Cover Shot
Phil Rudin

Future Meetings

September 8
October 13
November 10
December 8

7:30 PM at
El Palacio
(formerly the Holiday Inn)
21485 N.W. 27th Avenue, Miami
305-621-5801

Inside this Issue:

Presentation:

WALT STEARNS

On-the-Day-Contest
Intra-Club Contest Winners August Contest
Links to Photo Contests
New Members

Pipehorse, Cozumel © Phil Rudin

Submit "Cover Photo" material to the Newsletter Editor
Suzan Meldonian, 561-394-6391
or e-mail: newsletter@sfups.org
Please include a short paragraph about the photo, including camera information and location.
DEADLINE IS THE 25th!
From the Editor

Well, we hope you are enjoying your summer and we hope you are diving.

The Bubble Gals have scheduled a club dive. Atlantis is an incredible sight to see. There’s always tons of great stuff to photograph in clear waters. Club dives give our photographers a time to dive together in a pristine dive with others of like mind and carefully buoyant atmosphere, which we all know is key to excellent photographs. Remember, your payment secures your spot!

http://www.nmreef.com/memorial+reef.18.lasso

Saturday September 12
12:30 show 1:00 go! $55.00 includes tip

Divers Paradise-Key Biscayne
15 spots reserved!
www.keydivers.com
(305) 361-3483
4000 Crandon Blvd
Key Biscayne, FL
Plenty of free parking! Bring your C card!
If you need rental gear, please call Omar and pay them directly.
This is definitely Wide Angle for the memorial.
A local reef for second dive!
Make Checks payable to SFUPS.
> Last day to pay will be at the meeting on Sept 8.
Any remaining spots will be turned back.
Send
To: Carol Schurtz
8040 NW 46th Court
Lauderhill, Fl. 33351
Walt Stearns is one of the most prolific underwater and watersports photojournalists in North America.

For more than 20 years, his images and writing have appeared in a broad range of well-known national and international publications, as well as a wide variety of promotional and advertising mediums. His deep wealth knowledge and experience in the marine and outdoor environments have earned him the reputation as one of the most credible journalist in his field, while his unique eye and underwater athleticism have allowed him to amass a stunning portfolio of underwater imagery.

Well versed in boating, sport fishing, sport diving and marine natural history, Walt's photography and writing skills has earned him a reputation among art directors, editors and account executives for delivering credible, accurate information and superior imagery in a timely and cost-effective manner.

Along with his journalistic talents gracing the pages of publications like Boating, (as a contributing editor 1985 to 1993), Trailer Boats, Boating Life, Salt Water Sportsman, Sport Fishing, Field & Stream, Nature, Men's Health, Men's Journal, Outdoor Photographer, Caribbean Travel & Life,
Caribbean World, Skin diver Magazine (1995 to 1999), Scuba Diving Magazine to Sport Diver from their premiere issue in 1994 to present, Walt’s photographs have graced the covers to many of these widely-recognized magazines with nearly equal measure. Salt Water Sportsman, Sport Fishing, Skin Diver, Sport Diver, Scuba Diving, Salt Water Fly Fishing and Florida Sportsman magazine for many years.

Not to be limited to printed media, Walt has participated in numerous documentary and marine sport film projects that have aired internationally and on stations such as ESPN, Sunshine Network, The Discovery Channel and Travel Channel.

My interest in underwater photography emerged after my love affair with the ocean found its way to the Miami Seaquarium. I took a position as a show and maintenance diver in 1982 and everything began to change. My fascination with pursuing fish for sport was renewed by a camera. When a research, film or publicity project involving the Seaquarium’s dolphins, sharks, sea turtles or manatees called for pictures or video my job transposed from underwater janitor to paparazzi. Twenty years later, there is little that does not grab my attention, above or below the surface. But the ocean is where I feel most at home, strengthened by the desire to convey what I am seeing through imagery that tells the story better than words.

What I Shoot With:

For close to twenty years I had shot everything, predominately with high-end 35mm and 6x7 format bodies and lens, in film. Nowadays, the most common question I get is what are you shooting with now? With demands ever increasing for digital instead of film, there was only one choice to make - jump ship from what you really known well for this new, rapidly advancing technology. Was making such a leap daunting? Certainly. But here are a couple of the up sides. Today’s digital equipment renders not only superb results, but also the latitude to do and create in ways that go well beyond what could have been done in a darkroom, not to mention the dependency of running to a lab, waiting one to three days to see your results. Of course, there is that elemental risk of becoming a, gasp! Computer geek.

In addition to the learning curve it takes to master, let alone get the reins on this electronic media, does not come cheap. Which can have a profound effect on decision-making. My transition from film to digital early 2004, had me saying bye-bye to my trusty Nikon F4’s, in favor of Canon’s 1D mk II series Digital SLR’s. But digital camera development never sleeps as one company is always trying to one up the other. More recently I made the switch back to Nikon, namely because their newer (at the time) D300 provided what I needed – high quality imagery in a compact body better suited for travel. When it comes to camera equipment, be it Nikon or Canon, “I look at them as tools of trade not a religion!”

My Current choice of housings is Subal’s ND30 for the Nikon D300. It’s small and lightweight, making it relatively travel-friendly. Furthermore, is its balance and access to the camera’s controls are very good. But most important of all, quality ports is a must! Between Subal’s 7-1/4-inch FE2 optical grade glass dome port
and macro port with a couple extensions rings, I can readily shoot with the optics I most prefer like Tokina’s highly acclaimed AT-X 107 (10-17mm) fish-eye zoom, as well as their newer AT-X 124 (12-24mm) PRO DX II, to Nikon’s 60 and 105mm macro lens.

As for lighting, I have been using Sea & Sea strobes since 1996, which today comprise of two YS-120’s and two YS-250’s, which can crank out when I need it. Try lighting up an underwater cave passage 400 feet from the nearest exit some time.

Just as important as the strobes is the armatures that support them. Recently I retired my Technical Lighting Control (TLC) arms (which have last through more camera housing strobe relationships than Jennifer Lopez with boy friends), for slightly lighter weight UltraLight (ULCS) arms with buoyancy segments.

To see more of his work log on to www.waltstearns.com
Or visit www.UnderwaterJournal.com and download your free copy of this online magazine.
WINNERS of the INTRA CLUB CONTEST August:
CHALLENGERS: Weapons

SEPTEMBER
M - Reflections
C - Beneath the Sun

OCTOBER
M - Haunted Castles
C - Ghoulies

NOVEMBER
M - Fall Colors
C - Lionfish

1st Place: Judy Townsend
2nd Place: Lureen Ferretti
3rd Place: Bill Cook
4th Place: Lureen Ferretti
5th Place: Patrice Marker
WINNERS of the INTRA CLUB CONTEST August: MASTERS:

Teeth

1st Place: Steve Kovacs

2nd Place: Christopher Guglielmo

3rd Place: Steve Kovacs

4th Place: Christopher Guglielmo

5th Place: Kim Cook
PHOTO CONTESTS

Sept 6  Sharks in Focus!
http://www.sharktrust.org/v.asp?level2id=6238&rootid=6238&depth=1
the shark photography competition is back with five new categories

Sept 15  The 36th World Festival of Underwater Pictures

Sep18 LAUPS 47th Annual International Photography Competition Visit our website http://laups.org/comp_2009/ for competition guidelines, rules and entry form

Oct 15 Epson Red Sea  http://www.sandiskredsea.com
The Best 5 Images
The Best Color Print
The best Wrecks of the world
The best Humoristic Image

FOR SALE:
Canon XT (300D) Digital Rebel (body only), Ikelite housing with built-in electronic controls, 6-inch dome port for wide angle and flat port for 18-55 or 60 mm macro lenses, charger, two batteries and owner’s manual. Both camera and housing are in perfect working condition. The camera has a scratch on the top. . . . . . . $1,000 firm.

Contact Amaury Cruz - amaurycruz@yahoo.com

FOR SALE:
Epson 2200 Photo Printer . . . . . . . . . $150.00 OBO
Prints up to 13” wide. Uses 7 separate color ink cartridges plus separate switchable photo black and matte black depending on paper type. Maximum paper size is 13” x 44”. Includes printer, USB cable, extra set of inks, variety of sample papers.

Contact Susan Mears - photofish@mindspring.com 954-778-8188
Deb Devers has been diving for 25 years. Two years ago she reached her 4 digit dive. Ten years ago she took up photography & 4 years ago moved to digital. She has reached the 5 digits there & has decided to stop counting! Deb shoots with the Olympus SP350 in the PT 030 housing with the SeaLife ProFlash & a lot of help from her friends.

Diane Leasenby
As a former kindergarten teacher I used a cheap underwater camera to help share my love of diving and the underwater world with my students. Initially the pictures left a lot to be desired but, thank goodness, 5 year olds didn’t care. Larry and I (soon to be married 40 years) finally retired in 2005 and moved away from Michigan’s frozen lakes to the warm Gulf Stream water of Florida. We’ve discovered that diving and “picture taking” fills most of our free time and that makes us both very happy.

Diane Randolph
I was certified in West Palm Beach Florida in November of 1993 (I know, what was I thinking getting certified in NOVEMBER). In 1995 I started taking courses to become a dive master so that I could start working in the dive industry and dive for “free”. After completing 98% of the course I deciding that hauling tanks and working at something that I would rather keep as a form of relaxation was not for me so I purchased a video camera and housing and have been having a blast shooting UW Video ever since. My goal is to travel and see as much of the world as possible, preferably more of the underwater world than topside, and to be able to hold the video camera so still that you would think it’s on a tri-pod. Haven’t done or mastered both yet.. but I’m working on it.

I grew up in Michigan and spent most of my working career as an architect. Now retired, my wife Diane and I moved to Florida in order to get away from the cold winters and pursue our diving interests. I started diving as a teenager back in the 60’s when the sport was much different. We got away from diving as work and raising a family became primary goals, but never forgot the thrill of being underwater. After the kids finished college and a snorkeling trip in Cancun, we decided we had to get back to diving again. That was 1996 and now we dive as much as possible. After we started to take pictures, a dive without a camera is just not the same. - Larry Leasenby
NEW MEMBER ALERT!

Peter Lorber was born in Czechoslovakia and lived there until immigrating to Canada. By profession, he is an engineer, but his passion has always been photography. In 1990, he moved to Boca Raton, FL where he opened Custom Photo Images, now a custom digital lab.

Peter has built his reputation as a leading panoramic photographer. When digital came on the scene, he began shooting with Hasselblad. He is now a Hasselblad dealer. He discovered Ultima Digital housing for Hasselblad and began doing underwater photography. Between the camera and housing, a whole new world of photography has opened up for him. Custom Photo Images peter@peterlorber.com  www.peterlorber.com

2009 PHOTO CONTEST RULES

Digital Files:
Realizing that some computer adjustments are necessary for digital files, we ask that only minor adjustments be made in the computer. Only minor cropping, color adjustments, backscatter removal and sharpening are allowed. No extreme computer manipulation, removing items or adding items to the image.
• Images will be submitted prior to the meeting so that they can be compiled for easy viewing and judging.
• Image size should be no greater than 1024 pixels on the long side and the file size should be less than 1.4 megabytes. Images should be submitted in JPEG format.
• Each image file name must include your name, month, category, and number. Use “mastr” for Masters Category and “chall” for Challengers category. For example an image submitted by John Doe for the January Challengers contest would be named: J Doe-JanChall-1.jpeg
• Entries must sent via email to Bob Weybrecht at audiovisual@sfups.org the Friday night before the Monthly meeting.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Reflections – image must include a reflection of the primary subject.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Beneath the sun – image must contain a sunball, shafts, or rays of sunlight.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Haunted castles – reef or wreck scene with a spooky ambience.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Goulies – any animal that looks ghoulish or frightening.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Fall colors – must include a substantial amount of orange or red.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Turkeyfish aka Lionfish: any fish of the subfamily Pteroinae.</td>
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TBA: On-the-day contest; digital creations.

*If you are uncertain about what qualifies as an animal or plant category, please consult a reputable guidebook such as Humann/deLoach’s Reef Set. If still in doubt, contact Rob Myers or Mike Schmale well before the contest. They will be happy to clarify this or look at a potential submission to confirm if it fits the category.
Parting Shot Photo
by
Phil Rudin

Phil Rudin is the SFUPS Featured Photographer for September 2009

Visit the NEW www.sfups.org to see the galleries

So ... have you updated your Gallery?

Your on-line gallery comes with your paid membership. Take Advantage!

JOIN
SFUPS

South Florida Underwater Photography Society
MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

SFUPS is a Non-Profit Organization promoting interest in Underwater Photography. Meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month (January- November) at 7:30 p.m. at the El Palacio Hotel (formerly Holiday Inn- Pro Player), 21485 N.W. 27th Avenue, Miami

Annual Dues are $35.00 (individual), $45.00 (family) and $20.00 for “Out of Area” non-participating members. Dues are payable each January. After June 1st, dues are prorated to 1/2 of the above rates for new members only.

A Membership form must be filled out, signed and returned along with payment, a copy of your C-card and dive insurance. Make checks payable to SFUPS and send to: 359 Cottonwood Lane, Boca Raton, FL 33487.

Membership forms can be found on our website at www.sfups.org and will also be available at the meetings.

Thistle Scallop, Lake Worth Lagoon, © Phil Rudin