

# CHOLLA CHATTER

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE CHOLLA BOW SPORTSMENS CLUB

Volume 14, Number 5

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**RODGERS & The "OSO"  
(Of Course)**



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

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# APPRECIATION & MANY THANKS

Mr. Paul Dean's article in the Arizona Republic, on Sunday, Jan. 24th, brought to light many shocking facts of man and his deeds. It is to bad, that like most tragedies, it rarely is just one single mishap, but to be followed by a series of bungling and self-ish acts. It is not uncommon for the unhappy events to receive most of the attention or publicity, this is not altogether wrong. Without this being brought to the light, then perhaps there would be no correction of our mistakes. We also have many to thank; Sam Hodges of Glendale, the original crusader; Mrs. Patty Pecharich of Scottsdale, having been active and influential for the cause; Dr. Paul Borgesen also has a large Thank You coming from all, who agree that we must improve our image in the land of manana and the sombrero. We also hold a very respectful and thankful position for Paul Dean. His point was expertly made and the real goal is yet to come, but not out of sight.

Manana is about to arrive for Master Juan Sanenz, of Cholla Bay, for in the near future, through the efforts of all concerned, Juan is to be admitted to St. Luke's Hospital, Phoenix. With the Grace of God, through the ability he has given to man, Juan will be given what was rightfully his, in the beginning. Here again there is in order, the warmest and most grateful Thank You to the St. Luke's Hospital Staff and Administrator, Mr. Joseph T. Prekup. Through Mr. Prekup's effort's, after having seen and being briefed on the case,

the Hospital has offered its assistance of Staff and facilities, to Juan knowing that cost cannot be considered.

There are many other deserving people involved, that need to be Thanked in this act of kindness. To all and especially Sam, Patty, Paul and Joe.

Gracias Amigos,  
Mi Casa es su Casa

L. Frazier

(Juan was run over by a sandbuggy two years ago, and his ear torn off. Many of us who go to Cholla Bay, thought the young man had been medically taken care of, to the best of their ability. Mr. Dean's article was shocking to many of us. Without "Lew" this might not have been accomplished. So many Thanks to him, for getting involved.)

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by ... MEL JARVIS

It won't be long now until we are on our way down to the Bay for the derby. Hal McKenzie has every detail sharp and ship shape. Posters are out, Jack Pot tickets are on sale and already the biggest fish is in the planning stage, and on what reef he's hiding out, and just what bait is going to get him on the hook. Ask any Cholla reef hanger and that's what will be on his mind for the next month or so. Look's like everything's go for the big fish hunt. Well now are we sure??? We have our rod, reel, line, hooks and bait. We've got the go and we've got the reef to do our thing over, so that fish can do his thing on the hook, BUT, do we have the boat to get us there and back? And if not back, do you have the equipment to do your thing until SEARCH AND RESCUE can do their thing to help you? We hope so.. Search and Rescue needs your help for them to help you. . Please fill out and give to Search and Rescue or to the radio room at the Bay, the following form. .

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Owners Name		
Address	City	State
Telephone	Cholla Cabin #	Do you camp?

Boat Name, Make and Type	
Size and Color	AZ - No.
Engine Size and Make	O/B <input type="checkbox"/> I/O <input type="checkbox"/>
Radio	CB <input type="checkbox"/> Marine <input type="checkbox"/> Other

1	Anchor		12	Emergency Water			
2	Anchor - line ft.		13	Emergency Food			
3	Life Jackets - Number		14	Extra Battery			
4	Spotlight		15	Kicker Motor			
5	Day Flores		16	Spare Parts Kit			
6	Night Flores		17	Fuel Capacity - Gallons			
7	Day Smoke		18	Fire Extinguisher			
8	Die Marker		19	Depth Finder			
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11	Distress Flag		22				

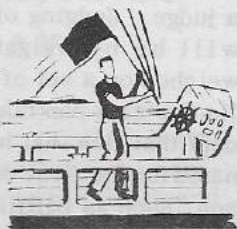
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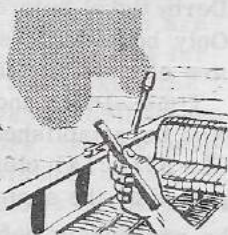
WAVE ARMS SLOWLY  
UP AND DOWN



WAVE  
ORANGE FLAG



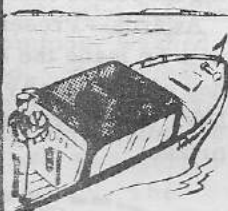
SOUND HORN, BELL OR  
WHISTLE REPEATEDLY



SET OFF ORANGE-COLORED  
SMOKE SIGNAL



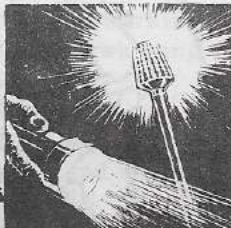
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### DERBY DAYS IN GENTLE JUNE

Hal McKenzie Chairman

Flash forecast for June 18th and 19th, 1971. "Clear skies, Calm wind, Smooth seas and lots of fish". After all the problems with our Derby of 1970, this will be what all the members are looking forward to in June.

As Chairman for this years Derby, I hope we will have the largest turnout of members in the sixteen years, in which the Derby has been held. The "fish fry" will be held near the Ice House, if the area can be cleared.

Anyone who would like to volunteer their help, in preparing the food Saturday, June 19th, will be more than welcome.



## OFFICIAL DERBY RULES

The Phoenix and Tucson Chapters collaborated on drawing up a basic set of rules to be used in future fish derbies. The only changes that need to be made from year to year will be the date and time. These rules were presented to the Council at its September 1967 meeting and after some discussion and a few minor changes were ratified.

Classes of fish--Seventeen classes of fish will be eligible for prizes for hook and line fishermen. These are:

- |                   |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Grouper        | 9. Yellow Fin   |
| 2. Pinto          | 10. Dolphin     |
| 3. Sea Bass       | 11. Red Snapper |
| 4. White Sea Bass | 12. Pargo       |
| 5. Rock Bass      | 13. Skipjack    |
| 6. Sea Trout      | 14. Flounder    |
| 7. Pompano        | 15. Sailfish    |
| 8. Mackerel       | 16. Cochi       |
|                   | 17. Corvina     |

Types of Prizes--There will be prizes for first and second place in each class for each day of the derby. Grand prize will be for the largest fish caught. Also a Grand Prize for the largest fish caught by a lady fisherman. Additional prizes will be first, second and third place for "odd ball" fish. A prize will be given the oldest fisherman with a valid Derby ticket. Prizes for shell fish will be in two categories -- Skin Divers and Beach.

Team Prize--A cash award will be made each day for the boat with the greatest weight of fish caught per person on hook and line. Fish must be in the 17 categories listed and must be bagged or strung. The weight of all eligible fish caught by the "team" including any prize winners will be used in determining weight of fish caught per person.

Judging--Judging of fish for prizes shall be done by judges appointed by the Council with an equal number

from each Chapter. The Derby Chairman is not to be appointed as a judge. Judging of the largest fish will be by weight. Fish will be weighed on a set of P Cotton scales. No one fish can take two prizes except that fish that have trophies donated for the first caught of the season, such as Sailfish and Dolphin.

Tickets--Each contestant participating in the Derby must have a valid Derby ticket before starting to fish. Only boats with valid Team Tickets are eligible for the Team Prizes.

Time--Dates and official times will be established by the Council. The official closing time will be posted at the scales. All fish must be weighed in before closing time. There are to be no exceptions. Two (2) men will be responsible for closing the scales each day of the Derby.

Awards--Presentation of awards will be made the evening of the last day of the Derby. Winners do not have to be present to receive their prizes.





## SOUTH OF THE BORDER, DOWN MEXICO WAY

The waters of the Caribbean off the coast of the Yucatan peninsula are very beautiful. It is impossible to describe the depth and variation of the constantly changing colors. The sand on most of the beaches is a blazing white, but near Puerto Juarez the sands are streaked with pink. Here, as for many miles along this coast, the offshore reef prevents shells from being washed ashore, but the deep pink sand gives evidence of the tellins and jewel boxes in the area. Our diving friends brought in a few pink and yellow sunrise tellins and several flamingo tongues. These Cyphomas with their orange spotted mantles are lovely. *Spirula* shells are quite common, washed in with the seaweed. Many small pieces of pumice are found at high tide line, as are the tiny chocolate colored seed pods of a Venezuelan tree, called "deer eyes". The large black and white West Indian top shell is common, but always badly eroded. I found two measled cowries with immature markings and many rollers and hawk wing conchs.

The wharf pilings are alive with tiny shells and I scooped up jars of zebra nerites and zigzag periwinkles. The small rocky area that I visited so many times was always fun. Tide charts are unheard of in that area, and there seemed to be very little change in the tide lines, but one day I found the rocks uncovered much lower than before. In every hollow in the coral rock there were great clusters of tiny shells, all containing hermit crabs. I took a few vials of them and found

white moons, marginellas, nassas, augurs, miters, olives, turrets, doves, spindles and many conchs. The variable nerites were the most interesting.

We ate - how we ate! The native divers brought in lobster from the reefs every day. With the local bread made in individual loaves and tasting like sour dough bread, topped off with a hunk of fresh coconut or a couple of bananas, you had a real feast. Coconuts were free for the taking and the price of bananas was ten pesos (.80) for an entire stalk.

Back in Merida we took side trips to all the port towns on the Gulf of Mexico. Near the mile long wharf at Progreso there were windrows of shells, but only three species; tulips, lightning whelks, and turnip whelks. The beaches on the Gulf of Mexico are of course sand, dark and dirty and polluted. We found this condition at each of the beach towns we visited as we drove up the east coast.

Pulling a 25' travel trailer on the narrow roads of Mexico often presented a problem. We would see a stretch of beach that looked promising, but there would be no place to pull off the road and it was terribly frustrating and did nothing to improve my disposition.

Between Campeche and Champoton we found two good pull-off areas. There were no drift shells of any size but the coarse sand looked fascinating. Since time is a factor in travelling from one stop-over to another in Yucatan we could not take hours and hours to pick over the small shells so I filled two gallon jars and some huge plastic bags. From one gallon jar containing mostly broken bits of shells and stones I kept one small match box of interesting looking shells. Many of these I cannot identify, but a couple of dozen emerald nerites and three one-half



inch tusks made the job of sorting a gallon of junk all worthwhile.

We were in Veracruz for the last two days of Mardi Gras and it was a wild town. It is so popular with Mexicans from all over the country that the vendors from Acapulco, Oaxaca and Puebla converge on Veracruz with their wares, and do a big business along the water front.

From Veracruz we headed up the east coast, stopping at several beach towns along the way. We stayed at Tuxpan for a week. The trailer park is right on the river and the fishing is good. We had grouper and catfish but were several weeks too early for the tarpon that swarm in the Tuxpan River late in April. Surf fishing was not good anywhere in the Gulf of Mexico. We did not go out on any charter boats, but those who did had no luck. Another negative note: the "no-see-ums" are wicked in Tuxpan.

We crossed the border at Laredo, easily and quickly, although we were loaded with pottery, hennequin products, baskets, paper flowers, and SHELLS.

I have not mentioned the incredible Mayan and Totonac archaeological ruins that we saw because trying to describe them is almost impossible, but I will try.

Con't. Next Month

Gladys Weber

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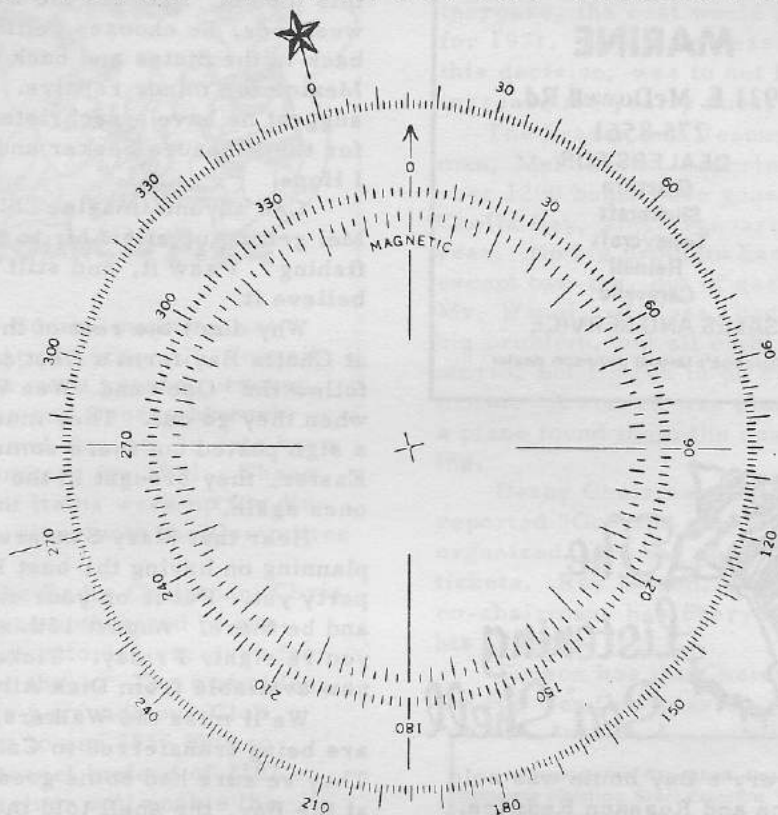
Ten dollars and the application below will make you an active member. You will receive the Cholla Chatter every month and get invaluable information, along with not so serious tid-bits. For instance, Search and Rescue reports, how to keep your boat ship-shape, trips taken by members and friends. Just a world of knowledge about our Mexican friends and etc.. Details about our radio facilities, safety precautions to be heeded while boating in the Sea of Cortez, fishing tips, how to go shelling and what you'll find, and most of all people, who are interested in the same pleasures.

This is a non-profit organization dedicated to good-will between the U.S. and Mexico, and especially an organization where every American profits, who goes to Cholla Bay. Our membership is around 1200 for 1971, to date, Phoenix and Tucson Chapters combined.

There is no organization, anywhere, that can offer you so much for only \$10. So "CLIMB ABOARD MATE", we'll be glad to have you.



# COMPASS VARIATION OFF CHOLLA BAY



NAUTICAL charts are drawn with true geographic directions. North on the chart is based upon the geographic north pole which is at the approximate center of the Arctic Ocean. The compass which we use to find directions, however, points to the magnetic north pole, located in Baffin Island, Canada.

Furthermore the compass is attracted or repelled by the magnetism of the iron and steel in the boat. The first type of compass error is called variation and the second deviation. The summation of the two is called compass error. The compass reading must be corrected for this in order to find true north or steer a true course.

**VARIATION:** The difference in degrees between true (geographic) and magnetic north at a given place. This may be either east or west and usually fluctuates from year to year and place to place. Information concerning these annual changes is marked on charts in the center of the compass rose. The U.S. Navy Oceanographic chart number 620 shows the variation in the northern Gulf of California to have been 13 degrees 45' in 1963 with an annual decrease of 1'. Thus the actual variation in 1967 is 13 degrees 41' E. For most purposes, however, it's satisfactory to use 15 degrees E as variation off Cholla Bay.

**DEVIATION:** This is the angle a boat's compass needle makes with magnetic north. It is caused by magnetism in the boat's hull, equipment, etc. The amount of deviation can be corrected by means of adjusting magnets located on or near the compass housing. A deviation card or table should be prepared to indicate compensation for uncorrected deviation while steering a course.



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Avery's Bay home was sold to Bruce and Roseann Redwine, friends of the Reed's.

"Pop" Turner, an old timer at Cholla Bay, died in March in Palo Verde.

Hector and Gracie's (our congenial ice man) oldest daughter was married on St. Valentine's Day.

What Seabird crew forgot to put in their plug and almost became a submarine. Just put in a new motor too. Wow!

Patty, our faithful radio operator, was so tired on Sunday night (Easter weekend), she locked the radio shack, started home and remembered she was missing a baby. That's right, she left him in the radio shack.

Forest Cooley had an exciting job over the weekend, picked up the pink slips from incoming boats. That shows every Club member can help in some way.

What Search and Rescue boat hasn't been out since a year ago this month. Between the windy weekends, he chooses getting parts back in the States and back to Mexico for minor repairs. I would suggest he have a rechristening for the Pleasure Seeker and add, I Hope.

Can anyone imagine "Sleep Late" Mel getting up at 6 AM, to go surf fishing? I saw it, and still don't believe it.

Why don't the rest of the boats at Cholla Bay form a fleet and just follow the "Oso" and "Wee Wee" when they go out. They must have a sign posted out there someplace. Easter, they brought in the big ones again.

Hear that Mary Sanderson is planning on having the best Phoenix party yet. Put it on your calendar and be there. August 13th and you're right, Friday. Tickets are now available from Dick Allyn\*.

We'll miss the Walkers, they are being transferred to California. They've sure had some good times at the Bay, the shell told me.

\*Of the Phoenix Chapter.  
\$3.50 per person.

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JOE KARAM - Club Member





The Council meeting was held on April 16th. All Council members were present, except Phil Lahr and George Muench. Phoenix and Tucson, to date have 1092 members for 1971. Three important items were up for discussion, along with the Committee reports.

1. The Radio Chairman, Chris Tatum, was authorized to purchase a monitoring receiver for the radio shack. The main idea will be to persuade our Club members to use 2555 Ship to Shore channel instead of 2182. This receiver will enable the Radio Operator to monitor both channels, at the same time.

2. The Building Chairman, Bob Morris, was authorized to complete our building, adjacent to the Radio Shack.

3. The Accidental Life Insurance policy, which each member in the past has received with their membership dues, is not being renewed as of June 22, 1971. This benefit, given by the Council to each member, has proven to be a very expensive plan. At the Phoenix general meeting, March 9th, the members voted unanimously not to renew said policy.

At the Tucson general meeting March 9th, the members voted to not renew said policy. The respective Presidents brought this mandate to the Council. The Council approved not to renew.

This Insurance cost the Council \$2300 in 1970 and as our members increase, the cost would go up for 1971. One main reason for this decision, was to not have to increase the yearly dues.

The Search and Rescue Chairman, Mel Jarvis, reported that over 1200 boats have gone out of Cholla Bay, since January of this year. No big problem has arisen, except tow-ins, out of gas and etc. Mr. Waugh, of Mesa, had quite a big problem, out all night in a bad storm, but limped in on his kicker motor. A search was planned and a plane found them the next morning.

Derby Chairman, Hal McKenzie reported "Go" and everything well organized. He has posters and tickets. Ray Mason, Tucson, his co-chairman, has everything for his Chapter.

Tucson has the Chairman for the Big Ten this year.

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# THE BASIC SCUBA" COURSE

R. Roy Williams

What can you expect when you sign up, for a basic SCUBA course? First of all, you can expect to have fun. Chances are you will meet people, that will remain friends long after the course and the activities opened to you by the course, will likely alter the way you spend your spare time, quite drastically. What subjects are covered in the basic course? The following are some of the subjects, covered with a brief note of why they are necessary.

## 1. SKIN DIVING EQUIPMENT

What features to look for.  
How to assure a proper fit.  
How to use it properly.

## 2. OCEANOGRAPHY

What causes currents, how to handle them.  
Why tides at Rocky Point are so extreme.

Why tidal currents are especially important in the mid-riff of the Gulf of California.

## 3. MARINE LIFE

What marine life presents potential hazard to divers.  
How to avoid the hazardous types.

## 4. Physics as related to diving

How depth causes air consumption variation.  
Why temperature is an important consideration, when handling tanks.

Why the percentage of gases in your breathing mixture are important.

## 5. Diving Physiology

Why your ears hurt, when you dive down and how to prevent it.

How it is possible to cause lung damage, while diving with or without SCUBA - even in a swimming pool - and how to prevent it.  
What causes the effect Cousteau refers to as "Rapture of the Deep" and how to avoid it.

Why the deep divers use a mixture of helium and oxygen instead of air.

Why diving to a depth greater than 33 feet puts you in a position where you could possibly get the "bends" and how to use the U. S. Navy Dive Tables, to prevent it.  
How to figure the length of time a tank of air will last.

## 6. SCUBA

How to select your SCUBA.  
How to use the SCUBA in a safe manner.

What safety devices you should use while SCUBA diving.

How to "buddy breathe".  
Importance of the buddy system.

How to plan and execute a dive.

This is actually only a sample of what is covered in a basic SCUBA course, but I think you can see why it takes more than a few minutes or hours to properly teach the course.

The culmination of a course is the checkout dive, which should be one of the most memorable experiences of your life. This is the first chance to visit that other world, which is so near, yet so vastly different.

If it seems that this is a lot of training to go through, compare it with the training of the astronaut. You are, after all, learning to use a fairly sophisticated "life support system", in a world of weightlessness, with strange animal and plant life and an unbreathable atmosphere.

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CHRIS TATUM TELEPHONE 624-2892

EXPLANATION OF "DEEP FREEZE"  
ARTICLE IN FEBRUARY ISSUE

Arizona Republic Robert L. Thomas  
3/6/71

The sensitive ecological balance was toppled in the Gulf of California recently.

The prolonged cold temperatures that frosted citrus, burst water pipes and cracked auto engines in Arizona last January also reached below the border, causing a huge die-off of fish in the sea between the Bay of Guaymas and the mouth of the Colorado River.

The lowest water surface temperatures ever recorded by the Marine Research Center at Rocky Point apparently were responsible for killing countless numbers of subtropical fish, crustaceans and mollusks, said Dr. Donald Thomson, curator of fishes for the University of Arizona.

Fishermen have reported thousands of dead grouper, pinto, sardineros, rock bass and yellowfin corvina washed up on Sonoran beaches after the extended subzero dip. There was speculation that some ecological man-caused disaster might have killed the fish.

Not so, said Dr. Thomson.

"It is highly unlikely that some poison might be responsible," he said. "Some chemical could kill fish like that, but it would occur in a small area and not over such a large length of shoreline."

Thomson said daily water surface temperatures were taken at the Marine Research Center, a cooperative operation between the UofA and the University of Sonora.

"For three weeks in January we recorded very, very low temperatures, much lower than have



ever been recorded at Rocky Point," said Thomson. "The lowest was 48 degrees, and that's really darned cold for the gulf."

He said the temperature is taken by students wading out into the surf. In the quiet, shallow tidal pools he said the water temperature must have been much lower.

Thomson said most of the subtropical fish are at their "extreme lower lethal limit" and that sudden drops in the water temperature can prove fatal.

"Divers have studied fish when the temperature drops and the cold seems to make the fish sluggish and they stop feeding. If it doesn't warm up they die in a few days," he said

"I've had some reports from skindivers who said they found dead fish lying on the bottom in Guaymas Bay."

The average water temperature at Rocky Point ranges from between 60 and 68 degrees in the winter. The previous recorded low was 53 degrees, said Thomson.

The limit that subtropical fish can stand is around 50 degrees. Some species such as rock bass are Pacific temperate range fish and can withstand cold more than the fish from the south, he said.

Custaceans, such as crabs, lobsters and mollusks, like clams and oysters, can die from low temperatures, but usually they are more hardy than the fish.

Thomson said he has received reports of dead seals and porpoises washed up on the beach, but these warm blooded mammals probably died after encountering a Mexican gill net and not from the cold.

The scientist held out hope for fishermen. The total kill, he said, was just a small percentage of the available fish and they should come back in former numbers in a short while.

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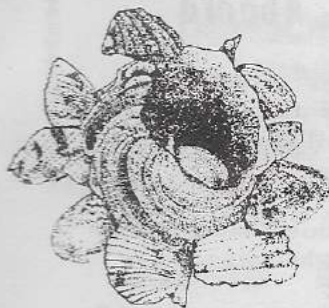


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# NOTES FOR SHELL COLLECTORS

M. J. Goldsmith

The original shell collectors along the Sonoran Coast were not the first Arizona fishermen to dig their way across the sands to Cholla Bay, nor the Spanish explorers, nor even the Indians whose trade shells and inlaid pendants turn up an amazing distance from salt water. They were not even human, but lowly snails which had acquired the unusual habit of sticking bits and pieces of other castoff shells to the outside of their own.

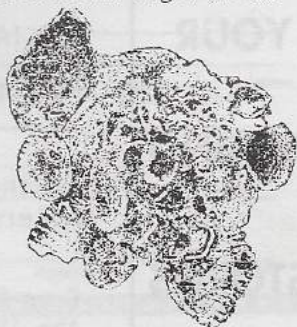
Xenophora robusta Verrill, 1870, is the jaw-breaking name of the snail, which unfortunately gives no clue to its odd practice. Verrill could not have had a very fertile imagination, that quality so many name selectors must have had in the 18th and 19th centuries. Today most names for new-to-science species honor persons (e.g. Tomburchia) or places (penascoensis).

Xenophora, commonly called the Carrier Shell, is found, according to one authority, off-

shore in 25 or more fathoms, from the Gulf of Tehuantepec to the La Paz area. However, I have three specimens which were dredged off Cabo Tepoca, which is apparently a range extension for the animal. Of the three, two are adults about two inches across and a smaller one, less than 3/4 inch, not counting the collected shells. All were dredged at the same time.

When it comes to collecting, these snails seemingly play favorites, my three being festooned with clam shells exclusively, except for one bit of snail shell, broken and flat, on the smallest one. Without its collection, the shell is a low cone in shape, its height being roughly 3/4 of its width. The shell itself is thin and white, but the interior is a shining brown, as is its "trap door" or operculum. The underside displays regular spiral growth lines, but the top, where it can be seen, is most irregular, due at least in part to the necessity for matching the contours of the shells it collects. The apex of one adult is fairly clean, but the other bears tiny "worm shells" and even a young clam that had attached itself to an overhanging bit of debris.

This shell is considered rare, and since it dwells in deep water, your chances of finding one are pretty slim. However, shell dealers at Rocky Point sometimes offer them--if you are lucky enough to be there at the right time.





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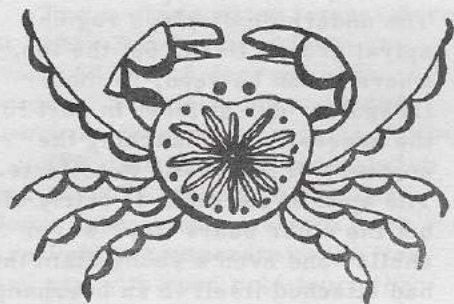
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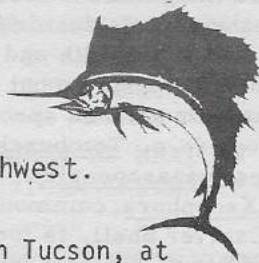
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