

# The Goby

San Diego Underwater Photographic Society

Volume 65 Issue 3

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

March 2026

## *President's Message*

Hello Everyone,

I hope you're all staying cool out there and of course, we know the best way to beat the heat is to get underwater.

The rising temperatures are also a reminder that we're heading into our busy event season. Last year was packed with activities, and every single one of them was fun, successful, and safe because of you — our generous members who show up, pitch in, and make things happen.

I want to take a moment to talk about volunteering for SDUPS and the events ahead. There's no question: our events simply wouldn't be possible without our volunteers. Your time, energy, and enthusiasm are what keep this club thriving.

Volunteering isn't just about helping the club — it's also a chance to build new friendships, share experiences, and create memories that last long after the event is over.

So, as we head into another exciting season, I hope you'll consider joining our volunteer squad. Your support makes all the difference, and without it, these events become harder to put on.

Thank you for everything you do for SDUPS. Let's make this year another great one.

**James Logan** - SDUPS President



SDUPS online **Hybrid Zoom Meeting, March 26** 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

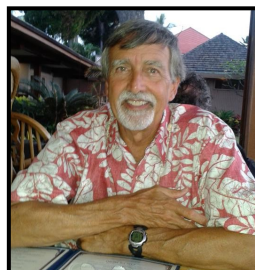
\* Meeting Password: SDUPS1961



<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8594309607?pwd=UEJtUG0rczI3bEhOcW15LzlydlZldz09>

## **Editor's Note**

I will be on a Drive Trip to the Philippines with other members of SDUPS for most of the month of April. Hopefully I will have internet service to be able to get the Goby out before the April Meeting. I will do my best to keep everyone informed of Club News. Goby Editor - **Mike Poirier**



## **CALENDAR**

March 26 – 7 pm SDUPS Hybrid Meeting at Sumner Auditorium (Map page 11)

March Competition Winners Pages 2 & 3

Presentation: **Charlotte Seid** - Deep Sea Biodiversity - Page 4

February Meeting - Page 5

**Elwyn Gates** Tribute—Page 6

Classified Ads - Pages 7 & 8

SDUPS Membership Form Page 9

SCUBA Show - Page 9

San Diego County Fair Photo Competition info - Page 10

# March Competition

## "Behavior - Different Species"

**Bob Yin** – 1st Place Advanced



**Jack Der** – 1st Place Advanced



**Harold Dorr** – 1st Place Advanced



**Mike Poirier** – 2nd Place Advanced



**Mike Couffer** – 3rd Place Advanced



**Doug Bonhaus** - 1st Place Amateur



# March Competition

## "Behavior - Different Species"

**Charlotte Seid** - 2nd Place Amateur



**Matthias Scheer** - 3rd Place Amateur



**Jerald Pratt** - 1st Place Novice



**Victor Ramos** - 2nd Place Novice



**Diane Hotz** - 3rd Place Novice



**Greg Beadie** - 3rd Place Novice



### Video Competition March

- 1st Place - **Walter Marti**
- 2nd Place - **Kristin Carner**
- 3rd Place - **Bob Yin**

### Stats for the March Competition: Behavior - Different Species

- Still Entries:
- Novice = 9
- Amateur = 5
- Advanced = 12
- Videos = 9
- Votes Cast = 36



# DR. CHARLOTTE SEID

## Exploring Deep-Sea Life Beyond Scuba Depths

Presenting on  
**March 26, 2026**  
 7:15 pm at  
**Sumner Auditorium**  
**Scripps Campus**



The deep sea, far beyond the reach of scuba, is the largest habitat on our planet and home to amazing biodiversity. In this month's presentation, Charlotte Seid will discuss marine biology research from Scripps Institution of Oceanography at habitats such as whale falls, hydrothermal vents, and potential deep-sea mining zones. Meet some preserved invertebrate specimens and feel welcome to bring questions for an interactive discussion. Learn about deep-diving submersibles, life on research expeditions, current environmental issues, and how to describe a species new to science.



Dr. Charlotte Seid is a museum scientist at Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California San Diego. She manages the Benthic Invertebrate Collection, a repository of preserved seafloor specimens used for research and education around the world. Her work includes preserving and documenting voucher specimens to make them discoverable to the scientific community. Dr. Seid has contributed to 20 peer-reviewed scientific publications, including 17 descriptions of new species and a 250-page taxonomic inventory of invertebrates at methane seeps off Costa Rica. She has participated in 20 oceanographic cruises and has a background in molecular biology and marine research. She has spent more than 200 days at sea on research ships photographing, documenting, and preserving marine specimens.



## SDUPS February 26th Meeting

Our February SDUPS Meeting was attended by more than 30 members and guests at Sumner Auditorium, plus a few more on line. Our President **James Logan** welcomed everyone, presented the agenda for the evening and welcomed any guests.



First up was a “Show & Tell” presentation by **Alex Toh**. Alex had taken a dive trip to a not much traveled to destination, Pulau Weh Resort Indonesia, located on the island of Sumatra. Alex explained that the resort was very comfortable, good food, and nice rooms. He also shared images of the diving which included diving near a volcano which he said was like underwater “Yellowstone”. Fish life and corals were much in abundance. Thank you Alex for a great presentation.



Up next was our main presenter for the evening. James introduced **Andy Sallmon**. As you saw in last months Goby, Andy has been taking underwater images for many years with thousands of dives under his belt. His theme for the evening was “Underwater Strobe Tech”. The first part of his Tech Talk dealt with “High Speed Sync”. Cameras have a highest shutter speed that it will sync with the flash. Andy explained that with special equipment you can have higher sync speeds, which is a big benefit with fast moving subjects while controlling the background exposure.. Andy had example images and also the physical equipment on hand. He also went on to explain the ins & outs of “Thru the Lens Meeting” (TTL). This is when the camera communicates with the strobe and controls the flash duration. Andy said that TTL is perfect for macro subjects. Tips were: use a high f-stop to maintain DOF, use cameras highest sync speed and also that you can control TTL exposure by using Flash Exposure Compensation on the camera settings. One thing that was mentioned many times by Andy, was that TTL cannot add power. It was a very informative presentation. Thank you Andy for your time with us.



It was time for some refreshments and it was great to see **Cindy Lipthay** back after battling a bad cold. As usual, Cindy had a nice spread for us to munch on. Thank you Cindy.

James ended the evening by going over the winning images for the February Competition. The theme for February was “Popping out/up”. SDUPS members are very creative and use their imaginations to come up with images to fit the theme for the month. James announced the theme for March “Behavior - Different Species” and encouraged members to submit and vote for your favorite.



Poppin out image  
by **Jack Der**

## ***San Diegan Elwyn Gates***

### ***1936 - 2025***



The global diving and underwater imaging community is mourning the loss of Elwyn Gates, founder of Gates Underwater Products, whose innovations helped shape modern underwater cinematography and photography.

The company confirmed his passing in an official tribute published by Gates Underwater Products, describing Gates as a pioneer, inventor, husband, father, and a defining figure in the evolution of professional underwater camera systems. His work influenced decades of underwater filmmaking, exploration, and technical documentation across diving, science, and broadcast media.

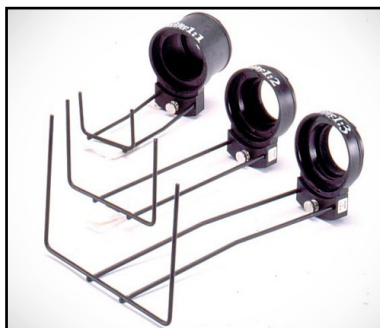
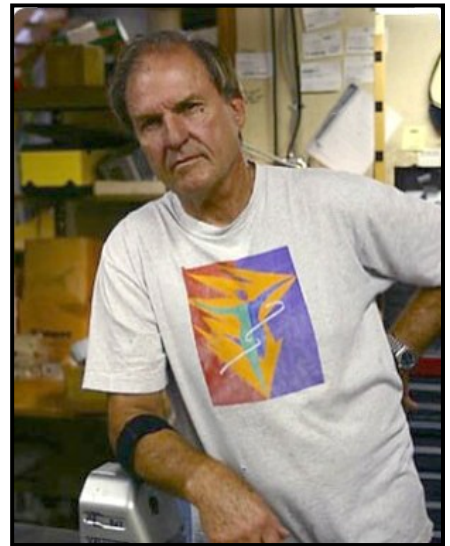
Elwyn Gates founded Gates Underwater Products in the late 1960s, at a time when underwater filming was still in its infancy. His designs focused on reliability, depth capability, and practical usability for working divers and filmmakers, long before digital systems became standard. Gates housings went on to be used extensively in documentary production, scientific research, and commercial underwater filming, earning a reputation for engineering precision and durability.

Over the years, Gates' equipment supported projects ranging from marine biology research to large-scale film and television productions, helping bring the underwater world to audiences far beyond the dive community. His emphasis on function over gimmicks earned him widespread respect among professionals who depended on their gear in demanding conditions.

In its tribute, Gates Underwater Products highlighted not only his technical achievements but also his personal legacy, noting his passion for the ocean and his commitment to advancing underwater imaging through thoughtful engineering rather than shortcuts or trends.

While Elwyn Gates may not have sought the spotlight, his influence is deeply embedded in the tools many professionals still rely on today. For generations of divers, filmmakers, and underwater explorers, his work helped make it possible to document the ocean with clarity, reliability, and respect.

The Scuba News extends its condolences to his family, friends, and the team at Gates Underwater Products. His legacy will continue every time a camera descends beneath the surface inside a housing designed with purpose and precision.



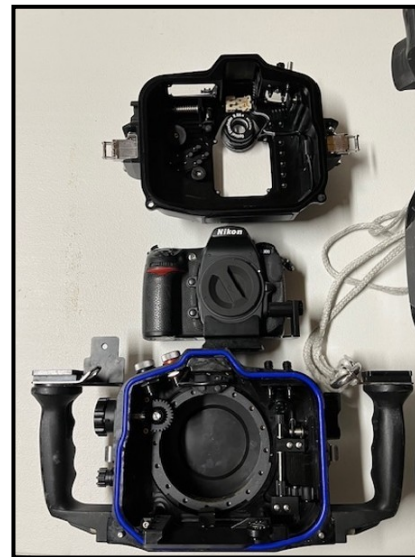
One of Elwyn Gates first products was the Nikonos Extension Tubes.

*Reprinted from "The SCUBA News"*

*the*  
**SCUBANEWS**  
For everything that is happening in the world of scuba

**CLASSIFIED AD****Underwater Camera Equipment For Sale****Contact Mario Kurn 760-814-7038**

- Pelican style hard case
- Sea & Sea housing
- 2 focus lights with mounting brackets
- 45 degree view finder
- Nikon D300 camera body
- Second Pelican style hard case
- Sea & Sea wide angle dome port
- 2 Inon strobes
- Arms for strobes
- Box with spare O-rings & misc. parts
- Sea & Sea macro port
- Nikon 12-24mm, 1:4 zoom lens
- Nikon 60mm, 1:2.8 micro lens
- Battery charger for D300 camera
- 3 batteries' for D300 camera
- Extra parts for strobe arms
- Manuals





**CLASSIFIED AD**

### PFI Basic Freediver

Ages 16+



### Activity details

This course consists of at-home study followed by a single weekend of classroom & in-water training.

Friday, April 10th - 5 PM - 9 PM - Classroom at House of Scuba

Saturday, April 11th - 10 AM - 2 PM - Pool

Saturday, April 11th - 3 PM - 7 PM - Classroom at House of Scuba

Sunday, April 12th - 8 AM - 1 PM - Open Water - Waterhorse Charters Mission Bay

Click Here: [PFI Freediver Course \(Basic\) – House of Scuba](#)



Thailand 2026 Double Cabin

\$4,125

Thailand 2026 Quad Cabin

\$3,225

Click Here: [Thailand Liveaboard 2026 in Chalong, Mueang Phuket District, Phuket, Thailand](#)



# 2026 MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION RENEWAL

- Single \$35   
  Family \$50   
  Student \$15 (21 & under)  
 New Member   
  This is an Address Correction

\_\_\_\_\_

Name 1

\_\_\_\_\_

Name 2

\_\_\_\_\_

Address

\_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone

\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address 1 (very important)

\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address 2

Please make checks payable to: **SDUPS**

Mail to:

**San Diego Underwater  
Photographic Society**  
**12525 Salmon River Rd**  
**San Diego, CA 92129**

Dues may also be paid  
online. Go to:  
**www.sdups.com**  
Click on the MEMBER-  
SHIP tab



Click on the Link Below



## SCUBA SHOW LONG BEACH 2026

Join us for two incredible days, **May 30–31, 2026**, celebrating the world of diving at the **Long Beach Convention Center!**

All tickets are **all-access** — enjoy the **exhibit hall, seminars, and workshops** with one pass.

- **Single Day – \$33:** Valid for **Saturday or Sunday**, with **unlimited re-entry**.
- **Weekend Pass – \$60:** Full access for both days.
- **VIP Pass – \$100:** Includes a weekend pass **plus** 6 issues of *Scuba Diver North America*, 6 issues of *California Diving News*, and a **Scuba Show T-shirt**. (Magazine Delivery US & Canada Residents Only)
- **Under 16s – Free!** Bring the family and let the kids dive into the fun with our **try-dive pool**.

**One ticket. Full access. Endless inspiration.**

[Long Beach Ticket 2026 – Scuba Show | One Show, Two Locations](#)



### YOUR PHOTOS ON DISPLAY

The **International Exhibition of Photography** invites photographers of all skill levels to participate in one of the most prestigious and long-standing photography competitions in the United States.

This juried exhibition celebrates the art of photography, fostering connections between photographers of all skill levels and photo enthusiasts. The competition offers more than \$23,000 in awards money for 35 diverse classes of original color and black-and-white photographs. While this is one of the San Diego County Fair's most prestigious and competitive exhibitions, you need not be a professional photographer to enter — there's even a class for cell phone photos!

Join us in celebrating the photographic arts and the awe-inspiring power of visual storytelling through the lens of the camera.

#### Photo Shoot-Outs

Capture the magic of the San Diego County Fair in a fast-paced Photo Shoot Out! Put your skills to the test, showcase your creativity, and impress the judges—all in just 90 minutes. Are you ready for the ultimate photography challenge? Mark your calendar now and plan to join in on one (or both!) of the two Photo Shoot outs below!

**Photo Shoot Out #1:** June 21, 2026

**Photo Shoot Out #2:** June 28, 2026

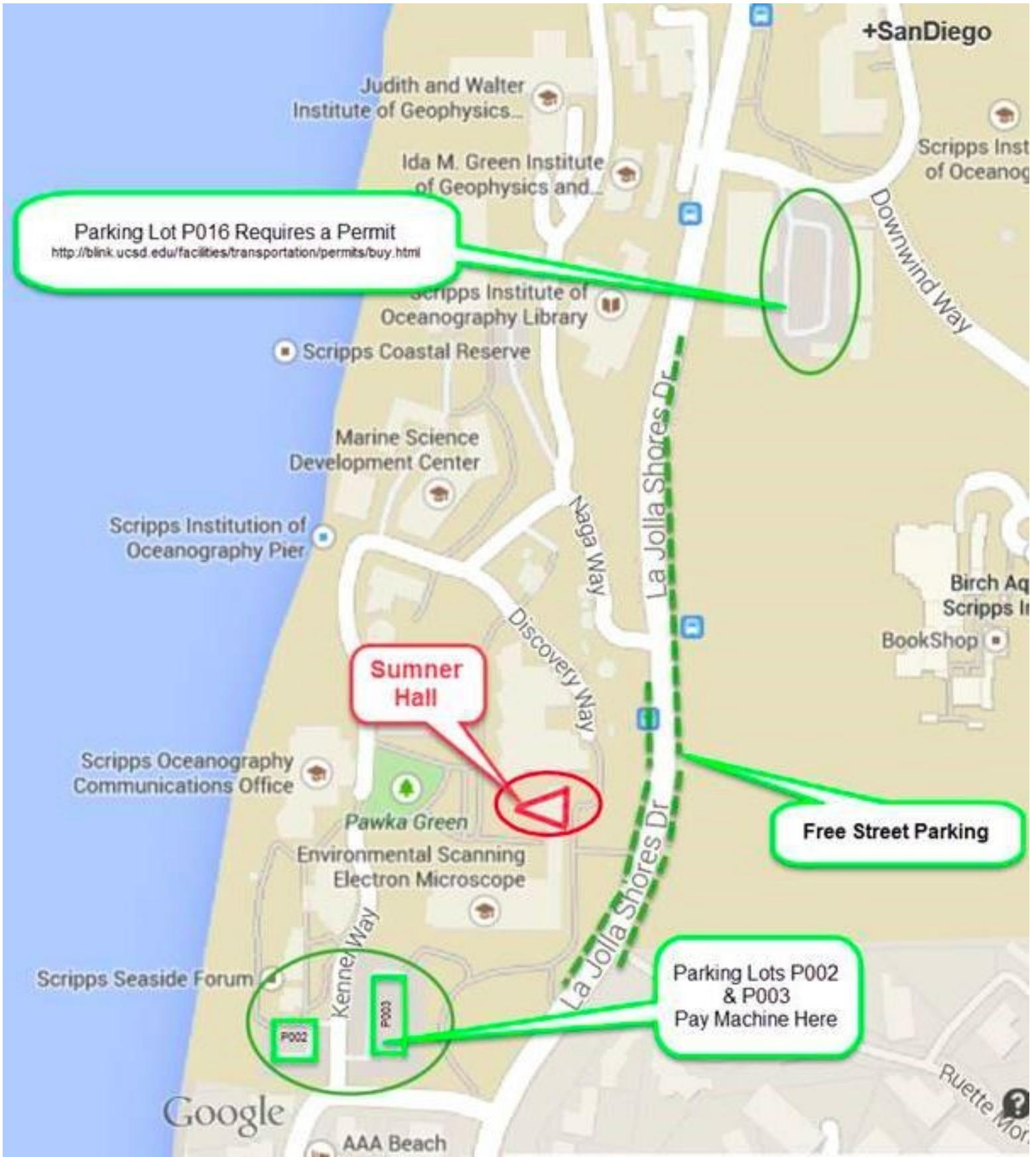
### COMPETITION TIMELINE

<b>Entry Deadline</b>	<b>Tuesday, April 7, 2026, by 8pm</b>
Tier 1 Notification Email	Wednesday, April 15, 2026
Shipped Entries May Arrive	Thursday, April 16–Tuesday, May 12, 2026
Entry Delivery	Monday, May 11, 2026, Noon–7pm and Tuesday, May 12, 2026, Noon–7pm
Fair Dates	Wednesday, June 10–Sunday, July 5 (closed Mondays and Tuesdays)
Artist Reception	Wednesday, June 10, 2026, 6:30pm
Judges' Roundtable	Saturday, June 13, 2026, 7-9pm
Judges' Critique	Saturday, June 20, 2026, 7-9pm
<b>Entry Pick-up</b>	<b>Tuesday, July 7, 2026, Noon–7pm</b>

Link to S. D. Fair Photography Competition:

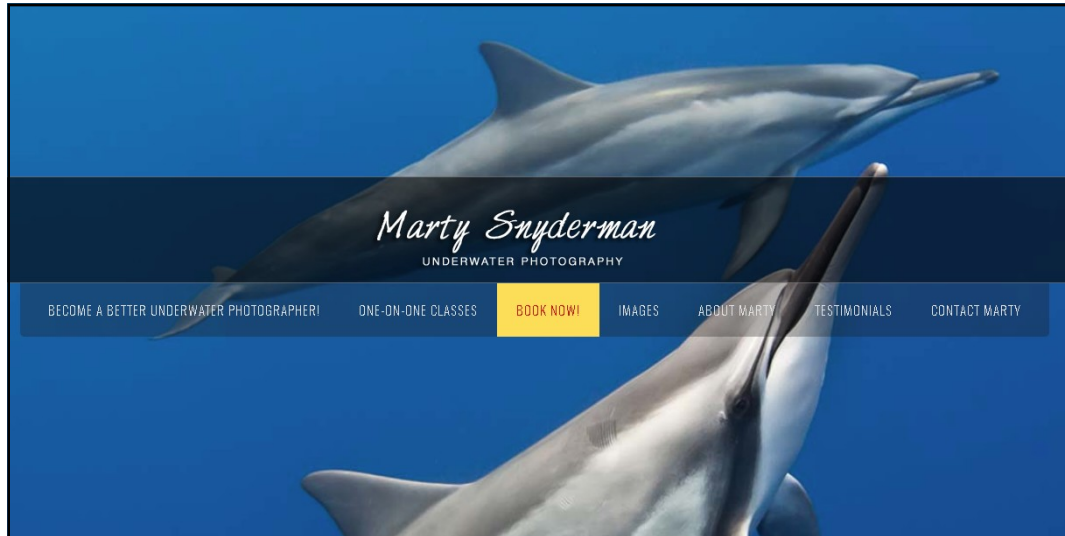
[San Diego County Fair International Exhibition of Photography: Competition Details & Entry Guide](#)

# 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 not 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](http://www.martysnyderman.com)

### SDUPS SPONSORS



**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.



**TRAVEL WITH US!**  
**OUR UPCOMING TRIPS**

 <p><b>TUBBATAHA</b> on the Philippines Aggressor II</p> <p>June 13 - 20, 2026 Starting at \$4,845</p>	 <p><b>SEA OF CORTEZ</b> on the Nautilus Belle Amie</p> <p>July 24 - 31, 2026 Starting at \$3,145</p>	 <p><b>PALAU</b> at the Palau Pacific Resort</p> <p>November 22 - 29, 2026 Starting at \$4,575</p>
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📞 (858) 565 - 6054
✉ info@oceanenterprises.com
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[www.oceanenterprises.com](http://www.oceanenterprises.com)

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## SDUPS SPONSORS

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](http://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.

Lita's products meet TSA requirements for carry-on or checked luggage. All containers are refillable and recyclable.

Receive a 15% discount with promo code SDUPS at: [www.LitasAllNatural.com](http://www.LitasAllNatural.com)

### Our Products

- Natural Insect Repellent (Yellow Label)
- 2-in-1 Natural Insect Repellent & Itch Relief (Green Label)
- 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)
April	New Beginnings	Showcase eggs, newborns, or juveniles	Vertebrate subject(s) - fish, reptile, bird, mammal)
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	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	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

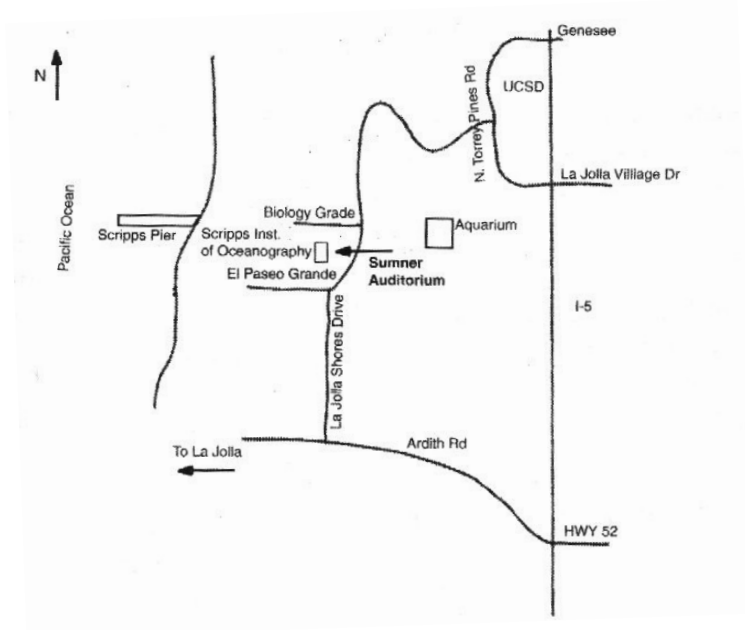
## Monthly Meetings

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>



## 2026 Board of Directors

### President

James Logan  
sdups1961@gmail.com

### Vice President

Paula Selby  
plselby@cox.net

### Secretary

Dick Miller  
rngr900@cox.net

### Treasurer

Bill Ring  
wring@san.rr.com

### Membership

Harold Dorr  
blueox25@gmail.com

### Activities

Cindy Liphay  
cindyliphay@sbcglobal.net

### Board Members at Large:

Herb Gruenhagen  
Greg Volger  
Jami Feldman  
Beth Besom

### Appointed Positions

SIO Liaison - Charlotte Seid  
Mike Poirier - Goby Editor  
Dave Hinkel - Equipment Tech  
Kris Carner - Web Master  
Kris Carner - Social Media  
Beth Beason - Computer Tech  
Walter Heim - Historian



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