

The Goby

San Diego Underwater Photographic Society

Volume 60 Issue 3

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

March 2021

President's Message

SDUPS Members;

The month of March is most notably celebrated as the official start of Spring with themes of green, nature, and life. Symbolically we look for new things on the horizon, which seems appropriate right now as COVID vaccine roll-outs are a shining light at the end of a very long tunnel of social distancing. March also is a time when we recognize women's history. I am constantly amazed by women who excelled as pioneers in diving and underwater photography and paved the way for further development. Women like **Charlotte (Lotte) Hass** who made a career as an underwater explorer and photographer, including the acclaimed documentary Under the Red Sea produced with her husband **Hans Hass** in the early 1950s. Or **Rosalia (Zale) Perry** who started diving in the 1940s in Santa Monica, an early tester of underwater equipment and avid underwater photographer, who in partnership with **Parry Bivens** developed the first hyperbaric chamber for divers.

There are many women we could name here, but what they all share is a passion for ocean conservation, a love of nature, and the desire to prioritize scientific discovery, things that we value today more than ever. No matter what things you are celebrating right now, may you find a "spring" in your step as we imagine the possibilities for the future!

Amy Baldwin-Granger - President



SDUPS online **Zoom Meeting**, March 25th at 7 pm. Join us to see old friends and an U/W presentation.

- ☞ Download the Zoom app to your computer (<https://zoom.us/download>) or
- ☞ Click on the Link below
- ☞ Meeting ID number: 852 207 7435
- ☞ Meeting Password: rngr900 (RNGR900 small letters)



<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8522077435?pwd=VVJ2Y3B5NVpKek5HV25wSjBDWWNHdz09>

Internet Corner - Mike Poirier

Our guest speaker for our February Zoom meeting was **Kevin Lee** (see page 4). Kevin talked about a new strobe unit called the "Backscatter mini flash". This strobe caught my attention so I did a little research. If you are into macro underwater photography, this compact strobe and focus light is tailor made for shooting small critters. It's advertised as the ultimate compact strobe for compact cameras but can also be used with a full sized DSLR and housing. It's small in size but big on power. With additional Optical Snoot, you'll be able to get those images where the background is black with the subject brightly lit. For complete information & videos on this new product, go www.backscatter.com and search for mini flash.



CALENDAR

March 25th - SDUPS Zoom Meeting
See Note Above

Presentation - **Jami Feldman** - Drone photography

March Competition - Eyes of March
eye/eyes. See page 2

April Competition - Tails - tail/tails
the prominent feature



March Competition

"Eyes of March"

Greg Volger - 1st Place Advanced



Matt Meier- 2nd Place Advanced



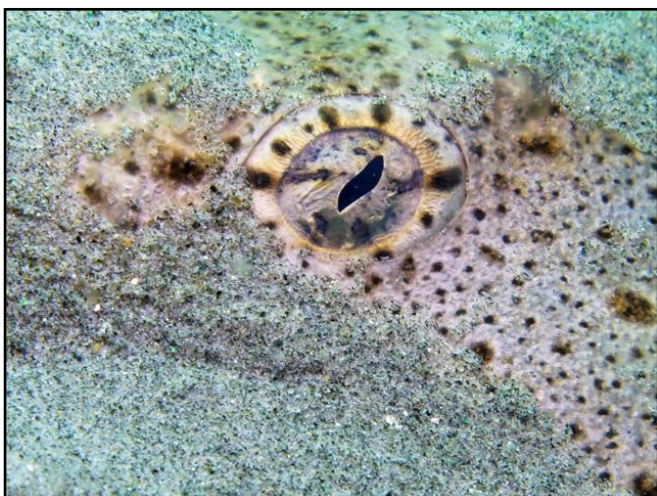
Bill Ring - 3rd Place Advanced



Dan Kestly - 3rd Place Advanced



Herb Gruenhagen - 3rd Place Advanced



Amy Baldwin/Granger - 1st Place Amateur



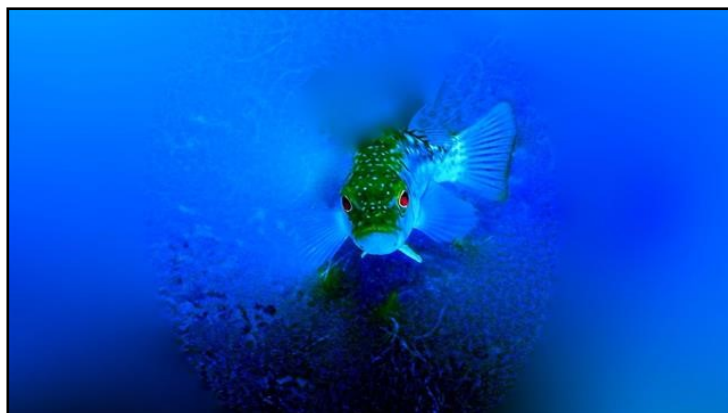
March Competition

Frankie Grant - 2nd Place Amateur



"Eyes of March"

Nan Oselett - 3rd Place Amateur



Robert Casagrand - 3rd Place Amateur



Silvana Ghiu - 1st Place Novice



Jack Der - 1st Place Novice



Jerald Pratt - 2nd Place Novice



March Competition

"Eyes of March"

Helge Weissig - 2nd Place Novice



Doug Bonhaus - 3rd Place Novice

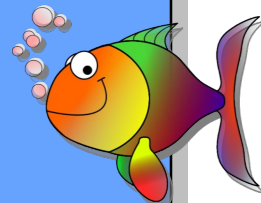


Martha Shaw - 3rd Place Novice



Stats for the March Competition "Eyes of March"

Still Entries: 24
Novice = 7
Amateur = 5
Advanced = 12
Videos = 6



Video Competition March

1st place - **Kris Carner**
2nd place - **Bill Ring**
3rd Place - **Bob Yin**



SDUPS February 25th Zoom Meeting

The February SDUPS Zoom Meeting was attended by 29 members and guests. Our Zoom master, **Dick Miller**, did a great job hosting our meeting.

Our President, **Amy**, opened the meeting by welcoming everyone. She then turned the meeting over to **Kris Carner** our social media chairperson. Kris put together a slide show of the February competition winners, "Your Favorite Fish". As the winner images were shown, each recipient explained how and where the shot was taken. The video category, which is growing, had five participants this month. Kris went on to explain that for March, the subject will be "Eyes of March." She also reminded us of the new way to enter the competitions by submitting entries via our club web-site. www.sdups.com/competition/Submit

Dick then introduced our evenings speaker **Kevin Lee**. Kevin is a very accomplished underwater photographer, an adventure seeker, and a member of the OCUPS photo club. He had made a dive trip to Scotland specifically to photograph nudibranchs. Before talking about Scotland, Kevin presented a few images he had taken off of Catalina. He had tried a new mini flash which gives great results with a snoot. See the Mantis Shrimp below.

Then it was on to "Scotland, Above & Below". Kevin stressed that when you go on an international trip, don't just concentrate on what's below the surface, but check out the culture, the people, and points of interest. It was dry suite diving in the chilly waters of the Lochs where he and a close friend from Scotland dove. From a dive charter boat, they were able to photograph many nudibranchs new to Kevin, but none were new discoveries. Kevin also shared that he and his dive buddy got separated, and after looking for a bit, decided to surface. The dive boat was nowhere to be seen. They were looking for him in a different area. Inflating his safety sausage, he was eventually found. A little scary. During a question & answer period, Kevin talked about using just a single strobe to capture nudibranchs. He said it gives the image a more 3D look. Also, he suggested to move that strobe around to experiment with different lighting techniques. With above and below image of Scotland, Kevin gave a very informative and entertaining presentation. Thank you Kevin for your expert advice and being so helpful. Check out his web-site at www.diverkevin.com.

Amy then wrapped up the meeting with a few announcements and bid everyone good night. Even though we can't yet meet face to face, our Zoom meetings are working out very well.



Advanced



SDUPS Member Profile - Jami Feldman

Jami Feldman is one of those people who will step up to the plate when there is work to be done. In her six years of SDUPS membership, Jami has served two years as president, vice president for one year and is presently serving as our webmaster (mistress?). Jami has also earned the Amateur Photographer of the Year, Novice Photographer of the Year, as well as the Service and Dedication Award.

Jami started SCUBA diving in Hawaii in 2005 and discovered her love for turtles. She was certified in 2008 and has continued to advance her diving education and is presently certified as a dive master. Although Jami has been an active photographer since she was eleven years old, she didn't begin taking underwater photographs until 2009 so she could share what she was seeing underwater with her friends. Her favorite subjects to photograph are octopuses during their mating season, "because they are hilarious" (Jami's words).

Jami began taking underwater photographs with a Canon Powershot, moved up to the SeaLife series, then to a Canon T3i, and presently shoots with a Canon 80D in a Sea and Sea housing with dual YSD strobes and either a 60 mm micro lens or a Tokina 10-17 wide angle.

I asked Jami what her favorite memory is from her underwater photography adventures and she quickly recalled diving solo at Ship Rock, off the lee side of Catalina Island, while her husband free dove above her. She looked out into the water column and discovered a 14-foot great white shark cruising by who was watching her. Jami said that they watched each other for about 15 seconds before the shark moved out of her visibility. Jami surfaced and told her husband what she had seen, and then returned to the bottom hoping to see the great white again! Jami added that she later found out she was pregnant at the time, so her son can boast that he has dived with a great white shark, too.

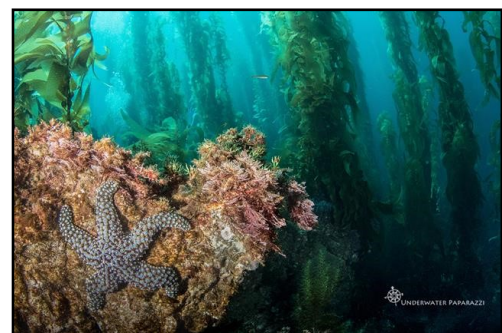
I asked Jami what advice she would offer to members and photographers hoping to improve their photographs and she said, "Get closer to the subject!" I guess that explains why she returned to the bottom in search of her great white shark!

Jami has dived cold water locations in San Diego, Channel Islands, the oil rigs in Long Beach, Coronado Islands, Monterey, Vancouver Island, and a snorkel in Cape Town, South Africa.

Her warm water dives have been in La Paz, Cozumel, Cabo Pulmo, the pacific coast of Baja from Cabo to Ensenada, Dominican Republic, Florida, Bonaire, Belize, Honduras, Philippines, Fiji, Palau, & Raja Ampat

Jami's favorite dive locations are in the Channel Islands off the coast of southern California.

Submitted by **Harold Dorr**
membership chair



Critter Corner

Parrotfish Cocoon



Photo by Mike Poirier

Parrotfishes are a group of about 95 fish species regarded as a family (Scaridae), or a subfamily (Scarinae) of the wrasses. With about 95 species, this group's largest species richness is in the Indo-Pacific. They are found in coral reefs, rocky coasts, and seagrass beds, and can play a significant role in bioerosion. [(the breakdown of hard ocean substrates by living organisms. In this case the ingestion of corals and expulsion of sand)]

Description

Parrotfish are named for their array of teeth, which is distinct from other fish, including others in the Wrasse family. Their numerous teeth are arranged in a tightly packed mosaic on the external surface of their jaw bones, forming a parrot-like beak with which they rasp algae from coral and other rocky substrates (which contributes to the process of bioerosion).

Maximum sizes vary within the family, with the majority of species reaching 30–50 cm (12–20 in) in length. However, a few species reach lengths in excess of 1 m (3 ft 3 in), and the green humphead parrotfish can reach up to 1.3 m (4 ft 3 in). The smallest species is the bluelip parrotfish (*Cryptotomus roseus*), which has a maximum size of 13 cm (5.1 in).

Mucus (cocoon)

Some parrotfish species, including the queen parrotfish (*Scarus vetula*), secrete a mucus cocoon, particularly at night. Prior to going to sleep, some species extrude mucus from their mouths, forming a protective cocoon that envelops the fish, presumably hiding its scent from potential predators. This mucus envelope may also act as an early warning system, allowing the parrotfish to flee when it detects predators such as moray eels disturbing the membrane. The skin itself is covered in another mucous substance which may have anti-oxidant properties helpful in repairing bodily damage, or repelling parasites, in addition to providing protection from UV light.

The above parrotfish in its cocoon, was taken on a night dive in the Maldives.

Join SDUPS

Yearly Dues:

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

Special value - Dues paid for 2021 are also good for 2022. Two years for the price of one.

Go to: www.sdups.com Click on the membership tab





The San Diego Undersea Film Exhibition (SDUFEX) is now accepting entries for its 2021 film festival

This is a unique opportunity to share your visions of the underwater world with a global audience. Last year's virtual festival was viewed by people from over 50 countries.

NO FEES - ALL FILMS MUST CONTAIN AT LEAST 50% UNDERWATER FOOTAGE

Go to the Link Below to Submit your Film

Additional information: www.sdufex.com

The virtual film festival will be held online October 15 - 24, 2021. We hope to also have an in-person exhibition October 8 & 9, 2021 at Qualcomm Hall in San Diego.

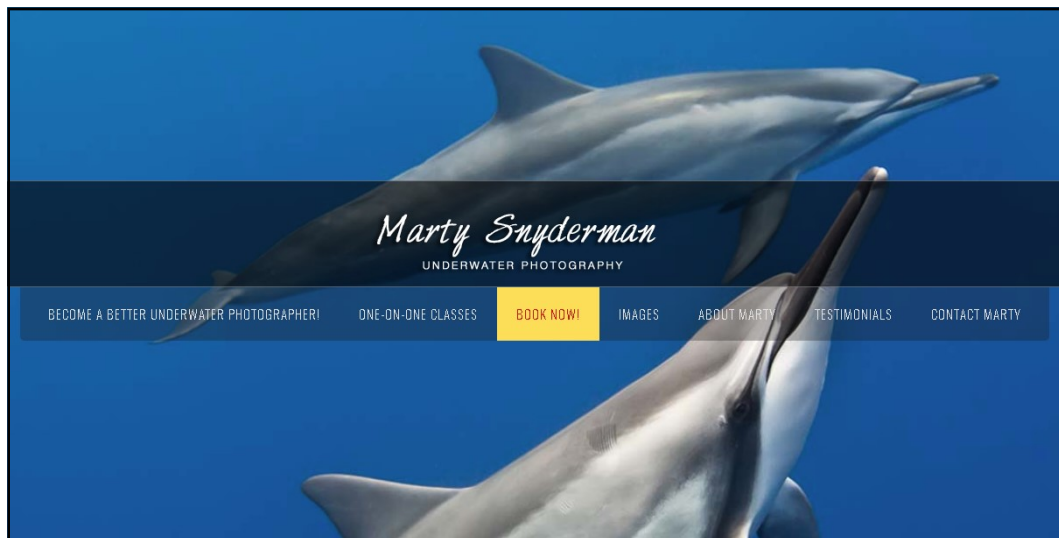


Photo Classes

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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📍 Palau

📅 **Departs:** Nov 20th, 2020 | **Returns:** Nov 28th, 2020

🐾 **Hosts:** Jeff Bunker, Rocio Bunker, Werner Kurn

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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 No-See-Um No More® is an all-natural "dual purpose" product that prevents insect bites but also soothes the itch from insect bites. It consists of essential oils (Sesame, Patchouli and Tea Tree) and does not contain DEET or synthetic chemicals. Also, it is not diluted with water.

Lita's No-See-Um No More® works worldwide to protect you from being bit by the local insects including, black flies, chiggers, deer flies, fire ants, gnats, horse flies, mosquitoes, noseums, sand flies, ticks and tsetse flies. Lita now offers a hard-sided travel case made by LuxePak. It is TSA approved, crush proof up to 200 pounds (so it will survive luggage handling) and leak resistant, so you no longer have to worry about your liquids spilling inside your luggage. The travel case comes with three 2-ounce bottles and your choice of a shower puff or Vegan Konjac Body Sponge. If you would like to see this in person, it is available for purchase at Ocean Enterprises, or on her website.

Lita is a member of SDUPS and offers club members a **15% discount** when you order online at NoSeeUmNoMore.com (**promo code is "SDUPS"**). You can also purchase her natural bug spray/itch relief at Ocean Enterprises, City Farmers, Mount Laguna Store, Mount Palomar Store or Nomad Adventures.

Contact info: NoSeeUmNoMore@aol.com www.NoSeeUmNoMore.com



Welcome to **Blue Abyss Photo**. We offer sales, service, education and rentals on underwater imaging equipment.

We invite you to browse through our store and shop with confidence. We offer a wide range of products and services and great customer service. Our goal is to make you happy valued customer.

Our Products:

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- > Video
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Blue Abyss Photo
3320 Kemper Street suite 202
San Diego, CA 92110
www.blueabyssphoto.com

Store hours
M-F 10:00 to 6:00
Sat 10:00 to 4:00
760-522-3481

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.com>

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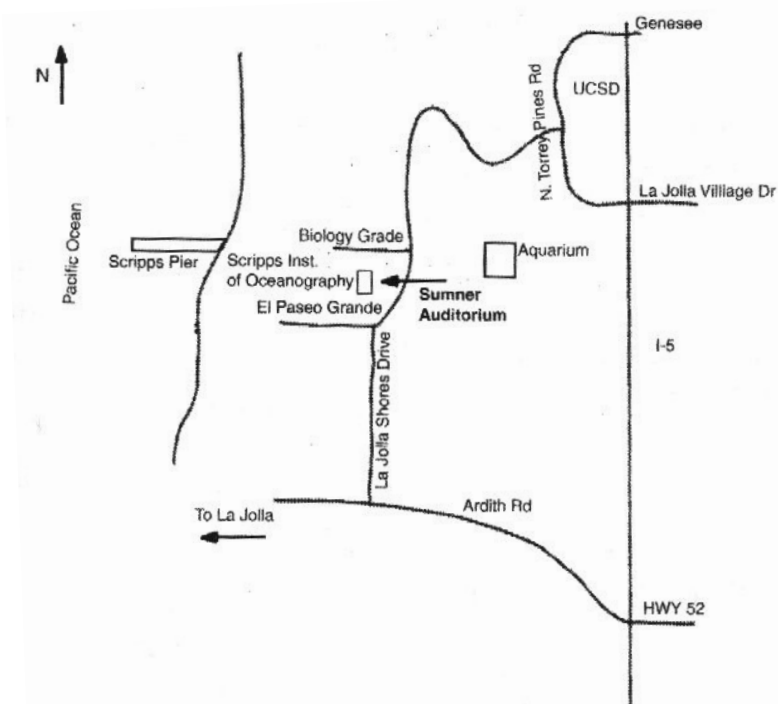
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Herb Gruenhagen
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Johnny Thai

Appointed Positions

Mike Poirier - Goby Editor
Dave Hinkel - Tech Advisor
Jami Feldman - Web Master
Skip Greenhoe - Dive Trips
Kris Carner - Social Media



Competition Schedule for 2021

January	Best of the Best	July	Sunny Days - sunbeams, ambient light
February	Fish Friends - your favorite fish	August	Playing in the Sand - critters in/on the sand
March	Eyes of March - eye/eyes prominent feature in photo	September	Back to School - school of fish, pod of dolphins, group of animals together
April	Tails - tail the prominent feature	October	Occupied with Octos - Octopus encounters
May	Macro May - close up	November	New Life - eggs or juveniles of any species
June	June Gloom - dark tones/silhouette/black & white	December - ??	Awards/Party

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