

The Goby

San Diego Underwater Photographic Society

Volume 64 Issue 2

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

February 2025

President's Message

Hello SDUPS Members - **Mentorship. What is mentorship?** What does mentorship mean to you?

SDUPS Mission Statement: The San Diego Underwater Photographic Society (SDUPS), was formed in 1961. SDUPS is a social club whose members join to promote the sport and pastime of underwater photography and videography.

The statement above can be found on our website. I feel this statement can be expanded on. We are so much more.

Our Novice group is getting very small right now with only 4 submissions for the February competition. Yes, we have had some movement in our members moving up to Amateur and I think that is amazing, but I feel there is a lot of members especially those that are in the Novice group not submitting their content.

I want to help with that. **So, Calling on all Amateur and Advanced** members to seek out Novice members during our monthly meeting and be a mentor. Have that conversation and share your experience, your knowledge, your processes. Pass it along. Now I know some of the members are doing just that and I thank you for being a mentor. I have seen the improvement of some members contents based on the monthly competition. Our Novice members need you.

To those that are in the Novice Group, please seek out an Amateur or Advanced member. Ask questions, seek advice about camera equipment, technical information, processes, editing programs, music, the list goes on. This can only work if we seek each other out and have a conversation.

James Logan - SDUPS President



SDUPS online **Hybrid Zoom Meeting, February 27th 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

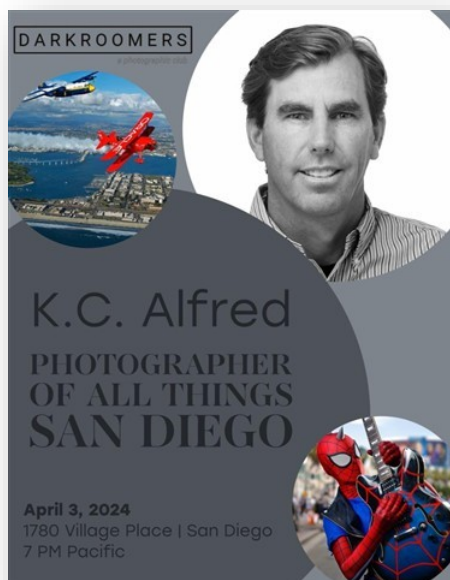
☞ Click on the Link below

☞ Meeting ID number: 859 403 9607

☞ Meeting Password: SDUPS1961



<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8594309607?pwd=UEJtUG0rczI3bEhOcW15LzlydlZJdz09>



From Little League to the Olympics, from city council to Presidents of the United States and everything in between, **K.C. Alfred** has photographed it all in San Diego during a 20-plus year career as a staff photographer at The San Diego Union-Tribune. K.C. specializes in a variety of photography disciplines ranging from portraiture to sports to aerial and underwater. K.C. will show his photos from the U-T, such as Padres, Comic-Con, and life around town, as well as personal projects, such as his favorite subject, his world-famous skateboarding cat Comet.

CALENDAR

February 27th– 7 pm SDUPS Hybrid Meeting at Sumner Auditorium (Map page 5)

Presentation: **KC Alfred S. D. Union Tribune** Photographer, both underwater & topside. (See sidebar to the left)

February Competition - Behavior
See Page 2 & 3

March Competition - **Shallows**, see page 12 For explanation

2025 Membership dues form - Page 5

San Diego Photographer to speak at the SDUPS February Meeting



February Competition

Bob Yin – 1st Place Advanced



Greg Volger – 2nd Place Advanced



Mike Poirier – 3rd Place Advanced



Mike Couffer – 3rd Place Advanced



Tom Baker - 1st Place Amateur

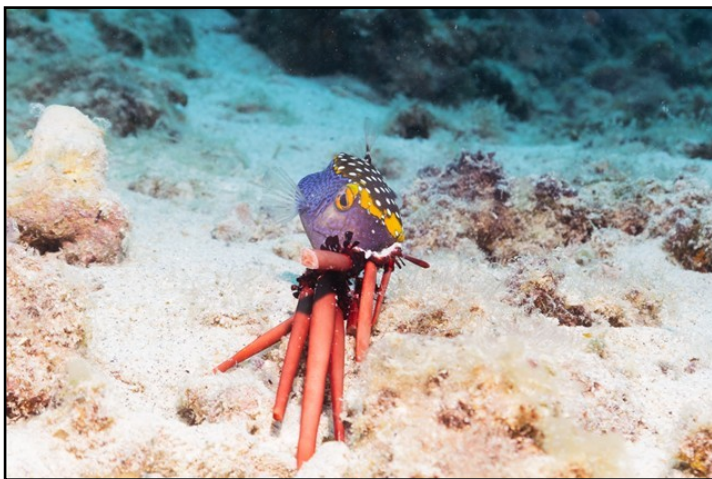


Doug Bonhaus – 2nd Place Amateur



February Competition

Ryan Vaickus – 3rd Place Amateur



"Behavior"

Matthias Scheer – 1st Place Novice



Elaine Masters – 2nd Place Novice



Video Competition February

1st Place - **Kristin Carner**

1st Place - **Walter Marti**

2nd Place - **Bill Ring**

3rd Place - **Bob Yin**



Here are the competition results for 2024

Novice photographer of the year: **Katherine Mauser**

Amateur photographer of the year: **Doug Bonhaus**

Advanced photographer of the year: **Silvana Ghiu**

Videographer of the year: **Kris Carner**

Promotions: Novice to Amateur: **Katherine Mauser** and **Matt Wilbur**

Amateur to Advanced: **Lois Miller**

Stats for the February Competition: Behavior

Still Entries: 19

Novice = 2

Amateur = 4

Advanced = 13

Videos = 7

Votes Cast = 32



SDUPS Meeting January 23rd

Our first SDUPS Meeting for 2025 hit a last minute snag. Due to a fire that broke out in La Jolla, the in person meeting at Sumner Auditorium had to be called off. Our President **James Logan** started sending out emails, text messages, and making phone calls to let club members know what was going on. The meeting was held via Zoom. A total of twenty-seven members signed into Zoom to attend the meeting.

James opened the meeting with a few announcements including possible plans for the club in the new year. These included our Film Festival, SCUBA Show, the Holiday/Awards Party, La Jolla Library Exhibit, among others. He highlighted that these ideas will need volunteers to make them happen.

Next on the agenda was a unique “Show & Tell” about a Sunfish in an aquarium that was losing its health. The aquarium came up with a very clever idea that worked. To watch the video on YouTube, click this link: (<https://youtu.be/8-MS3R5onms?si=0LeoYVqExRdnaRM4>)

Up next was the Competition winners for January. Those images were featured in the January Goby Newsletter. The theme was the “Best of 2024”.

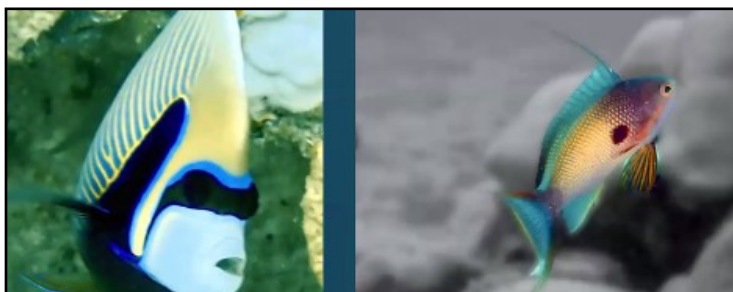
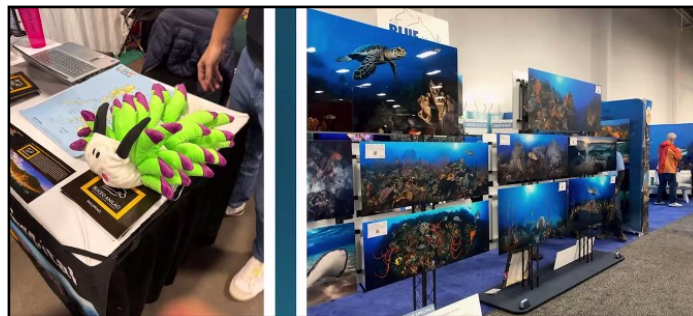
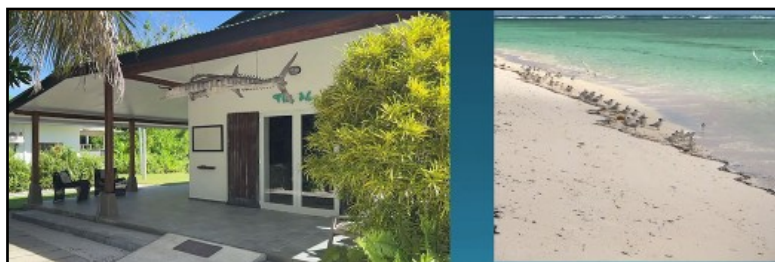
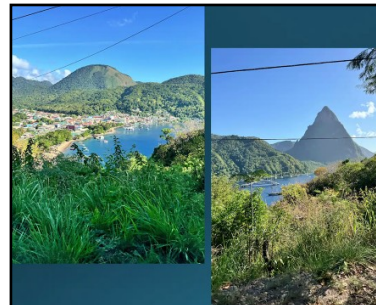
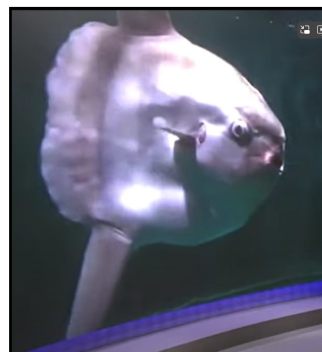
Normally it would be time for refreshments for our mid-meeting intermission. We couldn't very well do that on Zoom so we just moved forward.

Our speaker of the evening was past Vice-President, **Dick Miller**. Dick does a lot of traveling in his retirement and I mean a lot. He shared the trips that he took last year 2024. He and his wife **Lois** started the year off in January with a dive trip to St. Lucia. In March they attended the “Beneath the Sea” show on the east coast. On to April with a trip to the Seychelles & Alphonse Island. In September it was on to Grand Cayman one of Dick's favorite dive trips. He ended the year by attending the DEMA trade show in Las Vegas. Each one of these trips included pictures and narration to explain the beauty of each area. Dick and his wife were on they way to there first trip for 2025 and Zoomed from the L.A. airport. Dick is one of our senior club members but that sure doesn't slow him down. Thank you for your presentation Dick.

James then made a few closing announcements and ended the meeting a little and invited everyone to our next meeting in February.



Dick Miller





2025 MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION/RENEWAL

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

☐ New Member ☐ This is an Address Correction

Name 1

E-mail Address 1 (very important)

Name 2

E-mail Address 2

Address

Please make checks payable to **SDUPS**
Mail To:

City/State/Zip

Phone

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

Dues may also be paid online.
A 3.5% surcharge will be added
for online payments.
Go to:
www.sdups.com
Click on the MEMBERSHIP tab



New Species of Seahorse
found off the island of AI

SAVE THE DATE

MAY 31 - JUNE 1, 2025

Scuba Show returns to the Long Beach Convention
Center the last weekend of May.

Mark your calendars for May 31 - June 1, 2025. Tickets
will go on sale in early March.

Follow us on social media and check our website for
updates on tickets, seminars and all the exciting things
we've got planned for 2025!

scubashow.com



Monthly Competition Rules

SDUPS Photo Competition Rules

1. You must be a member of SDUPS
2. You can submit one image each month in your respective division.
3. Division is determined by accumulated points
 - A. Novice: 25 points or less
 - B. Amateur: 26 to 70 points
 - C. Advanced: 71 points or more
4. New members may choose which division, Novice, Amateur, or Advanced, when first joining. After that time, you can not change division and will compete in that chosen division.
5. Advancement between divisions occurs at the end of each year.
6. Points are awarded for placement in the competition:
 - A. 1st - 5 points
 - B. 2nd - 3 points
 - C. 3rd - 1 point
 - D. In case of a tie, all tying photographers will be awarded the corresponding point value of their placement.
7. Photo Modification:
 - A. Allowed: Cropping, Sharpening, Removal of noise/backscatter, Color Adjustments (Levels, Hues, Color Balance, Dodge & Burn)
 - B. Not Allowed: Alterations of Image Content, Removal or Addition of Subjects or Material. For example, removal/adding a diver, fish, etc.
8. Submit .jpg files with 1920 x 1080 pixel count.
9. Photographer of the Year recognition and corresponding award shall be given to the member in each division who earns the most points during that calendar year. This recognition and corresponding award will be given during the SDUPS Officer's Installation and Awards Banquet, or its equivalent.
10. Voting for the winning images is by secret ballot at each meeting. Anyone present at the meeting may vote. The Secretary/Historian is solely responsible for tallying and keeping an accurate record of all members current point status, and is available for any questions arising on this topic.
11. Adopted Environmental Awareness Guidelines:

Marine life should never be stressed or endangered for the sake of a photo. Entries in our monthly competitions exhibiting the following behavior will be disqualified:

 - A. Diver visibly damaging (i.e. gear dragging into) the environment.
 - B. Animals with signs of diver induced stress (i.e. puffed puffers, inking octopus).
 - C. Animals moved to an unnatural environment or risky location.
 - D. Animals being fed artificial food from divers (i.e. chum visible in photograph).
 - E. Marine life being harassed (i.e. touching corals, seahorse tails).
 - F. If image/video has placed in the top three winners within the **last three years**, it may not be use again.



Monthly Competition Rules

Video Competition Rules

1. Media Types: Window's Media (.wmv), QuickTime (.mov), AVI's, or .mpgs will be accepted. PLEASE put your short video clip into one of these formats for easy display. DVD's will no longer be accepted.
2. Submission: All videos must be copied to the club computer before 6:30 pm the night of the competition.
3. All videos must be under 30 seconds. There can be multiple clips within your video. Any video over the 30 second RULE will be disqualified.
4. The video subject is to be the same as the still competition for the month.

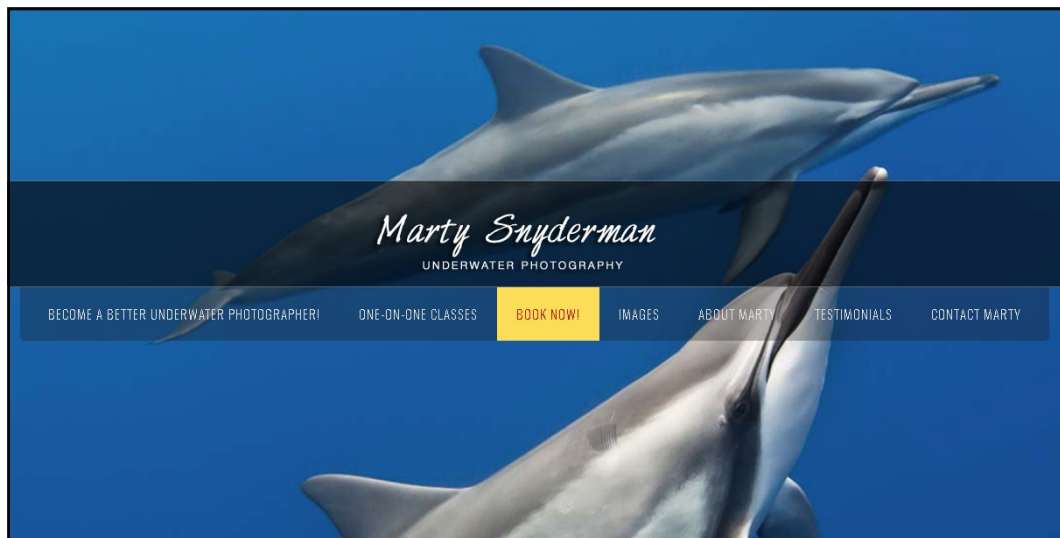


Sumner Auditorium Parking Map



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

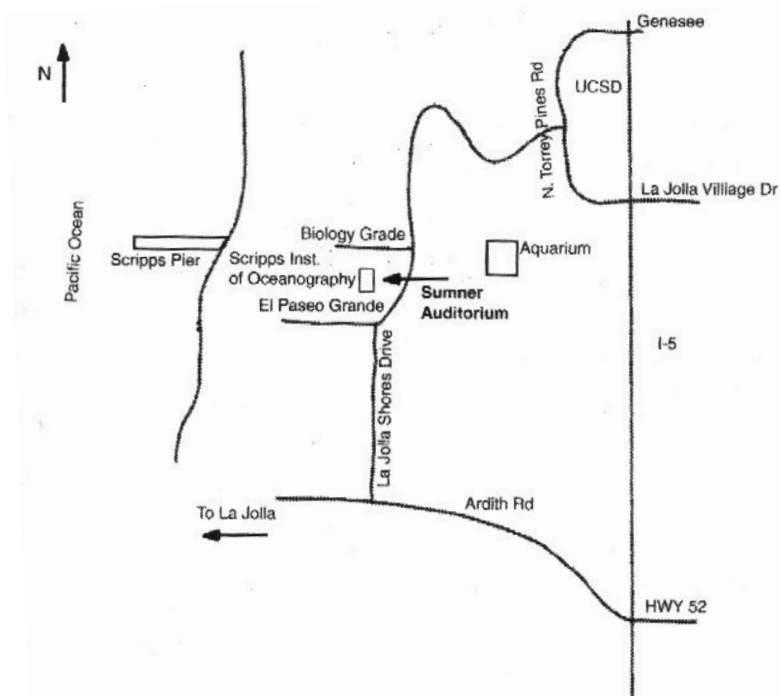
(No meeting in December)

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>



2025 Board of Directors

President

James Logan
 logandive@gmail.com

Vice President

Paula Selby
 plselby@cox.net

Secretary

Harold Dorr
 bluecox25@gmail.com

Treasurer

Bill Ring
 wring@san.rr.com

Membership

Harold Dorr
 bluecox25@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
 Vacant - Web Master
 Vacant - Social Media
 Beth Beason - Computer Tech
 Walter Heim - Competition

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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