

Cover Shot by July Featured Photographer Elly Wray



Featured Contents

2015 Board of Directors & Sponsors	2
Presidents' Message	3
July Featured Photographer	4
July Guest Speakers	5
Events and Programs	6
Announcements	7
July events calendar	8
Club Members in the News	9
June Masters Winners	10
June Challengers Winners	11
SFUPS on the Scene	12
Global Photography Contests/Club Travel Exchange	13
Classifieds	14
Parting Shot	16



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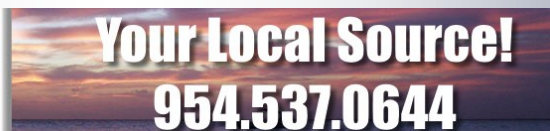
2015 SFUPS Committee Chairs

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Club Historian – William Lipscomb

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2015 SFUPS Sponsors





July President's Message

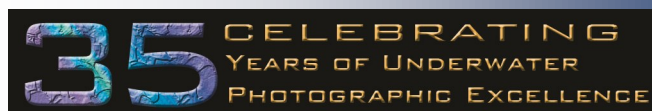
Lots of diving going on! The summer season is in full swing as I've been watching all the great photos members have taken and shared in our Facebook forum. Shana Phe-lan and her dive team at [Pura Vida Divers](#) has opened up a whole new world to many macro photographers with their Blackwater Dives. Be sure to check out our events calendar for opportunities to join Shana and your fellow SFUPS members at their next dive. [Pompano Dive Center](#) has also provided members to get up close with scientists and the Guy Harvey Research Institute for some shark tagging action. Here you can enjoy a topside experience while assisting in the research process. [Boynton Beach Dive Center](#) and [Pura Vida Divers](#) have both teamed up as well for a Park cleanup happening at the Blue Heron Bridge on July 18. If you are also looking for something new to do, be sure to check out [Force-E's event calendar](#) as they will fill-up your social calendar with ladies only dives, summer events for you and the kids, and many other outings. Also make sure you check out Captain SI8r and his great crew aboard the Kyalami, they always have the most unique [dive reports](#). You can see our full listing of events on page 8 of this month's calendar.

July is also the month where we get to recognize two new "up and comer's" for the year. It's been a new effort where we look at our member base of underwater photographers to see who is creating the biggest splash in the industry. I'm extremely proud to announce that Lureen Ferretti and Jason Spitz have accepted the honor this year. Both individuals have been consistent in gaining notoriety for their placement in a number of industry photo contests. They will be our guest speakers at July's monthly meeting.

The start of Goliath season is upon us. Goliath groupers slowly start to make their way towards our coastline for mating season in late August and September. We will be announcing a host of dive opportunities to get you in the water with these wonderful creatures. It will prepare you for our newly minted annual Goliath Grouper photo contest. More details on the contest to follow.

I'd also like to recognize our wonderful team of Board members who have done the impossible and made a historic change to our monthly photo contest series. The ability to move the process to an online format has been met with a few hiccups along with a slight learning curve, but we are proud to see that participation is back up as we have a great selection of images to vote on. Be sure to [vote on your favorite images](#) as you only have a few more days. We also have our first bi-annual underwater video contest entries that I'm proud to say were spectacular. You all need to check these out and [vote on your favorite video](#). The voting deadline for the photo and video contests end at midnight this coming Saturday. I look forward to seeing more from our winners in July's meeting.

Sam Hodge
President – South Florida Underwater Photography Society
www.sfups.org



July Featured Photographer Elly Wray



Elly is an underwater photographer and PADI Open Water Scuba Instructor who studied photography at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. She worked in various aspects of the photo industry in Los Angeles before moving to the Cayman Islands where her education in underwater photography began.



Elly worked as Photo & Video Pro at Ocean Frontiers in the East End of Grand Cayman where daily diving helped hone her craft. Her education was furthered by assisting with workshops and photo shoots with Alex Mustard, Stephen Frink, and Martin Edge. It wasn't long before she had her first cover of Scuba Diving magazine. She has been profiled in Sport Diver for her photographic work in Grand Cayman and has worked extensively in the field as a contributing photographer for numerous dive publications, as well as staff photographer and photo editor for Scuba Diving and The Undersea Journal.

She recently joined the team at Reef Photo & Video and is excited to explore new ways to share what she's learned from her background in diving, photography, graphic design, post-processing and publishing.

July Guest Speakers Lureen Ferretti & Jason Spitz

July is SFUPS' annual "Up and Comer" month, and will feature Lureen Ferretti and Jason Spitz.



I have always loved the ocean – I remember hopping in the car and cruising to beach as soon as it hit 70 degrees in the summer time (can you imagine – now I'm wearing sweats and a long sleeve shirt). In my younger years, I also enjoyed land based photography – especially capturing the beauty of nature. Combining two of my greatest passions with UW photography became a nature progression.

My start in UW photography stemmed from IDing fish. All of my images were initially proof of life shots, however after hanging out with "The Mucksters", I felt the need to stop up my game. Proof of life was no longer acceptable, they inspired me to get a nice shot.

Now 5 years later and many thousands of dollars, I think I've gotten a half decent shot or two.

UW photography is satisfying in so many ways. I love diving, I love the serenity, the peacefulness and the mostly unspoiled natural environment. Learning and watching the marine behavior is absolutely hilarious and stunning. In the photos that I am most proud of, I'm able to capture the moment and share it with folks that have never/will never experience it. It's allowing me to introduce people to a whole new world that they had no idea ever existed. I LOVE IT !



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. Macro and super macro are Jason's favorites, however he enjoys shooting wide angle and CFWA as well. Current lenses include Nikon's 105mm and 60mm for macro, and Tokina 10-17mm fisheye and Sigma 10-20mm renticular for wide angle. Jason has recently began playing with snoots and fluorescence photography. He enjoys tinkering and is usually looking for something new or unique.

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





SFUPS Events and Programs

Angela Smith

Recent SFUPS conservation initiatives I've introduced have had some nice successes this month so I'd like to shout out the news!

The Southeast Forage Fish Conservation Initiative is also an official SFUPS conservation initiative and back in March, Cameron Jaggard, Senior Associate with the U.S. Oceans division at The PEW Charitable Trusts spoke at our meeting to bring the Florida Forage Fish Campaign to our attention. The campaign is aimed to protect the role of forage fish as prey for important fish and wildlife in Florida.



Since March, a number of SFUPS members learned about forage fish, helped get the word out about their need for preservation and gathered photos to be used in social media.

On June 25th Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) recognized the importance of forage fish species in relation to being key species for recreational and commercial fishers. Therefore a "Resolution" was recommended to confirm the importance of these fish in Florida. FWC recognized that global demand is skyrocketing for forage fish which are used in pet food, cosmetics, nutritional supplements, fertilizer, feed for animals and aquaculture operations. They especially realized the key significance that forage fish fuel fishing and recreation that contributes more than \$12.3 billion to the state's economy and over 100,000 jobs annually.

Here's an infographic to learn more about native Florida forage fish species:

<http://floridaforagefish.igfa.org/Content/Forage-Fish-Infographic.pdf>



More good news is that the barracuda conservation measures plan that many South Florida stakeholders including some SFUPS members worked on, was also recognized by FWC!

FWC gave initial approval to several barracuda conservation measures after hearing concerns from various stakeholder groups about declines in barracuda populations and declines in the average size of barracuda in South Florida and Florida Keys waters. The new measures if passed will include creating a slot limit and a daily bag limit of 2 fish per person for recreational fishing and 20 fish per person or vessel for commercial fishing.

Although I personally would like to see this species gain further protections because it is clearly in decline in South Florida waters, this is still considered a conservation win if the new measures go into place.

There has been some great progress culminating this month for forage fish and an important Florida reef predator, the barracuda. These may seem like small steps in conservation but as long as these wins are followed up by aggressive, non-governmental organization and stakeholder outreach, we can create even bigger wins for species in peril in Florida waters!

In closing, check out this cool ultra close-up of a barracuda by SFUPS member Ellen Rierson!



Announcements

- SFUPS gives a warm welcome to our newest members joining in June 2015:



Richard Collins



David Gross

- SFUPS is looking for new still and video galleries! Take advantage of this membership benefit and submit your images or video files/links to Susan Mears: webmaster@sfups.org.
- Garcia's Seafood Grille and Fish Market Presents: "Sharks Up Close" on July 9, 2015 from 6 -10pm. Location: 398 NW North River Drive, Miami, FL 33128. The event features shark-related presentations and shark gallery merchandise for sale. For more information, call 305-375-0765.
- 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](#).
- Force-E Divers will be offering a trip to Bonaire October 3-10, 2015. More information [here](#).



July 2015 event calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1.)	2.)	3.)	4.)
5.)	6.)	7.)	8.)	9.) 6pm-Shark night at Garcia's	10.)	11.) 7:30pm Pura Vida Di- vers Blackwater Drift Dive
12.)	13.)	14.) 6pm SFUPS social 7:20pm SFUPS July meeting	15.) 7pm Force- E Divers Blue Heron Bridge night dive	16.) 7pm Force- E Divers Fitness & Diving presentation	17.) 6:15pm Pura Vida Divers Ladies' Night	18.) 7:30am Force-E Divers PADI Womens' Day dive trip 8am Pura Vida Divers PADI Womens' Day BHB dive 9am Pura Vida Divers BHB cleanup 8am 5th annual Southeast Flori- da Reef Cleanup with Pura Vida Divers
19.)	20.)	21.)	22.)	23.)	24.) 6:15pm Pura Vida Divers Social night: Lobster Educa- tion	25.) 7:30am Force-E Divers Sharks4Kids Snorkel/Dive trip
26.)	27.)	28.)	29.) Lobster Mini Season with Pura Vida Divers	30.) Lobster Mini Season with Pura Vida Divers 7pm Force-E Divers BHB night dive 7:45pm Pura Vida Divers BHB night dive	31.)	



Club Members in the News

- Suzan Meldonian was inducted into the Ocean Artists Society at the end of May.
- Judy Townsend's winning photograph in the 2015 Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences was published in the Miami Herald. Winning photos will be on display in a gallery in Miami.
- Judy Townsend also had a landscape photograph from travel to Alaska published in the South Florida Sun-Sentinel at the end of June.
- Ann Cabot will be identifying corals and algae in photographs taken by NOAA divers in American Samoa. Looking forward to your stories when you return Ann!

2015 SFUPS Contest Categories

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

*entries due by midnight, Saturday, August 1

August MASTERS-Diagonal composition

Macro – Use of “leading lines” (ex. coral branches) drawing the viewer's eye through the photo to the subject found on or at the end of the diagonal path.

August CHALLENGERS-Close focus w/a open

Close focus wide angle– This means you are in the face of the subject. Taken with wide angles lens, but enlarging the subject due to your proximity to the subject.

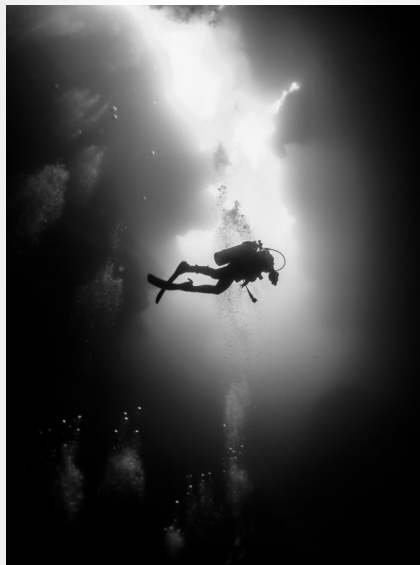
June Masters – “Creative B/W with diver”



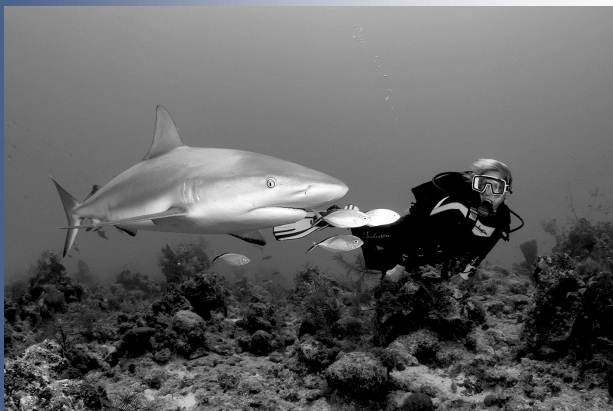
1st Place— Elly Wray



2nd Place — Wayne MacWilliams



3rd Place— Steve Velazquez



4th Place —Walt Stearns



5th Place — Elly Wray

June Challengers – “Marine debris-making statement”



1st Place— Kevin Hanson

SFUPS On The Scene

Lureen Ferretti photographed the installation of shark statues at the Blue Heron Bridge last month:



Join SFUPS for the next meeting
July 14 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

[Bugfest by the Sea Photo Contest](#)

(Entries due by July 28, 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.

- Join Larry T., Bill and Beverly on Little Cayman Beach Resort, Sept. 5-12; a few spots open. Ocean View upgrades only. URGENT: Unsold spots will be released Friday June 5. Contact [Nils Jacobsen](#) to join.
- Carol Schurtz will be booking a house in Key Largo for coral spawning this August. For more information, contact Carol at photomermaid@gmail.com.
- 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
- 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
- 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.

Parting Shot by Suzan Meldonian



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