

The Goby

San Diego Underwater Photographic Society

Volume 64 Issue 10

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

October 2025

President's Message

Hello SDUPS Members

I hope everyone is doing well. What an exciting past weekend. SDUFEX had its film festival. Our very own **Mr. Robert Yin** presented his film titled "Small World of Uncle Bob." What an amazing film. It was inspiring, and heartwarming. The audience loved it. Bob is a shining example that age is just a number and that your love and passion will always bring you joy. When I grow up, I want to be just like Uncle Bob. Hopefully I can get him to share his amazing film at our meeting in November. That would be a great way to end the last meeting of the year.

Let us all take note that there is so much for us to do in this world at any age. Bob still plays and competes in tennis, scuba dives all over the world, and visits with friends. A life filled with joy. Bob loves to have conversations about diving and the art of Underwater Photography. Even now he is off on his next diving/underwater photography adventure. Cannot wait to see what photos/videos he will bring back.

So, the next time you see Uncle Bob, ask him some questions about diving the world and all the underwater photographs that he has taken. You will learn a lot and be entertained at the same time.

See you at the next meeting.

James Logan *President*

San Diego Underwater Photographic Society www.sdups.org



Bob Yin

SDUPS online **Hybrid Zoom Meeting, October 23rd 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=UEJtUG0rczI3bEhOcW15LzlydlZJdz09>



CALENDAR

October 23rd – 7 pm SDUPS Hybrid Meeting at Sumner Auditorium (Map page 10)

Presentation: - Domenic Biagina, wildlife photographer - Page 4

SDUPS September Meeting - Page 5

October Competition: Camouflage

November Competition:
Photoshopped

Walter Monk Day - Page 9

SAVE THE DATE:

December 6th - Awards/Holiday Party
RSVP see page 7

October Competition

"Camouflage"

Lois Miller – 1st Place Advanced



Greg Volger – 2nd Place Advanced



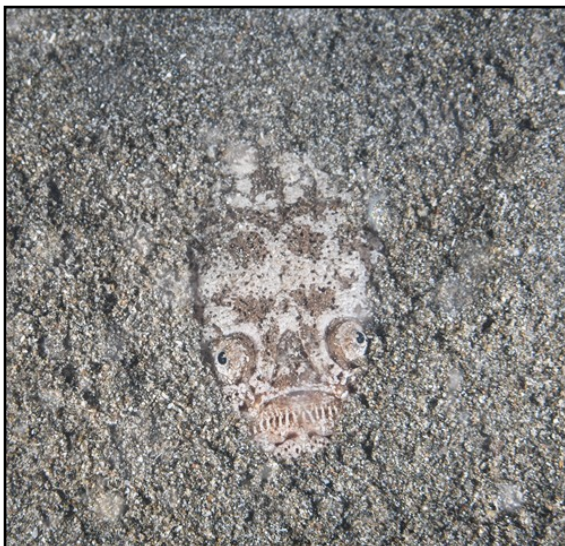
Bob Yin – 3rd Place Advanced



Denise Lew – 3rd Place Advanced



Tom Baker - 1st Place Amateur



Katherine Mauser - 2nd Place Amateur



October Competition

"Camouflage"

Charlotte Seid - 3rd Place Amateur



Melissa Foo – 1st Place Novice



Susan Scheer – 2nd Place Novice



James Logan - 3rd Place Novice



Video Competition October

1st Place - **Bill Ring**

2nd Place - **Bob Yin**

3rd Place - **Kristin Carner**



Stats for the October Competition: Camouflage

Still Entries:

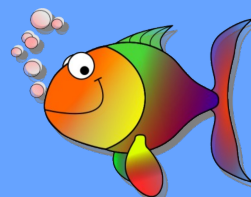
Novice = 6

Amateur = 4

Advanced = 13

Videos = 7

Votes Cast = 37





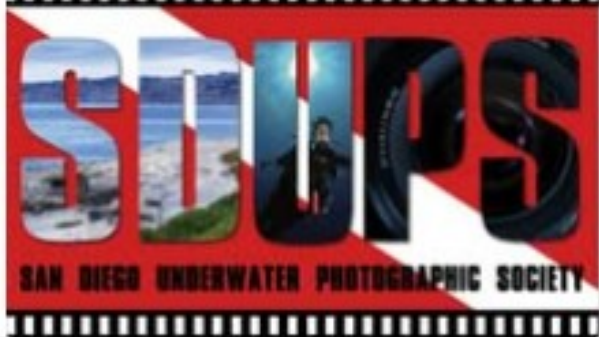
Presenting on
October 23, 2025
7:15 pm at
Sumner Auditorium
Scripps Campus



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/>



SDUPS Meeting September 25th

Everything you ever wanted to know about a GoPro Camera

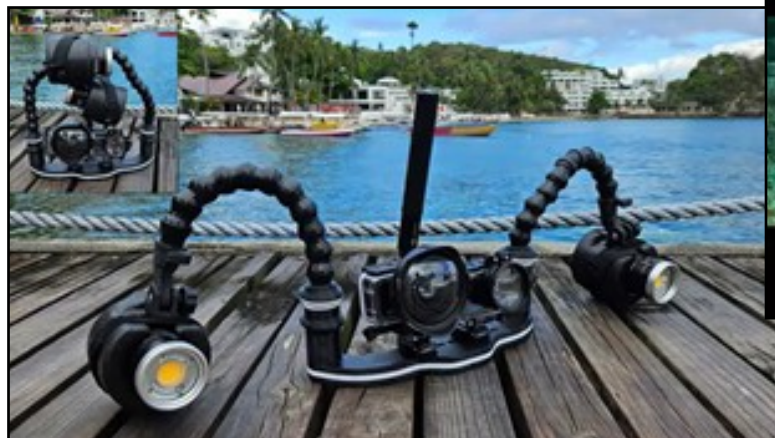
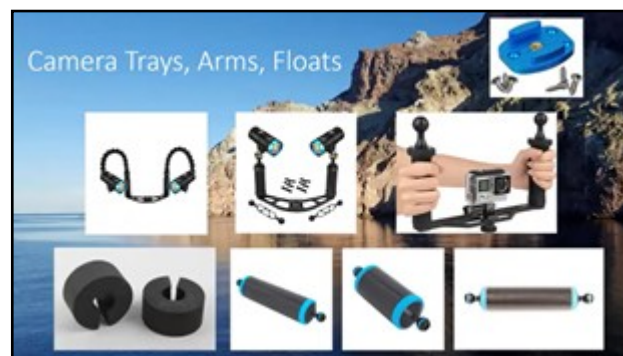
At the September SDUPS Meeting, our special guest was **Todd Kortte**. Todd gave a very informative and instructional presentation on the use of the GoPro Video Camera underwater. If you use a GoPro, this was a meeting not to be missed. He talked about the different types of underwater shoots including macro, wide angle, and shooting with just the standard GoPro lens. Todd pointed out the different GoPro Cameras from the original to the new GoPro13 and the plus and minus of each camera. Something very unique to Todd is that he has devolved QR Code cards that can be taken underwater with you to change the various setting on the camera. Point the camera at the QR Code and the setting change to setting on the card. Todd also talked about video lights and different tray set-ups that you can use. He has also developed his own tray and talked about the advantages of using it. For everyone attending the meeting and those online, he was offering a discount on both his tray and QR cards.

Here are two web-sites to check out:

Todd Kortte <https://oceansunknown.com>

GoPro - www.gopro.com

Thank you Todd for providing your expertise and knowledge on the GoPro video system.



SDUPS Annual Picnic by the Bay ***Saturday - September 20th***



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.

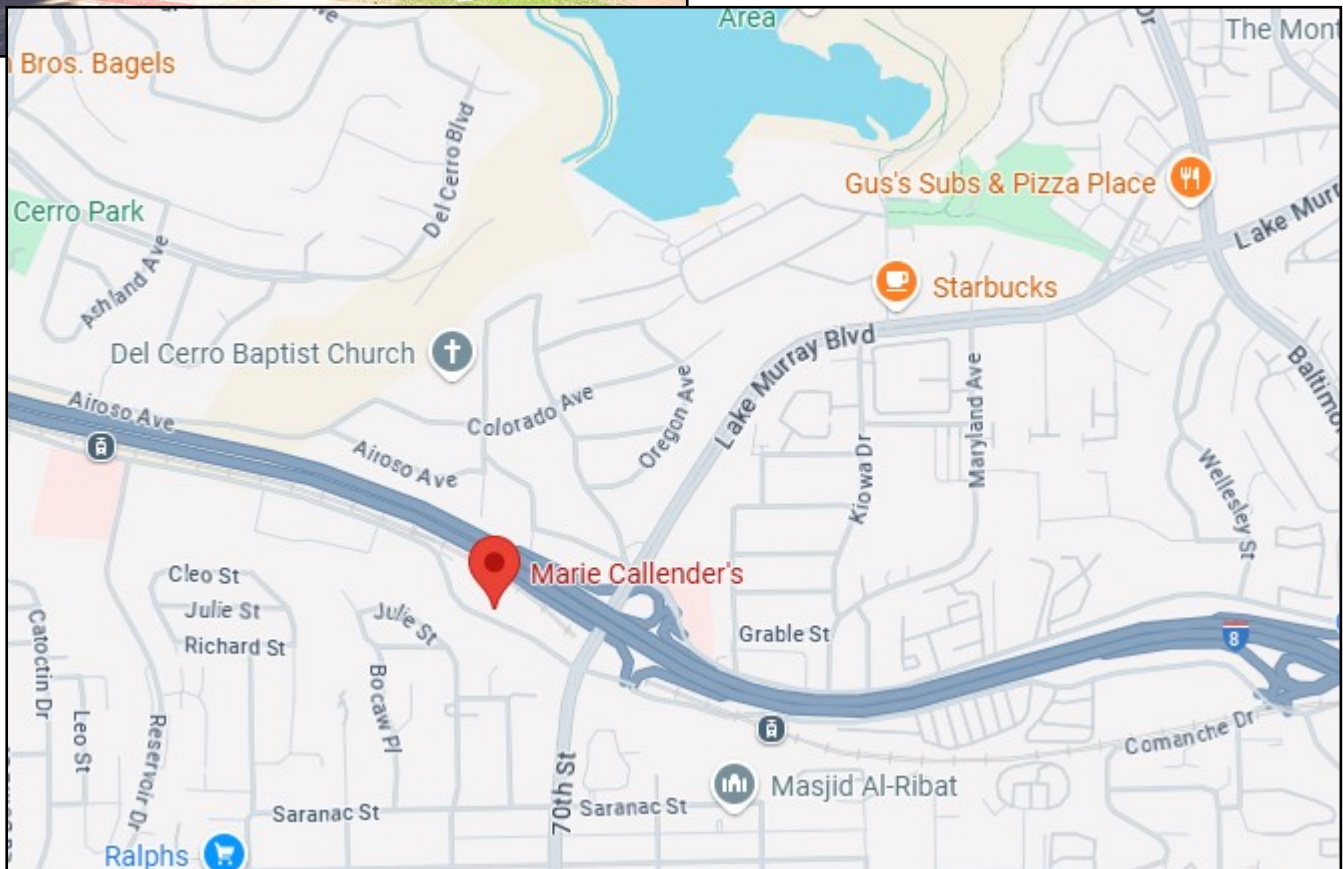
RSVP



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 has a Birthday

A few months back, I did research on the birthday of the club. This is what I came up with.

Sunday, September 28th is the San Diego Underwater Photographic Society Birthday. The club is 64 years old this date. The club was founded in 1961.

So from me to you. **HAPPY BIRTHDAY.** May this club continue to be successful, bring enjoyment, great conversations, awareness of our beautiful oceans, amazing and talented people.

SDUPS President - **James Logan**



San Diego Underwater Photographic Society

The San Diego Underwater Photographic Society (SDUPS) is a social club dedicated to the sport and pastime of underwater photography and videography. It is one of the earliest organizations ever to be dedicated to the promotion and advancement of the art and its techniques. SDUPS was first established on September 28, 1961, by underwater photographic pioneers **Ron Church** and **Chuck Nicklin** at San Diego's Diving Locker dive shop.

Membership covers all levels of underwater photography from beginning U/W photographers to amateur, semi-professional and full-time professional underwater photographers, using a wide range of equipment and techniques.



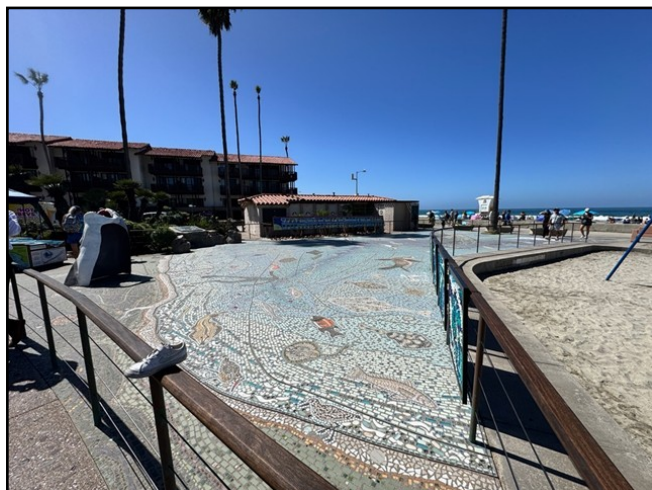
Do I need all of this to
be a Tech Diver?



Saturday, October 4, 2025, held in Kellogg Park at La Jolla Shores.

Event website: Walter Munk Day — Walter Munk Foundation for the Oceans.

The 4th annual Walter Munk Day celebration honors Walter's 80-year legacy of daring exploration and discovery through scientific research, education and ocean conservation. The purpose of this event is to raise awareness of the fragility of our oceans and showcase Kumeyaay Heritage and Culture. **Dick Miller, Susan Scheer** and **Matthias Scheer** demonstrated to both children and adults alike how to use underwater cameras, as well as the options available today for shooting underwater photos.



Sumner Auditorium Parking Map

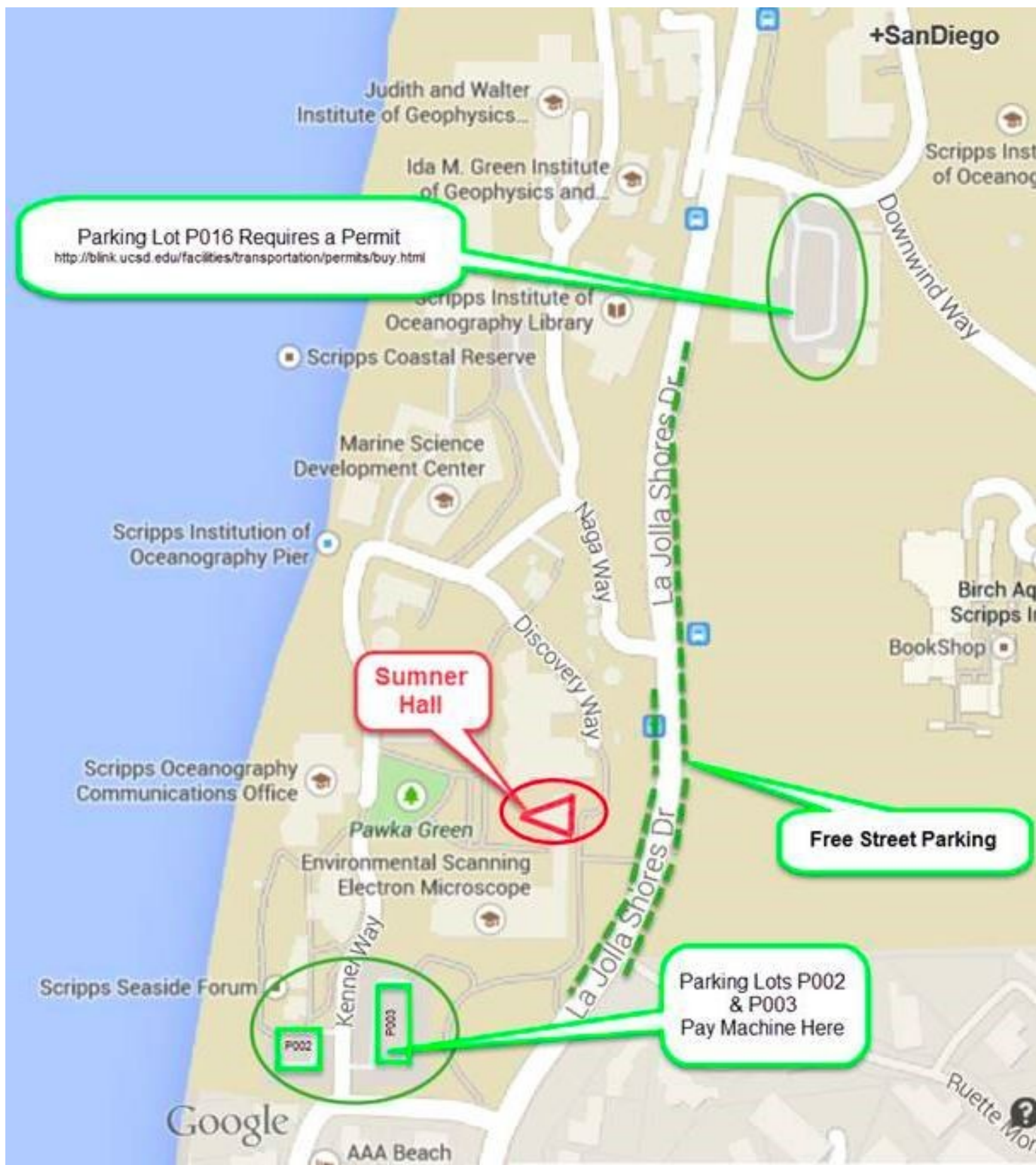
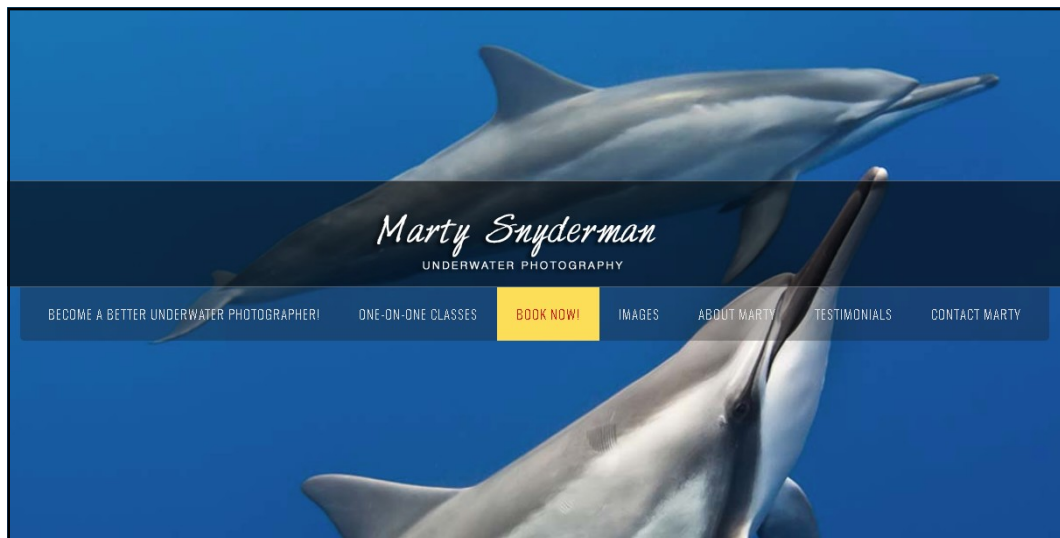


Photo Classes

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

LITA'S™ 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

- 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 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

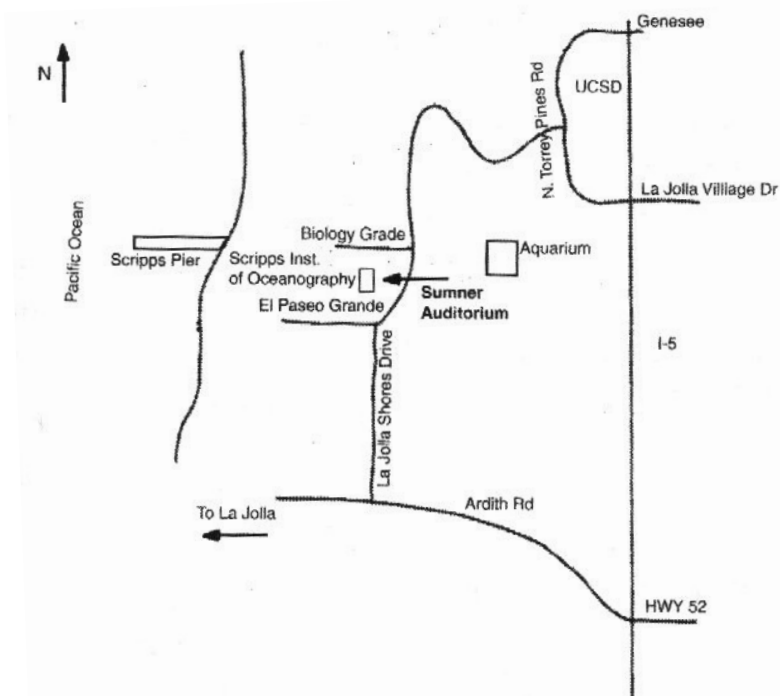
(No meeting in December)

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

For more information

check the SDUPS web page

<http://www.sdups.org>



Competition Schedule for 2025

January	Best of 2024	July	Midwater (subject neither on bottom or on surface)
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

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sdups1961@gmail.com

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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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