

HUPS Presents:
Cecilia Clementi - Diving in Spectacular Raja Ampat
Dennis Deavenport & Cecilia Clementi



Join us at Bayland Community Center as we are treated to Cecilia Clementi talk on Raja Ampat. It's always a real pleasure for me when one of our newer HUPS members offers to prepare a presentation on one of their recent trips. Unless you've been hiding under a rock for the past 6-10 years you probably know that the Raja Ampat region of eastern Indonesia is about as hot a place to dive as anywhere on the planet.

Recently, I had the pleasure of having Cecilia over to our house for some lessons on how to prepare a presentation and how to do it using ProShow Producer. We had lots of fun with the program and Cecilia's intelligence and familiarity with computers made it super-easy for me. To put it bluntly... she just gets it. We share a number of common interests including diving, scientific research, and pottery so there was more than just ProShow to discuss. It was a very fun evening for me and I'm sure that her innate creativity and attention to detail will generate a presentation that will be exceptional. I don't plan to miss it and you shouldn't, either. Show up early and join the pre-party that we always have at meetings. Afterward, join us at Don Carlos for Mexican food and more conversation. See you there.

In Cecilia's own words:

About the show: I am going to present pictures taken during my trip in Raja Ampat last December. The liveaboard boat we were on was the Dewi Nusantara. We departed from Sorong (far western New Guinea), toured north and south Raja Ampat, and got back to Sorong after 11 days at sea. The marine life in Raja Ampat is so rich and diverse that it was difficult every day to decide whether I should use a wide-angle or macro lens. It seemed that there were always great subjects and opportunities for both settings on almost every dive. I started the trip using more the wide-angle as I was fascinated by the incredible sea-scapes, corals, and schools of fish. As the days went by, I found myself leaning more and more to the macro lens because the small stuff in Raja Ampat is really amazing. Soon, I started using my +10 diopter to get super-macro shots and that was a lot of fun.

My equipment is a Nikon D600 in a Nauticam housing with two Sea&Sea YS-D1 strobes. I mostly used a Sigma 15mm f/2.8 fisheye lens for my wide-angle, a Nikon 105mm f/2.8 as my macro lens, and a SubSee +10 diopter when getting super-close macro shots.



About myself: I am originally from Italy. I was born and raised in Florence and moved to the States 17 years ago to pursue my career as a scientist. I am a theoretical biophysicist and a professor at Rice University where I lead a research group. We model protein dynamics and try to understand its implications on biological function and disease. I travel a lot for work giving lectures or presenting my research at conferences around the world or at other scientific collaborations. In my (very rare) spare time when I am not working or diving, I like to do pottery on the wheel in my garage that I have transformed in a pottery studio. I have been diving for about 25 years. I started diving back in Italy when I was in college. I discovered tropical diving when I moved to the States and now I try to take at least a couple of trips every year to locations like Indonesia or the South Pacific. I am a diving instructor with Houston Scuba Academy here in Houston and I enjoy teaching diving and meeting other local divers. I started with underwater photography three years ago and I have quickly become completely addicted to it.





HUPS' PRESIDENT'S PAGE- Why Do We Travel

Submitted by Russell Ramsey

I want to encourage all of you to attend our March 2, 2015 meeting as the program will be presented by Cecilia Clementi on her recent trip to Raja Ampat.

It is hoped that the Moody Gardens Aquarium wall hanging project will begin in the next few months. The topic Moody Gardens requested are pictures of Nudibranchs which photographs Dennis, Tom, Bess or Kandace will discuss during the upcoming meeting. We now know the Moody Gardens' renovations will not impact the two walls HUPS uses until much later in the year and possibly not until August of 2016. Those club members interested in assisting in the removal and rehang of photos at Moody Gardens in the next couple of month or so please contact any of the four persons mentioned above.

A reminder that our first workshop entitled **Underwater Lighting** is scheduled for Saturday March 21st at Bayland which I am sure Lance will enumerate on at the meeting. The other two workshops this year are **Video Editing and Presentation** scheduled for June 20th and the **Pro Show Gold** workshop scheduled for August 22nd. There is also a Nature Walk scheduled to be held at Brazos Bend Saturday April 21st or a rain date for Sunday the 22nd. Unfortunately there will be no diving or underwater photography demonstrations associated with the walk as there are alligators present in the park. Please mark your calendars for these exciting workshops and the Nature Walk.

The **HUPS Spring BVI and USVI trip** is full but if you wish to go, please contact Russell who will put you on a wait list. The **Fall trip to Bonaire** is scheduled for October 15–25th, 2015. Please contact Jim or Debbi Mensay if you are interested in going and have not signed up or paid your deposits.

When I joined HUPS, I was aware the club members travelled; but I was unaware of how many places HUPSTERS had travelled to. I even wrote a President's Page on Traveling with HUPS and the benefits of doing so. I cannot think of a place on this earth that some member has not been. We have seen presentations from close to home and locations in North and South America, Africa, Europe, Asia, Australia, and Antarctica. Then I began thinking, why do we like to travel? Numerous articles, periodicals, blogs, and whole books have been written on this subject and I am not about to categorically state the answer to this question. The themes seem to be:

- Broadens our horizons
- An educational experience
- Learn a new language
- Relax and have fun
- To do something new
- Excitement
- To wake our inner self
- Or as one travel writer put it, "To lose ourselves and then find ourselves"

I have always thought that travel sharpens the senses as we tend to see things in a different light. Often we see things in the places we travel to through new eyes or through the eyes of others. When we travel we carry our values, beliefs, views, and prejudices which may give those we interact with in the parts of the world we visit insight into us, our hometowns, state and country. I believe travel changes the world we live in and those who coexist with us and those experiences while traveling change the traveler. Think of the memories you have from your travels and also the photographs you capture to reinforce those memories.

I cannot begin to answer the question but only pose thoughts as to why we travel. Travelling with HUPS has always been a great experience and I urge you if you have not done so to try and plan a trip and photographic experience with HUPS in the near future. As Rick Steves likes to say when he signs off of one of his travel programs, "Happy Traveling". I would like to add happy diving and see everyone at the March meeting.



Brazos Bend State Park

21901 Fm 762 Rd, Needville, Texas 7

11 April 2015 9 am to 9:30 PM



Come and spend a day outside with your fellow Hups member at Brazos Bend State Park for a nature photo walk. The link to the park's website is <http://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/brazos-bend>

Please note if you would rather do this event on a Sunday (12 April, 2015) instead let me know your preferences by email, posting a comment on this event or noting it on the sign up sheet at the next meetings.

In case of rain we will reschedule & refreshments will be provided.

Thanks, Lance Glowacki

Upcoming workshops for 2015

Submitted by Lance Glowacki

U/W Strobe Lighting usage tips & hints – March 21st 1:00 p.m.— 3:00 p.m. Bayland Community Center

Tom Collier will lead a work shop on how to setup your camera and strobes for underwater photography. This will be a hands on work shop so bring your rig. There will be several exhibits setup where you can practice what you learned in the work shop.

Video Editing and presentation workshop – June 20th 1:00 p.m.— 3:00 p.m. Bayland Community Center

Monica Losey and Terry Moore will be conducting a work shop concerning video editing and presentation. This will include the software used, hints and ideas on how to present your video in the most positive light.

Proshow Gold Tips and Hints Workshop – August 22nd 1:00 p.m.— 3:00 p.m. Bayland Community Center

Dennis Deavenport will be hosting a work shop on how to use the slideshow creation software Proshow Gold.

If you would like to sign up for any of the workshops you can do this at the next few meetings or on [facebook](https://www.facebook.com/hups).





2015 TGCC MEMORIAL COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

(In memory of Greg Grimes, Anne Millioud, John Petty and Michael Szewczyk)

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 2015. These scholarships are given in memory of Greg Grimes, Anne Millioud, John Petty and Michael Szewczyk, 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 2015, or a high school senior that has been or will be accepted to college in 2015.
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 2015 or on the HUC club roster in 2012.
3. Application (see other side) must be received by the TGCC Donations Committee prior to **June 30, 2015**. TGCC will review all completed applications on July 9, 2015.
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 must be mailed to:

TGCC Donations Committee
c/o Frank Burek
8448 Grand Lake Estates Drive
Montgomery, TX 77316



Around our Dive Community

Submitted by Frank Burek

TGCC's elected officers for 2015 are:

- President – Frank Burek
- 1st Vice President – Randy Widaman
- 2nd Vice President – Todd Hasken
- Treasurer – Mark Leiserowitz
- Secretary – Ja Van Pruett

HUPS member Randy Widaman has been selected to fill one of the “Operational Diving” seats on the Flower Garden Banks NMS Advisory Council (FGBNMS SAC). This makes three HUPS members currently active on the FGBNMS SAC – Randy (Operational Diving seat), James Wiseman (Oil and Gas Production seat) and Jesse Cancelmo (Recreational Diving seat). Jesse has also just been reselected for a second term for that seat.

TGCC's banquet was a success. Thank you for each of you that supported that event. TGCC also has released its 2015 Memorial College Scholarship Award applications. Copies will be available at our meetings.

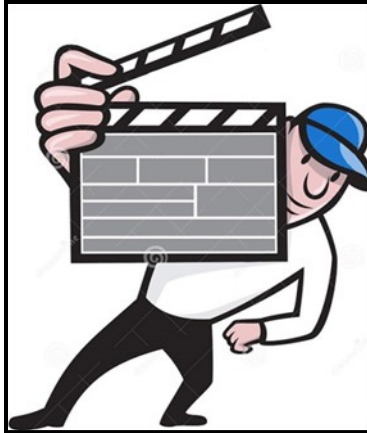
February Photo Contest Results

Novice	
1st	David McCracken
2nd	Allison Trout
2nd	Kiki Moseley
2nd	Martin Daniels
3rd	Allison Trout
3rd	Kiki Moseley
Intermediate	
1st	Lance Glowacki
2nd	Lance Glowacki
3rd	Lance Glowacki
3rd	Joe Holden
Advanced	
1st	Mike Greuter
2nd	Jim Mensay
2nd	Terry Moore
2nd	Dennis Deavenport
3rd	Dennis Deavenport



HUPS Video Contest – March, July, November

Submitted by Dennis Deavenport



Because everyone is going out and buying video equipment right now, we have decided to move it up another notch and offer three video contests this year. We'll be doing them every 4 months to see how much interest we can generate. If that works well, we will continue it in future years.

The rules are pretty simple:

- 1) All work needs to have been done by the contestant.
- 2) It is OK to use titles, music, special effects, and a few still images (as long as they don't dominate the presentation).
- 3) The topics are open to the imagination but they need to be diving related. Some topside video and images are OK but we are an Underwater Photographic Society so think "wet".
- 4) The shows need to be kept to 2.5 and 3.5 minutes.
- 5) They also need to be rendered in a format that is generally acceptable for nearly all computers. More on that later, I'm sure.
- 6) Entries need to be in my hands no later than Friday night before the meeting.
- 7) Once the entries have been submitted, I will forward them to the judges for their ratings and comments.

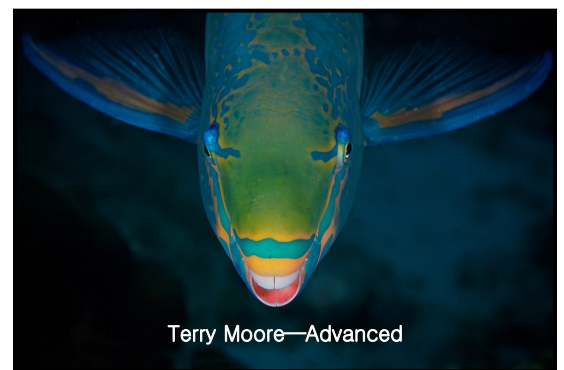
May the best person win. But really, winning is secondary to learning how to edit your video and make it into something that others will want to see. I will try to show all of the entries at our Monday night meetings. If we don't have enough time for everyone, then we may have to limit it to the top three finishers. Don't forget the workshops... we'll be offering FREE TRAINING for those interested.



Kiki Moseley—Novice



Allison Trout—Novice



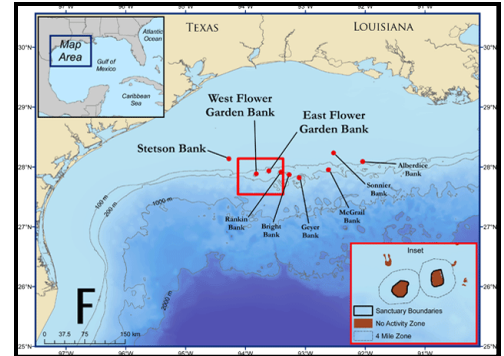
Terry Moore—Advanced

News from the Reef

Submitted by Jesse Cancelmo

The Flower Garden Banks NMS Expansion process is again underway. Take note of the March 5th and 11th public meetings on this matter. (The full content from Sanctuary Superintendent, GP Schmahl is below. Here is a more concise version) -

The Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary (FGBNMS) Expansion process is again underway. On Tuesday, February 3rd, the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS) will publish a "Notice of Intent" (NOI) to solicit public input and prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the expansion of the FGBNMS. This review is based on the recommendations contained within the Sanctuary Expansion Action Plan, which is a component of the FGBNMS Management Plan, published in April 2012. The core of that Action Plan is the recommendation made by the FGBNMS Advisory Council (map attached indicates the extent of expansion).



The public comment period will be open for 60 days from the date that the NOI is published. As part of the public scoping process, 3 public meetings are scheduled. They will be held from 6-8pm at the following locations:

- *March 3, 2015 - New Orleans, LA (New Orleans Airport Hilton)*
- *March 5, 2015 - Houston, TX (Bayland Community Center)*
- *March 11, 2015 - Galveston, TX (FGBNMS Office) *

Comments can also be submitted online through the government "e-rulemaking" website. This link will be available and identified as soon as the notice is published.

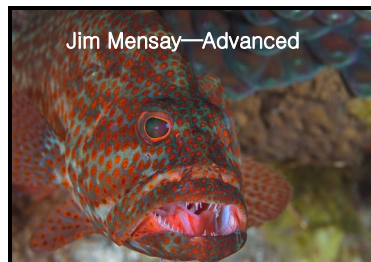
There will be information about this process on the FGBNMS website (

flowergarden.noaa.gov <<http://flowergarden.noaa.gov/>>*) soon after the meeting.

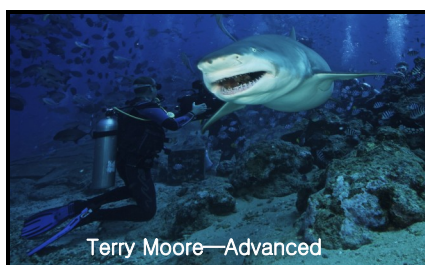
NOI publishes.*



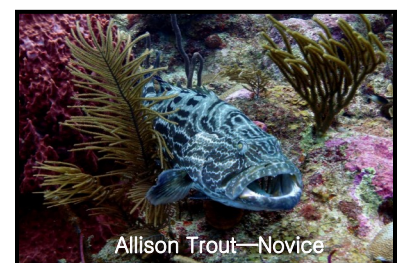
Dennis Daavenport—Advanced



Jim Mensay—Advanced

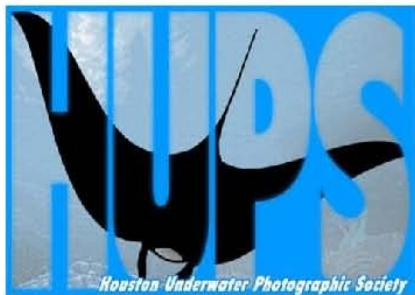


Terry Moore—Advanced



Allison Trout—Novice





Join Us for the HUPS Almost Annual Trip to Captain Don's Habitat, Bonaire October 17 – 25, 2015

Depart Saturday, October 17 on United (5 hour direct), arriving in Bonaire in the evening (no more overnight flight!). Return to Houston on Sunday, October 25. Airfare is NOT included, but is currently available from United for around \$663 per person.

The package includes: 8 nights accommodations, daily breakfast, 12 boat dives, free Nitrox, 6 days unlimited shore diving, airport transfers, and taxes

- ** \$1061.00 per diver double occupancy (\$1745 single supplement) - Deluxe Oceanview Room (these are the rooms around the pool with two queen beds)
- ** \$1173.00 per diver double occupancy (\$1921 single supplement) - Ocean Front Deluxe Junior Suite (these are the rooms closest to the dive shop with one king bed)

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 8/3/15. No refunds after 8/3. Make check payable to HUPS. Mail to Jim Mensay at 1530 Goodnight Ct, Sugar Land, TX 77479. Specify your room preference.





2015

Meetings

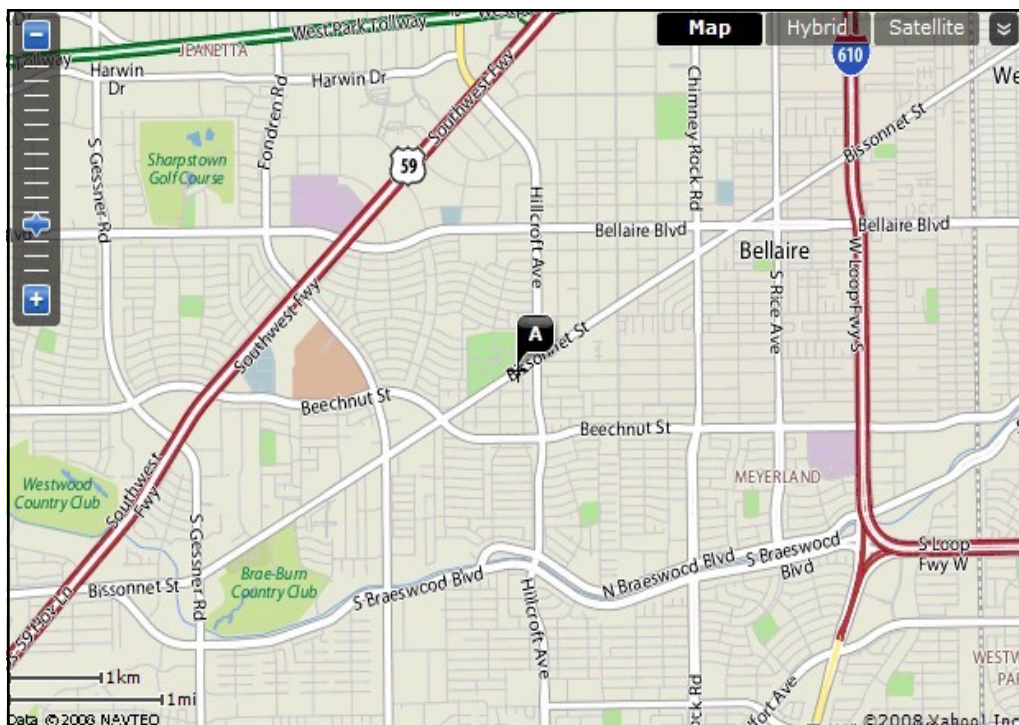
Meetings & Presentations

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	Beata Lerman	East Coast Diving	Gobies, Blennies, Jaw Fish, Triple Fins
May	4th	Mike Greuter	Mexico's Three Coasts	Long and Thin - Fish or Critters
June	1st	HUPS members	Short subjects - My favorite shots	Patterns
July	6th			Reef Scenes with Diver or Divers
August	3rd			Natural Light
September	7th			Unusual Shapes
October	5th	BVI participants	BVI Club Trip	Cephalopods
November	2nd	Paul & Ann Herring	Video around the world	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.*



2015 HUPS Officers

President:

Russell Ramsey

Vice President:

Dennis Deavenport

Secretary:

Tammy Allyn

Treasurer:

Tom Collier

Membership/ Newsletter:

Alicia Grimes

Photo Contest:

Dennis Deavenport

TGCC Rep:

Alicia Grimes

Frank Burek /

Debbie Mensay

Web Master:

Joe Holden

Workshops:

Lance Glowacki

Trip Coordinator:

Jim Mensay

Historian:

Frank Burek

Special Events:

Jan Baughman

Jan Baughman

Board of Directors

Jan Baughman

Bess Bright

Frank Burek

Martin Daniels

Lance Glowacki

Alicia Grimes

Mike Greuter

Gary Harris

Ken Knezick

Monica Losey

Jim Mensay

Henry Ragland

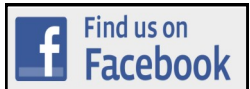
HUPS on the Web



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



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



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

HUPS

P.O. Box 270056

Houston, TX 77277-0056

