

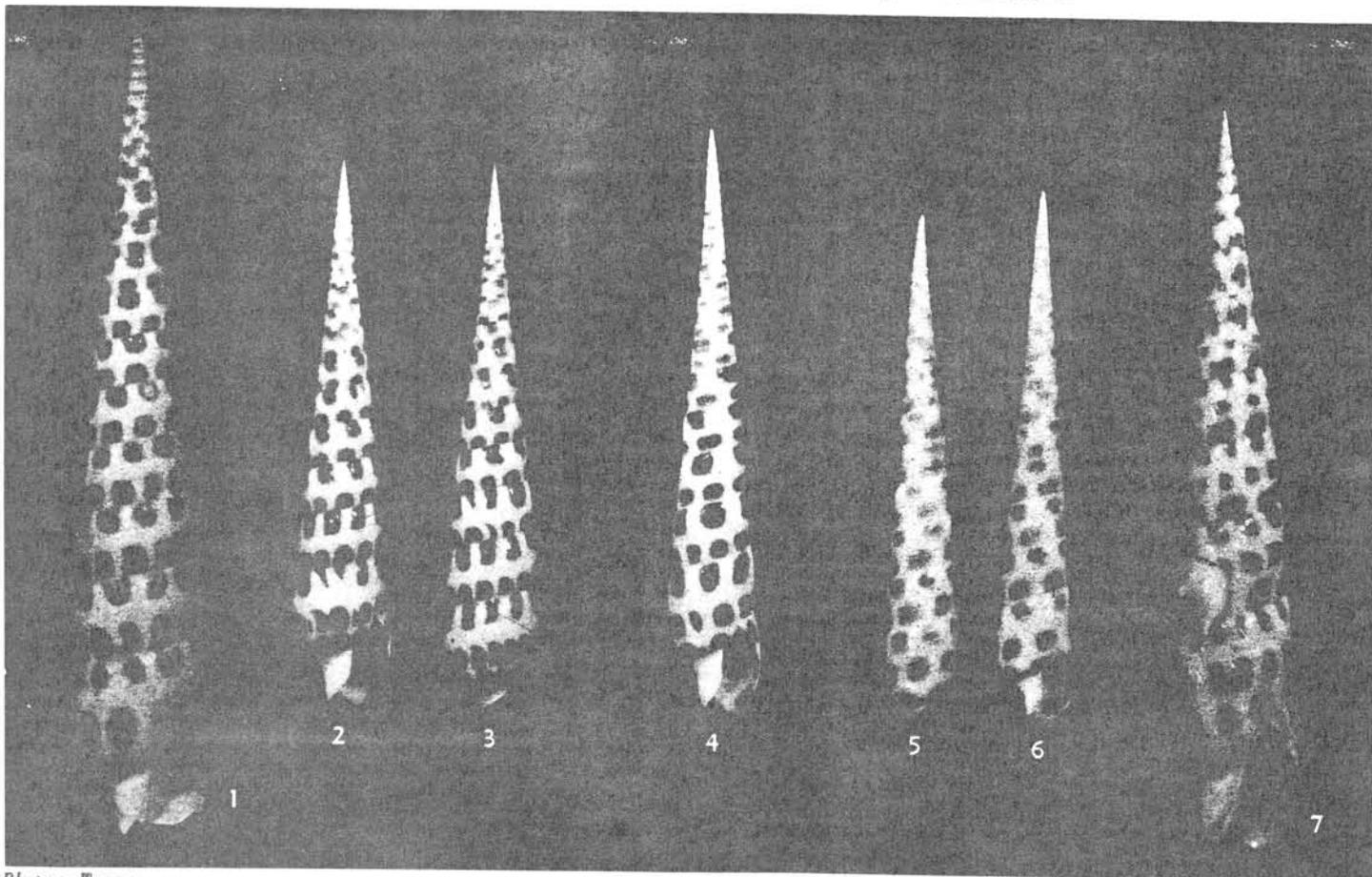
# Hawaiian Shell News

VOL. XIII NO. 6

APRIL, 1965

NEW SERIES NO. 64

## COMPARING A LARGE HAWAIIAN AUGER (*T. achates* Weaver) WITH RELATED SPECIES -- by CLIFF WEAVER



Photos - Weaver

Fig. 1: Apertural view of *T. achates* Weaver, 1960 collected by C. Weaver off Punaluu (Type Locality), Island of Oahu, depth 8 ft., sand bottom, June 1941. Length 114 mm. Figs. 2 & 3: Two views of *T. achates* collected by Marsha Howard in Keauhou Bay, Kona Coast, Island of Hawaii, depth 10 ft., sand bottom, Nov., 1964. Length 77 mm. Fig. 4: Apertural view of *T. subulata* Linnaeus, 1767 collected by Reg Gage in Keauhou Bay,

Actual Size

Kona Coast, Island of Hawaii, depth 10 ft., sand bottom. Length 81 mm. Figs. 5 & 6: Two specimens (two views) of *T. consobrina* Deshayes, 1857, collected by Franz Steiner in the littoral, Djibouti, French Somaliland, May, 1958. Lengths, l. to r., 70 & 75 mm. Fig. 7: Apertural view of *T. acrolata* (Link, 1806) collected by C. Weaver in Kailua Bay, Oahu in 55 ft. of water, sand bottom, Oct., 1964. Length 106 mm.

### *Terebra achates*\* Weaver, 1960

*Terebra achates* (See figs. 1-3) is the rarest of our large auger shells and as such is represented in Hawaiian collections, including the Bishop Museum, by less than 12 adult specimens. Juvenile *achates* have been dredged from depths up to 30 fathoms (180 ft.), but the few large shells that I have seen or collected came from shallow sandy areas inside the fringing reef.

Its closest relative in Hawaii is *T. subulata* Linnaeus, 1767 (fig. 4 above) which has been collected side by side with *achates* at Keauhou Bay on the Kona Coast of

Hawaii. I have collected large numbers of *subulata* in Tahiti but know of only three specimens taken from Hawaiian waters. It differs from *achates* by having a smooth unsculptured surface with fewer revolving spots. *T. achates* on the other hand has a sculptured surface: on each whorl the crenulated presutural band is bisected by a revolving row of pin-prick like punctures which divides this band into two crenulated cords, the posterior cord being wider. Below these cords and covering the rest of the whorl are four revolving striae (grooves) transversed by even finer longi-

tudinal striae.

It has been brought to my attention that a shell with similar surface sculpture, *T. consobrina* Deshayes, 1857 from the western Indian Ocean, may be conspecific with *T. achates*. Thanks to Mr. Robert Burch, who supplied me with good specimens of *T. consobrina* (see figs. 5 & 6

\*Original description: *Hawaiian Marine Mollusks*, The Genera *Terebra* and *Hastula*. Weaver, Clifton S., January, 1960, Vol. 1, No. 1, pl. 1, Center three figures.

(Continued on page 2)

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**HAWAIIAN AUGER (Cont'd from pg. 1)** above) from the Gulf of Aden as well as with Deshayes' original description, I have been able to compare the two species in detail. Some significant differences become readily apparent. For example *consobrina* is a much narrower shell than *achates* with only half the number of spots on corresponding whorls and with considerably weaker sculpturing. It should be noted that all three species mentioned so far have the same number of rows of spots, i.e. two revolving rows on each spire-whorl with three such rows on the body whorl.

Another Pacific auger found in Hawaii, *T. areolata*\*\* (Link, 1806) (see fig. 7), only superficially resembles *achates*. It has one more revolving row of spots than *achates*, corresponding whorls are much longer (compare body whorls on figs. 1 and 7) and it has no revolving punctations or striae, although it does have a wide pre-sutural band (one per whorl). I include *areolata* in this discussion in order to help the "beginner Hawaiian collector" separate his spotted augers.

In my opinion *T. achates* is a valid species. It is probably endemic to the Hawaiian Archipelago and from the scarcity of known specimens appears to be one of the world's rarest auger shells.

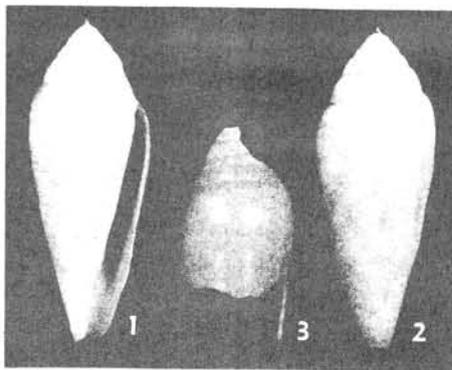
The holotype of *T. achates* bears the Bernice P. Bishop Museum catalogue number B.B.M. 212863.

\*\*Formerly known under the synonym *muscaria* Lamarck, 1822.

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Mrs. Mary Saul  
Gate Cottage, Castlemorton Common  
Malvern Worcs., England

## Newly Discovered Hawaiian Cone



Photos - Weaver  
Figs. 1 & 2: *Conus* (?) species showing two views of a dead shell dredged in April, 1963, from a depth of 100-140 fathoms off Wailiki, Oahu. Length 44 mm. Fig. 3: Fragment dredged in March, 1965, from a depth of 130-170 fathoms, off Keeki Lagoon, Oahu.

The complete shell and the fragment illustrated above represent the only specimens ever found in Hawaii of this unidentified cone species. Both were dredged aboard Mrs. Mary Eleanor King's motor vessel "Pele" during short collecting trips off the south coast of Oahu.

This cone appears similar to *Conus luteus* Sowerby, 1833, also found in Hawaiian waters, but differs in having convexly rounded shoulders (*luteus* is straight shouldered) and being considerably larger.

In color the shell is pale pink with faded brown flame-like markings. The surface of the shell is smooth.

### From Our Corresponding Secretaries, Neal & Eva Seamon

In response to the many questions from old and new members and other interested persons, we will list some of the answers for your information. Yes, we have back issues available from 1960 to the present year at \$4.00 a year for 12 copies. There is a slight extra charge for mailing. There are also issues dating back to 1956 in limited quantities. These back issues are not on the present format but are mimeographed papers which served us well in our formative years. They are available at the same price as the above.

In addition to back issues the Society has published "Helpful Hints To Shell Collectors" keyed to the Hawaiian scene but a good book for Indo Pacific shelling in general. This booklet sells for two dollars plus a small postage charge. Also available is a booklet on up-to-date nomenclature of the volutes by Cliff Weaver at one dollar plus postage. This book is a must for all volute collectors. When ordering these back issues or booklets please mail a check in advance with your order allowing for the postage. Any excess will be refunded. It will save you time and get your orders filled faster if this procedure is followed.

One problem we have is reading foreign names and addresses. If you wonder why you haven't heard from us it is probably that we don't know where to write to you. Please always print or type your name and address in your letter, and to be assured of a speedy reply, enclose a self addressed

envelope. If you want to exchange shells around the world drop us a line but be sure the name and address is legible.

If you want to buy shells and/or sell shells (and many members keep writing us in this category) you can put a small ad in the shell news at our regular rates now in effect which are \$5 for single issues, \$25 for six months and \$50 for one year.

If you write us a letter wanting to exchange (that's free), but to sell or buy please enclose the proper amount. If you want a list of dealers consult the previous HSN issues, or other shell papers.

When a new member joins the society we also send him all back issues from Nov. to the month he joins as our year runs from Nov. of one year to Oct. of the next. All members joining now through Oct. of this year will receive the back issues from Nov. on. If you didn't get your issues on time wait don't write immediately. 3rd class mail is slow getting out of Hawaii by boat or plane, depending on space available, and it can take 2 months to reach Australia and Africa. If, after a long period of time you haven't received your issues, then by all means write.

If you change your address you must notify us and enclose a check for one dollar to cover the cost of a new addressograph plate. You must notify us because our issues are not forwarded to your new address.

\* I hope this answers many of your questions and that you will refer to this article when you want to order something from us. We are a nonprofit society, our officers are not paid for their work and some must work long hours for your benefit. You can help us to serve you better by following the procedures listed above.

Mahalo and Aloha (Thank you and best wishes.)

### YOUNGEST MEMBER?

Laurie Sanderson of 4502 Sierra Drive, Honolulu is, we believe, our youngest active member. Laurie is six years old, attends the first grade at Punahou School and started collecting shells when she was four while her family were living in Pakistan.

Laurie thoroughly enjoyed the recent Shell Fair particularly the underwater movie "The Silent World".

### A NOTE ON *Latiaxis fearnleyi*

by ANTHONY D'ATTILIO

In my recent paper on the genus *Latiaxis* Jousseume in the January, 1965 issue of the Hawaiian Shell News, I have illustrated in Figs. 2, 3 a *Latiaxis* sps.?, from Cooktown, Queensland, Australia. Following the publication of this paper in the HSN there appeared in the Nautilus, Vol. 78, No. 3, 1965, pp 101-103 the description of this hitherto unrecognized species of *Latiaxis*. Incidentally, the illustration in the HSN is of the Holotype. The title of the paper in the Nautilus is: A New *Latiaxis* From The Western Pacific (Muricidae) by William K. Emerson and Anthony D'Attilio. The name of the new species is *Latiaxis (Babelomurex) fearnleyi*.

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## 1965 Hawaiian Shell Fair October 23—November 6

The Society is fortunate indeed. When hope for a fair site and a chairman for the 1965 Shell Fair had almost been abandoned, both materialized as if by magic. Mrs. Evelyn Gage discovered that the old National Dollar Store in Honolulu (corner of S. King and Fort Streets) was available at no cost to the Society. Then Mrs. Mary Eleanor King, an experienced "hand" at chairing Shell Fairs, returned to Hawaii after six months' absence and volunteered her services as chairman.

Although there are some obvious objections to the "downtown location" for our Fair, these we think are offset by the more numerous good points:

- (1) There is no rental fee. Our only cost will be for utilities in the building, an insurance policy and some minor painting and carpentry work.
- (2) The National Dollar Store is on a very busy intersection. Attractive window displays should lure numerous pedestrians into the building.
- (3) We can begin setting up our displays immediately.
- (4) There is a room, made-to-order, for our moving pictures.
- (5) There are two parking lots close by.

### EXHIBITS AND DISPLAYS

Without these there is no Shell Fair. Therefore, we urge EVERYONE to participate. Please telephone Mariel King IMMEDIATELY at 775-329 and tell her what kind of an exhibit you plan to set up and the space you will require. Display cases are available. After you have phoned her then fill out the Entry Blank enclosed with this issue and mail it to Mrs. Mary Eleanor King, 5045 Maunalani Circle, Honolulu, Hawaii 96816.

## SPECIAL MEETINGS EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT FROM 6:30 ON AT NATIONAL DOLLAR STORE CORNER OF S. KING & FORT STREETS

Join the BUCKET BRIGADE. We must clean the floor, display cases, cabinets, and windows at the National Dollar Store. Bring buckets, cleaning cloths, mops, brooms, and all those cleaners, soaps, and floor and window polishes that you bought and don't like but hate to throw away.

If you can use carpenters tools come prepared to do some repair and alterations by bringing some tools, nails and screws.

Join the WORKSHOP and help prepare things to be sold at the Fair. Bring shells you want to donate to the club. If you have saleable ideas let us know about them. Small boxes can be used for shell collections and bags can be used for shell purchases - bring these if you can.

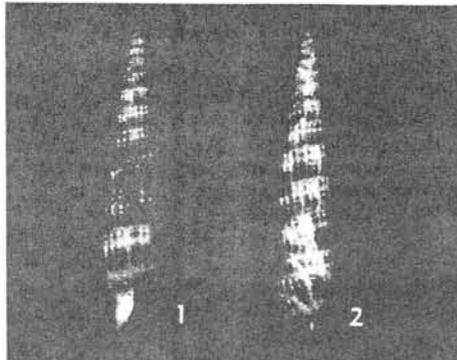
Come dressed for work with old clothes and gloves.

If you can't come to these Friday night meetings but want to help at some other time volunteer your time at the October 6 Club Meeting at the Aquarium.

Parents should be cautioned not to bring young children along because, until repairs have been made, the area has many hazards such as "dark stair wells", boards with protruding nails, etc., etc.

Let's make this year's Fair the best ever by giving it your wholehearted support. For further information phone Evelyn Gage at 247-239 or Bill Christensen at 567-547.

## Unidentified Hawaiian Auger



Photos - Weaver

Actual Size

Figs. 1 & 2 represent two views of an undetermined species of *Terebra* which may prove to be new to science. It was dredged from deep water (900 feet) by Mrs. Mary Eleanor King's "1963 Pele Expedition" off Waikiki, Oahu on a sand-mud bottom.

The presutural revolving cord on each whorl is bisected by longitudinal ribbing (about 22 ribs on penultimate whorl). Three rather strong revolving striae (grooves) connect these ribs giving the surface of the shell a clathrated (lattice like) appearance.

The specimen measures 21 mm in length and is light brown in color with an off-white band appearing just below the suture of each whorl.

## PUBLICATION REVIEW

by EDWIN H. BRYAN, JR.

Two books on mollusks have been added recently to the library of the Pacific Scientific Information Center at Bishop Museum. They are Van Nostrand's Standard Catalog Of Shells, and Cone Shells Of The World, by J. A. Marsh, illustrated by O. H. Rippingale.

The first, edited by Robert J. L. Wagner and R. Tucker Abbott, is built along the lines of the numerous Webb catalogs. They state in the preface that this "first edition has been limited in scope purposely, since an undertaking of this magnitude will take several years to develop and establish itself as an indispensable tool for conchologists. We have attempted to complete in this edition a few of the very popular groups," such as the cones, cowries, volutes, vases, slit shells and conchs, with a sampling of others. The help of the Hawaiian Malacological Society is acknowledged in a list of two dozen organizations and museums.

The arrangement of the main listings is systematic - families, genera, species. Each species is preceded by a number made up of five digits, which stands for it, and is used in indicating the illustration. There are about 300 illustrations, black and white drawings and 30 in color on the cover. The classification follows the revisions made by Thiele, Wenz, and Moore. Some world size records are noted, with sources, and here Clifton S. Weaver is listed for Hawaii. Regional "quick lists" are given, alphabetically by genus and species, with values, for eastern North American, Western North American, and Caribbean seashells. There is a list of shell clubs throughout the world, and an alphabetical index.

The matter of values has perhaps received the most criticism. They are listed in two columns: the first premium (highest) value for a perfect specimen; the second, the lowest value for a moderately good to fair specimen, the minimum price set is one cent each. The editors explain that these values have been arrived at as a compromise between three factors: the relative abundance and accessibility in nature, the relative desirability among collectors, and the sales records in numerous dealer's price lists and auction records. As in the case of stamp and coin catalogs, these amounts give some idea as to relative values.

"Cone Shells Of The World" is a handsomely prepared volume "covering most of the readily available" of the 500 species of the world, illustrated by 22 colored plates, 459 separate illustrations. The arrangement is by subgenera, with a diagnosis of each, based on distinctive shell character, form and texture. About 416 species are indexed. A foreword by Alan J. Kohn cautions the reader that the classification of cone shells is far from completely stable and that much remains to be learned. Advice is given on the handling of live cone specimens. A bibliography of 70 papers is given. O.H. Rippingale's colored illustrations are excellent and these combined with the notes and diagnoses by J.A. Marsh should make it possible to identify typical examples of these 416 species. Common names are omitted.