NEXT MEETING:
Tues. Aug 14 2012

Meeting Schedule
Aug 14
Sep 11
Oct 9
Nov 13
Dec 9
Holiday Party

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

Cover Shot
Anne DuPont

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:
I Covered the NASA NEEMO MISSIONS!
by Mark Widick
and a
Slide show from the Club Weedline Dive
July Intra Club Contest Winners
2012 Intra Club Contest Subjects
Trip Report: What’s a Weedline Dive?
Photographer of the Month: Anne DuPont
New: Dive Schedule, Classifieds

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Presentation:

BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU WISH FOR -
I COVERED THE NASA NEEMO MISSIONS!

MARK WIDICK

NEEMO NASA Extreme Environments Mission Operations have used the Aquarius Reef Base off Key Largo to conduct 16 missions simulating space missions beginning October 2001. Building on each mission, they have become increasingly sophisticated in their objectives. The last two missions, NEEMO 15 and 16 were to simulate manned exploration of a near Earth asteroid. Saturation diving for up to two weeks has been shown to be the best analog for difficult deep space missions. Through a happy series of events, I was invited to photograph these missions by a longtime friend and mission director Bill Todd. Underwater photography subject materials included the Aquanauts in tethered dive gear, one man submarines, the Aquarius Reef Base saturation diving station and simulated objects one might find on the surface of an asteroid.

Sadly NEEMO 16 may be the last mission as the NOAA funding for the Aquarius lab has been cut and although there is a grassroots campaign to keep the lab functioning, the future may not be bright. The last scheduled mission for Aquarius was this past July. It was an attempt to raise awareness of the last undersea lab in existence and the uncertainty of its future. Among the celebrity guests were Sylvia Earle and Fabian Cousteau. I was able to photograph a day of this mission.

I will present the images and discuss the challenges faced in diving and photographing the NEEMO/Aquarius missions and how I got to be so involved with this and other NASA projects.
NASA NEEMO MISSIONS
Goliath Grouper Dive
UW photography 3 tank dive
When: Saturday August 25
Time: tba
Where: Jupiter
Dive Operation: tba
Price: tba Register with Sam Hodge dive@sfups.org

Megalodon Shark Tooth Dive
WHEN: August 18.
Time: 1:00-6:30 PM
WHERE: Venice.
Dive Operation: dive@megalodoncharters.com 941-483-3483 or 941-486-1400
Only 12 spots available.
PRICE: $110 depending on the location and weather!! If we have to stay close to Venice it would be $85. Includes Tax, tips, 2 tanks, weights, snacks, flags and naps.

DETAILS: Must be fully paid by August 1st. No cancellations! You would have to sell your spot! The dive boat will try to sell it but if they can’t you are on the hook. These dives are booked months ahead!

In years past we have stayed overnight and gone on the morning dive the next day. There are only 4 spots left for the morning of the next day (19) so if you want to stay you will need to call and reserve your spot for the 19th. It will not be a club dive.

Sign up sheet at the next meeting or Register with Sam Hodge directly dive@sfups.org
Coral Spawn Dive TBA
Goliath Grouper Dive, Boynton Beach 2-4 Dives TBA
Halloween -Neptune Memorial Reef, Key Largo
Last Hurrah Dive for the Year TBA

more information on each dive is available at the SFUPS Club Dive Schedules page at http://www.sfups.org/DiveSchedule.html

Make Checks Payable to
SFUPS
Send payment to:
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9723 Silent Oak Circle
Wellington, FL 33411
FOR SALE

CANON 50d CAMERA (body only)

$750.00  Contact Tilda Jarocki  nightowl710@bellsouth.net  954-328-0780 or buy on Ebay

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Members in the News  

Congratulations  to Steve Kovacs


One of his winning images in this contest (link) was also a winning image in our intra club contest last month (SFUPS monthly meeting).

Congrats to Suzan Meldonian
2nd Place
UnderwaterPhotography.com monthly contest
Anne’s Dive Log
Key Largo July 29, 2012
“SFUPS Sargassum Weedline Dive”

On Sunday 18 “SFUPS-ers” drove down to Key Largo for an afternoon dive with Silent World Dive Center. On the first dive we wanted to photograph the marine life found in the Sargassum Seaweed. Our captain found the “weed line” about 5 miles out of Key Largo.

Boat 1: Everyone jumped in with snorkel gear, some returning for Scuba gear. The thick masses of free-floating Sargassum provides an environment for a specialized group of marine animals like the Sargassum frogfish that are not found anywhere else. We had a little excitement when the captain found a large floating palm tree in 160 feet of water so divers grabbed their cameras and jumped in the beautiful blue water to see what was hiding underneath. Our second dive was on the Carysfort Lighthouse Reef.

This extensive reef is located in the protected northern section of the National Marine Sanctuary. It is 6 miles from Key Largo and is easily identified by the 100 foot high Carysfort Lighthouse. We saw lots of different colored Christmas tree worms. After a fun afternoon, everyone was a little quieter on the trip back to the dock.

I think we were all thinking of an “All you can Eat Buffet!” Thanks SFUPS and Sam for organizing the Dive.

Anne

Boat 2 was a six-pack. We stopped at the first weedline we found. The Captain dropped us off in a circle. It was a very leisurely dive so everyone worked at their own pace trying to find critters living in the Sargassum. We found juvenile triggers and file fish while others found interesting crabs. It is a floating nursery for sure! After an hour & a half, we headed to a shallow reef near Elbow Reef.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Masters</th>
<th>Challengers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>August</strong></td>
<td><strong>Crabs</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W/A featuring hard corals - Hard corals are the predominant foreground subject matter.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>September</strong></td>
<td><strong>Close Focus W/A</strong> - making a small subject look big compared to surroundings and background by using a wide angle lens very close to the main subject.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Panning - Use a panning technique to show motion. Main subject, especially eyes and face should be sharp while background is streaked or blurred showing motion.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>October</strong></td>
<td><strong>Shadows</strong> - best use of side lighting and shadows for an interesting composition and image.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The color Orange</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>November</strong></td>
<td><strong>Eye Eye!</strong> - Beautiful or interesting eyes. Animals eyes are the main focus of the image.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scorpionfish</td>
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</tbody>
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[Image of Sargassum Frogfish]

**COOL** capture of the month!

Congrats Bill Watts on finding this adult Sargassum Frogfish!

http://www.reefphoto.com
Winners July Intra Club Contest
Masters: Super Macro

1st Place: Steve Kovacs

2nd Place: Lureen Ferretti

3rd Place: Bernd Meier

4th Place: Lureen Ferretti

5th Place: Steve Kovacs
Winners July Intra Club Contest
Challengers: Spots & Dots

1st Place: Mike Schmalle

2nd Place: Tony Barros

3rd Place: Kirk Kilfoyle

4th Place: Anne DuPont

5th Place: Mark Widick
Outside Contests

WORLD SHOOTOUT 2012 IS ON and will continue during all August!

http://www.worldshootout.org/

World Shoot Out 2012 - Register Now!

http://www.force-e.com
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 1400 pixels on the long side in order to be displayed properly by our new HD digital projector. 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 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!
All packages include 5 nights and 4 days of 2-tank diving.

Support our sponsors!

http://www.wyland.com/

800-329-9989
Mon-Fri 8am-6pm EST

http://www.caradonna.com/
Parting Shot

by

Anne DuPont

Anne is the SFUPS Featured Photographer for August 2012

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 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

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Sea Hare ; Siphonota Geographics, Lake Worth Lagoon