Cover Shot by December Featured Photographer Emilie Voissem

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2014 SFUPS Board of Directors

President – Sam Hodge
Vice President – Phil Rudin
Treasurer – Judy Townsend
Newsletter Editor – Dean Pasko
Membership – Linda Ianniello
Webmaster – Susan Mears
Audio/Visual – Jim Mears
Director at Large – Suzan Meldonian
Dive Planner – Bill Watts
Event & Programs – Angela Smith

2014 SFUPS Committee Chairs

Welcome Committee – Carol Schurtz
Club Historian – William Lipscomb
Website Support – Patrice Marker

2014 SFUPS Sponsors
HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

I imagine most of us by now have already started planning or at a minimum started to consider our next photography trips abroad in 2014. I tend to take it a step further knowing that I have business trips; and investigate new underwater photography dive opportunities where I can combine my work and play. In my planning process I also chose to kick start my thinking by revisiting our member photo galleries. I recall thinking how diverse many of your portfolio’s were with respect to images beyond our phenomenal local South Florida reefs. Just another great reminder of the talent within the South Florida Underwater Photography Society (SFUPS).

If you do not have any trips planned rest assured that Florida has many new adventures just waiting to be discovered. I for one plan to spend more time in some of the amazing springs in Northern Florida and have been reading about some interesting sightings at a reef called Mexico Beach on the West coast. Lemon sharks also seem to be making a tremendous come-back so far this year off of Jupiter. Nonetheless, you can expect some tremendous group diving adventures organized by Bill Watts.

Noteworthy, we hope you have had a chance to view the 2014 Photo Contest categories. The categories are challenging but universal in nature that the majority of members should have no problem identifying images in their portfolio to submit. That said there’s lots of opportunity to plan ahead, and for the second year we’ll focus on “excellence in underwater photography” as our theme. Bringing talented speakers and experts to encourage you to try new techniques as well as to improve on existing one’s will be my main commitment to the organization. You can expect more diversity in 2014, and we also look forward to your continued participation in support of SFUPS for the year ahead.

Sam Hodge
November Masters—Black & White Shipwrecks

1st Place — Wayne MacWilliams

2nd Place — Amaury Cruz

3rd Place — Sharon Baron

4th Place — Carlos Jaile

5th Place — Amaury Cruz
November Challengers— On The Move

1st Place — Craig Dietrich

2nd Place — Kelly Casey

3rd Place — Craig Dietrich

4th Place— Carlos Jaile

5th Place— Bernd Meier
A BIG SFUPS Thank You to 2013 Board members

SFUPS members would like to thank the 2013 Board members for all of their hard work and contributions to the Club. Left to right: Mark Widick, Suzan Meldonian, Jim Mears, Carol Schurtz, Susan Mears, Sam Hodge, Patrice Marker, and Phil Rudin, not present - Suzanne Bushnell

SFUPS Welcomes the 2014 Board members and Committee Chairs

SFUPS welcomes the 2014 Board members and Committee Chairs: Judy Townsend-Treasurer, Dean Pasko-Newsletter Editor, Suzan Meldonian-Director at Large, Carol Schurtz-Welcome Committee, Jim Mears-Audio/Visual, Susan Mears-Webmaster, Linda Ianniello-Membership, Bill Watts-Dive Planner, Sam Hodge-President, Patrice Marker Website Support, Phil Rudin-Vice President,.

Not present: Angela Smith - Event Planner and William Lipscomb - Club Historian.
Announcements

- SFUPS would like to welcome new sponsor LamniCo, The Laminage Company. Laminage is a process that transforms images into “Hang on the wall” treasures. Check the LaminCo website for more details [www.laminage.com](http://www.laminage.com)
- SFUPS would like to welcome new sponsor Capt SL8R Charters. At Capt SL8R Charters we aim to connect the dots and treat you to the ultimate Diving Experience from the moment you book until long after you return to the dock and drop off your tanks.

- **Force-E** will be hosting another awesome manatee trip on Feb 1-2, 2014. Price $275 per person: includes 2 nights, 2 Manatee Snorkel Trips, 1 Rainbow River Dive, Contact [Bill Watts](mailto:bill.watts@force-e.com) for more details or call store at 561-845-2333
  
  Or signup online at [www.force-e.com/event-registration/?ee=18](http://www.force-e.com/event-registration/?ee=18)
- New movie release, JOURNEY TO THE SOUTH PACIFIC 3D, coming out at the IMAX. The movie opens January 17, 2013 [details](http://www.sfups.org), [trailer](http://www.sfups.org)
- **4th Annual Underwater Digital Fiesta**, Cozumel Mexico April 12-19 and/or April 19-26
- New member gallery added to [Wilfredo Hernandez’s gallery](http://www.sfups.org)
- [Lake Worth channel webcam](http://www.sfups.org) is now up. They post the current day's tide table.
- January’s Show and Tell by Robert Myers - BHB Tide Table and Tips for the Year Ahead
- **Force-e BHB Night Dive schedule:**
  
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- Calling all videographers - SFUPS wants you! Please produce a short video via Vimeo, write a short bio with a photograph and send it in. For all the details go to [SFUPS.org](http://www.sfups.org)
December Featured Photographer

Emilie Voissem

For over 14 years Emilie worked in Law Enforcement. During that time, she began to realize more and more that life is short and you should live life to the fullest. Emilie began SCUBA diving in late 2010 and soon began to travel for the first time in her life. This opened her eyes to another world, underwater. She soon began taking underwater photographs to capture the moments and share with family and friends. While on vacation in Pompano Beach, Florida in May 2012 Emilie took an underwater photography lesson and fell in love.

She couldn’t stop thinking about the tropical waters and the general happiness she felt while on vacation. Emilie began to contemplate about quitting her career and moving across the Country to do who knows what. In October 2012, she packed up her car, a tow behind trailer and traveled 3,500 miles away from my family and friends in California.

Since coming to Florida, Emilie became certified as a Dive master and currently is working at the dive shop where she took her first lesson. Emilie primarily works on the boat, goes diving, and takes pictures whenever she is off and the sea conditions allow. Emilie takes Macro pictures using a Sony NEX 5n in a Nauticam housing and she is looking forward to expanding into wide angle.
January Featured Photographer
Deb Devers

Since starting her love of diving in the cold water of Boston with week long trips to various popular dive locations Deb moved to Florida & a whole new world opened up. She now can dive any day she wants all year long & is only 5 minutes from the ocean.

Deb first started with point & shoot film. It wasn’t until Deb met & was accepted into the Mucksters group that she became addicted to macro photography. You can now find Deb most at the Blue Heron Bridge driving 50mins to get there. Deb loves the ocean- watching it, being on it & most of all under it which she will do for 3hrs at a time at BHB (can you say 10 feet?). Deb’s first attempts at macro were with the Olympus SP350 & then she moved to the Sony NEX 5. Her newest system is the D7000. Deb has a great group of dive buddies who inspire her with their photos & who she depends on for advice. Deb loves taking photos of all critters large and small but especially nudibranchs, seahorses & turtles. Deb does not like fireworms & has refused all intervention from my friends to not smack them with her muck stick when they try to photobomb my subject and the same goes for sandperch & slippery dicks.
Amanda Cotton, Professional Nikon Photographer specializing in underwater imagery. As an avid scuba diver and ocean enthusiast, Amanda's goal is to help the general public embrace the beauty below the waves, in hopes that with awareness comes concern. The conservation and preservation of this ecosystem is of the highest priority to Amanda. While she enjoys owning and operating a conservation-minded design/media company, A COTTON PHOTO Creative Works LLC, Amanda takes great pride in working with like-minded organizations that genuinely care about the planet and its inhabitants, both above and below the waves.

She received her Bachelor of Arts in Professional Photography while attending Brooks Institute of Photography, where she participated in the highly acclaimed Underseas Program established by Ernie Brooks. Amanda currently works as a correspondent and field editor for Ocean Geographic magazine covering environmental and marine conservation issues. She has received numerous awards for her photography including several from the International Photographers Awards (IPA), Celebrate The Sea, Underwater Photography Annual Awards, and many others.

Amanda is honored to be a Member of The Explorers Club; a member of OAS (Ocean Artists Society), NPS (Nikon Professional Services) and PPA (Professional Photographers of America).

Amanda's imagery has been published in major publications and news sources worldwide including National Geographic, Discovery, Smithsonian Magazine, Times Publishing, CNN, Scuba Diving Magazine, Sport Diver Magazine, Natural History Magazine, Earthweek, and Science Daily; as well as many international dive industry advertising campaigns. Working with organizations such as Scholastic Books, The Conservation Fund, Consortium For Ocean Leadership, Women Diver’s Hall of Fame, Marine Life Protection Act, and Rourke Publishing has allowed her imagery to have a positive impact on the oceans through education and outreach programs designed to improve awareness toward the plight the oceans now face."

Visit Amanda’s website at www.acottonphoto.com
Club Members in the News

- Chris Gug had 5 photos published in the Jan/Feb 2014 issue of Scuba Diving Magazine. Pages 44 and 46.
- Craig Dietrich had an article about Goliath Groupers in Scuba Diving.
- Steve Kovacs placed 5th in Macro and Marine Life Behavior and Honorable Mentions at the 2013-ocean-art-contest.
- Wilfred Hernandez was the Demonstration representative for SAGA products at DEMA.
- "The Deep and the Shallow, Photographers Exploring a Watery World" at the Cultural Council of Palm Beach County in Lake Worth. The exhibit is open until January 18, 2014. SFUPS members with exhibits are Alan Dewey, Judy Townsend, and Mark Widick.
- Phil Rudin has two articles on Nauticam Float Arms and a SAGA Focus Light snoot in the Nov/Dec 2013 issue of Underwater Photography magazine.
- Suzan Meldonian won a Bronze medal in Underwater Macro Photographers on Facebook.
- Suzan Meldonian and Steve Kovacs were published in Underwater Macro Photographers 2nd Anniversary booklet.

2014 SFUPS Contest Categories

http://www.sfups.com/MonthlyContests.html

JANUARY MASTERS

At the surface -
Anything at the surface, taken from underwater. Could include a Manatee, Whale Shark, Squid at the surface, floating seaweed, Needlefish, etc.

JANUARY CHALLENGERS

Dinner –
Fish or creature eating something.
2013 SFUPS Photographer of the Year and Masters and Challengers Awards

Photographer of the year — Wayne MacWilliams

1st Place Challengers — Sam Hodge

2nd Place Masters — Suzan Meldonian

2nd Place Challengers — Judy Townsend
2013 SFUPS Holiday Party

Great holiday fun was enjoyed by all who attended the 2013 SFUPS Holiday Party.

See more holiday photos at

SFUPS On The Scene

"The Deep and the Shallow, Photographers Exploring a Watery World" at the Cultural Council of Palm Beach County in Lake Worth. The exhibit is open until January 18, 2014. SFUPS members with exhibits are Alan Dewey, Judy Townsend, and Mark Widick.

Force-E’s 2013 Christmas party was well attended by SFUPS members:

Join SFUPS for the next meeting

Jan. 14 at 6:15 pm
for social hour, drinks & dinner
Meeting will start at 7:15pm

SFUPS Meeting Location
Courtyard Marriot Ft Lauderdale North
2440 W. Cypress Creek Road
Ft Lauderdale, FL  33309
954-772-7770
Global Underwater Photography Photography Contest Calendar

Wildlife Photographer of the Year contest - Deadline February 27, 2014 12.00 GMT

ENTER YOUR FAVORITE HOLIDAY PHOTO FROM A GUY HARVEY OUTPOST PROPERTY AND WIN!

Scuba Symphony Quarterly Contest

Club Travel Exchange

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.

2014

- Feb 16-23 Truk Lagoon on the Odyssey with Bonnie Pelnar, UnderwaterColours.com
- Millie and David Pressler plan to take a Costa cruise out of Miami for under $600 on March 7, 2014. The cruise is going to Cozumel, Grand Cayman, OchoRios, Roatan, Grand Turk, Nassau. With 4 or more other divers, they can arrange a private dive boat at each stop.
- May 24-31 2014 Scuba Travel Ventures at Tubbataha Reef in the Sulu Sea on the Azores liveaboard.
- Sept 20-27 Jonathan Lavan has a trip planned to the Sea of Cortez. If you are interested please contact him or go to www.rociodelmarliveaboard.com for all the details. If you just wait to sign up please call Brooke in the Rocio office at 602-272-2522 and be sure to men-
Classifieds

- FS: Nikon D700 body and Subal ND700 housing. Housing has 45° 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

- One wet close up diopter Nexus CL 100. Approx. 4" in diameter. Has black rubber skirt to fit over lens port. Has been used on Seaool ports, may fit others as well. Tripod Mount Ring for Canon 70-200mm F4 L lens, in original box in new condition, model A II (W). Price $75 Contact Bernd Meier at meierb@bellsouth.net

- Ike slave sensor AD-TTL $18, Inon Optical D never wet $85 OBO, Inon Optical D Strobe cable never wet $45, Inon to Nauticam F.O.cableX2never wet $50, Inon to Nauticam L style F.O. cableX 2 $50, Schneider 6X Platinum $250 new $100, Gagne Porta Trace Light box $25, Nikon 16mm Fisheye 2.8 Excellent $550, Nikon 55-200 Zoom 5/11 re-furb.Excellent $85, Zeagle Scout BC w/ Air 2 Good cond. $125You will need hose Air2 to reg Wayne MacWilliams shutterthethought@comcast.net

- Chris has some old personal snorkel/SCUBA gear that is taking up too much space in his shop! Some of it is brand spankin' new, and some is pretty heavily used. But its all cheapy cheapy! Email me to receive a picture of the item, and to ensure it hasn't sold yet. If you reserve it, you can pick it up at my store, or I can bring it to the January SFUPS meeting. Cash/credit card are both fine. Contact Chris Gug at 954-579-8096 or Gug@GugUnderwater.com

  MASKS: ScubaPro Frameless 2 yellow trim (brand new - $10). Dacor Integra w/velcro hair strap (good condition used - $10). Mares black skirt & frame w/ScubaPro softcase (good condition used, but with "SAS" etched into the top plastic [who's SAS???] $5). OceanMaster View 3 black trim/clear skirt w/hardcase & hair strap (used medium condition - $5). US Divers mask blue trim/clear skirt (brand new - $10).

  FINS: Atomic Splitfins size-Large Silver (used good condition - $15). Mares Pinna Quattro Excel ABS Plus size Regular (aka Medium) Red (used great condition - $10). Dacor Tiger size-small yellow (used good condition - $5). SeaQuest Horizon2 closed-heel snorkel fins size-5-6 blue (used good condition - $5). Technisub Stratos FP closed-heel fins size 9.5-10.5 blue (used good condition - $5).

  SNORKELS: Tusa Hyperdry Evolution III blue (used great condition - $5). US Divers dry snorkel blue (used great condition - $5). US Divers Impulse yellow (used ok condition because of silicone yellowing - $5). Dacor yellow (used good condition, but needs mouthpiece - $0 free).
Yearly dues are $35 for individuals and $45 for families. Make checks payable to SFUPS and mail to Linda Ian-
niello at 359 Cottonwood Lane, Boca Raton, FL 33487 (Don’t forget to send a copy of your dive insurance and
C-Card) Membership benefits include:

- Access to the industry’s most talented insight, experience, and knowledge
- Networking with members with the same interests and opportunities to enjoy underwater photography
- Receive accolades and peer recognition by participating in and potentially placing in Intra-Club contests
- Opportunity to showcase your images in the SFUPS monthly newsletter
- Free Member Gallery on the SFUPS web site - Get seen and publish your work
- Learn from your peers and cut down on the underwater photography learning curve
- Receive insight into global photographic expeditions and exotic locations from member presentations
- Special Club dives specific to underwater photography
- Eligibility for special raffle prizes with your participation at monthly Club events
- Advertise pre-owned gear for sale
- Sponsor benefits w/membership: Force-E - discount for air-fills, Lamnico – discount on custom-designed laminated images, access to 2-tank $55 discounted dives throughout South Florida

http://www.sfups.org/MembershipJoinNow.html