

The Goby

San Diego Underwater Photographic Society

Volume 64 Issue 11

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

November 2025

President's Message

Happy Holidays SDUPS Members

I hope everyone is doing well.

Congratulation to everyone. It has been an amazing year and its all because of everyone in this amazing club.

Thank you to for the support, and your participation in all the club events. We have accomplished a lot this year. None of these events could have been successful without our members.

So now we get to close this great year with food, drinks, and of course amazing conversations at our Holiday party and celebrate our members.

So here to an amazing year and an even brighter future for our members and this amazing club.

See you at the Holiday Party

James Logan President, San Diego Underwater Photographic Society

www.sdups.org



SDUPS online **Hybrid Zoom Meeting, November 20th** 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

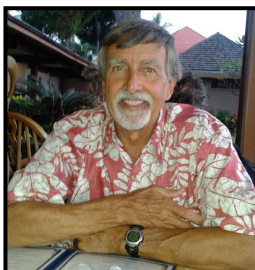
* Meeting ID number: 859 403 9607

* Meeting Password: SDUPS1961



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

Editors Note: Now that it's getting darker earlier, there was plenty of street parking for the October meeting. Now that we're back to Standard Time it is even be better. I encourage everyone to try and make it to an in person meeting at Sumner Auditorium. The presentations are great and informative, the camaraderie fantastic.



CALENDAR

NOTE: November Meeting one week early because of Thanksgiving

November 20th – 7 pm SDUPS Hybrid Meeting at Sumner Auditorium (Map page 9)

Presentation: - **Walter Heim** -
Tide Pool Photography - Page 4

SDUPS October Meeting - Page 5

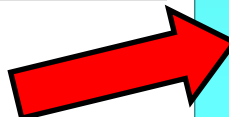
Special information - 7

SDUPS 2026 Dues Form - Page 8

SAVE THE DATE:

December 6th - Awards/Holiday Party

RSVP see page 6



November Competition

"Photo-Shopped"

Paula Selby – 1st Place Advanced



Greg Volger – 2nd Place Advanced



Jack Der – 2nd Place Advanced



Lois Miller – 3rd Place Advanced



Matt Wilbur - 1st Place Amateur



Tom Baker - 2nd Place Amateur



November Competition

"Photo-Shopped"

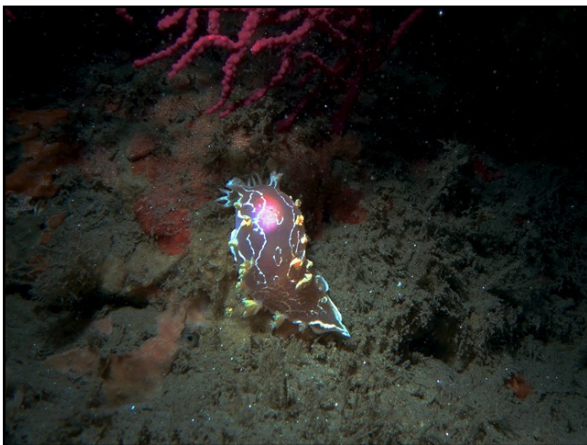
Doug Bonhaus- 3rd Place Amateur



Matthias Scheer – 1st Place Novice



Greg Beadle – 2nd Place Novice



Video Competition November

1st Place - **Matthias Scheer**

2nd Place - **Bob Yin**

3rd Place - **Kristin Carner**



Stats for the November Competition: Photo-Shopped

Still Entries:

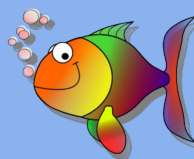
Novice = 2

Amateur = 3

Advanced = 9

Videos = 5

Votes Cast = 28



WALTER HEIM

Presenting
**Tide Pool Photography
Techniques**

November 20, 2025
7:15 pm at
Sumner Auditorium
Scripps Campus



As a kid, Walter was interested in marine biology. He started tide pooling in the early 70s. While studying marine biology at UCSB in the late 70's, he did a senior project tagging tidepool sculpins and mapping their distribution between tides. Fast forward two decades, Walter joins SDUPS and discovers nikonos cameras with extension tubes. Many days were spent trying to get those tidepool subjects to hold still in those framers. The advent of point and shoot digital cameras was a game changer and the images vastly improved. Many of a Sunday was spent tidepooling with the family by OB pier followed by super nachos at the cafe on the pier. Over the years, Walter has learned the

pools and how to get good images without getting wet. Additionally, he has walked tidepools from San Diego up to Fort Bragg. As for fame, Walter is an advanced photographer with SDUPS. His images have been published in a few magazines and books, mostly shark images. Some of his tidepool images have been published in Milton Love's fish books, probably because no one else takes pictures of tidepool fish.



SDUPS October 23rd Meeting

The October SDUPS General Meeting was attended by about 28 people in person and 5 on the online Zoom. Our President **James Logan** got the meeting underway by welcoming members and guest.

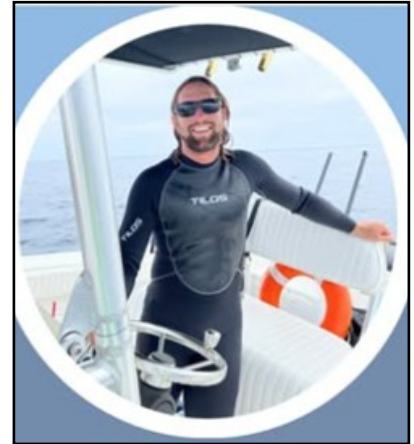
James moved the meeting agenda around a little by introducing our evenings guest speaker to be the first part of the meeting.

Domenic Biagini is the founder of “Gone Whale Watching” out of Mission Bay. Domenic told his story about what happen to him to be so attracted to the ocean at an early age. His love of the ocean has lead him into his business and also becoming a renowned wildlife photographer. He started off his presentation with a fabulous 5 minute video of dolphins being chased and attacked by a pod of orcas. The cinematography was fabulous and exciting to watch. One of the points that Domenic made about making videos in todays tech days, is that equipment that cost thousands of dollars years ago, can be purchased at a fraction of the cost and enable the photographer to capture stunning results. He also shared that making a great video is about story telling and how it should be done. There was a question and answer period at the end of his presentation that gave us all information needed to produce impressive videos. Thank you Domenic for a great and entertaining presentation. Also a special thank you to our Vice-President, **Paula Selby** for setting the presentation up.

We then took our intermission with those wonderful snacks from **Cindy Liphay**.

The meeting reconvened with the October Competition winners.

James wrapped up the meeting with announcements about our November meeting and also the Annual Awards/Holiday party in December. Please see the information elsewhere in the newsletter.



Domenic Biagini is a renowned wildlife photographer, captain, and filmmaker based in San Diego, California. He is the founder of Gone Whale Watching, a premium whale watching company based in Mission Bay. With millions of followers across platforms like instagram, youtube, and tiktok under the username @DolphinDroneDom, Domenic's viral wildlife content has reached hundreds of millions of viewers worldwide, making him one of the most followed ocean-focused creators in the world.

His cinematic work has been featured in major productions including NBC's The Americas, Apple TV's Big Beasts, BBC's Blue Planet 3, and San Diego: America's Wildest City. Known for capturing rare whale behavior and dramatic marine moments with drones and cinema-grade gear, Domenic bridges the gap between scientific storytelling and visual impact.

<https://www.gonewhalewatching.com/>



Saturday December 6th SDUPS Holiday Party & Awards

5:30 pm - Dinner at 6:00

Marie Callender's- 6950 Alvarado Road San Diego 92120

Our Holiday & Awards Party will again be held this year at Marie Callender's Restaurant. The facility has a nice banquet room off the main dinning area. The cost of the dinner is \$35.00 per person and includes tax & tip. The meal options will be a **Slow Roasted Pot Roast, Roasted Turkey Dinner, or Honey Glazed Salmon**. All dinners include cornbread, fountain drinks, ice tea, or coffee, and a slice of pie. A special dietary/vegetarian meal can be provided. There is a Bar in the Restaurant so beer, wine, or mixed drinks are available.

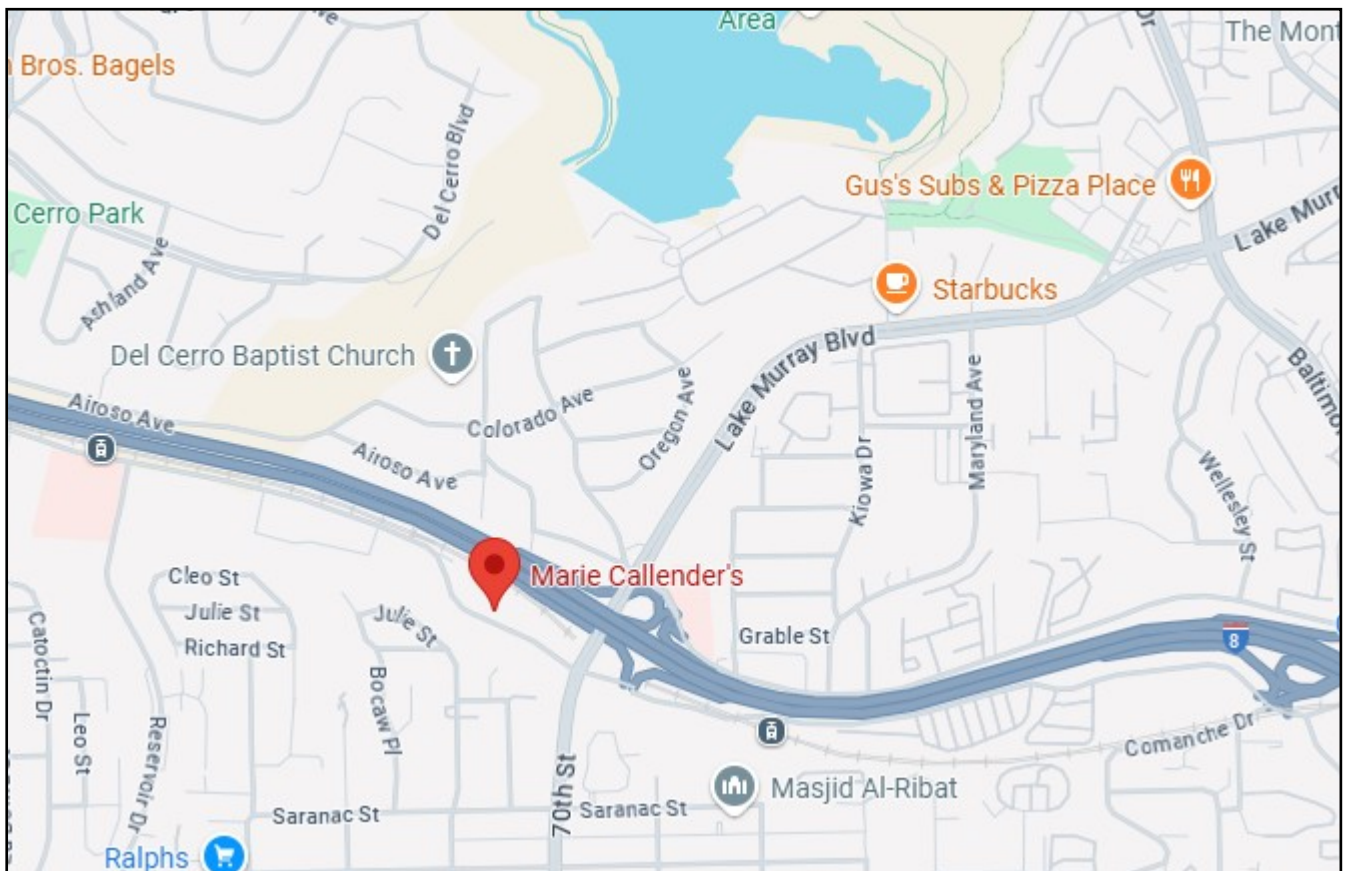
Our SDUPS Photographer of the Year Awards will be presented. If you have entered the monthly competitions, you should plan on being there. This is our last event for the year. It will be a fun time to celebrate the Holidays and be with fellow SDUPS members. Hope to see you all there.

RSVP

Save the date - Saturday evening December the 6th.
RSVP by Monday the 24th of November.

Email Mike Poirier at uwmike64@gmail.com with
your dinner choice & number of people

Cost is \$35 (includes tax & tip) per person to be paid in cash or check the night of the dinner.



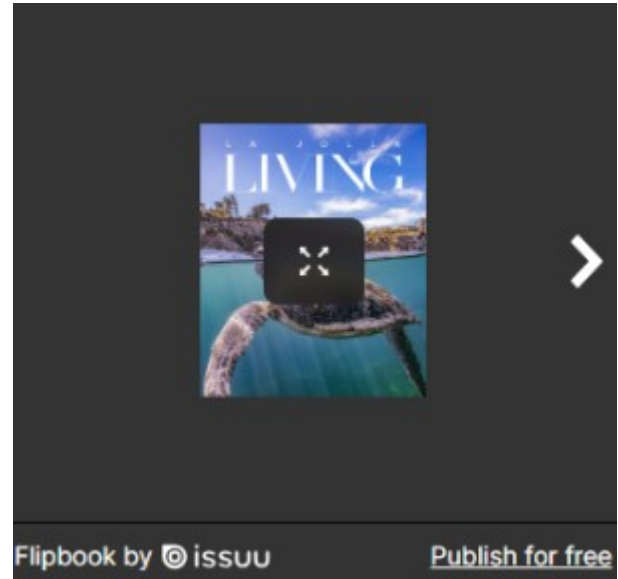
SDUPS Library Show In "LaJolla Living" Magazine

Our 2025 LaJolla Library photo exhibit was featured in the "LaJolla Living" Magazine. The digital copy of the magazine is available online. The article is on Page 28. The cover features an image by club member **Matthias Scheer**. Click on the link below to read the article

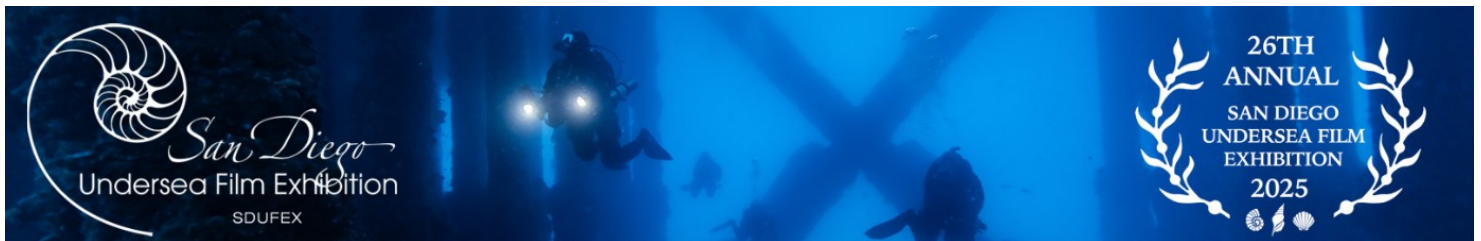
<https://www.lajollalivingmagazine.com/blank>



The Cover



Look for this issue



2025 San Diego Undersea Film Exhibition Virtual Screening - 40 films for \$20

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

\$20 After unlocking, you'll have 1 month 18 days to start watching. Once you begin, you'll have 1 month 29 days to finish watching. Need help? Starting October 15th, 2025, you can view all the films at your leisure through 12/15/25!



2026 MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION/RENEWAL

Single \$35 Family \$50 Student \$15 (21 & under)

New Member

This is an Address Correction

Name 1

Email Address (very important)

Name 2

To pay by check - payable to SDUPS

Mail To:

Address

**San Diego Underwater
Photographic Society
c/o Bill Ring
12525 Salmon River Road
San Diego, CA 92192**

City State Zip

Phone

To pay securely online: go to www.sdups.org and click on the Membership Tab

Sumner Auditorium Parking Map

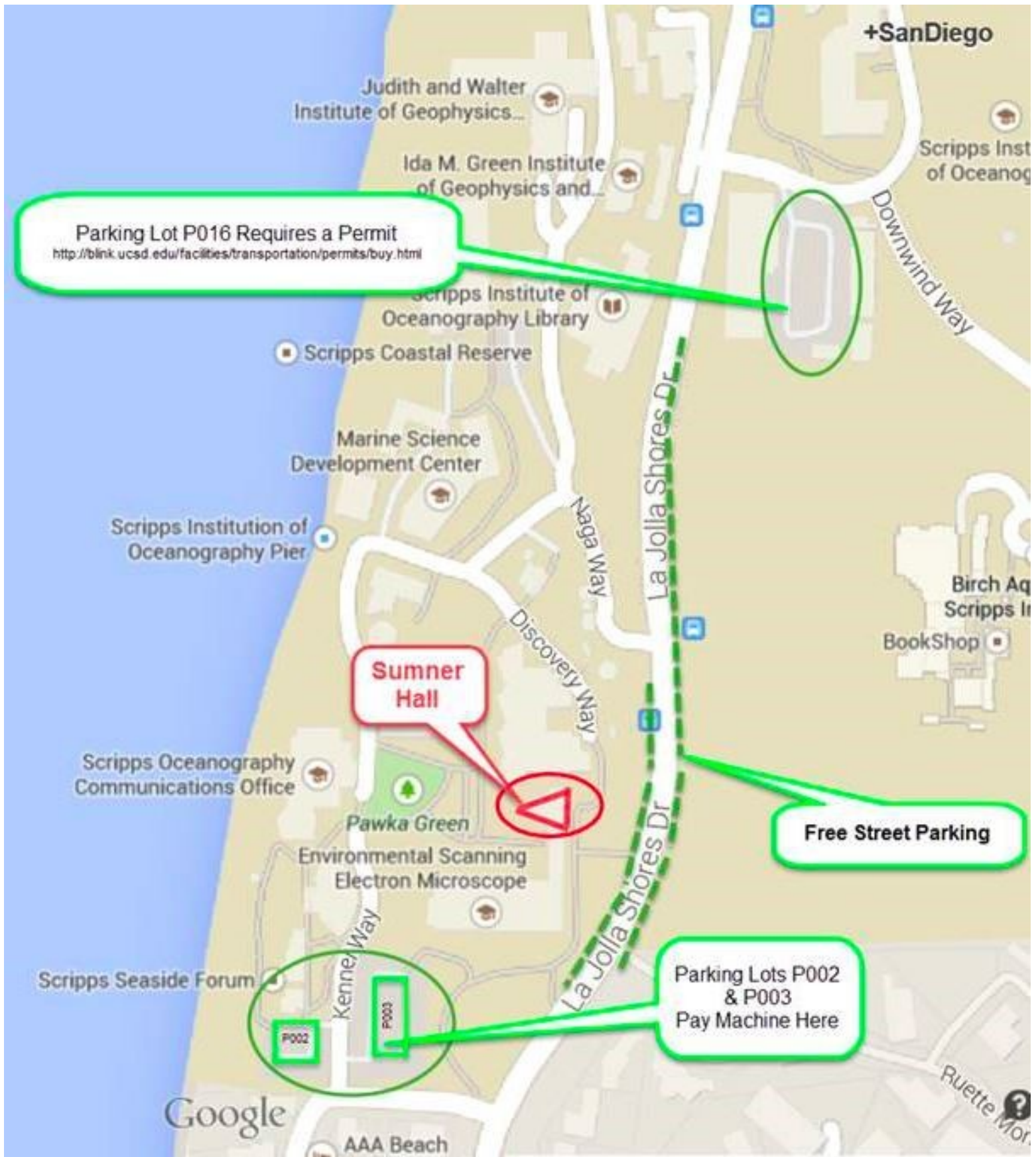
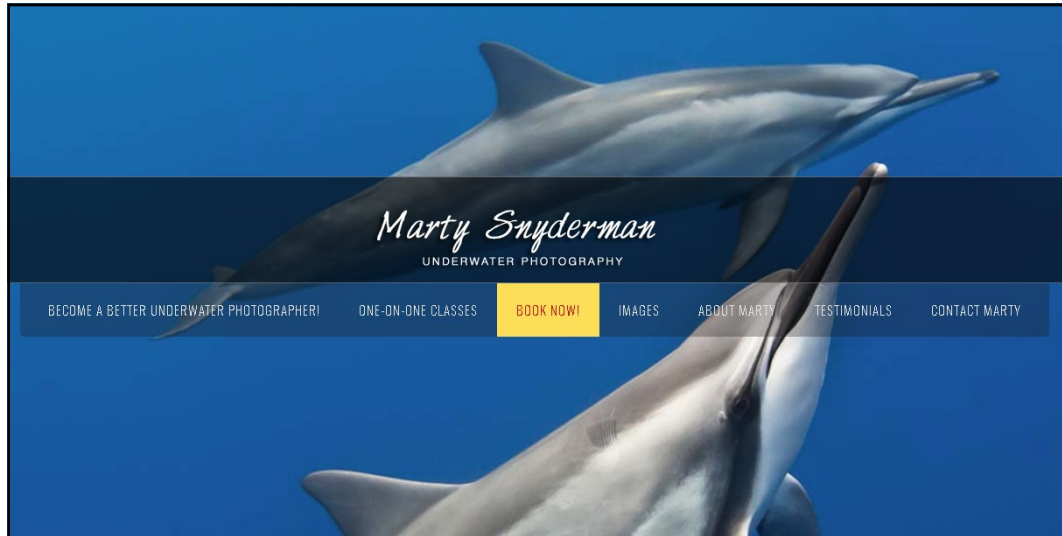


Photo Classes

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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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.

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

Our Products

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- 2-in-1 Natural Insect Repellent & Itch Relief (Green Label)
- Natural Insect Repellent Candles
- Contact info: NoSeeUmNoMore@aol.com



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



Competition Themes For 2025

Month	Theme	Description	Bonus Challenge (for bonus participation points)
January	Best of 2024	Best photo from 2024	
February	Behavior	Symbiotic, feeding, mating, cleaning	Composition includes a symmetrical element
March	Shallows	Less than 30 FT to the surface	Branching structures such as coral or kelp
April	New Beginnings	Eggs or young species	Footage taken within one month of competition deadline (honor system)
May	Dominant Color	One color dominates the image. No blk backgrounds, image must be in color, blue/green water does not qualify	Repeating patterns or textures
June	Humans & the Sea	Divers, snorkelers, free divers	Model is a SDUPS member
July	Midwater	Subject not touching the bottom nor the surface	Color red appears in the image (does not have to be the subject)
August	Bokeh	Japanese for the out of focus areas of an image.	Include creative title, add a fun fact, or write a haiku poem(5/7/5 syllables)
September	Schools	Schooling fish, etc..	Local to California
October	Camouflage	Sealife that blends into its background	At least one eye of the subject is visible
November	Photoshopped	Creative editing/manipulation of footage using digital programs such as Photoshop, etc. No restrictions	At least one source of footage was taken in 2025 (honor system)

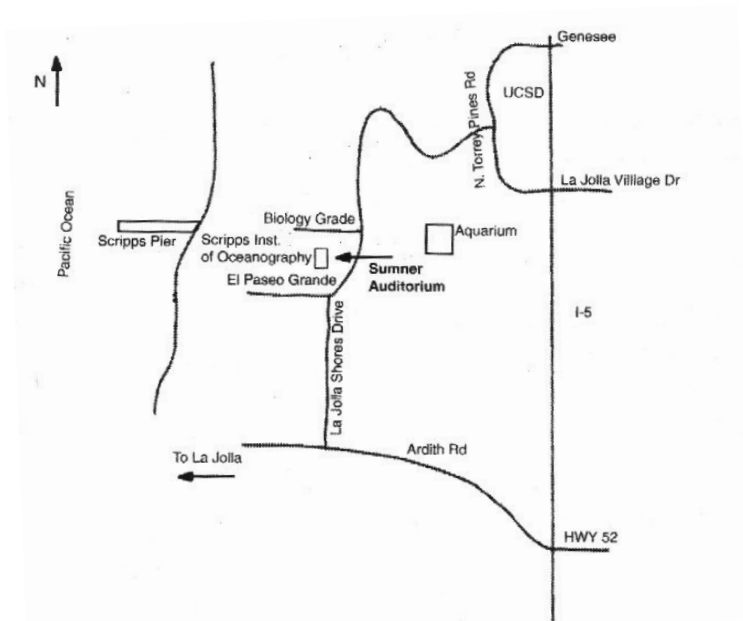


Monthly Meetings

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



Competition Schedule for 2026

January	Best of 2025	July	Midwater (subject neither on bottom or on
February	Behavior (symbiotic, feeding, mating, cleaning, etc.)	August	Bokeh (A Japanese term for the aesthetic quality of the out-of-focus areas of an image)
March	Shallows <30 ft and Surface	September	Back to School (schooling fish, etc.)
April	New Beginnings (eggs, young, etc.)	October	Camouflage (sea life that blends into its background)
May	Dominant color (one color dominates image, no Blk backgrounds, image must be in color)	November	Image Editing - Edit using Photoshop or other tools. No restrictions, be creative
June	Humans & the Sea (divers, snorkelers, freedivers)	Dec. - TBA	Holiday Awards/Party

2025 Board of Directors

President

James Logan
sdups1961@gmail.com

Vice President

Paula Selby
plselby@cox.net

Secretary

Harold Dorr
blueox25@gmail.com

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

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