



Miss Snooty

Text and photos by Gary Rose, MD

Every year during November through March, they come from all over the Eastern Seaboard, and descend upon Jupiter, Florida, in the United States for the balmy weather and the deep blue sea. I bet you are thinking that I am talking about obnoxious northern snowbirds. Nope. I am referring to the annual lemon shark aggregation.

There are always plenty of locals. Mixed in with the locals, there is one lemon shark that stands out above all the rest. People come from all over the world to see her and photograph her—our local and resident MISS SNOOTY!

She is a character. Her charm matches her beauty. Because of a congenital birth deformity, she has a perpetual smile. She knows that she is special and

has become quite the “Diva”. Trust me, she will put on a show for you and for all the divers in your group.

If you have a camera, just float in the water, control your buoyancy, and I promise she will come to you and pose. Left-side, right-side, wide-angle, facial, and then she will circle back for a brilliantly posed body shot. She is also an expert at “photo bombing,” so be prepared.

The key is to be patient and let her come to you and put on her show. You will have plenty of photo ops. Again, I emphasize patience. Lemon sharks, and particularly Miss Snooty, are a combination of puppy dog—they will poke you, push you, and even nip at your strobes—and boa constrictor. Please visit:

garyrosephotos.com

Classic Miss Snooty (top left). Exposure: ISO 100, f/8, 1/125s; Miss Snooty up to her antics (top right). Exposure: ISO 100, f/8, 1/125s; Inches from the dome port (above). Exposure: ISO 200, f/8, 1/125s. Gear used for all photos: Nikon D500 camera, Tokina 10-17mm lens, Nauticam housing, Inon Z-330 strobes