



# The Octopus

The Newsletter of the Orange County Underwater Photographic Society June 2015

[www.ocups.org](http://www.ocups.org)

**June 9, 2015**

**Speaker: Bill Van Antwerp**

Bill Van Antwerp, currently the LAUPS president, will speak on how to take underwater pictures using nature and video lights instead strobes.

## June Club Contest Bubbles

### Monthly Contest "How to Enter"

**The entry fee is \$2/per images up to two images, \$5 for three images payable at the meeting.**

Slides are still accepted for entries but the slide projector is not brought to the meeting unless you contact Linda in advance. Call 949-837-7734

#### Digital Submission Guidelines:

Please email your entries to [ocups1@gmail.com](mailto:ocups1@gmail.com), no later than Sunday evening.

**FILE FORMAT: JPEG sized at 1024 x 768 (or 1024 on the longest side)**

#### Naming and Formating your files:

Category Abbreviation Key: OPE=Open, ADV=Advanced, AMA=Amateur as follows:

Naming File: Category Abbreviation, dash, First Name Initial, Last Name, image number.

**Example**, if your name is Babe Nemo and you are submitting 3 photos, in the Amateur category, the file names should be:

AMA\_BNemo1  
AMA\_BNemo2  
AMA\_BNemo3

Examples of Advanced and Open:  
ADV\_BNemo1

OPE\_BNemo1

**FILE FORMAT& SIZE:** Please use JPEG sized at 1024 x 768 (or 1024 maximum, on the longest side).

See complete contest rules near end of Newsletter

#### For Prelude images:

P\_WM01 ; P\_WM02 ; P\_WM03 ; etc.

"P" indicates "Prelude", and letters are your name initials, followed by a number sequence for your images.

For number sequence use 01, 02 for the single digit number, so photos stay in the order you want.

Either email your prelude images, in advance, or bring them on a CD or jumpdrive.

Prelude limits to 10 to 15 slides, video 3 minutes or less.

Preludes will be shown dependent on time available.

#### **OCUPS videographers:**

Instead of bringing your entries on a thumb drive or DVD, please upload them to this website:

<https://www.wetransfer.com/>

**Please try not to reenter previous OCUPS winning photos in future OCUPS contest.**

## Mentors Corner

The mentor program has been set up to answer your questions or critique your images before the meeting. If you would like help with an area of photography or videography send an email or call and I will set you up with a mentor.

This way a member with the skills to help will be available to mentor you before the meeting. We hope this program will be of benefit to beginning as well as advanced photographers that are working on improving their skills. You can contact me at [ljbdiver@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ljbdiver@sbcglobal.net) or call 949-837-7734.

Mentors: set up mentor and time before the meeting.

Linda

OCUPS News Letter Submission deadlines:

Two weeks before the meeting date.

## Club Officers 2014

President.....Linda Blanchard  
Vice President.....Allan Jones  
Treasurer and Membership....Jane Huessener  
Workshops..... Bonnie Pelnar/Allan Jones  
Monthly Contest..... Michael Bonneau  
Newsletter..... Johanna & Bruce Wight  
Refreshments..... Marcia Holland  
Web Master.....Bonnie Pelnar  
Communications Director.....Kevin Lee  
Speaker Chair.....Needed

Check out the OCUPS Web site at [www.ocups.org](http://www.ocups.org)

**DIGITAL SUBMISSION DEADLINE:** Digital photographers that would like to participate in the monthly contest don't forget to send your .jpg file to [ocups1@gmail](mailto:ocups1@gmail.com) no later than the Sunday before the meeting

# Announcements

## OCUPS Meeting Parking

We are able to have our meetings at the current location for no charge.

Park Plaza has asked us not to park in the front of the building that is the side with the doors. We need to park in the back area or next door in the business complex.

**OCUPS website:** [www.ocups.org](http://www.ocups.org).

## MERCHANDISE WITH OCUPS LOGO

Shirts, blouses, jackets, caps and other merchandise can be ordered with the embroidered club logo. See the complete catalog at [CompanyCasuals.com/rjemb](http://CompanyCasuals.com/rjemb). If the item you order is over ten dollars there is no charge for the embroidered logo. If the ordered item is less than ten dollars, the price will remain at ten dollars. There is no minimum order for embroidered pieces. Silk screen items are available, however, there is a 15 minimum order required. The embroidered logo can also be placed on articles of clothing you already have at a price of \$6.00.

R J Embroidery  
Rhonda Mertins  
331 Lassen Circle  
Placentia, CA 92870  
Home phone: 714-223-9683  
Cell: 714-396-7034 Fax: 714-223-7483

## SCUBA SHOW

Long Beach Convention Center  
Long Beach, CA 90802

**Saturday June 6th, 2015**

Show hours: 10:00 am - 6:00 pm

Saturday Night Party: 7:00 pm to 11pm

**Sunday June 7th, 2015**

Show hours: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Details at the following link:

<http://scubashow.com>

The show is less than **ONE WEEK** away! We're extremely excited for this year's show, and we hope you are too! If you haven't purchased your tickets already, consider doing so. Save yourself money and skip the ticket window line at the show!

**Savings extended! [Ticket prices](#) increase on Monday, June 1st.**

**Advance ticket sales end Thursday, June 4th.**

**SEE YOU SOON!**

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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## OCUPS SCUBA Show Booth

Make sure to stop by the OCUPS Booth at SCUBA Show to view members photos and video.

## Subjects of Interest

### Bubbles

by Johanna and Bruce Wight

We may think bubbles are inconsequential in diving, but there are many things bubbles can tell us.

For instance when you finally look up from your viewfinder and see no other divers around, bubbles can help. For those like Bruce that think great, I have this whole reef to myself, you can scan the water column for bubbles and move away from them.

For others, like myself, experiencing panic for about a nanosecond that I am lost, bubbles come to the rescue as my brain kicks in telling me to scan the water column for bubbles. Low and behold on the other side of a not too far kelp stalk are bubbles and as I follow them down there are the familiar fins of my partner whose head is glued to the viewfinder as well.

Other times bubbles are a clue to which way is up if you get turned upside down. They can indicate in a general way the depth you are at based on how teeny tiny or big and expanding the bubbles from your exhales are.

Sometimes bubbles can erupt into you as you hang on the line for a safety stop letting you know someone may be on their way up.

They can also mysteriously appear in your photos/videos as cloudy spots that somehow didn't seem to be there when taking the shot, or worse, as round circular mirror balls from the ones that clung to your port.

So bubbles should not be dismissed just because they are full of air, or as a nuisance, but as a tool to keep us safe and happy while diving.

# MONTHLY PHOTO COMPETITION

## Congratulations to OCUPS May Photo Contest Winners!

### VIDEO

1st: Evan Sherman  
2nd: John Greenamyre  
3rd: Walter Marti

### OPEN

Co-1st: Kelly Bracken  
Co-1st: Kevin Lee  
Co-2nd: Barbara Jones  
Co-2nd: Kevin Lee  
3rd: Barbara Jones

### ADVANCED

1st: Julianne Steers  
2nd: Elias Amador  
3rd: John Greenamyre

### AMATEUR

1st: Roger Gomez  
2nd: Jonathan Blake  
3rd: Jonathan Blake

Congratulations and thanks to all participants.

## Contest Categories 2015

January: Nudibranchs  
February: Pink  
March: Critter on critter  
April: Scorpionfish  
May: Head dress  
June: Bubbles  
July: Underwater photographer  
August: Yawning fish  
September: Dangerous to touch  
October: Diagonal composition  
November: Reflections  
December: Awards Banquet

The above list is available on our website at this link:

<http://ocups.org/index.php/photo-contest/2015-categories>

# CONTEST LEVELS

## Contestant Levels and Advancement

### 1. **AMATEUR**

Only global changes\* are allowed. This category includes members shooting an SLR camera system, with one year or less of underwater photography experience, or shooting with a point and shoot (PAS) camera. At the end of the year the first place winner/s or any member attaining 18 points shall advance to Amateur. PAS camera users who have advanced to the Amateur category and have entered images for at least 6 months, but have not accrued more than 6 points, may choose to return to the Amateur category the following year.

### 2. **ADVANCED**

Only global changes\* are allowed. This category includes members having at least one year experience in underwater photography or who no longer qualify for the Amateur category. PAS camera shooters may choose, or be required, to be in this category. At the end of the first year, the first place winner/s or any member attaining at least 18 points (board confirmed) shall advance to the Open category. Members who have advanced to the Open category and have entered images for at least 6 months but have not accrued more than 6 points, may choose to return to the Advanced category the following year.

### 3. **OPEN**

Digital manipulation is allowed except for composite imaging (adding to an image). This category includes members who are considered professional or advanced underwater photographers by the OCUPS board or any member wishing to manipulate their images beyond basic global changes\*. Open category members who have entered images for at least 6 months but have not accrued more than 6 points may choose to return to the Advanced category the following year.

\*Definition of Global Modification: Changes that affect the entire images, such as cropping, saturation, white balance, levels, sharpening, and contrast. Prohibited modifications would include the use of layers or other tools that are applied to a specific area i.e. brushes, healing, cloning, etc. Contestants may enter images for only one still category in a given year. However, the video category is separate and may be entered independent of the still category. Member eligibility for a category will be determined at the first of the year or when joining the club. Members may choose to move up a category, but not down, during the year, forfeiting all previous points accumulated.

Photographers taking photos with both PAS and SLR cameras will be classified as an SLR photographer. PAS photographers are not restricted to the Amateur category. The OCUPS board may review eligibility qualifications and request a member to change their category.

**Fee:** Please contribute \$2 per slide up to 2 slides and \$5 for 3 slides entered... this money goes to help pay for the awesome trophies and plaques at the end of the year. We, however, do not need any money to improve the Perpetual Trophy for Flooding, it is a gem just the way it is!

**Orange County Underwater Photographic Society**  
**OCUPS**  
**Monthly Photo Contest Rules**

**General**

1. This competition is open to OCUPS members only.
2. The entry fee is \$2 per submission or \$5 for three submissions maximum.
3. Captured frames from streaming video are not allowed as single image contest entries. Digital images should be emailed, not later than Sunday evening preceding the meeting, to: [ocups1@gmail.com](mailto:ocups1@gmail.com)
4. Digital Submission Guidelines:  
Please name your files in the following format:  
Category Abbreviation, a dash, First Name Initial, Last Name, image number.

For example, if your name is Babe Nemo and you are submitting 3 photos, in the Amateur category, the file names should be: AMA-BNemo1, AMA-BNemo2, and AMA-BNemo3

Category Abbreviation Key:  
OPE=Open, ADV=Advanced, AMA= Amateur

FILE FORMAT& SIZE:: Please use JPEG sized at 1024 x 768 (or 1024 maximum, on the longest side).

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Photos should be submitted by Sunday evening, prior to the club meeting. The Club is not responsible if the digital images will not project.

5. Only global (full-frame) modification of images is allowed for Amateur and Advanced categories. Global modifications are those that affect the entire image, such as cropping, saturation, white balance, levels, sharpening, and contrast. Prohibited modifications would include the use of layers or other tools that are applied to specific areas i.e. brushes, healing, cloning, and so on.
6. In the event of a challenge, the original image file or slide must be made available to the Club officers at the next meeting.
7. The entrant must have exposed all images underwater unless specified as a topside contest. Aquarium, pool and tank shots are not permitted.
8. No entry or copy of image that has previously won in an OCUPS competition may be re-entered in a subsequent contest.
9. The contest theme or subject must be the focal area of the image.
10. The Contest Director may disqualify any entry for rule stretching, marine conservation issues, out of theme or level entries.

**11. VIDEO CONTEST RULES**

- a. Videos can be up to 30 seconds, unedited, continuous clip. As in stills, global changes are allowed.
- b. Themes will be the same as for the still contest for the month but only one level, everyone in one category
- c. Videos may be taken on a video camera or the video function of a digital still camera. A series of still shots is not permitted.
- d. Up to two entries per month per person.
- e. Members may enter in both the video and the still competition each month.
- f. Do NOT include your name in the video file name; rather, choose a neutral name so that the owner cannot be identified, when video clips are shown for judging.
- g. Do not email video files, as they are too large. Instead, video should be brought as an AVI file (or Mac equivalent) on a jump drive (preferred method), CD, DVD, or on a tape with your camera and cables for connection to the projector.

12. Permission to reproduce any entry, only for purposes of OCUPS publicity, is assumed unless otherwise specified. All ownership and rights remain with the photographer.

13. ATTENDANCE REQUIRED TO PLACE: Entrants must be present at the meeting to place in the photo contest. However, if you leave prior to the contest conclusion, you still qualify to place, as long as you were present sometime during the meeting. If you do not plan on attending the meeting, please do not enter photos.

**Contest Points (updated 2012)**

1. First, second, and third place entries are all considered winning entries.
2. Points are awarded as follows: First = 3 points; Second = 2 points; Third = 1 point.
3. All winning places shall receive corresponding points, irrespective of ties.
4. Two entrants, minimum, are required to hold a contest in a particular category (Open, Advanced & Amateur) and award points.
5. For monthly photo contests where there is only one entrant in Amateur or Advanced categories, the entrant is allowed to compete in the next higher category, only for that month. And, if the entrant places in the higher category, points for the placement will be awarded but be applied to their original category e.g. if a sole Amateur entrant participates in the Advanced contest and wins 2nd place, the entrant would receive 2 points in their original Amateur category.

