

The Goby

San Diego Underwater Photographic Society

Volume 50 Issue 5

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

May - 2011

President's Message

The May 10th Board Meeting was chock full of topics for discussion. We covered everything from the logistics of the upcoming film festival to the setting of dates for the picnic and the holiday party.

One of the items on the up and coming June 20th BOD meeting is to review what we can do to make the club "even better" and of more value to its members. That is where you guys obviously come in ... we'd like your feedback and thoughts on this.

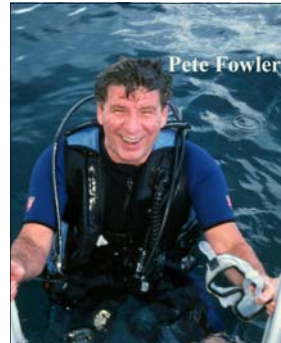
This feedback breaks down into a couple of areas. First, since it has been four months, what do you think about the new meeting format. Give us both pros and cons ... that is the only way we can improve.

Second area for you to contribute is new ideas for improving SDUPS. In this area, I need to caution you a bit. We have had a number of really good ideas on things SDUPS could do surface at the BOD, the problem we run into is that a "great new idea" typically takes manpower to implement, and since we are an all-volunteer club, manpower tends to be a relatively precious and limited commodity. So, the balancing we do at the BOD is weighing some really great ideas versus our ability to execute them.

This doesn't mean we don't want the ideas or the inputs. It does mean that we may not be able to implement a great idea or it may mean that we call on you to add some of that precious commodity "manpower" ... and that is probably a good thing, as the old adage goes, the more you put into something typically the bigger the reward.

So, please take a few minutes tell us how you are feeling about the monthly meeting changes, and tell us about any ideas you have for how we might improve your club. Send them directly to me at pfowler@cox.net or to any BOD member. The BOD member's emails are listed on the back page of the Goby.

Safe Diving and Great Shooting - **Pete Fowler**



SDUPS General Membership Meeting - April 28th

The days are getting longer, the surfs up, and the parking at Sumner Hall goes downhill as summer get closer. But that didn't deter about 35 to 40 members and guests from attending the April meeting.

Our president, **Pete Fowler**, changed things around a little and had the monthly competition first on the schedule. "Wide angle, close focus" was the category and as you can see on page two, the winner images are beautiful.

Next on the agenda was a series of four presentations put together by three members that recently made a dive trip to the Philippines. Yes, members **Pete Fowler**, **Mike Poirier**, **Bob Yin**, and **Jim Rakowski** made a twenty-three day trip to a couple of dive spots in this area. Members **Elisabeth Cook** and **Dennis Alba** joined us for the third week of the trip. First up was **Pete** with a great PowerPoint presentation on The Eagle Point Resort in the Bantagas area. Images of the facilities including the rooms, restaurant, the dive operation, and the grounds were shown. **Pete** added information on costs of the dive package which was very reasonable.

Mike Poirier put together a ProShow of his images taken in Bantagas highlighting the macro fish and critter life.

A short intermission was taken to talk shop

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CALENDAR

SDUPS Film Festival 2011 - May 14th

May 26th - General Membership Meeting
Sumner Hall 7:00pm

Competition Subject - "Fish Faces"

Walter Heim - Point & Shoot Camera Techniques

Bob Yin - Video & Stills with a Point & Shoot Camera

Bob Pooley - Club Treasurer Report

Pool Session every 4th Wednesday
Call Dave Hinkle @ 619-980-8992

Internet Corner - Mike Poirier - Across the pond

I came across another Digital Camera web-site that I thought members might enjoy. What makes this site unique is that it's based in England which gives it a different perspective. It's a full information site with a lot of emphasis on digital photography techniques. There's sections on PhotoShop Tutorials, Photography Projects, Photography News, Equipment Reviews, English Photo Magazines, and more. Granted it's not centered around underwater photography, but to become a good underwater photographer, it helps to be a good land photographer. There's a lot on info. Check it out:



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

April Competition - "Close Focus Wide Angle"

Tracy Clark - 1st Place Advanced



Heidrun Faulconer - 1st Place Advanced



Julie Tracy - 2nd Place Advanced



Dick Gamble - 3rd Place Advanced



Brett Tischler - 2nd Place Amateur



Dave Rudie - 1st Place Amateur



April Competition - "Close Focus Wide Angle"

Matt Meier - 3rd Place Amateur



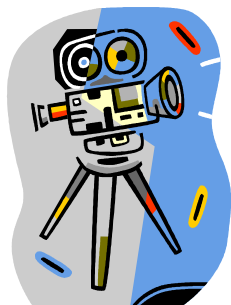
John Jones - 1st Place Novice



Teresa Pooley - 2nd Place Novice



Kris Carner - 3rd Place Novice



April Video Competition

1st Place - **Pete Fowler**

2nd Place - **Bob Yin**

3rd Place - **Bill Ring**

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and enjoy refreshments that were provide by **Bill Ring**. Thanks for helping out **Bill**.

Mike came back on with a PowerPoint presentation of the live-aboard dive operation on the Palua Sport. The boat spent two weeks on the Tubbataha Reef in the Sulu Sea with a couple of stops to dive along the way. **Mike** provided route maps, dive locations, images of the boat including the living quarters, galley and the dive operation. He also talked about cost and how much fun it was to have other SDUPS members together on a trip such as this. With six or more divers from our club, it was easy to get hints and tips from each other to improve our underwater photography skills.

To wrap up the Philippine presentation, **Jim Rakowski** presented a ProShow with mostly wide angle images of the Tubbataha reef animals which was a jump up from the macro at Batangas. **Jim** had some beautiful images and a great presentation. It was our hope that we presented a picture of what a long dive trip was like and the good times and great diving we had. Thanks guys for putting your show together.

Directly after the general membership meeting, a mini board meeting was held to talk about and firm up details on the upcoming Film Festival.

Mike Poirier presented the Film Festival chair, **Herb Gruenhagen**, the finished Festival posters featuring a great image by Matt Meier. These posters will be set up in local dive shops to solicit tickets for the festival.

Don't forget. Film Festival is on May 21st. If you can help out in any way, please contact Herb.

SDUPS Board Meeting May 12th

A Board Meeting was held with emphases on the upcoming Film Festival at the office of our President **Pete Fowler**. Other members present were: **Mike Miller, Dave Hinkle, Mike Poirier, Walter Heim, Herb Gruenhagen, and Dave Rudie**.

The first items on the agenda were to set the dates on two upcoming club events. First a club picnic will be help at La Jolla Shores on September 18th. Our annual Awards/Holiday party is set for December 10th. More info will be coming out as these events get closer.

Film Festival: Duties for the Festival, such as food/drinks, tickets, clean-up were filled by various board members volunteering. All fourteen entries for our Festival were reviewed by the Board and placed in the order that would make for a smooth running enjoyable show. I can say that it's going to be a great show.

It was also decided that the position of Club Dive Trip Coordinator would be eliminated. There hasn't been enough interest from club members to appoint a new coordinator. If in the future there is a renewed interest and someone volunteers for this position, it can be reinstated.

Again the Board is diligently looking for ways to improve our club and club meetings. A discussion about what kind of meeting presentations would be most beneficial to both the newcomer and experienced underwater photographer wrapped up the meeting. Remember! The Board is always open to your suggestions. It's your club and your can help make it what you want it to be.



**** Just a Reminder ****



Desserts Wanted

During the intermission for our Film Festival, we will again be serving dessert. This has worked out very well in the past. The patrons have really enjoyed it. We ask all members to bring their favorite - cookies, a cake, pie or any other dessert that you know the crowd will like. If you don't bake, something from your favorite sweet shop will do. Thank you for your time and help.

Ear Squeeze?

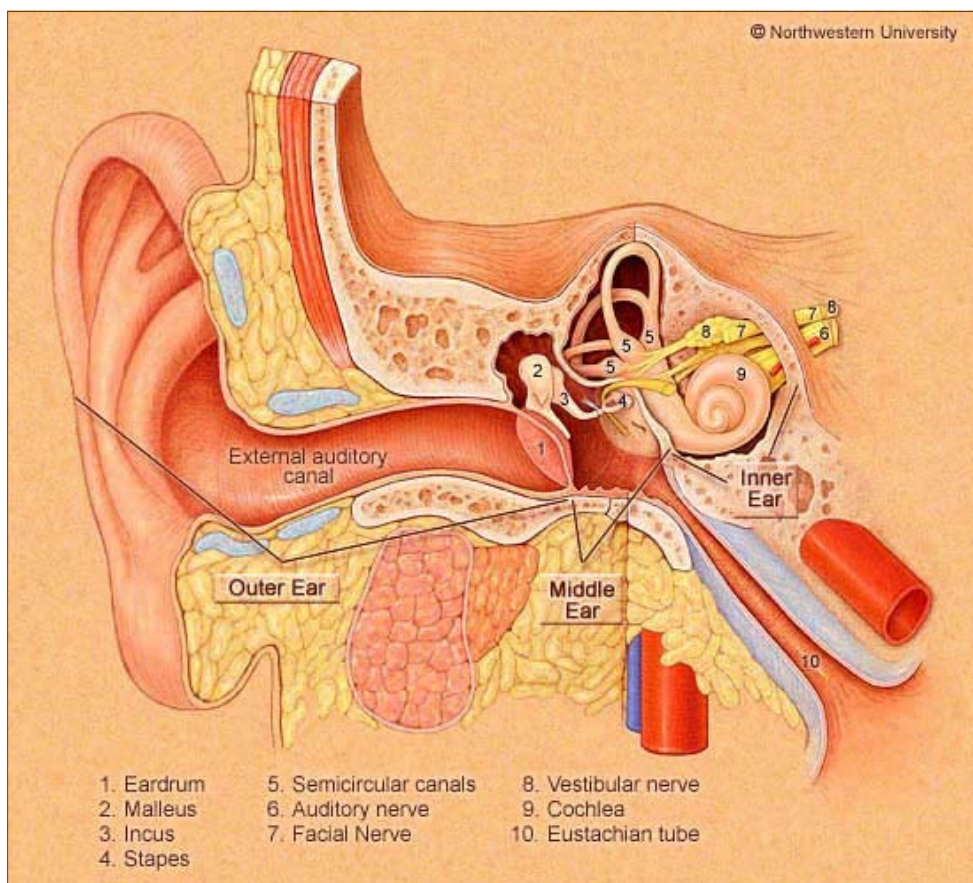
On a recent trip to the Philippines, I ended up with an ear problem.

I had made about thirty dives when towards the last dive I made, I noticed something was not right in one of my ears. Everything seemed to be working OK as far as being able to equalize, but it just wasn't right. I wasn't experiencing any pain at all as I changed depth and equalized as I should have. On the last dive I made, when I got back into the chase boat, things were really spinning around. I was experiencing a good case of vertigo. I got back on the live-aboard and went to lay down.

That's when I noticed that I also had some hearing loss in that troubled ear. I made the decision that I would not dive anymore on this trip until it cleared up. We were pulling into port the next day and I was taken to a Seventh Day Adventist Hospital. I was seen by a doctor and she reported that there was no rupture or lesions of the eardrum. That was good news but didn't explain the hearing loss or the somewhat off balance I was experiencing. She believed that it was what she called inner ear trauma. A swelling of the inner ear. She prescribed some decongestants and steroids to help with the inflammation of the inner ear and said that it would just take time and that I should see a doctor as soon as I got back to San Diego. Well that's just

what I did. The first thing I received at Kaiser was a very comprehensive hearing test. The results weren't anything new to me. It only confirmed that I had lost most of my hearing in my left ear. Next was in to see the specialist. He basically confirmed what the Philippine doctor had said. Inner ear trauma. He thought that fluid from the Cochlea part of the ear had broken through the inner membrane of the inner ear and had filled the middle ear. This made sense because I wasn't feeling the pressure of descending because the eardrum was pushing on liquid. Nobody could come up with a cause for this except the U.S. doctor thought it could have been caused by a virus and the diving just excited the whole thing. I was again on steroids for fourteen days total with no improvement in my hearing. I have another doctor appointment in a few weeks which will hopefully come up with some treatment options. I found out about a cousin who woke up one morning with hearing loss in one ear for no known reason. He received a new treatment of injecting steroids directly into the inner ear. He got his hearing back in about six days.

If anyone else has experienced something like this, please contact me so we can compare notes - *Mike Poirier - mpoirier2@cox.net*



Official Sony NEX-5 press release

A revolutionary approach to interchangeable lens cameras from Sony

- New Alpha digital cameras with DSLR picture quality and responsive shooting
- World's smallest and lightest interchangeable lens digital camera (NEX-5)
 - 14.2 effective megapixels Exmor™ APS HD CMOS sensor
 - 1080i HD movie recording (NEX-5) with stereo sound, fast and silent autofocus
 - Intuitive new interface with Help Guide and Shooting Tips
 - E-mount lens system compatible with α DSLR lenses (with optional Mount Adaptor)
 - Sweep Panorama with 3D capability2



<http://www.dpreview.com/reviews/SonyNex5Nex3/>

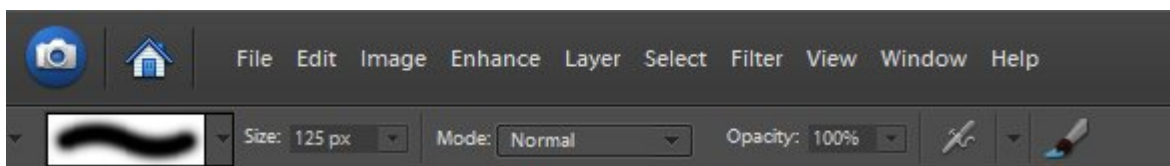
Digital Darkroom - Mike Poirier

We have seen U/W images where the photographer was using a snoot on the flash to concentrate the light on the subject to make that subject stand out. Here's a PhotoShop trick that I have been playing with to accomplish just about the same thing. (Elements v6.0)

Step 1 - The image of the Blue Ring Octopus on the right pretty much blends in with the background. Using some simple PhotoShop tools we'll get ride of the background in a snoot like fashion.



Step 2 - Click on the Elliptical Marquee Selection Tool and drag to select a portion of your image that you would like to highlight. On the Menu > Select > Feather and set in to about 50 pixels depending on the resolution of your image. What you are trying to accomplish is a soft edge transition. Now back to menu Select > Inverse.



Step 3 - Now select the Brush Tool making sure your foreground color is black and paint within the selected area. Back to menu Select > Deselect.

Notes - When using the Elliptical Marquee Selection Tool, you can hold the shift key while dragging your selection to make a circle. Once you stop dragging, you move your selection but you can't change the size of your selection. To change the size just go back a step and drag a new selection.



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>

2011 Board of Directors

President

Pete Fowler
pfowler@cox.net

Vice President

Mike Poirier
mpoirier2@cox.net

Secretary

Walter Heim
walter.heim@att.net

Treasurer

Bob Pooley
bp@pagetech.com

Membership

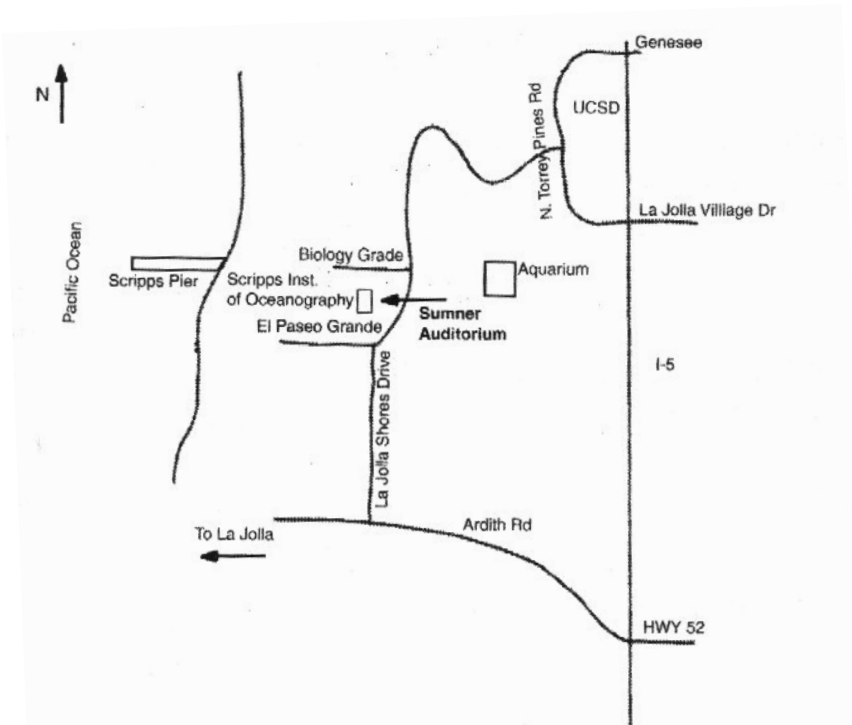
Mike Rodgers
mcredgers2@gmail.com

Activities

Dave Hinkel
fivedolphins4u@msn.com

Board Members at Large:

Dave Rudie
Mike Miller
Herb Gruenhagen
- Film Festival
Mike Poirier - Goby
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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