



The Octopus

The Newsletter of the Orange County Underwater Photographic Society August 2015

www.ocups.org

August 11, 2015
Speaker
Patrick Smith

July Club Contest Underwater Photographer 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, no later than Sunday evening.

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

Naming and Formatting 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 (suggested format vimeo HD 720):

<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 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.

Check out the OCUPS Web site at 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

Club Officers 2015

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

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.

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. 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

DIVE MASK RECALL

Omersub Zero Cube dive masks that sold in the U.S. between April 2012 and April 2014 have a 2mm lens nonconforming glass can shatter.

Ones produced after April 2014 now have 3mm tempered lens that have been impact tested.

The recall masks made between April 2012-April 2014 can be distinguish by the gloss finish on the silicone apron, the ones post April 2014 are not glossy.

Recalled masks be replaced at no cost. Call Technosport at (800) 853-1911 Monday through Friday, email them at info@technosportinc.com, or go online at <http://www.omerdiving.com>

Classifieds

Atomic split fins. XL \$75.00
Used with size 14 DUI Rock Boots
Interested call Larry at 714-962-1693



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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Subjects of Interest

Giant (Black) Sea Bass, *Stereolepis gigas*

by Johanna Wight

Giant black sea bass can be seen hanging out in the California Kelp forests or in deep, rocky reefs.

These giants of the ocean were once very common and at one time supported both a commercial and sport fishing industry. Before the 1950s they could be seen close to shore in Southern California. Their tendency to congregate in large groups made them easy pick 'ins, and coupled with their slow growth and slow reproduction destined them to be overfished.

However, in the late 1970's it was becoming apparent their numbers were dwindling and spearfishing of the gentle giants became illegal. Finally in 1982 they were deemed protected by the California Department of Fish and Game and not allowed to be caught by anyone.

They are the largest fish in the kelp forest and if you have ever had the opportunity to have one glide past you, you have experienced their magnificence. I have read that they can reach up to 7 feet weighing in at 800 pounds. So far I have not encountered one that big but I am waiting for that day. They are a curious creature. I have had my head buried in the reef focused on my camera and when I look up there is a 3 to 4 foot Giant Black Sea Bass peering down at me. How elated I feel to have had that encounter. Sometimes they hang around and I can frame them in my viewfinder! Some are skittish but I have come upon groups of 5 to 10 that pay no mind to multiple scuba divers with cameras flashing in their faces which makes it easy to see how vulnerable they are.

I am thankful that someone had the foresight to protect these stunning creatures.

NUDIBRANCH NAMED AFTER OCUPS MEMBER, JOHN GREENAMYER

by Kevin Lee

Doto greenamyeri is now official. The beautiful opisthobranch is named in honor of long-time OCUPS member, John Greenamyer, who was the first to photograph this striking nudibranch in Papua New Guinea, more than a decade ago. The holotype specimen is archived at the California Academy of Sciences, where Carissa Shipman and Terrence Gosliner conducted extensive anatomical and DNA research on the animal. After four long years, their scientific paper was accepted for publication in *Zootaxa* (June 2015).

John was recognized for his accomplishment by the Orange County Underwater Photographic Society and was presented a framed photograph of the *Doto* by Kevin Lee. Famed sea slug videographer, Mike Miller, was in attendance, all the way from San Diego. To commemorate the event, a chocolate "Donut Doto" cake, complete with rhinophores and cerata, was made by Alan Grant and Elias Amador provided champagne to toast John on this special occasion.

Congratulations John Greenamyer!

OCUPS Recognition Ceremony (video link, by Alan Grant)

<http://youtu.be/2VncrOpSVX0>



John Greenamyer receives framed photo of *Doto greenamyeri* from Kevin Lee and Linda Blanchard, OCUPS president



Chocolate "Donut Doto" cake presented by Alan Grant



Photo of *Doto greenamyeri*, by Kevin Lee

THE GREAT GIANT SEA BASS COUNT 2015

HOW MANY GIANT SEA BASS ARE THERE IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA?

HELP US FIND OUT AUGUST 1- 16

What it is:

Giant sea bass (AKA Black Sea Bass), *Stereolepis gigas*, were almost fished out nearly 50 years ago in Southern California. While they are now starting to make a comeback, we don't know how many of them there are. The Giant Sea Bass Count (GSBC) is one way to estimate the minimum number of these fish in our waters. Join us in this important part of a joint research project between researchers at the University of California, Santa Barbara and California State University, Northridge to learn more about Giant Sea Bass populations.



What to do:

1. Dive any location in Southern California
 - Reefs, wrecks, shallow water, anything goes!
2. Avoid covering the same area during your dive so you don't recount the same fish twice.
3. For each dive, record:
 - Date and start time
 - Location: latitude and longitude of your dive site—this is important data; if you can't provide this, the name of the dive site and/or your bearing from a distinct coastal landmark will be useful.
 - Number of fish and estimated length
 - Bottom time
 - Depth
 - Habitat: all or mostly rock/hard material, sand, or mud; lots, some, no vegetation (kelp, eel grass, etc.)
4. **Important!** Please report even if you do not see any Giant Sea Bass. Zeroes are important information for science.
5. Register and learn more about the GSB Count by liking our Facebook page at : <https://www.facebook.com/giantseabass>
6. For questions regarding the survey, email Milton Love at: love@lifesci.ucsb.edu
7. To learn more about Giant Sea Bass check out *Love, M. Certainly More Than You Want to Know About the Fishes of the Pacific Coast. Really Big Press.*



How to Report:

Go to www.seasketch.org
Click "Projects", search for "The Great Giant Sea Bass Count", and click "Participate"
Or email findings to:
giantseabasscount@gmail.com

MONTHLY PHOTO COMPETITION

Congratulations to OCUPS July Photo Contest Winners!

VIDEO

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

OPEN

1st: David Hinkel
Co-2nd: Fletcher Forbes
Co-2nd: David Hinkel
Co-3rd: Kelly Bracken
Co-3rd: Barbara Jones
Co-3rd: David Hinkel

ADVANCED

1st: Mike Couffer
2nd: Robert Pasqua
3rd: Deanne Beck

AMATEUR

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

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
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.

OCUPS Meeting Location
Always 2nd Tuesday of the Month
Park Plaza at Orange
620 South Glassell St., Orange
It's off the 22 Fwy north on Glassell

Schedule:

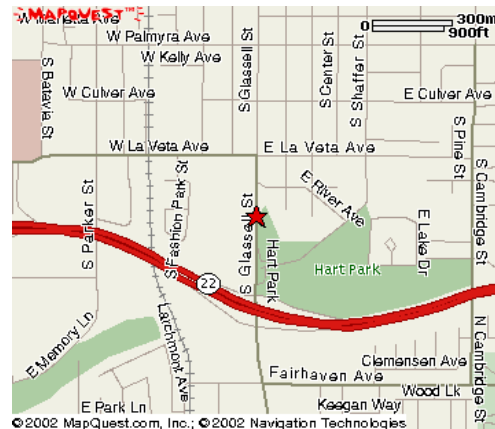
- 7:00 Set up: contest and prelude submissions**
- 7:15 Welcome**
 - Introduce guests**
 - Announcements/ Congratulations**
 - Business**
- 7:30 Workshop - maximum of 10 - 15 minutes**
- 7:45 Prelude - 10 – 15 minutes: limit: 15 Slides, 3 minute Video**
- 8:00 contest**
- 8:15 Break; count ballots**
- 8:30 Speaker:**
- 9:15 Contest winners**
- ends at 9:30**

We invite all those interested in Underwater Photography, the curious, novice, advanced, and professional. Bring slides for the Prelude! OCUPS members remember to bring your slides and a guest.

Feedback and Submissions for the newsletter should be directed to the Editors

Johanna and Bruce Wight
Bwproductions@earthlink.net

Park Plaza at Orange



Orange County Freeways

