris* Linnaeus, 1758  
Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection  
62.7mm

It is a delicate, thin shell with a blue tinted gray color and thin lip at aperture. Note: The data tag misidentifies the shell as the similar *Cypraea pantheriana* which occurs at the same locale.

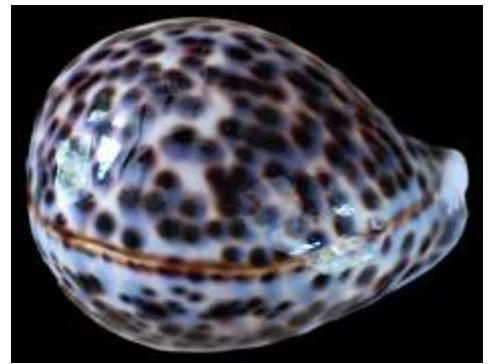


32

Art Graphic Print  
Gift of Vicky Wall  
*Busycon carica* (Gmelin, 1791) by Ron Bopp, 2019  
Framed 16.5' x 22.5" (art is 12" x 18")

Knobbed Whelk, in my 55+ years of walking North Carolina beaches, the most commonly found large shell. That is not to indicate one can be found on every visit. Years ago, finding one was a singular event for me on a family vacation. It was the species that was my first "big find." I can think of several other species with higher desirability to find, but this one became an old friend, one I could depend on.

The art brings the artists eye to the subject. Through his creation of the image we appreciate the shell in a new light. It encourages us to notice characteristics previously overlooked.



30

(Hawaiian) Tiger Cowrie  
*Cypraea tigris schilderiana*  
C. N. Cate, 1961  
Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection  
118mm (4 5/8")

The first time I saw a Hawaiian Tiger Cowrie was when I visited Hawaii in 1978. The unexpected size blew me away. Exceedingly rare examples exceed 5.25" length. Throughout most of the species range four inches is considered big. As the size increases, the scarcity follows suit. The price of a truly jumbo shell can fetch thousands of dollars. "Moderate" sized shells such as this offering are more reasonable, in hundreds of dollars. These are not the curio shop tiger cowrie shell one can buy from a bin for a few dollars! Tiger Cowrie is a variable shell and beautiful to boot. Many collectors want more than one. A color series of Hawaiian giants is breathtaking.



# 33

North Carolina Collection  
Gift of Doug Wolfe

Doug Wolfe salvaged all but one of the shells in this collection from *Argopecten gibbus* bi-catch during the few years that the fishery existed off Beaufort, North Carolina. The scallop beds were quickly depleted and the trawlers moved to the now more familiar locations off Florida. The fishery yielded many opportunities for special North Carolina shells including state size records, two potentials of which are in the collection.

*Conasprella delessertii* (Récluz, 1843) 2 shells, one w/op.,  
52.2-65.5mm

*Cassis madagascariensis* Lamarck, 1822 3 shells, 26.6-56.7mm

*Monoplex parthenopeus* (Salis Marschlinus, 1793) 130mm,  
w/op., w/perio

*Architectonica nobilis* Röding, 1798 5 shells, 30.5-43.4mm,  
1 w/op.

*Xenophora conchlyiophora* (Born, 1780) 2 shells, 16.1-20.1mm

*Distorsio clathrata* (Lamarck, 1816) 2 shells, 45.5-49.8mm

*Tonna galea* (Linnaeus, 1758) 110.2mm, dead collected

*Cinctura keatonorum* Petuch, 2013 107.9mm, w/op,

**(A New NC size record!)**

*Sinum maculatum* (Say, 1831) 34.7mm

*Euvola raveneli* (Dall, 1898) 4 shells, 18.5-61.6mm

*Arca imbicata* (Bruguière, 1789) 2 shells, 23.8-60.2mm

*Lirophora latilirata* (Conrad, 1841) 2 shells, 22.6-30mm

*Raeta plicatella* (Lamarck, 1818) 2 shells, 58.2-65.6mm  
(beach collected)

*Solecurtus cumingianus* (Dunker, 1862) 63.7mm

*Anadara secticostata* (Reeve, 1869) 119.3mm (formerly *Anadara floridana* (Conrad, 1869))

**(A New NC size record - live)**



# 34

Ornate Scallop, 6 shells

*Caribachlamys ornata* (Lamarck, 1819)

Gift of Linda Zylman

36-40mm

Beautiful color series

# 35

Worldwide Micro Shells Collection

Gift of Doug Wolfe

Dozens of micro shells! Be sure to see them at the viewing!



# 35

# 36

Worldwide Misc. Shell Collection  
Gift of Doug Wolfe

Numerous small to miniature species  
Be sure to review content at the viewing!  
There are some great micros in the collection.



# 37

Mixed shells  
Collected on the Wolfe's many world travels  
Gift of Doug Wolfe

- Neptunea lyrata lyrata* (Gmelin, 1791) 102.3mm crabbed, Alaska
- Latisipho hallii* (Dall, 1873) 3 shells 32.9-36.8mm, Alaska
- Vasum muricatum* (Born, 1778) 85mm, Puerto Rico
- Dicathais orbita* (Gmelin, 1791) 53.1mm New Zealand (formerly *Thais*)
- Austrovenus stuchburyi* (Wood, 1828) 20.8mm New Zealand (formerly *Chione*)
- Zethalia zelandicum* (Hombron & Jacquinot, 1848) 2 shells, 17-18.5mm New Zealand (formerly *Umboonium*)
- Gari stangeri* (Gray, 1843) 44.4mm, dead New Zealand
- Struthiolaria papulosa* (Martyn, 1784) 72.6mm New Zealand
- Maoricolpus roseus* (Quoy & Gaimard, 1834) 48.2mm New Zealand
- Placopecten magellanicus* (Gmelin, 1791) 54.2mm landed at Beaufort, NC
- Noetia ponderosa* (Say, 1822) 2 shells, 49.5-53.4mm, w/perio. Florida
- Ischadium recurvum* (Rafinesque, 1820) 4 shells, 28.1-44.5mm
- Fossil, *Cypraea problematica* Heilprin, 1887 2 shells, 57.5-65.4mm Florida
- Fossil, *Aurina obtusa* (Emmons, 1858) 94.1mm North Carolina



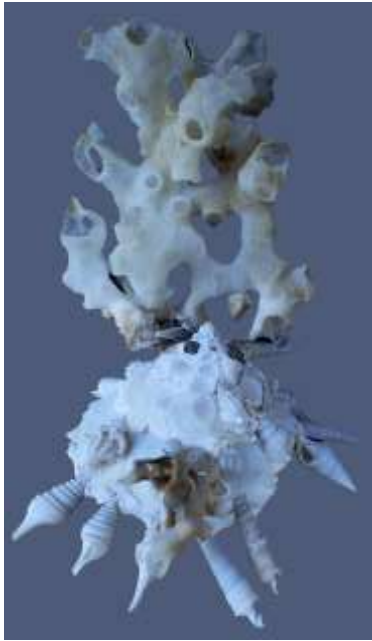
# 38

Books  
1000 Shells, Exceptionals From the Philippines, Poppe, Poppe & Tagaro  
Gift of Friends of North Carolina Shell Club  
Two Volume, soft bound in card stock case



For those unfamiliar with the auctions offered by Conchology Inc. these books preserve the author's documentation of shells which is informative and entertaining. It includes science, history and market insight.

**39**



Pallid Carrier-shell with Glass Sponge  
*Xenophora pallidula* (Reeve, 1842)  
Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,  
Everett Long Collection  
160.8mm (including glass sponge)

The shell is fresh dead collected. I have never seen this species with a large glass sponge attached that was live collected. Nevertheless the sponge settling on the shells creates an added dimension to the presentation.



**43**



**40**

Longley's Carrier-shell  
*Onustus longleyli* (Bartsch,  
1931)  
Courtesy of North Carolina Shell  
Club, Everett Long Collection  
135.4mm, w/op.)

Not newly available in recent years. Estate collections are the primary source for them.

**43** Snow Whelk  
*Sinistrofulgur laeostomum*  
(Kent, 1982)  
Courtesy of North Carolina Shell  
Club, Everett Long Collection  
282mm, w/op., no data

A beautifully proportioned, fully adult Snow Whelk. Lightning Whelk is a widely regarded popular name for the North Carolina sinistral whelk. Petuch classifies all of the North Carolina sinistral whelks as *Sinistrofulgur laeostomum* a species formerly limited in range from Cape Hatteras to New Jersey.

Busycon produce crawling young preventing mixing of the genetic pool. In result there is a lot of variability in populations, leading to many discussions and disagreements as to classification. Snow vs Lightning Whelk is another of those ongoing questions. I will not be surprised if it is eventually concluded all sinistral North American whelks are merely regional variations of *Sinistrofulgur per-versum* (Linnaeus, 1758), a species widely considered to be limited to Yucatan and southern Gulf of Mexico.



**41**

Prostitute Venus  
*Hysteroconcha lupanaria*  
(Lesson, 1831) (formerly *Pitar*)  
Gift of Margie Morgan  
33.6mm

This is a common species but an example with the delicate spines intact is a challenge to obtain. Shells like this one do not come along every day.



**42**

Venus Comb Murex  
*Murex pecten* [Lightfoot], 1786  
Courtesy of North Carolina  
Shell Club,  
Everett Long Collection  
145.6mm  
Extra-large Japanese shell, a few  
tipped spines

# 44



## Worldwide Scallop Collection Gift of Friends of North Carolina Shell Club



- Pecten rena* Iredale, 50.2mm, Australia  
(not found in MolluscaBase)
- Euvola raveneli* (Dall, 1898) 57.5mm, West Indies
- Anguipecten superbus* (G. B. Sowerby II, 1842) 154.3mm,  
Philippines
- Laevichlamys squamosa* (Gmelin, 1791) 49.3mm, Japan
- Bractechlamys vexillum* (Reeve, 1853) 4 shells, 36.2-48.8mm  
Philippines
- Mirapecten mirificus* (Reeve, 1853) 39.3mm, Philippines
- Flexopecten glaber* (Linnaeus, 1758), 2 shells,  
36.7-40.5mm, Italy
- Pseudamussium peslutrae* (Linnaeus, 1771) 4 shells, 41.3-  
45.9mm Scotland (formerly *septemradiatum*)
- Leptopecten tumbezensis* (d'Orbigny, 1846) 36.3mm Mexico
- Pecten liltvedi* Wagner, 1984, 2 shells, 35.4-36.2, South Africa  
(not found in MolluscaBase)
- Mesopeplum conexum* (Quoy & Gaimard, 1835), 3 shells,  
49.4-56.1mm, New Zealand
- Bractechlamys corallinoides* (d'Orbigny, 1840) 13.7mm,  
Canary Islands
- Cryptopecten bernardi* (R. A. Philippi, 1851), 4 shells,  
14.3-15.6mm, Philippines
- Mimachlamys varia* (Linnaeus, 1758) 29mm, Siracusa(?)
- Pascahinnites coruscans coruscans* (Hinds, 1845) 3 shells, 12.1-  
14.8mm, Australia (formerly *Chlamys schmeltzii* (Kobelt, 1888))
- Euvola perula* (Olsson, 1961) 40mm, Mexico
- Chlamys princasse* (Kuroda & Habe, 1971) 2 shells,  
14.8-21.4mm Japan (not found in MolluscaBase)
- Aropecten irradians concentricus* (Say, 1822) 6 shells,  
30.1-35.5mm no data
- Cryptopecten vesiculous* (Dunker, 1877) 21.5, Japan
- Flexopecten flexuosus* (Poli, 1795) 2 shells, 23.8-24mm, Italy
- Mimachlamys cloacata* (Reeve, 1853) 13.5mm  
(formerly *Chlamys pelseneeri* Dautzenberg & Bavay, 1912)
- Excellichlamys spectabilis* (Reeve, 1853) 2 shells, 18.6-20.6mm,  
Thailand
- Leptopecten latiauratus* (Conrad, 1837) 3 shells, 14.3-25.8mm,  
California
- Decopecten radula* (Linnaeus, 1758) 2 shells, 57.2-58.9mm
- Volachlamys fultoni* (G. B. Sowerby III, 1904) 2 shells, 29.6-30.1  
South Africa
- Delectapecten vancouverensis* (Whiteaves, 1893) 4 shells, 08-  
10mm, Washington (State) (formerly *randolphi* (Dall, 1897))
- Palliolium incomparabile* (Risso, 1826) 3 shells 05-07mm, Italy  
(one valve broken)
- Mimachlamys crassicostata* (G. B. Sowerby II, 1842) 81.6mm,  
no data (Japan is where these are from)

# 45



## Scallop Collection, Six Species Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection

Sample of one of the most popular bivalve genera  
There is no doubt why scallops are popular. The spectrum of  
colors and shapes are incredible. When Everett decided to no  
longer collect bivalves he made an exception to the paradigm  
concerning scallops.

- Carfibachlamys pellucens* (Linnaeus, 1791) 38.9mm  
(formerly *imbricata* Gmelin, 1791)
- Mirapecten mirificus* (Reeve, 1853) 36.8mm
- Serratovola rubicunda* (Chenu, 1843) 31mm  
(formerly *Pecten asper* G. B. Sowerby II, 1842)
- Volachlamys tranquebaria* (Gmelin, 1791) 38.4mm
- Mirapecten moluccensis* Dijkstra, 1988 33.2mm
- Decopecten amiculum* (R. A. Philippi, 1851)  
42.1mm (no data)



Coral Scallop  
*Bractechlamys corallinoides* (d'Orbigny, 1840)

Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,  
Everett Long Collection

25.5mm

This is a large example of the rare species. The plastic jewel box has a happy face sticker Everett placed on shells in his collection he considered valuable.



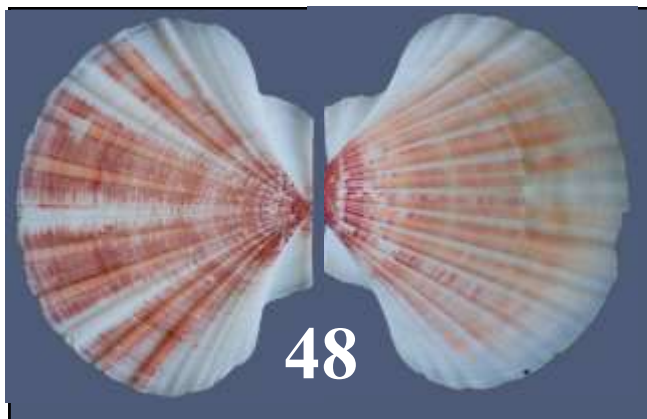
47

Laurent's Moon Scallop, 2 shells  
*Euvola laurentii* (Gmelin, 1791)

Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,  
Everett Long Collection

56.7-60.7mm

These are choice examples, the pick of the catch.



Japanese Baking Scallop  
*Pecten albicans* (Schröter, 1802)

(forma *preissianna* Iredale, 1949  
not found in MolluscaBase)

Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,  
Everett Long Collection

102.6mm

It's a scare deeper water Australian form of a Japanese culinary species.



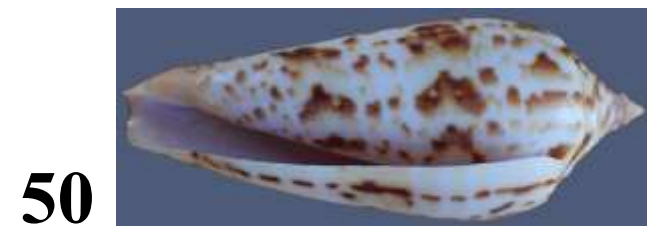
49

Specius Scallop  
*Glorpallium speciosum* (Reeve, 1853)

Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,  
Everett Long Collection

50.8mm

This is a very large and fine conditioned example of this super gorgeous and desirable species.



50  
*Conus pretiosus* G. Nevill & H. Nevill, 1874

Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,  
Everett Long Collection

77.4mm

I have no popular name for this lot. I depend heavily on Abbott for popular names. There may have simply been too many shell species for him to have recorded them all.



51

Volva Collection, 5 species

Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection

*Phenacovolva rosea* (A. Adams, 1855) 2 shells, 37.8-43.1mm

*Phenacovolva tokioi* Cate, 1973 45mm

(not found in MolluscaBase)

*Phenacovolva recurva* (G. B. Sowerby II, 1848) 40mm

(formerly *longisostrata*)

*Phenacovolva ildiko* Lorenz, 2006 40.3mm

(not found in MolluscaBase)

*Phenacovolva brevirostris* (Schumacher, 1817) 30.1mm



**52**

Chambered Nautilus  
*Nautilus pompilius* Linnaeus, 1758

Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection

164mm (no data)

A smallish, yet mature specimen it has an untrimmed lip and minimal cleaning to the exterior. There is a growth mend that resulted in a curiously creased line along the median of the body whorl.

**53**



**53**

Chambered Nautilus  
*Nautilus pompilius*  
Linnaeus, 1758

Source: Anonymous  
188mm (Philippines data)

An increasingly difficult species to add to one's collection due to CITES II listing, this shell may provide an opportunity to acquire one at a price of the prelisting days. One side had a large hole knocked in it which was skillfully repaired. It still displays beautifully from the other side. The shell appears a bit yellowed and may have a coating of varnish applied to it. The coating can be removed with paint remover or acetone but use caution around the repaired area as the solvents may undo the glue used in the repair.



**54**

Chambered Nautilus  
*Nautilus pompilius* Linnaeus, 1758

Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection  
223mm (Indonesia data)

At one time the huge Chambered Nautilus from Indonesia was classified as *Nautilus repertis* Iredale, 1944. Aside from the huge size, the largest of any extant shelled nautilus species, it has been concluded they are simply a giant, regional variation of *Nautilus pompilius*. Recent studies point to a greater diversity of nautilus species than expected. Each isolated atoll in the SW Pacific may support a genetically unique population of nautilus. By that evidence the giants of Indonesia may yet again be classified as distinct from the Philippine species.

The Indonesia shells were never plentiful on the market, commanding a premium per the size and scarcity. As they are no longer imported to USA, this is a scarce opportunity to add one to your cabinet.

**General Auction Note:**

Some shells offered in this auction exceed the quality of shells of the same species we have offered in previous auctions. That is a challenge as the club receives new collections. My goal is to offer the best first in a given auction but we have no control of over what is donated in the future. By conclusion there is a risk for waiting to see what comes in the next auction hoping for better. The club has little control over what species are donated in the future. The offerings at present may not be repeated!



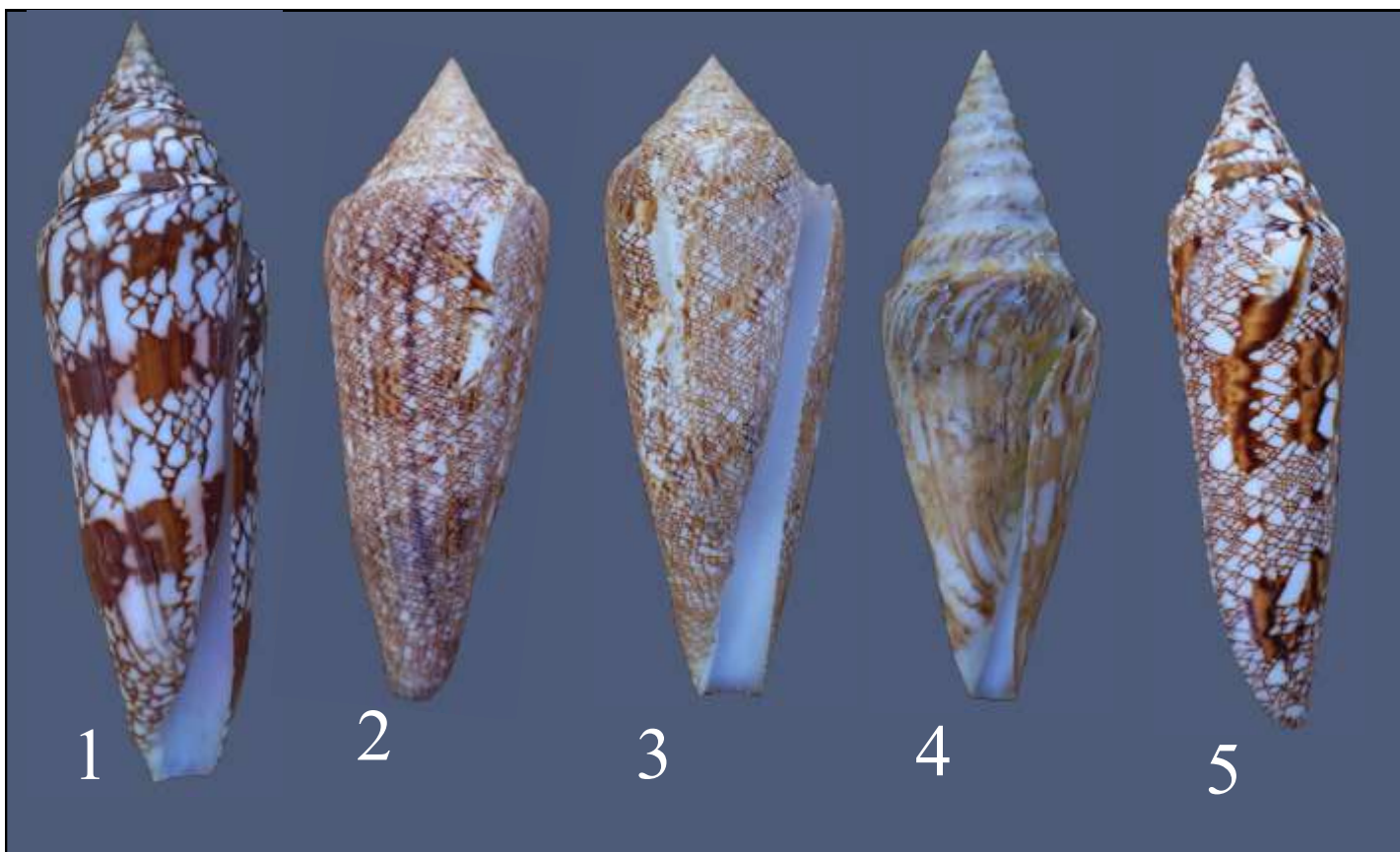
# 55 Five Glory Cones with “Problems” Gift of Mique Pinkerton

Mique’s Mollusks specimen shell dealer, C. E. Pinkerton (Pinky) marveled at the skilled work of the Philippine “shell doctors.” He had many examples of their work in his collection. He once showed me a sinistral, tented cone without saying it was a fake, though had a twinkle in his eye that indicated something was up. I had seen other chopped up shells, reassembled to look sinistral. The tenting oriented in the wrong direction was a quick clue the shell being presented was a fake, but a really cool curiosity. It was not for sale.

The fakery in this group of cones is harder to identify as the shell doctors were covering up flaws that would yield a shell with a much higher value, if perfect. The artistry extends well beyond trimming a damaged lip or polishing a dull exterior. Damaged glory cones have long been accorded special attention and skill to improve their value to unsuspecting buyers.

If you don’t mind the forgery that repaired shells represent, they are a great way to add otherwise expensive shells to your collection without breaking the bank. They do present a historical record in shell collecting. Perhaps it is dark one but it is a part of the history.

Legend is that when the Precious Wentletrap was very rare, rice paste fakes were made. The fakes were discovered when water was spilled on one and it dissolved. No known examples of rice paste fakes are known to remain or have ever existed to begin with. Acetone will remove the fillers and paint used to repair these genuine, but modified shells. Be aware, you may end up with something barely better than a common “stone” if you try to remove the paint and filler.



- (1) Glory of India Cone *Conus mileedwardsii* Jousseaume, 1894 133.9mm (The tip of the spire is a manmade fabrication)
- (2) Glory-of-the-Seas Cone *Conus gloriamaris* Chemnitz, 1777 104.2mm Doctored growth mends were removed revealing that the shell was smoothed prior to filling and painting to better improve the result.
- (3) Glory-of-the-Seas Cone *Conus gloriamaris* Chemnitz, 1777 106.7mm There is a partially removed “doctored” growth mend filled area.
- (4) Illustrious Cone *Conus excelsus* G. B. Sowerby III, 1908 76.2mm This was a very dead collected shell that had sponge borings which was puttied and painted. A portion of the forgery was removed revealing the true shell beneath.
- (5) Bengal Cone *Conus bengalensis* (Okutani, 1968) 104.7mm This is perhaps the only truly specimen grade shell in the group. It has growth mends that have not been doctored but hide well in the markings of the shell. It’s an example of what is started with when only perfection will do!



**56**

Lamp  
Filled with Sozon's Cones,  
*Conasprella delesserti* (Récluz, 1843)  
By Harold Brown  
Gift of Harold Brown  
16" tall (including shade x 9" (diameter of shade)  
Base with cones is 6" tall x 6" diameter

A flash from the past when this cone was abundant for our collections via scallop dumps. The species lives amongst crabs and frequently have scars on its shell from attacks by the crustaceans. Harold selected shells free of major growth mends for his lamp. With today's very limited supply of newly collected Sozon's Cones, a lamp with this many nice cones would be difficult to assemble.



**59**

**59** Snow Whelk  
*Sinistrofulgur laeostomum* (Kent, 1982)  
Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,  
Everett Long Collection  
266mm, w/op. no data; natural exterior with traces of periostracum, a few barnacles

There is no data. The shell features characteristics of the species collected in the sounds of North Carolina. It has a blush of gold in the aperture, sharp knobs on the shoulder and elevated spire. The natural preservation the exterior of the shell is a nice contrast to the more commonly seen cleaned specimens. Cleaning is at the discretion of the new owner.



**57**

Atlantic Trumpet Triton  
*Charonia variegata*  
(Lamarck, 1816)  
Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,  
Everett Long Collection  
306mm, no data, lip broken

Despite the shortcomings of this shell it is an extra-large specimen for the species and displays beautifully from the exterior dorsum. It has a very thin body whorl, having only recently completed a growth phase when it was caught. The very thin lip is easily damaged at this stage in the mollusks life.



**58**

Giant Eastern Pacific Conch  
*Titanostrombus galeatus*  
(Swainson, 1823)  
Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,  
Everett Long Collection  
175mm

Self-collected by Everett Long off Guyamas, West Mexico



**60**

Two Large Shells  
Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,  
Everett Long Collection

Presented is a pair of shells from the Long collection which unfortunately lost their collecting data. Both are far above the average specimen seen in the decorator trade, thus worthy additions to the bookshelf, especially the triton where having the operculum present is a bonus. Caribbean Helmet, *Cassis tuberosa* (Linnaeus, 1758)

167mm, no data, a couple chips on the edge of the shield  
Pacific Trumpet Triton, *Charonia tritonis* (Linnaeus, 1758)  
236mm, w/op., a few tiny chips on the lip and canal

**61**



Tiger Triton  
*Cymatium tigrinum*  
(Broderip, 1833)

Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection

153.9mm, w/op., w/perio.  
This is large and fully mature example of a rarely found species. Collectors have avidly hunted for it but few have ever been discovered. The specimen was purchased from James Ernest.



**62** Bat Volute Color Forms, 22 Shells  
*Cymbiola vesperilio* (Linnaeus, 1758)  
Gift of Greg Curry, Sr.  
49.8-109.6mm

An immensely variable species, this is a small sample. All of the shells are from adult mollusks, collected in the Philippines. Specimens over 100mm are considered large. Four of the shells in this offering easily exceed the dimension of 100mm. There are smooth to very knobby shells, many types of markings and at least three sub-specific forms.



**63**

Checkerboard Cowrie  
*Luria tessellata* (Swainson, 1822)  
Gift of Friend of  
North Carolina Shell Club  
25.9mm

This a beautiful specimen that may be considered a bit on the small size for the species, but with perfectly proportioned checkering. The checks are not always perfectly spaced and presented so it is a standout characteristic that is immediately noted. The shell was originally purchased from Worldwide Specimen Shells (Richard Goldberg).

**64**



Checkerboard Cowrie  
*Luria tessellata* (Swainson, 1822)

Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection  
27.5mm

This is another beauty of the always desirable Checkerboard Cowrie. It is fully mature. It was collected by Everett Long's friend and trading partner Dave Watts. The spots on one side are merged. Though combined spots run counter to my note for Lot 63, this shell is no less charming.

**65**



Checkerboard Cowrie  
*Luria tessellata* (Swainson, 1822)  
Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection  
24.2mm

One is often not enough when collecting a beautiful and variable species. Presented here is another fully mature specimen sourced by Dave Watts. Some shells become a passion and this is such a species, when having one is not enough, if you can afford it. It is endemic to Hawaii and rare. It is one of the most instantly recognizable cowrie species that many collectors know and lust for.

**66**



Panther Cowrie, Melanistic  
*Cypraea pantherina* [Lightfoot], 1786  
Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection  
64.6mm

Darkly over-glazed or "melanistic" cowrie variants are scarce and always popular with collectors. The cause is poorly understood. Environmental factors may be a factor from living on an iron shipwreck or places where there is a high iron content in the water. It could be simply a genetic variation. Whatever the cause, the result is stunning, commanding special interest by collectors.

67



*Conus archiepiscopus*  
*Hwass, 1792* (formerly *textile eumitus* Tomlin, 1925)  
 Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection  
 50mm

This is one of the several unusual cones found off East Africa. This was formerly classified as a Textile Cone variation. Textile Cone has a large range spanning the Indo-Pacific but this shell is limited to East Africa. The shell was originally purchased from Sue Hobbs.



68

Horned Helmet  
*Cassis cornuta* (Linnaeus, 1758)  
 Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection  
 257mm; no collecting data;

Indo-Pacific

The shell has been made into a trumpet. When I visited Hawaii this species was widely used in reenactments of native Hawaiian ceremonies. The species is found in Hawaii and differs slightly from the shells found in SW Pacific and Indian Oceans. This shell exhibits the appearance of the latter sourced shells.

69



Florida Horse Conch  
*Triplofusus giganteus* (Kiener, 1840)  
 Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection  
 318mm, w/op.,  
 remnants of periostracum  
 Everett self-collected this shell off Goodland, Florida, a famous site for shells.

70



Florida Horse Conch  
*Triplofusus giganteus* (Kiener, 1840)  
 Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection  
 375mm, w/op., w/perio. Collected by Everett Long, essentially off his backyard

This is a very large North Carolina Horse Conch. It is more knobby than many I have seen from North Carolina. Most specimens I have handled, the knobs become obsolete as the mollusk matures resulting in a smooth whorl.



71

Turban Shell Collection  
 Gift of Dr. Harry Lee

This is a great sample of the diverse and very popular Turban shell genera. It was part of the Lucy Clampitt collection prior to part of Dr. Lee's collection.

Imperial Turban *Turbo imperialis* Gmelin, 1791 45.7 - 102.3mm, w/op. 4 shells

Horned Turban *Turbo sazae* H. Fukuda, 2017 75.7mm, w/op.

Tapestry Turban *Turbo petholatus* Linnaeus, 1758 35.4 - 78.4mm, w/op., 6 shells

Chestnut Turban *Turbo castanea* Gmelin, 1791 20.2 - 21.3mm, w/op., 4 shells

*Turbo kenwilliamsi* S. T. Williams, 2008 58.3mm, w/op.

Wavy Turban *Turbo fluctuosus* W. Wood, 1828 33.5mm, w/op.

Channeled Turban *Turbo argyrostomus argyrostomus* Linnaeus, 1758 55.1mm, w/op.

South African Turban *Turbo sarmaticus* Linnaeus, 1758 76.5mm, w/op.

*Turbo cailletii* P. Fischer & Bernardi, 1857 25mm, w/op.

Smooth Moon Turban *Lunella cinerea* (Born, 1778) 24.9-33.1mm, w/op., 3 shells

Coronate Moon Turban *Lunella coronata* (Gmelin, 1791) 35.7mm, w/op.



**72 Murex Collection 11 Species**

Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,  
Everett Long Collection

*Murex pecten* [Lightfoot], 1786 154.4mm, Tanzania

*Murex scolopax* Dillwyn, 1817 101.6mm, Oman

*Vokesimurex mindanaoensis* (G. B. Sowerby II, 1841) 66.1-67.9mm  
Philippines

*Vokesimurex messorius* (G. B. Sowerby II, 1841) 48.7mm, w/op.,  
Grenada

*Vokesimurex kiiensis* (Kuroda, 1959) 46.9mm, Philippines

*Vokesimurex dolichourus* (Ponder & E. H. Vokes, 1988) 36.4mm,  
Philippines

*Haustellum messorius* (G. B. Sowerby II, 1841) 42mm, Union Island

*Vokesimurex rubidus* (F. C. Baker, 1897) 24-25.4mm, w/op.,

Florida – collected by Everett Long

*Haustellum haustellum* (Linnaeus, 1758) 50.3mm, Philippines

*Siratus formosus* (G. B. Sowerby II, 1841) 5 shells 19.8-26.2mm,  
some w/op. Bahamas, Col. by Everett Long

*Siratus* sp.(?), 10.4mm, Philippines



**73 Oculate Apple Murex, 4 shells**

*Phyllonotus oculatus* (Reeve, 1845) (formerly *pomum*)

Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection

89.9-102.8mm, 3 w/op., Bahamas & Martinique Col. by Everett Long

A Murex that has been classified as a regional variant of the well-known Apple Murex of Southeast United States

**Eloise's Acteon (Lots 74—76)**

*Punctacteon eloiseae* (R. T. Abbott, 1973)

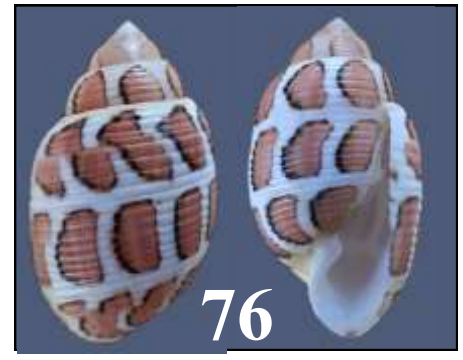
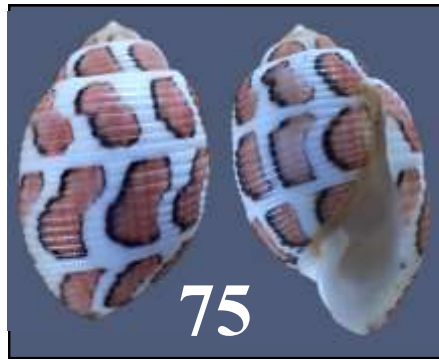
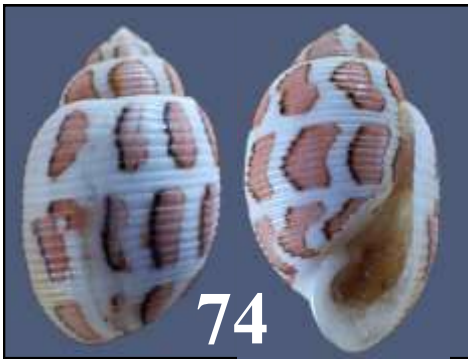
This is arguably the shell that symbolizes Masira Island, Oman. Dr. Donald and Eloise Bosch were missionaries who worked as a medical doctor and teacher in Oman. All of the shells in that country belong to the Sultan of Oman. In thanks for their service to his county he granted the Bosches exclusive permission to collect and export shells and provided them with local guides in their quests for shells. Among new species from Oman brought to light was this superbly marked shell – one of the most striking in its genus. While the Bosches were active one could purchase this shell from them. It was plentiful enough that artists such as Mique Pinkerton used examples in jewelry.

After the Bosches passed away no new specimens were exported from Oman and the price went up for existing shells. Stories circulated that an especially powerful cyclone (Indian Ocean tropical storms are called cyclones) had destroyed the shallow water habitat of Masira, the only place where the species lived, rendering them extinct! Prices soared.

About 10 years ago a few specimens appeared on the market offered by Russian and Italian collectors who recorded them as being fresh taken. Everett told me they were illegally exporting them from Oman. The Sultan had not granted any new export permits not even for the Bosch children who still lived there. New specimens continued to trickle into the market but remained scarce compared to the Bosch era. The price remained high if the shell was large, the markings precise and especially if the operculum was preserved.

At present nice shells are not as hard to acquire and the price has fallen some.

The spots of the species can be disorganized. Specimens with precise spots on all sides are prized. I show front and back views of each shell for this reason. Everett loved the species and accumulated several, including top specimens from the first Fredrick Weiss estate auction at the Key West, COA Convention. He called me as soon as he had won the auction to express his excitement at successfully bidding for them, especially a large example with operculum.



**74**  
 Eliose's Acteon  
*Punctacteon eloiseae*  
 (R. T. Abbott, 1973)  
 Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection  
 28.1mm, w/op.

A fully mature shell with excellent pattern markings over most of shell though they become a bit irregular at the edge of the lip which is common in fully mature shells. Having the operculum preserved remains few and far between. Originally purchased from Worldwide Specimen Shells

**75**  
 Eliose's Acteon  
*Punctacteon eloiseae*  
 (R. T. Abbott, 1973)  
 Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection  
 29.2mm

Beautiful markings on all sides, to the lip; originally purchased from Worldwide Specimen Shells

**76**  
 Eliose's Acteon  
*Punctacteon eloiseae*  
 (R. T. Abbott, 1973)  
 Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection  
 27mm

Beautiful, regular markings with one interrupted at the lip; originally purchased from Worldwide Specimen Shells



**77**

Henderson's Top  
*Calliostoma hendersoni* Dall,  
 1927  
 Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection  
 20mm; w/op.; southwest of Key West Florida, Dredged by Frank Fumar in 2006.

It is considered a scarce species which is likely more for the challenges of accessing its habitat than anything else. Challenging access to where the mollusks live is a common reason that drives the scarcity of shells that grace our collections.

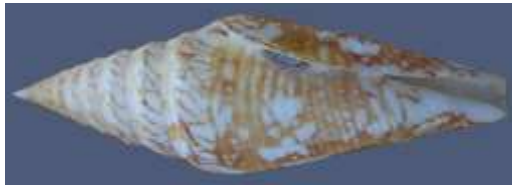
**78**

Illustrious Cone  
*Conus excelsus* G. B. Sowerby III,  
 1908

Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection  
 88.7mm, w/op.

The elevated spire of this cone yields a near perfect proportion of body whorl to the spire or a diamond shaped cone. The much smaller species, *Conus praecellens* approaches the proportion but not as closely. Some high spired examples of the large species, *Conus mileedwardsi* suggest the equal proportion.

Couple the pleasing proportion of this cone with its size and that it has always been and remains a scarce shell that it truly is an Illustrious Cone. Few collectors will pass up the opportunity to try to add one to their cabinet.



**79**

Map Cone  
*Conus trinitarius* Hwass,  
 1792 (*mappa* ?)

Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,  
 Everett Long Collection  
 39.7mm Columbia, live, a little roughness at the edge of the canal

The classification of this species I found to be complicated. What one chooses to follow, it is a difficult to obtain species from the western extent of the *Conus cedonulli* complex



**80**

Glass Display Dome  
 Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection  
 Base = 6.5" diameter; Dome = 10.5" tall x 5.25" (inside diameter)

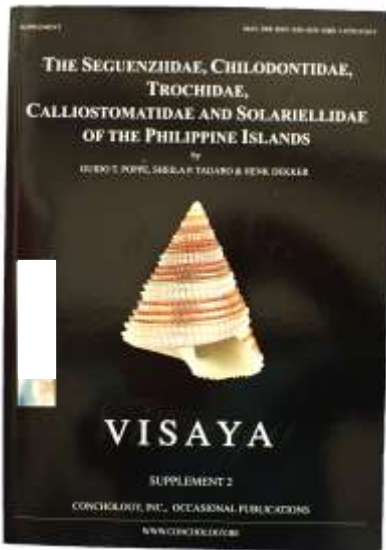
Perfect for that delicate, spiny shell you dread letting get dusty! Lot 39 is a good candidate.

**81**

Book

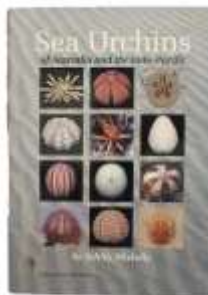
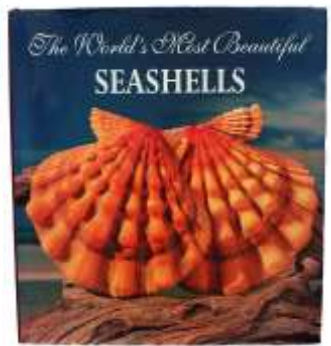
The Seguenziidae, Chilodontidae, Trochidae, Callistomatidae and Solariellidae of the Philippine Islands. Poppe, Tagaro & Dekker  
 Visaya Supplement 2,  
 Conchology, Inc.  
 May 2006  
 Gift of Friends of North Carolina Shell Club

An invaluable reference work profiling Philippine species of these popular Genera



**82**

Four Books  
 Marginellas, Robert Lipe  
 The Liguus Tree Snails of South Florida, Henry T. Close  
 Marine Shells of Northeast Florida, Harry G. Lee  
 The Worlds Most Beautiful Seashells, Hill & Carmichael  
 Gift of Friends of North Carolina Shell Club



83 Two Books  
 Sea Urchins of Australia and the Indo-Pacific, Ashley Miskelly  
 The Sea Beach at Ebb-tide, Augusta Foote Arnold  
 Gift of Friends of North Carolina Shell Club

Sea Urchins have a strong following with of collectors. In our quests for shells we find these animals or their tests. We find many other mystifying forms a sea life. I often reference Sea Beach as it includes many of those weird sponges, seaweeds and crustaceans that I find. It includes detailed natural histories.

**83**



**84**

Friend's Cowrie  
*Zoila friendii friendii* (J. E. Gray, 1831)  
 Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,  
 Everett Long Collection  
 68.5mm

For my experience it is a classic example of the Zoila complex of Cypraea from South Australia. It was the first cowrie of the subgenus I collected and have loved them ever since. This shell shows why all collectors should consider including at least one Zoila in their cabinet.



**85**

Marginate Cowrie  
*Zoila marginata* (Gaskoin, 1849)  
 Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,  
 Everett Long Collection  
 60.7mm  
 Rare, from South Australia

Stolid Cowrie  
*Bistolida stolida* (Linnaeus, 1758)  
 Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,  
 Everett Long Collection  
 30.1mm

Everett noted the shell was a "gift" but not from whom. A thoughtful gift indeed!



**86**



87 Manus Green Papuina  
*Papustyla pulcherrima* (I. Rensch, 1931)

Gift of Eloise Walton

39.5mm, a few small blemishes in the green periostracum

It's the instantly recognizable Manus Green Tree Snail! Green is a scarce color in mollusk shells and the brilliant lime-green of this species has few counterparts, if any.

It has long been a protected species under CITES II. Shells are available only via specimens already in the country before the listing. There is no restriction on us trading domestically in the shells already here.

Conservation is more complicated than simply protecting the species from collectors. Manus Green Papuina can be locally abundant in the large trees on which they live. Deforestation is a significant threat to their survival. New uses of former rainforests provide no habitat where the snail can live. Preventing the collecting of the species for the shell trade is important but not an exclusive solution for its survival. It is hoped that though this offering, the shell will be preserved and studied for future generations to appreciate it as an example of the incredible biological diversity of our planet.



88 Freshwater Snail

*Pachymelania bryonensis*

(W. Wood, 1828)

Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection

58.3mm

It's a surprising fresh water snail. It has a heavy china-like shell covered with brown spikes. I know of no species like this in North America, which I have frequented. Surprises are an important driver for our interest in shells. It can be discovering a shell while in the field or seeing a species never before expected.



89 Two not often encountered  
Gastropods

(1) Spiral Tudicla

*Tudicla spirallis* (Linnaeus, 1767)

76.3mm, w/op., fully mature, no data – offshore S.E. India

(2) Cuming's Afer

*Afer cumingii* (Reeve, 1848)

71.3mm, Collected in 1970

In the Compendium of Seashells, Abbott records both shells to be common. I seldom see them in commerce.



91 "Common Conch 2 shells

*Melongena bispinosa* (R. A. Phillippi, 1884)

Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection

40.1-42.7mm

A detailed record is included reporting that the shells were collected off Yucatan Peninsula where none had ever been reported. In Florida it is only known in the fossil record.

*Melongena corona* (Gmelin, 1791) is a variable species and closely allied to *Melongena bispinosa* as the data with the shells defines. Several forms are recognized. The source location of these shells would be at the extreme southern extension of the *Melongena corona* range.



90

Pyrum Collection, 5 Species  
Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection

*Longchaeus maculosus* (Lamarck, 1822) 6 shells, 14.8-20.4mm Philippines (formerly *Pyramidella sulcata* (Adams, 1854))

*Pyramidella dolabrata* (Linnaeus, 1758) 2 shells 18.1-25.8mm Bahamas  
*Longchaeus acus* (Gmelin, 1791) 4 shells, 17- 38.8mm Philippines (formerly *Pyramidella*)

*Niso hendersoni* Bartsch, 1953 25.4mm, w/op. Argopecten gibbus trawler bi-catch from off Cape Lookout, NC, March 27, 1981 Rare





**92**

Lightning Whelk  
*Sinistrofulgur sinistrum*  
(Hollister, 1958)

Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection

281mm, w/op., small chip to the very tip of the canal

This shell was self-collected by Everett Long, off Goodland Florida. It is a fully mature with the characteristic long, flared syphon canal of the West Florida Lighting Whelk. Everett kept a section of egg cases with the shell which he likely found washed ashore nearby.



**93**

Snow Whelk(?)  
*Sinistrofulgur laeostomum* (Kent, 1982)

Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection  
316mm, w/op., no data

Determining the classification of this huge whelk is difficult. I am judging it a Snow Whelk though it does also include characteristics of the West Florida Lighting Whelk. I may be off target in this conclusion. Nevertheless it is an impressive, huge, sinistral whelk that makes its presence known in the collection.



**94**

Giant Tun  
*Tonna galea* (Linnaeus, 1758)  
Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection  
151mm, dead collected

Everett Long self-collected this shell on North Core Banks (Portsmouth Island) in 1976. North Core Banks has always been especially low, much of it barely above sea level. It has changed over years. In 1976 the north end, commonly called Portsmouth Island\* was a vast sand flat with little in the way of sand dunes and plant vegetation. \*Portsmouth is the village



**96**

Imperial Volute  
*Cymbiola imperialis* ([Lightfoot], 1786)

Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection  
160mm, no data, bottom of canal chipped, fully mature

Imperial Volute comes from a limited region of the southern Philippines. Thus no data is a reduced issue with the species. "Southern Philippines" places it closer to where it was found than other widely spread species. The region has a long history of piracy and is too dangerous for Western collectors to visit. The shells are caught by local fishermen for the culinary and shell trade. The shells are exported by the hundreds. The periostracum is durable and typically removed by mechanical means. The challenge is to acquire a shell that is not over-polished and fully mature, features found in this offering.



**95**

Giant Tun  
*Tonna galea* (Linnaeus, 1758)  
Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection

213mm, Lip is lightly trimmed  
This West Pacific shell was formerly classified *Tonna olearium* (Linnaeus, 1758). Everett Long collected the shell off Okinawa in 1986 where he was stationed during his service in the Marine Corps.



97

**Hebrew Volute**  
*Voluta ebraea* Linnaeus, 1758  
 Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,  
 Everett Long Collection  
 146mm, lightly trimmed lip

A classic volute, it is one of my favorite species. The shell here is from a fully mature mollusk and features beautiful markings. The shell is named for the markings that resemble Hebrew script. The popular Brazilian species which in my youth were difficult to come by, became easier to purchase starting in the 1980's. It has remained available but never abundant.



101

**De Marco's Volute**  
*Voluta demarcoi* Olsson, 1965  
 Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,  
 Everett Long Collection  
 88.1mm

A very large and fine example of this species that is restricted of export from Honduras where it is found. It originally graced the Admiral Michael Jarrod collection, an estate Everett Long and Rich Goldberg were instrumental in receiving for the North Carolina Shell Club. Several auctions moved the fine contents of the collection into the cabinets of club members and its friends.



98

**Angular Volute**  
*Zidona dufresnii* (Donovan, 1823)  
 Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,  
 Everett Long Collection  
 206mm

When this volute reaches maturity it over-glazes its shell. It produces a long extension of the spire which completely covers the protoconch. The over-glaze spire extension is brittle and easily damaged. By close examination I discovered that the slightest tip is scuffed. Such is the case with shells where perfection is first perceived. Collectors get the magnifying lens out.



99

**Duprey's Volute**  
*Calliotectum tibiaeforme*  
 (Kuroda, 1931) (formerly  
*Teramachia dupreyae* W.  
 K. Emerson, 1985)  
 Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,  
 Everett Long Collection  
 160.3mm

This species created excitement when it first hit the market. It was a newly described species, large and attractive. The shells appeared in limited numbers on dealer lists and were quickly gobbled up by eager collectors. They remain scarce.



100

**Central American Music Volute**  
*Voluta polypleura* Crosse, 1876

Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection  
 81.6mm, self-collected by Everett Long as a guest on a fishing boat, off Honduras  
 Fully mature shell with one growth mend that hides well in the color markings

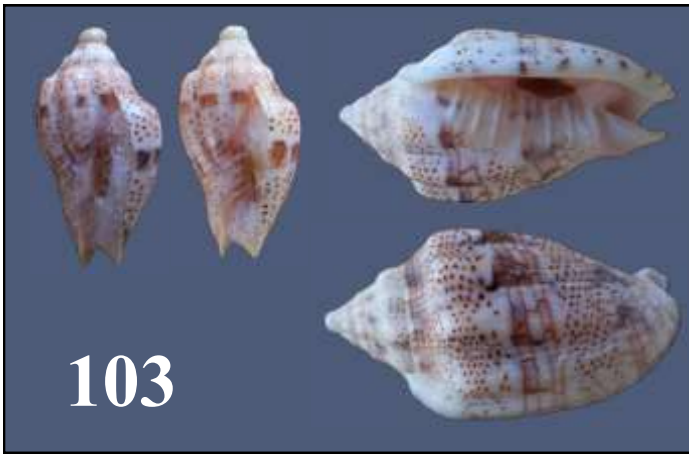
102

**102 Music Volute (?)**  
*Voluta musica* Linnaeus, 1758 (?)  
 Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,  
 Everett Long Collection  
 79mm

The data tag with the shell classifies it as *Voluta (polypleura) retemirabilis* (Petuch, 1981) collected off Honduras.

I question the accuracy of the data and wonder that tags were mixed as the shell in hand appears to be a *Voluta musica guineensis* Dillwyn, 1817, a variant from Venezuela. It is an example of the variability and confusion created by this diverse mollusk. The winner of the auction may want to further research it.





**103**

Sunderland's Music Volute, 3 Shells  
*Voluta sunderlandi* (Petuch, 1987)  
 Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,  
 Everett Long Collection

30.6-56mm, w/op., Self-collected by Everett Long  
 Music Volutes occur in a large range in Caribbean. They vary depending on locality. There are many species described. *Voluta sunderlandi* is from Honduras. It is named for Kevan and Linda Sunderland.

It is a beautiful shell with few competitors other than another music volute.

Collecting living juvenile mollusks is strongly discouraged by today's collectors as it endangers the future of the populations. These shells were taken when the resource was regarded as inexhaustible. As there is no putting them back it would be hoped that they will serve science as study shells.

Honduras has ended all collecting of shells from the seas where the species occurs. They must be sourced from existing collections.

The large specimen in this offering is one of the finest I have seen in recent years. It is fully mature and heavy. It is a centerpiece of any Caribbean volute collection!

**106 Two Books**

The Best of the Nautilus, edited by R. Tucker Abbott  
 She Sells Seashells, Veronica P. Johns  
 Gift of Friends of North Carolina Shell Club

Sea Shells Unlimited, New York was a destination that I always included on trips to New York City. The shop confirmed what I had long heard about New York, if you wanted it you could find it there. Ms. Johns' shop appeared as "a dark hole in the wall" but once you got inside the unassuming exterior was quickly forgotten. The inside was incredible. She had display cases floor to ceiling full of shells and cases at the rear of the store customers were welcome to slide trays out of to shop for shells from. My parents bought a Deer Cowrie and Hairy Triton for me as gifts the first time I visited her store based on family friend's recommendation in the early 1970's. →



**104**

Kiener's Volute  
*Scaphella dubia* (Broderip, 1827) (variation *Scaphella dubia kieneri* W. J. Clench, 1946)  
 Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,  
 Everett Long Collection

150.2mm, lip lightly trimmed

The control number on the shell is not Everett Long's, but from my catalog. I originally purchased the shell from a collectables dealer in Lambertville, New Jersey in the 1980's. I paid \$10 for it. The dealer stated it was part of an estate collection he had purchased, but no more. I traded it to Everett on February 12, 20000. It was one of three volutes exchanged for a two Japanese glass fishing floats he collected while stationed in Okinawa.

Due to changing fishing practices and regulations this always scarce deep water species is now even more difficult to obtain, estate collections being a primary resource.

The history or provenance of shells as they move through collections is increasingly important to collectors.



Dubious Volute

*Scaphella dubia* (Broderip, 1827)  
 Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,  
 Everett Long Collection

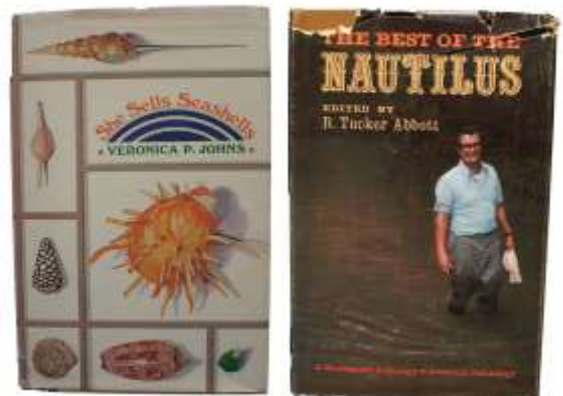
**105**

92.3mm, dead taken

The shell came from the "Donna & Riley Black dredgings at 125 fathoms, NW side of Desoto Canyon, south of Pensacola, Florida, northern Gulf of Mexico, September, 1973"

The classification is tentative for this unusual volute. It appears to be part of the *Scaphella dubia* complex.

**106**





107

Mawe's Latiaxis

*Latiaxis mawae* (Gray, 1833)

Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,

Everett Long Collection

24.7-32.2mm

Excellent delicate spines, the smaller specimen is a beautiful bluish-pink



108

Japanese Babelomurex, 2 shells

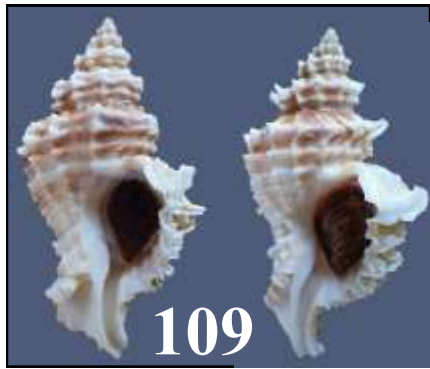
*Babelomurex japonicas* (Dunker, 1882)

(formerly *Latiaxis*)

Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,

Everett Long Collection

45-48mm



109

Two *Latiaxina* species

Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,

Everett Long Collection

*Latiaxiana fimbriata* (Hinde, 1894) 45.2mm; w/op.

(not found at MolluscaBase)

*Latiaxiana fimbriata* (Hinds, 1844) 44.5mm; w/op.

(not found at MolluscaBase)

**These shells will need research to confirm classification.**



110

*Babelomurex* 3 species, 4 shells

Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,

Everett Long Collection

*Babelomurex lischkeanis* (Dunker, 1882) 34mm

(formerly *Latiaxis*)

*Babelomurex spinosus* (Y. Hirase, 1908) 2 shells, 25.7

-30.8mm

(formerly *Latiaxis pagodus* (A. Adams, 1853)

*Babelomurex diadema* (A. Adams, 1854) 27.6mm

**This is a notoriously difficult genera of shells to identify!**



111

Mirror

"Mother of the Pearl" by Harold Brown

Gift of Harold Brown

Oval, 23.5" tall x 18" wide x 2" deep

Abalone shells



Two Alaskan Shells

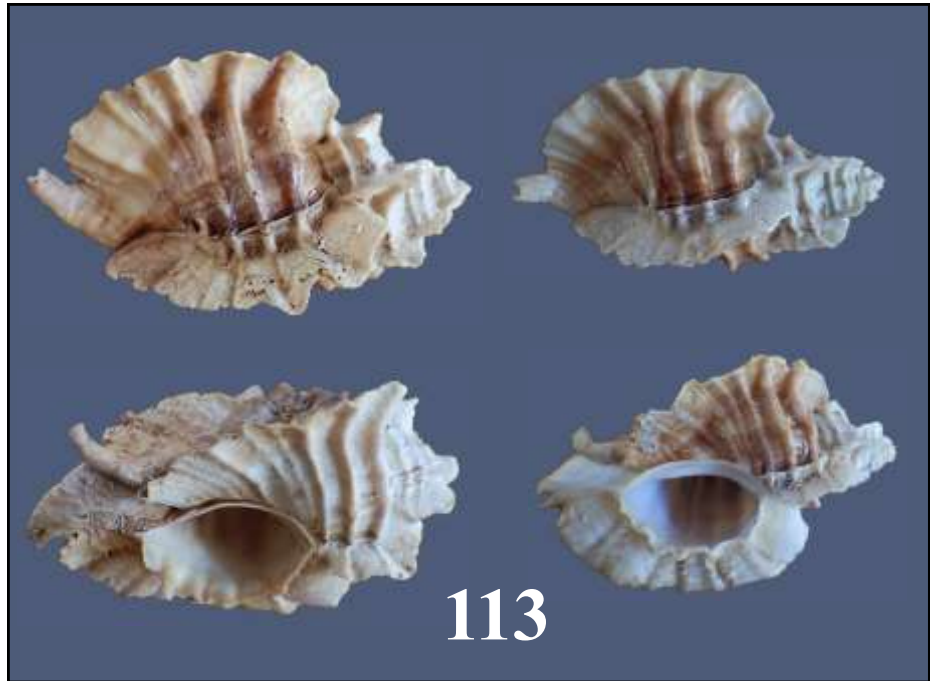
(1) *Boreotrophon clathratus* (Linnaeus, 1767) (*scaliformis* (Gould, 1838)?)

35.6mm; collected by and Gift of Doug Wolfe

(2) *Scabrotrophon stuarti* (E. A. Smith, 1880) (formerly *Boretrophon*)

42.4mm; w/op.; Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection

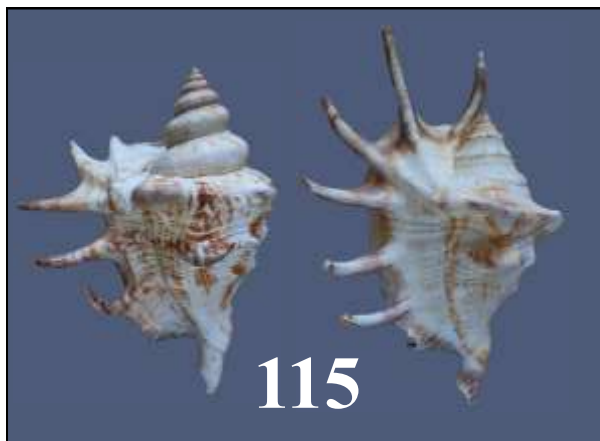
Two shells from a part of the world not often collected.



*Ceratostoma foliatum* (Gmelin, 1791)

Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection

2 shells, 56.4-70.2mm nice fronded shells; the smaller specimen appears live-collected, the larger, dead



Common Spider Conch

*Lambis lambis* (Linnaeus, 1758)

Gift of Mique Pinkerton

121.9mm;

This is a fantastic, turreted spired shell a standout for the species. The digitations are complete and undamaged. Some digits are reduced in size and shape which is likely part of condition that created the unusual spire. A typical specimen is included in this offering as a comparison but this very special and scarce variation is the driving reason to bid.



Zanzibar Tudicula

*Tudivasum zanzibaricum* (Abbott, 1958)

Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club, Everett Long Collection

53.7mm; w/op.; fully mature with beautifully flared aperture shield; clean exterior with undamaged spines;

Everett noted that an all-white example such as this is very rare.

Everett Long purchased this and other shells from a contact in Kenya. There were some challenges. Everett wired payment to Kenya, and sent the claim code to his seller in several different emails to prevent theft of the wired funds. He also had to negotiate the price as his supplier sometimes raised the price. In the end the effort yielded shells very difficult to otherwise obtain. The first transaction was a leap of faith as the seller was not associated with a platform such as eBay with a community feedback system or a recognized storefront.



116

**Cameo Helmet**

*Cassis madagascariensis* Lamarck, 1822

Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,  
Everett Long Collection

188mm, Roatan, Honduras 2007; flawless dorsum; a few minor chips along the edges of the shield and canal

It was live-collected by Everett in the “old days.” Roatan is now a preserve with no collecting of mollusk shells, thus no more helmets will be coming from this area.



117

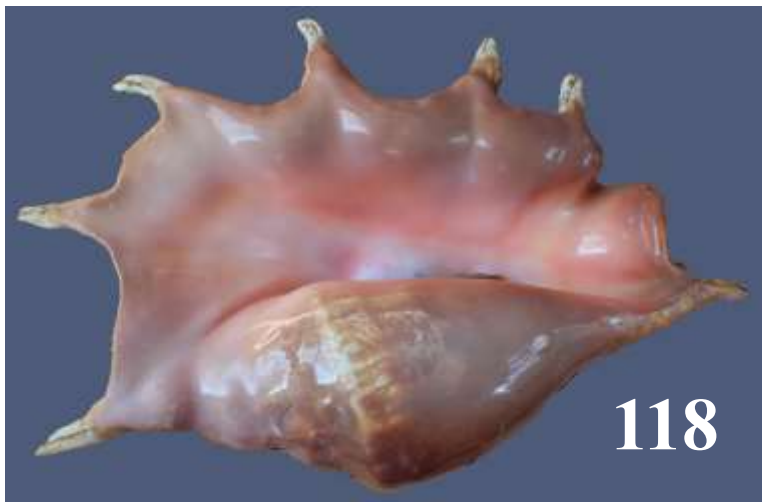
**Queen or Pink Conch**

*Aliger gigas* (Linnaeus, 1758)

Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,  
Everett Long Collection

273mm, dead collected by Everett Long, (no harvest hole in spire), lip is worn but not artificially trimmed. Exterior is clean, no borings and a little bit of periostracum remaining

Everett told me he found this shell lying in shallow water near a fisherman’s dock. Mollusks of this species living in waters with wave action and or other water action tend to feature reduced knobs compared the very spikey shells from protected environments. The specimen we offer here is an unusually smooth example.



118

**Seba’s Spider Conch**

*Lambis truncata sebae* (Kiener, 1843)

Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,  
Everett Long Collection

323mm, w/op.

Oman; fully mature

This shell has a noteworthy salmon-pink and tan aperture. The exterior is free of borings but a bit eroded as is characteristic to very mature individuals. It’s sumptuous in hand! The photo does not do it justice.

This shell was originally part of the personal collection of Dr. Donald Bosch.



Irvin's Volute  
*Cymbiola irvinae* (E. A. Smith, 1909)  
Courtesy of North Carolina Shell Club,  
Everett Long Collection  
67.3mm, Live collected(?!) Lip lightly trimmed  
Trawled at 300 feet depth off Esperance SW Australia, 1988

This is a notoriously rare species. The majority of shells offered are dead taken. To add one to your collection requires a significant investment. The shell offered here immediately stood out when I saw it. Though the data tag does not record it as live collected, it was super fresh dead if not live. Our shell is a lush, pink with a clear aperture. A few spines are tipped from the trawl but it's a minor nuisance to the overall presentation. I hesitate to label it a once in lifetime shell but expect to wait a while before we see another one in any condition.

The Catalog

Building a catalog inevitably results with unused images. Sometimes there simply is no room for them. These ended up on the "editing room floor."

John Timmerman



Lot 15



Horse Conch & Thousands of Tiny Shells  
*Triplofusus giganteus* (Kiener, 1840)  
Gift of Mark Johnson  
394mm (~15.5")

The horse conch has been outside in the past so don't worry about using it as a yard decoration. I have a similarly large horse conch in my yard which I see and appreciate several times a day, far more often compared to super nice specimens I have carefully stored in cases, inside the house. Horse Conchs like this make great trumpets.

**Note for lot 32** Included are thousands of tiny shells. Pondering how the tiny shells were assembled boggles the mind. Every single one of those shells was recognized, if very briefly, examined, appreciated and collected by someone. There are the hours when they have been sorted, and handled again by the original collector and subsequently by Mark Johnson and most recently myself. You get the idea! Shell collecting is a pastime driven by love of shells. There is definitely little efficiency of time if one looks at it as a strictly a money valued endeavor regarding the astounding the number of individual shells here. By the way, I did not count them. I thought of it! It would have made a great title for the offer!