



March Newsletter

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2017

Islands Lost in Time

A journey of exploration to storied Ambon and the Forgotten Islands of the Banda Sea

--Dennis Deavenport & Craig Beasley



The islands of Indonesia, all so different and fascinating, have had an enormous influence on many members of HUPS. The reasons to travel half way around the world can be measured in terms of quality, beauty, strangeness, variety, and any number of colorful descriptions. For divers, it is an opportunity to visit the epicenter of underwater diversity, but the islands also offer a seemingly endless diversity above the tide-line.

A group of six HUPS members led by Jesse Cancelmo met up with

other friends and new acquaintances from Ann Keibler's group for a 10-day dive trip on the *Arenui*, an Indonesian two-masted schooner. The trip was organized through Oceanic Ventures. Prior to boarding the boat, Craig & Betsy Beasley, Tom Collier, Russell Ramsey, and I took a detour to muck-dive 3 days in Ambon. The diving there was colder and murkier than I remembered but the kaleidoscope of strange fish and critters were still there waiting for us to arrive.

Diving on *Arenui* is a rare experience. Service for the 16 divers was provided by 22 crew and just about everything you needed was provided quickly and with a smile. It's hard to label what we did as "couch potato diving" because of how exciting and productive the diving was but the analogy seems appropriate on many levels. The weather was amazing, the visibility was excellent, the coral was superb, and every dive had a wealth of things to see on walls, coral gardens, or muck.



The collection of images and video clips I have amassed for preparing the underwater portion of the program is proof in spades for just how productive the trip was for the group. I could easily put together a 60-minute program of good to great images and video that Tom, Betsy, Russell, Tom, Jesse, Craig and I prepared for use. OK, I wouldn't do that to anyone, but culling through the material is like drowning puppies - it hurts my soul.

Craig will be presenting a program covering our topside adventures, and I know that he's going through the same type of angst that I am over what not to use.

For a good night at the movies, show up at 7 pm for the March 6th HUPS meeting. I think you'll be glad you did.





President's Page

I want to thank Ken Knezick for such an educational and informative February program that pertained to **Wide Angle Photography Explorations**. With pictures of shipwrecks, Thresher sharks, saltwater crocodiles and his oral presentation, Ken took us on a worldwide tour beginning in Truk and ending in Cozumel. Ken shared his tips and tricks of wide angle photography and the lenses he used to get those exciting shots.

I encourage you to attend our March 2017 meeting as Dennis Deavenport and Craig Beasley will take us on a photo and video tour of Ambon and the Forgotten Islands of Indonesia on the boutique liveaboard Arenui. This is a program that you must put on your calendar.



If you missed the first workshop of the year, do not despair. The second workshop of 2017 is the second of a Lightroom instructional series from Matt Kloskowski. It will be held on the 3rd Saturday of this month, March 18th, beginning at 12:30 at Bayland Community Center and will deal with **Lightroom, 10 Things You Need to Know about Interface and Preferences**.

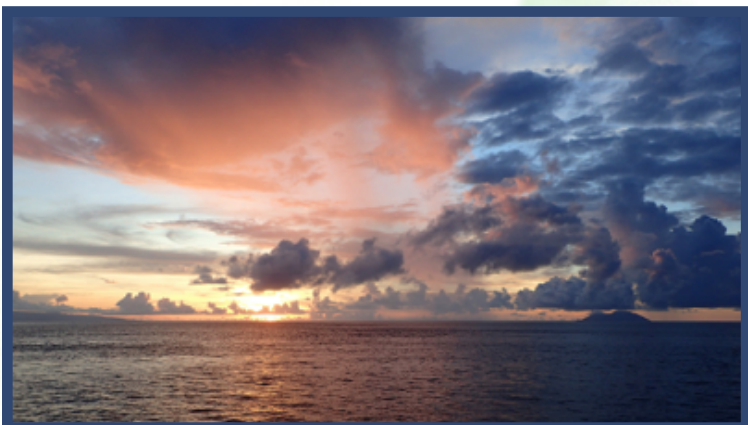
In last month's **President's Page** I wrote about aging and diving. Bess Bright forwarded to me an article to share with the club concerning an older diver dying after scuba diving as a result of her medical condition - atrial fibrillation or irregular heart beat which can lead to heart failure or stroke. It turns out she never informed her fellow divers and or club of her medical condition. If you wish to read the story, please go to <http://www.sun-sentinel.com/news/florida/fl-reg-charlene-weston-profile-aging-divers-20170213-story.html>.



The contest topic this month deals with denizens of the muck and sand such as worms, urchins, crabs, stargazers, sea stars, and many other critters.

See everyone in March and enjoy great diving wherever you go.

--Russell Ramsey





President's Page 2

Liveaboard versus Land Based Resorts

This month's **President's Page** will discuss the pros and cons of **Liveaboards vs Land Based Resorts**, the value of each and what factors may go into your decision to book one or the other. One of those factors is location. Location may be important when determining if your underwater photographic dive trip will be on a liveaboard or with a land based operation. There are simply some places you cannot dive without using the services of a liveaboard as the distances from a land based operation may be too great. Such locations include but are not limited to areas in the Maldives, the Galapagos Islands, Socorro Islands, Cocos Island, Bikini atoll in the Marshall Islands, Gardens of the Queen in Cuba and the Forgotten Islands of Indonesia.

There are pros and cons of each so let's explore them before deciding what is best for you and the type of dive vacation you want. You should ask yourself, what type of experience do I want? Do you want a vacation totally about diving and underwater photography or do you want a vacation that you can choose what you want to do, see and eat? Do you enjoy socializing with strangers or to put it another way, are you a tolerant person who gets along well with others? What are your dive qualifications? Are you prone to seasickness? Are you taking non diving family and friends on this trip? Make sure whatever decision you make matches your dive vacation expectations.

Now let's look at those plusses and minuses of each type of trip.

Liveaboard Pros

1. Unlimited diving- usually 5 dives/day + night dive
2. If dedicated UW Photography liveaboard many camera stations
3. Time not wasted traveling to dive sites
4. Like minded dedicated divers or UW photographers
5. Possible photo pro on board
6. Uncrowded diving

Liveaboard Cons

1. Rigid itinerary
2. Cancellation or changed itinerary due to weather or unforeseen circumstances
3. Fuel cost surcharges
4. Seasickness
5. Cannot compete with land based amenities
6. May have limited camera stations or none at all
7. Lack of space and privacy with inability to avoid someone you do not get along with
8. Possibility of lack of cultural exchanges (depends upon liveaboard and location)
9. Limited destinations
10. Possible lack of Wi-Fi and wireless communication

Land Based Pros

1. Can have just as many dives as you want and may equal liveaboard number of dives
2. Dedicated dive resorts with camera room such as in Ambon, Puerto Galera, etc.
3. Comfort, space and some degree of privacy
4. Cultural exchanges with native people
5. Many resorts now have staff photo pros
6. Cost may be lower or much lower
7. More varied recreational activities
8. Possibly more relaxing

Land Based Cons

1. Can be fewer dives allowed
2. May not be set up for UW or other photography
3. Possible long boat rides to dive sites
4. Possible crowded dive sites
5. May have limited camera stations or none at all

So which is better? As one writer noted, "It depends". Liveaboard diving is something every serious diver should do at least once during his/her diving lifetime. Liveaboards can offer exquisite diving to remote atolls, coral reefs and islands of the world's oceans that land based boats cannot possibly go. On the other hand they are probably not the best choice when travelling with families, non-divers or those wanting to party or enjoy lots of night life into the wee hours. If you want lots of opportunities to shoot land photography, a liveaboard is probably not the best choice for you. Land based resorts provide a compromise for those travelling with others who do not dive but prefer to relax, shop, snorkel or just hang out.

If you still cannot decide after all your research into what is best for you, you may wish to try one of the land based resorts which also has a liveaboard attached to it such as Wakatobi Resort or the Atlantis Dumaguete Resort. Both have liveaboard packages attached to a land based operation. After one week ashore and one week afloat, you can probably be in a better position to make future decisions as to what best suits your vacation needs.

So you ask, what is the answer? There is really no answer as it is an individual decision for what you and your travelling companions want to do.

--Russell Ramsey



Announcements

Relay for Life American Cancer Society in memory of Greg Grimes

Hi HUPS Members, It is that time of year that "Relay for Life" is going on sponsored by the American Cancer Society. This is the event that will be held in Sugarland on 4/1/17 at Mercer Stadium and I wanted to tell each one of you about it and maybe you would like to attend or donate to "TEAM GREG" once again this year. Your generosity raised \$1400.00 last year for TEAM-GREG and I personally thank each one of you. The first link below will get you to the page that you can just donate by dropping to the bottom of the page and the second link below will get you to the luminaria page if you prefer that type of donation. If you have time, please take a few minutes to read the "Why we Relay" on Greg. We still miss him so very much. To donate: https://secure.acsevents.org/site/SPageServer/?pagename=my_team&fr_id=82730 To donate with Luminaria: https://secure.acsevents.org/site/Ecommerce/1613913912?VIEW_PRODUCT=true&FR_ID=82730&product_id=10487&PROXY_ID=2140985&PROXY_TYPE=22&store_id=21765 Please let me once again thanks each one of you for your personal donation from last year and know that all the monies go to ACS. Please pass this info on to anyone that might be interested in donating so that we can stop Cancer in its tracks!!

Thanks, Susan Davenport-Greg's Mom [Email davenport.susan@gmail.com](mailto:davenport.susan@gmail.com)



Kathy Long
Novice 3rd

Annual Membership Dues

Final month to pay 2017 membership dues!

\$35 Single membership

\$45 Family membership

TO PAY

Payable:

Cash or Check at March meeting

On-line via HUPS webpage:
www.hups.org



HUPS Membership Statistics as of March 5th

79 active members (paid + lifetime members)
30 members paid in 2016 but not yet paid in 2017
2 new members as of 2017
35 lifetime members

CONGRATULATIONS Jim and Debbie Mensay

Congratulations to the newest HUPS Lifetime Achievement Members: Jim and Debbie Mensay. Thank you for all the work and dedication towards helping make HUPS successful and fun! Photo showing other HUPS Lifetime Achievement Members presenting their awards Jim & Debbie at the February HUPS Meeting.





2017 POTY Standings through February

Ranking	Novice	POTY
1	John VanAtta	150
2	Kevin Crofoot	126
3	Lorna Carpenter	97
4	Kathy Long	51
Intermediate		
1	Bess Bright	183
2	Paul McDonald	182
3	Beata Lerman	175
4	Lance Glowacki	122
Advanced		
1	Jackie Reid	185
2	Craig Beasley	182
3	David Lenderman	161
4	Martin Daniels	151





2017 Presentations & Contest Topics

	Presentation	Presenter	Contest Topic
January 9	Sabang and Puerto Galera	Beata Lerman	Angelfish, Butterflyfish, Surgeonfish
February 6	Wide Angle Photo Tips & Tricks	Ken Knezick	Black Background
March 6	Forgotten Islands	Dennis Deavenport	Sand & Muck denizens
April 3	Sharks of French Polynesia	Cecilia Clementi	Something Yellow
May 1	Video II	Tom Collier	Close Focus Wide-Angle
June 5	From Then To Now	Monica Losey	Damselfish, Chromis, Hamlets, Basslets
July 3	TBD		Diagonal composition
August 7	TBD		Mollusks
September 11	TBD		Vertical composition
October 2	TBD		Weird & Spooky
November 6	TBD		Hawkfish, Drums, Triggerfish
December 4	Best of HUPS	Lance Glowacki	Creative

2017 Workshop Topics

Date	Topic
Feb 18	Organizing and importing your photos
Mar 18	10 things you need to know about the interface and preferences
Apr 22	How to create a slide show
May 20	Viewing, sorting, and filtering your photos
Jun 17	Organizing your favorite photos with collections
Jul 15	Keywords, metadata, face tagging, and maps
Aug 19	The develop module part 1
Sep 16	The develop module part 2
Oct 21	Sharpening and noise reduction
Nov 18	Sharing and saving your photos

10 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE INTERFACE AND PREFERENCES Work Shop
Mar 18, 2017 12:30 to 2:30 PM Bayland Community Center

The workshop consists of 10 video lessons created by Matt Kloskowski. The average length of each video is approximately 4 to 5 minutes. The intent of this workshop is to provide an organized method of learning Lightroom from a professional photographer. The following subjects are covered in these lessons.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Getting Around the Modules | 6 Everything You Need to Know About Panels |
| 2 The Left, Right, Top, and Bottom Panels | 7 Using Two Screens (Second Window Display) |
| 3 Zooming in on Photos | 8 Customizing Identity Plates |
| 4 Solo Mode | 9 Essential Keyboard Shortcuts |
| 5 The View Menu Controls Everything | 10 A Look at Lightroom's Preferences Dialog |



2017 Photo Contest Themes

Month	Themes	Description
Jan	Angelfish, Butterfly fish, Surgeonfish	If you aren't sure, look it in your fish ID book or just ask someone you trust for an expert opinion. If it's platter-flat, colorful, and pretty, it's probably what you're looking for.
Feb	Black Background	Any primary subject as long as the background has a nice black color
Mar	Sand & Muck denizens	"On muck dives, underwater photographers find rare nudibranchs, juvenile fish, frogfish, and strange critters that are found nowhere else."
Apr	Something Yellow	A critter or fish that has noticeable yellow. Yellow is the color of gold, butter, and ripe lemons. Yellow is the color people most often associate with amusement, optimism, gentleness, and spontaneity,
May	Close Focus Wide-Angle	It is a sub-division of wide angle, as the name suggests, comprising of images taken at camera to subject distances of less than about two feet.
May Video	General	1 to 3 minutes
Jun	Damselfish, Chromis, Hamlets, Basslets	"A group of small fish generally 3 to 6 inches in length that have a perch like or oval profile" If you aren't sure, look it in your fish ID book.
Jul	Diagonal Composition	"Diagonal lines generally work well to draw the eye of an image's viewer through the photograph. They create points of interest as they intersect with other lines and often give images depth by suggesting perspective." This 1 maybe tough or easy depending on your POV.
Aug	Mollusks (Shells, Nudibranchs, Chitons)	"An invertebrate of a large phylum that includes snails, slugs, mussels, and octopuses. They have a soft, unsegmented body and live in aquatic habitats, and most kinds have an external calcareous shell."
Sep	Vertical Compositions	A photograph with a subject in the vertical plane so the eye is drawn up and down the when viewing the picture.
Oct	Weird & Spooky	A subject that appears especially in being eerie or disturbing. Or seems to be strikingly odd or unusual, especially in an unsettling way.
Oct Video	General	1 to 3 minutes
Nov	Hawkfish, Drums, Triggerfish	A group of fish that can be found in the odd-shaped swimmers. Note we are looking triggerfish not filefish subjects ask if you are not sure.
Dec	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.



Craig Beasley
Advance 3rd

Beata Lerman
Intermediate 1st

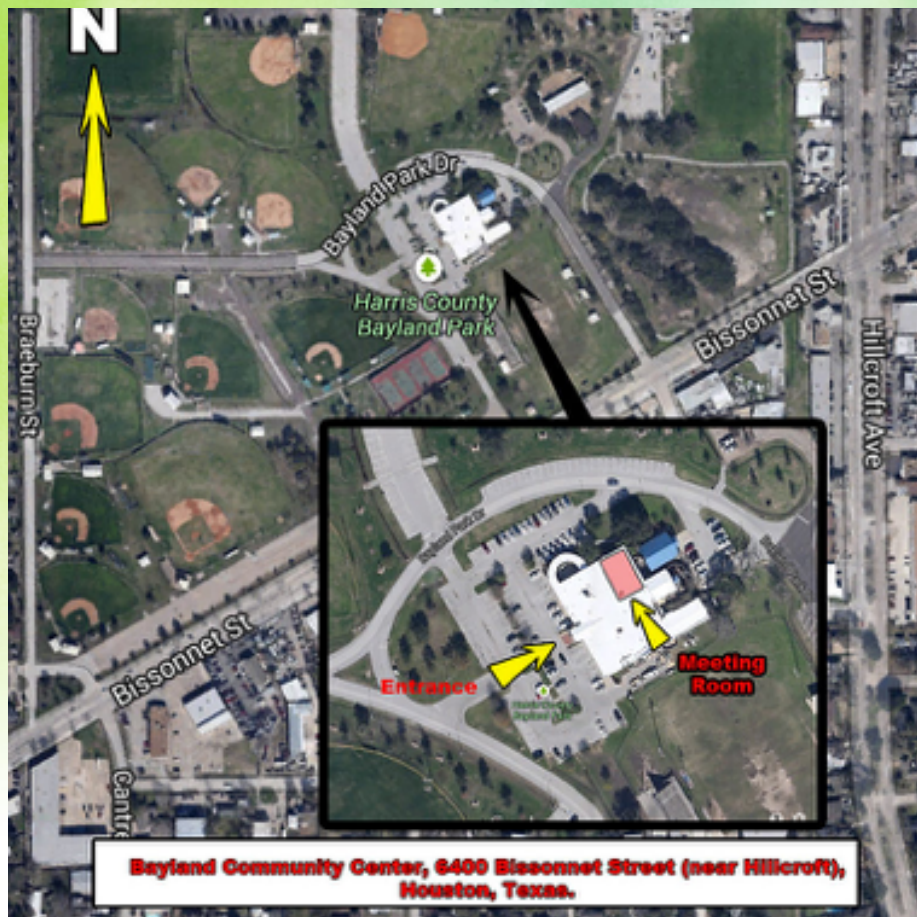




The **Houston Underwater Photographic Society** meets at the
Bayland Community Center from 7pm - 9pm,
the first Monday of each month (except for Monday holidays)

6400 Bissonnet (near Hillcroft), Houston, TX 77074

Visitors are always welcome!



2017 HUPS Officers

President:

Russell Ramsey

Vice President:

Beata Lerman

Secretary:

Tammy Allyn

Treasurer:

Debbie Mensay

Membership/Newsletter:

Monica Losey

Photo Contest:

Lance Glowacki

TGCC Reps:

Alicia Grimes

Frank Burek

Debbie Mensay

WebMaster:

Joe Holden

Workshops:

Lance Glowacki

Trip Coordinator:

Jim Mensay

Historian:

Frank Burek

Special Events:

Jan Baughman

Moody Gardens

Coordinator:

Bess Bright

HUPS on the Internet



www.hups.org



www.youtube.com/user/HUPSdotORG



www.facebook.com/groups/174168478778/

2017 HUPS Board of Directors

Jan Baughman

Monica Losey

Craig Beasley

Bess Bright

Henry Ragland

Frank Burek

Tom Collier

Martin Daniels

Joe Haws

Lance Glowacki

Jim Mensay

Mike Greuter

Dennis Deavenport

Beata Lerman

Lorna Carpenter



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