Cover Shot
Rob Myers

Meeting Schedule
May 11
June 8
July 13
August 10
September 14
October 12
November 9
December 14

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

Presentation:
RYAN CANNON
from REEF PHOTO

with latest in UW Photo Equipment

Intra-Club Contest Winners APR 2010
Bio Blitz trip report on National Geographic Dive
2010 Intra Club Contest Subjects
Links to Photo Contests & Classifieds

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!

All images in this newsletter are copyright protected and may not be used without written consent of the photographer. For information on how to contact the photographer contact the Newsletter Editor.
Members in the News

Dr. Sylvia Earle speaks to children of all ages at the Bio Blitz. You can see her love for the ocean. She is an honorary member of National Geographic.

Her words, learn all that you can about our oceans. The world revolves around them and depends upon their health.

Friday April 30th was the kick off for this 24 hour species inventory conducted in conjunction with National Geographic and the National Parks Service. It is really to raise awareness of the public. Scientists from all walks of life came to donate their time and expertise.

Several SFUPS members were selected by National Geographic to work as “scientific experts” to count and identify sea life species and try to photo document. It was difficult as National Parks only permitted snorkeling.

But National G really wanted underwater pictures. So we got a boat. Sharon Baron, Deb Devers, Carol Schurtz, Jeff Hutchinson, Suzan Meldonian, Marlin Meldonian, Kirk Kilfoyle, Jessica Kilfoyle (Yep-they tied the knot!!!), Kim and Bill Cook, Steve Kovacs and a special guest from Chicago’s Aquarium, Jonathan Lavan were the group who endeavored the “peas and carrots seas,”- no wait... as Marlin says, “no -it’s more like bacon, egg and cheese seas!” With five to six foot rollers and a 2 hour ride to get to the Biscayne National Park boundary line, well, you get the picture. But as you will see, we were focused and got great results.
http://reefphoto.com/

Presenting Ryan Canon and the representative from Nauticam.

Ryan Canon will present latest HD video with DSLR cameras.

Nauticam is the latest underwater housing and is the talk of the diving industry. The representative will talk about this new housing.

Call Toll Free - 877.453.8927

There are so many products out there, and choosing the one that is right for you is a huge step. Upgrading, or expanding your repertoire takes knowledge, and Ryan Canon and his staff are certainly the people who can do this for you... what’s even better, is they are local.

Bring your questions and your curiosity!
True to form, Steve Kovacs found this parrotfish barfing up eggs, but he didn’t have the right lens so you can’t see the eggs... but Suzan found the eggs, as they dropped down and landed on this Pederson Shrimp’s head cascading down its clippers. Meanwhile back at the ranch, Sharon found a Balloon fish cluster or Ladies in Waiting... and Carol Schurtz was getting new make-up ideas from this wrasse for this year’s upcoming Halloween’s contest!

Meanwhile, back at the boat, some folks decided to use natural chum methods to allure as many new choices as possible.

Jeff Hutchinson is back in rare form capturing the odd and unusual.

Our group contributed 102 different species to the count in undersea life alone!
Bill Cook

Jessica Kilfoyle

Kim Cook

Deb Devers

Kirk Kilfoyle

Marlin Meldonian

Bio Blitz 2010
Get the Lead out Dive – Tune up the BC- Don’t Flood the Camera!

We are off to a great start- what a line up! There should be sign up sheets at the next meeting or contact Carol Schurtz if you wish to sign up.. Here’s a quick note from Carol regarding tipping etiquette:

We tip a waiter 15-20 percent for taking our order and bringing the food and drinks to our table for 1-2 hrs. Tip on $60= $9-12.
We tip the Dive master for helping us get on the boat, fixing our tanks, taking care of our entry and exits, handling our valuable cameras, rescuing us if needed, And a whole lot more for 5-6 hours. $10-15 depending on your needs? Think about it and tip accordingly. Yours truly . . . the Mad Mermaid.

May 15  Dive the Keys with Blue Water Diver  12:30 Show 1:00 GO   Key Largo
Max. 10 divers
Cost $78.00 includes tanks   http://www.bluewaterdiver.net

June 12  Starfish  Lantana
7:15 AM Show  8:00 AM Go   http://www.idivestarfish.com
Cost $55.00 Tip Not included

June 26  On-The-Day Contest!! NIGHT DIVE with South Florida Diving Headquarters
(Pompano out of Fish City Marina) http://www.southfloridadiving.com
5:30 Show 6pm GO
Cost $52.00 Tip Not included- this is a 2 tank dive
Twilight then a night dive on wrecks.

July 3  SHARK TOOTH DIVE - Venice   941-486-1400
Back by popular demand   http://www.megladoncharters.com
1:00 Spend all afternoon looking for Megladon Shark Teeth
12 spots open
Recommended hotels: Hampton Inn, or Motel 6

Jul 4  SHARK TOOTH DIVE Venice   941-486-1400
8:00 AM Shark Tooth Dive
For those of you who want to look some more

Aug 14  Keys

Sept 25- Oct 3  Coral spawn in Bonaire or with Slate’s in the Keys

Aug 28  Jupiter

Sept 5  Starfish, Lantana

Oct 3  Miami Wreck Dives

Oct 16  Pumpkin Carving and Costume Dive  Blue Heron Bridge
WINNERS of the INTRA CLUB CONTEST:
APRIL: Masters Silhouettes

1st Place: Steve Kovacs
2nd Place: Steve Kovacs
5th Place: Suzan Meldonian

MAY 2010

3rd Place: Wayne MacWilliams
3rd Place: Christopher Guglielmo
2nd Place: Steve Kovacs
5th Place: Suzan Meldonian
WINNERS of the INTRA CLUB
CONTEST APRIL
CHALLENGERS: Ambient Light

1st Place Bill Watts

2nd Place: Ray Schreiber

3rd Place: Bernd Meier
2010 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: JDoe-JanChall-1.jpeg
- Entries must sent via email to Alena Carlini at audiovisual@sfups.org by 12 noon on the Sunday before the meeting.

Once an image has won in any category, it must be retired from further competitions.

Alena will send you a confirming email to let you know she has received the file. Send to audiovisual@sfups.org

If you can’t find your newsletter- you can always check on our website. www.sfups.org For our new members, winning shots accumulate points throughout the year. Challengers may compete in both Challengers and Masters categories. Only 2 entries per month -per person (except on the day contests). Masters are those who have previously won Photographer of the year, and they may only compete in the Masters categories.

The person with the highest points wins the illustrious title of “Photographer of the Year” and is awarded a beautiful trophy. Please see the website for the point system. Good luck! Bonne chance!
### MASTERS

**FEBRUARY**
Odd Couples – main subject of the photo is two fish/creatures that are not of the same species doing something together. The key word is odd – this excludes cleaning or symbiosis which are “normal” for the featured species.

**MARCH**
Jellies – includes jellyfishes, box jellies, salps, and other free-swimming gelatinous or jelly-like animals.

**APRIL**
Silhouettes – subject must be very dark to black against a light background.

**MAY**
Pretty in Pink

**JUNE**
Humor – may include divers.

**JULY**
Polka Dots – a fish or creature that has well-defined dots, not irregular splotches.

**AUGUST**
Squid or Cuttlefish

**SEPTEMBER**
Close Focus Wide Angle – forced perspective - the main subject is very close to the lens and looks larger than life when compared to the wide angle background.

**OCTOBER**
Carry the Load – a creature physiologically carrying something. (e.g. crab with urchin on back, jawfish with rock in mouth, cardinalfish with eggs in mouth).

**NOVEMBER**
Commensalism – two different animals living together in a symbiotic relationship in which one or both benefit but neither is harmed (e.g. Shrimp-goby with its host shrimp, anemonefish in host anemone).

### CHALLENGERS

**FEBRUARY**
Sand Dwellers – fishes or other mobile creatures that make their home in the sand (animals, not plants; may include anenomes, sea pens - which are soft corals, mushroom corals - which are hard corals).

**MARCH**
Sea Slugs - must be a gastropod mollusk which includes headshield slugs, sapsucking slugs, side-gill slugs, seahares and nudibranchs. Does not include flatworms.

**APRIL**
Ambient Light – no strobes, photos taken in shallower water work best.

**MAY**
Wide Angle featuring Sponges – a sponge or group of sponges as the main subject of the W/A photo.

**JUNE**
Bars & Stripes – subject must have contrasting vertical (bars), horizontal (stripes) or oblique bands or lines of color.

**JULY**
Reef Scapes – reef scenes shot with a wide angle lens.

**AUGUST**
Octopus

**SEPTEMBER**
Hitching a Ride – a fish or creature riding on another fish/creature. (e.g. a remora on a shark, a shrimp on a nudibranch).

**OCTOBER**
Cleaning Stations - must feature the cleaner and its client(s).

**SPECIAL**
“Creative” – anything goes (no points for this one, just have fun & let your imagination run wild).

To be announced: Sometime between May and October there will be an on-the-day contest in which contestants participate in a dive or dives and submit up to two of their photos taken on those dives. This one is for points, open to all club members. Space may be limited depending on the venue, so sign up early once this is announced.
PHOTO CONTESTS

Through The Lens 2010 - SDAA & MIDE Competition
DEADLINE:
May 29, 2010

Scuba Diver AustralAsia and the Malaysian International Dive Expo are proud to announce the 4th annual THROUGH THE LENS 2010 Photo Competition.

One of the world’s best underwater photo competitions, last year saw 7000 images contributed by photographers from over 30 countries, who competed for US$30,000 worth of prizes.

As the underwater photography genre gains in popularity, the images we receive become increasingly impressive, artistic and astounding. This year’s TTL competition promises to be even better!

JUNE 15 PHOTO / VIDEO COMPETITIONS
Coral E-Current Photo Contest
The CORAL E-Current Photo Contest is a bi-monthly contest held by the Coral Reef Alliance (CORAL). Enter your favorite coral reef photograph for a chance to win a copy of the beautiful photography...
http://www.coral.org/resources/photo_contest

National Wildlife Deadline is July 6.
http://www.nwf.org/PhotoContest/ is now accepting entries to our 40th annual contest. Cash prizes totaling more than $30,000 — including two $5,000 grand prizes — will be awarded to the winners in three divisions: Professional, Amateur and Youth. Winning photographs will be published online and a selection will appear in the December 2010 issue of the magazine. Enter today!
Visit our 2010 Contest page for entry details and categories.
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

NEW MEMBER ALERT!

Michael Kovach

I was born and raised in Northeastern Oregon. I learned to dive in July of 1964, two years before PADI was formed. My course was not accredited, but for six years my local fire department filled my tank and I got to explore the local lakes and rivers as a solo diver. Then the bureaucrats got involved. About that same time, I earned a degree in mathematics; spent four years as a ski bum in Park City; graduated from law school; and worked as a lawyer for Treasury in Detroit and Justice in DC. I bought a 38-foot sloop and lived on the Chesapeake Bay while with Justice, then spent two years sailing my boat through the Caribbean, transiting the Panama Canal in 1989 and sailing up to Seattle, where I practiced law for the next 15 years or so. During this period I dove occasionally, but was hampered by my lack of certification. I closed my practice in 2005 and moved to Fort Lauderdale, where I now own the Bridge @ Cordova Crew Hotel off SE 17th Street. I finally gave in and got certified, then worked through the rest of the PADI curriculum and now teach diving (CordovaDiving.com). I got started in underwater photography with a 5 mp SeaLife point and shoot, but quickly upgraded to a Canon 5d with an Ikelite housing and single substrobe. I now use a 10 mp Intova point and shoot because it is so convenient. I post my snapshots at www.picasaweb.google.com/fmichaelk. I was so impressed with your photos on SFUPS.com, that I have hauled out the Ikelite housing and started again to get serious about underwater photography.
DEMA INVITED TO TESTIFY IN WASHINGTON, D.C. BEFORE THE U.S. SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE AND TRANSPORTATION

San Diego, CA – (May 5, 2010) – DEMA’s Executive Director, Tom Ingram, was recently invited to testify before the US Senate on the potential economic impacts of Ocean Acidification on the Recreational Diving Industry. The testimony was provided on Earth Day, April 22 to the US Senate Sub-Committee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries and Coast Guard.

“DEMA strongly supports scientific and economic investigation to determine the potential impacts of ocean acidification and looks forward to working with Congress to ensure that the marine environment remains clean and healthy, a viable place for continued diving consumer use, and remains open to careful stewardship by diving businesses around the world,” stated Ingram. “The health of the ocean directly and immediately impacts our business. Without an appropriate place to dive, there simply is no diving industry.”

Ingram emphasized three key areas during his testimony regarding ocean acidification and the potentially negative impacts for the diving industry:

1. The loss of the overall value of recreational diving and snorkeling in terms of jobs, revenue and contribution to the Gross Domestic Product of the US and elsewhere;

2. The dependence of the diving industry on a healthy marine environment, now and for the future;

3. How legislation to lessen the potentially negative long-term effects of ocean acidification should be balanced to avoid creating immediate negative impacts for diving-related businesses.

In addition to Ingram, panelists providing testimony included Sigourney Weaver, actress and spokesperson for the film Acid Test from the Natural Resources Defense Council; Dr. James Barry, Senior Scientist at Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute and member of the National Academy’s Ocean Acidification Panel; Donny Waters, fisherman and former President of the Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish Shareholders Alliance; and Dr. John Everett, President of Ocean Associates, Inc.

Ingram closed his testimony by expressing his gratitude for continuing to include DEMA and the diving industry in the legislative process, and expressed DEMA’s ability and desire to provide additional input as policies regarding ocean acidification are considered and crafted.

The hearing is viewable on the Commerce, Science and Transportation website. Tom Ingram’s written statement is available online by clicking here.

DEMA, the Diving Equipment & Marketing Association, is an international organization dedicated to the promotion and growth of the recreational scuba diving and snorkeling industry. With more than 1,600 members, this non-profit, global organization promotes scuba diving through many initiatives including consumer awareness programs, media campaigns and sponsorship of the DEMA Show, a trade event open only to companies doing business in the scuba diving, action water sports and adventure/dive travel industries. DEMA Show 2010 will take place November 17-20, 2010 in Las Vegas, NV. For more information on DEMA Show 2010 visit www.demashow.com. For more information on DEMA, call 858-616-6408 or visit www.dema.org.

Contact: Donna Jannine/Marie Rosa Adams Unlimited Public Relations and Marketing (212) 956-5900/C:(631) 334-1019 Donna@adams-pr.com

FLORIDA KEYS POSTS OIL SPILL SECTION ON ITS WEB SITE

FLORIDA KEYS - The Florida Keys & Key West tourism council has added a component to its www.florida-keys.com website to provide travelers up-to-date information regarding the TransOcean/BP Oil spill in the northern Gulf of Mexico.

The site features official National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration oil slick trajectory maps as well as questions and answers regarding the oil leaks and their proximity to the Florida Keys.

The 72-hour forecast maps are updated on a daily basis plot and project approximate positions of the oil slick. The latest forecast shows little movement from northern Gulf waters.

“Our visitor centers and hotels have been receiving phone calls from vacationers concerned about traveling to the Keys,” said Harold Wheeler, director of the Keys tourism council. “We understand their apprehension and wanted to provide a trusted information resource based on information from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and other official sources.” On the Web: Website: http://www.florida-keys.com
Parting Shot
by
Rob Myers

Rob Myers is the SFUPS Featured Photographer for May 2010

Visit www.sfups.org to see our galleries

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: Steve Jarocki, 8907 W. Oakland Pk. Blvd., Sunrise, FL 33351

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