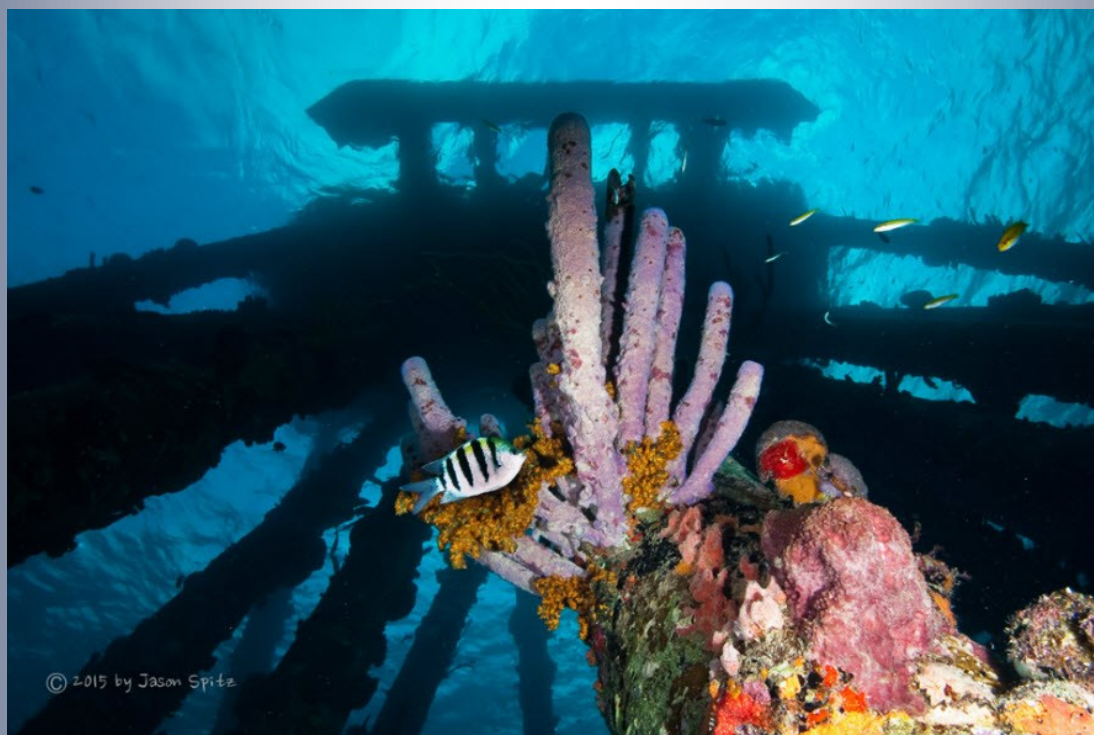


Cover Shot by May Featured Photographer Jason Spitz



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2015 SFUPS Board of Directors

President – Sam Hodge

president@sfups.org

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audiovisual@sfups.org

Merchandising – Suzan Meldonian

merchandise@sfups.org

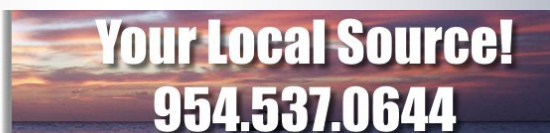
2015 SFUPS Committee Chairs

Welcome Committee – Carol Schurtz

Club Historian – William Lipscomb

Website Support – Patrice Marker

2015 SFUPS Sponsors



May President's Message



I was just contemplating the start to our month of May with somewhat cooler and wetter weather. Now I don't mind the rain, in fact I rather enjoy it when I recall May being the prelude to our wet tropical summers here in South Florida. The waters are warming up and many of you are getting prepped for more diving and underwater photography adventures locally and abroad. If you have a trip going somewhere let me take a moment to remind our members that typically on page 14 of our Newsletter we post a Club Travel Exchange. This is a great way to let your fellow photographers learn of upcoming trips or potentially join existing one's. Be sure to also check out our sponsors notifications as they too are hosting dedicated underwater photography trips.

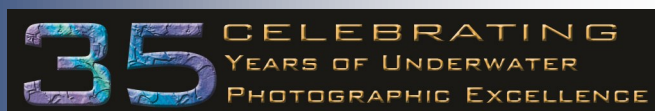
Looking back at April we had a number of our members making headlines with new articles, winning contests, and presenting their experience to large venues like the 2015 Asia Dive Expo in Singapore. You can find all their exploits on page 10. Members also had a tremendous time with Jim Abernethy as our April featured speaker. If you missed him, he will be presenting on May 7 at the [USA Dive Club April meeting](#).

May will also be an exciting month with Dr. Michael (Mike) Schmale returning to SFUPS with a new presentation on Fluorescence diving and underwater photography. As a professor at the Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science of Miami, he not only images creatures for their fluorescence but performs research on fluorescent proteins. He will share his body of work with our members and help to introduce a special dive hosted by Reef Photo and Pura Vida Dive Center for the evenings of May 16 and 17. Reef Photo will provide free-to-use fluorescence excitation lights to all members interested in the trip. The trip for both evenings will be out to the local reefs to explore all the creatures that fluoresce. Cost will be \$55 per trip and includes your entry into a photo contest with the opportunity of winning one of three prizes. For further details of the event please come to the May meeting on the 12th for a demonstration on fluorescence photography by both Mike and the Reef Photo team. Flip to page 8 to view preliminary information and register online at the [Reef Photo event site](#). We look forward to sharing more details with you at Tuesday's meeting.

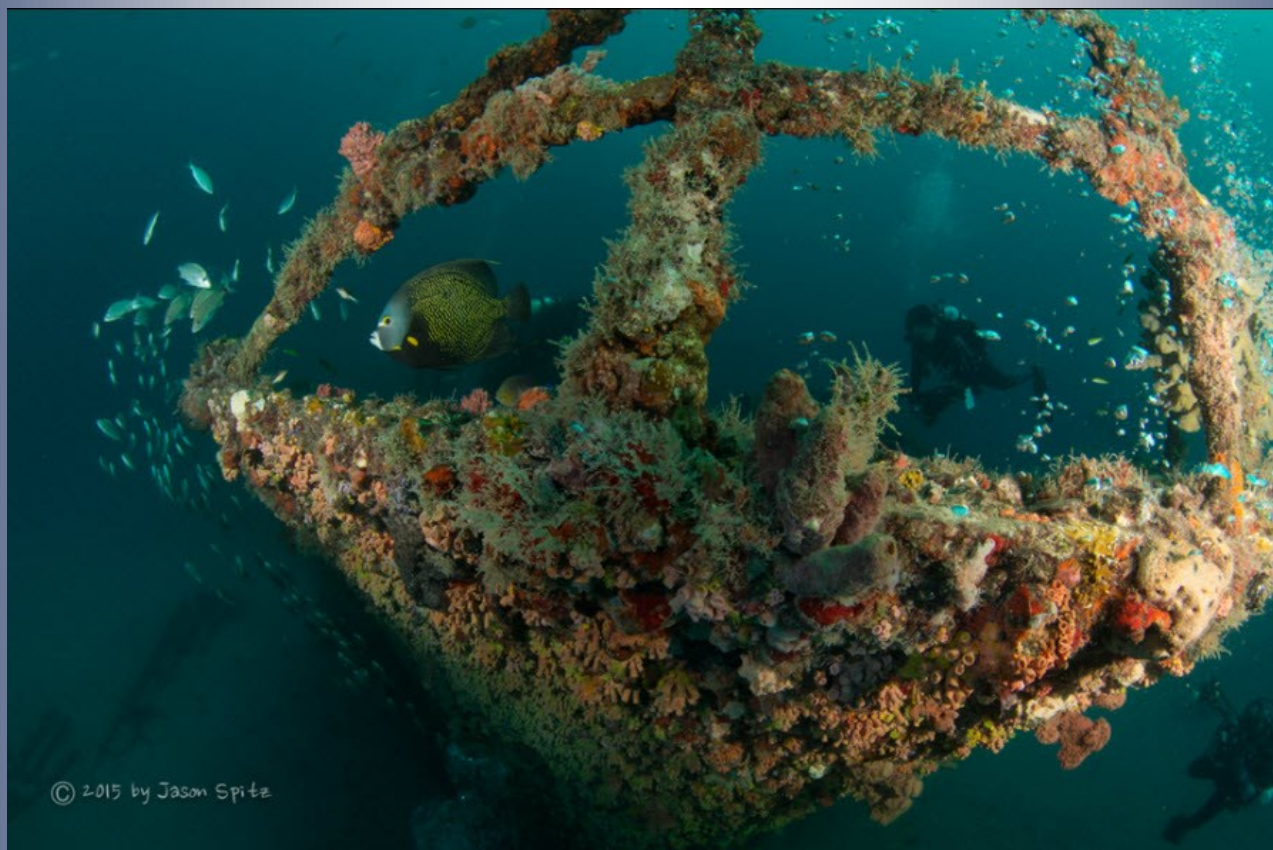
Sam Hodge

President – South Florida Underwater Photography Society

www.sfups.org



May Featured Photographer Jason Spitz



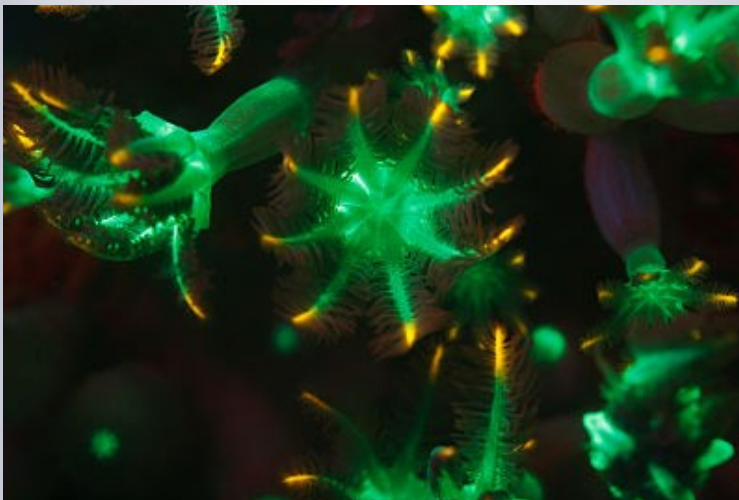
Jason has been shooting photos since he could walk and developing photos since age 13. Open water certified in 1992 and currently a PADI Divemaster, Jason has combined his lifelong love for photography and water sports for more than 25 years.



In 2006, Jason moved into DSLR underwater photography purchasing a Nikon D100 with a Nexus housing. Currently, he is shooting a Nikon D7100 in a Nauticam housing. Jason resides in Lighthouse Point, FL with his very own mermaid – Monica Schandel.

Jason is a Photo Pro for Force-E Scuba Centers and is Managing Partner for Breathe Sail Dive, LLC with Monica. You can find more of Jason's work at BreatheSailDive.com and Facebook.com/breathesaildive

May Guest Speaker Mike Schmale



Fluoro-diving 101 or “Where do all those weird colors come from?”

Whether you call it fluoro diving, fluodiving, fluorescence diving or UV diving, viewing fluorescent creatures in the marine environment at night can be a mind blowing experience. While everyone in SFUPS is aware of fluoro diving and has been wowed by fluorescent images made underwater, you may be less aware of what makes fluorescence in organisms and how we detect this phenomenon.

Mike Schmale is a professor of marine biology and ecology at the Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science of UM and has been a member of SFUPS for more than 15 years. He divides his time between research on aquatic animal models of human disease and teaching undergrads and graduate students at RSMAS. As part of his research Mike has worked with a wide variety of naturally occurring and man-made fluorescent proteins (FPs) and is a co-inventor on two patents for unique FPs derived from corals.



Mike is also a fan of fluoro diving. In his presentation Mike will describe some of the basics of fluoro diving, such as why it works the way it does, and some basic approaches to fluoro photography, illustrated with images from Indonesia, the Philippines and Bonaire. He will also discuss the types of FPs and other fluorescent molecules found in the marine environment as well as offer some ideas about why so many of these are found in corals, other marine invertebrates and even fish.

Photo: Wayne MacWilliams



SFUPS Events and Programs

Angela Smith

Conservation Photography and Lionfish Awareness

May is lionfish awareness month! SFUPS members and the South Florida community got a special educational treat during the final “Our Oceans: In Perspective” exhibit opening at Nova Southeastern University Oceanographic Center on April 8th. James Morris, Jr., Ph.D., ecologist for NOAA’S National Ocean Service, National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science and world renown expert on the study of lionfish was the guest speaker that evening. James gave an amazing presentation titled “Invasive Species and Marine Conservation: How the Lionfish has Impacted our Perspective and Priorities”.



While planning the “Our Oceans: In Perspective” exhibit we kept the themes of the lectures in mind in order to create conservation photography highlights at the opening events. When James posed in front of Sam Hodge’s beautiful yet eerie lionfish photo later in the evening, it was great to take a moment to realize we had accomplished yet again one of our missions as a society, to raise awareness of ocean conservation issues through photography.

The presentation Dr. Morris gave was crucial to our understanding of this exotic and invasive species. The first confirmed lionfish sighting in the U.S. was in 1985 right off our own Dania Beach, Florida! About fifteen years later lionfish were identified in North Carolina, then a few years after that they became fully established in the Southeast, Caribbean and most parts of the Gulf of Mexico. Projections are showing the lionfish will reach the Eastern coast of South America in the very near future. Invasions happen relatively fast due to key factors such as lionfish reproductive traits including; year-round spawning, spawning frequency and egg batch fertility.



This fish has our entire region on high alert due to its seemingly unstoppable and voracious appetite for our indigenous reef fish. Make sure to learn more about this predator and how to help alleviate their reef impacts at the Invasive Lionfish Awareness Portal:

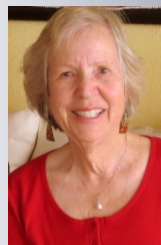
<http://lionfish.gcfi.org>

Lionfish Removal and Awareness Day is on May 16th. For statewide removal events check out:

<http://myfwc.com/news/news-releases/2015/april/29/lionfish-awareness-day>

Great work SFUPS members! Thank you for helping spread the word about key ocean issues through your conservation photography .

Announcements



Ann Cabot

- SFUPS gives a warm welcome to the members who joined us in April 2015:
- New member not pictured: Peter Restivo
- The first-ever SFUPS Video Contest is open! Rules and entry guidelines to follow.
- SFUPS has started a new program called “Ask the Expert” that will offer club members one-on-one training or answer questions that there isn’t time for often during meetings. Phil Rudin will be heading up this new series starting in May meeting. If anyone is interested in participating, please [email](#) Phil (or tropicalone@bellsouth.net).
- REEF Photo & Video will be hosting several trips later in 2015 and in early 2016:
 1. “FOCUS Grand Cayman,” August 29-September 5, 2015. See [here](#) for more information.
 2. “Fiji, Beyond the Bligh,” September 2-12, 2015. Information on the trip [here](#).
 3. Anilao, Philippines, April 9-16, 2016. Contact [Reef Photo & Video](#) for more information.
 4. Galapagos, July 25-August 1, 2016. More information available [here](#).
- REEF Photo & Video will be offering several workshops:
 1. Introduction to editing underwater video, \$199. June 8,9. More information [here](#).
 2. Blue Heron Bridge. \$450. June 18-21. More information [here](#).
- May is Spearfishing month at Force-E divers. For more information, click [here](#).
- Force-E divers will be offering a Shark Tagging trip with the Guy Harvey Research Institute on June 6. For more information, click [here](#).
- Force-E divers will be offering a trip to Bonaire October 3-10, 2015. More information [here](#).



Announcements

- REEF Photo & Video is excited to host a new contest this May:

The ["Sudden Depth" On-Site, Day-Of Fluorescence Imaging Competition](#) will take place May 16 & 17, 2015.

Contest details:

- Entry fee: \$55
- Open to all certified diver underwater imagers.
- Reef Photo & Video will provide (1) fluorescence-exciting dive light per contestant.
- Contestants must provide their own underwater camera system.
- Contestants are welcome to use their own fluorescence imaging equipment.
- No barrier filters will be provided ("yellow" filters) for use with blue lights. CONTESTANTS MUST PROVIDE THEIR OWN LENS FILTERS AND/OR MASK FILTERS. [Contact Reef Photo & Video for your fluorescence filter needs.](#)
- Filter use is not required. Interesting results can be achieved without the use of filters (see below).
- \$55 fee covers participation for one day of competition. You may sign up for both days (May 16th & 17th).
- Contest entries will be collected from all days of the event and judged as one contest.
- Up to 3 images may be submitted per contestant, and/or 2 video clips, no longer than 2 min. in length each.

Only imagery captured during the contest event will be considered for judging

Your entry fee covers:

- Contest entry, reservation on [Pura Vida Divers' Sirena dive charter](#) for one day of competition (Please secure your reservation by date. You may participate in multiple days of competition. Contact Reef Photo & Video to reserve), use of one fluorescence excitation light during the competition, access to Reef Photo & Video's Fluorescence Imaging Workshop Session, Thursday, May 14th @ 6:00 PM at the [Reef Photo & Video store location in Ft. Lauderdale, FL](#)

Not covered:

- Tanks, SCUBA equipment rental (please [contact Pura Vida Divers](#) with any equipment rental needs), barrier filters for fluorescence imaging (lens, mask, or strobe). Use of barrier filters is optional for this competition. Those shooting without barrier filters will still be able to capture imagery of the fluorescing proteins in their subjects, but the 'blue' light will not be filtered out from their shots

Additional information:

- Participants are welcome to sign up for one or both days of competition.
- Images submitted for judging must be shot during the competition dives.
- All days of competition will feed into one contest.
- Submission guidelines will be provided to participants upon registration.

Contest location:

We will be diving with Pura Vida Divers, aboard their Sirena dive charter. Ideally, our competition dives will be conducted as reef dives, approximately 40-60 ft. deep. Reef dives will provide access to more abundant hard coral life, which have a very powerful fluorescent response to blue light. If conditions are not favorable for a reef dive, we will be diving by boat at Blue Heron Bridge.



May 2015 event calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1.)	2.) 7:30pm Pura Vida Divers Blue Heron Bridge Night Dive
3.)	4.)	5.)	6.)	7.) REEF Photo Video Blue Heron Bridge Workshop 5/7-5/10	8.)	9.)
10.)	11.)	12.) 6pm SFUPS social 7:20pm SFUPS May meeting	13.)	14.) 6pm RSMAS Sea Se-crets lecture series	15.) 6pm Pompano Dive Center Lionfish Education Workshop	16.) 8am Force-E Lionfish Removal Day 6:30pm Force-E Blue Heron Bridge Night Dive 7:15pm Pura Vida Divers Blue Heron Bridge Night Dive
17.)	18.)	19.)	20.)	21.) 6pm Pompano Dive Center Coral Reef discussion	22.) 6pm Pura Vida Divers Memorial Day cookout 5/22-5/27 Pura Vida Divers Memorial Day Sale	23.)
24.)/31.)	25.)	26.)	27.) 6pm Force-E Go Pro Class	28.)	29.)	30.)



Club Members in the News

- Linda Ianniello was named Dive Photo Guide's [Photographer of the Week](#) on April 24, 2015.
- Tony Barros won 1st place Macro in the 2015 RSMAS Photo Contest. Judy Townsend placed 3rd in Fish or Marine Animal Portrait. See their winning images [here](#).
- Chris Gug gave an interview about his photographic career entitled "Talking Animals" with a Tampa NPR station on April 15.
- In the 2015 Audubon Photography Awards, Chris Gug was named "Professional Winner" for his image of a double-crested cormorant. Check out his winning [image](#).
- SFUPS student member Samantha McNear and her classmates presented their study "Hawaiian Monk Seals: Record of Environmental Influence in Endangered Species" at the Smithsonian Institution and to members of the Marine Mammal Commission in Washington, D.C., and Bethesda, MD March 26-27, 2015. Click [here](#) for the full story.
- Suzan Meldonian was an invited guest speaker at the 2015 Asia Dive Expo in Singapore.
- Amanda Cotton joined the 2015 Asia Dive Expo as the newest inductee to the Women Divers Hall of Fame while also representing the Explorers Club and Ocean Artists Society.

2015 SFUPS Contest Categories

<https://sfups.org/2015-contest-subjects/>

*entries due May 10

May MASTERS

"Bokeh" (Macro) – Macro shot that isolates the subject by achieving a soft blurred background. "Bokeh" is a Japanese term that means "blur" or "haze." For more information and description, click [here](#).

May CHALLENGERS

"Sunlit scene in black & white" – (Wide-angle) Sun rays should be apparent. Photographing the sun in the background can be tricky, so concentrate on balancing your lighting. For more information, click [here](#).

April Masters – “Lip locked”



2nd Place — Judy Townsend



3rd Place— Wayne MacWilliams



1st Place— Wayne MacWilliams



4th Place —Judy Townsend



5th Place — Walt Stearns

April Challengers – “Things that slither”



2nd Place — Walt Stearns



3rd Place — Tony Barros



1st Place— Elly Wray



4th Place — Carlos Jaile



5th Place — Carlos Jaile

SFUPS On The Scene



SFUPS president Sam Hodge, left, with April guest speaker Jim Abernethy.



Above: NSU's "Dive-in" lecture series with guest speaker Dr. James Norris. Kelly Casey stands by Sam Hodge's lionfish photograph in the SFUPS exhibit. Above right: Nils Jacobsen with his shark image. Right: Terri Roberts and Angela Smith.



Join SFUPS for the next meeting
May 12 at 6:00 pm
 for social hour, drinks & dinner
 Meeting will start at 7:20 pm



SFUPS Meeting Location
[Courtyard Marriot Ft Lauderdale North](#)

2440 W. Cypress Creek Road
 Ft Lauderdale, FL 33309



Global Underwater Photography Contest Calendar

[REEF Photo Video Fluorescence Imaging Contest](#)

(May 16 & 17, 2015)

[Facebook Bluewater Photo contest month's contests](#)

(Monthly)

[Monthly Dive Photo Guide Contest](#)

(Monthly)

[GUY HARVEY OUTPOST PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST](#)

(Weekly, Monthly)

Club Travel Exchange

Want like-minded company on your next trip? Send your travel plans to newsletter@sfups.org. The trip details will be published in the newsletter for other members to see. Any members interested in a trip can send an email to newsletter@sfups.org and the groups will be connected.

- Carol Schurtz will be booking a house in Key Largo for coral spawning this August. For more information, contact Carol at photomermaid@gmail.com.
- Join Ken Glaser at Mayan Princess, Roatan, July 11-18. The flight is American Airlines direct from Miami, two spots are left and need to be filled ASAP. Contact [Larry Townsend](#) to join.
- Nils Jacobsen, Kathi McCutcheon and Ryan Goheen will be going to Fiji: Aggressor liveaboard and Wai-droka (diving Beqa Lagoon), Oct 31- Nov 14.— Contact [Nils Jacobsen](#) to join, openings are available including one that needs to be filled immediately.



Classifieds

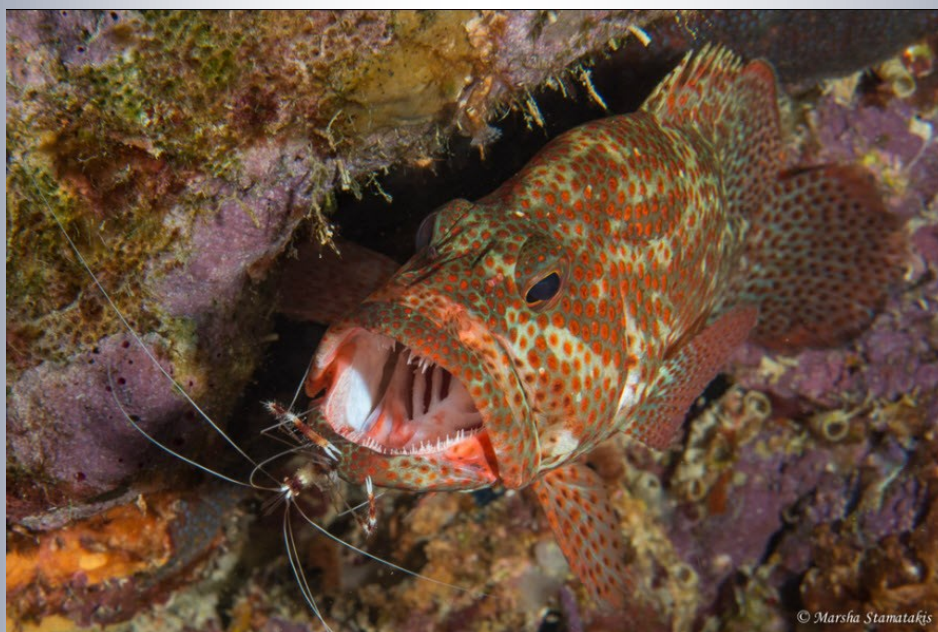
- One wet close up diopter Nexus CL 100. Approx. 4" in diameter. Has black rubber skirt to fit over lens port. Has been used on Seatool ports, may fit others as well. Tripod Mount Ring for Canon 70-200mm F4 L lens, in original box in new condition, model A II (W). One Canon 100 mm f/2.8 Macro USM lens, like new, in original box and instruction booklet, EF mount lens, Aperture range f/2.8-f/32, Macro focus at 1;1 reproduction ratio, manual focus override, minimum focus distance 1" \$395.
Contact Bernd Meier at meierb@bellsouth.net
- Schneider 6X Platinum \$250 new \$75, Gagne Porta Trace Light box \$25, Nikon 16mm Fisheye 2.8 Excellent \$550, Nikon 55-200 Zoom 5/11 refurb. Excellent \$75, Zeagle Scout BC w/ Air 2 Good cond. \$100. You will need hose Air2 to reg. Contact: Wayne MacWilliams at shutterthethought@comcast.net
- Subal ND 30 Housing for Nikon D300, \$3500. complete overhaul, all parts/O-rings replaced; pressure tested Aug 2013 by Reef Photo, Subal Flat Port FP-75/4 (for 60mm lens) \$200, Subal EXR-40/4 Extension Ring (for 105mm lens) \$100, Subal GS-180 Magnifying Viewfinder (installed) \$950, Subal Zoom Gear for Tokina AF 10-17 FE \$50, Zen Underwater DP-100 100mm Fisheye Dome \$750, Port for Subal type 4, Sea & Sea Nikonos Style Synch Cord 2@ \$90 = \$180, D300 User Manual and Simon Stafford's Magic \$10, Lantern Guide Nikon MH-18a Charger \$25, Nikon Li-on Battery Pack EN-EL3a 2@ \$25=\$50, Compact Flash Cards: \$25: 2@16 GB, 1@ 4 GB, 1@ 2 GB, 1@ 1 GB.
Contact Jacqui Eisenberg at acquarelle@mac.com
- IKELITE DS-160 STROBE. Used - excellent condition (serial #12676, NiMH battery date 11/2011) \$500 - I'll throw in the Ikelite NiMH Quick Charger with all international tips for no charge (part # 4066.1 - \$100 MSRP)
VIDEO LIGHT - IKELITE PRO2800 LED PACKAGE. Includes NiMH Battery Pack, Quick Charger for NiMH battery pack, power cord, and flex arm. I'll also throw in the pouch and cord for using dual batteries for no charge in case you choose to further upgrade it, even though we lost the 2nd battery. Everything is used, but in great condition. MSRP is \$850, so lets do it for \$350.
Call the Gug Underwater Gallery at 954-579-8096 or email Gug@GugUnderwater.com
- ORIGINAL CANON XT REBEL BODY (6.3 MEGAPIXELS), IKELITE HOUSING, CHARGER, TWO BATTERIES, PORT COVER AND CAMERA BODY COVER. ALL IN EXCELLENT CONDITION. \$700.
Contact amaurycruz@yahoo.com
- NIKON COOLPIX 5000, IKELITE HOUSING, UNDERWATER WIDE ANGLE CONVERTER, ABOVE WATER WIDE ANGLE CONVERTER, CHARGER, THREE BATTERIES, AND SLIDE COPIER. EXCELLENT CONDITION. \$300.
Contact amaurycruz@yahoo.com



Classifieds

- For Sale: Seacam housing body for Nikon D700 D-SLR. This housing has been modified to allow the user significantly better access to the capabilities of the Nikon D-700. These modifications include a triple function control that provides use of both the preview and function buttons on the front of the D700 body and provides a port lock, none of which capabilities normal Seacam housings have. Additionally there is a clutch mechanism which automatically engages or disengages a manual focus gear when you switch the normal M-S-C control between Manual and the two auto-focus modes. I also have non-Seacam handgrips on this housing, attached to the front half of the housing. Included with the housing body is a Nikon D700 camera body with two camera batteries, two battery chargers and other bits. Price for the housing is \$4500. Also available is a Seacam 45-degree viewfinder which is \$850 if purchased separately, or \$500 if purchased with the housing body. I also have a wide port (6" glass dome port) and some extension tubes and some lens gears available. Contact Fred Bavendam fbavendam@hotmail.com or 941-953-7623
- Nikon D7000 body in excellent condition (includes 2 batteries and GGS protective glass on rear display) \$700, Nikon 105mm f/2.8 VR macro (includes \$70 Hoya HD UV 62mm filter) \$900 OBO, this lens is barely used and like new. Contact Steve Velazquez @ stevev23@gmail.com
- For sale: Sola 600 red/white spotting light - 2 years old, great condition , \$200 comes with charger. Sola 1200 red/white spotting light - 1 year old, great condition - \$300 comes with charger. Selling all together, would be willing to sell individual parts at a higher price - \$1,600. It's a great starter DSLR camera. I'd be more than happy to share some images I took with it, if anyone would like to see them. Sea & Sea RDX 500D Housing for Canon Rebel t1i or t2i. Sea & Sea port for 18-55 kit lens. Sea & Sea RDX Port Base L expansion ring. Extra o-ring and silicone gel. Dual arm strobe mount bracket. Canon Rebel t1i with 18-55 kit lens and 2 batteries and battery charger. Internal gear ring to adjust the 18-55 lens while in the housing. Contact Lureen Feretti via text: 954-328-0050 or reenyb@comcast.net.
- I have the following items available. All items are in good to excellent condition. Ikelite 8" dome port w/ shade, port body for Canon 10-22 wide angle lens, and neoprene sleeve - \$150. Ikelite flat port for 100mm macro lens - \$70. Ultralight 1/4 20 ball mount (unused) - \$15. Reefnet Subsee magnifier (+10 diopter) (used only 2 months) - \$200. Reefnet Subsee adapter for Ikelite flat port (used only 2 months) - \$170. Compact Flash memory cards 2@4GB and 2@8GB - \$20. Contact Bill Utterback at bkutterback@gmail.com

Parting Shot by Marsha Stamatakis



SFUPS Member Benefits

Yearly dues are \$40 for individuals and \$55 for families; we've made it effortless to join online and pay via credit card.

For complete instructions, go to [Click here to go to Join SFUPS page](#)

Membership benefits include:

- Access to the industry's most talented insight, experience, and knowledge
- Networking with members with the same interests and opportunities to enjoy underwater photography
- Receive accolades and peer recognition by participating in and potentially placing in Intra-Club contests
- Opportunity to showcase your images in the SFUPS monthly newsletter
- Free Member Gallery on the SFUPS web site - Get seen and publish your work
- Learn from your peers and cut down on the underwater photography learning curve
- Receive insight into global photographic expeditions and exotic locations from member presentations
- Special Club dives specific to underwater photography
- Eligibility for special raffle prizes with your participation at monthly Club events
- Advertise pre-owned gear for sale
- Sponsor benefits w/membership: Discount air-fills, access to 2-tank \$55 discounted dives throughout South Florida