Cover Shot by Pedro Dorta - SFUPS featured photographer for February

Also in this edition-Club members in the news, contest winners, upcoming shows, events, club trips, contests, classifieds, and this month’s guest speaker Lazaro Ruda. Join SFUPS on Feb. 12 for the monthly meeting at the El Palacio Hotel located at 21485 N.W. 27th Avenue, Miami, FL 33056

http://www.sfups.org/
January Masters “Odd Couples”

Wayne MacWilliams 1st Place

Wayne MacWilliams 2nd Place

Susan Mears 3rd Place

January Challengers “Spadefish”

Fletcher Forbes 1st Place

Judy Townsend 2nd Place

Carlos Jaile 3rd Place
2013 SFUPS Board of Directors

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New Feature! Club Travel Exchange

Here’s how it works: Want like minded company on your next trip? Send your travel plans to newsletter@sfups.org. The trip details will be published in the newsletter for other members to see. Any members interested in a trip can send an email to newsletter@sfups.org and the groups will be connected.

2013
April 14– 25 Sogod Bay, Phillippines with Alex Tattersall through Dive Quest
April 25– May 5 Anilao, Phillippines through Blue Water Photo and UWPhotographyguide.com
August 2– 9 Alaska on the Nautilus Swell

2014
Feb 16-23 Truk Lagoon on the Odyssey with Bonnie Pelnar, UnderwaterColours.com
Contest Calendar

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Deep Indonesia- Deadline Feb 9, 2013
http://www.underwatercompetition.com/Competitions/deep-indonesia-2013

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SEA International Photo Contest– Deadline April 12, 2013
http://sea.ncups.org/

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Scuba Diving Photo Contest- Deadline May 5, 2013
http://scubaphotocontest.bonniercorp.com/photo_contest/65/submit?src=facebook

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Natures Best Photography– Deadline May 15, 2013
http://www.naturesbestphotography.com/enter_guidelines.php

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Eliat Red Sea Monthly Competition to compete in Eliat Red Sea Shootout
http://www.eilatredsea.com/

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Scuba Symphony Quarterly Contest
https://www.facebook.com/events/120006971503610/

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Thanks Gug Underwater

Thanks to SFUPS member Chris Gug for his January presentation “Splitsville”. Gug gave an excellent talk about how to take the perfect split shot—just in time for the October Masters Club Contest “Over/Under”. Gug is also pleased to announce becoming one of SFUPS newest sponsors. He looks forward to helping members with their gear and education needs.
Featured Photographer Pedro Dorta

Born In Cuba, now living in Miami and working for Reef Photo & Video. I have been diving since 1979, a Russian camera and a home made housing were my first UW equipment. A Nikon D200 and custom made strobes are now part of my underwater photo gear.
Club Members In The News

Congrats to Tony Barros– Tony was asked to give an interview on the situation with the Orcas stuck in Hudson Bay ice. (interview begins at min 47)

http://www.americateve.com/programas-01102013-28384387-1

Congrats to Steve Kovacs– Veolia Wildlife Photographer of the Year and Through the Lens Honorable Mention


Jonathan Lavin of Underpressure Diving and Photography wrote an article for Underwater Photography Guide


Judy Townsend has photo’s in the January edition of Go Riverwalk Magazine pg 28-29

http://www.goriverwalk.com/goriverwalk-magazine/archived-editions

SFUPS Member Benefits

It’s that time again! Yearly dues are $35 for individuals and $45 for families. Make checks payable to SFUPS and mail to Patrice Marker at 9273 Silent Oak Circle, Wellington, FL 33411-6634 (Don’t forget to send a copy of your dive insurance and C Card)

Member ship benefits include continuing education, information about the latest equipment and techniques, presentations about marine life, conservation and exotic dive locations, club sponsored trips, online gallery to showcase images, this awesome newsletter and much, much more.

SFUPS welcomes divers just starting in underwater photography as well as professionals who have taken their photography to the next level.

http://www.sfups.org/
February Guest Speaker Lazaro Ruda

SFUPS is pleased to welcome February guest speaker Lazaro Ruda, underwater photographer and defender of the ocean. Lazaro will be speaking about the marine life found in Phil Foster State Park. His presentation will include pictures of the many animals found in the park and their behaviors. He will discuss the techniques for capturing photos of these amazing animals and conservation of this unique environment.

http://thelivingsea.com/
Last Monday I did something I usually avoid - a weekend/holiday dive at the Blue Heron Bridge. I am glad I did. The holiday crowd was lighter than usual thanks to overcast skies with passing showers. My mission was to find an photograph the Shortnose batfish (Ogcocephalus nasutus) someone had reported from the north side of the fishing pier. I expected it to be a "looking for a needle in a haystack" sort of dive as all my previous searches for any batfish other than the ubiquitous polkadot variety (O. cubifrons) had failed. So I headed to the far side of the "wall" and proceeded north. Just as I cleared the wall, I noticed a pair of Yellow stingrays (Urobatis jamaicensis) swimming side by side with one slightly overlapping the other in a fashion similar to the spawning run of flounders. Figuring something was about to happen, I started ripping off photos. The rays never stopped for more than a second or two and before long were belly-to-belly in a coital embrace. I could not get too intrusive as they never stood still and I did not want to disturb them, nor stumble to within striking range. They swam directly under me a couple of times as they meandered about, got a few yards into the channel at the north end of the pilings, then headed back and between the pilings when I quit photographing them.

Most of the dive was under and around the fishing pier, something I don't like to do for obvious reasons. Nothing more special was seen until I headed back, low on air. Under the third tier of bridge pilings I encountered an invasive species, a very large Green mussel (Perna viridis) attached to a piece of concrete sloughed from above. This I kept, and reported to the USGS invasive species website. Just as I hit the cable on the final leg home, there it was, not the shortnose, but a batfish I had never seen before, or so I thought. It was all but invisible, given away only by its outline. With little air and a nagging current, I went to work. I got it to spread its fins (needed for positive ID) and ripped off a few shots, then headed in, on fumes. Upon close examination of the photos, it seems to be a young Polkadot batfish under 3 inches long, even so, a worthwhile find.

I have only one regret: I have yet to mount my new GoPro housing!
Announcements

Club Manatee Dive with Force-E February 8-10. Get your manatee shots for the March Challengers monthly contest. Contact Force–E directly at 561-845-2333 to reserve a spot.

The Blue Wild Expo has donated a booth to SFUPS to showcase and sell members photos. The expo is February 23 and 24. SFUPS will be allowed to set up on Friday Feb. 22 from 5pm until 11pm. Show hours are Saturday 11:30am until 6pm and Sunday 10am until 5pm and breakdown from 6pm until 9pm. Members who are interested in volunteering to work the booth and showcase their photos please email Suzanne at newsletter@sfups.org. For more info: http://thebluewild.com/

Gug Underwater Gallery will be hosting a benefit for Shark Savers on Saturday March 2 from 7pm until 10pm. All club members are welcome to come and bring their friends and family. 100% of donations taken at the door and 20% of sales from the evening will go to Shark Savers. To RSVP to this event contact Suzanne at miami@gugunderwater.com

Join Phil Rudin for the 2013 Digital Fiesta in Cozumel April 20-27. 719.50 per person for standard double occupancy. (Add $175 for single)

Special Offer from Force-E $10 off the in the Service Dept. Offer good from Feb 1through March 31, 2013. Go to Force-E.com to find out more.

Twilight Singles Dive hosted by Force-E on Valentines Day out of Boynton Beach – price is 48.47 per person. Sign up at http://twilightsinglesdive.eventbrite.com/

Force-E is hosting a ladies only night on Feb 21 at 7pm to showcase the new AquaLung women’s line. This event is free, please rsvp at http://detailednights.eventbrite.com/
Shoot Like The Pros

Histograms Explained—Tips to Understand Your Camera’s Histogram

By David Fleetham and Marty Snyderman

If you are like most underwater photographers one of your biggest challenges is to consistently get great exposures.

You look at the image on the back of your camera after you take a picture. The image looks like a winner so you congratulate yourself and move on to another subject. But when you see the picture on your computer monitor your heart sinks because your exposure is way off the mark. If this has happened to you, you certainly are not alone.

Understanding your histogram(s) and taking advantage of the information they provide can eliminate exposure disappointments and put you on the path of consistently getting great exposures no matter what your subject or the conditions are.

A histogram is a graphic representation of an exposure. The fact that the information is provided as a number of graphs is off putting to a lot of us. But the reality is that the graphs are easy to understand, and the information they provide is extremely useful. That information can tell you about the exposure of the shot being reviewed, and tell you exactly what adjustment to make to hit the mark if you didn’t get the perfect exposure on the shot you are reviewing.

If you want to consistently get great exposures just give us a few minutes with an open mind, and our APP, Histograms Explained will get you on your way to getting great exposures shot after shot.

To buy this app in itunes go to

Classifieds

FS: Nikon D700 body and Subal ND700 housing. Housing has 45º magnifying viewfinder. The viewfinder retails for $1300. Very gently used and never flooded, original box and all papers for camera included along with synch cords and 77mm zoom gear. If interested, contact Fletcher Forbes - my email is jandfforbes@cox.net

FS: 2005 Grady-White 228 boat with Yamaha 225 hp 4-stroke outboard. This boat is set up for diving. It is the walk-around model with cuddy-cabin, 49 sf of back deck space, tank racks, and camera rinse tank! Can handle 5 divers. Fresh water shower on the stern, sink and port-a potty (never used). Motor has only 138 hours. Really. If interested, contact Fletcher Forbes - our email is jandfforbes@cox.net

FS: Canon 70-200mm f4 L IS USM lens in brand new condition in original box with instruction manual and with pouch and lens hood. Excellent lens for nature photography and travel. This is one of Canon's famous L lenses. Price $875. Optional tripod mount $75 (cost $149).
Inquire at meierb@bellsouth.net or call 305-310-1265

FS: SubSee +10 diopter by ReefNet. Also included is the Adapter (their lingo for the mounting hinge device) which specifically fits the 126.5mm Aquatica MF flat port. Be sure that this is the one you have!!! If you have the newer 123.4mm MF flat port, you can make it work, but you'll have to jury-rig it a bit. The diopter flips up when not in use. This is a good item for use with the Nikon 105mm or the Canon 100mm or equivalent. Used on about 30 dives.
In good condition - no scratches.
$180 for the diopter and adapter - even if you don't have the proper size/brand port! This would cost you $225 for the diopter alone & another $230 for the adapter + shipping new and mine is in great condition! Contact Chris Gug Gug@gugunderwater.com

FS: JVC Piccio model GC-FM1 compact HD video camera / 8mp still camera
Ikelite Underwater housing w/ red filter
Ikelite Underwater Pro-V8 light and bracket
16GB memory card
$150 (each) - This is a $490 retail item that I had previously listed with SFUPS for $300
I have two complete setups here - your choice - one blue and one black, same price, but each has an advantage:
BLACK - is completely brand new - never been used
BLUE - has been used on 6 dives (yes, six), but comes with #9306.78 67mm Thread Adapter (retail $35), so you can then purchase the WP-20 or other 67mm threaded lenses for wide-angle.
The Pro -V8 lights were both used on a different video system for about 100 dives. They are in perfect working condition and have never been flooded - if you want to test the Pro-V8 light here, you'll need eight C batteries, but there's also a Batteries Plus store within 100' of me. I have all of the original manuals/accessories. Contact Chris Gug Gug@gugunderwater.com
New Features at SFUPS.org

The website has a few new features members should know about. First, “click here for a printable program” takes the reader to a pdf of the SFUPS program for the next meeting. It includes the next speaker, meeting location and time, and other meeting information.

The second new feature on the website is a link to see the winning photos from the last months intra-club contests. Thank you to Susan Mears for bringing these new features to the website.

Join SFUPS for the next meeting on February 12, 2013 at 7pm. Social time will be from 7pm until 7:30 with the meeting starting at 7:30pm. SFUPS meetings are located at the El Palacio Hotel, (Near Calder Casino) 21485 N.W. 27th Avenue Miami, FL 33056
Parting Shot
by Bernd Meier

Thanks to our sponsors