

**PRESS RELEASE:**

March 2, 2003

**Underwater Images 2003  
Photo/Video Competition-Final Results**

**BEST OF SHOW**

Sponsored by Aquatic Encounters, the *FeBrina*, and the Walindi Plantation, PNG  
Kat Smith, Houma, LA- Daddy Cardinal

**CONSERVATION CATEGORY**

**First:** Steven Cavedo, Vandalia, Ohio- Manatee Morning (video)  
**Second:** Tibor Dombovari, Miskolc, Hungary- Young Papua Hunter  
**Third:** John F. Williams, Suquamish, WA- Counting with REEF (video)  
**Honorable Mention:** Charles Stearns, Lilburn, GA- Not Lladro Porcelain  
Jenny Gray, Sydney, Australia- Breeding Glass

**VIDEO CATEGORY**

**First:** Marc Weiss, Cincinnati, Ohio- Winter Escape  
**Second:** Mike Boom, Oakland, CA- Down & Dirty in Northern California  
**Third:** Sheryl Brakey, Fair Oaks Ranch, TX- Once Upon a Time  
**Honorable Mention:** Mary Anne Pedoto, Cincinnati, Ohio- Solomon's Silver Lining  
Walter Marti, Santa Ana, CA- Blue Waltz

**WIDE ANGLE NOVICE CATEGORY**

**First Place:** Art Malone, Peoria, AZ- Reef Scenic  
**Second Place:** John Chandler, Richlands, NC- Day is Done  
**Third Place:** Jason Kong, Ma On Shan, Hong Kong- Clownfish and the Sun  
**Honorable Mention:** Art Malone, Peoria, AZ- Out of the Blue  
Andy Anderson, Nashville, TN- Turtle Sponge  
Faik Erem, Istanbul, Turkey- Whale Shark

**WIDE ANGLE OPEN CATEGORY**

**First Place:** FioNa Ayerst, Johannesburg, South Africa- Get Out of My Way  
**Second Place:** Doug Cummings, Santa Barbara, CA- The Eastern Pacific  
**Third Place:** Ken Yeung, Kwai Chung, Hong Kong- Playground of Lights  
**Honorable Mention:** Cricket Manuel, Belleair, FL- Safe Diving  
Kat Smith, Houma, LA- Sea Lion and Yellow-Black Coral  
Tibor Dombovari, Miskolc, Hungary- Reef Scenic

**MACRO/CLOSE-UP NOVICE CATEGORY**

**First:** Mark Thomas, Belmont, CA- Bubble Bath  
**Second:** Victor Zucker, Granada Hills, CA- Precious Bundle  
**Third:** Jerry Kane, Kaneohe, HI- Here's Looking at You  
**Honorable Mention:** Faik Erem, Istanbul, Turkey- Fish  
Victor Zucker, Granada Hills, CA- Thorny Seahorse  
John Greenameyer, Cerritos, CA- Handsome  
John Greenameyer, Cerritos, CA- Halloween

### MACRO/CLOSE-UP OPEN CATEGORY

**First: Tibor Dombovari, Miskolc, Hungary- Decorador**

**Second: Alessandro Dodi, Milano, Italy- Pink Climber**

**Third: FioNa Ayerst, Johannesburg, South Africa- Wanna Kiss?**

**Honorable Mention: Dr. Eugene Viljoen, Richards Bay, South Africa- Whipcoral Goby**

**Christopher J. Crowley, Lyme, NH- Pipefish Pair**

**Jenny Gray, Sydney, Australia- Happy Hawkfish**

**Alessandro Dodi, Milano, Italy- Tunnel**

### FRESHWATER CATEGORY

**First: Harald Slauschek, Brunn, Austria- Green Lake**

**Second: Ken Yeung, Kwai Chung, Hong Kong- Curiosity**

**Third: Ernst Seeling, Vienna Austria- In the Cenotes**

**Honorable Mention: Ali Ethem Keskin, Istanbul, Turkey- Cave Divers**

**Harald Slauschek, Brunn, Austria- Valle Vertasca II**

### TOGETHERNESS CATEGORY

**First: Doug Cummings, Santa Barbara, CA- The Western Atlantic**

**Second: Tibor Dombovari, Miskolc, Hungary- Cleaning**

**Third: Charles Stearns, Lilburn, GA- Menage a Trois**

**Honorable Mention: FioNa Ayerst, Johannesburg, South Africa**

**Ross Armstrong, Whangarei, New Zealand- Best Buddies**

**Jerry Kane, Kaneohe, HI- Three's Company**

**Tibor Dombovari, Miskolc, Hungary-Two Gobies**

### OHIO COMPETITION

**First: Mary Anne Pedoto, Cincinnati, OH- Solomon's Silver Lining (video)**

**Second: Ron Yanega, Perry, OH- No Swimmin' (video)**

**Third: Rich Lauer, Reynoldsburg, OH- Mantis**

**Honorable Mention: Bruce Fahey, Cincinnati, OH- Turtle**

**Bruce Fahey, Cincinnati, OH- Tiny Hermit**

**Rich Howard, Dayton, OH- Puffer Face**

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 results along with Ohio entries will be posted on our website, [www.uwimages.org](http://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 International Sea Turtle Symposium through the non-profit organization, Wildcoast [www.wildcoast.net](http://www.wildcoast.net), 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 also supported the Fourth Annual Baja California Sea Turtle Group meeting in Loreto, BCS, Mexico in support of East Coast sea turtle conservation efforts.

We are also supporting 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.

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**