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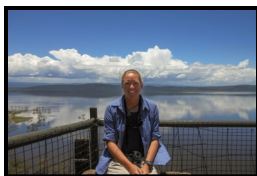
“Not all those who wander are lost”.

— J.R.R. Tolkien, *The Fellowship of the Ring*

HUPS Presentation: October 6th Bayland Community Center 7:00

East Africa – Above and Below

by Monica Losey & Dennis Deavenport



Our October speaker, Monica Losey, has been an active and valuable member of HUPS for a number of years. She and her boyfriend, Brett, have been on several HUPS trips over the years (Bonaire, Philippines, Bali) and she is currently serving on HUPS' Board of Directors. She brings energy and interest to any activity in which she takes part and from a personal standpoint, she's lots of fun to dive with. Like many of our members, she values travel and adventure as much as she enjoys diving. Her presentation is all about her vast interest in learning more about the world and what it has for us to experience.

In her own words...

After growing up an avid water lover, I became SCUBA certified in 2005 my boyfriend, Brett, and I could enjoy an activity together. I've had an underwater camera in my hand since my first "non-certification" dives in Belize in 2005. Originally feeling that diving was more trouble than it was worth, it wasn't until the first night dive in Cozumel in 2007 where the underwater night critters and activities got me hooked. I joined HUPS in 2008 after being recruited by Joe Nicklo and have since been improving both my diving and underwater photography skills thanks to the gracious members of HUPS.

While diving and underwater photography have been a hobby, they are really just an excuse to go on vacation and explore the world, which has been an interest to me since I can remember: starting with an 8th grade trip to New York City, Cozumel in high school, Paris in college, and study abroad in Germany for graduate studies. This desire to travel was the sole motivating force throughout my pursuit of a chemical engineering degree at the University of Houston as the field of study was of no interest. I knew that I wanted to travel and needed a career that could financially support such interests. Fortunately, my employment at Dow Chemical for the past 13yrs has been supportive and has enabled vacations to many places from Arctic Svalbard to East Africa, the topic for this month's presentation.

My presentation will take us on a cinematic journey of a 3 week adventure in East Africa. In Zanzibar, we'll see the underwater world while diving in the Indian Ocean, taste the spices renowned to the island, and smile at the endemic red colobus monkeys. In Tanzania, we'll walk through the forests and observe the behaviors and listens to the screams of the chimpanzees, see the typical villages and villagers, and visit the heart of the East African slave trade in Ujiji. In Rwanda, we'll listen to stories of the Eastern Mountain Gorillas and watch two groups in varying habitats, marvel at the lush countryside, and spend some playtime with the endemic golden monkeys. We'll end the journey in Kenya spending time at a few different safari parks observing the wild variety of animals. Come join us for adventure that serves to educate, inspire, and entertain, as Africa is not just safaris, desert lands, and ebola!!



HUPS Welcomes a New Addition

Submitted by Dennis Deavenport

For some time now, all of our presentations have been run using people's personal laptops. This has worked well most of the time. However, it is a bit like playing Russian roulette if the files being brought in by the presenter aren't properly recognized or handled by the computer. Most of the time we've used my computer which is starting to get some age on its bones.

Last month, it wasn't up to the task of running Mike Greuter's program and we had to rush out and appropriate Lance Glowacki's laptop for the show. Doing this at the 11th hour is never a good practice and we really couldn't troubleshoot some of the issues we experienced with Lance's unit. In the end, we kludged together something that worked (after a fashion) but it was far from perfect.

After the meeting, we went out for Mexican food, as usual, and had some time to discuss what we might do to head off this type of problem. Some of the ideas from those conversations were taken up by our officers and board members over the next week.

The consensus was that HUPS should own its own computer and have it configured specifically for our needs. At my request, HUPS is also footing part of the expense for a new calibration unit that will calibrate HUPS' new laptop display and the club's projector. It will still belong to me but HUPS has full access to it for its useful lifetime.

The new laptop is a mid high-end ASUS unit with a 15.4" screen, 8 MB of RAM, a fast AMD processor, an on-board (but separate) Radian video card, plenty of peripheral connectors, all operating on Windows 8.1. It's a sweet, fast, svelte machine with its own carrying case. I've just about finished calibrating the display and downloading all of the software that we are probably going to need and it's ready to rumble. One of the nice things about this computer is that it starts up in 2 seconds. I really like that feature.

Monica Losey's October program will be it's coming out party. Ya'll come. I'm sure you'll like the results.

Dennis Deavenport



HUPS' PRESIDENT'S PAGE- UPCOMING TRIPS

Submitted by Russell Ramsey

I want to encourage you to attend our October Meeting as the program entitled, **AFRICA- ABOVE & BELOW**, is being presented by Monica Losey after her recent trip to Africa. From predators on the plains to those in the oceans, this should be a very interesting presentation.

Your Board of Directors has tried to plan trips in order to appeal to all of our members but we need your participation to let us know what truly interests you.

We discussed in the last newsletters the advantages of travelling with HUPS. The Club has two trips presently planned. The first trip is to Bonaire this month which Jim and Debbie Mensay are leading. The second trip, our Spring excursion, is scheduled to begin in Virgin Gorda, BVI May 16, 2015.

Your BOD decided the Spring Trip, based upon your answers to the questionnaires submitted, will be a land based trip diving with **DIVE BVI** (see their website). Our accommodations will consist of two and/or three BR homes with air conditioning in the bed rooms, if needed, at the **Guavaberry Spring Bay Vacation Homes** (see their website). The trip will include 6 days of diving, an Underwater Safari Day, 7 days of breakfasts, transportation to and from the Dive BVI center, Welcome Cocktail Party & Dinner, Farewell Beach Sunset Dinner Party, and organized taxi service to restaurants we choose during our stay. NITROX is part of the dive package at no extra charge. An add-on trip is being planned to the USVI island of St. Croix depending upon the number who wish to participate. Airfares probably need to be researched now and decisions made whether to travel to San Juan then charter to Virgin Gorda or fly into St. Thomas and use a ferry from St. Thomas to Virgin Gorda. Air fare and evening meals at the local restaurants are not included in the trip cost of \$1995.

Presently there are twenty members or guests who have indicated they wish to go on this trip but we need deposits to insure both the accommodations and the boats to be provided for this trip. Those wishing to go on this trip please send your deposits to HUPS c/o Tom Collier, 3403 Salem Rd., Brenham, Texas 77833 or give your deposits to either Tom or me at our October meeting.

There were many of you who had earlier indicated you were also interested in a trip to the **Cayman Islands** using the **Cayman Aggressor** or a land based operation on Grand Cayman. Only one member completed the **Cayman Questionnaire** which is being left at the desk again for your completion if there is any interest in such a trip later in 2015.

Happy travelling and great diving.

Russell Ramsey



September Contest Results



Novice	
1st	Beata Lerman
2nd	David McCracken
3rd	David McCracken
Intermediate	
1st	Debbie Mensay
2nd	Jan Baughman
2nd	Debbie Mensay
3rd	Jan Baughman
3rd	Debbie Mensay
Advanced	
1st	Dennis Deavenport
2nd	Dennis Deavenport
3rd	Jim Mensay
3rd	Dennis Deavenport



Upcoming Events at HUPS

In the next few months HUPS will play host to an exciting new workshop as well as a Christmas Party both taking place at Bayland Community Center. Details below:

On November 1st HUPS members Monica Losey, Terry Moore, Mike Greuter and Dennis Deavenport will facilitate a hands on workshop on the GOPRO camera. The workshop will take place from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Old Community Center at Bayland. Signs will be posted for your convenience. Please take time if you have the equipment to review your camera's manual and plan to bring it with you. The host will give you tips for both topside and below.

I know it is not even Halloween but time is fast approaching for our annual Christmas Potluck Celebration. This year's event will be hosted at our normal room at Bayland Community Center from 7:00 p.m. and is being headed up by Jan Baughman. Time to brush off your best recipes!

Hope to see you there!



Story of High Security with submersible & other stories

Submitted by The Old Salt
John A. Anderson

Debbie Mensay—Intermediate



When I entered the US Navy I went to Boot Camp in the San Diego, California area . After Boot Camp I and a few others were sent to the USS Calvert APA 32 which is Amphibious Assault vessel. I was attached to this ship most of my active duty enlistment which was 4 year except when they sent me to different training schools. I was sent to Assault Boat Coxswain School and other schools which covered everything that is needed in amphibious type of warfare. These schools were taught at Coronado Island Amphibious Base. It covered different forms of communication, medical, explosives, and a raft of so many other things that I cant remember except how to waterproof a vehicle to be able to drive com-

pletely underwater. The only three things that would be visible on the surface were two pipes that were snorkels and the top of my head with my nose just barely exposed so maybe it we should say there were three snorkels. One of the pipes was for the incoming air to the engine and the other was for the engines exhaust. My barely exposed nose would try to get some air but that was questionable in getting a decent breath. We took a plain old rusty Jeep that must have been used for this purpose before because it looked ready for the scrap dump. I waterproofed the electrical wiring an any thing that might hinder the Jeep's underwater performance with a special grease which I put everywhere. The plugs, distributor, coil battery cables and disconnected anything that had any kind of electrical current usage like, windshield wipers an headlights and its heater. I got into my waterproofed Jeep an attached my seat belt so I would not float away in moving through the water. One saving thing was they put the Jeep's throttle on the dash because it would be more difficult to control the Jeeps speed using the floor throttle. I tried putting the Jeep into 4 wheel drive gear with the clutch and I have never heard so much grinding of gears which sounded like I was really tearing the transmission apart until I finally get the Jeep into gear. I slightly accelerated my engine and started to move at about 1 miles per hour an slowly entered my Jeep in to a little above 4 feet of water. I have been blessed with being able to hold my breath for long periods so I said, "what the xx" an I put the dash throttle to its peg which means as "fast as a could" which was about 4 miles per hour. The track that I had to drive my Jeep in was a circular track with high banked outer walls so you could not get lost in this small circular track. The visibility of the ocean water was about 1 foot so you really trusted the high banked outer wall to go through the circular track. We had rescue swimmers for anyone that might need help. I made it through without any problems but I don't see how. I must have looked like some sort of a sea monster for the big water wave that I was making.

I was sent to Advanced Amphibious Warfare School that had "water school" for I don't remember how long but one thing for sure my feet and hands looked like they were all shriveled up like dishpan hands. One day without a life jacket they made us wear our full clothing even our white hats and we had to jump into a deep large swimming pool from a high platform but we could not rise to the surface immediately because this was now a ship with oil burning on the surface. We had to rise to just below the surface and use a sweeping motion to create an area that was free of burning oil and then and only then it was safe to rise to the surface. Another day we were told to jump again from a high platform with no life jacket and were instructed how to use every piece of our clothing as a floatation devise. We even used our Navy white hat as well. The whole trick is keeping the clothing wet to restrict the air loss from escaping that your clothing now becomes a floatation bladder. The best clothing for floatation naturally were your pants and your long sleeve shirt which you both buttoned an knotted. Both of these worked quit well. Needless to say you only used either your pants or shirt one at a time. The clothing when completely wet you would captured air into the clothing by throwing it over your head by holding on to the pants legs or shirts arms. This was the only way that would work. We learned a simple way that is not hardly preached today which I will try to explain . Some people because of their body type are either sinkers or floaters. One reason is that muscle is heavier than fat but our bone structure is more important which determines if you are a sinker or a floater.

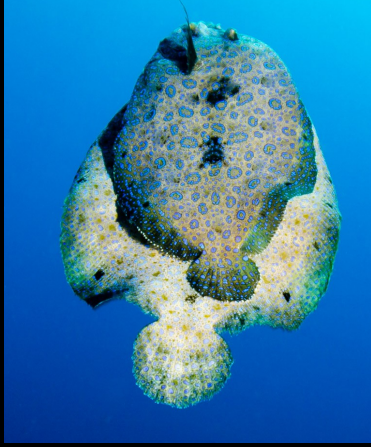
To find out how you can survive without any floatation device get into a deep pool without fins or mask an holding on to the side of the pool and just breath normally. Now remove your hand from the pool side. Do not try to float on your back but in an upright position and remain vertical . This will tell if you are a sinker or a floater. If you are a sinker repeat this exercise again but this time take in a big lung full of air. If you were a sinker then now you are a floater. The only difference between a sinker an a floater then is for you to adjust the amount of air that is in your lungs . With that in mind just adjust your air intake that will help you both if you are a sinker or a floater. When you are accustom to this you can lessen or increase your air intake slightly to bring you to a normal normal breathing rate so you do not feel like your are hyperventilating which can cause dizziness. This kind of knowledge can help you to survive without any floatation device in most situations for long periods of time.

While I am at it what piece of equipment do the seals, UDT or any of the other branches of the military service do not use in the water which every recreation diver uses all the time? Give up its the snorkel because you will have you face buried in the water and not observing your surroundings. In the military what is the most important piece of your diving equipment not counting a life jacket or some other floatation devise? Its your mask not your fins and that is why military people use a lanyard that is connected from you mask to around you neck. That is why you can't loose your mask when jumping or falling off a fast moving boat because that is what you would do. In the movies they show a



Story of High Security with submersible & other stories continued

David McCracken—Novice



They do this so you know who the actors are. If you loose your mask the operation could be considered a failure so a lanyard is so important in not loosing your mask. I starting using a lanyard over 60 years ago and I have never lost a mask which a lot of people that have been diving can not say. A slight deviation in my story:

When I jump into the sea with all my equipment on I don't have to hold my mask to my face so I just leave it at my side which is hooked to my lanyard around my neck. I have inflated my BC to a positive buoyancy so I just bob to the surface. I do not want to step on any ones toes or should I say fins but a good lanyard is also good when attached to your underwater camera housing that you can use when entering the water with now 2 free hands. Another good reason is when you have finished your dive or actually getting help when you reentering the dive boat what is the usual first thing a deck hand usually grabs? "Your strobe lights so I say again a lanyard to the housing is most prudent .

Back to my story:

On one of our days we had some time off even though we had dish-pan hands an feet we did not go to town to bars but to the beach right in front of the world re-known Los Coronado Hotel where some of the movie Some Like It Hot with Jack Lemon an Tony Curtis was made . I need to end this story because I have another story that I would like to tell you about.

My new story is when I had just less then one year left in my active enlistment, and your duty station is a ship going over seas, there is ruling that you must be transferred to an other duty station to complete your enlistment. I and some of the Calvert's crew members that I had went through Boot Camp together also were transferred to the US Naval Destroyer Base . We were told that we would be working in a high security operation an if anyone was convicted of this security breach it would be the death penalty and a \$50,000 fine. This state-ment escaped me because I would not care about the \$50,000 fine if I was executed ,would you? We could only talk about what we were doing while working but were cautioned not to talk among ourselves after our work day work in case someone could be listening.

We stayed at the Naval station for about a week while they were conducting a background check on each of us for a security clearance. After a week of checking our background, I and 5 of my team mates were transferred to Coronado Island Amphibious Base where we would be living on a "APL" which is a floating barge that was very big and had complete living quarters with a galley,2 with a big shop and 2 huge trailers that were actually electronic labs that would measure the radiation an all kinds of stress that this submersible would be exposed to in the explosion. Other people would join us later when the actual test would be done. Our submersible was not a submarine a very small ver-sions that monitored, explosion by photos, radiation and other items that were necessary. Our job was to provide complete security and anything else that might be needed in developing this submersible. Our crew were all seasoned sailors that were able to preform the tasks that were needed. We also assisted the scientist and others during this period. We used to joke when any one asked why we had our own private pier and had such a high security there ? We always answered oh we just a good thing on our own private hotel and do not want anyone to take it away from us.

Our group had complete authority in not letting anyone regardless of their rank into our private pier area without proper clearance and a badge. Many people were curious what we were doing on are own private pier. I can still remember a US Naval First Lieutenant trying to finding out what we were doing that would not take no for an answer and kept trying to see what was going on until I had to show him I really meant business with my 45 caliber side arm. We had to monitor its interior constantly.

We were not close to any place that was easy to get to and I do not remember any TV so I took out my frustration out on food. When I say food I mean any food that was not nailed down I would eat.

I believed I have covered about everything concerning this activity except the actual test, but that is another story. This story is about my travels throughout the orient where my ship mate, Calvin Towler and I would play pool in almost every port our ship had liberty in. Calvin was a much better pool player than I was but he would always say just before we would start playing pool, I will let you win this game today. But what usually happened was he would not knock his pool balls in but around the pool pocket so I without trying I would knock his pool balls in or even worse the 8 ball in and then the game was over.

Story of High Security with submersible & other stories continued

This story is about going to a pool hall in “Hong Kong, China”.

Remember Hong Kong, China at that time was a British Crown Colony and English was some what spoken, usually by business men but the general population had put a few English words in their vocabulary. When you get a street address or a name of businesses some times they were not 100 correct.

We heard of a pool hall and its address so we got to the address and it was a large many storied building so we elected to take the elevator to the floor that we thought had the pool tables on but as we got off the elevator the whole floor was a gambling area for Pachinko which I will call a gambling machine. Hundreds of Pachinko machines were being played by people that because of the numbers created a lot of noise . What was amazing that the Pachinko machines noise is made by the steel ball bearings being flipped around inside these machines . There were no pool table's on that floor so we got back on the elevator and went to the next floor. Eureka, this was the floor and there was no one there except a man an a lady that were the workers. We became excited because we were the only pool players there so the table was ours and that was good because there was only one pool table, but it was not like any pool table we had every seen. . I don't know if you are familiar with the pool table sizes this table but this one was a moose. This table appeared to be larger than 10 feet long. The table was so wide that your cue sticks well over 7 feet long.

The rake that is used for making long shots looked like it was over 8 feet long. I have tried to identify this table on the internet but I have had no success. There is a table that is used in some Russian pool games that is extremely large but I feel it was something English. Because a few years ago I saw another of these tables in Australia, and they could not help me with a name. This was not a snooker table with smaller pockets either, but had regular pool ball pocket sizes.

This pool hall was definitely unique when compared to any other pool hall because it had a “Cue Girl” . The Cur Girl's primary job was to chalk-up your pool cue before you made any pool shot, or in getting the pool rake stick ready for a shot. She also from time to time would put talc on our sweaty hands . “Hmmm”.

After we left the pool hall we met a few other of our shipmates and went to a nice restaurant for dinner . We had eaten before at this restaurant and the owner had remembered us as skin divers because we had our swim fins with us then and we talked to him about skin diving . The restaurant owner set down with us an said that he knew of an “atoll” where the center body of water was like a aquarium. It had outstanding viability an had every tropical fish that he had ever seen before and also with sharks an big groupers. He said that the only time when new sea life could enter was when there was a flooding tide which did not happen often. He said that the area seemed that it had developed a balanced ecosystem. He said that he was welling to take us there in his big cabin cruiser. We decided that this would be a great place to dive, oh I am sorry because that will have to be another story from the old Salt because I am running out of space for these stories. Remember I have never been sea sick in entire life and have at sea been in one “Hurricane” and one “Tidal Wave” so please try and remember this, “that I have more salt in my socks than you have ever sailed over”.

The Old Salt
John A. Anderson



Debbie Mensay—Intermediate



Jan Baughman—Intermediate

2014

Meetings



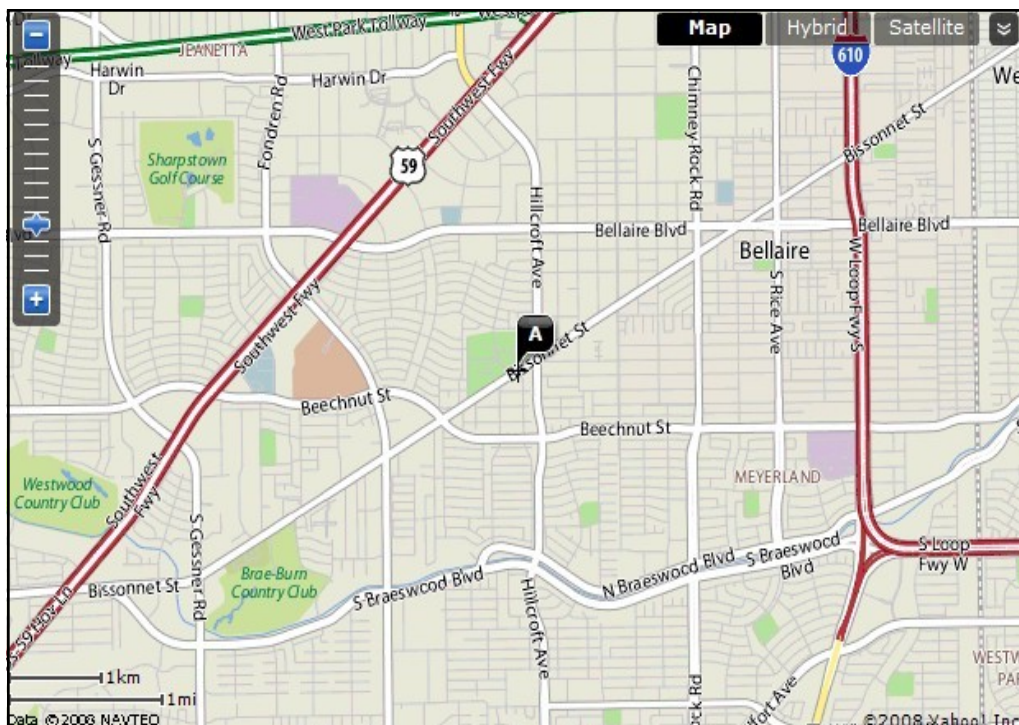
Meetings & Presentations

Month	Date	Presenter	Show Title & Synopsis	Contest Topic
January	6th	Jim and Kandace Heimer & Jim and Debbie Mensay	A Night in Alaska	Something that has Spots
February	3rd	HUPS Members	Bonaire Club Trip Extravaganza	Shoot the Face
March	3rd	Tom Collier, Mike Greuter, Dennis Deavenport	Exploring the Wrecks of Truk Lagoon	Things in the sand
April	7th	Tom Collier	HUPS & Moody Gardens—The Perfect Marriage	Large swimmers (> 4 feet) - not people
May	5th	Greg Whittaker	“ Life in a Pyramid ”	Banded/Stripes
June	2nd	Beata Lerman	Coast to Coast with Berta Lerman	Big eyes, Tangs, Triggerfish, Boxfish
July	7th	Ken Knezick	From Reef Scenes to Whale Sharks – Simple Steps to Successful Wide – Angle Underwater Photography	Reef scenes without diver
August	4th	HUPS Videographers	A Night at the Movies	Scorpion fish, Gurnards, Lionfish
September	8th	Mike Greuter	Saba & Dominica on the Half-Shell	Pairs or buddies
October	6th	Monica Losey	“Africa - Above and Below”	Anemones and relatives, Hydroids, Jelly-fish
November	3rd	Anilao Trip Participants	Anilao, The Philippines Club Trip	Single Color focus (Blue, Red, Green, Yellow)
December	1st	None	Food, festivities and Best of HUPS	Best of HUPS and 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.*



2014 HUPS Officers

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Vice President:

Dennis Deavenport

Secretary:

Tammy Allyn

Treasurer:

Tom Collier

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Frank Burek /

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Trip Coordinator:

Jim Mensay

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Jan Baughman

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Martin Daniels

Lance Glowacki

Alicia Grimes

Mike Greuter

Gary Harris

Ken Knezick

Monica Losey

Jim Mensay

Henry Ragland

HUPS on the Web



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



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



<http://www.facebook.com/home.php?%23!group.php?gid=174168478778>

HUPS

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