



May Newsletter

www.hups.org



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY



2019

Diving the Lembeh Strait

HUPS is privileged to have P J Campagna as our May 6th presenter. P J and her husband, Shon Corrier, have visited the amazing muck-critters in Lembeh on three separate trips. Her video, Diving the Lembeh Strait, was entered in the Gulf Coast Film and Video Festival and was awarded a win in the Special Class category. The same video was entered at the 5th Anniversary of Worldfest, the 3rd oldest festival in the US. It won the Platinum REMI award in the marine science category.

As she relates in her interview after her Gulf Coast Film win, the video uses 'footage' from all three trips taken by both her and Shon. Editing and production was also a joint effort.

At our request, P J and Shon will talk about how they took their video and show and tell us about their video gear, editing software, and editing/production techniques.

In P J's own words....

This adventure documentary film takes place off the coast of Sulawesi, Indonesia on and under the Lembeh Strait.

Exploring the underwater world in this bio-diverse ecosystem with animals who can camouflage themselves in clear view, scuba divers can observe hundreds of species with literally thousands of creatures that call the sand and reef their home.

I hope that all our viewers will enjoy this virtual dive and will continue to explore the beautiful blue sea!

Shon and I travel to many remote locations, photographing and videoing nature, focusing on underwater as well as topside vistas.

We volunteer for the Save Our Leatherbacks Operation (SOLO) a nonprofit dedicated to saving Leatherback Sea Turtles, the oldest and largest turtle specie left on Earth. We also travel to isolated areas around the world, working to save the ocean and all its endangered creatures. In addition, we have also spent over a decade as volunteers at The Aquarium at Moody Gardens, diving in the Caribbean Exhibit to feed the fish, clean the tank and assist the marine biologists.





President's Corner

I hope the FORCE was with you on the fourth and that you are going to have a festive Cinco de Mayo. A group of intrepid HUPS travelers are gearing up for the amazing British Virgin Islands (BVI). If you were not able to make the May BVI trip, there is still some space on the Bonaire trip in October.

- David Lenderman brought out Mr. Potato Head for a stellar and **educational** workshop in April - Thank you David!
- There is a very motivated group of HUPSters working on the Houston Underwater Film Festival, HUFF for April 18 & 19, 2020. No matter what you will not want to miss this event so make sure it is on your calendar. Thank you Betsey, Craig, Tom, Dennis, Jim, Joseph, Martin, Marty and Russell!
- Since our visit to Moody Gardens, Bess Bright has volunteered to continue working with their team to create a new HUPS wall of photos - Thank you Bess!
- And, this month PJ Campagna has graciously volunteered to present the monthly **entertainment**: Lembeh: Video & Tech discussion - Thank you PJ!

I will see you on Monday, and I'm looking forward to supper at JAX's. Remember, your **participation** in HUPS is appreciated.



HUPS Workshop

Moody Gardens Trip



HUPS CORE MISSION:

Underwater photos through Education, Participation and Entertainment

I sincerely believe that our photography brings the oceans to life for the public. And through our website, social media and Moody Gardens our work and our passion is being shared more widely than ever before.

See you at JAX's (6510 Rice Ave., Bellaire) after the meeting.

--Lorna Carpenter



Announcements

HUFF is Up and Running!

The first Houston Underwater Film Festival (HUFF), sponsored by HUPS, and scheduled for April 18-19, 2020 is officially open for submissions. The HUFF committee of HUPS members has met twice in person and has been very busy securing the venue, defining the film categories, rules for the festival, making logos, designing promotional materials, contacting potential supporters and so on. Thanks to Joe Holden, we now have a HUFF tab at the top of the HUPS home page that takes you to all the relevant information including a link to submit entries. Have a look and please give us any feedback you have. We will be reporting the status of HUFF at monthly meetings and looking for more volunteers. Go to www.filmfreeway.com/houstonunderwaterfilmfestival to see the details of the festival. Stay tuned!



HUPS Member Jesse Cancelmo receives Royal Recognition



A copy of the **Glorious Gulf of Mexico** now resides in the Windsor Castle thanks to my son-in-law, Chris Graham. Chris is a proud Scottish-American and has an interest and fondness for Queen Elizabeth and the British Royalty. About a month ago he asked if he could get me to sign a copy of my

book for him to send to the Queen as a gift. I did so in a heart beat. Much to my pleasant surprise, Chris received a thank you note, ok, not directly from the Queen, but from her "Lady in Waiting". For me, this was still a WOW!





Meeting New Members



A Visit to Janavi M Folmsbee's Studio

by Sandy Bryan & Dennis Deavenport

Several months ago, an article about Janavi M Folmsbee appeared in the Chronicle highlighting her logo for the [Houston Marathon](#). The article described how her love of scuba diving inspired her design. Obviously, because of this connection, several of us wanted to meet her. Jesse Cancelmo got in touch earlier this year and visited her studio which is located just north of downtown in the Silver St Studios. Jesse was good enough to give her a copy of his book, 'Glorious Gulf of Mexico' which she showed Sandy Bryan and Dennis Deavenport during their visit April 13th.

Instead of just an hour visit talking about her art, Sandy and Dennis spent several hours with her. They were overwhelmed by her creativity, energy, and enthusiasm. She works in numerous media types and is, in fact, often inspired by the ocean. She has painted large murals as well as wall paintings and has an extensive professional resume. Please take time to log into her webpage and see her work in more detail.



Several things became apparent during our visit. Janavi is not only a true professional but she is extraordinarily productive and has an enormous appetite for new ways to express her creative vision of the world.

She and her husband, Christopher, have recently joined HUPS and we are hoping to be able to introduce them at one of our upcoming meetings. Janavi dives with a camera and studies her images for inspiration. It's a scenario where we can all benefit.

For a better view of Janavi and her art, go to her webpage: www.janavimfolmsbee.com



Sunscreens and the Coral Reefs

By Monica Losey

A common ingredient found in sunscreen is toxic to coral and contributing to the decline of reefs around the world, according to research published in October 2015.

Oxybenzone, a UV-filtering chemical compound found in 3,500 brands of sunscreen worldwide, can be fatal to baby coral and damaging to adults in high concentrations, according to the study published in the Archives of Environmental Contamination and Toxicology. The international research team that conducted the study found the highest concentrations of oxybenzone around coral reefs popular with tourists, particularly those in Hawaii and the Caribbean. The study helped explain why scientists aren't seeing baby corals in many established reefs in resort areas. Oxybenzone alters coral DNA, makes coral more susceptible to potentially fatal bleaching and acts as an endocrine disruptor, causing baby coral to encase itself in its own skeleton and die, according to the findings.

Between 6,000 and 14,000 tons of sunscreen lotion winds up in coral reef areas each year, much of which containing oxybenzone. The damaging effects were seen in coral in concentrations of oxybenzone as low as 62 parts per trillion, which is equivalent to a drop of water in six and a half Olympic-sized swimming pools, according to the researchers. In Hawaii and the Caribbean, concentrations were 12 times higher, according to the seawater testing. Outside of coral toxins, the Environmental Working Group (EWG) had previously raised concerns about the chemical, saying that it may penetrate the skin and cause hormonal and cellular changes.

The American Academy of Dermatology, says there is no data showing oxybenzone is a health hazard and notes

alba Botanica products such as:

alba Botanica Hawaiian, Coconut Spray Sunscreen SPF 50

[Amazon.com](#) ~\$13 for 6 oz (\$2.12/oz)

alba Botanica Mineral Sunscreen Facial SPF 30

[Walmart.com](#) ~\$10 for 4 oz (\$2.39/oz)

DRMTLGY Clear Face Moisturizing Sunscreen SPF 45

[Amazon.com](#) ~\$20 for 2 oz (\$9.98/oz)

that it is one of the few ingredients in sunscreen that effectively protects skin from harmful UVA and UVB rays.

Sunscreen is a touchy subject, and there seems to be some major confusion when it comes to choosing sunscreens. For those who need a little clarification, there are two main types of sun blockers – the physical kind, like zinc and titanium dioxide, and the chemical kind, like oxybenzone and its many relatives. They work in different ways: the former blocking or “scattering” the sun's rays, and the latter causing a chemical reaction. Many sunscreens use chemical sun blockers, like oxybenzone, which trigger allergic skin reactions, may be hormone disruptors, and have been found to be toxic to sea corals.

Facialists will usually recommended zinc (a physical blocker), and agree that we should all avoid sunscreens that contain oxybenzone for personal health reasons. This is what the Environmental Working Group (EWG) has to say, “Commonly used in sunscreens, the chemical oxybenzone penetrates the skin, gets into the bloodstream and acts like estrogen in the body. It can trigger allergic reactions. Data are preliminary, but studies have found a link between higher concentrations of oxybenzone and health harms. One study has linked oxybenzone to endometriosis in older women; another found that women with higher levels of oxybenzone during pregnancy had lower birth weight daughters. More than 40 percent of all beach and sport sunscreens in this year's guide contain oxybenzone.”

Fortunately, there are some amazing and super chic brands out there that have created safe, non-toxic and chemical (oxybenzone) free sunscreens that actually work.

LaRoche-Posay Anthelios 60 Ultra Light Sunscreen Fluid Extreme SPF 60

[Walgreens.com](#) \$30 for 1.7oz (\$17.65/oz)

tarte Tartguard 30 Sunscreen Lotion Broadpectrum SPF30

[Sephora](#) \$32 for 1.7oz (\$18.82/oz)

MDSolarSciences Mineral Sunscreen Stick SPF40

[Coolibar](#) \$18 for 0.6oz (\$30/oz)

	Presentation	Presenter
January	Short Video Clips – Audience Participation	Tom Collier
February	Regulator Use, Care, & Maintenance	Dave Bullard
March	DSLR, Mirrorless, MFT, IBIS, Full Frame, etc.: what does it all mean for underwater photography and video?	Craig Beasley
April	Houston Police Department Dive and Rescue Unit	Sgt. Edward Godwin, HPD Dive Team
May	Lembeh – Video & Tech discussion	PJ Campagna
June	Solomon Islands	Eric Keibler
July	Diving the Red Sea	Morad Hassan
August	St. Eustacius	Mike Greuter
September	BVI – After the Hurricane	Jim & Sudi Babcock
October	Philippines – Cabillao & Dumaguette	Craig & Betsy Beasley, Tom Collier, Dennis Deavenport
November	Flower Gardens	Jesse Cancelmo
December	Best of HUPS	Martin Daniels



2019 Photo Contest Themes

Month	Themes	Description
Jan	Groupers	Groupers are teleost, typically having a stout body and a large mouth. They are not built for long-distance, fast swimming. They can be quite large
Feb	Seahorses & pipefish	Just like it says. Anything in the subfamily "Syngnathinae". Look it up and learn something.
Mar	Sharks & Rays	Not that you have to read all of this but it might be interesting: Chondrichthyes or cartilaginous fishes are jawed fish with paired fins, paired nares, scales, two-chambered hearts, and skeletons made of cartilage rather than bone. The class is divided into two subclasses: Elasmobranchii (sharks, rays and skates) and Holocephali (chimaeras, sometimes called ghost sharks, which are sometimes separated into their own class).
Mar Video	General	1 to 3.59 minutes
Apr	Schools of Fish	We're talking beaucoup Pisces this month. Lots fish... not critters, just fish. What is a school? Good question. Let's see if we can take a stab at it. How about 12 or more of the same fish.
May	Eyes	Any sea life that has an eye. Can be fish, invertebrates or mammal.
Jun	Juveniles	This seems simple but it's not always easy to know when you have a juvenile of a species. I'm really not sure I can offer you any good advice other than look it up or ask someone that probably knows. Anything that's not a mature adult is an operational definition. In reality, we're probably looking for fish or critters that are obviously still maturing. Good examples might be juvenile angelfish that have distinct markings or juvenile spotted drums that still need a while to grow into their fins. You get the picture (I hope).
Jun Video	General	1 to 3.59 minutes
Jul	Camouflage	Underwater camouflage is the set of methods of achieving crypsis—avoidance of observation—that allows otherwise visible aquatic organisms to remain unnoticed by other organisms such as predators or prey.
Aug	Macro subjects	The main subject is smaller than an orange. Can be a portion of a larger subject (eyes, fins, etc.). Should be taken with a macro lens or one that focuses close. Don't just crop the heck out of a picture.
Sep	Scorpionfish, Gunards, Lionfish	Another theme that gives you multiple choices of fish. This theme gives you up to 3 possible choices of fish families. So come on and submit a photograph or two to the contest.
Oct	Single color focus	Subject must be a single color or shade of color. Examples green moray eel, green parrotfish, soap fish, sharks, sponge, coral.
Oct Video	General	1 to 3.59 minutes
Nov	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 are not sure look in your fish id book.
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.

POTY Update

Since the submissions for April's "Schools of Fish" was not judged until after the April HUPS meeting the results for POTY through April have not yet been revealed and will be announced at the May HUPS meeting. Therefore the June HUPS Newsletter will have the results through May and showcase the winners from both April and May.



Join Us for the HUPS Almost Annual Trip to Captain Don's Habitat, Bonaire October 5 - 13, 2019

Depart Saturday, October 5 and return on Sunday, October 13.

Airfare is NOT included, but is currently available from United for around \$674 (basic economy) or \$734 (economy) per person.

The package includes: 8 nights accommodations, daily breakfast, 3 boat dives per day (8:30am, 11am & 2pm) for 6 days, free Nitrox for boat dives, 6 days unlimited shore diving, airport transfers, and taxes.

NEW this year - - end the trip with a beach bbq prepared by Sherman

** \$1155 per diver double occupancy (\$1485 single occupancy) - Deluxe Oceanview Room **

** \$1265 per diver double occupancy - Ocean Front Deluxe Junior Suite **

Additional costs not included: marine park fee (\$25), other meals, vehicle rental (can be arranged individually for pick-up at the airport, or you can rent at the resort after we arrive)

A \$100 deposit pp is due now. The final payment will be due at the August meeting 8/5/19. No refunds after 8/5. Make check payable to HUPS. Mail to Jim Mensay at 1530 Goodnight Ct, Sugar Land, TX 77479. Specify your room preference.



**Ocean Front
Jr. Suites**

**Deluxe
Ocean
View**



2019 TGCC MEMORIAL COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

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



The Texas Gulf Coast Council of Diving Clubs (TGCC) plans to award four College scholarships (1 @ \$2,000 and 1 @ \$1,000 and 2 @ \$500) during 2019. These scholarships are given in memory of Jack Allyn, Greg Grimes, Jean Himes, Anne Millioud, John Petty, Michael Szewczyk and Dick Zingula; deceased members of our dive community. They are also awarded in recognition for support of the TGCC Scholarship Program by Alicia Grimes, the Houston Underwater Club, the Houston Underwater Photographic Society and Linda Petty. The purpose of these awards is to support the members who support the dive clubs in the Texas Gulf Coast area. The awards will be paid by TGCC directly to the college towards tuition.

Eligibility Rules:

1. Scholarship applicant must be a college undergraduate or graduate student attending college in 2019, or a high school senior that has been accepted to college in 2019.
2. The applicant, the parent(s) (biological or through formal adoption), or the grandparent(s) of the applicant, must be an individual member of TGCC or a member of a TGCC member club with dues current in 2019.
3. Application (see other side) must be received by the TGCC Donations Committee prior to **June 30, 2019**. TGCC will review all completed applications on July 11, 2019.
4. Applicant shall have the high school/college furnish a transcript of grades, courses and class standing.

Scholarship General Guidelines:

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

Applications may be mailed or e-mailed to:

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



2019 TGCC MEMORIAL COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

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



Applicant's First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____ Phone Number: _____

High School: _____ Year Graduated: _____

Name of college to be attended in 2019: _____
(Please enclose a copy of the acceptance letter, or current college transcript):

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

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

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

TGCC Affiliation (member of TGCC or TGCC member club)

Applicant Parent Grandparent (please circle one)

Affiliate First Name(s): _____ Last Name: _____

Affiliate Clubs (TGCC, CHUM, HUPS, Lunarfins, ROC, etc.): _____

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

List any positions of leadership held by Affiliate: _____

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____



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!



HUPS on the Internet



www.hups.org



www.youtube.com/user/HUPSdotORG



Find us on:

facebook.

www.facebook.com/groups/174168478778/

2019 HUPS Board of Directors

Mary Daniels	Monica Losey	Jim Mensay
Frank Burek	Henry Ragland	Russell Ramsey
Martin Daniels	Tom Collier	Craig Beasley
Lance Glowacki	Joe Haws	Joe Holden
Mike Greuter		

2019 HUPS Officers

President:

Lorna Carpenter

Co-Vice Presidents:

Bess Bright

Dennis Deavenport

Secretary:

Tammy Allyn

Treasurer:

Debbie Mensay

Membership/Newsletter:

Monica Losey

Photo Contest

Coordinator:

Martin Daniels

Video Contest

Coordinator:

Tom Collier

Workshop Coordinator:

Dennis Deavenport

TGCC Reps:

Frank Burek

Alicia Grimes

Ja Van Pruett

Mark Leiserwitz

Debbie Mensay

WebMaster:

Joe Holden

Trip Coordinator:

Jim Mensay

Historian:

Frank Burek

Special Events:

Mary Daniels

Moody Gardens

Coordinator:

Bess Bright

Merchandising

Coordinator:

Sandy Bryan

