

## July 12th Meeting Will Be a Triple Feature Frank & Joyce Burek Share Africa, Nudibranchs and "How To's"

*By Jim Mensay*

Our next HUPS presentation is a triple feature presented by a couple of our resident experts. I am of course referring to Frank & Joyce Burek.

Their show will consist of two A/V programs and a "How To" segment. "South African Safari" covers a trip that Joyce and Frank had last year in South Africa's Kruger National Park. This African wildlife show has been previewed by several HUPS members. Their enthusiasm and interest in getting such once in a lifetime photos themselves is the reason it was decided to air this show at our general membership meeting. "Nudibranchs on Review" finally exposes these X-rated underwater creatures. We've all seen them and fallen under their allure - their color, their sexy curves. Now, one show lets them strut their stuff. The Photography How-To - "Common Questions and Ideas". This portion of the program will cover a range of topics providing the Burek's perspective on images, camera maintenance, photographic objectives and tips for identifying how to best improve your photography. These type of thoughts, ideas, and suggestions is what really helps to improve each of our techniques (and based on the photo contest entries lately, it looks like we have all picked up some good hints lately).

Just a short listing of some of the Burek's accolades (as seen in previous Newletters) are as follows: The Burek's have been diving since 1980 and have a couple of thousand photographic dives between the two of them.

Frank and Joyce have been all the way around the block in the Houston dive community and have served in leadership roles in HUPS, HUC, SEASPACE, AND TGCC. In addition to having a fish named after them, they also have a HUPS award that carries their namesake, "The Frank and Joyce Lifetime Achievement Award." They have both won the HUPS Member and Photographer of the Year award as well as first place awards at SeaSpace.

Their photography has been published in many types of media, such as the Audubon Society, National Geographic Society, and the National Wildlife Federation. Back in 2000, they were awarded the Environmental Hero Award for their photographic work in the Flower Garden Banks NMS.

I could keep going on and on, but now you all get the picture. Speaking of pictures, let's see which ones strikes our fancy this next month at the Burek's show.

As usual our meeting will begin at 7 PM- Bayland Community Center - 6400 Bissonnet. A map can be found on the back of this newsletter.

### Recap of HUPS Goes to the Movies

*By Jim Mensay*

HUPS extends a BIG Thank You to Greg Grimes and Jim Heimer for their presentation last month on Digital Videos.

The techy part of the show taught us quite a few things. For instance, white balance is very important and can be aided by using a card that shows your camera what "white" looks like. You can also use a warming filter to aid in color and balancing. After a bit of experience, you will learn how to pan in and out, stay in focus, and shoot so that those watching don't get sea-sick from the motion of the video.

When you shoot a video, your end product can be based on several things like; a documentary, a music video, or a narrative. If you give this some forethought, this will influence the style and content of the video that you shoot.

Similar to shooting still pics, your video segments should be short and interesting segments. You can add a voice-over, music, and sound affects, and your video can definitely have a story line.

As a video is a bit more than just a still pic, you also get a chance to express your style, personality, and creative talents in this medium. Try it next time and let us know what you get.

Thanks Greg & Jim for a fun show.

# President's Message

## HUPS Commercial

By Tom Collier

Several HUPS members are currently working on a slide show that is basically a commercial for HUPS. We are composing a visual and factual depiction of Who we are, What we do, How we do it and Why we do it. It is interesting working on this project because it is cause to reflect on those key points.

### Who We Are

Our by-laws state that HUPS is a not-for-profit social club formed to encourage and promote interest and participation in underwater photography and videography. The by-laws further state that anyone interested in becoming an underwater photographer or videographer or improving his or her present underwater photography skill level may be a HUPS member. The by-laws pretty much sum up the basis for our club, but we are so much more than this static description.

Most of our members are from the Greater Houston area, but we can boast a membership roster that includes members located throughout Texas and four different countries. While it is notable that we are a diverse group of individuals consisting of all kinds of people, young and not so young, who have decided to come together, physically and virtually, to share our passion for underwater photography; the truly unique aspect of HUPS is its members' willingness to freely impart their hard earned knowledge regarding these passions to those who are receptive.

### What We Do

HUPS members share and educate. The club offers a setting in which its members can share ideas, introduce new ideas and compare the end results. Each member reaps the benefits of this interaction through our monthly meetings, attending club workshops, the HUPS website / forum, the newsletter and by participating in club photo dive trips.

It is apparent that our members take pride in sharing knowledge with other members. This is obvious by the amount of effort our monthly program presenters and workshop leaders put into the production of their presentations. Nothing is held back; all tricks and tips are revealed. Everyone learns from each other. The seasoned member has experience and the newcomer sometimes has fresh ideas so every person has something to gain through club interactions and exchanges.

### How We Do It

Our monthly meetings feature speakers who volunteer to give presentations on a wide variety of subjects relating to u/w photography. Most, if not all of the presentations, feature extraordinary visual effects including slideshows and videos pertaining to the subject at hand. Quarterly workshops delve deeper into particular subjects of interest, such as camera operations, composition and software processing.

HUPS sponsored photo dive trips give our members an opportunity to put into practice the information gained from the monthly meetings and workshops. These trips are excellent for developing more comprehensive relationships, observing techniques and sharing ideas with other club members.

The HUPS website / forum and newsletter are additional methods utilized by our members to share thoughts and ideas. Use of the internet allows immediate access to current announcements and

the opportunity to make inquiries not relevant to subjects discussed during recent meetings or workshops.

### Why We Do It

The stock answer to this question is stated in our by-laws. However, I have learned that personal satisfaction can be obtained from sharing, teaching and learning. But, as I have mentioned, the amount of time and energy some of our members expend in their efforts to share and educate is truly amazing. There may be some rationale for those efforts that is beyond me but I do have a theory. I believe that the art of u/w photography is foreign to most people and the members of HUPS share a passion for something that hardly anyone else understands. HUPS is where we go for support, understanding and confirmation.

Tom Collier



## HUPS Collection Grand Opening

By Tom Collier

We kicked off the Grand Opening of the HUPS Collection at Moody Gardens on Saturday, June 26<sup>th</sup>. Thirty-three HUPSters, family and friends were on hand to celebrate the occasion. Greg Whittaker and Roy Drinnen with Moody Gardens were on hand to treat us to a behind the scenes tour of the aquarium facilities. One of the highlights of the tour was the penguin exhibit where the HUPSters had an opportunity to meet the penguins up close & personal. Heidi Whitehead with the Texas Marine Mammal Stranding Network was also on hand to personally receive photographs donated by several of our members for their upcoming silent auction. Afterwards, we all met at Martha and Dennis Deavenport's house for dinner, drinks and great fun.

Thanks to all HUPSters in attendance. Thanks to Greg Whittaker and Roy Drinnen for the special tours. And special thanks to Martha and Dennis Deavenport for their wonderful hospitality. It was a great evening.

## Calling all Writers

The HUPS newsletter is **always** looking for articles. If you have anything you would like to share send it to [underh2o@mac.com](mailto:underh2o@mac.com) We welcome trip reports, equipment reviews, photo tips, suggestion of underwater photography related websites, just about anything that would interest your fellow underwater photographers. Don't be shy - share!

# Member Spotlight- Jesse Cancelmo

By Alicia Grimes

The lifetime members of HUPS and the knowledge that they are so willing to share and pass on are the reason that “Our Society” is quickly becoming more known and growing in so many ways. Inside each lifetime member is such a vast array of experiences, travel and wealth of information that we as a collective group would be remiss if not to act as a sponge and absorb it. I hope you take a moment and retain some of the lessons and background of our lifetime member Jesse Cancelmo, one of the most accomplished HUPS members.

Google the name Jesse Cancelmo and you will be amazed with all the books, articles and photographs that Jesse can take credit for. In June he had a big month: Sailfish on front cover of Dive Training magazine along with feature article on Blue-water diving; Schooling hammerhead shark photo in Sport Diver; Texas Parks & Wildlife magazine "parting shot" of a whale shark and two photos, whale shark and jellyfish in June 14th issue of Newsweek magazine. That was his first in Newsweek. His website [www.cancelmophoto.com](http://www.cancelmophoto.com) is a wealth of information as well as showcasing his stock photos, books and articles. Jesse, who is a dive-master, is also available for those of us who need little help and you can contact Jesse for details on these subjects.

Jesse’s dive story begins when he became a certified diver in 1970. He took his first dive in Bermuda. He later added photography with his first camera a Nikonos II with a bulb flash. Jesse has always been a Nikon guy. He is currently using a Nikon D200 in an Aquatica Housing. He really enjoys the Nikon D200 because as he stated, “It allows me to do everything I need to from wide angle to macro.” Jesse has photographed many underwater creatures but with his camera he is always on the hunt for a sperm whale which has thus far avoided his lens. Jesse’s favorite spot for underwater photography is the Galapagos Islands for its magnificent schools of hammerhead shark as well as Indonesia for its coral reef with its density and diversity in color. For Jesse, the imagery ops and photo productivity there is tops in the world. For the novice underwater photographer Jesse’s advice’s could not be simpler, first, get those dive skills including buoyancy control down, before you ever think about taking a camera down, second move as close as you can to your subject, then move closer. Closer without of course damaging your subject or the reef,

Jesse’s travel/dive story is again a lesson in itself. In 1985 he made his first trip to the Red Sea, a dream come true as this being his first exposure to Western Indo-Pacific reefs. Jesse started out a beach at Sharm El Sheik in a tent. On the first day he woke up

early and began assembling his camera system - a Nikon F in an Oceanic housing with a huge Ikelite strobe. Dive 1# was a “check-out dive” but he told the dive guide to bring his rig down after the scuba check out was complete. His eyes nearly popped out of his head when the dive guide descending down the line with bubbles streaming out of the housing. Of course this was a major flood. He had assembled his photo rig in a dark tent and did not realize that the PC cord was looped over the O ring. His lesson in this is, check; recheck your system before jumping overboard. The second lesson is always having back up equipment. He did manage to borrow a Nikon F camera body from another diver he had met so all was not lost.

Not only is Jesse an accomplished diver but like most of us he enjoys traveling the world topside as well. Jesse has just returned from a wonderful trip to Italy where he visited Rome and Florence. Jesse really loves the “outdoor” lifestyle of the Italian people of course the food is reason enough to go to this modern and ancient country.

In conclusion it is amazing that such an accomplished individual would need to stay active in HUPS, but in Jesse’s words, “Even though I have been an underwater photographer for so long and even taught for decades he continues to learn from others, even students and beginners. HUPS meetings seem to provide insight for stimulation for learning.

Thank you Jesse for your time in this interview and again for further information about Jesse Cancelmo’s work check out his website at [www.cancelmophoto.com](http://www.cancelmophoto.com).



Novice 1st Place - Monica Losey, © 2010

## Important Dates

Put them on your calendar

### July 12

HUPS Meeting - Frank & Joyce Burek - Triple Feature

### September 11

HUPS Workshop - Stop Taking Pictures & Start Creating Images by David Lenderman - [Link](#)

### October 4

HUPS Meeting - Jackie & Mary Lou Reid - topic TBA

### August 2

HUPS Meeting - Solomon Islands - Jan Baughman

### September 12

HUPS Meeting - HUPS Philippines Trip Recap

### October 16

HUPS Workshop - Roundtable on creating slideshows using Pro Show Gold/Producer

# Invasion of Cozumel Complete

By Charlie Lundquist

About one to one and a half years ago lion fish began to be seen on the reefs in Cozumel. With no natural predators other than an occasional local dive master armed with a rubber band powered Hawaiian Sling they seem to have now successfully populated the reefs here. On a recent visit to Cozumel we found and photographed lion fish on every dive. The dive masters on the boats did 'harpoon' a couple of them, but there were many more that they either missed or didn't see. Some experts speculate that large groupers may occasionally dine on lion fish, but since the lion fish dine on juvenile groupers and you see a lot more lion fish than large groupers there is little doubt who will win out.

Needless to say, the local dive community in Cozumel is very concerned for the health of the reefs but there seems to be little they can do to rid the reefs of these pests. Nature has a way of balancing itself, but it appears that there will be some permanent changes to the marine inhabitants of the Cozumel reefs.

On the positive side, if you don't have pictures of lion fish in your photo gallery you no longer have to travel half way around the world to digitally capture one in their "natural" habitat.

# Trashfest 2010

By Alicia Grimes

Are you looking for a way to interact with the Texas dive community as well as give back to the environment? Well join us this year at Trashfest 2010. As we did last year, HUPS is putting together a team for Trashfest where we will help clean up the Comal River in New Braunfels. Teams can be up to 8 divers. It would be great to have multiple HUPS teams. Preregistration is available now through Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested please let me know by email at [Alicia@theworldinflash.com](mailto:Alicia@theworldinflash.com). For more information about Trashfest click on the the TGCC website at: <http://www.tgccdiving.org/trashfest/about.html>. There is a BBQ and award ceremony following the clean up. Hope you are available to join us.

# Oil Spill Info From NOAA

[GeoPlatform.gov/gulfresponse](http://GeoPlatform.gov/gulfresponse) is a new online tool to help put critical information directly into the palms of people's hands.

This newly launched website, produced by NOAA, Department of the Interior, EPA and the U.S. Coast Guard, offers a "one-stop shop" for real-time spill response information. Designed to facilitate communication and coordination among a variety of users - from federal, state and local responders to local community leaders and the general public - the site is fast, user-friendly and continually updated.

*Editor Note: The info above is excerpted from a letter written by Dr. Jane Lubchenco Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and NOAA Administrator.*

# HUPS Member Galleries

By James Heimer - Webmaster

The gallery page on the website has been revised to link to individual photographer's websites. As a starting point, those member sites identified on the news and links page have been used to populate the gallery page. If you have an individual gallery of your underwater photographic images (or a general photographic website that contains your underwater images), let the webmaster know what the link is, and he will add you to the gallery links.

Here is the current gallery page:

<http://www.hups.org/Gallery%20Pages/Photographer%20Gallery%20Pages.html> .

# Nature Contest Winners Posted

Back in April we reported that HUPS and several our members had taken several awards in the George W. Glennie Nature Interclub Exhibition conducted by the Merrimack Valley Camera Club of North Andover, Massachusetts. All the winning images are now online and can be viewed here:

<http://www.mvcameraclub.org/Glennie/2010/ResultsSlideShow/Awards/bestOfShow.htm>



Intermediate 2nd Place - Debbie Mensay, © 2010



Intermediate 1st Place - Paul McDonald, © 2010

## Upcoming Monthly Photo Contests

Each month we will have Advanced, Intermediate and Novice contests. For complete contest rules checkout: <http://www.hups.org>

July - Anemones and Things That Live in Them

October - Things Only a Mother Could Love

August - Seafan City

November - Wide-angle

September - Anything with Lungs

December - Best of HUPS

## July Contest

The June contest topic is "Anemones and Things That Live in Them". According to the HUPS website: "Just like it says. To qualify, an anemone must be in the shot. The "things" (clownfish, crabs, etc) are optional." You can't win if you don't enter! Descriptions of all 2010 & 2011 contest topics and rules can be found on [hups.org](http://hups.org).

Entries for the monthly contest should be emailed to [photocontest@hups.org](mailto:photocontest@hups.org) at least **48 hours prior** to the meeting. This mailbox is reserved for entries only. If you have a question regarding the digital contest send your email to [ddeavenport@comcast.net](mailto:ddeavenport@comcast.net) or [underh2o@mac.com](mailto:underh2o@mac.com). Complete contest rules can be found at <http://www.hups.org>. **Please be sure to adhere to the file naming instructions.** If you do not follow all the rules for digital entries your images will not be judged.

## Contest Results

### June - Nudibranchs & Worms

#### Advanced:

- 1st Tom Collier
- 2nd Jackie Reid
- 3rd Dennis Deavenport

#### Intermediate:

- 1st Paul McDonald
- 2nd tie - Debbie Mensay, Kay Collier
- 3rd tie - Mary McDonald, Kay Collier (2 tied)

#### Novice:

- 1st Monica Losey
- 2nd Monica Losey
- 3rd John VanAtta

## Island Dreams Travel - HUPS Philippines Trip Photo Contest

Thanks to Ken Knezick and Island Dreams for sponsoring a photo contest for participants in the HUPS Philippines trip. the lucky winners are:

- 1st Tom Collier (\$300 off next Island Dreams trip - award)
- 2nd Dennis Deavenport (\$200 off next Island Dreams trip - award)
- 3rd Jackie Reid (\$100 off next Island Dreams trip - award)



Advanced 1st Place - Tom Collier, © 2010

## Upcoming HUPS Workshops

We are about halfway through the year, but we still have several exciting HUPS workshop planned for 2010. Here is a quick look at the schedule:

September 11th - **Stop Taking Pictures and Start Creating Images** by David Lenderman. To read about this workshop check out this link:

[http://www.hups.org/Workshops/Workshops/2010-Start\\_Creating\\_Images.htm](http://www.hups.org/Workshops/Workshops/2010-Start_Creating_Images.htm) If you have questions or comments or want to sign up for this workshop you can do it on the HUPS Forum here: <http://www.hups.org/forum/index.php?topic=379.0>

October 16th - **Using ProShow Gold & Producer** - Oct. 16, 2010 (12 noon - 3pm) Have you ever wondered how to make those really cool videos that you see at the monthly meetings?

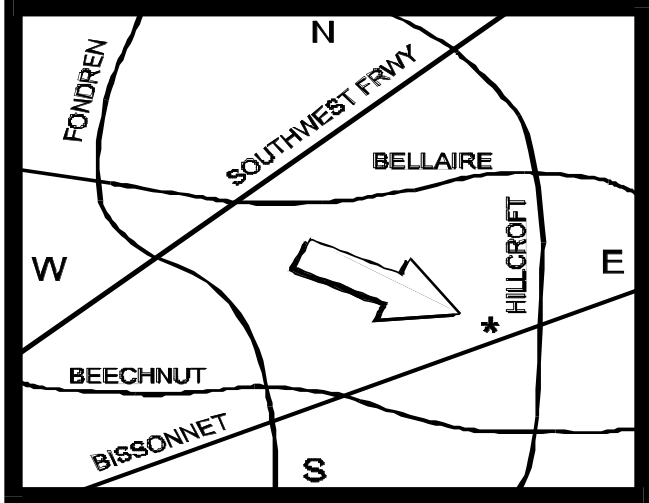
On Saturday October 16, 2010 HUPS will have a round table share and learn at the Bayland Community Center to discuss the software ProShow. This very dynamic and rich in content software is available in both Gold and the even more powerful version known as Producer.

## More Chips and Salsa Please

Everyone is welcome to join us for some Tex-Mex following HUPS meetings. A number of us meet at Don Carlo's Mexican Restaurant. This is a great opportunity to socialize with fellow HUPS members and eat some good Tex-Mex. It is on the 59 Northbound feeder just North of Hillcroft. Exiting Bayland Community Center go left on Bissonnet, left on Hillcroft and then right on the 59 feeder. It's about 100 yards on your right. You can't miss it.

*The Houston Underwater Photographic Society meets the first Monday of the month at 7:00 PM at Bayland Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet, near Hillcroft. Social time begins at 6:45. Visitors are always welcome.*

**\* BAYLAND COMMUNITY CENTER**



<http://www.hups.org>

**2010 HUPS Officers**

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**Underwater  
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