

# UNDERWATER EXPOSURE

Volume 9 Issue 10 Underwater Photographic Society October 2001

## Monthly Club Meeting

**Oct. 21, 2001**

Location: Golden Corral Restaurant

E. of Webb Chapel on Forest Lane. 3312 Forest Lane  
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!!!

### September Winners

Novice

1st Melodie Geffen  
2nd Bob Hughes  
3rd Carolyn Kohls

Open

1st Woody Mayhew  
2nd Judy Johnson  
3rd George Bogard

## MONTHLY MEETING TOPIC

HOW TO DO A PREDIVE QUICK CHECK OF YOUR CAMERA EQUIPMENT

Judy Johnson will cover some of the quick and easy basics you can do to make sure your synch cord and your camera equipment work once you get underwater. All it takes is a little bit of time and attention to detail to develop a routine that won't let you down. It is a terrible feeling to start a dive and realize you can't take any pictures because of one little thing you forgot. If I skip doing my pre-dive check after my equipment is assembled, I have invariably forgotten to do something. I usually think I've done it so many times I'll remember everything, but that is not the case. You too can learn from my mistakes. Judy Johnson

## September Winners "Decapoda"

### Open Division



Woody Mayhew

### Novice Division



Melodie Geffen

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## DUPS Monthly Photo Contest Topics 2001

**Oct. "An Eyeful" (Wide angle)**

Nov. Hexacoralla  
Dec. No contest (Party time!)



## VIDEOLIGHTS

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### Traveling with Terrorism

Now that we have entered a new era of our lives after the horrific terrorism that touched our country September 11, 2001, it is time to re-evaluate our packing and traveling habits and planning. As yet, we won't have to cease our dive travel, but will only need to plan our trips a little differently. We're trained at dive planning anyway, so simple changes in our usual procedure should be easy to adopt and implement. I'll try to touch on a few of these.

With much terrorism and unrest infiltrating parts of Indonesia, as well as Afghanistan, and possible cells of terrorists poised to take hostages there, travel to these areas of the world should be done carefully and prudently, if at all to date. On the other hand, flying to the Florida Keys, the Caymans, Cozumel, Hawaii, or Monterey Bay should not pose as much of a concern to our personal safety and well-being; and we can continue to dive and enjoy the marine ecosystems we've come to love and protect. Reports from divers about many other parts of the world also support this "safe" perspective there, as well.

This kind of optimism comes with a price. For our own safety, many airline standards have been changed. Some may only be temporary and others will become permanent standards. Curbside check-in has been curtailed, but will probably be reinstated. For now, carry-ons have been extremely limited, if allowed at all. X-ray machines have been turned up many notches to detect the smallest amounts of metal, and even nail files, small screwdrivers, batteries and pocketknives have been banned to luggage.

For divers, this means packing *all* gear in our luggage, no matter where our destination may be. This is even harder and more serious for photographers and videographers who travel with more money invested in more items! How can this be effectively done, when many of us normally carry things like our prescription masks, regulators, dive computers and/or camera bodies, lenses and housings?

Common sense will be the first rule to follow. *Everything* fragile should obviously be rolled into soft clothes and wetsuits and then firmly placed in your luggage or coolers. I'd recommend using the

strength of BC's on one of the more exposed sides of the suitcase and spreading out fins on the other side with everything else in the middle.

I've always stuffed my regulators into arms or legs of my wetsuits. Masks should be packed into the plastic containers they came in, then wedge the case between other soft clothes. Dive computers can be stuffed into gloves, then further stuffed into booties to absorb any handling mishaps.

Pony bottles are still currently allowed to be transported, but do remember to loosen the valve for possible inspections. Keep it in place, only finger tight. You might want to leave a note on it as to how to open it, and also ask that it be closed back up. Use both English and the language of the country you're visiting.

Another option might be to have the airline representative inspect your bag's contents at the ticket counter while checking in, to verify the pony bottle. Otherwise you could end up being pulled from the gate to verify the contents of your bag, putting a glitch in your departure timing, and possibly causing you to miss a flight.

Most importantly, plan your flight schedule with more time between connecting flights that you used to figure on. Be at the airport at least two hours ahead of your departure time for national flights and three or more hours ahead of international flights. This will allow for the extra security measures to be carried out for your safety. This may include a search of *all* your luggage, not just your carry-ons, if allowed, so be prepared! Obviously, don't get upset with agents or security guards as they are just doing their jobs with your safety in mind.

Photographers working with film shouldn't have to worry about the X-rays as long as you're using ASA 200 or slower. Faster speed film may be affected. Some airports will not take the time to hand inspect your film canisters like they used to, so keep this in mind while planning your trip. You may be required to put them on the X-ray belt and live with it. Photographers and videographers using digital media should have no worries, as X-rays have no affect on digital media. Keep in mind, anything magnetic *will* have adverse affects on digital tapes and discs.

Once at your destination, you should be relatively safe, but it is still good advice to always walk with others, and not alone. Be a little more aware of

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your surroundings than normal, and pay heed to any little feeling inside that might tell you to stay away from some places or people. Befriending a local or two in this new era would also be an excellent thing to do. They may be more aware of anything different occurring out of the ordinary.

Finally, remember that for many foreigners, Americans are usually fairly easy to pick out and identify as American. Most of the time, this will lead to offers of condolences and support for America in light of the recent terrorism in our homeland. But it also means that terrorists can pick out Americans as well, so again, be more aware and careful. Travel safe and dive safe.

*Sea Ya!*

**Critter corner:** *Terrorists* are hard to identify by just their looks. These creatures lurk everywhere, but don't show their key identifying characteristics until it's too late. Lab dissections may be necessary to validate an actual terrorist identification, so if you do happen to run into one, be sure to bring it back dead or alive for further study.

## Digital Update

There have been so many improvements and new cameras in the last few months, it is hard to keep up with them all.

The big things of notice are the new cameras by Nikon and Minolta, both of which now capture images at 5.24 megapixels. This is an increase in size from the previous limit of 3.34 megapixels and will greatly increase the printable size of images taken.

The new Coolpix 5000 and the Olympus 3040 are good contenders for the underwater market, with lots of features we can use. The Coolpix has a new look (similar to the Olympus) with 5.24 megs. resolution and the Olympus has 4 megs. resolution.

Canon has introduced a new EOS-1D digital SLR body, based on it's popular EOS design. It is an impressive camera with an impressive \$6000 price tag. However, most of the digital SLR cameras are still being sold from \$4000-\$6000 for just the body. One must be very into digital or photography to justify such an expense.

Nikon has announced a \$100 rebate on the recently introduced Coolpix 995 until Christmas.

Seacam has announced it will be producing an aluminum housing for the Nikon D1, D1H, and D1X

cameras. This will bring true digital SLR cameras to the underwater market.

Canon, Epson, and HP have announced new printers that print directly from the camera or digital film. A computer is no longer needed to print from these printers.

## Underwater Modeling Tips

By Ruth Guimbellot

Many times our dive buddies want us to be their model. To avoid that "Hi Mom!" look do not look directly into the camera. Turn your mask at a slight angle from the photographer, and look just past the camera at an imaginary or real object. By turning the mask slightly, you will avoid having the strobe light bounce off of your lens back into the camera. Remember, light reflects off an object at the same degree of angle it hits the subject. Keep this tip in mind when photographing your buddy/model and you will create much more pleasing pictures.

## Balloons and Bubbles

The booth at the Balloons and Bubbles show was successful. Roger Mauermann and Barry Guimbellot set up on Friday and worked the show until closing at 8:00 pm. Helpers on Saturday included; Sue Charleston, Bob Huckabee, Roger Mauermann, Linda Wilkins, and Tom Oglin. Sunday saw Ruth and Barry Guimbellot, Carolyn Kohls, Penny and Bob Snyder. We want to thank all those who helped put the show together and helped man the booth. There was lots of interest caused by the prints on display and Roger's self contained slide unit.

Unfortunately, the balloons were only allowed to go up 100 ft. on a teather. The FAA was concerned with safety due to the recent terrorist attacks in New York. As a result the attendance to the balloon festival was way down over last year.

## Photo tip

To keep tray and strobe arm bolts from "freezing" from electrolysis, dip the bolt in white grease before installing it. The grease is available at most auto parts stores and many hardware stores. The bolt will easily come out as clean and shiny as new. Anyone that has left a screw in place when still wet will understand the need for the grease.

## You won't believe this!

By Barry Guimbellot

Our beloved minister, Doug Rorex, has become so interested in "tech" diving, that he is making 300 ft. dives in caves. He has made several such dives to these depths using special mixtures of gases and staging tanks along the way. Having turned 50 this month, we hope Doug is careful so we can be there on his 60th birthday.

## NIKONOS V camera body to be discontinued!

Nikon just came out with the following announcement this month.

"Nikon Corporation will stop making the NIKONOS-V camera body in the near future. Regional Nikon distributors and importers can be contacted for details as to when the product will be discontinued.

A customer base of divers and underwater photographers have favored this camera since it was introduced in 1984. In light of relatively low sales volumes for this niche product in an age of growing operating cost-consciousness, however, Nikon determined that it could not continue to justify the cost and effort of specialized production required to manufacture it in small quantities.

We are sorry for any problems that this may cause, and ask you to understand our need to make this decision. appreciative that the NIKONOS-V has enjoyed a long, distinguished product life. Although the company has no current plans to introduce new underwater photography products, we will continue to stay abreast of the market for next-generation underwater cameras.

Although Nikon will discontinue manufacture of the NIKONOS-V camera body, it will continue to supply accessories for the NIKONOS-V, including Interchangeable lenses, speedlight, close-up outfit unit, etc., at least until the end of 2002. At a later date, the company will decide whether or not to continue offering these accessories in 2003 and beyond."

For those of us that shoot with the Nikonos, or use the Nikonos cameras as a backup, this is sad news. The Nikonos V camera's electronics are based on an antiquated system, and many of us wondered if it would be upgraded after the quick rise and fall of the

Nikonos RS. Nikon will continue to support the cameras with parts for approximately 7 years after the cancellation date. Therefore, there will be parts available for some time.



Ruth Guimbellot checks out one of the friendly green moray eels during one of our group trips to Cozumel.

## Tragedy in Belize

Reported by Rueters

Category 4 hurricane Iris made landfall sometime around 7:30 p.m. Monday, October 8, 2001. It moved quickly through the area of Monkey River, Big Creek, Independence and Placencia and by 9:30 p.m. it had already done its damage and was heading west towards Guatemala. Reports from Placencia indicate that many houses and about 95% of business places have been destroyed. The Peter Hughes liveaboard, Wave Dancer in the Big Creek area reportedly overturned during the storm. There were 28 people onboard most of whom were tourists. At least eight have survived. According to initial reports, much of Belize's banana industry, which is centered in south-central and southern Belize, was destroyed by the storm. Significant damage also was done to the citrus and shrimp farming industries.

Patricia Rose, of Peter Hughes Diving confirmed the tragedy. She said the boat was hit with 140 mph winds, which partially lifted the boat out of the water, snapped mooring lines, and slammed the boat against some type of wall. The boat partially sunk in the 12 ft. deep water with only a portion of it's side showing above water level.

The divers were in a Richmond, VA scuba club. Our hearts go out to the families and friends of those missing.

# Thanks for a Wonderful Meeting!

Ruth and Barry Guimbellot presented a show of their experiences diving in the cenotes of the Riviera Maya. Not only did they show slides of the fantastic formations, but they also gave a quick explanation of the requirements for diving in caverns such as the cenotes. Steve Gerrard's book, *Cenotes of the Riviera Maya* was used to show professional images that Steve took, as well as a detailed description of what is available in the Riviera Maya area of Mexico.



Ruth near one of the columns in Dos Ojos Cenote, near Akumal,

## 2001 DUPS Officers

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

## DOUBLE EXPOSURE (Things for Sale)

The system is selling for \$5300.

Nikon RS AF Body

Lenses:

R-UW AF Nikkor 28mm f/2.8

R-UW AF Micro -Nikkor 50 mm f/2.8

Ikelite Strobe 150

2 - Nikonos SB-105 strobes

The RS has been used probably 8 times/ in GREAT SHAPE!

contact: Chris Buntambah (214) 320-3024 home (214) 351-2935 work

bluewaterimages@earthlink.net

Advertising is free to **DUPS** members in good standing as long as space allows.

### 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 our monthly photo contests sponsor. They were the first sponsor for DUPS and have helped us with our annual photo contests during Dive Dallas. Use The Color Place for all your printing, digital, and photographic needs. Be sure to support them and thank them for their help. <http://www.thecolorplace.com> for details.

## Photo Contests and Results

**George Bogard** won a second and a third at the State Fair of Texas. His wins were images taken of sea fans in Fiji, and a frogfish taken in St. Vincent. Congratulations!

**SEA 2001 International Underwater Photographic Competition.** Entries will be accepted beginning July 14, 2001. SEA 2001 is now open to receive entries AND DO WE HAVE PRIZES! More than \$25,000 worth of prizes, and you have a good chance of winning. <http://www.ncups.org/>. Also, see what we have come up with for you guys & gals who have won so much you are out of the "recreational" competition: "The Bob Commer Award for Excellence in Underwater Photography" <http://www.ncups.org/commer.htm>

**Beneath the Sea 2002** announces its 26th Annual photo/video competition. The contest deadline is December 31st, 2001. For contest rules and entry blank visit Beneath the Sea at their Internet site: <http://www.BeneaththeSea.org/> There you can see the images of previous winners, get a set of rule and regulations, and download an application form. There is a contest hotline: (718) 409-0240

**The 39th Annual International Underwater Photographic Competition**, sponsored by the Los Angeles Underwater Photographic Society, is underway. Entries are being accepted in 14 print, slide and video categories. The deadline for entry is October 20, 2001. <http://www.laups.org/> or email [info@laups.org](mailto:info@laups.org).

**The 2001 UBCPS International Underwater Photography Competition** is now open. The deadline is Oct. 26, 2001. For details and entry forms please check our website at: [www.ubcps.bc.ca](http://www.ubcps.bc.ca)