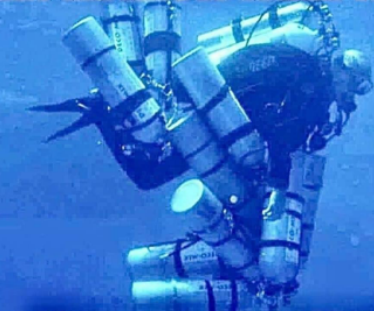




## May Newsletter

### HUPS Flexibility in Response to COVID-19

LET ME KNOW WHEN THE



COVID-19 HAS PASSED!

Just as everyone in the world is learning to adapt to the new COVID-19 realities, HUPS too is learning to adapt. Instead of cancelling the May meeting like we did for the April meeting, we have chosen to try to do the meeting virtually via Zoom!! Some of the members of the HUPS Board of Directors have done a couple dry runs to get comfortable with the application and iron out as many bugs ahead of time as possible. The program will feature two films by master macro filmmaker, Dustin Adamson. Also, David Lenderman will give a tutorial on achieving the best focus in underwater photography. Additionally, the May Photo Contest entries and winners will be shown. Below are the instructions for joining the Zoom-hosted May HUPS meeting.

Martin Daniels will host the meeting.

Here is the Zoom broadcast link:

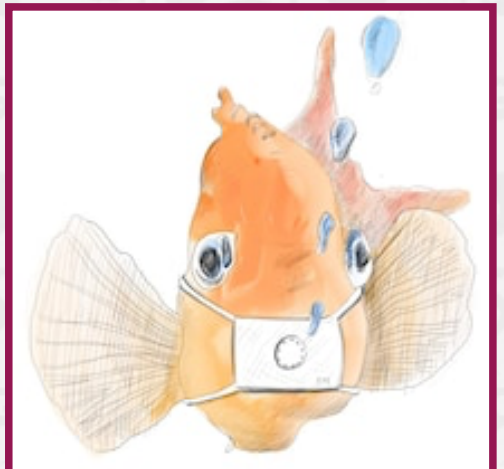
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/79831701045>

Meeting ID: 798 3170 1045

You can choose to join either with or without video. If you join with video we will see you. If you join without video we will only hear you. If for some reason you lose contact with the Zoom meeting, simply click on the link above again and you will be reconnected. If you have questions about using Zoom, please contact Martin Daniels at [martin.daniels3@gmail.com](mailto:martin.daniels3@gmail.com). Please log on early to work out any issues you may experience, then just chat with your friends online before the meeting begins at 7 pm.

As for the presentation schedules for the remainder of the year, we are still evaluating and adjusting since no one knows when life will return to normal. The

previously committed presenters are being contacted to alert them of things being on hold and in flux. We expect that some programs will need to be moved into 2021 and some may be cancelled. Please stay SAFE and HEALTHY!!





## President's Message

I don't need to tell you that we are experiencing difficult times. I hope everyone is staying healthy. Most of us are spending much more time than usual at home. If you have already watched all the news you can stand, are caught up on your Netflix series and have organized your closets what now? I suggest you use some of this downtime to work on your underwater imagery. There is a ton you can do while staying home.

**Share your existing images.** You can share your images on social media. Everyone could use some happy images these days. If you don't have facebook or Instagram now is a good time to get on board. How about putting together that slideshow or editing that video you have been talking about. Select some music and get going. Another great idea is to make a photo book of a trip or a collection of your favorite images. I really like the book quality available via [mpix.com](http://mpix.com). A wonderful book of your photos will be a great addition to your coffee table.

**Learn something new.** I am constantly amazed with the photo related articles and videos available online. You can spend time improving your Photoshop skills or your video editing skills. One of my favorite UW image editing teachers is Erin Quigley <https://www.goaskerin.com>. On her website click on "training" then "tutorials" and you will have hours of great lessons. How about watching some videos on photographic composition or look up some videos to learn more about your camera's features. So much to learn!

**Do some housekeeping.** Now is a great time to be sure you are backing up your files. Go through your junk files and delete all of those non-keeper shots you have been holding on to. Pull out your camera gear and clean your lenses and camera ports. Check out your scuba gear and determine what items may be due for annual service when the lockdown ends. Keep in mind that the dive shops are suffering during this shut down and they will be very happy to see you when we can again get out and about.

**Support Local Dive Shops.** Like many businesses in our area, dive shops have been closed for weeks. These dive shops really need our support to help them get through these tough times. If you have not been financially hard hit by the impacts of COVID-19 go to your favorite dive shop and spend some money. If you have been considering some new gear now is a great time. Even if there is nothing you **need**, go shopping and find something you **want**. I am sure the staff can help introduce you to the latest dive computer or regulator that you can't live without.

Whatever you do to occupy your time please be safe and stay healthy. I hope to see everyone soon.

---David Lenderman



# 2020 POTY Standings through April



	Novice	
1	Justin Wallace	228
2	Laura Veariel	110
3	Kathy Long	98
Intermediate		
1	Betsy Beasley	294
2	Russell Ramsey	277
Advanced		
1	Steven Anderson	321
2	Dennis Deavenport	291
3	Catrin Pichler	270





# Announcements

## Proposed Expansion of Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary

A proposed expansion of Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary (FGBNMS) was released in the Federal Register on May 1st. The proposal would expand the sanctuary from 56 square miles to 160 square miles. Public comments will be open between May 1, 2020 to July 3, 2020. Virtual public meetings to learn more about the proposal and submit comments will be held Monday, June 8, 2020 1-3 p.m., Monday, June 8, 2020 6-8 p.m., and Thursday, June 11, 2020 6-8 p.m. The Texas Gulf Coast Council of Diving Clubs (TGCC) asks divers to actively support this increase in area to our local marine sanctuary. TGCC is aware that this expansion proposal is the work of the Sanctuary Advisory Council (SAC) which is comprised of members of our local community and that their recommendation was a compromise, balanced for the needs of our community. They recommended the addition of 104 square miles to the sanctuary with portions of 14 additional reefs and banks. It would add three additional diveable banks (Sonnier, Bright, Geyer Banks) to the existing three: East & West Flower Garden Banks and Stetson Bank. The FGBNMS is committed to installing mooring buoys (a significant dive safety factor) on these additional banks. The release also asked for public comment (please note that your comments become a public document and are shown on-line) on several issues:

- On the boundaries set by the SAC (Preferred Alternative) for the expanded sanctuary - TGCC strongly recommends no change. The new boundaries protect about 80% or more of the critical area. An increase in boundaries gains area, prestige, and bragging rights but very little in protection.
- Pelagic Longline Exemption Request – No comment, not our area of expertise
- Spearfishing Exemption Request – No comment, equally divided on the topic

It's time for the "dive community" to step up and be counted. It's an important issue, and it's important that divers show that they still realize that they have a vested interest in what's going on in the FGBNMS! Last time there were 1,421 separate comments, 9 of which directly supported the original SAC proposal. Divers need to get involved because they have a vested interest:

- Divers were critical in establishing the Flower Gardens Sanctuary.
- In 1979 the Houston Underwater Club (a TGCC member club) wrote the Federal Gov. and solicited National Marine Sanctuary management for the diving areas known as the Flower Garden Banks.
- Prior to sanctuary designation, the Gulf Reef Environmental Action Team (GREAT) installed mooring buoys on the East Flower Garden Bank, West Flower Garden Bank and Stetson Bank. They also began the reef monitoring program. These diver efforts were crucial in the FGBNMS being established.

Below are important links to learn more and take action:

- NOAA's website providing more supporting details and links:

<https://flowergarden.noaa.gov/management/expansionnpr.html>

- The proposed rule on the federal register:

<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-05-01/pdf/2020-08128.pdf>

- The proposed rule on the government docket – direct link to provide comments:

<https://www.regulations.gov/docket?D=NOAA-NOS-2019-0033>

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## HUPS Video Contest Voting

The entries for the HUPS Spring Video Contest are posted on the contest's Facebook page. All HUPS members are invited to join this closed group and vote. Many of you have already joined the group and are ready to cast your vote.

Here's the link:

[HUPS VIDEO CONTEST FACEBOOK GROUP](#)

Click on the Spring Video Contest to view each film and cast your vote. Voting will be open until the end of May. Each HUPS member may vote once. All votes are anonymous. You may leave comments on the Facebook page, but they will not be anonymous. Winners will be announced at the June HUPS meeting.

If you any questions about the contest or wish to join the group, please email Betsy Beasley at [betsybeasley@swbell.net](mailto:betsybeasley@swbell.net)

# Announcements, continued

## HUFF Update



The 2020 Houston Underwater Film Festival has been rescheduled to September 12-13, 2020. We will be presenting the same three shows, at the same times, that we would have presented on April 18-19. Tickets bought for the April shows will be shifted to the same shows and times on September 12-13. The venue is still the 14 Pews Theater. Please address any questions to Betsy Beasley at [huff@hups.org](mailto:huff@hups.org). Hopefully we'll see you there!

## Seeking Newsletter Editor

HUPS is looking for a member to volunteer as the HUPS Newsletter Editor starting in January 2021. No prior experience is necessary, just good English grammar skills, the ability to learn, and adept on a computer. The incumbent will help transition the role as soon as a candidate is identified and approved by the HUPS BOD. If you have questions or may be interested, feel free to reach out to the current Newsletter Editor, Monica Losey, at [monica\\_losey@yahoo.com](mailto:monica_losey@yahoo.com).

## TGCC Memorial Scholarship

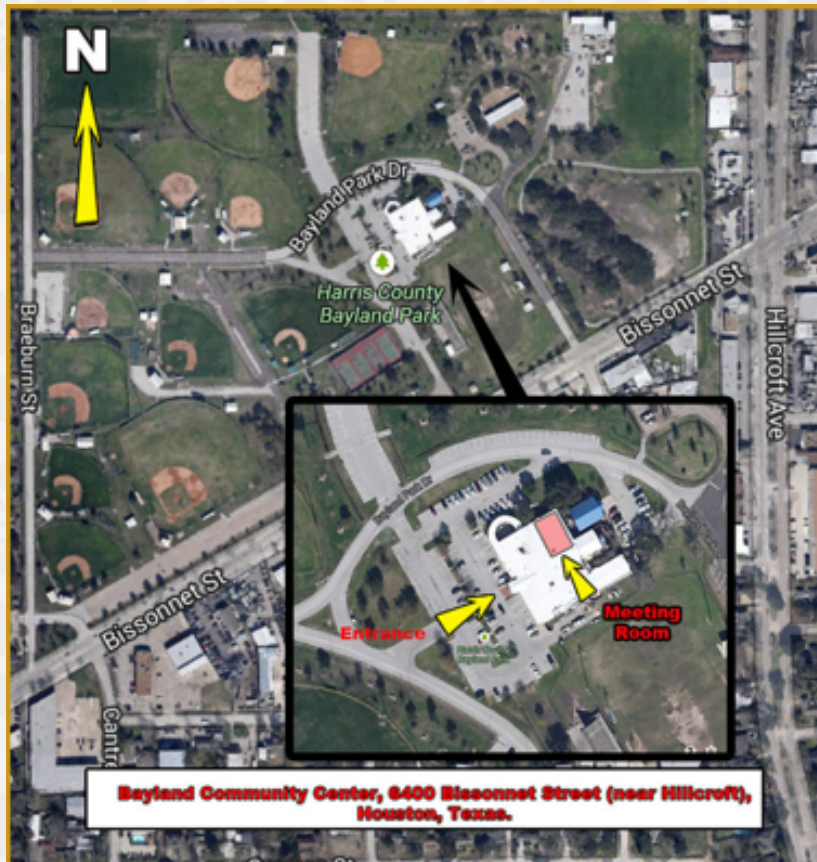
Once again the Texas Gulf Coast Council of Diving Clubs will be offering college scholarships in memory of Jack Allyn, Greg Grimes, Jean Himes, Anne Millioud, Clint (Dwight) Moore, John Pederson, Michael Szewczyk, and Dick Zingula. This year one scholarship in the amount of \$500 will be awarded. Please see eligibility rules, guidelines, and the application at the end of this newsletter. Completed applications must be received by the TGCC Donations Committee prior to June 30, 2020.

## 2020 Photo Contest Themes

Month	Themes	Description
<b>Jun</b>	Nudibranchs & Worms	Again, this is pretty specific but you may need to check your critter ID book if you're not sure. Worms can fool you sometimes. Who would think that something that looks like a colorful Christmas tree ornament could be a worm?
<b>Jul</b>	Hawk fish, Drums, Triggerfish	A theme that gives you multiple choices of fish. This theme gives you up to 3 possible choices of fish families. So come on and submit a photograph or two to the contest. If not sure, check your fish id sources or ask the PC.
<b>Aug</b>	Crustacean	Just like it says... look it up in the book (crabs, shrimp, lobsters, barnacles, etc.). When in doubt... Wikipedia can help you out.
<b>Sep</b>	Natural light	Shooting ambient light means you are using the sun as your light source. Shooting with ambient light means less camera drag, as strobes can be left on the surface. The lighting of the photo will be more even, which is ideal for large subjects such as large reefs or schools of fish, silhouettes, or large wrecks.
<b>Oct</b>	Blennies and Gobies	Some of our favorite tiny guys. The ones that like to hug the reef, hide out in holes, or build their nests in the sand. If you aren't sure if your little guy (or guys) qualify, look it up in your critter ID book or ask the opinion of one of our ID experts.
<b>Nov</b>	Polka Dots/Fish with Spots	A spot, a small round or roundish mark differing in color or texture from the surface around it. The most common subjects underwater are known variously as boxfishes, coffer fishes, cowfishes and trunkfishes.
<b>Dec</b>	Best of HUPS	NOVICE, INTERMEDIATE, ADVANCED, and CREATIVE contests: First place winners from each month's Novice, Intermediate, and Advanced categories will be entered automatically for judging. The Creative category lets you enter anything you want as long as you do the photography and any special editing.



The **Houston Underwater Photographic Society** meets at the Bayland Community Center from 7pm–9pm, the first Monday of each month (except for Monday holidays)  
6400 Bissonnet (near Hillcroft), Houston, TX 77074  
**Visitors are always welcome!**



**Bayland Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet Street (near Hillcroft), Houston, Texas.**

## HUPS on the Internet



[www.hups.org](http://www.hups.org)



[www.youtube.com/user/HUPSdotORG](https://www.youtube.com/user/HUPSdotORG)



[www.facebook.com/groups/174168478778/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/174168478778/)

## 2020 HUPS Board of Directors

Frank Burek	Monica Losey	Russell Ramsey
Mary Daniels	Henry Ragland	Craig Beasley
Martin Daniels	Joe Haws	Betsy Beasley
Mike Greuter	Jim Mensay	Laura Veariel

## 2020 HUPS Officers

### **President:**

David Lenderman

### **Vice President:**

Dennis Deavenport

### **Secretary:**

Tammy Allyn

### **Treasurer:**

Tom Collier

### **Membership/Newsletter:**

Monica Losey

### **Photo Contest:**

Martin Daniels

### **Video Contest/HUFF**

### **Coordinator:**

Betsy Beasley

### **Workshop Coordinator:**

Tom Collier

### **TGCC Reps:**

Frank Burek

Ja Van Pruett

Mark Leiserowitz

### **WebMaster:**

Joe Holden

### **Trip Coordinator:**

Joe Haws

### **Historian:**

Frank Burek

### **Special Events:**

Mary Daniels

### **Social Media Coordinator:**

Laura Veariel

### **Merchandising**

### **Coordinator:**

Sandy Bryan

### **Moody Gardens**

### **Coordinator:**

David Lenderman



# 2020 TGCC MEMORIAL COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

(In memory of Jack Allyn, Greg Grimes, Jean Himes, Anne Millioud, Clint (Dwight) Moore, John Petty, Michael Szewczyk and Dick Zingula)



The Texas Gulf Coast Council of Diving Clubs (TGCC) plans to award one College scholarships (1 @ \$500) during 2020. This scholarship is given in memory of Jack Allyn, Greg Grimes, Jean Himes, Anne Millioud, Clint (Dwight) Moore, John Petty, Michael Szewczyk and Dick Zingula; deceased members of our dive community. It is also awarded in recognition for support of the TGCC Scholarship Program by Alicia Grimes, the Houston Underwater Club, the Houston Underwater Photographic Society and Linda Petty. The purpose of this award is to support the members who support the dive clubs in the Texas Gulf Coast area. The award will be paid by TGCC directly to the college towards tuition.

## Eligibility Rules:

1. Scholarship applicant must be a college undergraduate or graduate student attending college in 2020, or a high school senior that has been accepted to college in 2020.
2. The applicant, the parent(s) (biological or through formal adoption), or the grandparent(s) of the applicant, must be an individual member of TGCC or a member of a TGCC member club with dues current in 2020.
3. Application (see other side) must be received by the TGCC Donations Committee prior to **June 30, 2020**. TGCC will review all completed applications on July 2, 2020.
4. Applicant shall have the high school/college furnish a transcript of grades, courses and class standing.

## Scholarship General Guidelines:

1. Scholarship decisions of TGCC are final.
2. Scholarship winner is expected to keep TGCC abreast with his/her progress in college.
3. TGCC reserves the right to not award a prize depending upon the number of entries and qualifications of the applicants.
4. A personal interview with members of the TGCC Scholarship Committee may be required prior to awarding this scholarship.
5. Confirmation will be by e-mail. Make sure phone and e-mail data provided is current.
6. TGCC is offering this scholarship as a reward to TGCC members, TGCC member and associate clubs or the children of these members to thank them for supporting TGCC's efforts in promoting safe sport diving. The committee will take into consideration the applicant or applicant's parents involvement in TGCC and member clubs and/or the diving community in general throughout the year.

## Applications may be mailed or e-mailed to:

TGCC Donations Committee  
c/o Frank Burek  
8448 Grand Lake Estates Drive  
Montgomery, TX 77316  
jfburek@consolidated.net

# 2020 TGCC MEMORIAL COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

(In memory of Jack Allyn, Greg Grimes, Jean Himes, Anne Millioud,  
Clint (Dwight) Moore, John Petty, Michael Szewczyk, and Dick  
Zingula)



Applicant's First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

High School: \_\_\_\_\_ Year Graduated: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of college to be attended in 2020: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please enclose a copy of the acceptance letter, or current college transcript):

Comments and information about the applicant's grades and academic performance:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Comments and information about the applicant's sports and/or other extracurricular achievements:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Description of why the applicant feels he/she should be selected for this scholarship.  
(Use a separate page)**

TGCC Affiliation (member of TGCC or TGCC member club)

Applicant                  Parent                  Grandparent                  (please circle one)

Affiliate First Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliate Clubs (TGCC, CHUM, HUPS, Lunarfans, ROC, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Number of Years as member of the above named club(s): \_\_\_\_\_

List any positions of leadership held by Affiliate: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_