

UNDERWATER EXPOSURE

Volume 12 Issue 4 Underwater Photographic Society April 2004

Monthly Club Meeting

April 18, 2004

Location: Outback Steakhouse
1509 Central Expressway @
15th. St., Plano N/W corner.
Check www.yahoo.com for a
detailed map!
Plan on eating dinner there!

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

For more information:

www.dups.org

Guests are encouraged and
welcome!!!

March '04 Winners

Video

1. Don Lewis

Creative Digital

1. John Esch
2. Don Lewis
3. Gary Bogy

Open Digital

1. Lily Mak
2. Judy Johnson
3. Woody Mayhew

MONTHLY MEETING TOPIC

“General Meeting Forum”

This month, we want everyone to bring at least 5 slides for the members to view and, if you wish, critique. After the critiques, we will have a question and answer session where you can ask any questions about photography you need to know. The last time we did this type of meeting, it was very well received. We look forward to seeing you there! EGG -bring a paperclip to show you read the newsletter online and be eligible for a prize!!

March “Cephalopoda” Winners

Creative Division



John Esch

Standard Division



Lily Mak

DUPS Monthly Photo Contest Topics 2004

April -- Opiuroidea

May– Texture and Color
June— Algae

July Coelenterata

Aug. Spots

Sept. Digital- Sand Dwellers

October Macro photography

November Models

Dec. No contest — DUPS party





Roger Roth

VIDEOLIGHTS

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VIDEOLIGHTS

A Perspective on UW Modeling

Having a model available to you while shooting underwater stills or video will only enhance your shots. Models can give more meaning to your images as well as add more color to them. Additionally, some models can make for good spotters. But what characteristics should a good model have?

First of all, consider that a model doesn't even need to be a person, as one reason for having models is to show a perspective. Therefore something that has a known size like a cleaner fish, a dive light, a quarter, or even a ruler can accomplish this when shooting something that's fairly immobile such as a nudibranch, a nudibranch egg case, or a seahorse. Even a discarded beer can found on the seafloor can be used.

When using a person as a model, is a tall and thin model better than not so tall and thin? When using people as models, their size or shape shouldn't matter unless you are shooting for a magazine that won't accept anyone bigger than Twiggy. The model's comfort in the water and buoyancy is surely a bigger concern for a better shot.

Also more important than their size or shape is their ability to know what you want as an image taker. Models and image takers need to have good underwater communication with each other including that "unspoken word." The more discussion and practice they have with each other, the more the model will know what's expected. Good models can and will anticipate a good shot as much as the image taker.

When using a person as a model, keep in mind the perspective that a model can give. If behind the subject such as a turtle, it will make the turtle look bigger. If

next to the subject like a 15' tall mushroom coral head, a fair comparable size can be shown. If in front of the subject, it can make the *model* more of the reason for the shot using the other subject as a sort of prop, like a model in front of a wide angle colorful reef or wall shot.

Whether modeling for still shots or video, anticipating the shot will determine when they breathe or hold their breath, how long they will hold the shot for the image taker, and where they should be positioned. Still shots may call for holding their breath more often whereas video shot models should concentrate more on slow, steady breathing. Still shots require the model to remain in one place longer whereas video shot models can move around more thus lending more action to the shot. However they do need to maintain a relative position to the main subject in order to remain in the shot for the reason they are being used.

When models who are also spotters, find something sessile or slow moving they should first get the image taker's attention then slowly point to or look at the subject they've found. This enables the image taker to get a long (or wide angle) shot of them finding the critter and also shows some action in the shot, whether still or video. As the image taker gets closer, a medium shot might include the subject as well as the model's face *smiling* and with *eyes open wide* either looking at the subject or the imager, to show their enthusiasm. Close-up shots may then include the model's finger to show a perspective.

When a swimming creature is the subject, models should attempt to keep that creature in range for the image taker by somewhat "heading it off," whenever necessary. A knowledge and feel for the "comfort zone" of that creature definitely helps to keep it from being skittish or scaring it away. That comfort zone distance can decrease through time either by an effort to show that creature you are not a threat, or by ignoring the creature altogether, in order to stimulate its own curiosity that will bring it to the model!

Equipment is an important consideration for models. All hoses and gear should be streamlined for better reef care and diver safety. Coordinated colorful wetsuits add to the composition and the beauty of an image, especially in a location where reef color is limited. Underwater lights held by the model give the impression to a viewer that the model is searching for something, thus making the viewer want to do the same. A good mask can be used to not only allow the model's eyes to be seen, but also as a mirror to reflect the image of a subject; and the lack of a mask can really personalize a model's shot!

Models that look at the camera must remember they will actually be looking at the viewer once the images are developed or used in a video production. With video, this can invite the viewer to participate in the activity that's being portrayed by first looking at the camera

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then to a subject. However in still shots, unless you want just a wide-eyed underwater portrait with a shark passing overhead, it's not recommended to look into the camera as it tends to detract from the composition of the picture, like a "deer in the headlights" shot.

Specific poses will add another dimension to any shot. A model swimming with dolphins should show a streamlined look with legs together, fins pointing away from their body, and arms either at their side or straight forward to match the dolphin's streamlined appearance. Long hair flowing behind a model adds flowing motion to a shot. Unconventional poses can add a story to a shot like a whale shark and a model with arms outstretched. A model displaying different body contortions or making exaggerated faces in front of an electric eel or while an octopus is squeezing into a hole in the reef can add humor to a shot.

Using a model in one's shots gets away from a plain old reef shot or fish portrait. But if models and image takers think outside the box, they will begin taking underwater imagery in an entirely different direction than the typical magazine cover pictures currently go. In order to enhance your underwater imagery, think creatively, use your imagination and allow both the model and the image taker to compose the shots. *Sea Ya!*

Critter corner: When ignored, many marine creatures display a great curiosity about divers and will approach closer for their own inspection. Sometimes this even leads to more than one creature in your shots.

Seaspace 2004

In celebration of its 35th anniversary, SEASPACE is partnering with the Houston Museum of Natural Science to showcase the Houston premier of a new IMAX film "Coral Reef Adventure." The work of acclaimed cinematographers Howard and Michele Hall, "Coral Reef Adventure" takes viewers on a wide-screen tour of the islands and coral reefs of the South Pacific.

Known as the finest Adventure Exposition in the Southwest USA, SEASPACE combines exotic travel, adventure sports, scuba diving and a host of related outdoor activities. Held in Reliant Center over the weekend of June 5-6, SEASPACE 2004 will feature over 200 booths and exhibits for the outdoor sports and travel enthusiast, as well as a host of seminars that both entertain and educate.

"We are very excited to work with the Houston Museum of Natural Science to have this incredible IMAX movie make its Houston premiere during SEASPACE 2004," said Ken Knezick, Executive Director of SEASPACE. "The 46-minute film tells

an amazing story about the underwater world of coral reefs where some of the planet's most diverse, fascinating and mysterious landscapes and creatures exist, hidden from human sight. Yet it also explores the delicate ecosystem of coral reefs and how many are in decline. The icing on the cake is that Howard & Michele Hall will be here to explain the making of the film for our audiences."

SEASPACE 2004 offers many other attractions for the young, and the young at heart. A huge swimming pool in the Exhibit Hall enables those who wish to "get their feet wet" with a Free Introduction to Scuba Diving. Additional highlights include a Gallery of Underwater Photography presented by the Los Angeles Underwater Photo Society, and an extensive children's activity area dubbed "Kid's Place at SEASPACE." Among a variety of stimulating educational activities, youngsters aged 5-12 can go on a simulated scuba dive through a coral reef constructed of recycled materials.

Adults will enjoy a wide array of seminars and presentations by luminaries including Howard & Michele Hall, Marty Snyderman, and Bret Gilliam. In-depth workshops include "Improving your Underwater Photography Technique" by Jesse Cancelmo, and a "Digital Photography Workshop" to be presented by Wetpixel's Eric Cheng and James Wiseman.

Admission to SEASPACE 2004 at Reliant Center is just \$6 per person. Kids 12 and under, and scouts in uniform, are admitted free of charge. Exhibit Hall hours are 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. on Saturday, June 5 and 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. on Sunday, June 6. Advance ticket order information and a complete weekend schedule may be downloaded from www.seaspace.org. For additional information about SEASPACE 2004 or "Coral Reef Adventure," you may also contact 713.467.6675. SEASPACE is a non-profit corporation, with proceeds from the event funding marine-related scholarships.

Meeting Schedule 2003

April 18
May 16
June 6-5 Seaspace—Houston
June 20 No meeting— Father's Day
July 18
Aug. 15
Sept. 19
Oct. 13-16 DEMA— Houston
Oct. 17
Nov. 21
December Year-End Party

Etiquette and Skill

Work on your buoyancy!! Bad buoyancy is a way to make everyone mad around you, as you stir up the silt around a good subject. Also, when you leave the critter, for someone else to photograph, do so gently so you do not stir up silt again.

A Special Offer from Cozumel

Hi Barry,
Hope all is well with you. We have had the pleasure of working with some of the DUPS members recently, and Lynn Bogy shared with you our Nikonos Cheat Sheet that we use with all of our beginning (and some not so beginning!) photo students.

We have created the same thing for double strobe photography, close-focus wide angle photography, Nikonos IV or Nikonos V WITH NO ELECTRONICS, Sea & Sea MX10, MMII and MMIIEX users

also. So when your people are here on island & need this kind of info, we will be happy to share it with them.

Thank you for all of your support!
Best Regards,

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Holly & Armando Alentado
Island Photo-Video Center
Cozumel, Mexico
alentado@cozumel.com.mx
www.cozumel.net/services/armando
www.photocozumel.com

The cheat sheet they refer to is available on our website. It is in an Adobe Acrobat format at <http://www.dups.org>.

Rumor Time!!

There is a rumor going around about a new tank that is coming out for the Tech divers and it could be good for all of us. The new tank will be neutrally buoyant when it is empty. This could mean we would need less weight, since we would not be so positively buoyant an the end of our dive.

February Meeting "Underwater Modeling"

Ruth Guimbellot was our speaker last month. She discussed the ins and outs of underwater modeling. There were plenty of "bloopers" as well as good shots to view. Ruth is a very accomplished u/w model. In April, she was featured on her sixth magazine cover. Thank you Ruth for presenting such a good and informative talk on modeling.



Ruth on the cover of the April '04 "Dive Training" magazine.
©2004 Dive Training/Barry & Ruth Guimbellot

2004 DUPS Officers

Pres.	Barry Guimbellot
V. Pres.	Arthur Geffen
Secretary	Melodie Geffen
Treasurer	Teri Walker
Membership	Carolyn Kohls
Contests	George Bogard/ Tres Middleton
Activities	Bob Snyder
Newsletter	Barry G. & Judy J.
Promotion	Roger Mauermann
Hospitality	Ruth Guimbellot
Webmaster	Don Lewis

For Sale

Bluewater Photographic and Peter Chestnut has donated an 11x14 print to each division winner for the coming year!!!

Here is a note from Peter:

Happy New Year to all the DUPS gang.

Hi Guys

Now, here's the deal for the New Year. As a Special to DUPS for your patience with me over the years I'm offering mounted E-6 processing for only \$5.00 per roll. Although this is only a few bucks per roll cheaper than the local guys; when you normally shoot a bunch on a trip, the savings are considerable. And, I've got a VERY, VERY accurate and consistent line.

So, save some bucks and send rolls to the address below.

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PETER CHESTNUT
The Pro Lab
2800 W. Sahara Ste. 3B
Las Vegas, NV 89102
702-257-3300 Voice
702-257-0350 FAX

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 and for making our contests so much fun. <http://www.thecolorplace.com> for details. We want to thank **THE COLOR PLACE** for their continued support of DUPS and our monthly contest.

Photo Contests and Results

Underwater Images 2004. Judy Johnson took 1st Place in Digital with a pair of longfin bannerfish and George Bogard, won an Honorable Mention with a pair of ornate ghost pipefish in the same category. Congratulations to our DUPS members!!!