

The Goby

San Diego Underwater Photographic Society

Volume 60 Issue 5

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

May 2021

President's Message

It is hard to believe that the end of May is nearing, and how different it already feels compared to this time last year! The highlight of my month was getting my second Covid-19 vaccine, and I'm feeling a renewed sense of hope and gratitude to the level of dedication that made it possible.

As many of you know, Scripps Institution of Oceanography added a new webcam to their Pier Cams web page. This new one allows viewers to watch the Osprey nest that is on the pier. As a nature lover and bird watcher I am slightly addicted to it while I work at home. This week I noticed that an egg had been laid but I have yet to see the adults sitting on the nest, and after watching regularly for two days straight this sadly means the egg is most likely abandoned.

The reason I bring this up is twofold – first, with Mother's Day celebrations this month we are reminded of the incredible sacrifice it takes to birth something new – a child, an art, or to care for any living thing that cannot survive without you. We start this process of creating with no guarantee of how it will turn out, yet even in the challenging times, we get back up and try again. So have faith in your talents; the time you spend on the things you wish to grow into something great is worth everything. Your hard work is showing in your competition entries too, they are so good that voting has been really tough!!

Amy Baldwin-Granger,
President



SDUPS online **Zoom Meeting**, May 22nd 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=VVJ2Y3B5NVpKek5HV25wSjBDWVNhdz09>



CALENDAR

May 27th- SDUPS Zoom Meeting
See Note Above

Presentation - **Jack Der** -
Video Editing

May Competition - Macro, Close up

June Competition - June Gloom - dark
tones/silhouette/black & white



May Competition

Matt Meier– 1st Place Advanced



"Macro May"

Bob Yin - 2nd Place Advanced



Greg Volger - 3rd Place Advanced



Robert Casagrand- 1st Place Amateur



Amy Baldwin/Granger - 2nd Place Amateur



Nan Oselett– 3rd Place Amateur



May Competition

"Macro May"

Jack Der - 1st Place Novice



Heige Weissig - 2nd Place Novice



Silvana Ghu - 3rd Place Novice



Video Competition May

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



SDUPS April 22nd Zoom Meeting

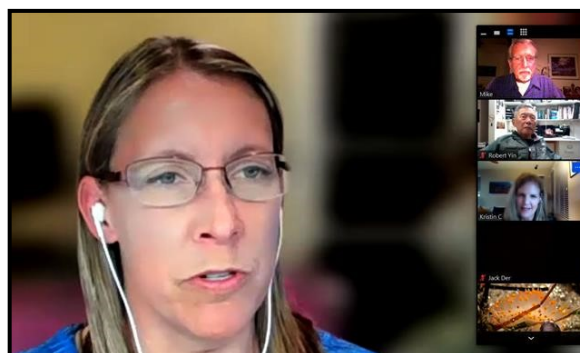
Will we ever get back to Sumner Auditorium for our SDUPS meetings? Our April meeting again was held virtual on Zoom. We thank **Dick Miller** for hosting the Zoom happening.

President Amy Granger/Baldwin opened the meeting by welcoming everyone in attendance. We had approximately twenty-six people in the audience.

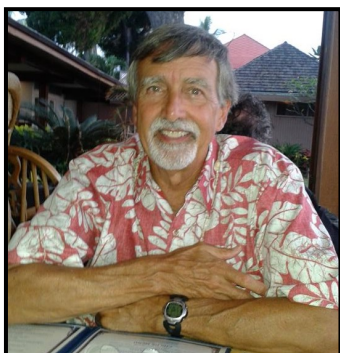


Zoom

Kris Carner was first up to introduce the winners of the April Photo Competition. Kris puts together a great program for both the stills and videos to showcase the winners of the contest.



President Amy puts together a great Zoom Meeting



Club member **Mike Poirier** gave the evenings presentation on Liveaboard Diving. With a PowerPoint show, Mike explained why one would go on a liveaboard trip. The biggest reason he explained was the amount of diving you can do each day and on the entire trip. Reaching remote and exotic dive locations is another reason. There are many reasons that a liveaboard might be a better dive vacation than a land based trip. An individual should look into both options to see what fits the best.

Next Mike talked about "Things to Think About". For example; the best time to go, cancellation policies, what's included, and camera facilities to name a few. Mike then showed pictures of the four liveaboards that he had been on, pointing out the plusses and minuses of each. He then wrapped up his presentation by showing a video of a trip taken to Tubbataha, Philippines aboard the Palau Sport liveaboard.

SDUPS Member Profile - Amy Baldwin/Granger

Earlier this week, I was able to catch our San Diego Underwater Photographic Society President, **Amy Baldwin-Granger**, between her many activities. As we talked, I was impressed by her energy and her courage: open ocean swimming, bicycling, triathlon, free diving, SCUBA diving and underwater photography. After only two years as a SDUPS member, she volunteered to serve as the Vice President and this year assumed the responsibility as President. One of our mutual friends described her to me as a superstar. I think he is right!

Although Amy's father enjoyed photography, she didn't start taking photographs until relatively recently. Amy is an open-ocean swimmer and triathlete and during her swims, she developed a love for the animals in the ocean. As a result, in 2015 she acquired a GoPro to capture images of the interesting things she was seeing on her long swims.

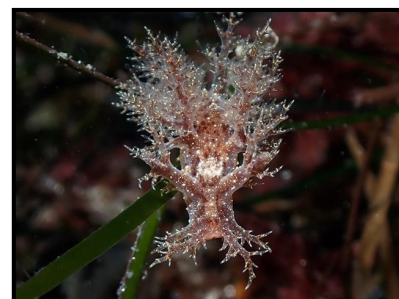
Amy was SCUBA certified in 2012 prior to her honeymoon in Belize. She dove intermittently for about four years, but started diving more frequently when she acquired her own gear in 2016. She is now advanced and nitrox certified. She added a dry suit to her gear collection last year and really likes being warm! In 2018 Amy upgraded from her GoPro to an Olympus OMD EM5II with a housing and started to get serious about her photography. That same year, she also joined the SDUPS and began to build her skills as an underwater photographer. Amy mentioned that photographing birds has allowed her to get familiar with the camera and hone her photographic techniques. Her bird photos are excellent! Recently, she has been using an Olympus TG-6 with a Sea&Sea YS-D2 (followed by a D3) strobe and a video light and likes the camera's ability to switch from wide angle to macro mode while underwater on a dive, and a GoPro is still on the camera rig as well.

I asked Amy about her favorite dive location and she explained that although she has dived in Hawaii, Cozumel, and Cabo San Lucas, she really loves the local diving around Southern California. Being able to see all of the marine life (especially the turtles), at the Marine Room is priceless! Amy made a point of explaining how special it is to be able to dive local spots and become familiar with the topography and organisms on repeat visits and really get to know the animals and their behavior.

On several occasions during our conversation, Amy shared that she sometimes feels a reluctance to try some of the more advanced equipment, but once she starts using and playing with the gear, she becomes much more comfortable. When I asked what advice she would share with photographers hoping to improve their skills, this topic rose again. Amy said, "You don't have to understand everything". Use the gear and you just have to be controlled enough that the gear itself isn't a problem for safety. Amy suggests that photographers try new gear and techniques and don't worry about it; just keep practicing. She also mentioned how important topside practice is in becoming familiar with the gear so it feels more natural underwater.

Since Amy joined the SDUPS in 2018, she has served as the Vice President in 2020 and is the 2021 SDUPS President. I agree with my friend Anson: Amy is a superstar!

Submitted by: **Harold Dorr** - *Membership Chairman*





Join us May 22 and beyond at ScubaShow.com!



Launching May 22: 2021 Scuba Show Virtual Edition, 'A Diver's Resource.'

We wish that we were welcoming you to the Long Beach Convention Center this weekend. But since that isn't possible for the second (and last) year, we're providing a platform to help satisfy that desire to be around all things SCUBA.

The Exhibitor Portal and Product Showcase go live this Saturday, May 22. Be on the lookout for another email from us then, and in the meantime, here's a preview of what's coming!

SCUBA Show.com

Not sure how the virtual show is going to be handled but click on this link for more information:

<http://www.scubashow.com>





Photo by Mike Poirier

Critter Corner

Batfish/Spadefish are the common names for this fish. *Platax* is a genus of Indo-Pacific, reef-associated fish belonging to the family Ephippidae. There are currently five known extant species generally accepted to belong to the genus.

Description

Members of the genus *Platax* are generally similar in shape to the other species in the family. Adults are rather disc-shaped fish, with laterally compressed bodies and large dorsal and anal fins that give individuals a somewhat triangular profile. *Platax teira* is the largest species, reaching lengths of around 70 centimetres (28 in). The other species reach maximum lengths of around 40–

65 cm (16–26 in).

Distribution

Platax can be found in reefs throughout the entire Indo-Pacific region. Their range extends from the western Indian Ocean in the Red Sea to as far east as Australia. Most *Platax* species can be found in higher latitudes, as high as the Ryukyu Islands in Japan and as far south as the eastern coast of Australia. However, the ranges of the individual species is not consistent throughout the genus' range. *Platax pinnatus* for example is most likely not found in the Indian Ocean. A few individuals have been found in Atlantic waters. Apparently, the species *Platax orbicularis* has been observed in Florida waters as a non-native, invasive species. The aquarium industry has been blamed for the spread of this species into the Caribbean. Members of the genus are most common around reefs and shipwrecks.

Pictured Above

This picture was taken in the Raja Ampat, 2016. It is called a Golden Spadefish *Platax boersii*. Its size can be up to 47 cm (18 3/4 in.) It is yellowish silver; with a dark to faint bar through the eye and a second bar from the nape to the ventral fins. It also usually has scattered black spots on the sides. Usually found in large schools. There range is from the Red Sea to Indonesia, Philippines, Palau, New Guinea, and the Solomon Islands north to S. W. Japan

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.

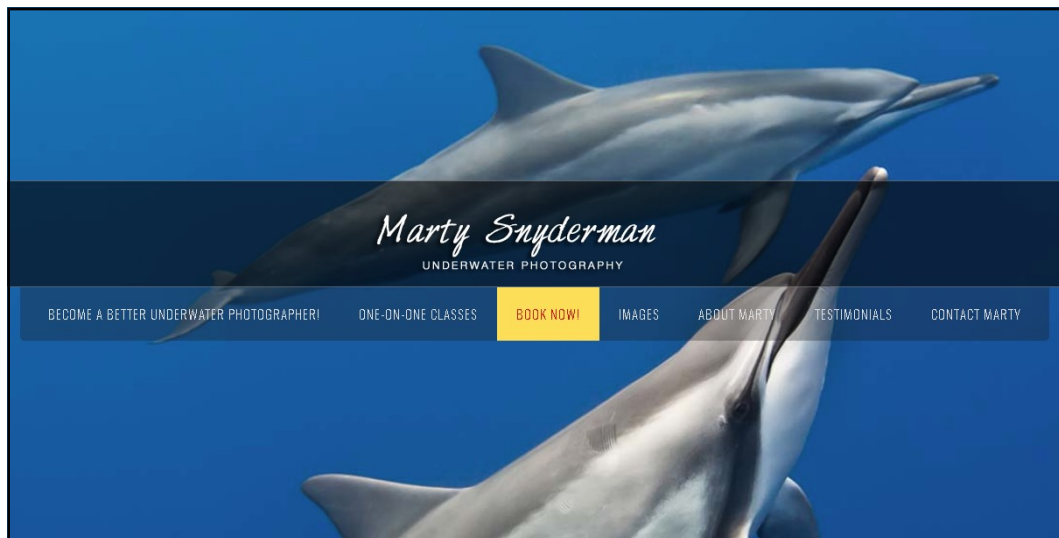


Photo Classes

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

SDUPS SPONSORS

Ocean Enterprises has the best prices guaranteed
All club members can enjoy 10% off every day

Used Poseidon Se7en Rebreather, \$4000

Used Poseidon Six Rebreather, \$1500



Book your next trip with us!
Join us one of our many group trips or let us
tailor something special for you

Philippines, Atmosphere Resort

📍 Dumaguete, Philippines

📅 **Departs:** Nov 17th, 2020 | **Returns:** Nov 20th, 2020

🐾 **Hosts:** Myra Kurn & Werner Kurn

Palau, The Palau Pacific Resort

📍 Palau

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

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

www.oceanenterprises.com

www.oceanenterprisestravel.com



Where cameras, supplies and good service come together

3625 Midway Dr. Suite J, San Diego CA, 92110 | (619) 234-6621

<http://nelsonphotosupplies.com/>





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

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:

- > Compact Digital Cameras & Housings
- > Digital SLR Housings
- > Mirrorless Housings
- > Ports & Related
- > Strobe & Video Arms
- > Rentals
- > Underwater Lighting
- > Video
- > And More



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>

2020 Board of Directors

President

Amy Baldwin/Granger
amylynn829@yahoo.com

Vice President

Robert Casagrand
scubarob97@hotmail.com

Secretary

Dick Miller
rng900@cox.net

Treasurer

Bill Ring
wring@san.rr.com

Membership

Harold Dorr
blueox25@gmail.com

Activities

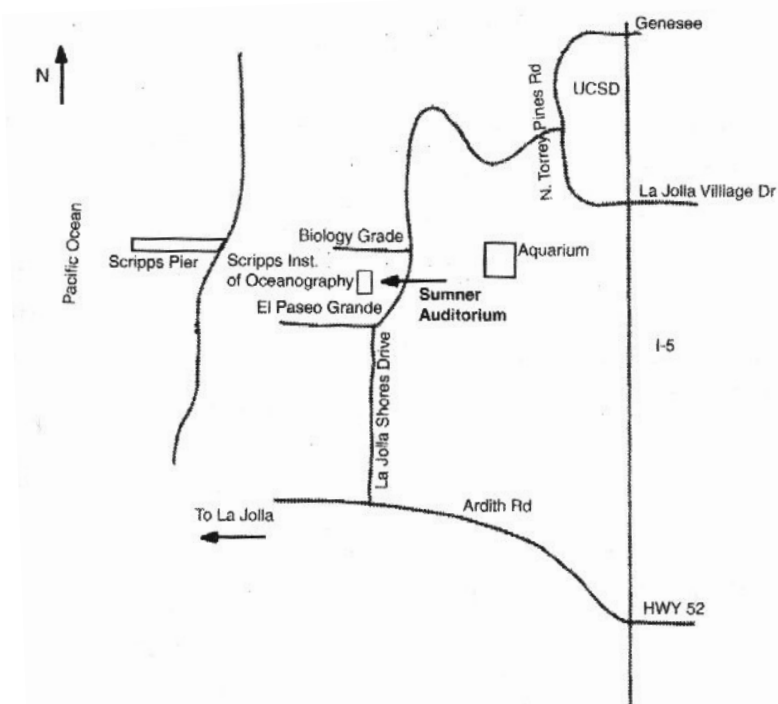
James Logan
logandive@hotmail.com

Board Members at Large:

Walter Heim
Herb Gruenhagen
Greg Volger
Erin Chandler
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

The Goby is a monthly publication of the San Diego Underwater Photographic Society, which holds copyrights to its format and all content. Images contained in the Goby are the property of the submitting photographer, who also holds the copyrights thereto. No use of The Goby or its contents may be made without the written permission of the San Diego Underwater Photographic Society, the submitting photographer or both.

