

# March 2011

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Moody Garden New Exhibit
- Lifetime member Jackie Reid
- TGCC Banquet Recap
- Jesse Cancelmo gets magazine cover

# Underwater Images

## *HUPS March Presentation: Mayan Riviera and Cenotes*

By Greg Grimes

Join us on March 7<sup>th</sup> at Bayland Community Center as Tom Collier takes us down to Mexico to enjoy the sights and sounds of the Mayan Riviera and world famous Cenotes. Tom's presentation recaps the October, 2010 HUPS trip. Although Tom is the main presenter, he will be showcasing not only his photographs but also those provided by Kay Collier and Mike Greuter. The 13 minute photo/video show will include the resort, dive shop and the famous Cenotes. Tom's presentation will also compare the differences between diving the Mayan Riviera and Cozumel.

This trip was Tom's first opportunity to shoot video using his Canon 7D. He will hopefully give us some pointers on the 7D's video capabilities and what to avoid while shooting underwater video. We hope you can join us for what is sure to be an informative talk.

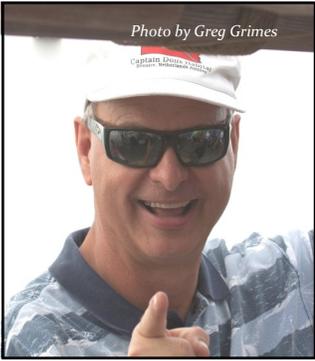
## *Jesse Cancelmo Takes the Cover of Dive Training Magazine*

By Alicia Grimes

The March edition of Dive Training Magazine features a cover shot taken by Jesse Cancelmo. This monthly magazine targets new divers, instructors and those who are active in owning dive establishments. The photograph, which is shown on the left, was presented in conjunction with an article about cave diving.

For those of you not familiar with Jesse Cancelmo's work, he is well known around the dive community having published several books that include: Diving Bermuda, Diving Grand Cayman and his latest work on the Texas Coral Reefs which can be found on Amazon.com. Jesse will also be giving us a presentation in July on photo storage techniques. HUPS would like to congratulate Jesse on his latest cover shot.





# Bucket List

I was at a business lunch this past week when my lunch time guest asked me for a recommendation on where to take his daughter for a college graduation trip. He said they were certified divers but they had not been on SCUBA for a few years. He then asked me what my favorite place is and what was still on my bucket list as a place to go. Well, this discussion could now last way past lunch and probably well through dinner. After all, what makes a real adventure? For some in HUPS, it is a chance to get that unique shot of a Mola Mola, or a sword fish, or a leafy and weedy sea dragon. For me, there are several things that just magically come together that makes a particular trip an adventure of a lifetime. The first thing that comes to mind, is how much time do you have for the adventure and what type of budget do you have for this trip? As time goes on, I certainly prefer a direct flight rather than multiple stops over several days. That makes certain Caribbean and even some Pacific trips easy on the body. But those are also the ones that you have probably done multiple times, and they can lose their flavor after a while. The next thing to ponder about an adventure is: what do you want out of it? Do you want top side beauty as well as the underwater diversity of creatures? Adventure trips can really be action packed when there is a variety of things to see and do before, during, and after a dive. Waterfalls, mountain vistas, and gorgeous sunsets overlooking white sandy beaches and crystal clear aqua-blue water can make for some incredible topside shots. How about the diving? I always ask the familiar questions: What is the water temp, how good is the vis, and are there any currents to deal with? While diving with these big rigs that we have these days, I want the best of conditions to help me get the best U/W photos that I possibly can. Then if you add in some big pelagics along with multi colored soft corals, well that just gives you a lot of picture possibilities for your next dive. But I find that the thing that brings all of the above together is: who do I have to share these experiences with? Debbie and I have logged close to a thousand dives, have had dozens and dozens of adventure travels together and we have met and made many great friends that have shared those experiences with us. The trips became real because we got to tell our stories and we got to hear our friend's stories all along the way. For that reason, I am looking forward to the HUPS Bali Trip in May. In HUPS, we have a bunch of seasoned travelers, competent SCUBA divers, incredible photographers, and really great friends. Over the next few months, HUPS will be looking at booking the next dive trip for our club. Please give us your input; let us know what is next on your bucket list. It can be something close and easy to get to like some of the Caribbean spots you have been to before or still want to go to, or it can be one of those locations half-way around the world. As long as we all still have some empty pages in our Passports, there are plenty more adventures to be had together. And when we get there, I'll see you under the boat, then come back and swap some stories with you later.



## HUPS Workshop Field Trip & Brunch—May 1st, 2011

by Greg Grimes

Come out and smell the flowers and work on your photography skills at the same time. Join us at the beautiful Enchanted Gardens in Richmond, Texas on May 1, 2011 ( Rain date on May 8th) from 8:00 a.m.—10:00 a.m., followed by a Sunday Brunch. [The Enchanted Gardens](#) is a wonderful place to photograph not only the flowers and butterfly's but if you are looking to improve your macro skills there is sure to be plant friendly insects to try to capture as well.



Once we have completed our photo session, we will head over to David Lenderman's home where we will all gather for a morning brunch. David will be providing plates, napkins, flatware as well as coffee and juice and we ask that those who are attending bring a covered dish to share with your fellow photographers.

Details, map and signup sheet will be available at the upcoming meeting as well as the [HUPS forum](#).



**Tip of the month:**  
 Check out the following websites for extensive threads and tutorials for real-life experiments.  
[uwphotographyguide.com](http://uwphotographyguide.com);  
[wetpixel.com](http://wetpixel.com) &  
[divephotoguide.com](http://divephotoguide.com). The search function in their forums can save hours of personal angst and testing.  
 Stephen Frink  
 Alert Diver Magazine

# Membership Renewal



By Alicia Grimes

Time is running short to get your membership dues in for this year. The membership will be \$35.00 for individuals and \$45.00 for your entire family. This is quite a deal when that includes 12 monthly presentations as well as specialized workshops, website forum and a monthly newsletter. We have three ways to renew your membership:

- Pay at the next few HUPS meetings in person.
- You can renew using **PayPal** this link on the [hups.org](http://www.hups.org/Members%20and%20Officers/Membership%20Application%20On%20Line.html) website: <http://www.hups.org/Members%20and%20Officers/Membership%20Application%20On%20Line.html> (PayPal is safe, fast & secure.)
- Print and fill out the membership renewal form from the HUPS website at: <http://hups.org/Members%20and%20Officers/Membership%20Application.html> and mail your completed form and check to: P.O. Box 270056 Houston, TX 77277

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [alicia@theworldinflash.com](mailto:alicia@theworldinflash.com)

# PHOTO CONTEST RESULTS

NOVICE	
1st	Jan Baughman
2nd	Monica Losey
3rd	Greg Grimes
3rd	John Van Atta

INTERMEDIATE	
1st	Mike Greuter
2nd	Jim Mensay
2nd	Kandace Heimer
2nd	Kandace Heimer
3rd	Debbie Mensay
3rd	Debbie Mensay
3rd	Kandace Heimer

ADVANCED	
1st	Jackie Reid
2nd	Tom Collier
3rd	Ken Knezick

Contest results through February 2011		
NOVICE		
1st	Monica Losey	129
2nd	Jan Baughman	108
3rd	Greg Grimes	103
4th	Bess Bright	100
5th	John VanAtta	94
Intermediate		
1st	Mike Greuter	131
2nd	Debbie Mensay	125
3rd	Kandace Heimer	122
4th	Jim Mensay	104
5th	Paul McDonald	95
ADVANCED		
1st	Jackie Reid	139
2nd	Mary Lou Reid	129
3rd	Dennis Deavenport	125
4th	Tom Collier	124
5th	Kay Collier	113





# Treasures from the HUPS Archives



Please enjoy this section of the newsletter which will be devoted to articles from the HUPS newsletters of the past. These articles are still full of great information that holds up to the test of time. This will be a continuing series brought to you from past and current members of HUPS.

## Achieve Article: Buoyancy Control and Photography – John Wayne Leek

Handling yourself and your camera in a coordinated, smooth, skillful manner is just as important as setting the right f-stop. If you are banging around the bottom you are not going to get good pictures and neither is anyone else. Underwater creatures read body language and respond accordingly. Herky, jerky, movements scare them.

If you are a beginning diver, don't be too quick to complicate things by adding a camera. Work on your buoyancy control. You must be comfortable and in control of yourself. It takes time. Unfortunately, it takes some people a lot of time. I believe it is only a matter of concentration at first and then it becomes second nature. But it is important to find that perfect balance so that you actually float over the reef effortlessly. Take deeper breaths to rise up slightly or exhale to descend slightly.

My dive master in Cozumel uses a very appropriate analogy to describe reef diving. He starts his pre-dive briefing by saying, "Be careful when you dive, if you're not comfortable with your buoyancy. Stay back from the reef. Each coral head took many years to grow, large seafans are delicate and have taken years to grow – some things have taken hundreds and maybe thousands of years to grow. You wouldn't walk into a museum and knock over a 5000 year old vase and just say I'm sorry - you'd be more careful. Think of each coral reef as a museum with pieces that took years to grow – one swift kick or tank bang can wipe it out instantly".

Before putting a camera in your hands, be comfortable just diving. People that are constantly balancing themselves by waving their hands around or bouncing off coral or the bottom are not ready to put a camera in their hands.

Underwater photography will become less frustrating and easier after buoyancy control is mastered.

## HUPS SWEEPS TGCC AWARDS

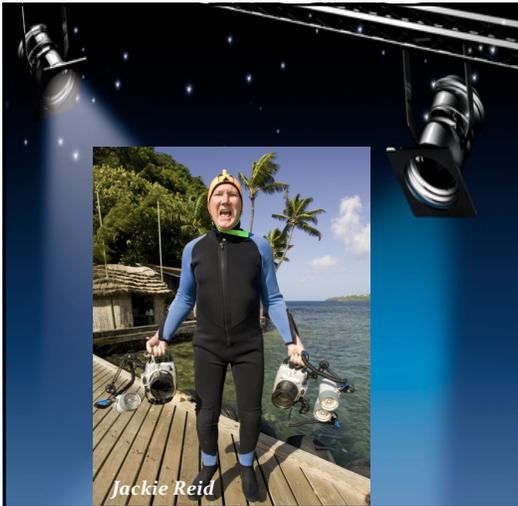
by Alicia Grimes

For those of you in attendance at the recent TGCC banquet, you were treated to not only to a vast array of wonderful food but the opportunity to witness one of our own receiving the Neptune Award. This is a prestigious award presented by the Texas Gulf Coast Council. This year's recipient was Dennis Deavenport. Dennis is known throughout the TGCC community for his support of the sport of diving while combining it with his love of photography. HUPS would like to congratulate Dennis on this most prestigious award. Another HUPS member that was a big winner is Randy Widaman who won two awards. The first award was from Lunar Fins and the second was from the Bay Area Divers in appreciation for all of his hard work (especially Trashfest). Our congratulations are in order for Captain Randy as well. Besides those awards, each club presented their individual awards to their outstanding members and HUPS was no exception. HUPS presented awards for Member of the Year as well as the Photographer of the Year. Member of the Year was presented (by unanimous vote) to our favorite lady behind the scene, Mary McDonald. Mary has always been known as a woman who gets things done and with her work involving the Moody Gardens display, the gift shop items and several other committees, Mary truly deserves this most honorable recognition. As previously mentioned, HUPS presented its Photographers of the Year in three categories. The first award went to Kandace Heimer for the Novice category. The Intermediate category was presented to Kay Collier and our Advance category (although not present to receive his award) was given to Jackie Reid.

We encourage everyone to show support for the Texas dive community by attending the TGCC banquet next January.



# Lifetime Member Spotlight



## Jackie Reid: A Tale of a Tiger Shark and Remora's

By Alicia Grimes

When divers are lucky, they may get to see a beautiful tiger shark and the remoras hanging on to him to feed off his vast array of knowledge and incredible hunting skills. For those of us who are trying to accomplish the skill and hobby of underwater photography, we feel we would be privileged to be a remora diving with Jackie Reid. I remember attending a workshop given by David Lenderman when I first joined HUPS. David stated that when he first started shooting photographs underwater, he followed Jackie around on a trip, not taking pictures, but just absorbing how Jackie works. David was so impressed that he started calling his photo style, the “Jackie Reid Style.”

We would all like to learn the “Jackie Reid Style” and can do so through his photography past and present. Before Jackie even put on pair of fins, he was capturing images with his AE-1 Canon Camera with a zoom lens. Photography has been an ongoing love for Jackie. In December of last year, Jackie photographed the Las Vegas Marathon and captured runners in costumes that included Sponge Bob, girls in tutus and reindeer ears and of course Elvis. Jackie keeps perfecting his craft by continuing to take pictures at every opportunity. Jackie became a certified diver in 1980 and recommends diving Grand Cayman or Cozumel, Mexico as it always provides wonderful creatures to photograph as well as blue, clear water. In fact, Jackie will be heading to Grand Cayman in March to photograph the Stingrays at the sandbar. I am sure we will see some of those photographs soon in upcoming advanced photo contests.

Jackie started shooting underwater with a Nikonos III and until this day, is a Nikon man with a D-300 in a Seacam housing. Jackie carries one wide angle lens, as well as a 60 mm lens for those up close and personal fish shots. Unlike the Tiger Shark, Jackie is willing to share his knowledge with us. His first piece of advice is, “The longer the lens, the slower you should go; take your time”. Jackie’s second piece of advice is to get your buoyancy down so you know exactly how much weight you need with each wetsuit you own and each camera setup with each specific lens. Jackie says, “You can look at most novice divers underwater and about 80% of them are over weighted. Look at the BC, it is a dead giveaway”. His third piece of advice is to grease all of your o-rings somewhere where you have great lighting before your trip. Once you are on your dive boat the lighting may not be as good. Do it at home where you are not rushed and you can concentrate. At the end of my interview, I always ask our member to relay a travel story we can all relate to. Jackie was spear fishing in the Gulf of Mexico 3 years ago; he needed just 3 more Red Snapper to get his limit. On the last dive, Jackie got two more and his dive buddy, Jake, got another when his buddy pointed at this computer. The third diver in the group was not paying attention, so Jackie and Jake started to drift away from him. Jackie carried with him a pony tank to do his safety stop and at one point was about ½ mile away from the third diver. Jackie took his time getting back to him to teach him to pay attention. When the wayward diver got on board he was out of air and had leg cramps. He has since become a better diver who watches other divers and stays together. A lesson well learned. Jackie says that he is willing to help other divers with their photography skills if they ask and that he has found lots of shortcuts that he would like to pass on. Thank you, Jackie, for your time in this interview and we can only hope to hang out with you to learn the skills you have so well accomplished.

## DIVE TRIP NEWS

by Tom Collier

**BALI, INDONESIA** \*\*\*1 available (male)

May 27 – June 5, 2011

- 2 nights in Ubud
- 7 nights and 6 days of diving at the all inclusive at Scuba Seraya Resort.
- More information available on the HUPS forum \$1,250.00 per person (dbl occp),
- Airfare not included

**FLORES – ALOR, INDONESIA**

June 5 – 15, 2011

- Komodo Dancer live-aboard
- 9 days of adventure diving in the Indonesian archipelago

More information available on the HUPS forum \$3,355 per person (dbl occp), Airfare not included

Ken Bean—Advanced



# Moody Gardens Aquarium Photo Exhibit - Year 2

By Dennis Deavenport

On Sunday Feb 20<sup>th</sup>, a group of HUPS members headed to Galveston and invaded the Aquarium at Moody Gardens. The purpose was to change out the HUPS photo display that had been on their walls for the past 12 months. This was the culmination of a project that has been in the works for almost 4 months. During this time, we collected image files and met to select the pictures that we would use for the two walls. The format is one wall with 20 "general subject" pictures and a second wall with 12 "special topic" pictures. Last year the special topic was sharks. This year it was seahorses and pipefish.

After the long selection process was done, everyone that had an image selected was contacted and given details on how to get the 16"x20" prints made up. Since Tom Collier had done such a good job of negotiating a special deal with Nations Photo Lab, everyone chose to use them to do the printing. When all of the high resolution files were ready, they were sent to our web server where Tom downloaded them to the printer. The results were excellent and all that remained was to get the group to assemble at the Aquarium to swap the pictures out and make it look real pretty.

It didn't surprise me that we had a big group of 12 people show up to help get the job done quickly and professionally. After a bit of talking about what needed to be accomplished, the group sorted themselves out into small task groups and got to work. One group was removing the old prints from the wall and passing them to the team that was taking the frames apart (mostly Kay, Bess and Greg) and removing the prints. Then another group (Jim and Debbie Mensay, Jim and Kandace Heimer) was working on installing spacers on the glass and assembling the frames.

When all of the prints were in the frames, a smaller group headed up by Kandace Heimer arranged the photos and another team (Greg, Alicia and Dennis) started hanging them on the wall, cleaning up the glass a bit, and making sure they were spaced correctly. Kay Collier had all of the labels printed and after the old ones were taken off of the plaques, the new ones were installed.

Mary McDonald, Sandy Bryan, and John Van Atta had formed another small group to get the matted prints organized for the Gift Shop. This operation has turned out to be a very nice source of revenue for HUPS and we hope that with John's help in keeping the inventory current, it will continue to pump much needed cash into our treasury.

During this time, we had a steady stream of people coming by to watch our progress or, in the case of Greg Whittaker and some of the Moody Garden staff, help when we needed something.

By about 3:15 pm, the job was done and we were treated to a special visit back-stage to see the penguins. They're cute little buggers but noisy and inquisitive. By that time, we were hungry and most of the group headed down to the sea wall for an early dinner at Fish Tales.

I want to thank everyone that participated with a special thanks to the people that served on the committee and the others that showed up to help us change out the exhibit.

**[CLICK HERE](#) to check out the HUPS YouTube page for a short video of the making of this exhibit.**

Mary McDonald (chair)	Tom & Kay Collier	Kandace & Jim Heimer	Sandy Bryan
Jim & Debbie Mensay	Mike Greuter	Greg & Alicia Grimes	John Van Atta
Bess Bright	Dennis Deavenport		

People with pictures selected for the show (in no particular order).

Ken Knezick	Jackie Reid	Mary Lou Reid	Bess Bright
Frank Burek	Kandace Heimer	Ken Bean	Jan Baughman
John Van Atta	Dennis Deavenport	Alicia Grimes	Greg Grimes
Mike Greuter	Mary McDonald	Paul McDonald	David Lenderman
Monica Losey	Kay Collier	Tom Collier	Debbie Mensay
Jim Mensay			



# Meetings & Presentations



# 2011

Month	Date	Presenter	Show Title & Synopsis	Contest Topic
January	10-Jan	Gary Harris	Still and video presentation of Whale Shark & Alaskan Eagles	Eyes and/or Teeth
February	7-Feb	Ken Knezick	Ten tips to improve your underwater photography	Seahorses & Pipefish
March	7-Mar	Tom & Kay Collier, Mike Greuter	HUPS Rivera Recap from HUPS trip in October 2010	Blue Water
April	4-Apr	Frank & Joyce Burek	3 mini presentation on Ecuador, Galapagos and a underwater recap of their HUPS trip to the Philippines in 2010.	Negative space
May	2-May	John Van Atta	Australia and the Coral Sea	Odd shaped bottom dwellers
June	13-Jun	Jan Baughman	Bali & Raja Ampat	It's only coral
July	11-Jul	Jesse Cancelmo	A Simple Approach to Viewing, Organizing, Post Capture Processing, and Storage of Your Images	Macro subjects
August	8-Aug	Jackie & Mary Lou Reid	Highlights from the Philippines & Cozumel	Sand & Muck denizens
September	12-Sept	HUPS	Recap HUPS trip to Bali May 2011	Patterns
October	3-Oct	Dr. Brian Tulloch	Panama- Dive Adventures in 2 Oceans	They come out after dark
November	7-Nov	Open	Open	Black & White (or Monocolor)
December	5-Dec	Best of HUPS	Christmas pot luck and Best of HUPS w/ creative photo contest	Best of HUPS & Creative

## Workshops & Education

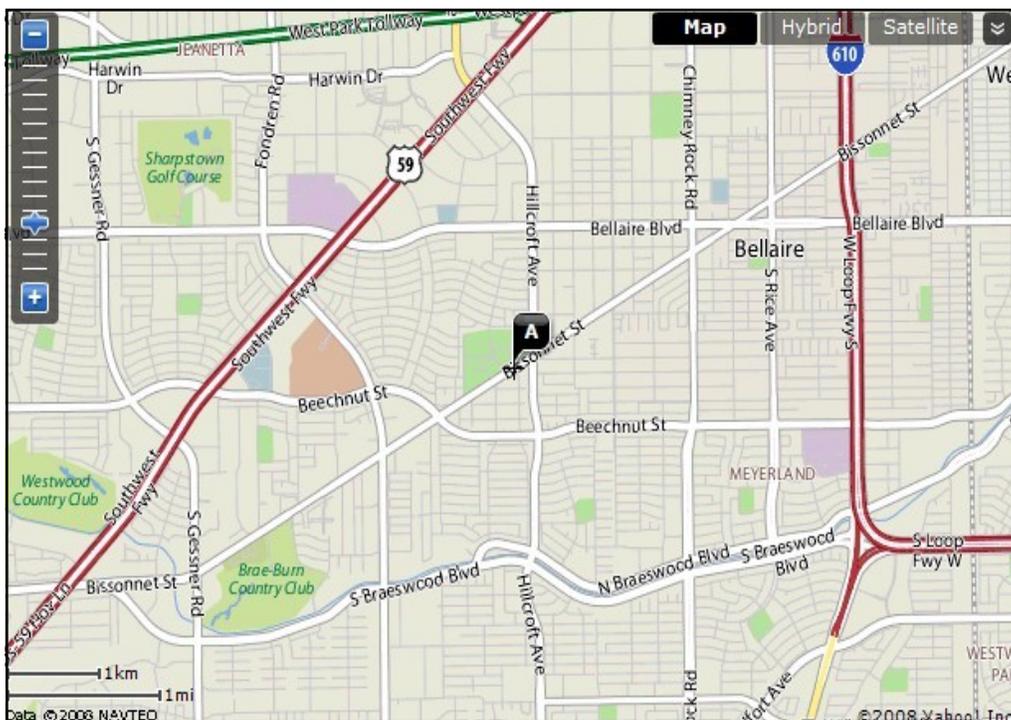
Event	Date	Instructor/ Leader	Online Info
2nd Annual—Smell the Flowers w/ a Macro Lens & Brunch	May 1, 2011	Field Trip / Brunch	<a href="http://hups.org/Workshops/Workshops/2011-SmellTheFlowers.htm">http://hups.org/Workshops/Workshops/2011-SmellTheFlowers.htm</a>
Dive Travel for the 21st Century	August 6, 2011	Ken Knezick	<a href="http://hups.org/Workshops/Workshops/2011-21CenturyPacking.htm">http://hups.org/Workshops/Workshops/2011-21CenturyPacking.htm</a>
Post Processing Basics: Photoshop & LightRoom	September 24, 2011	James Wiseman	<a href="http://hups.org/Workshops/Workshops/2011-Post_Processing_Basics.htm">http://hups.org/Workshops/Workshops/2011-Post_Processing_Basics.htm</a>

Keep up to date with all workshops at <http://www.hups.org/Workshops/Workshops.htm> and on the forum at <http://www.hups.org/forum/index.php?board=5.0>



*The Houston Underwater Photographic Society meets the first Monday of the month at 7:00 PM. (Social time begins at 6:45) The Bayland Community Center is located at 6400 Bissonnet, near the Hillcroft intersection.*

*Visitors are always welcome.*



## 2011 HUPS Officers

**President:** Jim Mensay

**Vice President:** Greg Grimes

**Secretary:** Tammy Allyn

**Treasurer:** Tom Collier

**Membership/Newsletter:**

Alicia Grimes

**Photo Contest:**

Dennis Deavenport

**TGCC Rep:**

Frank Burek / Debbie Mensay

**Web Master:** James Heimer

**Workshops:** Greg Grimes

**Trip Coordinator:** Tom Collier

**Historian:** Frank Burek

**Special Events:** Jan Baughman

## Board of Directors

Jan Baughman

Frank Burek

Dennis Deavenport

Henry Ragland

Mike Greuter

Kandace Heimer

Ken Knezick

Mary McDonald

Russell Ramsey

Sandy Bryan

Wendy McSwain

Mike Fernandez

## HUPS Board Meeting Dates

11-Jul

7-Nov

*Bayland at 6:00pm sharp*

## *HUPS on the Web*



<http://www.hups.org/>



<http://www.youtube.com/user/HUPSdotORG>



<http://www.facebook.com/home.php?%623!/group.php?gid=174168478778>

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