

The Goby

San Diego Underwater Photographic Society

Volume 65 Issue 7

Established 1961 - <http://www.sdups.org>

July 2026

President's Message

Hello SDUPS Members and Friends,

Wow — can you believe we're already halfway through the year? I hope everyone is enjoying their summer and getting into the water. With this being an El Niño year, the ocean is warmer than usual, so getting out to enjoy our beaches and the underwater world should be easy and inviting.

The first half of 2026 has been a strong one for SDUPS. We've increased our visibility, welcomed new members, and continued to build momentum. Great job to everyone who has helped make that happen.

Our monthly competitions have been outstanding across all categories. Thank you to everyone who has submitted images — and a special shout out to our Novice photographers, who have really been stepping up their game. I love seeing that growth.

As we move into the second half of the year, I want to encourage all members who can to volunteer for the events we still have ahead. These events rely heavily on member participation. Without volunteers, we fall short and place too much burden on the same few people who consistently step forward. SDUPS truly needs your help.

We have three more events scheduled before we close out 2026, and I would love to see some new faces involved. Volunteering is a great way to support the club, connect with the community, and be part of what makes SDUPS special.

If you have the time, please consider signing up for one of the remaining events this year. Your involvement makes a real difference.

Thank you, James Logan - SDUPS, President



SDUPS online **Hybrid Zoom Meeting, July 23** 7 pm. Join us to see old friends and enjoy an U/W presentation.

- * Download the Zoom app to your computer (<https://zoom.us/download>) or
- * Click on the Link below
- * Meeting ID number: 859 403 9607
- * Meeting Password: SDUPS1961



<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8594309607?pwd=UEJtUG0rczl3bEhOcW15LzlydlZJdz09>



This issue of the Goby is coming to you from the great state of Maine. Home to Moose, Deer, and two claw Lobsters.

CALENDAR

July 23 – 7 pm SDUPS Hybrid Meeting at Sumner Auditorium (Map page 9)

July Competition Winners

Pages 2 & 3

July Presentation – Bret Eldridge, Photographing U/W Wrecks - Page 4

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July Competition

David Hinkel – 1st Place Advanced



"Big, Bright & Sunny"

Greg Volger – 2nd Place Advanced



Amy Baldwin-Granger – 2nd Place Advanced



Paula Selby – 3rd Place Advanced



Matthias Scheer - 1st Place Amateur



Jennifer Riggan - 2nd Place Amateur



July Competition

"Big, Bright & Sunny"

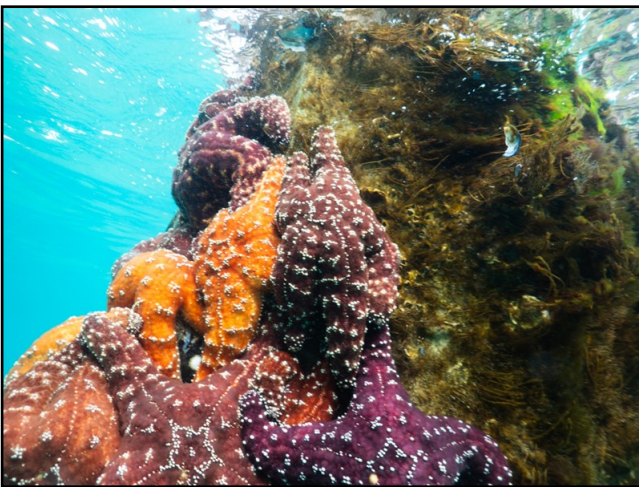
Tom Baker - 3rd Place Amateur



Susan Scheer – 1st Place Novice



Diane Hotz– 2nd Place Novice



Maxine Baker - 3rd Place Novice



Video Competition July

1st Place - **Kristin Carner**

2nd Place - **Bob Yin**

3rd Place - **Matthias Scheer**



Stats for the July Competition:

Big, Bright & Sunny

Still Entries:

Novice = 6

Amateur = 8

Advanced = 11

Videos = 6

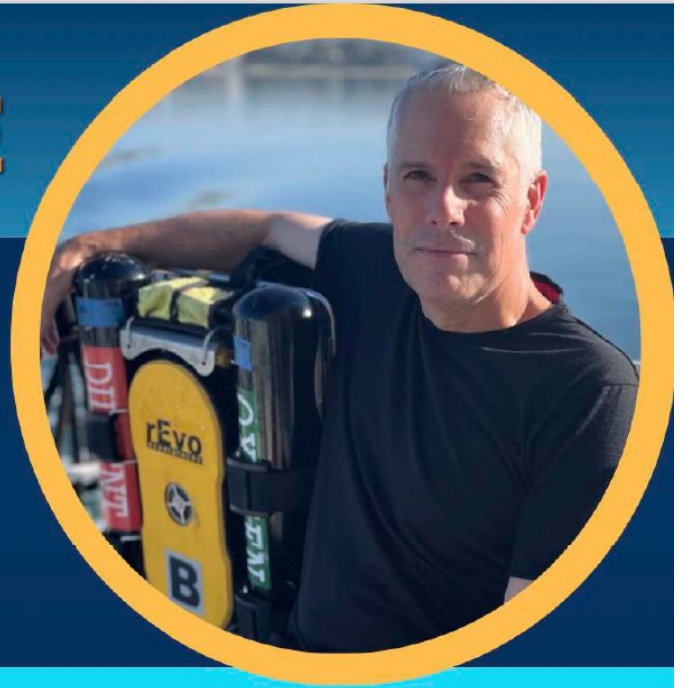
Votes Cast = ?



BRETT ELDRIDGE

Presenting "Exploring & Photographing Deep Wrecks"

July 23, 2026, 7:15 pm
at Sumner Auditorium
Scripps Campus



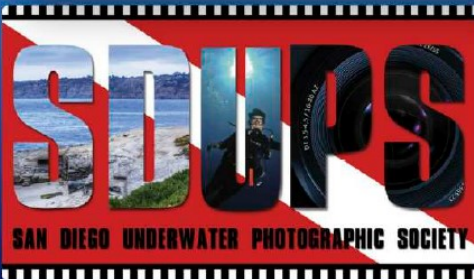
Locating a deep wreck is hard enough — identifying it can be harder still, and photographing it pushes everything to the limit. This presentation dives into the real challenges of finding, identifying, and photographing deep wrecks — ships and planes alike — drawn from actual discoveries made off Southern California within the past five years.

We'll break down what makes deep wreck photography so unforgiving: near-total darkness, brutal time limits imposed by depth, and the physical challenge of capturing wide-angle images that push dive and camera equipment to their limits. Techniques and real photographs from wrecks as deep as 400 feet (120m) will illustrate how these obstacles are overcome — and what it actually takes to bring images like these back from the deep.

Brett grew up in San Pedro and has lived in California most of his life, spending 20+ years in the Bay Area cybersecurity industry before moving back to the Laguna Beach area 10 years ago to dive deeper — literally — into his passion for wrecks.

A technical rebreather (Revo) diver, Brett has spent the past 6 years working with a close group of friends to find and identify new wrecks in Southern California, with roughly 20 identified to date. His wreck diving has taken him around the world — including Antarctica, Bikini Atoll, Croatia, the Solomon Islands, and a 400-foot dive on the Britannic in the Aegean — and in 2024 he was part of the first dive team to visit the USCGC McCulloch, a 300-foot wreck off Point Conception undived since its loss in 1917. Brett won the 2023 Underwater Photographer of the Year for the Wreck Category for his photogrammetry image of a local F8F Bearcat wreck that he helped find and identify, and his work has been featured on Discovery's Expedition Unknown and in the San Diego Union-Tribune. He joined The Explorers Club in 2021 as a Member National.

He is currently working on a book, "Echoes of Wings Forgotten", about aviation wrecks in Southern California from WWII to the Cold War, and writes about his wreck dives and explorations at wreckedinmyrevo.com.



SDUPS Club Meeting - June 25th

The June SDUPS meeting was attended by 25 plus members and guests in house , and 9 online. President **James Logan**, opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.

First on the evenings agenda was "Show & Tell". Images from the Long Beach SCUBA show were presented. James talked about how successful he thought the presence of SDUPS paid off for our club. Many attendees asked questions about our club and at least one person is now a member.

Second "Show & Tell" was the meeting of Photographic Clubs from the San Diego area at the SD County Fairgrounds. SDUPS club members were very impressed with the number of clubs and members present. Again, events like this, give exposure to our club.

James then introduced our guest speaker for the evening, **Walter Marti**. Walter is a club member, an award winning video producer, and a professional underwater videographer. Walter's presentation was to introduce the club to the video editing software, "DaVinci Resolve". The program comes in two versions, a free program and a paid pro version. Walter stated that the free version can do just about anything the average editor wants or needs to do. He gave us many examples on how the program allows you to improve your videos. Anything from audio editing, to col-



or correction, and much more.

Walter said that

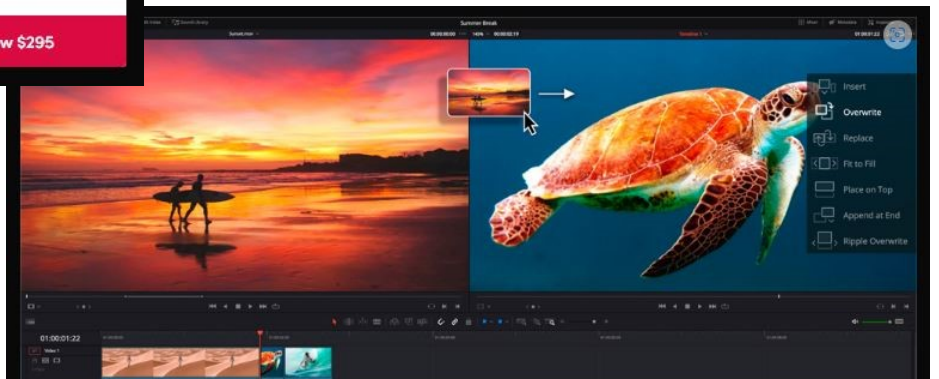
there is a learning curve but there is a ton of tutorial videos on You Tube. Thank you Walter for a very informative and educational presentation.



Software	
 DaVinci Resolve 21 Hollywood's most popular solution for editing, visual effects, motion graphics, color correction and audio post production, for Mac, Windows and Linux. Now supports Blackmagic Cloud for collaboration! Free Free Download Now	 DaVinci Resolve Studio 21 The most powerful DaVinci Resolve adds DaVinci Neural Engine for automatic AI region tracking, stereoscopic tools, more Resolve FX filters, more Fairlight FX audio plugins and advanced HDR grading. \$295 Buy Online Now \$295

It was time for our intermission and as usual, **Cindy Liphay**, did a fabulous job. Thank you Cindy.

We finished out the evening with the June competition winners. The theme was Nudibranchs and club members entered some very beautiful colorful images. James made a few announcements about the club's Photo exhibit at the La Jolla Library, and the planning of the club picnic.

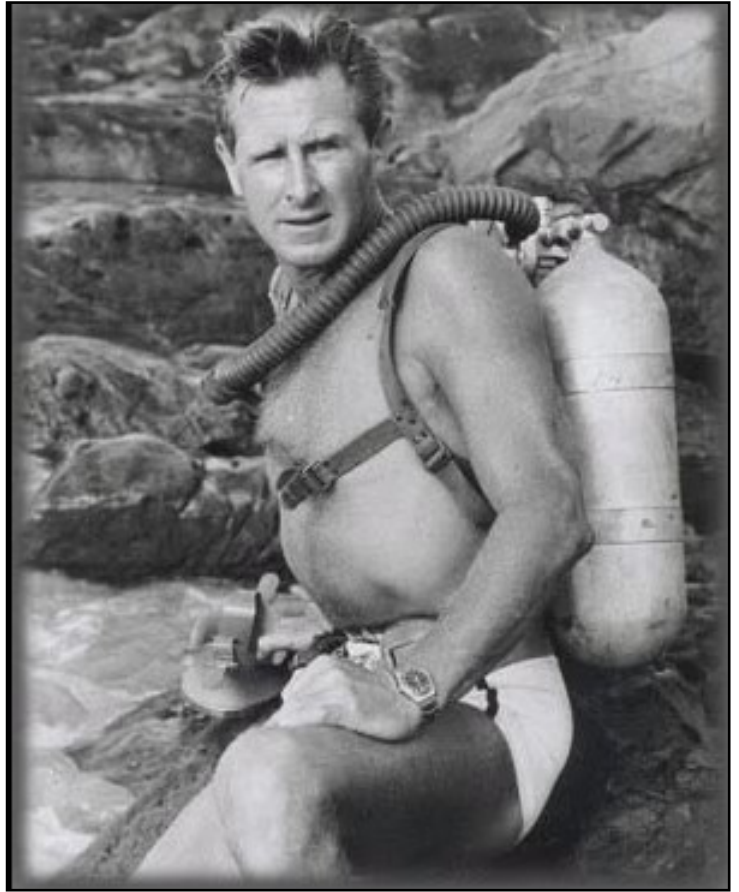


How did you become interested in Diving?

As the star of the pioneering television series, 'Sea Hunt' (in which he played the role of 'Mike Nelson', a former navy diver turned underwater explorer) veteran actor, **Lloyd Bridges** - who died in March 1998 - was required to take a crash course in scuba diving taught by the legendary diving beauty, **Zale Parry**.

During more than 150 episodes of the weekly television series - first screened in 1958 - the Mike Nelson character battled the bends and embolisms; decimated the Great White Shark population; pillaged sunken wrecks; plunged to hitherto unheard of depths with new diving equipment; and kept the oceans of the 'free' world safe from underwater saboteurs and spies - usually by slicing through their air hoses with a knife during the rough and tumble of hand-to-hand underwater combat.

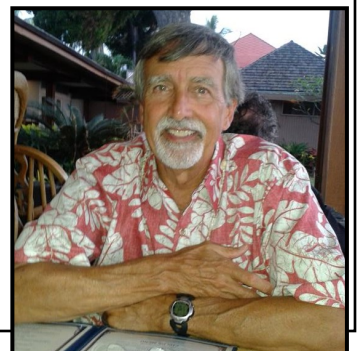
Together with the documentary films and television series produced by **Hans Hass** and **Jacques Cousteau**, 'Mike Nelson' (played by Lloyd Bridges) became an instrumental figure in popularizing scuba diving during the late 'fifties and early 'sixties.



I remember watching "Sea Hunt" when I was about sixteen years old. In fact I actually took pictures of the TV screen when the show was on. My cousin & I were snorkeling at the time so it was exciting to see someone breathing underwater. A friend and his dad asked if we wanted to try SCUBA at one of the lakes in Maine where I grew up. I can remember to this day how exciting it was to actually be breathing underwater. By my senior year in high school (1964), I had a tank with a "J" valve and a two hose regulator. I dove for about four years, then joined the navy, and then started a family. Diving took a back seat until 1996 and I got back into it after a Caribbean cruise to Cozumel. The rest is history.

How did you get into diving?

Mike Poirier - Goby Editor



San Diego Underwater Photographic Society

Presents

“IN THE OCEAN”



July 5, 2026 to September 6, 2026

La Jolla Riford Library

7555 Draper Ave., La Jolla, Ca 92037

Come Meet the Photographers • July 18, 2026 • 3 - 5 pm



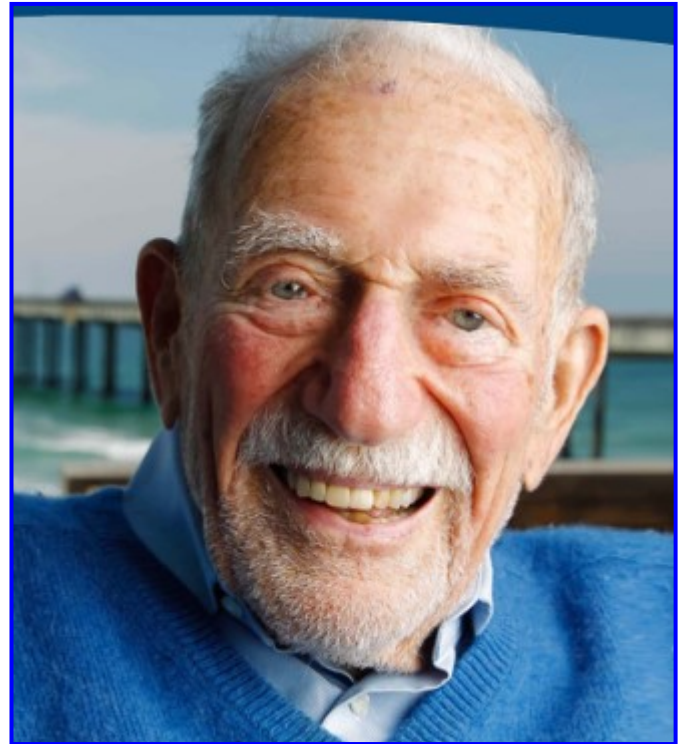


HISTORY

Based in La Jolla, California and established in 2017, The Walter Munk Foundation for the Oceans was founded by Walter and Mary Munk to continue Walter's legacy of daring exploration and discovery in the field of oceanography.

Through the Foundation, Walter Munk established partnerships with leading researchers in Baja California, Mexico working to understand and protect the vulnerable *M. munkiana* species of ray — named after Walter. Walter and Mary also selected Lake Altaussee, Austria to begin comprehensive long-term studies with leading Austrian researchers about the lake's history, geology, ecology and response to climate change.

Following Walter's death in 2019 at the age of 101, the scientists and educators at WMFO continue Walter's legacy of education and outreach. Today the Walter Munk Foundation for the Ocean supports the enduring programs Walter and Mary started, with a renewed focus for developing engaging, exciting and impactful ocean science and education initiatives. Join us!



SDUPS has once again been invited to participate in **Walter Munk Day** on Saturday, October 3rd, 2026, at La Jolla Shores

We're calling for volunteers to help us:

- Welcome guests and share what SDUPS is all about
- Represent the club at our booth
- Talk with families, students, and ocean lovers
- Help inspire the next generation of underwater photographers
- Support the event team with light setup and community engagement



If you can volunteer for a shift or stay for the full event, we'd love to have you.

Every hour helps. Every smile helps. Every conversation helps.

Contact SDUPS Club President, **James Logan** or V.P. **Paula Selby** if you would like to help out.....



Sumner Auditorium Parking Map

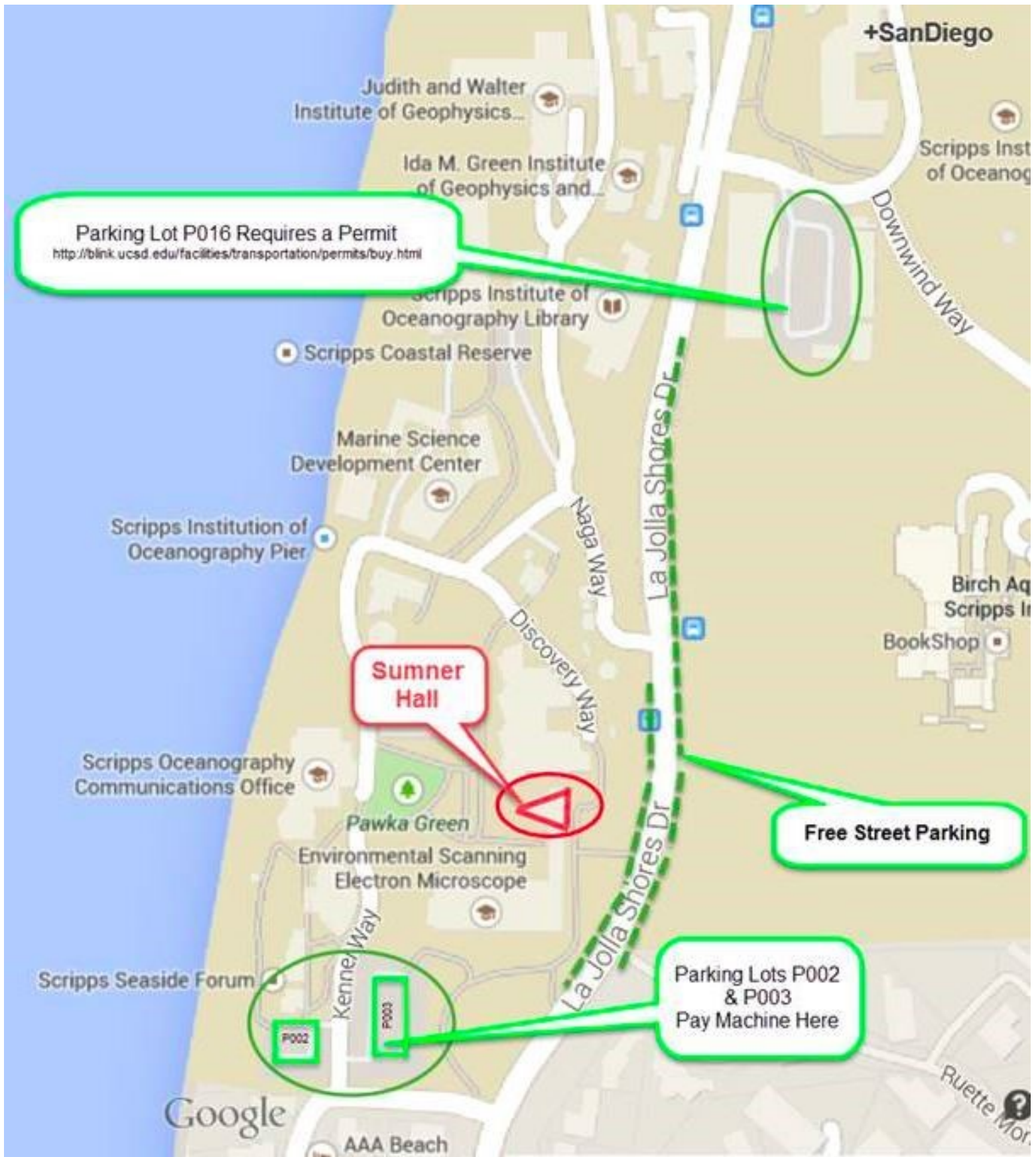
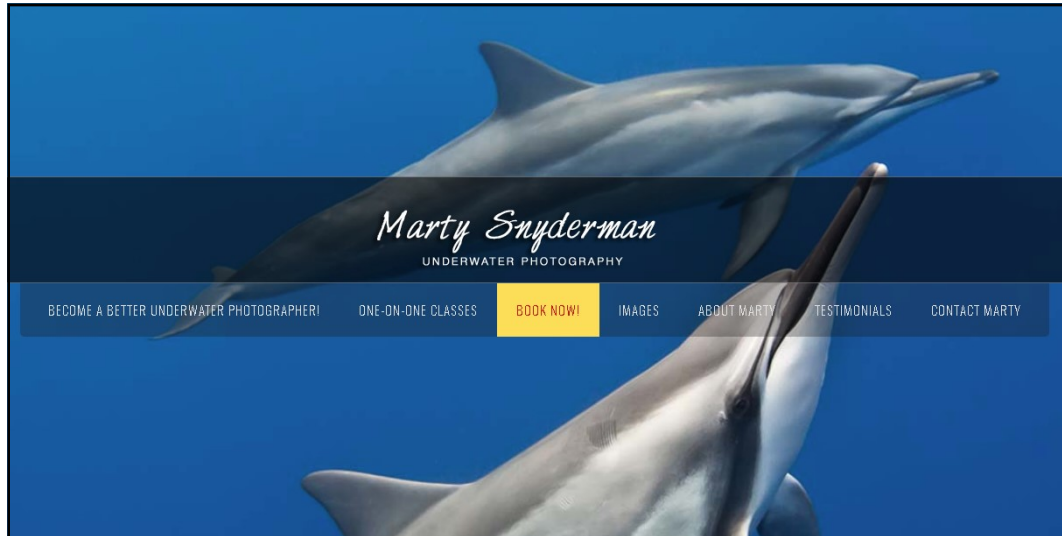


Photo Classes

One-on-one online classes in underwater photography with **Marty Snyderman** Classes are scheduled at your convenience and customized to match your goals 20% of the class fees are donated to SDUPS



BECOME A BETTER UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHER! Underwater photography is a learned skill. So, you might as well learn from the best, an excellent photographer that is also an excellent teacher. Your instructor, Marty Snyderman, is that person.

When taking classes from Marty, you will receive one-on-one instruction as you review your images, discuss ways to improve your underwater photography, refine the techniques you are using, and learn new techniques, concepts, and skills that will help you create the photographs you want to make. The sessions center around techniques and are not tied to any particular make, model, or type of camera or camera system that can be used to make still photographs underwater.

Sharing a session with Marty is also a great way to re-fresh your photography skills before your next diving vacation. If you only get to dive a few times a year, during your next trip you are likely to spend a few days relearning and refreshing your skills. A session or two with Marty before your trip can turn the frustration and lost time from having to relearn into fun dives and pleasing photographs.

How It All Works The one-on-one program is completely customizable to your knowledge, skill level, and personal goals. Marty will use Zoom software to work with you. He has licensed a version of the software that enables the two of you to keep the sessions private.

During each session, Marty will share his expertise and help you gain a better understanding of various factors involved in underwater photography, and he will suggest techniques for you to employ that can help you improve your underwater photography. Each session can be up to 60 minutes long. The cost for a session is \$65.00 U.S. Any additional time that you will not be charged for is provided at Marty's discretion or through the purchase of another session.

For more information on Marty's Classes, click on the link: www.martysnyderman.com

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San Diego's #1 family-owned dive center for training, gear & travel.

15% OFF

Show this coupon at checkout for 15% OFF in store purchases for SDUPS members only. Exclusions apply, call store for details.



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House of Scuba
5141 Santa Fe St. Ste A
San Diego, California 92109

House of Scuba is offering members a 5% discount on most gear at the store and it will also be giving members a 5 fill air or 3 nitrox fill card. Air cards are not transferrable, so if members do not dive locally and therefore can't use the air card, they can still take advantage of the 5% discount on already guaranteed best prices. A list of members will be kept at the store for the air cards. www.houseofscuba.com

All Natural Insect Repellent

Lita's All Natural Insect Repellent products are proven effective worldwide in preventing, and treating, insect bites with natural ingredients and applications last approximately 6 hours. Lita's All Natural also offers insect repellent candles in a variety of scents.

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Our Products

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- Natural Insect Repellent Candles

.Contact info: NoSeeUmNoMore@aol.com



BACKSCATTER
UNDERWATER VIDEO & PHOTO

Go to: <https://www.backscatter.com/>



Competition Themes For 2026

Month	Topic Name	Description	Bonus
January	Best of 2025	Select your favorite underwater footage from 2025	Tell why you chose this entry (use note field in submission form)
February	Popping Up/Out	In honor of Groundhog Day, composition with subject(s) popping up/out of a hole or from behind a barrier	More than one subject together
March	Behavior - Different Species	Composition that shows different species interacting in same way	Shows a symbiotic relationship (a close & recurring interaction, beneficial to at least one partner)
April	New Beginnings	Showcase eggs, newborns, or juveniles	Vertebrate subject(s) - fish
May	Attention to Detail	Examples include tiny subjects, close-ups of large subjects or other artistic intention that emphasizes details	Repeating pattern/texture
June	Sea Slugs	Any marine gastropod without a shell - Nudibranchs, Sear Hares, Sapsuckers, Headshield Slug, etc.	Provide the common or scientific name (use note field in submission form)
July	Big, Bright & Sunny	Wide angle Composition with prominent light	Ambient light only
August	Shooting the Surface	Subject is on the surface (boat, swimmer, bird, etc.) footage shot from your perspective. Over/under, silhouettes, or similar	Sky is visible
September	Leafy	Animals resembling vegetation (such as sponges, tunicates, anemones, pipefish, seahorses, sea dragons)	Autumn colors –strong use of red, orange, and/or yellow
October	Spooky	Open to your interpretation. Examples: “dark & stormy”, compositions or a scene that is scary for other reasons.	Shows something not alive (dead animal remains or inanimate objects such as wrecks)
November	Photoshopped	Creative editing/manipulation using digital programs such as PhotoShop. No restrictions. “Your entry must include your underwater work somewhere in the composition, Anything else used must be royalty/copyright free.	Add a title (use note field in submission form) Can be creative or humorous

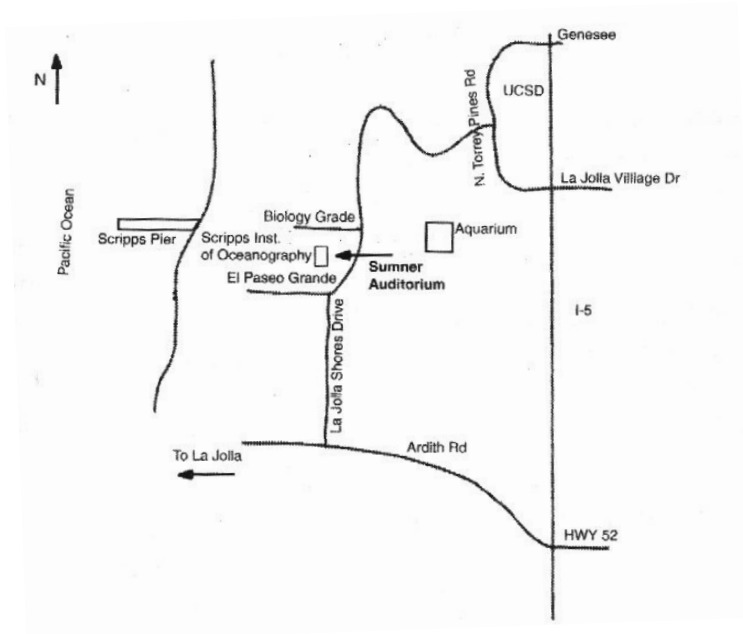
Monthly Meetings

Usually the fourth Thursday of each month
7:00pm
(No meeting in December)

Sumner Auditorium
Scripps Institute of Oceanography 8602
La Jolla Shores Drive
La Jolla, CA 92037

For more information
check the SDUPS web page

<http://www.sdups.org>



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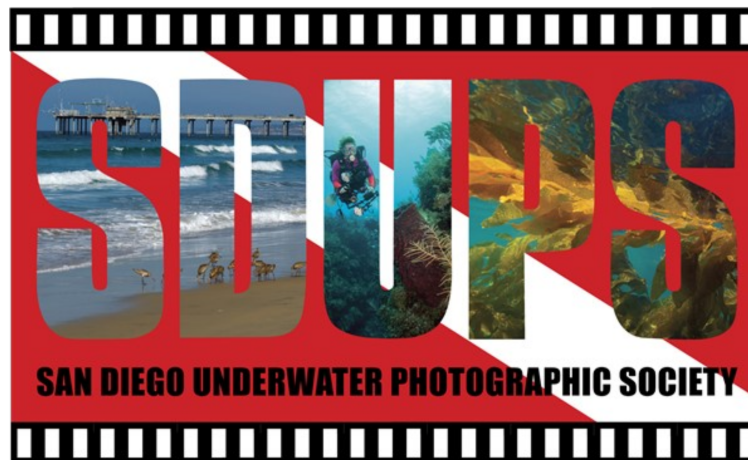
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Kris Carner - Social Media
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