



September 2013 Newsletter

Submitted Alicia Grimes

September Presentation—Bring Your Underwater Photo Gear to the Meeting for Hands On Show, Tell and Tips

Join us September 9th at [Bayland Community Center](#) at 7:00 p.m. as we embark on a new program for our club, **Show, Tell and Tips**. This particular program will give each member an opportunity to participate, to talk to other members with the same or different gear, to ask questions, and share information on what seems to work and more importantly what does not.

You will also get the privilege of seeing what other members are shooting and make some mental notes about what you would like to put on your Christmas list for this year. This program will be particularly important to those in the club who are going to Bonaire in October, to prepare for some of the great shots we know you will come back with. We look forward to your program in November.

In addition to the show and tell we will also get an opportunity to view a small program from Dennis Deavenport with the wonderful images that were taken at the underwater model photo shoot at Terry Moore's home in June.

Please arrive early for socializing and to assist in the setup of the meeting room. For those of you who need a bite to eat afterwards, join some of the HUPS members at [Don Carlos's](#) for adult beverages and Mexican fare. **Board members please remember that there is a board meeting at 5:00 p.m. before the meeting**

Submitted by Tom Collier

It's Coming and it's Big.....Don't Miss the October Meeting



Submitted by Greg Grimes

Board Meeting Reminder

Board Members are reminded that there is a board meeting from 5–7 p.m. before the September 9th meeting. Please plan to attend.



Quote:

There are no rules for good photography, only good photography.





Lance Glowacki—Intermediate



Presidents Message



Martin Daniels—Novice

One of the Best Advances in Underwater Photography – the Camera Review Screen

Submitted by Greg Grimes

This month's presentation is something new for HUPS: a share, learn and tips program. As I am getting my gear together for the meeting, it got me thinking about what I believe is one of the biggest advancements in underwater photography. I believe it to be the **review back screen** on your camera. Now you may say to yourself, "Well that may be one, but there are many others as well." I agree with you, but think about how much the review screen can help you out underwater.

Here are a few of my favorites that I hope will help you no matter what you shoot. I happen to use the Canon 7D.

- 1) By using the review screen this allows you to make changes while still underwater. You can check your composition, lighting, and your settings to get that shot you saw in your mind's eye.
- 2) By using the Live View portion of the back screen you can increase your view underwater instead of using the smaller view finder which as I get older seems to be a bit tougher.
- 3) The histogram option (if that feature is available on your system) to review your image once taken to see if you are getting the proper amount of colors with your current strobe set up with the histogram option left on while shooting. Remember with the histogram on the graph you want to kiss the wall not crawl it.
- 4) The review back screen also has the leveling feature. This feature makes sure that the images you are taking are straight even though with the water current may not be.
- 5) Finally the best feature of all is the trash can feature after you review your images. Now you may say to yourself, I will never use this feature, but be honest with yourself, most professional photographers work on a 10% rule. Basically they keep about 10% of what they shoot. Underwater that probably is about 5% because of all of other elements we must contend with. Use it honestly, and keep working on making your image better and get rid of those that don't live up to your expectations.

In conclusion, there may be many more features that have become invaluable to our sport because of the review back screen and more are coming down the road. As someone who is a tech geek I can't wait to see what else they come up with but for right now I am pretty pleased with what I have. Let's see your setup at the next meeting on Sept 9th and discuss what you believe your best features are on your setup.



Jan Baughman—Novice

Contest results through August 2013		
NOVICE		
1st	Jan Baughman	528
2nd	Joe Holden	286
3rd	John Scheldt	200
4th	Craig Beasley	181
5th	David McCracken	121
INTERMEDIATE		
1st	Mike Greuter	528
2nd	Greg Grimes	485
3rd	Lance Glowacki	474
4th	Debbie Mensay	366
5th	Bess Bright	241
ADVANCED		
1st	Ken Knezick	619
2nd	Dennis Deavenport	584
3rd	Ken Bean	375
4th	Jim Mensay	368
5th	Terry Moore	144



Dennis Deavenport—Advanced

News from the Reef

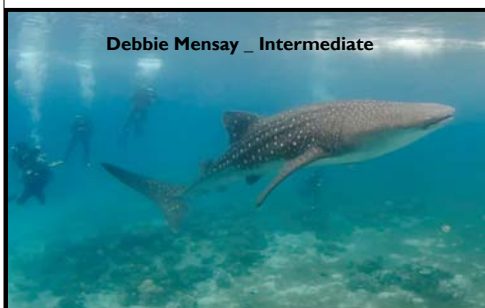
Submitted by Jesse Cancelmo

In response to the ever popular Shark Week on Discovery Channel last month. I present to you a video to keep things in perspective, [5 Things that are more dangerous than sharks](#). Give it a view, it is a good one!



Submitted by Alicia Grimes

Recently there has been an outbreak of measles among the dolphin population currently living in the Atlantic Ocean. More than 300 dolphins have been found dead on the beaches of the Mid Atlantic due to the morbillivirus outbreak. Please take a moment and view the latest information on the outbreak and information on what to do if you find a stranded or [deceased dolphin on our shores](#)



Congratulations to HUPS member Keith Monroe

Submitted by Jesse Cancelmo

Were you guys aware that HUPs member “Keith Monroe” of Lake Charles, LA won the grand prize of the 2013 Ocean View Photo Contest? His winning photo is on the front cover of the latest [Alert Diver magazine](#). His work is very impressive! Let’s congratulate him!

HUPS Workshop – November 9th Lightroom 5 Round Table

Submitted by Greg Grimes

Join us on November 9th at [Bayland Community Center](#) from 8:00 a.m. – 12: 30 p.m. as we review and discuss some of the new features of the photo processing Lightroom software and its latest release, Version 5. The discussion will be an open forum with plenty of time for questions and answers. As I mentioned in my article a few months back, there are some wonderful new features in Lightroom 5 that should be very helpful if not time saving for working on your images.

Some of the new features include:

- 1) You can now add video right in Lightroom 5.
- 2) Spot removal has been enhanced... great for backscatter.
- 3) The radiance filter has also been enhanced to add or decrease exposure on your images.
- 4) Lens correction has been upgraded to correct lens distortion.

These are just a few of the new features that will be discussed. Come to the workshop, bring you coffee and we will review these and more. Signup sheet will be available at the next few meetings and online at the [HUPS website](#).



A Diving Story & Some from the "Old Salt" (John Anderson)

I have some stories concerning the sport of SCUBA diving that took place around 1958 that was before the Sea View Pressure Gauge & the Buoyancy Compensator. The story takes place in San Carlos Mexico. One reason was that I and my wife Lee and my kids Donna, Kenneth and Karen went to that area for over ten years from 2 weeks to 4 weeks every year.

We had a 17 foot Glastron fiberglass cabin cruiser that was a very good boat for our family because of its stability and roominess that also was good for carrying lots of camping and diving equipment. I was still trying to take still & moving pictures with interim equipment such as an Argus c-3 and a Cannon 8 MM movie camera with my homemade plastic housings. Being this area was not close to any stores or eating establishments so we had to rely on my spear fishing for our daily main meal. If we drove a total of 30 miles one way we were able to buy some ice but we tried not to do that very often.

Memory one:

I was diving with my friend Fred Brooks near the town of Guaymas Mexico which was about 30 miles from San Carlos where we were camping. The actual place we were at was a place called the "Haystack". I don't know if that was the real name but Fred Brooks called it that so this is my story. We both were using SCUBA but we rarely saw each other when we were spear fishing due to the dangers involved. I had built a spear gun with an aluminum reel that held about 100 foot of 300 pound line. I have seen Roster fish before but never close enough to spear because they move so quickly. They move constantly so fast that you have to almost have the spear gun actually on target when you would see them because they were gone almost immediately. I had just seen a roster fish when it swam into a wall of Hammerhead sharks that were moving through the area. Usually when that happens all spear fishing stops. For there were hundreds and hundreds of small to large sharks moving in a single direction but in not any great hurry. My roster fish seeing these sharks made a hasty retreat that brought it closer to me. I usually would not have shot the roster fish under these circumstances but being young and looking for a fish for our dinner I thought oh what the hell and shot the Roster fish. My fish pulled me directly through the wall of Hammerheads with the speed of a Corvette. I was being pulled so fast that my mask started to compress on my face and my snorkel vibrating forward and backward. The Hammerheads must have thought that some big animal was going to eat them for they made a hasty retreat creating a large hole that the fish pulled me through, I started releasing the line from my reel while trying to pull the fish in a different direction towards the surface. After it seem like a week I started to make some headway while heading for the surface and to a big rock before the sharks got the blood scent from the Roster fish. At the rock I climbed up on the rock and finished reeling in my line to my fish when my diving partner Fred Brooks surfaced and said you dirty bird for we both tried to get the biggest fish for our dinner meal. Fred had not even witnessed the wall of Hammerheads but he could not stop talking about the size of my Roaster fish. I never weighed the fish but when I carried the fish to my camp on my back its head laying against my head, its tail was about ten inches from touching the ground.

Some people do not like roster fish because the meat is not white but somewhat gray but it works when nothing else is available. I have shot large grouper fish in the past but they move more like a tow truck with power but not with the speed like this roster fish had.

If you read anything about the top fighting game fish in the world the roster fish ranks near the top.

Memory: Two:

I was in Vietnam in 1954 with the US Navy assisting the French evacuate refugees from the Communist held North in Hanoi. The French there were represented there by the French Foreign Legion. Every once in a while my group was given some time off to have some R & R. I selected to go spear fishing for a fish diner because the ships cook promised that he would cook my fish if had any luck. They have in Vietnam like a lot of areas over there the venomous "Yellow Bellied Sea Snake" which had just bitten a US Marine just a few hours before and had to be airlifted to a US Medical ship that was somewhere in the area so I was a little concerned then. I was free diving looking for a snapper or any good eating fish when I spotted a sea shell which is called a "Cats Eye". This sea shell operculum covers the foot when it feels endangered by withdrawing the foot into the shell with closing its opening with its operculum. This "Cats Eye" is much desired for its beauty but it is also used in women s jewelry. I swam to the back of this small cave when I saw to my left a small snapper dive into another chamber that was just to my left and below. There was sunlight filtering up from the bottom of this cave so I knew I could dive into that chamber that would lead me out into ocean. I had with me my trusty US Divers Arbaletes spear gun so I started the dive but when I got down into the chamber the small snapper just disappeared but also the light source. After a long time which I kept wondering what had caused the sunlight to disappear.

A huge grouper moved slightly so I then knew the reason. I could not turn around and retrace my way because there was not enough room. I thought the only way was to squeeze through the opening where the big grouper was. The Grouper was in the 1,000 pound range which I saw in Mexico years later. I made my move to get through the opening with the grouper there but as I approached the exit the Grouper just swam away. That day I did find some Flounder fish that ships cook really outdid himself with a great meal. Additional information concerning the "Yellow Bellied Sea Snake". They occur in many areas in that part of the world but they also occur in the Gulf of California in Mexico. I do know that when a wind blows for days in a certain direction the "Pacific Man of war jelly fish" show up and also "Yellow Bellied Sea Snakes" also arrive. I know this happens because I captured the Yellow Bellied Sea snake with a butterfly net and sold it alive to the "Alligator Farm".

Memory Three:

While in Vietnam in 1954 I was on another R.R. which they called a Beer Run. The U.S. would not allow its crew to drink beer on board ship so they would take us to a small uninhabited island at random from time to time for a Beer Run. I was not excited about the taste of beer so I would always take my fins & mask and look at the creatures that were present there. I had a friend Calvin Towler that did not like beer either so I said why we don't swim around this small island. I thought it could not be much larger than a football field. Boy was I wrong for after we had swam nearly an hour we started having trouble in making any head way because the tide was changing and it was almost impossible to make any headway except by pulling yourself forward on the rocks. We were started to be worry because our Beer run Party was probably winding down & would be heading back to our ship when we saw a small sandy cove that was headed in the direction of our Beer Run Party. We swam as far as we could but we had no shoes to walk through the jungle with its sounds that were common place. We took our fins and beat the ground before we would take a step because there were co-bras there. After much banging on the ground we finally made it to the water where we saw the Beer Run Party breaking up and getting into our LCM boats that would go back to our ship. We made a big mistake that day estimating the size of the island and not notifying anyone that we were going to swim around the island. They would probably would not miss us for at least for a day before sending out a search party for us.

Memory Four:

This is not a diving story but it also is a true story in Korea during the UN Police Action. When at Incheon at night I would see the flashes of a Battle Ship that was probably 18 Miles away firing their big 18" guns and plastering the mountain sides beyond the Incheon harbor. On one occasion during the daylight hours I watched with fascination as the projectile from a battle ship passed overhead and they sounded like swishing of air and the projectile looked more like a big trash can. We had an air raid about every night and then sometimes there would be an airplane that we called "Bed Check Charlie" that would fly into our air space and drop bombs or even sometimes hand grenades. I was an Assault Boat Coxswain then operating a LCVP "Landing Craft Vehicle Personnel" taking troops and cargo from my ship the USS Calvert APA 32 to a wooden very large pier that we were unloading our supplies on. The pier was a sloping pier with most of it underwater because of the tremendous tide change which has one of the biggest tidal change in the world which is just under 30 feet. I had made a trip to bring troops & some cargo onto the wooden pier when one of my shipmates had just landed his LCVP next to me was taking the tide problem as a joke. When I backed my LCVP off the pier and headed back to my ship for another load, I yelled don't stay there to long or you are going to get stuck. When I returned he was still there but now his boat was about ten feet up on dry land. I went back to my ship to get another load but now my ship mate's boat was almost 60 feet up on the wooden pier. On my return to my ship for another load, my commanding officer said for me to pack my sea bag for I was going to have to stay with the LCVP for over a month. Because my ship was going to Hong Kong China for R.R. I said I did not lose my boat to the officer which he said "We are not going to trust that coxswain again". With my sea bag I headed back to the port and off loaded my sea bag and another coxswain took my boat back to the Calvert. I did not mention that this was in the winter in Korea and the US Navy did not have any decent cold weather clothing to keep you warm in this frigid cold area so I had made do whatever I could find. For example I had on long underwear with a trapdoor, two extra shirts on and a sheep skin leather jacket, two pairs of mukluks which are like a heavy sock with a leather sole and with lots of newspaper for insulation for my rubber goulashes for my feet, a Siberian Piss Cutter hat the type the North Koreans wore with some quilted pants an loads & loads of newspaper for insulation everywhere. I also wore my life jacket with my battle helmet so I did resembled some sort of a naval person. I went and found where I was going to have to stay for over a month that was on an LSU "Landing Ship Utility" that was setting at almost 90 degrees on a mud bank because the tide was out. I asked the person that was in charge how do you sleep like that at that angle which he answered "you climb on to your bed rack and wrap your arms around a steel Stanton & pray. I was not very excited about that and the cold climate that was everywhere that seemed to consume everything except for what next happens. I decided to see what this area was all about so I walked from the pier up a street which most of the building were destroyed but I saw a sign which I could not believe that said beer 50 cents. I don't care for beer but I thought oh what the heck & walked into the building. When I entered the room four men jumped behind their musical instruments and started playing some kind of music.

The room was warm which was worth all of the money that I had in my pocket when some girls came running out from a door and asked if I wanted to dance for ten dances for a dollar?

I said sure & started to peel off all of my newspaper and combination of different uniforms. After drinking one beer and dancing to 10 different pieces of music which I could not really understand I forgot about the war for over an hour and then I thought things were going to get better so I started in dressing with my unique uniform to keep warm just as two soldiers came in and their stares seemed to say what service is this guy in for all of the different types of cloths and newspaper for my insulation. After finishing my dressing I headed back to the pier where I could see the USS Calvert getting up steam to getting underway. I looked around for any help when I saw a large flat barge with a huge crane that was about 100 feet away. I asked the barge man if he could just drag my boat down the wooden pier and into to the water. He mumbled that he did not think he could but would give it a try. Finally he started to make some headway foot by foot but not fast because he would damage the boat hull. Finally in the water but looking out at sea the Calvert was getting underway. I floored my LCVP to its top speed which was about 14 knots and headed towards the Calvert that was now a few miles at sea with me blowing my boats horn in trying to get its attention. Finally the ship did not decrease its speed but lowered the davits hooks which I connected to and was brought aboard. Needless to say I did not look forward to sleeping on a bed rack that was almost at a 90 degree angle and also the food that I saw at the LSU did not appear to be in my best interest.

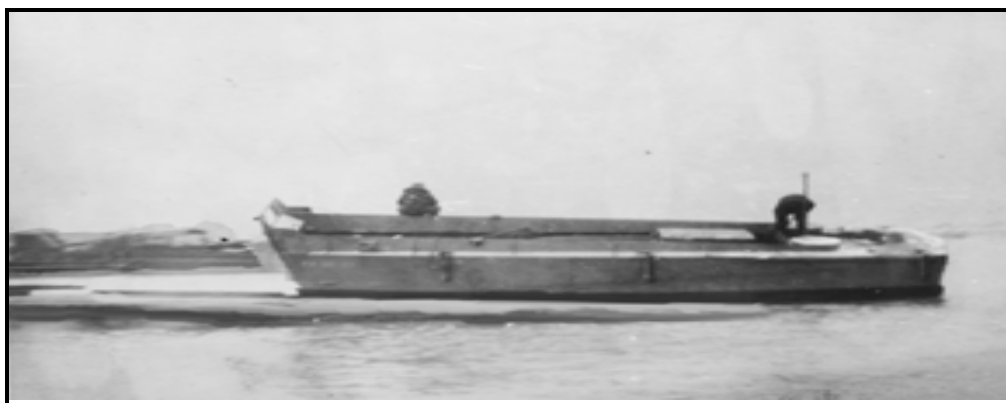
Memory Five

While at sea I have been in Tidal Waves and Typhoons but have never been sea sick. While operating off the coast Of Korea aboard the Calvert APA 32 we were having an extremely rough sea. The sea was so rough that day that our eating food trays would actually slide from time to time while we were eating. I remember that breakfast meal like it was yesterday. We had cold cereal with milk, corn beef hash & a hardboiled egg. The Navy always advertised on its breakfast menu that they would be serving soft boiled eggs but in all of my years in the US Navy I never saw a soft boiled egg only hard boiled. I remember eating the cold cereal that morning but I would never looked closely into my cereal bowl because the weevils were always doing the dog paddle across my bowl. That was the norm after being at sea for an extended time. The weevils were so small that if you did not look into the bowl you would never know they were there. I had just finished my cereal & cracked the hardboiled egg & out of the corner of eye I noticed that there was a somewhat of a unborn baby chick in the egg. I immediately took my empty cereal bowl & placed it over the egg. At that very moment our ship's bow drove deep into a giant wave pushing the ship's bow almost straight up causing my food tray to move directly in front of a soldier that was setting on my right. The soldier must have seen the unborn chick in the egg that I had just discovered because be immediately upchucked his entire breakfast on to my tray with all of the noises that go along with that procedure. . Almost magically the tray slide back in front of me when the ship finally righted itself. At that moment I decided that my breakfast had ended because I felt a little out of sorts.

I was recently talking to my old Navy Buddy Calvin Towler about this incident that worked in the area that made salads, in the spud locker and he said that he saw a shipping crate label that the eggs came in and had dates that were over six years old.

"The Old Salt" John A. Anderson

A picture of the LCVP that was high up on the pier but it became even more landlocked,





2013
Meetings

Meetings & Presentations

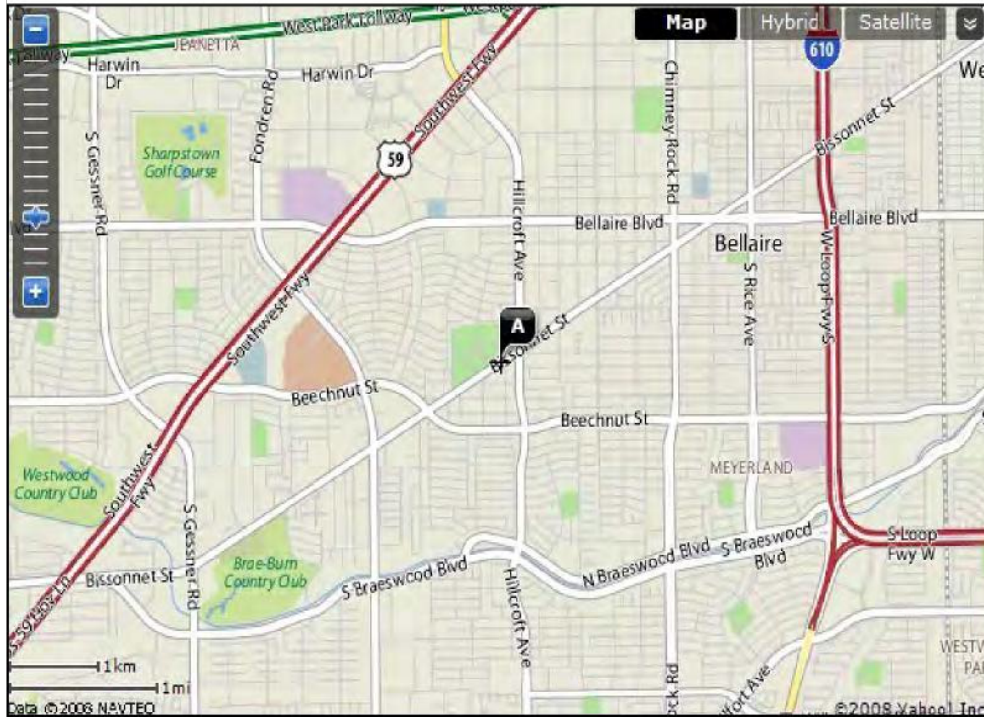
Month	Date	Presenter	Show Title & Synopsis	Contest Topic
January	7th	Variety	New Year New Ideas for HUPS	Eels
February	4th	Terry Moore	Fiji – Bega Lagoon Dive Resort	Wide Angle Wrecks
March	4th	Ken Knezick	Diving Successfully with Underwater Cam-era & Strategies to Prevent Flooding	Starfish
April	1st	Jackie, Mary Lou Reid, Dennis Deavenport	Ambon	Cephalopods (octopi, squid, cuttlefish, nautilus)
May	6th	Clint Moore	Yap Mantas	Schools of Fish
June	3rd	Kandace and Jim Heimer, Monica Losey	Africa/Arctic–Polar Bears	Syngnathidae (pipefish & seahorses)
July	8th	Ken Knezick	Diving The Best of What's Left	Silhouettes
August	5th	Dennis D. & Terry M.	Diving Florida	Sharks & Rays
September	9th	Variety	Gear Night– Bring in your Camera Systems for Tips	Juveniles of Any Species
October	7th	Tom Collier	Raja Ampat	Ugly Critters
November	5th	HUPS Members	Club Trip Review	Close-Focus/Wide Angle
December	2nd	HUPS Members	HUPS Christmas Party	Best of HUPS & Creative



*The Houston Underwater Photographic Society meets
at the Bayland Community Center starting at 7:00 PM.
(Social time begins at 6:45)*

(6400 Bissonnet, near the Hillcroft intersection)

Visitors are always welcome.



2013 HUPS Officers

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Vice President:

Terry Moore

Secretary: Tammy

Allyn

Treasurer: Tom

Collier

Membership/ Newsletter: Alicia Grimes

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Dennis Deavenport

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HUPS on the Web



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HUPS

P.O. Box 270056



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