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Great Grinning Tun Shell

CHOLLA CHATTER
 Official Publication of the
CHOLLA BAY SPORTSMEN'S CLUB, INC.
 P.O. Box 7171, Phoenix, Arizona 85011

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- At this writing Tucson has not sent
 me their list of S & R members.
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-Mel Jarvis
 Search and Rescue Chairman

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TUCSON SCUTTLEBUTT



ARTHUR SCHWARZ

DID YOU KNOW THAT GREAT BRITAIN DOES NOT HAVE A BLOODBANK. HOWEVER THEY DO HAVE A LIVERPOOL.

Our Jan. 13 meeting was quite a success. Oscar Newman did a good job of presiding. Our movie, "Fighting Gar Fish" was mighty interesting. A special guest was Pete Cowgill, Sports Writer for the Arizona Daily Star. His attendance and interest in our Club is greatly appreciated. Chris Tatum explained again the insurance necessary and available to us. You can save several times the Club dues at the insurance rates we get as a group.

The tragedy at Kino Bay should be a lesson to those who have a tendency to venture out far in an overcrowded boat or a boat which is not built

to take the waters of the Gulf.

We regret that Verna Conlisk finds it necessary to resign as head of our Membership Committee. She did an excellent job and the Club owes her a big vote of thanks. Thank you, Verna. Our new head of membership is Gladys Price, P.O. Box 4061, Tucson, Arizona 85717. She is a very likable person with a ready smile. If you know anyone who would make a desirable member, please get in touch with Gladys and she will start the ball rolling.

Daisy Tatum is entering St. Mary's Hospital Jan. 14 for an operation. Daisy, we surely hope to see your smiling face at our February meeting. Your new cabin will be an ideal place to recuperate.

I have tried to relate and confine my articles in the Tucson Scuttlebutt to a resume of what was discussed at the last meeting for the benefit of the 80% who could not attend. There are many other subjects or articles that could be printed if you prefer. However the Chatter does include a broad variety of interesting subjects now. Please let me know your wishes.

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Along the Waterfront

By Homer Smith

In the Rocky Point paper, The Voice of the Desert issue of January 4 reprinted from Tomado de Excelsior by a reporter who, it seems, got most of his information from some local people; and which referred to conditions at Cholla Bay. Among other things it stated that 1500 Norteamericanos paid 80,000 pesos a month (i.e., 960,000 a year) for which they received nothing, while the City of Penasco got along on 800,000 pesos a year, and furnished 10,000 citizens with police protection and other services normal to a town of this size.

It added further--among other things--that many of the Norteamericanos pay only 2 or 3 visits a year; and that in 10 years all would lose their houses and improvements to the owners of the land. If the present rate of growth continues it would appear that someone stands to reap a harvest of houses--maybe even a ghost town!

Also, in bolder type in the same issue was a companion article, which seemed to come to the defense of those castigated, although this writer is not certain of the true gist of either, since he reads Spanish so poorly. One thing certain, it would be of interest if the Chatter or the El Voz del Desierto would translate, and publish both articles.

If you sportsmen get tired of fishing, and would like to do a little hunting, there is no better place for migratory waterfowl, upland birds, and quail than southern Sonora, and Sinaloa. A season permit for up to 4 guns with 100 rounds each can be

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had from the Mexican Consul 234 N. Central Ave. Phoenix for \$ 16.00. The office closes at 2:00 p. m. so get there early. You will need 2 pictures for your permit; and a letter from the police that you have no criminal record (it costs \$ 3.00 in Phoenix and takes a day) which you present with your visa, and the permit, at Sonoyta (or Nogales) for your car permit. The latter now being issued at the old checkpoint 16 miles out southeast toward Santa Ana. Once past there you are in excellent dove and quail country.

At Navajoa or Los Mochis you can get guides with jeeps for \$35.00 a day single, or \$50.00 for two. They will also furnish guns; but, of course, most sportsmen prefer to shoot their own. For waterfowl it is almost mandatory to have a small car top boat—unless you have a retriever. And do not forget to bring your freshwater tackle along, as the lakes are full of hungry bass.

After two weeks I've found no official even so much as interested in looking at my letter from the police!

In Memorium

Born in Columbus, Ohio, on July 21, 1911, Edward H. Smith, died suddenly on February 4. He was a resident of Arizona for 34 years and a member of the Cholla Bay Sportsmen's Club for 15 years. While President of CBSC in 1961 he got our group insurance and our check-out system started. He leaves his wife Martha Jayne and children Katherine, Edward, Mary and Carl.



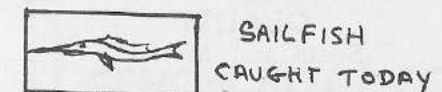
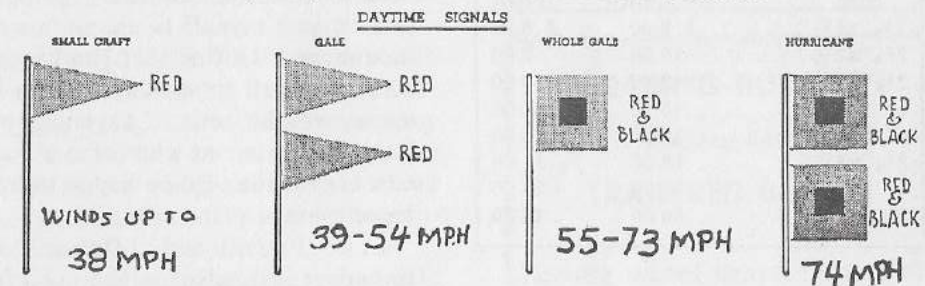
Confessions of a — Mini-fisherman

I've got a problem, and it behooves me to face up to it. For many years, during the winter months when there are no Mackerel, Sea Trout (to speak of), Pompano, or surface fish like Skipjack, Dolphin or Sailfish, I get

my enjoys by jig fishing over the reefs. I use extremely light (as compared to the tackle the usual bottom fishermen use) tackle, so, consequently, the fish I usually catch are small—running from about a pound on up through the occasional fifteen to twenty pounder I luck into.

I thoroughly enjoy catching fish this size on the tackle I use—a rod like a heavy duty freshwater Bass rod, a small level wind saltwater reel and from twenty to thirty pound monofilament. Like I say, I catch small fish. Lately, there has been some concern expressed by the local populace over the amount of small Pinto being killed by fishermen. I'm probably about the most guilty fisherman who goes down there.

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The average meat fisherman who nails a three to five pound Pinto feels he's caught a 'baby'--to me, a fish of this size is a keeper, and I'm usually damn glad to nail him. It usually takes quite a few dudes of this size to furnish enough fillets to fill up a fish box.

I've got mixed emotions about the solution to this problem. I could care less about the hollering of the Commercial fisherman or meat fisherman who are looking for nothing but big fish--let them do their thing, and bigawd I'll do mine. But, here's where the rub comes in--and it's a legitimate point.

I had never taken the time to think, or realize, that by taking a fish before it (she) has reached spawning size, I was killing a future mommy fish which could conceivably help repopulate future Pinto herds which very obviously have been seriously depleted - by overfishing - both sport and commercially. I'm sure as hell not going to change my fishing techniques - Ifish for fun, and I've given away all of my old heavy bottom fishing outfits simply because I don't like to catch fish this way. I really don't know at what age, or size, a sow pinto comes in heat, so to speak, so I'm going to arbitrarily set a limit on the minimum size of the Pinto I keep from now on, at, say three pounds. I actually have no idea whether or not a fish this size will bear row. I'm definitely going to take it upon myself to check this out though, and if I find that I'm keeping fish too small to spawn yet, then I'll up my weight limit. If anyone knows how soon, or at what size a Pinto can reproduce, I'd be happy to hear from them.

Like I mentioned, I fish only for the sport of tangling with a good fish on comparatively light tackle, but I have a multitude of friends who enjoy eating Pinto, so when I'm able to, I like to furnish them with fillets. (Just so I can hear them exclaim about what a good fisherman I am.) As I said, maybe three pounds is still too small to keep, and if I find it is, I'll surely switch to heavier minimum weight--but strictly to help repopulate the Pinto population--and not just so that some handliner or heavy tackle fisherman can catch him at a future date just because I released him (or her).

Cholla Bay Sportsmen's Club Accidental Death . . . Insurance

By Wes Douglas

Chairman, Insurance Committee

The last article concerning our Group Insurance was in the March 1967 issue of the Chatter. As a result of this Dr. Tom Burch, our editor, has requested an up-to-date report. This will be for the benefit of new members as well as a refresher for the older members. It will also report a very important change that was approved by the Council during 1969.

The Group AD & D insurance was set up in June of 1961. This was a result of our losing five members in a period of two years. At that time the Club did not have our radio in operation nor an organized Search and Rescue Committee. Since we have set up our radio facilities and the S & R Committee not a single member has lost his life in the Cholla Bay area. There have been many rescues and near misses, but the Club safety program has made our activity on the Gulf as safe as humanly possible.

Everyone that uses the area should be a member of the Club since they have the benefit of our safety program and this is all paid for by the Club out of the very low membership dues. Our Group Accidental Death and Dismemberment insurance automatically covers all paid up members without any additional charge over and above the annual dues.

The Continental Casualty Co. of Chicago (the largest insurer for this type of insurance in the United States) is the company that provides this insurance.

The group insurance covers any

accidental death in the amount of \$ 5,000 as well as benefits for any dismemberment. The death benefits are paid \$ 2,500 to the Club for Search & Rescue operations and \$2,500 to the beneficiary designated by the member. Any dismemberment benefits would be paid direct to the member for the full amount of any loss:

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2 1/4" x 2 1/2"	10.00	8.00
2 1/4" x 3 1/4"	12.00	10.00
5" x 1 1/2"	15.00	12.00
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During 1969 the Club Council recognized that the above insuring agreement did not cover all of the activity of the members.

It was decided that the coverage should be extended to cover sand buggy activity as well as any accident that might happen on shore, as well as on the water, at Cholla Bay and other areas along the shore of the Gulf.

The Council unanimously voted to pay a small additional premium to provide this for the members. As a result of this the Company revised the Insuring Agreement to read as follows:

"While the member is at Cholla Bay, Mexico, and within a radius of 10 miles of the shoreline of the lower gulf of California. Skin-div-

ing, boat racing and boat marathons are activities excluded under this policy."

This revision means that all members are covered 24 hours a day while at Cholla Bay and on the land within 10 miles of the shoreline of the Gulf. Please note that this agreement does not specify a sponsored activity. Any accident that might happen to the member within the specified area would be covered.

The same insurance on an individual basis would cost as much as the annual dues being paid to the Club.

This makes it more important than ever for each member to be sure that his dues are paid when due for in addition to this group insurance the paid up member has the privilege of getting the Mexican insurance for his automobile, sand buggy, boat and other property located at the Gulf at a price that is substantially below the regular tariff.

There are many other benefits such as the monthly Chatter, radio facilities, Check out and in service and of course the public relations with the Mexican officials.

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1970 Fish Derby Dates

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Letter from Ross Swinford

LETTER TO: VERNA CONLISK
RE: CHOLLA CHATTER

On February 11, 1969 I forwarded a check in the amount of \$ 50 for membership in the Club for the following. Ross Swinford - Russell Stevick - L. G. Pederson - Robert Hanson - Dr. Gwynn Chapin. All these men received their cards, but none of them are receiving the Cholla Chatter.

Now that the dues are billed for 1970 we will appreciate it if you will check into this problem and advise when we can expect the Chatter.

Thank you.

-Ross Swinford

If anyone else should be getting a Cholla Chatter and isn't, they should write right away--not next year. No one should be deprived of their Cholla Chatter that long!

-Editor

Record Breaking Shell

Record-breaking Great Grinning Tun shell, Malea ringens collected by Bob Morris in 130 feet at Guaymas, Mexico. Specimen measures 9 3/4 inches which is a full inch larger than previous record collected at Zihuatanejo, Mexico, according to the records of the Conchological Club of Southern California.

Front Cover Picture

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19 _____

Witness _____ Applicant _____



By Mel Jarvis

Just when I think I have everything figured out, like having a pretty good service program worked out for the inboard-outboard drive, up pops something new, PLUGGED COOLING SYSTEMS . . . not the kind that you get in one trip, sand, mud and that

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kind of thing. This has been a long time in coming. . . it's not just the pump or a waterline but the whole engine . . . thermostat, housing, bypass, exhaust manifolds and even the cylinder block.

I'll bet you can remember back when you were a kid and your mother would take the tea kettle and clean out the scale or your dad cleaning the rust out of the water pipes; it took heat to put the scale in the tea kettle and water standing in the pipe to build up the rust. . . So heat from the engine, water from the sea, scale and rust and for you Cholla Bayers just a pinch of salt added. Now what to do about it. I can't remember any service bulletin on the subject, but the way it looks to me, the cooling system should be serviced just like any other part of the engine and out-drive, just like the old water pipe or tea kettle. Some of the older units may be past the point of service. I've noticed that the first signs of poor cooling will show up on the starboard side of the engine (facing the bow of the boat, your right side is the starboard side) it will run hotter than the port side. I've noticed also valves seem to burn first on the starboard side, poor circulation may be the cause of this, just a thought . . .

Servicing the cooling systems would mean pulling off the manifolds exhaust elbows, thermostat housing and bypass housing, cleaning them out and putting everything back together again, I really can't say how often this should be done, I guess it would depend on how you used your rig and maybe how often. I would say sometime in the second year of service, would be a starting point. See you at the Bay.

Observations on Cholla Tide Pool Animals (Part III) Conclusion

By Mary & Paula Furtwangler

(Editor's Note--Previous articles in this series appeared in the September 1969 and January 1970 Chatters.)

ACANTHINA, ANGELICA

Several of these were brought up from Cholla Bay and the tidal pool for study. For many months, I was puzzled because they did not seem to be eating anything. They were however, gregarious, climbing one on the other, until they were in large clusters. Later, examination of one with a magnifying glass disclosed the presence of tiny barnacles living on the shell and they were feeding on the barnacles attached to each other's shells. Occasionally a Murex would eat an Acanthina, but the chief preference of Murex seemed to be Pelecypods.

CERITHIUM SCULPTUM

Although under observation in the tank for several months, this animal appeared only at times, resting quietly on the tank sides. Most of the time it was not visible, and was not seen to come forth from the sand or the reef. We guess this animal ate algae or other minute life. As it did not appear to grow during a period of seven months we assume that it was an adult specimen when collected.

*Tell 'em you saw it
in the CHATTER*

NERITA SCABRICOSTA

Many of these were originally collected, in various stages of size and growth. Some were no larger than a pin-point, others were 1 1/2 inches in length. The Nerita was observed to eat algae, going over the sides of the tank systematically. The animal covered much ground in a single 24 hours. Specimens were occasionally found out of the tank on the floor and one was kept out of the tank entirely for one week without apparent harmful effect. One Nerita was kept in a bowl of fresh water, changed every day for a period of one week. The animal survived and did not appear affected by the experience. One of the reasons that this animal survived so well, might be the formation of the operculum. Dr. Keen writes, "The operculum is calcar-

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ous and oddly shaped, with a little clawlike process of apophysis that fits under the edge of the columella and enables a tight fit when the animal withdraws into the shell. This effectively seals in moisture during periods when the animal is out of water, etc." The writer of this paper suspects that this animal has the capability of eating larger forms of life than just algae, but so far, has not observed the Nerita to eat other forms. The tiny pin-point size Nerita were observed to add to their size by 2 mm in 7 months.

KELP AND BOTTOM FISH

These survived very well, the Kelp fish and Bottom Fish (the name bottom fish is one pinned on by the writer), also called suckers, were not harassed by the larger fish called

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GOBIES in the tank. A healthy environment was obviously present, as periodically, new small specimens appeared having been born in the tank. It is regrettable that the birth was not observed. At the present time, it is not known whether the birth occurred as natural, or from egg cases. These fish eat everything; brine shrimp, frozen shrimp, raw trout and the insides of crushed Cardita, Nassarius or Protothacas which had been crushed by the large rock crab, until he was removed. The large crab also attempted to grab passing fish, but he was too slow. The fish grew slowly and steadily in size. They grew at least an inch in six months but we do not know what level of growth they may attain. A theory which I would like to advance here, is that fish continue to grow as long as they are alive. Facets contributing to this theory come from conversations with fishermen from both coasts of the United States. Yearly measurements of shark, sailfish, bluefish and other kinds show that a larger specimen is always caught, and the fishermen believe that the growth never stops.

The so-called "monsters of the deep," may be just common specimens that have attained great longevity and growth. We may mention the Conger Eel, which is only a few inches long when born, yet last year, fishermen in the Gulf of California caught one that was 18 ft. long, far longer than they were thought to grow. It will take years of observations in the large Marine tanks, to determine exactly how large fish and other marine life will grow.

SUMMATION

In general the 8 months observations taken of life mentioned in these articles show certain established patterns and habits. The proper environment was obviously present for all specimens and something was learned of eating habits, of each and everyone of the specimens mentioned. Growth patterns were noted and taken. The specimens were all able to survive with each other, and a natural balance was maintained.

REFERENCES

- Common Seashore Life of Southern California. Joel Hedgpeth and Sam Hinton.
- Life in Shallow Sea Water - National Audubon Society.
- Animals without Backbones - Ralph Buchsbaum, revised edition.
- Sea Shells of Tropical West America - By Dr. A. Myra Keen, Stanford University Press.
- Tidepool Animals from the Gulf of California - Wesley M. Farmer. (We did some recent revisions and corrections upon seeing Farmer's book.)
- A special research called, "Gastropods of Cholla Bay, Sonora, Mexico" - by Carol Skoglund.
- Biological Studies of the Gulf of California - University of Arizona Summer Session at Puerto Penasco, Sonora, Mexico.

Cholla Bay Fish Register

Ed Ritzer of Tucson reported he caught 3 grouper, 8 sharks and 3 other fish off the Sand Dunes on January 10, 1970.

BECOME AN AUTHOR, WRITE AN ARTICLE FOR THE CHATTER

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★ PESTICIDES ★

The Department of Health Education and Welfare (HEW) Field Letter for December 29 reviewed the recommendations of the "Commission of Pesticides and Their Relationship to Environmental Health." They based their recommendations on the following principles:

1. Chemicals, including pesticides used to increase food production, are of such importance in modern life that we must learn to live with them;
2. In looking at their relative merits and hazards we must

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make individual judgments upon the value of each chemical, including the alternatives presented by the non-use of these chemicals. We must continue to accumulate scientific data about the effects of these chemicals on the total ecology; and

3. The final decision regarding the usage of these chemicals must be made by those governmental agencies with the statutory responsibilities for the public health, and for pesticide registration.

A few of the recommendations in the 677 report of the Commission follow:

1. Eliminate within two years all uses of DDT and DDD in the United States excepting those uses essential to the preservation of human health or welfare.
2. Restrict the usage of certain persistent pesticides in the U.S. to specific essential uses which create no known hazard to human health or to the quality of the environment.
3. Minimize human exposure to those pesticides considered to present a potential health hazard to man.

★ Big Ten ★

Get your Big Ten card and get your fish checked at the Radio Station. Who will be first to win his Patch?

All people who use the radio facility at Cholla Bay should be members of the Cholla Bay Sportsman's Club.

Crown of Thorns

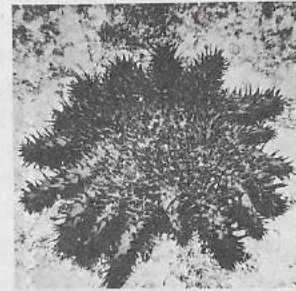


Photo-National Fisherman, Feb, 1970

The reefs off Australia and some of the islands in the tropical Pacific are being virtually destroyed by a starfish that feeds on coral-forming animals. Once the coral animals are eaten, the coral formation begins to erode and many of the other animals that live on and among the coral disappear. This throws the ecological balance off and could cause a shortage of edible fish that depend on reefs.

The culprit, the Crown of Thorns starfish, Acanthaster planci, is not uncommon in the Pacific islands but are only regarded as a hazard when they appear in large numbers. It has been suggested by some scientists that this starfish has increased in number only in areas polluted with DDT and other products of civilization. Other scientists, however, claim that the starfish population explosion is a result of over-collecting of the large Trumpet Shell Charonia tritonis, which feeds on these animals.

This starfish gets its common name of Crown of Thorns because it is covered with long venomous spines that make it a formidable hazard to the skindiver. A closely related species, Acanthaster ellisi, has been

found in the Gulf of California. This gets to be up to two feet in diameter and has 13 to 16 spine-covered rays. Unlike the A. planci which is usually inconspicuous, the Gulf form is frequently found in plain view on submerged rocks.

I spoke to Dr. David Pawson, Curator of Echinoderms at the Smithsonian Institution, about this and he would appreciate getting records and specimens of the Crown of Thorns starfish from the Gulf of California. If any of our skindivers come across a starfish like the one shown in the photograph, I'd appreciate it, if he would let me know when and where and, if possible, take a photograph of it. Even better would be to take the specimen to the Choya Bay Oceanographic Station. If no one is there, put your name on it and leave it on the patio. Be very careful however, since the thorns which may be two inches long can make painful wounds.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Editor needs help immediately for an advertisement representative and someone to act as Publisher. Bob Hudnall has announced his resignation from the Chatter's activities and anyone interested please contact the Editor, Tom Burch

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FILLETS WITH CHEESE SAUCE

- 2 tablespoons butter or margarine
- 1/2 cup flour
- 1 cup milk
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon pepper
- 2 cups grated Cheddar cheese
- 1 tablespoon dry mustard
- 2 lbs. fish fillets
- 3 tablespoons minced parsley

Heat oven to 400 degrees F. Grease a shallow baking dish. In a heavy saucepan, combine melted butter or margarine and flour. Gradually stir in milk. Cook--stir until thickened. Add salt, pepper, grated cheese and mustard and stir until cheese melts. This is a very thick sauce, but it thins during the cooking of the fish--due to the liquid from it. Cut fillets in serving size pieces and measure their thickness. Arrange in baking dish. Cover with cheese sauce. Sprinkle with parsley. Bake in hot oven, allowing

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10 minutes for each inch thickness of fish.

FISH CHOWDER

- 2 lbs. cusk, haddock (or other fish)
- 1/4 teaspoon savory (this may be omitted.)
- 4 cups diced raw potatoes
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 3 onions, diced
- 1 can evaporated milk
- 3 cups fresh milk
- 1/2 pound margarine
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- Paprika

Cook onions and potatoes in 2 cups of water until almost cooked. Add fish and complete cooking. When fish flakes easily, add butter, salt, pepper, savory and all the milk. Heat completely without boiling. Sprinkle with paprika and let set for 15 minutes.

-National Fisherman 1/70



Tide Calendars

The editor has again arranged for the Club to sell the University of Arizona Tide Calendars for Rocky Point and vicinity. @ \$1. Everyone ought to buy several.

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PHOENIX SHELL CLUB

The "Southwestern Malacological Society" meets the third Wednesday of every month at the Arizona State University Zoology Building Room 163 at 7:30 p. m. Next meeting will be Mar. 18. Everyone interested in shells is invited to attend.

1970 MEMBERSHIP DUES

The 1970 membership dues are due and payable now and become delinquent February 1st. Don't let your insurance and Chatter subscription expire (only paid up members will get a March Chatter).

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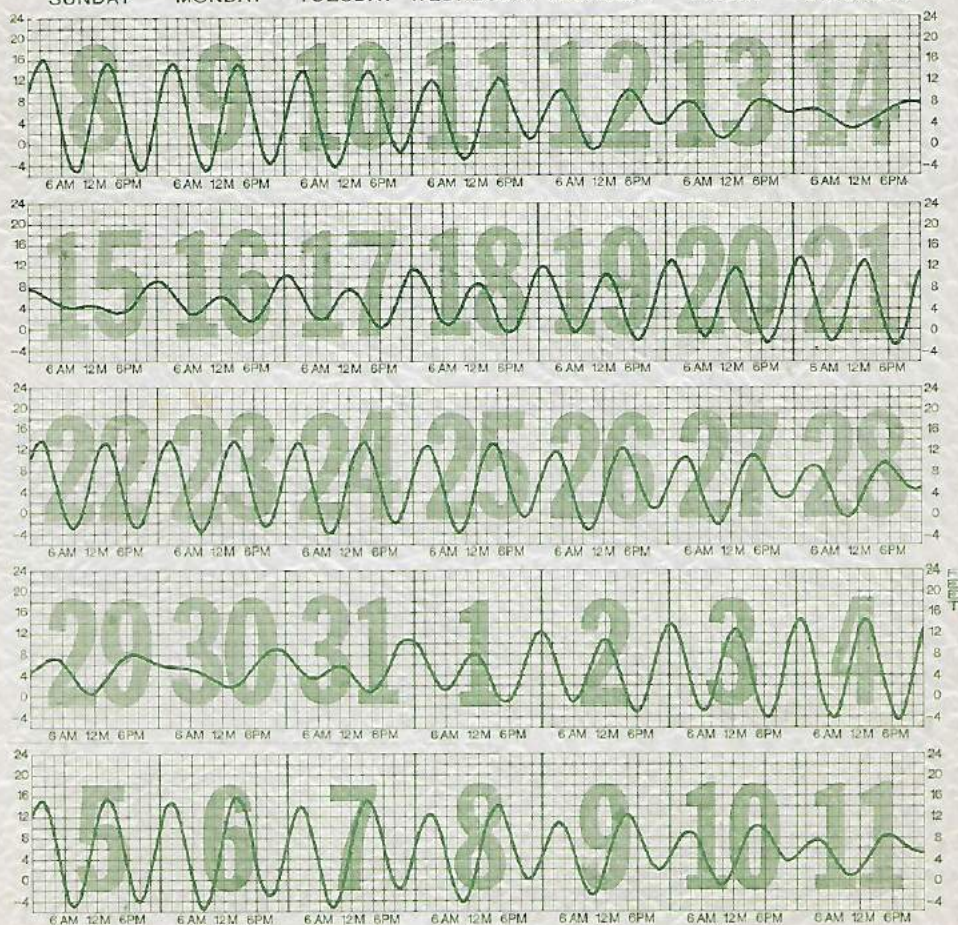
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MARCH

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APRIL

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY



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