

# December 2011

## Underwater Images

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Christmas Hups way!
- Projector is available for HUPS members
- Goodenough Springs Project
- Flower Gardens Sanctuary Advisory Council is looking for volunteers
- Moody Gardens Needs your photo's
- Member of the year nominations

# The December Meeting Brings Holiday JOY!

By Greg Grimes



Well, it is hard to believe that another year is over and a new one will soon begin. With that in mind, it is time once again for HUPS to celebrate the season with our annual Christmas Party. This year as in the past we will be enjoying a wonderful pot luck dinner provided by the club members as well as the club. Please plan to be at one of our most attended meetings and bring a dish to share. A good time is always had by all and you may even win a door prize. If you have not already, please let Kay Collier (one of our Christmas Hostesses) know what you will be bringing so as she knows what is being covered. Her email address is: [kaytripping@hotmail.com](mailto:kaytripping@hotmail.com). Because of the Pot Luck Dinner, there will not be a speaker for this month. In lieu of a speaker, we will be presenting an extended photo contest presentation. The December Photo Contest category is twofold. The first is "Best of HUPS" which includes any image taken underwater. This can also include images that have placed 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> in this year's monthly contests. Please note that the Best of HUPS winner is not eligible for future HUPS contests. The second photo contest is the Creative category. This always brings out some interesting images.

Anything goes in this category so feel free to Photoshop, or use any other digital manipulation programs you prefer. Cut-and-paste parts of one image onto another; feel free to distort, change color or texture, repeat, invert, rotate, etc. The only requirement is that you must have been the photographer or created the image that is the primary focus. Get those creative juices flowing! If possible, please plan to arrive early to help set up the dining room and socialize. Our meeting will take place at [Bayland Community Center](http://www.baylandcommunitycenter.com). Visitors are always encouraged and always welcome.



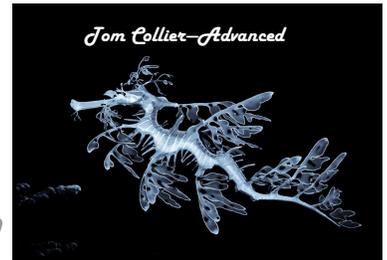
## NOAA's Flower Garden Banks Sanctuary Seeks New Advisory Council

NOAA's Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary is seeking applicants for six seats on its advisory council, which ensures public participation in sanctuary management and provides advice to the sanctuary superintendent. The sanctuary is accepting applications for the following seats: recreational diving, oil and gas operations, recreational fishing, commercial fishing, research, and education. Candidates are selected based on their expertise and experience in relation to the seat for which they are applying, community and professional affiliations, and knowledge regarding the protection and management of marine resources.

**Council members serve three-year terms.**

Applications are due **December 9, 2011**. To receive an application or for further information please contact Jennifer Morgan by email at [Jennifer.Morgan@noaa.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Morgan@noaa.gov), by phone at 409-621-5151 ext.103, or by mail at NOAA – Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary, 4700 Avenue U, Bldg. 216, Galveston, TX, 77551. Application materials may also be downloaded from the sanctuary's web site, <http://flowergarden.noaa.gov/>.





*By Jim Mensay*

Wow, we have had a great time in 2011 at HUPS.

2012 looks to be just as good and even better. How can we help you make it that way?

Do you want to take a dive trip with some experienced divers and underwater photographers? Well, in May you can join HUPS in a club trip to the Philippines. This trip is sure to be packed with some good times, with good friends, in a beautiful part of the world, doing what we all like to do: diving and trying our best to capture the perfect picture. There is still room and we hope you can join us.

Do you want to party? Probably in early spring, we will ALL be invited to a PARTY, and Dennis Deavenport has volunteered to be our host. We've done this several times before, and this will be much the same, with a pot luck meal, BYO favorite beverage, and your BEST adventure stories. This will be a great time to compare travel notes and a chance to get excited about the next time you get to pack your bags for a trip.

Do you want to learn the secrets to getting the award winning shot? Well, I want that one too! For that, we'll dish up a main course of some more great monthly presentations, and for desert, we'll finish it off with some incredible workshops packed with some must know tips on U/W photography. You can also volunteer to be one of the teachers. Perhaps that is one of the best parts of HUPS: that we all get a chance to look through each other's eyes and get a different glimpse at creative, artistic, and technical photography.

Do you like the thrill of the hunt? If so, then you can enter your pictures in the monthly contest, and try matching your wits and talents with those around you. Or enter your best underwater images and have a chance for your pictures to be on display at Moody Gardens and be sold in the gift shop. That may just give you some bragging rights next year at the company office party.

Do you just want to enjoy some time with your friends? Then come early to our monthly meetings and maybe stay late for a bite and beverage at a nearby restaurant with your fellow HUPSters. You'll have a chance to get to know someone better and also get a chance to talk about one of your favorite hobbies.

Whatever you want at HUPS for 2012, it can be yours. If you have an idea for something new or different, just let us know, and we'll give it a try. HUPS is just waiting to be what you want it to be. Help us make it that way for you. We look forward to your ideas and involvement.

Hope to see you under the boat,

*Scuba Jim*

# Goodenough Springs Project

*By Jesse Cancelmo*

Be sure to check out the feature article on Goodenough Springs Project in the December issue of [Texas Parks & Wildlife](#). Austin freelance writer Rae Nadler wrote the article and photography is by HUPS member **Jesse Cancelmo**.

Many HUPSters know the Goodenough Project Leader, Chuck Noe, who in 2009 made a record-setting dive at Goodenough to 515 ft. below lake level. Goodenough Spring is located in Lake Amistad near Del Rio. The entrance to the cave is 170 feet below the surface. Jesse completed all 4 stages of cave certifications in order to safely dive the cave and deliver the photos for the article. He says it was by far the most challenging assignment he's ever had.



# MOODY GARDENS DISPLAY - 2012

*By Dennis Deavenport*

*It's that time again. We are asking HUPS members to submit their best digital images for use at the Moody Gardens Aquarium photo display.*

*This will be our 3<sup>rd</sup> year to exhibit the best of our best. Our involvement with Moody Gardens has been an unqualified success not only visually but financially. Prints that we have offered for sale in their gift shop are a major source of revenue for HUPS and one reason that we have been able to purchase the great projection equipment we now have. The photo display has a prominent spot in the large rotunda just after entering the aquarium. It is just about the first thing visitors see. We also have a continuously-rolling presentation that showcases a large number of the images that were not selected for the larger print display.*

## WHAT WE NEED

Send your image files to: [ddeavenport@comcast.net](mailto:ddeavenport@comcast.net)

·Resolution: Not less than 1350 H x 1080 V  
1 megapixel maximum, please

·Up to 7 of your best Turtle images

and

·Up to 7 of your best General Topic images (anything goes)



**DEADLINE for ENTRIES: 1<sup>st</sup> week in January 2012**

*Our selection committee will select the final show from the images you send and our photo contest winners. Our target is to hang the show in February.*

## Things to consider:

- We will only select high quality images for the walls. That means that we need to have access to high-resolution print files that are technically excellent and compelling from an interest standpoint. As in the past, I will offer editing assistance (with your approval, of course) on the final files.
- Images used for the wall displays will be 16" x 20" with some verticals. Images used in the rolling video display can be any aspect ratio.
- The cost to print and mount the images will be paid by the individuals. Prints will be returned to the owners when the display is taken down.
  - Tom Collier has negotiated a great deal with Nations Photo for \$16.40 per print on 'metallic' paper mounted on white foam board.
  - This is a great offer and if you want, they will do as many prints as you want for this price as part of the deal. Of course, you will have to get the print files to Tom Collier so he can get them transferred to Nations along with the Moody Gardens print files.

## FINALLY:

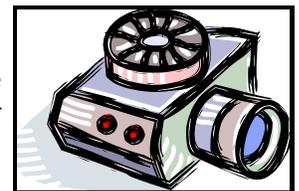
·If you want to be involved with HUPS' Moody Gardens project, contact Mary McDonald. We have plenty of things for you to do. [mmm5426@yahoo.com](mailto:mmm5426@yahoo.com)

Dennis Deavenport & Mary McDonald (committee chairperson)

# Old Projector is available for HUPS Members

*By Alicia Grimes*

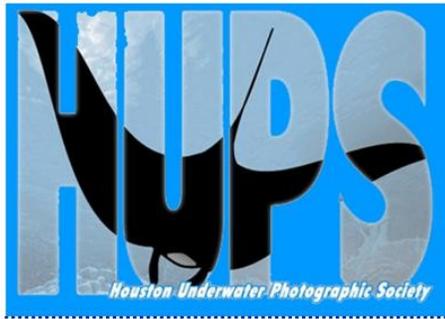
If you have not been to a monthly meeting in a while, you have not experienced the upgraded projector and new screen that the club has purchased. At our recent board meeting, it was discussed that with the new projector now being used the old projector can now be borrowed by HUPS members. The projector can be used at your next family gathering or maybe even a sport event at your home.



The projector will be located at the Bayland Community Center and will need to be retrieved there. Please contact Dennis Deavenport via email if you would like to borrow the projector. His email is: [ddeavenport@comcast.net](mailto:ddeavenport@comcast.net). Please note: The screen is not included in this offer but there are several companies in the Houston Area that do rent screens.



# Part 1 - HUPS Trip



## Dive Trip 2012 Cebu Island Philippines

May 4th-12th 2012

**\$1551**

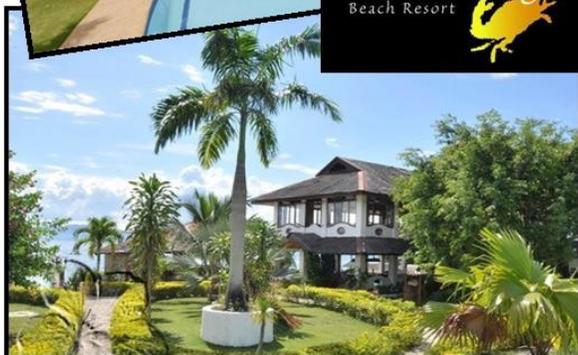
*based on double occupancy*

**\$1958**

*based on single occupancy*

### Package Includes:

- (CEB) Airport Transfers to [Cebu City Marriott](#) with 1 night accommodation
- Transfers from Marriott to Resort with return to airport (CEB)
- 7 night accommodations at [Kasai Village Diving and Spa](#)
  - Sea view room overlooking the neighboring islands
  - A/C
  - Private Bath & Terrace
  - 3 Meals Daily (*family style*)
  - 6 days of 3 Boat Dives Daily (*18 tanks & weights*)
  - Free WiFi in the lobby



### Package Excludes:

- Airfare to (CEB)
- Gratuities
- Marine Park Pass (*paid at resort in cash*)
- Nitrox Upgrade (**\$100 USD if paid at final payment**)
  - Cost covers 18 tanks for boat dives only
  - Nitrox for shore diving is payable at the resort

### Requirements:

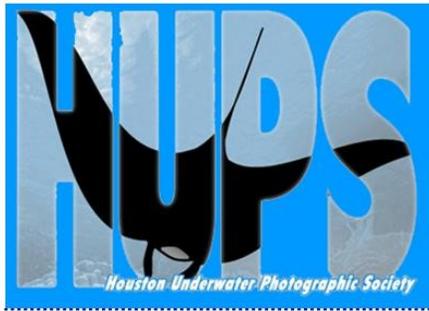
- Deposit check of \$250.00 pp to reserve your spot. (Spaces are limited to 16 spots)
- Payment balance is due by the January meeting on January 2nd
- Arrange to arrive into Cebu City on May 4th
- Arrange **LATE** departure (afternoon) on May 12th unless diving the Malapascua add-on trip

For more information please email:

[Allia@theworldinaflash.com](mailto:Allia@theworldinaflash.com) for more information



# Part 2 - Add On Trip



## Dive Trip 2012 Malapascua Island Philippines

May 12th-17th 2012

**\$725**

*based on double occupancy*

**\$899**

*based on single occupancy*

### Package Includes:

- Round trip transfers to/from (CEB) Airport and Resort
- 5 night accommodations at [http://www.tepanee.com/index\\_eng.htm](http://www.tepanee.com/index_eng.htm)
  - Sea view balcony room
  - A/C
  - Private Safe, Bath & Shower
  - 3 Meals Daily (family style)
  - 4 days of 3 Boat Dives Daily (12 tanks & weights)
  - Marine Park Fees
  - Free Wi-Fi in the rooms, dive shop & restaurant
  - Free Thresher Shark T-Shirt

### Package Excludes:

- Airfare to (CEB)
- Gratuities
- Nitrox Upgrade (\$75 USD if paid at final payment)
  - 12 tanks for boat dives only
- Monad Shoal marine protection fee P50 per dive (shark/manta dive only)
- Night dive surcharge +P250
- Dona Marilyn Trip +P350 (fuel) pp
- Calangaman Trip +P850 (P350 fuel, P500 marine fee) pp

Deposit of \$250.00 pp to reserve your spot. Spaces are limited to 10 total.  
Balance is due by January meeting: January 9th.

Please email [Alicia@theworldinflash.com](mailto:Alicia@theworldinflash.com) for more information



# Member of the Year Nominations

As in years past we have the opportunity to shine the spotlight on those member who went the extra mile for our club. Below please find the nominations for this year. Voting will take place at our annual Christmas Party.

## 2011 HUPS MEMBER OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS

### ALICIA GRIMES – 3 NOMINATIONS

I nominate **Alicia Grimes** for her hard work as HUPS Newsletter Editor and as Chairperson for the Membership. Alicia has a very cheerful demeanor and positive attitude, which gives our club a good reputation. Each time, she greets everyone with a wonderful smile and a "welcome" message, regardless if it's at the monthly meeting, a workshop, and / or Hups project. When we call on her, she steps up to the plate, no questions asked. And, when I have had the opportunity to work with Alicia, I can say that she is filled with good ideas to move our club forward in the coming years. She has that "go getter" personality and energy that we need for Hups to continue to be as successful as it has in the past.

I'd like to nominate **Alicia Grimes** as HUPS member of the year. She has cheerfully taken on the largely thankless job of putting together a great newsletter each month. Her cheerful attitude at the membership table at the meetings helps make the meeting feel more inviting for visitors. And I'd be remiss if I didn't mention the homemade cookies she takes the time to make for the workshops. :-)

I would like to nominate **Alicia Grimes** for HUPS member of the year. I know there are many things Alicia has done in the past and still does for HUPS "behind the scene" that I and the other members are not even aware of and will probably never know, but for all the things we can see, she is amazing! She stepped right in and took over the welcome desk and has done a superb job. Jean was hard to replace and I miss seeing her, but Alicia has filled the bill...she's a charmer too! She always greets members with a warm smile and makes us feel welcome and glad we came. She even brought popcorn and cookies, now that was a first, and just the kind of thing Alicia would think to do. She willingly took over the newsletter and has done a fabulous job! I look forward to getting it each month and read it from top to bottom. David did an amazing job for a long time and was a tough act to follow, but she has certainly risen to the occasion and continued in style! She has given presentations at the meetings, helped Greg with the workshops, helped put up and take down displays, contributed pictures to the Moody Garden gift shop project, she and Greg checked the inventory at Moody Gardens every weekend when we first started, and she is always so willing to help in any way she can. I think Alicia exemplifies what HUPS is all about. If we had a room full of Alicias, I can't imagine what we could accomplish!

### DENNIS DEAVENPORT – 2 NOMINATIONS

I would like to nominate **Dennis Deavenport** for HUPS member of the year. Dennis was elected president to Vice President of HUPS 2006 shortly after I joined the club. As a new member, Dennis was one of the familiar faces that I saw at club meetings in a sea of people that were relatively unknown to me. He was front and center, introducing the presentations for each meeting and actively participating in the photo contests. Over the course of that year, as I grew to know more and more members at the meetings, I would often attend the post meeting dinners at Don Pablo's. Dennis was always there and was always keen to talk to me. As we got to know each other, Dennis approached me about being the Vice President for 2007. If it weren't for Dennis, I would have never even considered being a part of the leadership within HUPS. I was "elected" to Vice President and Dennis was made President. Unfortunately, my tenure as VP ended in mid-2007 when I moved to New Zealand, but Dennis made the transition into leadership an easy one. He was always there to help and lend advice to a relatively new member of the club, and I have always been grateful for that.



Dennis has also taken over the coordination of the monthly HUPS contests, at task that can be pretty thankless and without much recognition and he has sought to bring more consistency to the contests, conducting judging workshops. Dennis has also taken time out to conduct other workshops on photo editing, post-production, ProShow Gold, macro photography, and basics of underwater photography. And this was all before he retired!

In the years since, I have participated in several HUPS dive trips, and Dennis has always been there. Of all the people that I've had the honor to dive with, I think Dennis would deserve the title of any trip's "Most Valuable Player." I can't even begin to count the times where someone from the group (sometimes me) has had equipment issues. The one person we could always count on helping, if not totally fixing the problem, is Dennis, the MacGuyver of the Indo-Pacific. Dennis has fixed housings, camera ports, dive gear, and even the odd camera hot shoe (thanks again, mate!) in the remotest of dive locations or on a boat in the middle of the ocean. And if you don't need equipment help, he's there to lend a hand in critiquing images, discussing techniques, subjects, and diving in general. And if you don't need any of that help, well he's just as happy to have a beer with you and talk about all the fun we're having on some sun-kissed island.

Dennis is selfless in the time and effort he dedicates to the club as an organization and to the members of the club as fellow divers, photographers, and mostly as friends.

The **second nomination** for Dennis simply said "DENNIS"..... what else need be said?



# Member of the Year continued

## TOM COLLIER – 1 NOMINATION

I want to nominate **Tom Collier** for Member of the Year for 2011 at HUPS.

Tom spearheaded the successful negotiations that resulted in the HUPS display at Moody Gardens. In addition to the display, he arranged for us to sell photos in the gift shop. The added income from this venture helped pay for our new projector and screen.

In addition to Tom's club responsibilities as Treasurer, Tom assumed the additional role as Trip Coordinator. In his fourth tour of duty in this role, he organized and booked the latest Bali trip for the club. He followed through on all the details and assured that we all had a safe and fun trip. And as an added bonus, he arranged for the resort to sponsor their own photo contest for the HUPS group, with the 1st and 2nd prize being a return trip to the resort for a free stay including diving.

Tom continues to give freely of his time and talents, and for all of his contributions, I nominate Tom for the Member of the Year for 2012.

## JIM MENSAY – 1 NOMINATION

**Jim Mensay** is an ideal candidate for the 2011 HUPS Member of the Year award. There is no question that he has provided outstanding service to our club this past year as president and has done an exceptional job in that position. He has also:

Served two years as Vice-President (responsible for securing the program speakers each month)

Served as a Board of Director member

Previously led a HUPS dive trip to Bonaire

Has hosted multiple HUPS activities at his home

Helped with the Moody Gardens photo gallery

Participated in the 2011 HUPS trip

Each month, Jim presides over our meeting in a cheerful and organized manner. His outgoing personality has been a positive addition to our meetings. His underwater photographs an asset to our contests. I nominate Jim Mensay for the 2011 HUPS Member of the Year award and thank him for his service to the club.

## 2012 HUPS Board and Officers

In the November Meeting, we have elected the following officers and board members:|

### Officers

**President:** Jim Mensay

**Vice President/Workshops:** Greg Grimes

**Secretary:** Tammy Allyn

**Treasurer:** Tom Collier

**Membership/Newsletter:** Alicia Grimes

**Photo Contest:** Dennis Deavenport

**TGCC Rep. :** Frank Burek and Debbie Mensay

**Webmaster:** James Heimer

**Trip Coordinator:** Alicia Grimes—Philippines

**Historian:** Frank Burek

**Special Events :** Jan Baughman

### Board Members

Mary McDonald

Jan Baughman

Frank Burek

Dennis Deavenport

Henry Ragland

Mike Greuter

Ken Knezick

Russell Ramsey

Mike Fernandez

**New:** Lance Glowacki

**New:** Bess Bright

Please thank Kandace Heimer, Sandy Bryan for their years of being on the board.

## Meeting Dates for 2012

As the year comes to an end it is time to start planning the calendar for next year. Here are the dates for next year that we will be meeting at [Bayland Community Center](#). The meeting time will remain at 7:00 p.m.

January 9th

April 2nd

July 9th

October 1st

February 6th

May 7th

August 6th

November 5th

March 5th

June 4th

September 10th

December 3rd



# November Photo Contest Results

Novice	
1st	Bess Bright
2nd	Monica Losey
3rd	Lance Glowacki

Intermediate	
1st	Debbie Mensay
2nd	Kandace Heimer
3rd	Jim Mensay
3rd	Kandace Heimer

Advanced	
1st	JR Reid
2nd	Tom Collier
3rd	JR Reid
3rd	Ken Bean
3rd	Tom Collier

Contest results through November 2011		
NOVICE		
1st	Monica Losey	681
2nd	Bess Bright	643
3rd	Lance Glowacki	636
4th	Greg Grimes	507
5th	John VanAtta	480
INTERMEDIATE		
1st	Kandace Heimer	727
2nd	Debbie Mensay	684
3rd	Jim Mensay	643
4th	Mike Greuter	587
5th	Paul McDonald	353
ADVANCED		
1st	Jackie Reid	751
2nd	Mary Lou Reid	697
3rd	Tom Collier	687
4th	Dennis Deavenport	679
5th	Ken Bean	607





# 2011 Meetings



## Meetings & Presentations

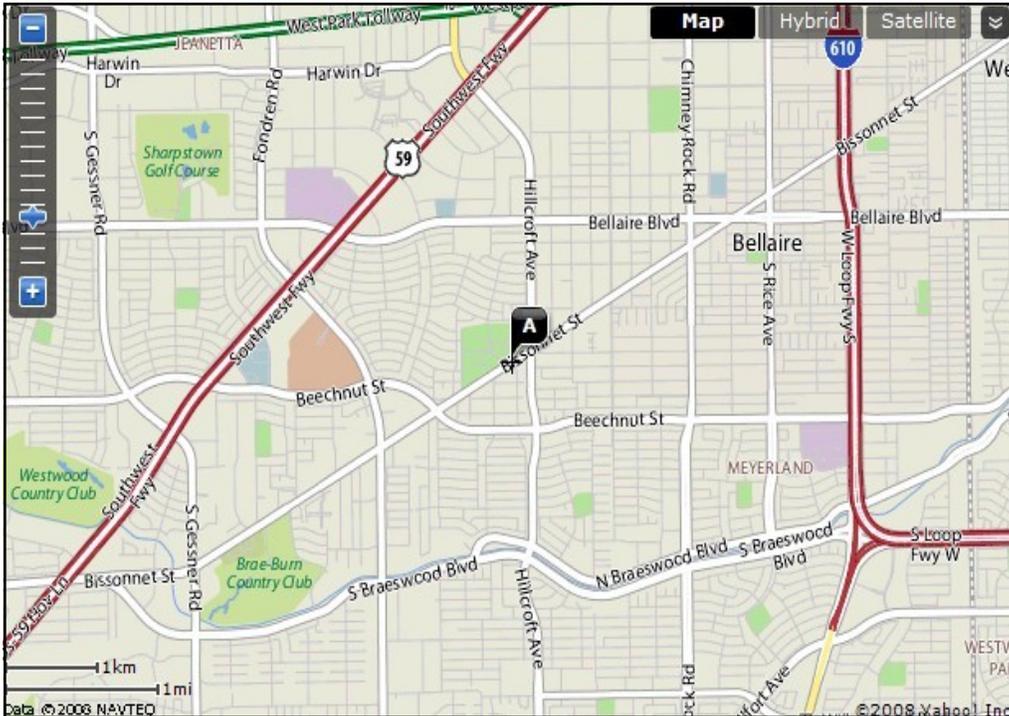
Month	Date	Presenter	Show Title & Synopsis	Contest Topic
January	10-Jan	Gary Harris	Still and video presentation of Whale Shark & Alaskan Eagles	Eyes and/or Teeth
February	7-Feb	Ken Knezick	Ten tips to improve your underwater photography	Seahorses & Pipefish
March	7-Mar	Tom & Kay Collier, Mike Greuter	HUPS Rivera Recap from HUPS trip in October 2010	Blue Water
April	4-Apr	Frank & Joyce Burek	3 mini presentation on Ecuador, Galapagos and a underwater recap of their HUPS trip to the Philippines in 2010.	Negative space
May	2-May	John Van Atta	Australia & the Coral Sea	Odd shaped Bottom Dwellers
June	13-Jun	Jan Baughman & Jim Heimer	Bali—Monkey, Massages and Mandarin Fish	It's only coral
July	11-Jul	Jesse Cancelmo	A Simple Approach to Viewing, Organizing, Post Capture Processing & Storage of Your Images	Macro Subjects
August	8-Aug	Jackie & Mary Lou Reid	Highlights from the Philippines & Cozumel	Sand & Muck Denizens
September	12-Sept	HUPS	Recap HUPS trip to Bali May 2011	Patterns
October	3-Oct	Dr. Brian Tulloch	Panama - Dive Adventures in Two Oceans	They come out after dark
November	7-Nov	Ken Bean	New Zealand Diving & Landscapes	Black & White (or Monocolor)
December	5-Dec	Best of HUPS	Christmas pot luck and Best of HUPS w/ creative photo contest	Best of HUPS & Creative



Keep up to date with all workshops at <http://www.hups.org/Workshops/Workshops.htm> and on the forum at <http://www.hups.org/forum/index.php?board=5.0>



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



## 2011 HUPS Officers

- President:** Jim Mensay  
**Vice President:** Greg Grimes  
**Secretary:** Tammy Allyn  
**Treasurer:** Tom Collier  
**Membership/Newsletter:** Alicia Grimes  
**Photo Contest:** Dennis Deavenport  
**TGCC Rep:** Frank Burek / Debbie Mensay  
**Web Master:** James Heimer  
**Workshops:** Greg Grimes  
**Trip Coordinator:** Tom Collier  
**Historian:** Frank Burek  
**Special Events:** Jan Baughman

## Board of Directors

- Jan Baughman  
 Frank Burek  
 Dennis Deavenport  
 Henry Ragland  
 Mike Greuter  
 Kandace Heimer  
 Ken Knezick  
 Mary McDonald  
 Russell Ramsey  
 Sandy Bryan  
 Mike Fernandez

## HUPS Board Meeting

### Dates

TBA

Bayland at 5:30pm sharp

## *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**

Keep up to date with all workshops at <http://www.hups.org/Workshops/Workshops.htm> and on the forum at <http://www.hups.org/forum/index.php?board=5.0>



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