NEXT MEETING:
Tues. Feb 8, 2011

Meeting Schedule

Feb 8
Mar 8
Apr 12
May 10
June 14
July 12
Aug 9
Sept 13
Oct 11
Nov 8
Dec TBA
Holiday Party

7:30 PM at
El Palacio
Sports Hotel
21485 N.W. 27th Ave,
Miami, 33056
305-621-5801

Cover Shot
Bob Kaye
Submit “Cover Photo” material to the Newsletter Editor
Suzan Meldonian, 561-394-6391
or e-mail: newsletter@sfups.org
Info about the image is appreciated.
DEADLINE IS THE 25th!

Presentation:
Sea of Cortez
Aboard El Rocio del Mar
Presented by Jonathan Lavan
Tips ‘n Tricks
Lots of Announcements!
2011 Intra Club Contest Subjects
Links to Photo Contests, Classifieds,

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.
One of the number one questions I get is how do I resize my image? How big is Hi rez?

Let’s start with some basics. You can set what size your images are being shot at - and it starts in your camera. JPEG or Raw... well, my rule of thumb is - both. If you have the luxury of time on your size, you might want to shoot in just raw.

Raw gives you a few more choices when it comes to editing. JPG files are easily read by anyone's computer, so for quick and dirty - you can shoot and email the jpg. Then go back & play with the raw. If you are entering photo contests, they are looking for originals in raw if you are shooting with an SLR.

So, first, select JPEG Fine for the highest resolution. Depending on the megapixels of your camera, it will turn out to be 240-300 DPI.

Most non professional cameras come set at 72 dpi. What does this mean? DPI is an old newspaper term. In order to make images in the newspaper they printed through screens, and set the dots per inch (hence... you guessed it, dpi) closer or farther apart to create shapes and shadows for images of people, cartoons, etc.

Have you ever blown up a balloon and written on it in black magic marker? The more you blow it up - the lighter the original drawing becomes. This is because you are pulling the dots per inch farther apart. Well the same rule applies more or less with dpi. Imagine a 1 inch square. If you have 72 dots per inch in one cube and 300 dots per inch in the next 1” cube, which one has more coverage? The 300 dpi. Right. So this means I can’t expand a 72 dpi 1” doc to 300 dpi because I didn’t have the 300 dpi to begin with.

In Photoshop, select Image --> Image Size to view your JPG image. The editor will show Pixel Dimensions and Document size. If you aren’t sure what your camera is shooting at - look to bottom in Document size at Resolution.

Let’s say I shoot at 300 DPI. The width of my document is 10.173” as opposed to say your factory setting of 72 dpi and 45” in width. Let’s say you really don’t want to send a 45” document to a friend. Well I apply the rule of halves. Its not a perfect science, but in a pinch it makes the point come about. If you divide 45” in half, you get 23”...well, you can then double the 72 dpi resolution to 144, and you really haven’t changed much in quality. But 23” is still too big, so, you halve it again to 12.5 “... well, this means you can double your dpi again to 288. That is pretty close to my 300 dpi.

In Photoshop, select Image --> Image Size to view your JPG image. The editor will show Pixel Dimensions and Document size. If you aren’t sure what your camera is shooting at - look to bottom in Document size at Resolution.

Let’s say I shoot at 300 DPI. The width of my document is 10.173” as opposed to say your factory setting of 72 dpi and 45” in width. Let’s say you really don’t want to send a 45” document to a friend. Well I apply the rule of halves. Its not a perfect science, but in a pinch it makes the point come about. If you divide 45” in half, you get 23”...well, you can then double the 72 dpi resolution to 144, and you really haven’t changed much in quality. But 23” is still too big, so, you halve it again to 12.5 “... well, this means you can double your dpi again to 288. That is pretty close to my 300 dpi.

Now for sending your pictures in for the monthly contest here are some choices. Following the size exchange described above (I call it shape shifting), Once you’ve gotten to 288 or 300 dpi, manually go in to Pixel dimensions and change the pixels per inch to 1024. Your document width should change to 3.413 inches. Now you’ve kept the integrity of your shot, reduced the size and its high rez! Cool? It’s a mind game ain’t it??? _ Suz
Make a run for the border

Make a run for the border on one of the most unique live aboard trips you will ever experience—Northern Sea of Cortez, aboard the Rocio del Mar.

Chicago S.F.U.P.S member, Jonathan Lavan, will feature a presentation on the liveaboard Rocio del Mar, the only live aboard that explores the northernmost reaches of the Sea of Cortez. This special “mom & pop” boat owned and operated by Dora & Lolo Sandoval will provide you with a once in a life-time experience. The many creatures in, on and above the water will be featured. The best of California and the Pacific coast of Mexico, this trip is truly a unique and exciting adventure for any diver or underwater photographer.

Getting to the boat is a bit unconventional but a truly interesting journey. You fly into Phoenix, Arizona and then hook up with the shuttle service: Head Out to Rocky Point www.headouttorockypoint.com They will pick you up right outside where you grab your bags and you are on your way. So—there has been a great deal of talk, of late, about how dangerous it is to be along the U.S./Mexican border and in the northern reaches of Mexico. In fact two of the people I dive with, lovely ladies in their seventies, were seriously considering not going on the trip for fear of a car jacking or worse. Well you can tell the Governor of Arizona for me that it is all a lot of hype. Getting to the Rocio del Mar in Puerto Penasco is pretty much like any road trip. A bit boring, a bit long, a few good photos, stopping for snacks a high point but dangerous—no. In fact crossing into Mexico was bit of a let down. The border patrol officer looked in the van, as we sat in it, asked us if we were all U.S. Citizens, asked us if we all had our passports and then let us through the gate and we were in Ol’ Mexico! Head Out to Rocky Point shuttle service has two, comfortable fifteen passenger Chevy vans. Rates vary but groups of six or more are just $100.00 per person, round trip which is what my group paid.
Then we were at the boat. I am quite certain that almost all of you have experienced a live aboard before. As you know almost all of them are owned by big companies mostly looking at their bottom line. Sometimes you get a really fun and professional crew that really cares that you have a great experience and sometimes - not so much. I, myself, have experienced both ends of what can be a sublime and/or ridiculous week. You are pretty much at the mercy of the crew. Well the Rocio del Mar is a boat of a different color. The owners Dora and Lolo Sandoval decided to go into the live aboard business on their own. When they couldn’t find a boat that they liked, they built one from the waterline up. The guys that helped build the boat later became the crew and a family with an investment and commitment was born.

It has all the amenities of any other live aboard; the food is better (lots of homemade Mexican dishes) but the major difference is the people. Everyone is incredibly helpful and cheerful especially Dora, who is your main point of contact. She is always enthusiastic and ready to help with whatever you may need. She is always doing something which includes being one of the Dive Masters, cooking, waiting tables, coordinating moves to dive sites, filling tanks and whatever else needs to be done. She is a phenomenon!

Almost all diving is done from Zodiacs because the best sites are tucked away in little nooks and crannies that the boat can’t get close enough too. This takes a little getting use to, but once you get into your routine its no big deal. Now this is Pacific coast diving so water temp. and viz can vary wildly- most will want a 5 mil and hood. Mid 70’s and 40 to 50 foot viz is standard. But a little current and bad vis on a couple dives is worth it for the animals! There is as fantastic variety of gobies and blennies, nudibranchs, stingray, moray eels and scorpionfish. Also some Giant & Bluespotted Jawfish and super strange Roughjaw Frogfish. Before, during and between dives we saw Pilot Whales, Sperm Whales, Bottlenosed Dolphins, Turtles and Sea Lions (lots of fin biting and playful behavior). We had a Whale Shark snorkel, in a protected cove with many whale sharks sighted and documented. There is also great bird watching for those who are interested. The best part for me though was that the whole week we didn’t see a single other dive boat. In fact other then the occasional military boat looking for drug runners and a small fishing boat or two we saw no one at all. You are after all in the desert-until you go underwater where the oasis of life awaits. www.rociodelmarliveaboard.com. Look forward to meeting you all, Jonathan Lavan
RSMAS SEA SECRETS LECTURE

The University of Miami (UM) Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science, and the Ocean Research and Education Foundation, today announced the roster of distinguished scientists and explorers who will speak in the 2011 Sea Secrets lecture series. The events, which are free and open to the public, are designed to provide insight and information about the oceans that cover two-thirds of our planet, and much of which, are still an enigma. Programs take place in the Rosenstiel School Auditorium, 4600 Rickenbacker Causeway on Virginia Key, beginning with a reception at 5:30 p.m., followed by the lecture at 6:00 p.m.


Wednesday, February 16, 2011
THE SECRET CRISIS OF THE GLOBAL OCEAN
Alanna Mitchell, Journalist and Author

Just how sick are our oceans? Hear the answer from Alana Mitchell whose second book Sea Sick: The Hidden Crisis in the Global Ocean won last year’s prestigious Grantham Prize for Excellence in Reporting on the Environment. As a journalist with the Canadian Globe and Mail she specialized on the environment and was widely recognized for her incisive reporting on the vanishing forests of Madagascar. To assess the health of our oceans she traveled the planet interviewing scientists and fisheries managers to discover what plans are underway and what the social and political challenges are to developing a plan to sustain marine resources. No wonder that the World Conservation Union (IUCN) and the Reuters Foundation named Mitchell the world’s best environmental journalist of 2000. Come to hear a first-hand report on the hidden crisis and what might done to mitigate it.

Wednesday, March 16, 2011
FANTASY TO REALITY: HUMAN PRESENCE IN THE DEEP OCEAN
Bruce Strickrott, Expedition Leader and Chief Pilot, DSV ALVIN

In the famous novel, 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea published in 1870, Jules Verne expressed what many had dreamed: the ability to visit and explore the unknown depths of the ocean. For more than four decades, the leader in ocean floor exploration has been the deep submergence vehicle ALVIN, based at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. Chief Pilot Bruce Strickrott has conducted 308 dives to hydrothermal vents, cold seep communities, undersea volcanoes, seamounts and mid-ocean ridges around the globe. He will share what it is like to spend eight hours or more peering through ALVIN’s viewports, using robotic ‘hands’ or manipulators to sample animals and sea floor deposits, and from time to time having those eureka moments of unexpected discovery.
DUES Were DUE in January

It’s time to pay your dues for 2011. The annual dues are:
$35.00 for an individual, $45.00 for a family.
$20.00 for an “Out of Area” non-participating membership.

Send your check, made out to “SFUPS,” to:

Sharon Baron
12710 SW 77th Street
Miami, FL 33183
(Or bring your check to the next meeting)

Members in the News

The Women Divers Hall of Fame (WDHOF) has announced its ten new members for 2011. The WDHOF is a non-profit organization dedicated to recognizing and honoring the contributions of women divers. Amongst those on the list for 2011 are: Anna DeLoach, Karen Straus, Maureen Langevin, Céline Cousteau, Past SFUPS President, Michele Westmorland, and Christina Zenato.

They will be inaugurated into the society at a ceremony during the Beneath the Sea Awards Banquet on 26 March.

ALL SFUPS MEMBERS ARE BORN OF GREATNESS! See??!!!
SOOoooOOOOooooooO COOL!!!!
YIPPEE AND CONGRATULATIONS MICHELLE!!!!!

Your Local Source!
954.537.0644
WINNERS of the INTRA CLUB CONTEST
JAN: Masters: Camouflage

1st Place: Susan Mears
2nd Place: Mike Schmale
3rd Place: Kim Cook
4th Place: Bob Kaye
5th Place: Fletcher Forbes
WINNERS of the INTRA CLUB CONTEST
JAN: CHALLENGERS: Live Shells

1st Place: Judy Townsend

2nd Place: Fletcher Forbes

3rd Place: Kirk Kilfoyle

4th Place: Sharon Baron

5th Place: Ray Schreiber
Richard Ladisky began scuba diving in 1981 and decided to join his passion for photography with his love of diving. He has appeared at shows for civic groups and foundations, the Florida Dive Show, and has been a regular speaker at “Beneath the Sea” in NJ, the largest consumer diving/photography convention in North America.

He participated in the ill-fated Teacher in Space program and has used his radio license to communicate with the cosmonauts on Mir and the astronauts on both the Space Shuttle and International Space Station. He has recently joined the ranks of many scientists, explorers and astronauts by presenting his work at the Talcott Mountain Science Center in Avon, Connecticut.

Richard is retired from public education and supervision, but has been a Director of Emergency Management and Homeland Security in Connecticut for over 31 years. His work and adventures have appeared in many periodicals, the latest being Scuba Diving Magazine, Parade Magazine, and the Hartford Courant Travel Section.

Sunday, February 20th, 2011
3 pm at the Spanish River Library
1501 NW Spanish River Boulevard
This talk is free and open to the public.
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<th>JANUARY</th>
<th><strong>M A S T E R S  2 0 1 1</strong></th>
<th><strong>C H A L L E N G E R S  2 0 1 1</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Camouflage</strong></td>
<td>Live Shells - If it crawls like a snail and has a visible hard shell, it’s OK. No seahares, melos, bubbles, sea slugs, bivalve clams or scallops. Shells must be occupied by their original owners - no hermits.</td>
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<td><strong>Wide Angle Open</strong> - Wide angle scene of any subject matter. However, save your big fish and buddies for later in the year.</td>
<td>Triggernomics - East coast triggerfish and filefish. Atlantic species only.</td>
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<td><strong>Eggs</strong></td>
<td><strong>Spring Flowers</strong> - an underwater composition that resembles a flower or bouquet of flowers.</td>
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<td><strong>Out of the Darkness</strong> - Any subject against a black background. Can be shot in the day or night. Effect should be created in camera, not in the computer.</td>
<td><strong>Green Flash</strong> - Subject matter should be primarily green in color.</td>
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<td><strong>Upside Down</strong> - shot of an animal in an upside down position. Example: upside down jellyfish, filefish hovering with head pointed down, shrimp or crab hanging from the underside of a cave or ledge, etc. Please don’t just turn your photos over.</td>
<td><strong>Wide Angle Wrecks</strong> - Wide angle view of any wreck.</td>
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<td><strong>Atlantic Lionfish</strong> - Any lionfish shot in Atlantic waters.</td>
<td><strong>Your Best Tail Shot</strong> - Everyone has a butt shot, the one that got away.</td>
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<td><strong>Creative Lighting</strong> - Think of using your strobes in a different way. Might try backlighting or side lighting to create interesting shadow effect, snoots, etc.</td>
<td><strong>Transparent</strong> - A subject you can see through. For example, a Tunicate, Juvenile fish, a clear Shrimp or jellyfish.</td>
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<td><strong>Shallow Depth of Field</strong> - Most interesting use of limited depth of field to emphasize part of a subject. Only part of the subject (eyes, mouth, face, etc) in focus. This does not mean a sharp subject against a blurry background. Effect should be produced in camera, not in the computer.</td>
<td><strong>Schools</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<td><strong>Shooting Down</strong> - Best composition using a high viewpoint. We normally shoot at eye level or looking up. Try something different - for example, a wide image looking down on a reef top, curves and patterns of the top of an eel.</td>
<td><strong>Frames</strong> - Best composition with a natural element or manmade structure framing your subject at least three sides.</td>
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<td><strong>Little Devil</strong> - Evil looking critters, think Halloween.</td>
<td><strong>Shoot your Buddy</strong> - Wide Angle shot of another photographer doing his/her thing. Camera must be visible.</td>
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<td><strong>BIG Fish Wide Angle</strong> - A wide angle shot including a large fish as the primary subject. Large fish might include goliath groupers, stingrays, barracuda, etc.</td>
<td><strong>Sharks</strong> - Any kind, from wide angle to macro.</td>
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**2011 INTRA-CLUB PHOTO CONTEST SUBJECTS**
**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 be sent via email to Jim Mears 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.

Jim will send you a confirming email to let you know he 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!
PHOTO CONTESTS

DEADLINE:
February 15, 2011
Enter your favorite coral reef photographs in the CORAL E-Current Photo Contest for a chance to win a copy of Reef—a gorgeous coffee table book featuring beautiful coral reef photographs. Winning entries will be featured in CORAL’s electronic newsletter, E-Current, and on the CORAL website

http://www.coral.org/

THE CLASSIFIED’S

$1,500 for Seacam housing, $400 for camera or $1,850 for both.
Wayne Mac Williams  shutterthethought@comcast.net
South Florida Underwater Photography Society

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

SFUPS is a Non-Profit Organization promoting interest in Underwater Photography and general awareness of our ocean’s creatures through photography. Meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month (January - November) at 7:30 pm at the El Palacio Hotel located at 21485 NW 27th Avenue off the Florida Turnpike, Miami, FL, 33056  305-621-5801 near Calder Raceway

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 pro-rated to 1/2 of the above for new members only.

A Membership form must be completed, signed and returned along with payment, a copy of your C-Card and dive insurance. Make checks Payable to SFUPS and send to: SFUPS c/o  Sharon Baron 12710 SW 77 St., Miami, FL 33183

Membership forms can be found on our website at www.sfups.org and also available at the meetings, or contact Membership@sfups.org