



OCUPS The Octopus

The Newsletter of the Orange County Underwater Photographic Society May 2016

www.ocups.org

May Speaker

Bonnie Pelnar and Linda Sue Dingel Presentation is on the Sinking of Uribe 121

Linda Sue Dingel was initially a bilingual Kindergarten teacher until she became a certified diver in 1995. She left her teaching career in 1997 to travel and dive solo around the world for 1.5 years. After returning to the USA as a professional diver, she became the Director of Scuba Operations and PADI Course Director for Dive N' Surf in Redondo Beach for the following seven years. Since 2006 she has been a Territory Manager with Bonnier Corporation (home to Sport Diver, Scuba Diving, & Undersea Journal Magazines) including Mexico in her regions.

Bonnie Pelnar has been diving since 1987 and has been taking pictures underwater almost as long, with over 2000 dives logged. She worked as an account/regional manager for Genographics and Kodak Electronic Printing Systems for 15 years before she broke away from her corporate career to start her marketing company, Under Watercolours. After over 20 years in business, she has published books, produced more than 15 CDs and DVDs, and built over 150 custom websites, including OCUPS.org. Bonnie has had images published in nearly every dive magazine and shares her experience and knowledge by conducting underwater photography workshops world-wide. She is also a fully licensed travel wholesaler. Bonnie is a long-time member of OCUPS, who also serves on the Board of Directors.

In November 2015, Linda Sue and Bonnie were invited by Parque Submarino to witness the sinking of the retired Mexican Navy vessel URIBE 121, that is the first of four ships that will be part of an artificial reef located in Rosarito, Mexico. The sinking of this ship establishes the first structure in the entire state of Baja, California as an artificial reef. The following day after the sinking of the ship, Linda Sue and Bonnie became the first Americans as well as first females to dive URIBE 121.

The OCUPS presentation will include information on the preparation before the sinking, the ceremony and events that took place the day of the sinking, diving the shipwreck today, marine life growing on the wreck, and the future plans for the development of the marine park.

June Speaker

Joel Silverstein B-29

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

May Club Contest Unique Homes/Strange Habitats

June Club Contest Schools of Fish

Monthly Contest "How to Enter" Entries emailed in due by Sunday before the Meeting Date

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

Still Photography Submission Guidelines:

Please email your entries to ocups1@gmail.com, no later than **the Sunday evening before the meeting.**

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 on your photos should be:

AMA_BNemo1
AMA_BNemo2
AMA_BNemo3

Check out the OCUPS Web site at www.ocups.org

Club Officers 2016

President.....Linda Blanchard
Treasurer and Membership....Jane Huessener
Workshops..... Needed
Monthly Contest..... Evan Sherman & Julianne Steers
Newsletter..... Johanna & Bruce Wight
Refreshments..... Marcia Holland
Web Master & Chief Communicator.....Kevin Lee & Bonnie Pelnar
Speaker Chair.....Cindy Shaw & Patrick Smith

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 etc. for the single digit number, so photos stay in the order you want.

Email your prelude images by **the Sunday evening before the meeting**

Prelude limits to 10 to 15 slides, video 3 minutes or less.
Preludes will be shown dependent on time available.

Videographers:

Please upload your files via wetransfer.com. Please use 720 H264 format or just select the Vimeo/YouTube 720 HD preset format.

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 libdiver@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.

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 link below. 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.

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R J Embroidery
Rhonda Mertins

<http://www.companycasuals.com/rjemb/start.jsp>

SDUFEX CALL FOR ENTRIES:

http://www.sdufex.com/Call_for_Entries.html

Subjects of Interest

**Mark your calendars for the
29th annual SCUBA SHOW!**

⬇ JUNE 4 & 5, 2016 ⬇

**at the LONG BEACH CONVENTION CENTER, LONG
BEACH, CA**

Unique home web links

[The Mysterious Dome Homes marching into the Sea:
Then & Now soon to be fish homes](#)



[Sea Shell House, Isla Mujeres](#)

Oh these are unique human homes ☺

MONTHLY PHOTO COMPETITION

Congratulations to OCUPS April Photo Contest Winners!

VIDEO

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

OPEN

1st: Kevin Lee
2nd: Kevin Lee
3rd: Barbara Jones

ADVANCED

1st: Debbie Karimoto
2nd: Patrick Smith
3rd: Patrick Smith

AMATEUR

No Contest

Congratulations and thanks to all participants.

Contest Categories 2016

January: Eels

February: Transparent Animals

March: Spots

April: Flatfish

May: Unique Homes/Strange Habitat

June: Schools of Fish

July: Positive use of Negative Space

August: Flatworms

September: Close Focus Wide Angle

October: Side by Side

November: Majestic

A complete description of each month's theme is
available online at:

[http://ocups.org/index.php/photo-contest/2016-
categories](http://ocups.org/index.php/photo-contest/2016-categories)

Videographers

Prelude Video short clips are welcome. They can be on a
CD, jump drive or bring your camera to connect.

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 uploaded via wetransfer.com. Please use 720 H264 format or just select the Vimeo/YouTube 720 HD preset format.
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.

