



OCUPS The Octopus

The Newsletter of the Orange County Underwater Photographic Society November 2016

www.ocups.org

November Speaker

Evan Sherman

Shooting Video with a DSLR

Meeting moved to Monday Nov 7 due to Election Day

Evan is the owner of [Seasick Productions](http://SeasickProductions.com), a full-service multimedia company that specializes in underwater imaging. Based out of Orange County California, Seasick Productions provides on location and studio production services around the world. On Evan's first dive with a camera, he fell in love with underwater videography. On his second dive with a camera, he flooded it. He was 19 and had already learned a critical lesson about life as a professional underwater cameraman: passion fuels the artist; tools allow the artist to be. Evan later received his B.A. in Film and Electronic Media from California State University Long Beach. Evan's professional underwater credits include television networks, Fortune 500 companies and numerous entities within the dive industry.

Evan has earned top honors, awards and recognition worldwide for his films. [Bali Close Up](http://BaliCloseUp.com)

In his column Freeze Frame, Evan writes informative articles full of valuable information that can be found at the following link. [Evan Sherman - Wetpixel.com](http://EvanSherman-Wetpixel.com)

Evan is a contributor to DivePhotoGuide (<http://www.divephotoguide.com/search/%20sick/#t=Content>)

and a Sea & Sea Alpha ambassador (<http://www.seaandsea.com/alpha/>).

Throughout the year Evan conducts dive expeditions and imaging workshops.

November Club Contest

Majestic

December

Banquet Awards

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

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).

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

Club Officers 2016

President.....Linda Blanchard
Vice President.....Kelly Bracken
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

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 **Sundav** before the meeting

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 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.**

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.

R J Embroidery

Rhonda Mertins

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

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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OCUPS ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET Tuesday, December 13th

Join OCUPS celebrate the Holiday Season at our annual Dinner Banquet and Awards Ceremony, a great occasion to meet members in a relaxed social setting. Invite friends and family to congratulate this year's contest winners, maybe you!

When: Tuesday, December 13 (regular meeting night)

Time: 6:00PM-9:00 PM: 6:00 PM social hour and 7:00 PM dinner

Where: Newport Beach Tennis Club, 2601 Eastbluff, Newport Beach, CA 92660 (same as last year).
<http://www.nbtennisclub.com>

Menu:

- greek salad
- prime rib
- scalloped potatoes
- green beans
- roles and butter
- chocolate cake
- soft drinks and coffee

Cost: \$46

RSVP by email to ljbdiver@gmail.com (note change to gmail)

Payment in advance is required to confirm your reservation. Please send check payable to "OCUPS" to:

Linda Blanchard
22695 Via Santa Rosa
Mission Viejo, CA 92691

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Work Shop at Nov 7th meeting

Alan Jones will give a short Workshop on some pit falls to avoid when transferring LightRoom to a new computer.

OCUPS Featured Member

Aaron Halstead

OCUPS is pleased to feature a member, along with photography, on our website on a rotating basis. This month, we're pleased to introduce Aaron Halstead, a rising star.

Check out the following link to see Aaron's photography streaming in our banner: <http://ocups.org/index.php/sign-up-for-a-membership/featured-members/aaron-halstead>

Here is an introduction in his own words:

I grew up about as far from the ocean as you can get while still living in the United States, Wyoming. I saw the ocean once during college in Florida, again on a week cruise through the Caribbean. Eventually, through a chain of events, I would move to the other side of the country to Southern California.

Even then, it took a few years more before I would randomly stumble across a Nat Geo article on nudibranchs. A quick google search led me to discover some local photographers, which led to more nudibranch photos, and eventually the realization that SoCal has good diving, and that it's not just tropical destinations that have great marine life!

The rest of the story tells itself. A short online PADI course, an Amazon order for a cheap housing for my compact camera and an impressive number of blurry and out of focus pictures during my open water dives and I was hooked.

In the following couple years, I've melted and flooded a camera, upgraded to a D90 and have added a range of other accessories from strobes, macro lenses, wide angle lenses, snoots, diopters and a variety of lights. I've dove from Monterrey to San Diego, glimpsed the Caribbean and explored a small handful of locations throughout Indonesia and the Philippines. Future trips include.... just about everywhere!

Subjects of Interest

2017 OCUPS Contest Themes

January – Juvenile: animals that are in their juvenile phase. They may have different coloration or just be very small relative to the size as adult. If size is the only attribute of the juvenile, then reference objects in the scene should confirm the animal is indeed a juvenile.

February- Wrasses: Fish in the family Labridie, examples; cleaner wrasse, bumphead wrasse, sheephead

March- Long and thin: Subjects that are long and thin

April- Black and white photograph: the picture can be taken in color and then changed in processing. Brooke will be doing a workshop on how to do this.

May- Bivalves: The group of Mollusks in the class Bivalvia that are two-shelled (bivalved), examples scallops, mussels, clams, oysters

June- Same color on same color (monochrome): the subject and background are the same color. The majority of the image is that color giving a monochrome affect. It can be any one color.

July -viewpoint - Shooting down: An image shot straight down on the subject or subjects.

August- Sea Anemones: The group of Cnidarians in the order Actiniaria. The anemone is the main subject so a clownfish in an anemone is a picture of a clownfish not the anemone and would not fit this theme.

September -Survivor/damaged goods: animals that have been injured.

October- Dead center: the subject is in the very center of the picture

November - My favorite mistake: Picture taken in error but came out kind of cool.

Contest Rule # 6 added for 2017

Monthly contest winners are awarded points for each place won. At the December meeting (Holiday party) the annual awards are given to the member with the most accumulated points.

1. First, second, and third place entries are all considered winning entries.
 2. Points are awarded as follows: 1st = 3 points; 2nd = 2 points; 3rd = 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.
 6. For all contest categories, a minimum of six (6) competitions must be held during the year for annual trophies to be awarded.
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MONTHLY PHOTO COMPETITION

Congratulations to OCUPS October Photo Contest Winners!

VIDEO

1st: John Forbes
2nd: Walter Marti
3rd: Brian Peterson

OPEN

1st: Barbara Jones
2nd: Barbara Jones
Co-3rd: Brook Peterson
Co-3rd: Brook Peterson

ADVANCED

1st: Aaron Halstead
2nd: Roger Gomez
Co-3rd: Robin McMunn
Co-3rd: Robin McMunn

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.

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:

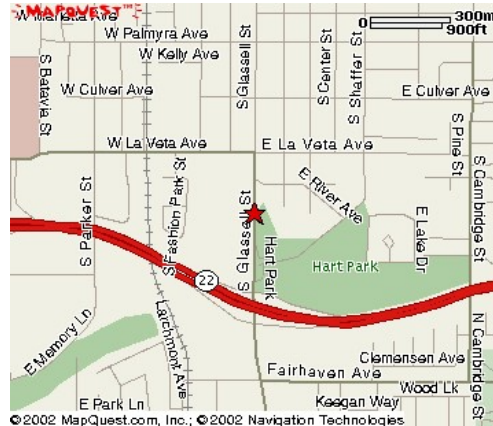
- 7:00 Set up: contest and prelude submissions**
- 7:15 Welcome**
Introduce guests
Announcements/ Congratulations
Business
- 7:30 Workshop - maximum of 10 - 15 minutes**
- 7:45 Prelude - 10 – 15 minutes: limit: 15 Slides, 3 minute Video**
- 8:00 contest**
- 8:15 Break; count ballots**
- 8:30 Speaker:**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

