

**Underwater Images 2006
Photo/Video Competition Final Results**

BEST OF SHOW

Sponsored by Aquatic Encounters, the *FeBrina*, and the Walindi Plantation, PNG
Roger Carlson, Redondo Beach, CA- Wide Angle to Him

CONSERVATION CATEGORY

First: Marc Weiss, Cincinnati, OH- Douglas' Big Adventure (video)
Second: Nancy Boucha, Chicago, IL- Missing You (slide show)
Third: Todd Winner, Santa Monica, CA- Seabass Comeback
Honorable Mention: Viora Alessio, Borgomanero, Italy- Dead Moon
Pasquale Vassallo, Napoli, Italy- Freedom

VIDEO CATEGORY

First: Charlie Oldfield, Nottingham, U.K.- Sanctuary
Second: Walter Marti, Mission Viejo, CA- Sea of Cortez, Wide & Macro
Third: Sheryl Brakey, Fair Oaks Ranch, TX- Australia's Sea Dragons
Honorable Mention: Steve Cohen, Annandale, VA- My Oh My, Octopi
Walter Marti, Mission Viejo, CA- Beauty in the Muck

WIDE ANGLE NOVICE CATEGORY

First Place: Karl Dietz, Fort Worth, TX- Great Hammerhead
Second Place: Gary Brennand, Brinsmead, Australia- Reflections
Third Place: Matt Segal, Calabasas, CA- Glide
Honorable Mention: Doug Ebersole, Lakeland, FL- Lemon Shark
Doug Ebersole, Lakeland, FL- Tiger Shark
Nicholas Hobgood, Avila Beach, CA- Lionfish Fandango
Barb Anthony, Flower Mound, TX- Shark Criss Cross
Claudio Zori, Cormons, Italy- Nympheas

WIDE ANGLE OPEN CATEGORY

First Place: Ross Armstrong, Whangarei, New Zealand- Splash of Red
Second Place: Rand McMeins, Edmonds, WA- Zero
Third Place: Alessandro Dodi, Milano, Italy- Gnam
Honorable Mention: Cor Bosman, Amsterdam, Netherlands- Mangrove
Veronica von Allworden, Langley, WA- A Mouthful
Ross Armstrong, Whangarei, New Zealand- A Bit of a Yawn
Judy Johnson, Irving, TX- Sweetlips Buddies
George Bogard, Rowlett, TX- Hawksbill Turtle

MACRO/CLOSE-UP NOVICE CATEGORY

First Place: Keri Wilk, Mississauga, Ontario- Back Off!
Second Place: Valda Bromfield, St. John, Virgin Islands- Conch Eye
Third Place: Amber Blecker, Aurora, CO- I "Heart" Octopi
Honorable Mention: Matt Segal, Calabasas, CA- Dentistry in the Wild
Karl Dietz, Fort Worth, TX- Swimming Flatworm
Claudio Zori, Cormons, Italy- Pygmy

MACRO/CLOSE-UP OPEN CATEGORY

First Place: Judy Johnson, Irving, TX- Spinecheek
Second Place: Peter Hartlove, Longmont, CO- Giant Clam 2
Third Place: Judy Johnson, Irving, TX- Eating on the Move
Honorable Mention: Elling Berg, Oslo, Norway- Down Under
Bob Widman, Monterey, CA- Gobi
Veronica von Allworden, Langley, WA- Capture
Ross Armstrong, Whangarei, New Zealand- Wassup

MAJESTIC CATEGORY

First Place: Jose Alvarez, Santa Domingo, Dominican Republic- Fly Like an Eagle
Second: Karl Dietz, Fort Worth, TX- Tiger Shark
Third: Viora Alessio, Borgomanero, Italy- The Dentist
Honorable Mention: Rand McMeins, Edmonds, WA- Too Many Choices
Jose Alvarez, Santa Domingo, Dominican Republic- Great White
Ross Armstrong, Whangarei, New Zealand- When Fish Roar

TOGETHERNESS CATEGORY

First: Linda Cline, Forest Grove, OR- Mandarin Love
Second: Mary Lou Reid, Lake Jackson, TX- Pick Me
Third: Judy Johnson, Irving, TX- Motherly Love
Honorable Mention: Kasey Canton, Sauk Rapids, MN- Hawkfish Couple
Gary Cissne, Westminster, CA- Encounter
Rand McMeins, Edmonds, WA- Mother & Child
John T. Gordon, Denver, CO- Mating Squid
Ross Armstrong, Whangarei, New Zealand- Eye Spy

OHIO COMPETITION

First: Brian Francisco, Albany, OH- Triple Fin
Second: Christine Smith, Athens, OH- Cave Nurse
Third: Brian Francisco, Albany, OH- Cleaner Shrimp on Giant Moray
Honorable Mention: Brian Francisco, Albany, OH- Coupling Squid
Brian Francisco, Albany, OH- Mating Nudibranchs
Terry Siferd, Hiliard, OH- Conch Eyes
Laszlo Ilyes, Richmond Heights, OH- Pastel Phantom

From the Director:

Thanks to all entrants, judges, and sponsors. Your participation is an integral part of this competition, and is greatly appreciated. Competitions of this type, share divers' own visions of the underwater world, and serve to promote good conservation practices. They also highlight some of the world's best diving destinations. These winning shots will be posted on our website, www.uwimages.org as soon as possible.

Prizes were set before the judging according to their values and the number of entries in the respective categories. Proceeds go to marine educational and scholarship purposes. This past year we again sponsored former sea turtle fishermen from Baja, Mexico to attend the National Sea Turtle Symposium through ProPeninsula www.ProPeninsula.org where they learned about the conservation of this endangered animal. They then returned home to teach other sea turtle fishermen and local communities about the importance of protecting the sea turtles of the world.

We are also continuing to support Mahonia Na Dari, a Nature Conservancy program for students in Papua New Guinea, where they learn true conservation and preservation principles with hands-on experiences.

Lastly, we are supporting the Ohio Council of Skin and Scuba Diving, Inc. (OCSSDI) Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship is awarded to a member in good standing of OCSSDI in order to pursue careers related to marine biology, underwater archaeology, and other related fields.

As we are all volunteers in these contests and they are just for fun, we hope everyone enjoyed our friendly competition this year. I'll be looking forward to your entries next year. Safe Diving and Shooting. *Sea Ya!*

Roger Roth, Founder/Director