

News, Travel & Events

NEW YORK UNDERWATER PHOTO SOCIETY

New York, a mecca of art and culture, now has an outlet for underwater photographers and videographers of all levels to share and learn about the world of underwater imagery, scuba diving, and marine conservation. During an age of increased awareness of the perilous state of our world's oceans, NYUPS will provide a forum for divers and photographers to share the beauty of the marine environment as well as the atrocities that occur in the ocean's every day.

NYUPS aims to bring together underwater photography and video enthusiasts and professionals from the tri-state area. The society will be open to novices, amateurs and pros. Even those from outside the region are welcome to become members. NYUPS provides a forum to meet new friends who share similar underwater interests. Members will participate in monthly workshops,

photo & video contests and exhibitions. Meetings will take place in Manhattan, at a location TBA. Exciting monthly featured speakers will include internationally renowned photographers, filmmakers, marine biologists, explorers, and adventurers from around the world.

"Underwater photo societies operating in other markets such as California, Florida, Texas, or Hawaii for example, have been successful in bringing together a community of like minded people who share more than an interest - they share a passion - for diving and underwater imagery. New York, with our large number of divers and underwater photographers has not had such a forum...until now", says Jason Heller, NYUPS President.

To register for more information and details on the first meeting, scheduled for mid-April, please visit the society's website at www.nyups.org



Upcoming International Photo & Video Competitions

There are four underwater competition deadlines during March and April, including 3 international competitions. The bar is being set high, and with the prestigious Shell Wildlife Photographer of the Year Competition deadline on March 30th, professional and amateur photographers all over the world are getting ready for stiff competition. Good luck!

March 15th
2007 Scuba Diving Magazine Photo Contest (USA)

March 30th
Shell Wildlife Photographer of the Year Competition (UK)

March 31st
Environmental Photography Invitational (USA)

April 15th
EPIC (Environmentally Aware Photographic Image Competition) (USA)





Bahama sharks with Eric Cheng July 2007

Wetpixel.com and photographer Eric Cheng are running two shark expeditions to the Bahamas this coming July, 2007! The first (July 10-21, 2007) is a trip in search of oceanic white-tip sharks; we were successful in 2006, and there's no reason to think that we won't be this year. We'll also be looking for tiger sharks, reef sharks, dolphins, and more. The second (July 23-31, 2007) is a "classic" tigers and dolphins trip, which combines a traditional shark expedition with dolphin experiences and beautiful summer weather. With



the legendary Jim Abernethy as our guide, we'll be aboard the M/ V Shear Water, a small liveaboard dive vessel that leaves out of West Palm Beach, Florida.

For more information, see
<http://wetpixel.com/sharktrips/>

www.uwpmag.com

WETPIXEL.COM
digital imaging for divers

6,850 registered photographers
1,100 articles and news items
16,580 forum topics
112,800 forum posts

breaking news
gear reviews
tutorials
image critiques
photo contests
dive expeditions

Wetpixel is the best place to
learn about underwater photography
and videography... and it's free!

Solomon Islands Expedition
September 11-25, 2007
M/V Bilikiki

Join a photography and videography expedition to the Solomon Islands with Wetpixel.com. **Eric Cheng** and Solomons experts **Cor Bosman** and **Julie Edwards** will lead the trip with long-time managers **Monty Sheppard** (at right) and **Michelle Gaut**.

Trip is nearly full, so book soon!

<http://wetpixel.com/solomons/>



Our trips are guided by ninjas. You can't beat that.

Come see why our sponsors and partners work with us!



Truk: The Odyssey Photoquest

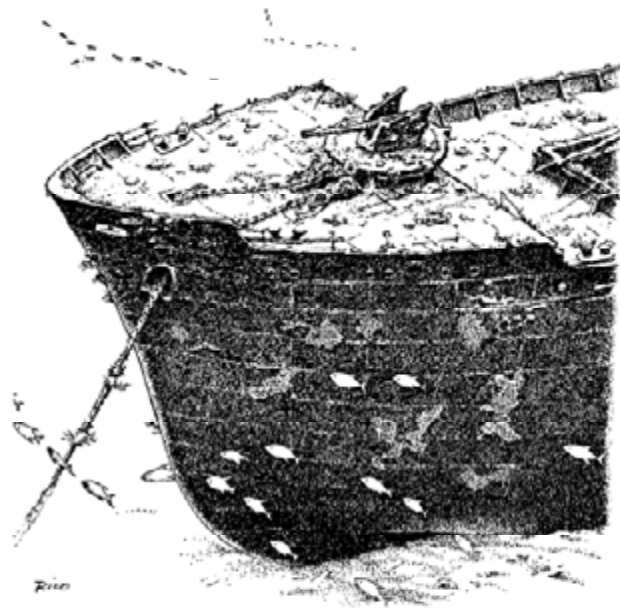
with Martin Edge

18th-30th May 2007

Imagine descending on to one of the world famous wrecks in Truk Lagoon, maybe the San Francisco Maru or the Fujikawa Maru, ships that last saw the light of day in 1944. The wreck lies before you, clearly delineated but eerily shadowed by its violent past. You have the wreck to yourself, all alone that is, save for the presence of Martin Edge who is there to guide you and work with you to achieve that master image: the ultimate wreck shot! Yes, it is possible.

Why Truk? Why Martin? Why Odyssey?

Martin Edge has been leading underwater photo expeditions and courses for the last fifteen years and leading groups with Divequest since its inception in 1996. Working with aspiring underwater photographers is a great inspiration to Martin. Channelling enthusiasm, encouraging experimentation, calming those equipment mishaps is all in a days work for him. Nothing gives him more satisfaction than the seeing those expectations met with delight



Wreck of the Fujikawa Maru (Rico Oldfield)

at the end of the day when images are reviewed or printed!

Whatever your level of experience, from beginner to semi-professional, Martin will help you to improve your underwater photography skills.

www.divequest.com

DIVEQUEST

The Ultimate in Diving

Bahamas
Turks & Caicos
Tobago, Dominica
Bonaire, Venezuela
Little Cayman, Cozumel, Belize
Honduras, South Africa &
Mozambique
Thailand, Sipadan, Mabul
Layang Layang
Derawan & Sangalaki
Bali, Komodo, Wakatobi,
Manado, Kungkungan Bay

Palau, Yap, Truk
Bikini Atoll
Australia's Coral Sea
Papua New Guinea, Solomons
French Polynesia
Fiji, Hawaii,
Sea of Cortez
Revillagigedo Islands
Cocos & Malpelo Islands
The Galapagos
Wrecks of Palau

Plus Underwater Photography Group Trips and Courses with leading photographers: Martin Edge, Linda Dunk, Malcolm Hey, Charles Hood, Gavin Anderson and Alex Mustard.

DIVEQUEST

ATOL Protected 2937

*The Ultimate in
Underwater Photography Adventures*

Telephone: 01254-826322

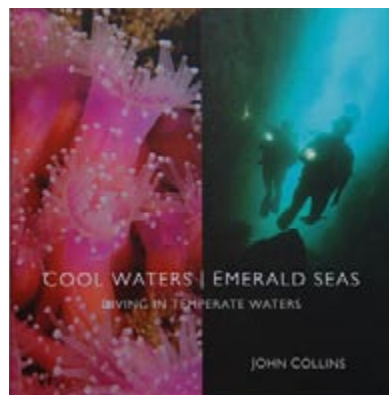
e-mail divers@divequest.co.uk website: www.divequest.co.uk

Best Cover Design

Cool Waters, Emerald Seas: Diving Temperate Waters has won the Best Cover Design at the CLÉ Irish Book Industry Awards announced on the 17th February 2007.

The book cover was designed by John Foley who is founder and Creative Director of Bite! - a Cork-based design studio which has been designing publications and publicity material for a broad range of clients in the Irish arts, culture, entertainment and publishing sectors since 1991. He is a member of the Institute of Designers in Ireland (IDI).

John Collins, who is an award-winning photographer with a special interest in the sea, took the cover



photograph. Cool Waters, Emerald Seas: Diving Temperate Waters is his first book and is already being celebrated as one of the finest collections of underwater images from the world's temperate seas. John is a graduate of the New York Institute of Photography.

www.corkuniversitypress.com

Dominica recompression chamber

The Commonwealth of Dominica is proud to announce that they now have a fully operational recompression chamber.

After years of attempting to finance this important element for our dive tourism product it has been accomplished. It was designed and installed by Haux of Germany in mid 2006 at the Princess Margaret Hospital in the Capital of Roseau.

The Dominica Watersports Association assisted by flying in DR Julian Eden of the London Diving

www.uwpmag.com

©Images Dominica



Chamber who conducted a week long hyperbaric medicine seminar for the hospital doctors, nurses and members of the Dominica Watersports Association.

www.dominicawatersports.com

The Underwater Channel

A new internet based diving channel has been launched and is in a 10 week pilot stage to secure investment.

UWC is the vision of its founder Nicholas Claxton, who has extensive experience in television production and is an award-winning producer in his own right. His own programmes have won awards around the world. They include the Emmy-award winning film 'Cry Ethiopia Cry'; 'The Rhythm of Life' with Beatles producer Sir George Martin; 'Winnie Mandela & The Missing Witness'; and 'Apartheid's Assassins', among many others.

PADI Worldwide's International VP, Terry Cummins, says "The concept of a Broadband TV Channel dedicated to the diving world is long overdue and PADI is delighted to be forging a relationship with the UWC and exploring the opportunities it presents. The UnderwaterChannel.tv will allow the worldwide PADI community of some 10 million divers to see and learn about the marine environment in a new and exciting way".

UWC will broadcast short



films about the challenges facing the world's coral reefs and other natural phenomena that stir the hearts and minds of millions. From the Great Barrier Reef to the Caribbean, and from the Red Sea to the Indian Ocean, programmes will focus on the natural history and fascinating marine life that lives off the coral reefs - as well as the scientists monitoring their well-being.

Your own UDive video blogs will be featured alongside competitions and live events. Programme subject matters will also include unusual marine encounters, expeditions, wreck diving and treasure hunting, underwater photography, marine education and courses, marine archaeology, marine conservation, scientific developments, scuba adventures, dive tourism and scuba destinations and many more.

www.theunderwaterchannel.tv

UnderwaterArtists.com

New Essential Digital Download Seraya Resort Bali; 11th-17th August 2007

First conceived in 2003 by the team at Scuba Diver Australasia Digital Downloads are workshops and shoot out competitions organized for divers who desire to improve their skill in underwater digital photography. Michael AW is pleased to announce that he has now refined the concept to take the event to a new level.

Providing the workshop with modular course structure, participants will be able to achieve certification and acquire skills that are beyond just taking a technically correct photograph. The emphasis is to help aspiring photographers to compose and 'paint' a picture with a camera, using both natural and artificially lights. Catering for both Novice and Advanced shooters (Prosumer and DSLR), there are two course syllabuses to choose from: Absolute Essentials and Advanced Essentials.

Digital Download includes daily



lesson modules on the techniques of successful Underwater Photography, from the basics of lighting, to advanced composition and essential elements of post editing using Photoshop and various tested software to create multi-media presentations. Though the program schedule allows for maximum shooting time, the lesson modules, formal and informal critique sessions ensure participants with essential techniques to acquire publishable images.

www.underwaterartists.com

Layang Layang Underwater Digital Photo Shoot 2007

Following the roaring success of the Layang Layang Photo Challenge in 2006, Layang Layang Island Resort gears itself up for the next installment in 2007.

The Layang Layang Underwater Digital Photo Shoot 2007 promises to be even more exciting with more attractive prizes to win. We will be expecting participants from 15 different countries with renowned underwater photographers such as Junji Takasago, Stephen Wong, Dr Kurt Svrcula, Rod Klein judging the competition. Throughout the event, participants will be able to get underwater photography tips from the best in the business with great diving in Malaysia's man-made wonder.

This is an excellent opportunity for budding photographers to showcase their underwater shots and eventually, recognition in the field of underwater photography. All winning participants will have their pictures published in the post event write up in Asian Diver magazine. In addition, they will also stand a chance to win prizes worth USD30,000 from world class sponsors such as Nautica, Nikon, Oceanic and dive trips to exotic locations.

www.layanglayang.com

Underwater Photo Challenge 2007
17 – 23rd July 2007

Prizes Worth **USD30,000** To Be Won!

Following the success in 2006, the Layang Layang/ Asian Diver Underwater Photo Challenge 2007 promises to be even more exciting with more attractive prizes to win. Get underwater photography tips from the best in the business with great diving in Malaysia's man-made wonder. See pygmy seahorses, ghostpipe fish, mantas, schooling jacks, marine turtles and sharks amongst pristine corals.

JUDGES:
Mr Junji Takasago
Mr Stephen Wong
Dr Kurt Svrcula
Mr Rod Klein

PRICE:
US\$1080 for 7D/6N dive package on twin share accommodation (includes air)

PACKAGE INCLUDES:
Twin share accommodation
5 meals a day
12 boat dives
Use of tank, weight belts and weights

For more information, contact:
Layang Layang Island Resort at:
Email: layang@layanglayang.com
Tel: 603-2162 2877
Fax: 603-2162 2967
www.layanglayang.com

Technical Lighting Control

No pins.
No O-rings.
Just tough, reliable performance from TLC.

AQUATICA Digital

www.aquatica.ca

Beneath The Sea 2007

Meadowlands Exposition Center

March
23, 24, 25
2007

Beneath The Sea 2007

Stan Waterman and 'Blue water, white death'

March 23rd-25th 2007

2007 will be Beneath The Sea's 31st annual Undersea Exposition and Dive Travel Show celebrating the oceans, scuba diving, exploration, environmental education, and the men and women who in their insight, integrity, invention, and courage have lead us into the depths. Once again, Beneath the Sea will be held at the Meadowlands Exposition Center in Secaucus, New Jersey, this year the weekend of March 23rd, 24th and 25th, 2007.

Beneath The Sea will have a showcase of 300 exhibitors from all corners of the world ... present over 50 seminars and workshops by industry specialists and recognized experts who will demonstrate new equipment and new techniques for use in the ocean ... travel specialists will set before you in detail the pleasures of exotic destinations ... and each day there will be social events where divers old and new may meet and share their pleasures, thrills, and the

excitement of their sport.

At Beneath the Sea we stop and recognize the achievements of our Legends of the Sea.

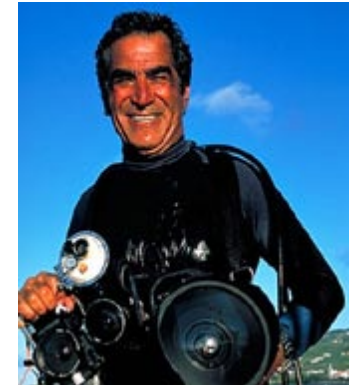
Stan Waterman is such a legend. In 1971, his film, "Blue Water, White Death" telling the tale of how a band of divers set out to learn more about the Great White shark. In the face of such thrusting savagery as the open-mouth of a Great white shark, the calm voice of Stan Waterman made us find the beauty, the history of the life of the species in the ferocious acts we were witnessing on the screen.

There was a team that brought this film to life and we have invited as many of the cast of "Blue Water, White Death" to help us celebrate Legend of the Sea Stan Waterman and this anniversary of "Blue Water, White Death."

www.beneaththesea.org

Cocos & Malpelo, with Dr. Alex Antoniou, Ernie Brooks and Amos Nachoum

May 17 - June 03 and May 21 - June 05, 2007



Amos Nachoum will now be joined by Dr. Alex Antoniou and Ernie Brooks on two special trips to Cocos and Malpelo this year.

Cocos, the legendary desert island of Robinson Crusoe, and remote Malpelo Island, 200 miles plus off Colombia, are world-renowned for the electrifying beauty of their blue water diving. These islands offer an opportunity to dive with the never-ending schooling of hammerhead sharks, the occasional whale shark, hundreds of white-tip sharks and bait balls. Both expeditions will have the unique ability to dive in rotation in one of the new submarine on board which provide a rare undersea exploration to 1500 feet deep!

We will operate the two vessels in concert with each other. The first

expedition departs Costa Rica on May 18 aboard the Sea Hunter with Dr. Alex Antoniou proceeding to Cocos and Malpelo. The second expedition, departing on May 22, accompanies Ernie Brooks aboard the Undersea Hunter to the island of Cocos, exclusively

This promises to be a most dynamic expedition due to the locations, timing and the availability of the submarine. It will also be a rewarding and inspiring opportunity to become acquainted with Dr. Antoniou, Ernie and Amos. All of who have a wide and deep knowledge of sharks, conservation, exploration and underwater imaging.

www.biganimals.com

Key Largo's Whaling Wall



Divers and snorkelers visiting the Florida Keys can now view a mammoth panorama of the Keys' living coral reef even before donning their fins and mask.

A 7,500-square-foot representation of the reef, recently completed by marine life artist Wyland, wraps around a four-story, four-sided building at mile marker 99.2 in the median of the Overseas Highway that bisects Key Largo.

The mural is the 95th "Whaling Wall" painted by Wyland, who has created massive marine life scenes around the world to promote ocean conservation.

"This is a mural that is really the gateway to the Florida Keys," said Wyland. "I'm a diver, so I take all that inspiration and all that beauty and simply paint it up on the wall for people to enjoy."

Wyland has spent more than 20 years diving in the Florida Keys



Aerial photograph of a portion of the 7,500-square-foot Florida Keys coral reef scene Saturday, Feb. 10, 2007, being created by marine life artist Wyland on a four-story building in Key Largo, Fla. This is the 95th in Wyland's planned series of 100 mammoth marine life murals and is set to be completed and dedicated Monday, Feb. 12.

National Marine Sanctuary and credits the Keys reef, the only contiguous coral expanse in North America, for inspiring much of his work.

The completed mural features islands, a sunset, manatees, manta rays, corals, sea turtles, indigenous fish and bottlenose dolphins. Like Wyland's previous walls, the Key Largo mural is designed to inspire environmental awareness and stewardship, particularly in children.

"Art is something that can touch people's emotion," said the artist.

"You can choose not to go into a gallery or a museum, but you can't ignore a giant mural. If people see this beauty, I know they'll want to get involved in protecting it."

Wyland, who began painting "Whaling Walls" in 1981, plans to continue his series internationally until he has completed 100 murals. The Key Largo wall is the last he intends to create in America.

www.fla-keys.com

Olympus sponsor British Underwater Image Festival 2007



Olympus are pleased to announce our sponsorship of the British Underwater Image Festival, as part of the Outdoors show, to be held at the NEC in Birmingham on the 16th-18th March. Following last year's huge success, the festival has already proved highly popular and is a must-see for all watersports photography enthusiasts.

www.olympus.co.uk

www.uwpmag.com

"Turtle Week"

Denpasar, Bali

02-06 May 2007



PRO-FAUNA Indonesia, SOS-Seaturtles and other local organisations will launch "Turtle-Week" in Bali's Capital Denpasar during the first week of May 2007.

"Turtle Week" will basically be the same module as our event in 2002, during our first campaign for the Bali Seaturtles.

Several actions will take place during the week:

- "Freedom for the Turtles" Manifestations by the PRO-FAUNA members in Denpasar City and Kuta Beach.
- Media Conference in Denpasar City for Press and TV with delegates from the Government, Police and international NGO's.

- "Save the Seaturtles" Exhibition.

- Meeting with the Governor.
- Investigation and possible turtle confiscations with Bali-Police.

This event will bring turtle killing to the attention of the officials, the media and local people as well as featuring in publications around the world!

www.sos-seaturtles.ch

Japanese dolphin slaughter continues



Dear Divers, Photographers and Friends,
Please have look at the Video link showing the Dolphin massacres by Japanese fisherman. It is cruel, brutal and shows the unbelievable ignorance by the Japanese against these creatures.

www.glumbert.com/media/dolphin

We cannot close our eyes and let all this inhumanity continue.
Please sign the online petition immediately and support the organisations who fight for the right of the Dolphins.

www.petitiononline.com/golfinho/petition.html

Thank you for your help.

Kurt Amsler
www.sos-seaturtles.ch



URPRO continues to be honored by many professional and amateur photographers from all corners of the globe who use our underwater correction filters to capture the full spectrum of color on their pictures. Many are just discovering the magic of underwater photography while others are veterans who have transitioned through film, video, and cine, and who are now avid digital enthusiasts.

Recently, we received a series of vibrant images along with a letter from Paul LeBourgeois, MD who has used the URPRO filters for many years. His enthusiasm for scuba diving and underwater photography is contagious. With his permission, we'd like to share part of the letter and some of his copyrighted images.

April, 2006
Dear URPRO

.....I was introduced to diving by my father in 1960. At this time the basic equipment was mask, snorkel, fins, and a hard plastic back-pack to which an enormously heavy tank was attached. It had the life-saving 'J-valve' which warned when the air was almost gone. I think my Dad and I had the first single-hose regulators made. At this time, there were no pressure gauges, no depth gauges, and no weights.....and we had absolutely no idea that "dive tables" existed. We relied solely on the notion that if we didn't ascend faster than our bubbles, we'd be OK....oh how times have changed!

In 1986 my wife and I took a trip to Bonaire where she rented a VHS underwater camera and housing. Initially, I thought that there would be no better way to waste time underwater than fooling around with this "gadget." Half-way through the dive, my wife handed me the camera to take some footage of her. Upon our return home, I became "motion-sick" sitting on the couch as I watched the footage captured by my unsteady camera movements. But it was too late—I was and still remain enamored at capturing underwater pictures.....

My profession as a pathologist allows me to travel the world and to pursue my passion of underwater photography. Recent travel destinations are focused on Indonesia and Papua New Guinea where I record the variety of colorful species found near the 'Wallace Line.' Through the years, I have used almost every video camera and housing that was labeled as "this year's sensation."

...My first URPRO filter was purchased in about 1990 for the Sony MPK-TRS which was the first housing I could get my hands on that shot 8mm video. Since that time I've tried almost every brand and variation of housing and camera, but I always purchased

the URPRO filter because it was the only one that really worked. If I purchased a system with a pre-supplied filter that looked like a washed out jelly-bean, I would immediately replace it with URPRO filter. I don't know how many custom URPRO filters I've had made for my systems, but the most recent is a huge filter that fits over the front of my HD FX1 housing so I can use the internal flip-in device for a diopter to get good macro.

I am humbled, gratified, and proud to experience the magic of the underwater world, and without URPRO filters on my cameras, I would probably have quit long ago, because for me, the devil is in the details, and color is king.

Signed,
Paul LeBourgeois
24 April 2006

[Click on images to view Paul LeBourgeois](#)
[Copyright Movie Clips](#)



www.urprofilters.com