

# UNDERWATER EXPOSURE

Volume 9 Issue 3 Underwater Photographic Society March 2001

Monthly Club Meeting  
**March 18, 2001**

**Location: Golden Corral Restaurant**

E. of Webb Chapel on Forest Lane. 3312 Forest Ln..  
 Check [www.yahoo.com](http://www.yahoo.com) for a detailed map!

Plan on eating dinner there!

**Board Meeting** at 5:30 pm.  
 Mealtime begins at 6:30 pm.  
 Meeting begins at 7:00 pm.

**For more information:**

Barry Guimbellot  
 214-361-0757

**Guests are encouraged and welcome!!!**

## February Winners

### Novice

1st Melodie Geffen  
 2nd Carolyn Kohls  
 3rd Waynetta Wheeler

### Open

1st George Bogard  
 2nd Lily Mak  
 3rd George Bogard



## Monthly Meeting Topic

### CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF A NIKONOS V AND RELATED EQUIPMENT

Presented by Judy Johnson and Don Lewis

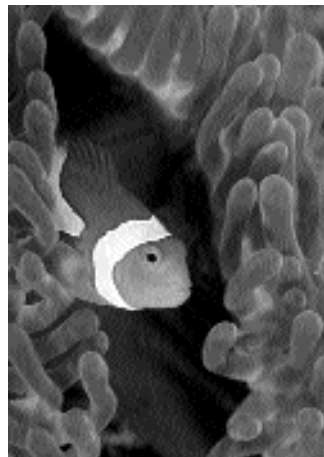
Learn some of the tried and true best tips on taking care of your equipment so that you have the best chance of keeping it dry on the inside and wet on the outside. Those present will get a free goody bag of handy maintenance items.

## Dues are now due!!!

If you have not paid your 2001 dues yet, this will be your last newsletter. Be sure and keep current so you will not miss out on the fun and information.

## February Winners "Marine Vertebrates"

### Open Division



George Bogard

### Novice Division



Melodie Geffen

## DUPS Monthly Photo Contest Topics 2001

**March** Ouch! (anything that hurts when touched)

**May** Little Bitty(Macro)

**June** Coral Abstractions

**July** Damselfish

**Aug.** Nudibranchs

**Sept.** Decapoda

**Oct.** "An Eyefull" (W/A)

**Nov.** Hexacoralla

**Dec.** No contest

**April** Parasitism

## VIDEOLIGHTS

by Roger Roth

### Judging the Best Shots

With the underwater photo/video competition season upon us, I thought it was a good time to discuss the things the judges may find to be important. Hopefully, this will give you more insight into your own talents and help you discern which shots you should choose to enter in hopes of winning a prize, or more importantly, gaining some credibility as an underwater photographer or videographer.

The first and most important thing to remember when choosing your entries is to make sure that you are following all of the posted rules, especially the conservation oriented ones. For example, a shot of a diver touching or harassing an animal will almost always automatically be disqualified, unless entered in a conservation category that allows abusive shots.

Be aware that each competition and each set of judges may have different priorities. It may take years of entering to finally figure out what each contest finds acceptable. Years ago, I had a video disqualified from one competition because it showed a school of sharks, which meant to the judges there probably was bait in the area to draw the sharks near, and this was unnatural. I decided to retire that production, but a month later, another competition awarded first place to a video of a shark feeding with little editing evident. Go figure.

Make sure that all of your shot is in focus, the entire subject is in the shot, and that the composition is pleasing. Even if you enter a shot of a rare animal, if it is obvious that your shot was a last minute attempt because you only got some of the tail, it will most likely get a "no" from the judges. If you don't understand composition, there are numerous books available on this subject. My favorite is one by Jim Church which can be found at [www.jimchurchphoto.com](http://www.jimchurchphoto.com)

Judges consider the difficulty of the shots. When narrowed down to a shot of an oceanic whitetip shark in blue water or a Nassau Grouper posing under a coral head, the shark will win just about every time, due to the danger the diver was in to obtain the shot. The Spanish Dancer

laying its lovely egg case will win out over another dancing in the water column (especially since most water column dances mean that someone had to pick up the animal and carry it upwards in the water, thus violating conservation rules). Two years ago, the Best of Show shot in the Underwater Images Competition was a head-on shot of an angelfish because the judges felt this angle was difficult to obtain.

Filling the picture without distracting from the main subject also becomes an important part of photography. A picture with two or three main subjects should have those subjects placed in a pleasing manner. Three batfish aligned in an orderly, diagonal manner will more often than not win out over three randomly swimming critters.

Pay attention to what types of shots have won previously. Years ago, the first shots of a pygmy seahorse were darling and certainly earned final round status, if not a winning one. After many years of these shots, however, the pygmy seahorse is becoming somewhat passe. The same is true of the anemonefish in the anemone and the roaring fringehead that twelve photographers took turns photographing on the same trip!

Another thing that may help your entry catch the eyes of the judges is the quality of your dupe. We all know that some photographic labs are better than others, especially for underwater photography. I like recommending a lab that has divers on its staff and that has the ability to pay special attention to the numerous rolls of film we've spent thousands of dollars to obtain. One person who has a great reputation for this type of service is Peter Chestnut. Peter can be reached by email at [bluwater@mindspring.com](mailto:bluwater@mindspring.com)

One last hint that Jim Church taught me a few years ago that is worth sharing is a procedure that you can use to choose your slide entries once you have a number of them narrowed down. Lay out your slides on a table all facing the same way. Then walk around to the other side of the table and quickly glance at the slides; you'll be seeing them upside down, now. The one or two or three that catch your eye immediately probably do so automatically because of outstanding color and/or composition, whether upside down or rightside up!

This won't have anything to do with degree of difficulty of the shot, and you may want to add a couple more entries with a greater degree of difficulty if you feel the need. But this technique should aid you in a small way as far as narrowing down what might just win you a dive trip to that special destination! Good Luck this season! Sea Ya!

Critter Corner: Tropical clingfishes can be easily found by closely studying the bases of crinoids. Be sure to check the underside of the crinoid, as well. It's interesting that clingfishes lack scales and also that they have a ventral sucking-disc in place of their ventral fins.

## Digital Vs. Film

The maximum size of a print from a digital image is now outdated. Several companies like the Altamira Group have produced programs that use algorithms to increase the image size and/or the resolution of an image. The program is a Photoshop plugin that allows the user to save the file in Altamira's proprietary file extension of .stn. One is given a choice between "lossless" and "visually lossless" compression. When the file is reopened, a box appears that gives the user many choices such as size, resolution, grayscale, or LAB mode. One can even crop the image in the opening box. The user will then have to wait a few minutes for the program to "work it's magic", but the results will be worth the wait. I have seen prints made from thumbnails taken off the internet that were printed to 8x10 inches using Altamira's Genuine Fractals Print Pro. This print was produced from a 45KB file and the results were astounding! There was no evidence of pixelization that would normally be present in a print produced from such a small file size.

I also know a professional photographer that is having a billboard printed for a club in Dallas. The print is from a Nikon Coolpix 990 camera. Image size is 3.34 megapixels and it is being enlarged in GF Print Pro. Most of us will never produce an image that large, but it is nice to know that we can produce a smaller image with excellent quality.

More and more magazine covers are being taken

with one of the prosumer digital cameras. The cover of the March 2001 issue "**Dive Training**" magazine was taken with a digital camera. The art director was heard saying that the final print image is sharper than if a slide had been submitted, scanned and sent to the printer. This kind of praise speaks volumes about the quality of some of the high-end cameras.

Each day it seems that there are new advances in media storage for digital cameras. Type One Compact Flash cards have just been developed that will hold 512 MB of information, which is about double what was previously offered. Smart Media cards are also catching up quickly with new advances in technology and have produced a 128 MB card. It is believed by manufacturers that they will soon have Compact Flash cards that will hold one gigabyte of information. This increase in storage will give the digital photographer up to thousands of images on one card.

Each camera manufacturer is hard designing new cameras for what they believe is a growing trend in the photography market. Nikon just released two new professional SLR cameras based on the F5. One camera is named the D1X and has a file resolution of 5.73 megapixels. The CCD sensor in the camera is almost the size of a 35mm film area which means that the previous problem of only seeing the center of the image for a given lens is almost nil. The other new Nikon is the D1H, which only has a file size of 2.74 megapixels, but it can take 40 high resolution images at 3.3 frames per second without a break. This camera will be good for the sports and action photographers.

Ever worry about having film hand checked at airports because of x-rays? X-rays do not affect digital media. With digital, we can glide through checkpoints without having to hand the inspectors our ziplock bags full of film canisters, only to have them either open each canister or use the new "sniffers" on our bag of film.

We should also consider the size of the digital media in relation to several hundred film canisters. With a 512 MB card we can store approximately 500 of the highest resolution jpeg images. That equates to about 14 rolls of 36 exposure film. Best of all, these images will be on a disk smaller than a matchbook. Since we can imme-

diately delete any unwanted or improperly exposed images, the digital media becomes even a better deal.

Imagine being able to only bring home your best 500 images in such a small package! Some people have expressed concern over the price of the larger digital media. Remember that the digital film can be used over and over. Consider what it would cost to buy those 14 rolls of film, have them developed, and travel time to and from the lab. The price savings could be in the thousands of dollars in several year's time.

Watch next month for another update on "Digital vs. Film."

### Will Kodak 86 the 36???

DUPS member, **Peter Chestnut**, reported this "unofficial" notice from Kodak in his electronic newsletter. (Subscriptions gladly accepted by Peter at a nominal cost)

Kodak is seriously thinking of deleting all C-41 film formats except the mid-range ones.

They contemplate offering only either 24 or 27 exposure color negative film. Twenty-four exposures have been available for a long time as individual rolls and 27 exposures are the standard length in the one-shot disposable camera market. They discontinued the 8 exposure rolls quite some time ago after this proved to be a loser and they feel that the 12 exposure rolls are not necessary anymore either.

The object is to get more rolls through the camera since the normal consumer takes too long to shoot up 36 exposures. If they do this, it will happen this year. No length changes are expected for Ektachrome or Kodachrome films.

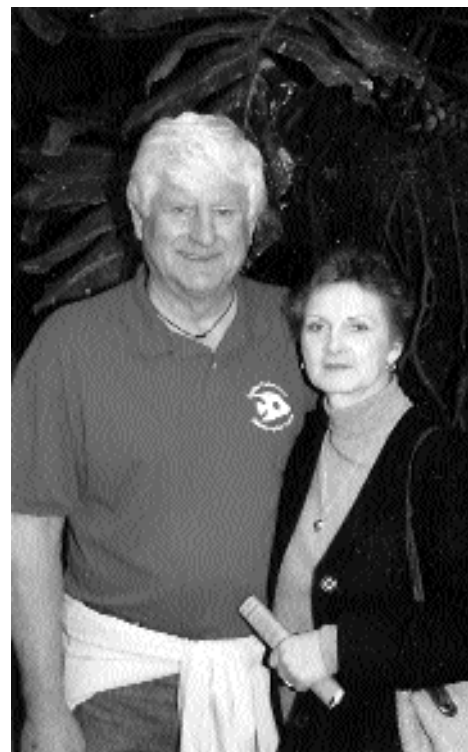
### Dallas World Aquarium

Sunday, March 11, saw many of DUPS members at the Dallas World Aquarium in downtown Dallas. It was a rainy day, and several of our members proved to be "fair weather divers" by not attending the show. They missed a wonderful day of ooohs and aaaahs.

Those who attended all had a great time viewing the newly finished rain forest exhibit. The exhibit encompasses several floors of the building. Monkeys, birds, and reptiles of every sort could be seen on most levels. There was a tank with some beautiful freshwater stingrays, including a beautiful yellow-spotted stingray, as well as several other species.

Another big hit was the jellyfish exhibit, where cannon jellies were gently moved around the tank by the filter currents.

Thanks Tom for making all the arrangements for the tour.



Activities Chairperson, **Tom Oglin** and wife **Joyce** lead the group through the Dallas World Aquarium.

# Thanks for a wonderful presentation

DCS Injury, Dan and You  
– The Unthinkable Can Happen On a Dive Trip.

February's talk was presented by Dr. Rita and David Whillock on their experiences in Cozumel, and living with DCS injury since that time. David and Rita made us stop and think about how safe our diving really is and what to do if the unthinkable happens to you or someone else. We are so glad to see that Rita is doing so well since being "hit". Their talk makes us aware of how we need to be able to administer oxygen and stay hydrated during diving.

We all want to thank David and Rita for a very informative and moving presentation.

## "Dive Anywhere Doug"

**DUPS** member **Doug Rorex** sent in this image of one of his favorite dive sites in Illinois. This location is a real dive site. He says the best vis. is when the cattle are in the barn. I think we can all figure that one out. Thanks Doug for the "review" of your favorite site. Hey



Doug...Don't call us, we'll call you!!

### 2001 DUPS Officers

<i>Pres.</i>	Barry Guimbellot
<i>V. Pres.</i>	Judy Johnson
<i>Secretary</i>	Melody Geffen
<i>Treasurer</i>	Linda Wilkins
<i>Membership</i>	Don Lewis
<i>Contests</i>	George Bogard
<i>Activities</i>	Tom Oglin
<i>Newsletter</i>	Barry G. & Judy J.
<i>Promotion</i>	Lily Mak
<i>Hospitality</i>	Ruth Guimbellot

### DOUBLE EXPOSURE (Things for Sale)

**Wanted:** Nikonos SB-102 manual (owner/user booklet). Original or photocopy OK. Please contact DUPS member **Bob Snyder:** [airhog@aol.com](mailto:airhog@aol.com) or (972) 734-2402 (metro Dallas)

Ikelite 5505 flat port (new front plate '99 - has not been used since then) \$70. 5505 with scratch on front (usable) \$35. Robert Huckabee [exurohu@exu.ericsson.se](mailto:exurohu@exu.ericsson.se) 972 583-6110

Nikonos V, (serviced Feb.'01) w 35mm lens, two SB 105 lights, Ocean Brite dual arms,with rotating tray, extension tubes/framers, Sea & Sea 18mm wide-angle with viewer. Large black Pelican case, and small orange Pelican Case. \$1500. Aluminum 80, hydro. Sept. '99, visual Feb. '01.....\$75.00 Complete set of Time/Life Photography \$20. **Tom Oglin-** [toglin@earthlink.net](mailto:toglin@earthlink.net) 972-475-2696.

Mares MR 111 regulator, O2 cleaned \$150. Poseidon Regulator:DIN \$150. Spare Air-silver with cord & holster \$125. Aqua Explorers Ultimate Pony Bracket \$30. Sea Dive Phantom Dive Mask, clear frame, unused \$10. Sherwood Mini Fins, white \$15. Ikelite PCa Dive Light, (2) green \$15 ea. Ikelite Mini-C Dive light, black \$7.50. Tektite Tank Light \$1. Octopus retainers (2) yellow \$2ea. Double Eye Bolt Snaps, unused, (2) \$1.50. Rattler (2) black \$2.50@. A-Plus Marine EANx tags for marking mixtures (2) \$2ea. Contact **Doug Rorex** 618-842-9217 or [jdrorex@yahoo.com](mailto:jdrorex@yahoo.com).

### UNDERWATER EXPOSURE

accepts commercial advertising. For information contact Judy Johnson at 972-259-5159

Size	1 mo.	1 year
Bus. card	15.00	75.00
1/4 page	30.00	150.00
1/2 page	50.00	250.00

### DUPS Polo Shirts, Hats, Log Books for sale

Don't forget we still have some of our beautiful DUPS Polo style shirts for sale. The shirts are maroon and sport our wonderful DUPS logo in white. Sizes are available from M-XXXL. The price is only \$17 each.

Nylon, baseball style hats are also still available for only \$10 each. These hats are emblazoned with a black DUPS logo.

DUPS photo/dive logbooks can be purchased for \$7.50. Each logbook has space for 82 dives with lots of room for photo information.

## Sponsorship of Monthly Photo Contests

The Color Place is now sponsoring our monthly photo contests. They were the first sponsor for DUPS and have helped us with our annual photo contests during Dive Dallas. They are long time friends, and we welcome them as our sponsor. Be sure to support them and thank them for their help. <http://www.thecolorplace.com> for details.

## Photo Contests and Results

**Epic Photo contest**, Deadline 3/15/2001. Lots of divisions and great prizes and very prestigious, new Digital division. Direct questions to Richard or Galyle Todd- [h2oggre@att.net](mailto:h2oggre@att.net) or 831-455-2000.

**2001 Photo Contest**, sponsored by cameraworld.com. Entry deadline April 2, 2001. Five categories to enter and exceptional prizes.

**SeaSpace 28th International Underwater Photographic Competition** is an international photo competition, drawing entries from around the world. Entry Deadline May 18, 2001. For more information go to [www.seaspace.org](http://www.seaspace.org).

Capture the moments that make the Holidays special, share the joys of the season, and you might just win a trip to a Magical Destination. Prizes in the **Nikon Beyond 2000 Magic Moments Photo Contest** include an American PHOTO Mentor Trek, Nikon equipment and subscriptions to American PHOTO or Popular Photography Magazine. <http://nikonnet.phototrust.com>

**Caribbean Photo Contest 2001** Prizes include a week long Caribbean vacation for two. Deadline May 31, 2001. Entry fee \$3.00 for amateurs only, in 5 categories, prints or slides. Contact Caribbean Travel & Life Photo Contest, PO Box 2456, Winter Park, FL. 32790 or see details in "Caribbean Travel & Life" magazine.

**Digital Shootout Underwater Workshop/Contest**. Sept. 12-22, 2001. In Manado, Indonesia. Free use of cameras and housings! Daily seminars and great prizes. Price \$2799 (incl. airfare from L.A.) Visit [www.theshootout.org](http://www.theshootout.org) or 1-888-390-9675.

**SEA 2001 International Underwater Photographic Competiton**. Entries will be accepted beginning July 14, 2001.

**Skin Diver's First Annual Cover Shot Contest**. Grand Prize, the winner's photo on the cover of the Dec. 2001 issue of Skin Diver Magazine. Deadline is July 15, 2001. Each entry \$5. Vertical 35mm slides are preferred. Grand Prize will include a first time use payment of \$800; but the submission becomes the property of Skin Diver Mag. for life. See **Skin Diver** magazine for details.