

# The Goby

San Diego Underwater Photographic Society

Volume 64 Issue 9

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

September 2025

## President's Message

Hello Everyone

Well we are heading into our final stretch for the amazing year. I hope everyone has had an amazing summer and a great time with our monthly competition. It has been an awesome year. I want to take a moment to thank our Competition Committee for an incredible year. Amy, Doug, and Charlotte thanks for a fantastic year.

Let me remind everyone that the competition topics are posted for all to see. This gives everyone the chance to plan dives if for some reason you don't have footage that fits that particular topic. It gives us all a reason to get out there diving. Not that we need one.

So just a few more monthly competitions. I encourage you to take a look at the remaining topics and if you don't have anything in your collection of photos/videos that fits any of the topics, plan a dive with a club member and see if you can photograph or video something that will make your creative mind flow.

Thanks for an amazing year and let's finish strong.

James Logan

President

San Diego Underwater Photographic Society



SDUPS online **Hybrid Zoom Meeting**, Stember 25th 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>

I think it's time to upgrade my SCUBA equipment



## CALENDAR

September 25th– 7 pm SDUPS Hybrid Meeting at Sumner Auditorium (Map page 10)

Presentation: - **Todd Kortte** GoPro  
Page 4

September Competition: Schools

October Competition: Camouflage

\*\*\* San Diego UFX Underwater Film Exhibition Tickets on page 8

### SAVE THE DATES:

September 20th - SDUPS Picnic -  
Page 5

December 6th - Awards/Holiday Party  
More information next month's Goby



# September Competition

## "Schools"

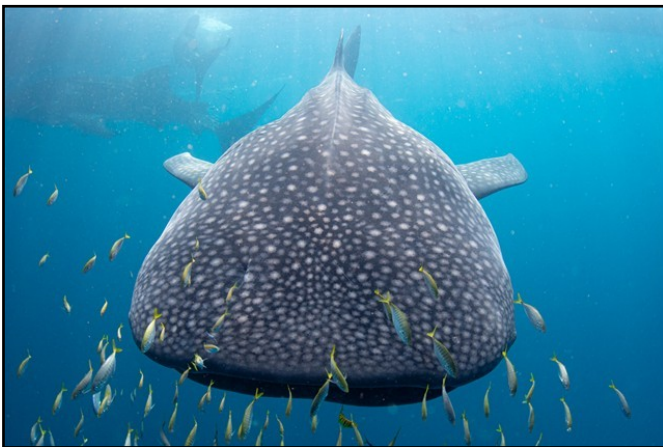
**Greg Volger**– 1st Place Advanced



**Bob Yin** – 2nd Place Advanced



**Harold Dorr** – 3rd Place Advanced



**Katherine Mauser** - 1st Place Amateur



**Tom Baker** - 1st Place Amateur



**Matt Wilbur** - 2nd Place Amateur





# September Competition

## "Schools"

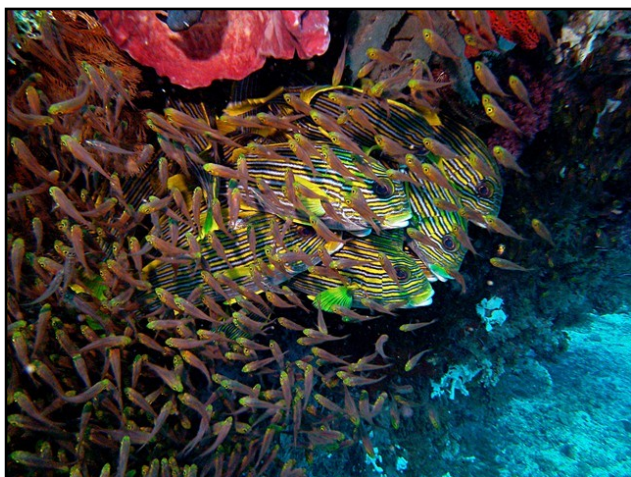
**Doug Bonhaus** - 3rd Place Amateur



**Matthias Scheer** – 1st Place Novice



**David Karp** – 2nd Place Novice



**Melissa Foo** - 3rd Place Novice



### Video Competition September

1st Place - **Bill Ring**

1st Place - **Matthias Scheer**

2nd Place - **Kristin Carner**

3rd Place - **Bob Yin**



### Stats for the September Competition: Scholls

Still Entries:

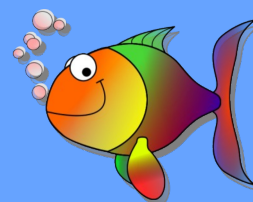
Novice = 6

Amateur = 5

Advanced = 13

Videos = 8

Votes Cast = 33





# TODD KORTTE

Presenting  
**"Maximize the Potential  
of Your GoPro  
for Underwater Video."**

September 25, 2025

7:15 pm at  
Sumner Auditorium  
Scripps Campus



Todd Kortte is an actor and producer in Hollywood with a passion for the ocean. He has appeared in over 150 national commercials, and has brought his Hollywood production expertise to the underwater world of videography. Todd placed 4th in the World Shootout in Germany, becoming the only American to make the top 5 finalists in the World Shootout Video Category. He has film festival awards, several viral videos, several million social media views, has led underwater video workshops, and

has several licensed underwater videos with viral video companies. Todd has also documented Giant Manta research efforts in Socorro with the Pacific Manta Research Group, and Southern California ocean cleanup efforts with Ocean Defenders Alliance. For more information about Todd's workshops, go to: [Oceans Unknown](#)

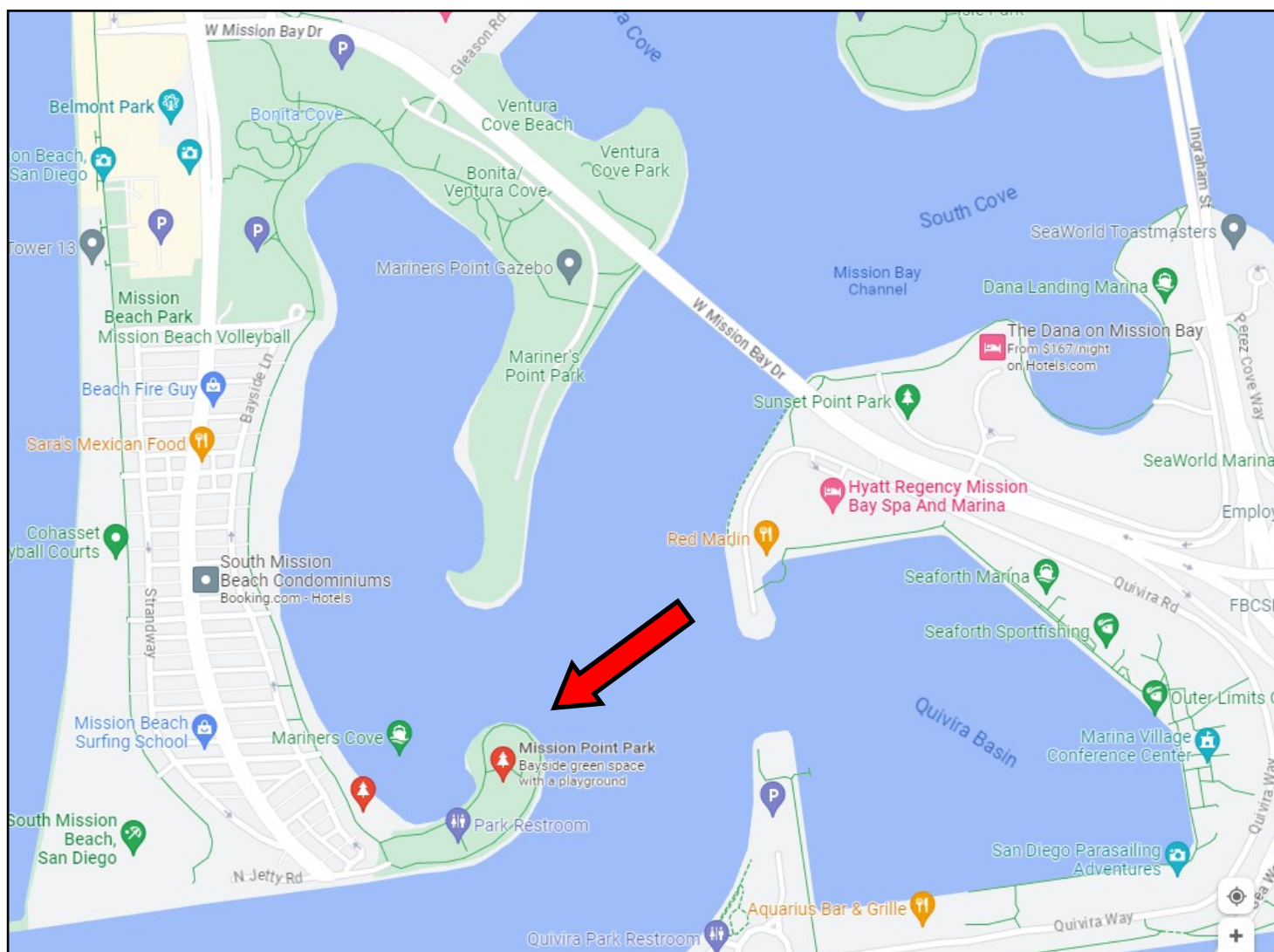


***SDUPS ANNUAL PICNIC  
SATURDAY - SEPTEMBER 20TH  
LOCATION - - Mission Point Park  
Meet - after 10 am - Eat -12 noon  
You Can Dive at the Park***

Burgers/Hotdogs/Chips/Drinks provided by the Club



Members are asked to bring their favorite dish or dessert.  
Please RSVP for a Headcount - James (sdups1961@gmail.com)





## ***SDUPS Meeting August 24th***

If you ever wanted to learn something about one of the weirdest fish in the ocean, you should have been at the August SDUPS meeting. More on that in just a bit.

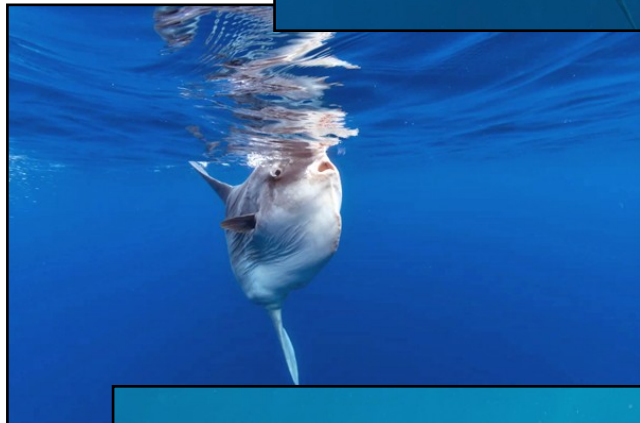
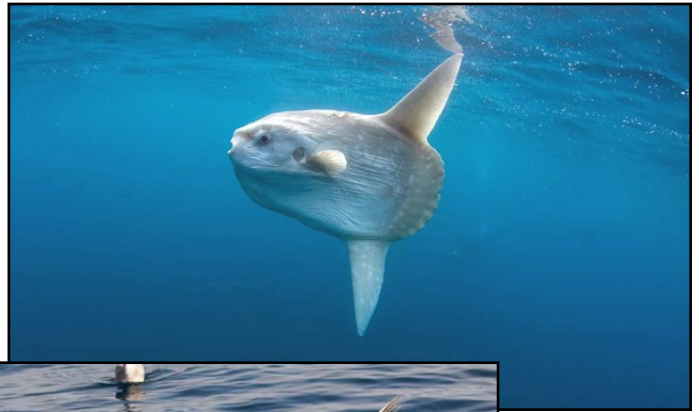
President, **James Logan** opened the meeting in the usual way. He welcomed everyone, introduced the board members and visitors. I try not to miss many meetings but a case of COVID kept me away from the in person meeting. I joined eleven others that chimed in on Zoom. It's a different kind of a meeting on Zoom. You don't get to interact with other members and especially miss out on the intermission snacks that **Cindy Liphay** provides.

As I mentioned, it was a night of a special ocean fish, The Ocean Sunfish, AKA the Mola Mola. Professional underwater photographer **Richard Herrmann** gave a wonderful presentation on finding and photographing these weird looking fish. He mentioned that photographers have been taking images of the Mola Mola for years but with the advent of better equipment and techniques, images have much improved. Richard's images showed cased this improvement to the upmost. He talked a little bit about how these fishes are almost always bothered with parasites. Richard had pictures to back this up. Richard has found that the easiest way to find Mol Molas, is to motor out to floating kelp paddies. Gelatinous animals such as Jellyfish and Salps are the main diets for Molas

Richard also gave some shooting tips which included getting close, as Molas won't hurt you. Also to freedive rather than be on SCUBA. They are a slow moving fish so you can get close. They do have predators such as sharks, sea lions and orcas. As you can see by the photos that Richard presented, these are weird fish but have there own beauty. If you have ever been in the water with them, it's a real treat. Thank you Richard for a very informative and exciting presentation.

It was then time for the intermission after which the August photo competition winners were presented. The winners were showcased in the August issue of the Goby. Some winners were on hand to explain how, what and where their image was taken. This is very helpful to all members, to learn more about the winning images.

James closed the meeting with announcements about the continuing SDUPS photo exhibit at the La Jolla Library, the Club Picnic in September and the Holiday/Awards party in December. More information on these events will be forthcoming.



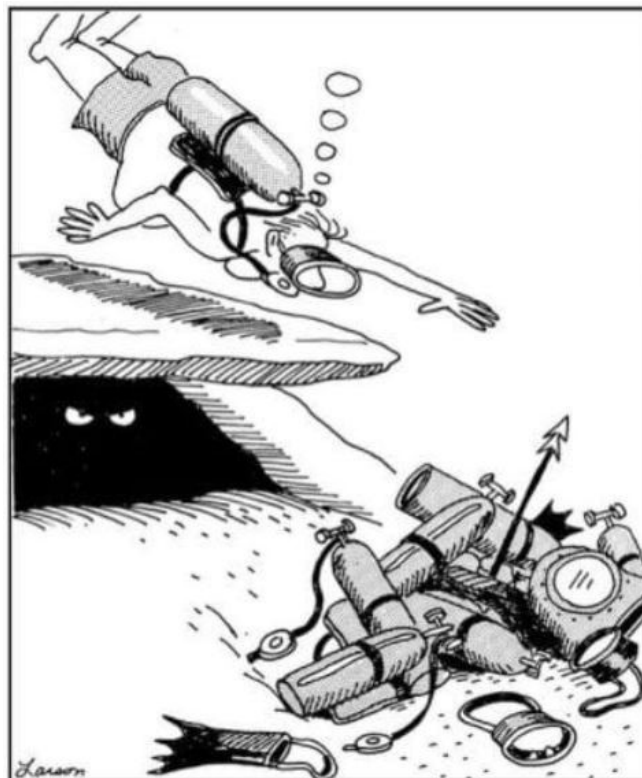
## ***SDUPS Photo Exhibit Extended***



### ***SDUPS at the La Jolla Library 7552 Draper Ave. June 27 to September 25th***

SDUPS Members will again display some of their best Underwater Photographs with a special exhibition at the La Jolla Library this summer. The Underwater Photo Exhibit will be at the Library until September 25th,

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***San Diego Undersea Film Exhibition*****SAN DIEGO UNDERSEA FILM EXHIBITION****TICKETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE**

Friday, October 10th | 7–9 PM

Saturday, October 11th | 6–8 PM

(Distinct program each night)

Saturday's show is followed by an optional ticketed  
reception with food & drinks (8 - 9:30pm)

Join the SDUFEX community!

Pre-order an SDUFEX T-shirt to pick up at the show!

<https://www.sdufex.com>



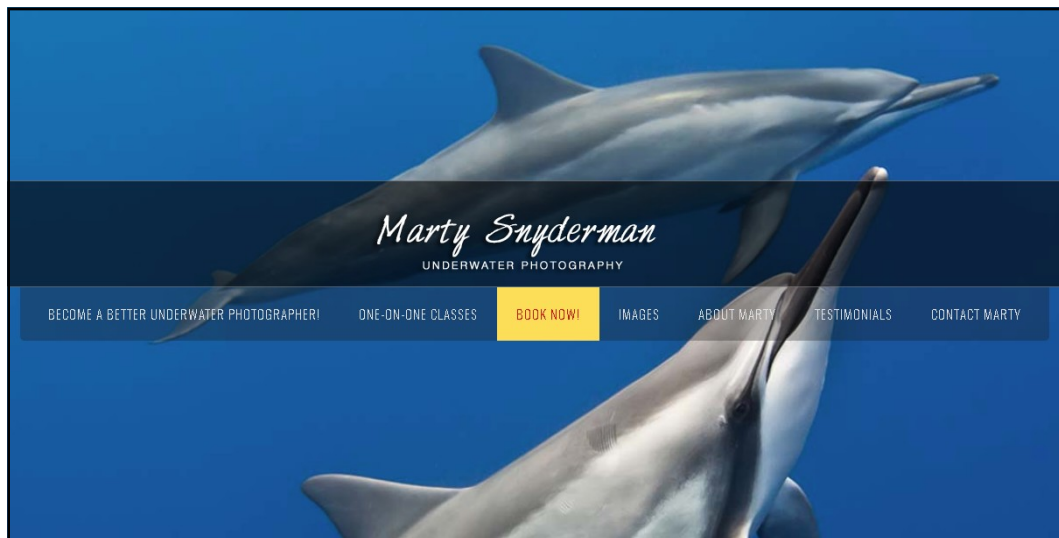


## Sumner Auditorium Parking Map



## 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](http://www.martysnyderman.com)



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## 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](http://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](http://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

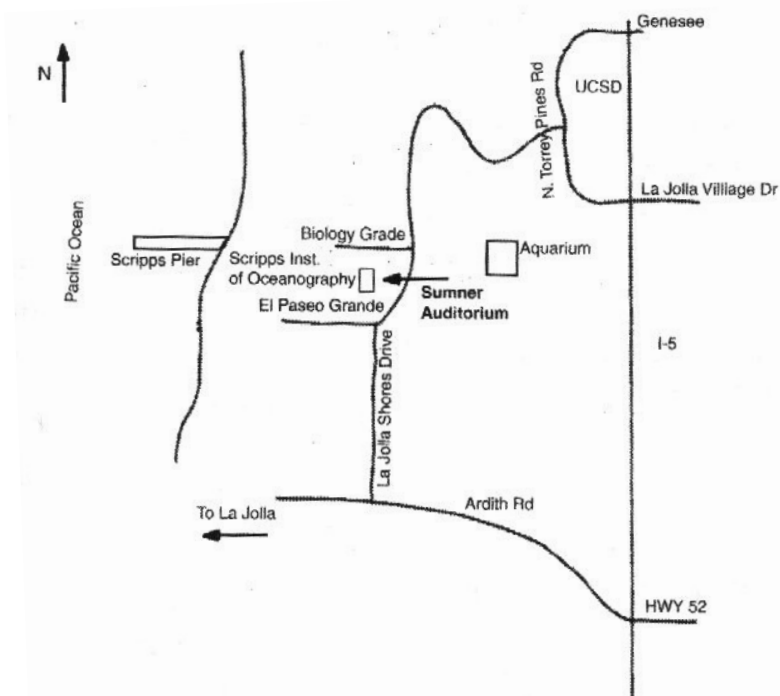
(No meeting in December)

**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

## 2025 Board of Directors

### President

James Logan  
sdups1961@gmail.com

### Vice President

Paula Selby  
pselby@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  
Kris Carner - Web Master  
Kris Carner - Social Media  
Beth Beason - Computer Tech  
Walter Heim - Historian

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