



HUPS Presents— Monica Losey & Her Adventures South Africa



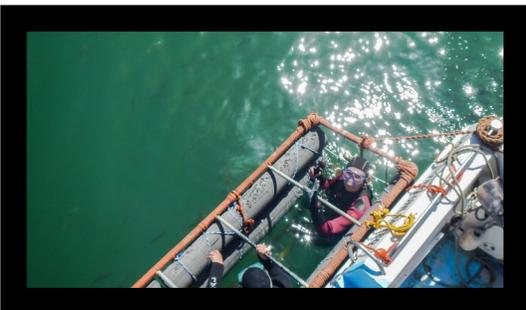
Join us on Monday September 14th as we are taking to the diverse land of South Africa. Our guide for this excursion will be a none other then the travel junkie, Monica Losey. As a preview of this presentation Monica has written the following:

Traveling internationally since high school and diving since 2005, I try very hard to get some diving in on my "topside" vacations and experience cultural activities on my "dive trips". While animals provided motivation for most of my past adventures, in more recent adventures I've been drawn more to what I can learn about a culture or

history of a region. I enjoy traveling as a way to educate myself, increase my tolerance, and strengthen my appreciation for how truly fortunate we are in the US. Relaxation is not typically a word used to describe my vacations!

When looking back at the last 7 years as a HUPS member, I'm grateful for the progress I've made in my ability to communicate to others via photos and videos my experiences and learnings from my travels. Just because not everyone is as fortunate or adventurous doesn't mean they aren't interested in learning about "what's out there." Through the help and motivation of fellow HUPsters I have learned photography skills and the computer software programs necessary to turn my adventures into fun learning opportunities for others. It is with this intent that I look forward to sharing with you my adventure to South Africa in our September HUPS meeting.

What was supposed to start out as volunteer work in Cameroon ended up instead turning into a South African vacation. I started by spending 4 days diving the Aliwal Shoal in the Indian Ocean ~35 miles south of Durban, South Africa. The locals love the excitement provided by what they have to offer for a diving experience, as they are known for large pelagic predators and a unique ride to the reef. I then flew down to Cape Town for a week's worth of busy underwater and topside adventures. Although the great white shark cage dive is what drew me to Cape Town, I ended up finding some of the other activities such as the Township tour and visit to Robben Island much more rewarding. Cape Town surprised me and far exceeded my expectations. I hope to share with you some of the animals, culture, politics, and history of the region in such a manner that you walk away learning something new and perhaps adding the country to your long list of places to visit.



HUPS' PRESIDENT'S PAGE- How Many Strobes Are Enough

I would like to thank Dennis for the wonderful Pro Show Gold Workshop he put on Saturday August 22nd. It was a thoughtful and highly educational workshop guiding us in how to create a photo slide show using Pro Show Gold 7. The workshop, in my opinion, was a great success with a number of members attending the presentation

We had an incredible CPR class. A great deal of thanks go to Mike Greuter and DAN Instructor, Carl Griffing, Jr. Carl was in charge of the practical application for the **DAN BASIC LIFE SUPPORT COURSE** which took place the evenings of August 6th and 7th in the Auditorium at the Bayland Community Center. If there is further interest in future classes, please contact your BOD to determine if we can schedule additional classes.

As HUPS makes many trips to Bonaire, you might be interested in the recent ruling by The Bonaire Appeals Court ruling in favor of Sea Turtle Conservation and other plaintiff's to stop the Government of Bonaire efforts to open the National Marine Park to commercial development by rezoning protected areas next to Karel's Beach Bar and what was formerly the Green Parrot Restaurant. The development plan is still not formerly dead in the water yet as the government may still appeal further. If you wish to keep up with developments of the proposed commercialization of the marine Park, ongoing debates and the rulings by the Bonaire courts, please go to: <http://www.savebonairemarinepark.org>.

The Grand Cayman government is also positioning itself to build 2 cruise ship piers (which plans have been in the works since 2000 but which plans have had several hic cups along the way). The Cayman Government recently obtained bids, let contracts and plans to go ahead with the building the pier(s), but a lot of opposition has now arisen. Local commercial photographer, Courtney Platt, the photographer who took so many pictures of the Hurricane Ivan destruction on Grand Cayman, is leading a petition opposing the building of the pier. The link to his petition to "Save Cayman" is: <http://www.change.org/p/save-cayman>. DEMA recently requested all its members in the industry to sign a petition to stop dredging of the Georgetown Harbor area in preparation for the construction of the pier which could possibly devastate Eden Rock, Devils' Grotto and reefs as far as Sunset House Reef. I would suggest if you are at all interested in this project, which could affect several dive sites in Grand Cayman that you follow the continuing stories of the possible pier construction, the opposition to it and the pros and cons being written by both sides on numerous internet postings.

The HUPS Moody Gardens Aquarium Photography Wall was removed due to a renovation project that will close the MG Aquarium from August 15th to Nov. 14th. As was indicated in earlier postings, the Moody Gardens project is a fluid situation. The Renovation schedule posted on the Moody Gardens site indicates there are 9 waves of renovation. The first is to close the Aquarium from August 17 through November 13th and reopen Saturday November 14, 2015. HUPS' plan is to hang the new photos on Saturday November 14th as the Aquarium will re-open from November 14th through August 16, 2016. (NOTE: the Penguin Exhibit will be closed from January 11, 2016 through March 10, 2016). We will continue to have discussions with the aquarium to determine what our next step will be after the August 2016 closing.

The **HUPS Fall trip to Bonaire** is scheduled for October 15-25th, 2015. Please contact Jim or Debbie Mensay if you are signed up to go in order to work out airline schedules as there are a few going and returning at times different than the rest of the group.

In last month's Newsletter, I wrote an article highlighting *21 Ways to Flood your Camera* or how to prevent camera floods from occurring. Now we know how to prevent camera floods, I thought we should explore camera strobes and how many is really enough, One, Two, three or none. I took an underwater photography class once where we explored using 3 strobes and talked about use of as many as 4. Most of us use one or two strobes. I found three too many and never attempted to use 4 of them.



Many bloggers and underwater photography writers feel you must have two strobes if you are doing wide angle photography to cover the entire scene you are trying to photograph. The general feeling, from all the articles I have read and the classes I have taken, is that with the use of dual strobes, you do not have the harsh shadows that one strobe can cause. The light is more evenly spread by overlapping light sources and color saturation tends to be better. Dual strobes are said to be more versatile as you can always turn one off and use the other in a single strobe application. What is the downside of two strobes? There is water resistance when using two strobes. Two strobes increase the chance of backscatter unless they are positioned correctly. You also may have two wired cable connectors which internal wires can break; although, the fiber optic cables being used are less liable to break. Two strobes are more complicated and cost more than one.

On the flip side many photographer prefer to use a single strobe. A single strobe can be handheld and directed to paint the subject with light at whatever portion of the scene. Many macro shooters use one strobe to actually create shadows to separate the subject from the background or use it close to the subject to fully light the area. Close focus wide angle photographers often use a single strobe to light only the subject closest to the lens.

Many of you know members Jackie and Mary Lou Reid. Jackie is famous for using one strobe. He uses one strobe for fish and macro photography but two for wide angle shots. His position is that one strobe is easier to manage, is lighter as well as less intimidating when moving close to subjects. When using one strobe, he can always reposition the strobe if he needs to eliminate harsh shadows.

Quoting Chris Newbert, the author of the book, *Within a Rainbowed Sea*, "There is no right or wrong in the choice of one or two strobes. Each configuration will impart a different look and feel to the exposed image and is best determined by the effect you want to achieve". Stephen Frink feels the same way when asked, "If one strobe is good, are two strobes better?" His answer, "Yes, maybe, sometimes".

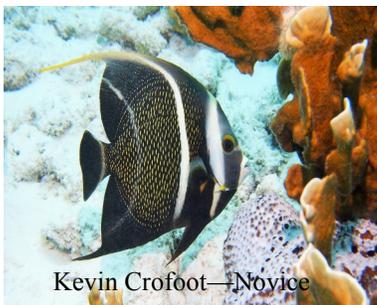
No matter if you use one or two strobes, it is still a matter of choice and how you want to light your photographs.

Let's keep on diving.
Russell Ramsey

August Photo Contest Results



Novice	
1st	Martin Daniels
2nd	David Mc Cracken
3rd	Kevin Crofoot
3rd	Kevin Crofoof
Intermediate	
1st	Lance Glowacki
2nd	Joe Holden
3rd	Bess Bright
Advanced	
1st	Mike Greuter
2nd	Dennis Deavenport x2
2nd	Debbie Mensay x2
2nd	Jim Mensay
3rd	Mike Greuter





2015 Meetings

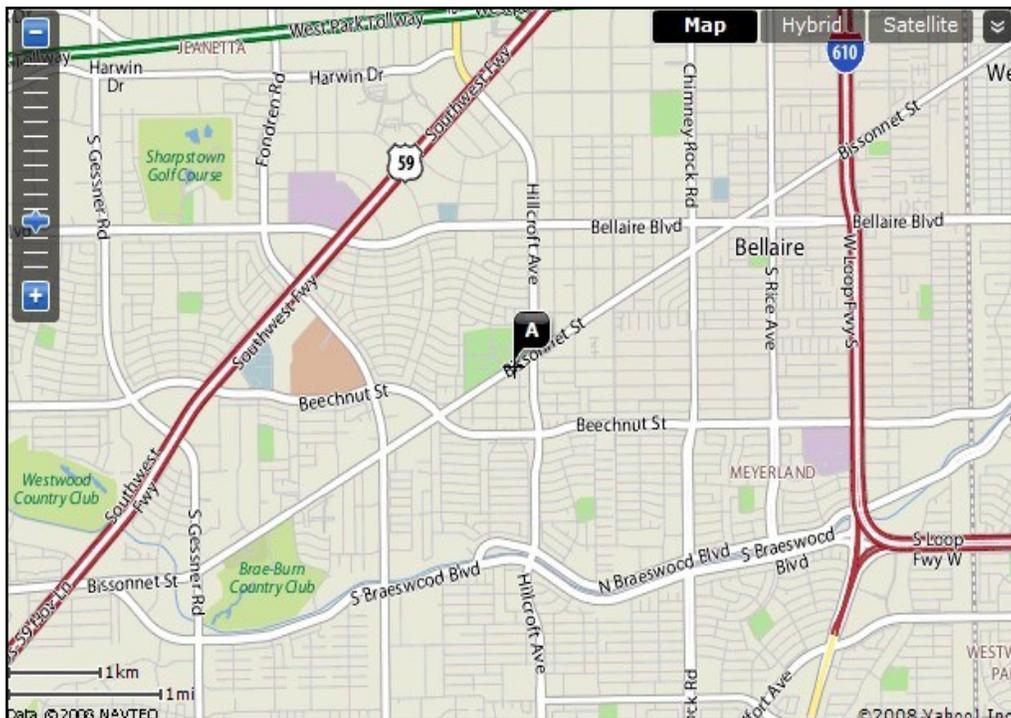
Meetings & Presentations

Month	Date	Presenter	Show Title & Synopsis	Contest Topic
January	5th	Dennis Deavenport	Costa Rica and Cocos Island (Okeanos Aggressor)	Two or More of a Kind
February	2nd	Tom & Kay Collier	Komodo	Toothy
March	2nd	Cecilia Clementi	Raja Ampat	Eels
April	6th	Bess Bright & Joe Holden	Underwater in the Bahamas	Gobies, Blennies, Jaw Fish, Triple Fins
May	4th	Beata Lerman	Gulf of Eilat	Long and Thin - Fish or Critters
June	1st	Mike Greuter	Mexico's Three Coasts	Patterns
July	6th	Ken Knezick	Don't just take photo's—compose your underwater images	Reef Scenes with Diver or Divers
August	3rd	Invited Members	My Best Shot4t's and Why I Like Them	Natural Light
September	14th	Monica Losey	South Africa Adventures	Unusual Shapes
October	5th	BVI participants	BVI Club Trip	Cephalopods
November	2nd		TBA	Night Life
December	7th	Christmas Party	Best of HUPS	Best of HUPS (monthly winners in Novice, Intermediate, & Advanced + Creative topics)



*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.*



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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>

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