

The Goby

San Diego Underwater Photographic Society

Volume 50 Issue 3

Established 1961 - <http://www.sdups.com>

March - 2011

Hello SDUPS Members - Boy how technology has changed diving. Everything from dive computers to digital cameras, to computer for re-breathers, to LED lights, to super stretching wetsuits ... it sure seems like technology is moving faster than my wallet can keep up with it.

This last month though, Alert Diver (the DAN magazine) featured a piece of technology that I think we all should have within the next five years or sooner. It is called the **Nautilus Lifeline** and in my mind, if you are an open water diver, this device is close to a *must have* for safety.

For those of you that might have missed the article, the Nautilus Lifeline is a device that lets a diver remain in two-way contact with nearby boats while, if necessary sending a distress signal with the Diver's GPS location embedded in it, all in roughly the size of a coffee mug! It was invented by Mike Leaver, the captain of the Nautilus Explorer Liveboard.

Mike's breakthrough or genius was to package a low power VHF radio that includes Digital Selective Calling (DSC) protocols into a small form factor, waterproof container. Basically, Mike's radio is a VHF radio that can transmit an ID along with GPS information. Since DSC has been required by the FCC in all VHF radios since 2009, all the larger boats already have this type of DSC VHF radio installed and can communicate directly with the diver.

The Lifeline has an 8 mile range and you charge it through a USB port, so it can be charged by anyone. The battery lasts for 24 hours!

Today, the Lifeline goes for \$299 (pre-order special thru DAN) with delivery in March. It already costs less than most computers - heck a DAN Safety Sausage kit goes for \$75! Give technology and competition a little time and it will probably be integrated with your dive computer or your BC ... isn't technology amazing.

If you want to order one, here is the link to the DAN order page:

<https://www.diversalertnetwork.org/lifeline/default.htm>

I ordered mine this afternoon.

Safe Diving and Great Shooting

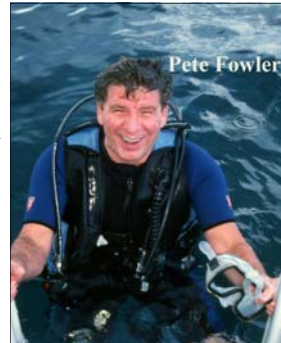
Pete Fowler - SDUPS President

Internet Corner - Mike Poirier - Video downloader

I have spent some time on You-Tube, maybe a little too much time, looking for instructional and product review videos. I wanted to find out the best way to set-up my Canon T1i to take video and You-Tube was a great source for this info. I've also gone there to find info on PhotoShop and ProShow. Point of this Internet Corner is that I wanted to save some of these videos on my computer for future use. Well I came across a FREE program call "Freemake Video Downloader". I got to the site through P C Magazine so I figured it would be pretty safe to download.

Here's a basic description: Freemake Video Downloader is a handy, easy-to-use free video downloader which you can use to download videos from video sharing websites like Youtube, MTV, Veoh, Dailymotion, etc. The program supports many video portals including Facebook, Google Video, MetaCafe, Vimeo, Nicovideo, etc. Freemake Video Downloader is the fastest and the easiest means to transfer a web video onto your PC in its original format, convert it to AVI, the most common PC format, or extract audio (MP3) from the video

Check it out at: find.pcworld.com/71464 or <http://www.freemake.com/>



February General Membership Meeting

The February meeting of SDUPS was very well attended. The new meeting format seems to be working especially well with members commenting that things are running smoothly.

Our president **Pete Fowler** made a few announcements before getting things underway. He noted that long time member **Phil Faulconer** had passed away. See page 4. Three gals from "Friends of La Jolla Shores" talked about gathering fish images for the fish I. D. panels of the new exhibit at the Shores. Check out their link at:

<http://www.friendsoflajollashores.com/>

Next up was our monthly competition which was "Christmas Tree Worms". Feather dusters were also included. See winners on page 2 & 3. Video contest winners are also listed.

An intermission was taken and thanks to **Dave Rudie** for bringing in the refreshments.

The rest of the evening was dedicated to our very special out of town speaker, **Kevin Lee**. **Kevin** is from the L. A. area and is a very seasoned pro-underwater photographer. His main love is Nudibranchs and he is a charter member of the Slug Club.

<http://slugclub.com/>

Kevin recently made a trip to Kenya Africa and wanted to share his experience with us.

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CALENDAR

March 24th - General Membership Meeting Sumner Hall 7:00pm

Travel Log with **Mike Rodgers** on diving in Bonaire.

Special presentation with **Steve Gould** about his new Photo Book "To The End Of The Earth".

Competition Subject - "Wrecks"

Film Festival - Poster Image Contest

SDUPS Film Festival 2011 - May14th

February Competition - Christmas Tree Worms

Dick Gamble - 1st Place Advanced



Stefaan Kiebooms - 2nd Place



Bob Pooley - 1st Place Amateur



Heidrun Faulconer - 3rd Place Advanced



Phil Sokol - 3rd Place Amateur



Matt Meier - 2nd Place Amateur



February Competition - Christmas Tree Worms

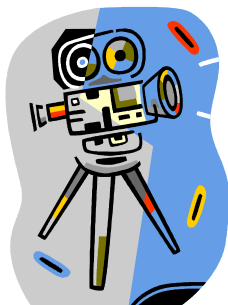
Mike Rodgers - 1st Place Novice



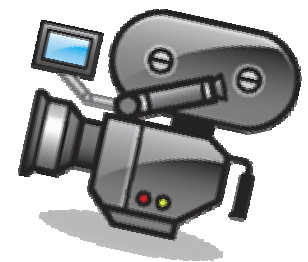
Brian McHugh - 2nd Place Novice



Brian Dennis - 3rd Place Novice

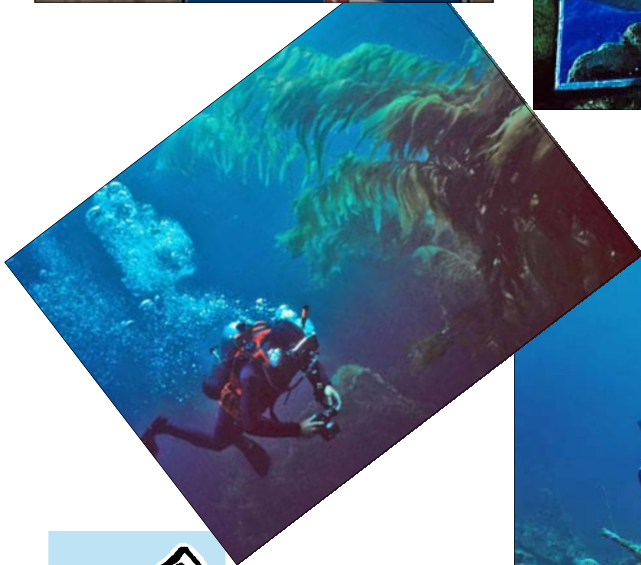


February Video Competition
1st Place - Tracy Clark
2nd Place - Stefaan Kiebooms
3rd Place - Pete Fowler



Goodbye to a friend and a Gentleman

On February 19th, SDUPS long time member **Phil Faulconer** passed away peacefully in his sleep. **Phil** learned to dive from **Chuck Nicklin** in the early 1960's. For their honeymoon in 1968, **Phil & Heidrun** went to Cozumel where she had to learn how to dive. Cozumel had just started dive tourism the year before. **Phil** already owned a Nikonos camera and was taking black and white pictures. In 1973 **Phil** bought a Nikonos II for **Heidrun**, but shared both cameras with the little beer can strobes. They began traveling to the Pacific and later in the 1970's to the Caribbean. Then in 1983 they both join SDUPS. During the summer of 1984 they took a weekend class with **Howard** and **Michel Hall** to the Channel Islands. After that, **Heidrun** stated, we became serious photographers. Both were very active in the early SDUPS Film Festivals that were big events held at the Civic Theater downtown. They both have always had wonderful underwater images to enter in our monthly competitions. **Phil** with his bright outlook and friendly smile will be missed by all. Presented are some of the images that he entered in our monthly competitions. - *Mike Poirier*





Divers Alert Network - It's a common misperception that DAN is there for its members only when a member is hurt while diving. The truth is that DAN is here for you regardless of how you come to need assistance.

As a DAN Member, you are automatically enrolled in *TravelAssist*, the membership benefit that provides you up to \$100,000 in medical evacuation coverage. *TravelAssist* is not part of any dive accident insurance plan, it is a benefit of your individual (\$35) or Family (\$55) membership and, therefore, applicable both to diving and non-diving accidents, provided you are more than 50 miles from home.



Reprinted from
"Diver Alert Magazine"

If ever you need it, you can access *TravelAssist* by calling the DAN Emergency Hotline (+1-919-684-9111). We're here 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to assist you in your time of need.

If you have questions about your *TravelAssist* benefit, call the DAN Membership Team at +1-800-466-2671 or read all about it at www.dan.org

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With a slide show and reference books, **Kevin** took us on an exciting tour of diving in Africa. His great maps and how he traveled to get to Kenya gave us a feel of where he went and how he got there. **Kevin** also gave us some history of the African Continent to give us an idea about the political climate and the people. His information came from a book he recommended called "*The Shackled Continent: Power, Corruption, and African Lives*". From there **Kevin** got us to Kenya where his diving took place. Being with a group of slug lovers, their main goal was to find nudibranchs that were on their wish lists. Not only did we see beautiful sea slugs, but **Kevin** also captured other sea life to give us an idea of what the reefs were like and what fish life inhabited them. They visited two main dive spots in Kenya and were very pleased with the diving and the images they captured. After the slide show, **Kevin** answered questions from the audience. SDUPS would like to thank **Kevin** for making the trip down from L. A. and presenting a great show for us.

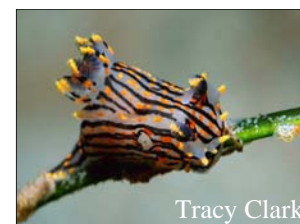
Time went by very fast with all that was presented at the February meeting. We concluded just after 9:00 o'clock. A fun night with fellow photographers. Hope to see you all at the March meeting and invite a friend, diver or not.



Sue Griffith



Mike Poirier



Tracy Clark

Digital Darkroom - Mike Poirier

The new digital cameras with large pixel counts are making for larger images than ever before. One challenge is being able to zoom in and work at the pixel level while still monitoring the overall look of the image. The best way to do this is by using *multiple views*. This means opening two separate windows of the same file. One window at high magnification for editing and the other at full screen size to check the progress of your work. (Using PhotoShop Elements V6.0)



Tips & Tricks



STEP 1 - Open an image in PhotoShop. Click on the zoom tool in the toolbox and click until the image is at the desired working level of magnification you want to work with.

STEP 2 - To create a second window of the same image - go to View> New Window for <filename>. (Filename will be the name of the file you have open). In CS2 it's a little different. Go to Window> Arrange> New Window for <filename>. Now you have two windows of the identical image.



STEP 3 - Move and adjust the size of the two windows so you work on the zoomed image at the pixel level or close to it, and see how your edits & changes effect the overall view in the full sized window. You may have to juggle around a little to get the two windows just the way you want.

STEP 4 - When finished, you can close either of the view windows (both windows are the same) to revert to a single view.
A tip like this may have limited use but it's always nice to know that it's there.

Monthly Meetings

Usually the fourth Thursday of each month
7:00pm
(No meeting in December)

Sumner Auditorium
Scripps Institute of Oceanography
8602 La Jolla Shores Drive
La Jolla, CA 92037

For more information
check the SDUPS web page
<http://www.sdups.com>

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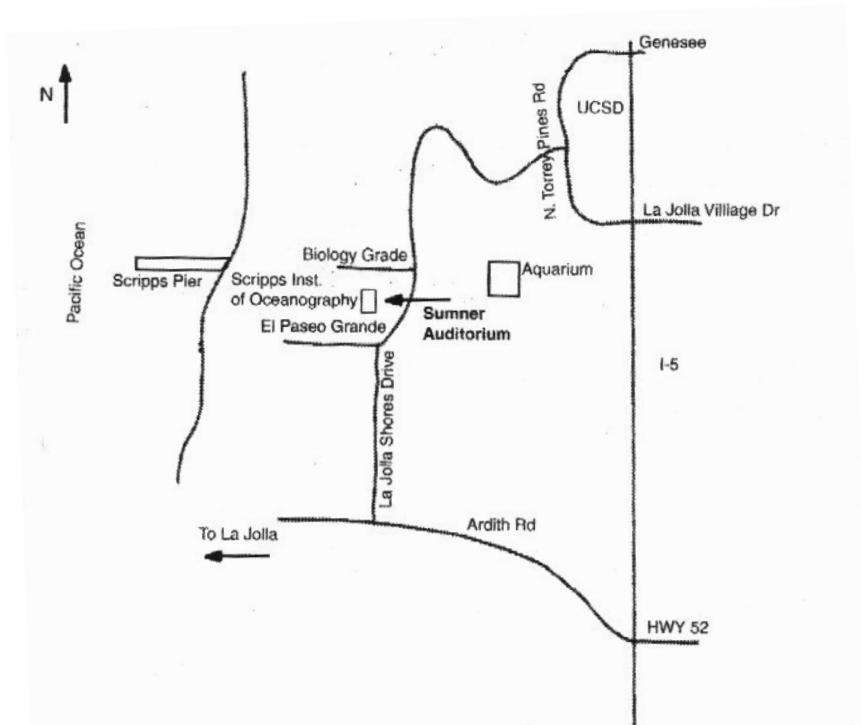
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Mike Poirier - Goby
Derek Tarr - Dive Trips
Brett Tischler - Webmaster



Competition Schedule for 2011

January 27th - "Best of 2010"

February 24th - "Christmas Tree Worms"

March 24th - "Wrecks"

April 28th - "Close Focus Wide Angle"

May 26th - "Fish Faces"

June 23rd - "Selective Focus"

July 28th - "Diver with a Light"

August 25th - "Self Portrait"

September 22nd - "Schools"

October 27th - "Black & White"

November 17th - "Green"

December Awards/Holiday Party and Installation New Officers

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