



September Newsletter

www.hups.org

September 2016

HUPS does Yap

The September presentation is one-half of the HUPS trip to Micronesia in 2016, specifically Yap. The other half will be on Palau to be presented at a later meeting. This presentation is in two parts. The land adventures will be given by Debbie Mensay and the diving tall-tales will be given by Lance Glowacki. Joe Haws will be sharing with us his technique for capturing mating mandarin fish on video. So if you are interested in hearing about Yap come join us at the meeting on September 12



starting at 7:00 PM. Seating is still free.

Short trip report: Overall, this was a great trip with a week of wonderful diving. Bill Acker and the staff at Manta Ray Resort & Yap Diver did a fantastic job. The best way to describe the experience is relaxing. Diving started at 8:30 am



with two dives in the morning a break for lunch and then an afternoon dive. After diving was finished for the day the MRB staff took your dive gear off the boat, washed and hung it up. There was plenty of camera space on the boats and in the dive shop; there were individual camera stations with power and lights available. The cast of characters included Manta Rays, Mandarin Fish, Leaf fish, Ghost Pipe fish, Cuttle fish, Magic Sponge and Sharks.

-Lance Glowacki



President's Page

A Short History of Underwater Photography

In the April Newsletter I discussed the History of HUPS. This month I thought I would follow that thread with a discussion of a history of underwater photography, which coincided with Jim Babcock's most recent workshop, and how it has changed so drastically in the last decade progressing from film to digital photography.

One of the first underwater photographs that was attempted to be taken was by a German inventor, William Bauer, who tried to take a photograph through the porthole of a submarine he designed for the Russian navy in the 1850's. Many credit William Thompson, an Englishman, who lowered a housed plate camera 18 feet below the waters of Weymouth Bay, Dorset, England and operated the shutter from a boat anchored above as the first person to actually take an underwater photograph. He was also the first underwater photographer to suffer a flood to his camera as water leaked in to his housing and damaged some of his photographic plates. The photograph was very fuzzy. The next person and one who is considered to be the father of underwater photography was a Frenchman, Louis Boutan. In 1893 he took a clear underwater photograph in a placid bay near Banyuls sur Mer, France and later, to obtain proper lighting, used a magnesium flashgun for the first "underwater strobe" to light his picture. The flash sat on a barrel on the ocean floor and blew magnesium powder into a burning alcohol lamp. Later carbon lamps were developed and used. These were not your hand held strobes used today.

In 1914-1916 the first commercial use of cinematography occurred with the movie based upon Jules Verne's book, 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea. In 1927 an ichthyologist, Dr. William Longley, and National Geographic photographer, Charles Martin, published the first colored underwater photographs. Once again they used a magnesium powered flash to capture these images. Usually their flash table was above water and the flash would illuminate the ocean to a depth of about 15 feet. Many aspiring underwater photographers had to develop their own equipment to use underwater. Bruce Mosert spent 30 years as the official photographer of Silver Springs, Florida and both designed and built his underwater camera housings from sheet metal, plywood, screws and glass. The Rolleimarine system came into being in the 1940's and was used quite successfully for many years. In 1950 Beuchat produced a commercially available camera housing known as Tarzan designed by French photographer, Henry Broussard, to house the French Foca camera. It was not until 1957 when Jean de

Wouters, a Belgian engineer and former member of the Jacques-Yves Cousteau crew, designed a 35 mm underwater camera known as the "Calypso" or the "Calypso-Phot" which became the first successful underwater still camera. In 1961 La Spirotechnique, a French offshore machinery development company began producing the Calypso camera. In 1962, the camera was licensed exclusively to Nikon which in 1963 produced it under the name, Nikonos. The Nikonos system went through 5 generations of these view finder type cameras ending with the Nikonos V. Nikon also produced an underwater SLR camera called the NIKONOS RS AF which previewed at DEMA held in Houston in 1992 which due to too many manufacturing processes, costs and other issues was discontinued in August 1996. Nikon stopped production of the Nikonos V cameras in 2001. In the 20th century the Nikonos camera was the largest worldwide selling underwater camera system. Many in this club started out using the various Nikonos cameras and strobes quite successfully as that was really the best there was outside of using a housed camera system.

In the 1990's a new era of photography was born with the release of the compact digital still cameras. Underwater photographers were no longer limited to 36 frames before having to surface and reload our cameras. In 2002 when the first 6 megapixel camera was released, film was on its way out and digital began to take over as the preferred mode of underwater and land photography. Now one can secure housings for almost any camera one wants to use underwater. Strobes have also progressed from magnesium flares to both large and small strobe to fit any budget. Cameras and housings are getting smaller once again. The introduction of interchangeable lenses in a mirrorless cameras came in 2004 when Epsom came out with its RD-1 digital rangefinder camera which used Leica M mount lens but costs \$3000. Panasonic introduced the first 4/3's mirrorless system with interchangeable lenses in 2008 at a much lower cost and the mirrorless interchangeable cameras began to sell. At that time, there were really only 3 primary categories in the market. They were the point and shoot cameras with fixed lenses, film or digital SLR cameras. Now with the mirrorless market growing by leaps and bounds and new cameras being released every 6 months or so, the DSLR market has been eroding to these smaller and lighter cameras. Time will tell which type of camera system will prevail in the underwater photography market or if both the DSLR and the mirrorless market will co-exist with one another.

President's Page, continued

If you were not at our August meeting you missed a great presentation by Ron Coley discussing his book, *The Fountains of St. Mark*, about the headwaters of the San Marcos River and Spring Lake where some of us in our younger days may have watched "Ralph, the diving pig", perform.

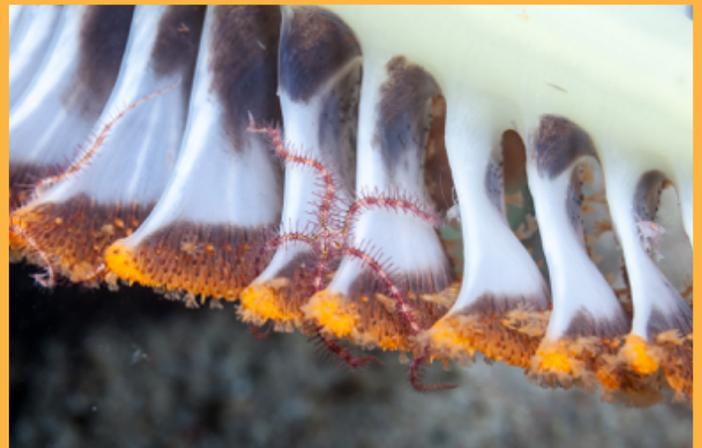
Those of you who missed the August Workshop, Final Cut Pro, presented by James Babcock on making a movie missed a real treat as the workshop delved into the history of moving pictures, a brief history of underwater film, film theory, the current state of underwater videos and Final Cut Pro with references to Adobe Premier. There was a lot of give and take with the questions by the HUPSTERS who attended the workshop and was most informative. Thank you Jim for taking the time and effort to direct this workshop and I am sure with the interest in videography this is just the first workshop of many we can expect in the coming years.

I am sorry I cannot be at this month's meeting and the presentation by Lance Glowacki and Joe Haws on HUPS DOES YAP as I know it will be an exciting and informative program. If what I have read about Yap is true, the native inhabitants had never heard the term "pocket change" applied to their money.

--Russell Ramsey



Lance Glowacki
Intermediate 3rd



Beata Lerman
Intermediate 1st

HUPS Dive Trips

The last scheduled HUPS sponsored trip this year, "The Annual HUPS Trip to Bonaire", will very likely coincide with the Bonaire coral spawning. If you have not been present at a coral spawning, this is a once in a lifetime experience you will not want to miss. Make your plans now to travel to Bonaire with John and Lorna Carpenter. This trip is scheduled for October 15 - 23, 2016. Please mail your deposits or give them to Debbie Mensay, HUPS treasurer. For more details pick up the flyer at the September meeting or see Lorna Carpenter for details for this trip.



Jackie Reid
Advanced 3rd

HUPS Announcements

HUPS at Moody Gardens

HUPS recently removed its photo display at the Moody Gardens Aquarium ahead of a big demolition/remodel project the Aquarium is undertaking. Although we no longer have the big display in the rotunda, Moody Gardens has asked if we would participate in an upcoming holiday display that will be located in their Ice Land exhibit from November through January. While not as prominent as the display in the rotunda, this "Caribbean Christmas" display will still provide a chance to feature some of our member's photos. Moody Gardens has asked HUPS to provide photos of several specific species to complement ice sculptures that will be featured in this upcoming exhibit.

The photos they are seeking for the display will be 8x10 (Moody Gardens will do the printing) and should prominently feature the subject fish (preferably just the fish, the whole fish, and nothing but the fish). If you think you have a great photo of one (or all!) of these fish that you would like to be considered for display, here's what we need from you:

1) No more than two entries per fish. (The fish we need are listed below.) The target species should fill the frame (no hammerhead shark in the distance or a red snapper surrounded by other fish).

2) Crop to 8x10, landscape orientation only. If your photo is selected, we'll ask for a high resolution file for printing.

3) Send to bbright12@comcast.net by September 23, 2016

The selection process used for the chosen photographs will be similar to what HUPS has done in the past for selecting our previous Moody Gardens photos. This will help ensure a variety of HUPS members have the opportunity to be showcased. We have a very short window to assemble this mini exhibit for Moody Gardens, so start searching your photos for your "Best Of" the species listed below!

Great Hammerhead Shark, *Sphyrna mokarran*
 Smalltooth Sawfish, *Pristis pectinata*
 Spotted Eagle Ray, *Aetobatus narinari*
 Atlantic Tarpon, *Megalops atlanticus*
 Green Moray Eel, *Gymnothorax funebris*
 Lined Seahorse, *Hippocampus erectus*
 Goliath Grouper, *Epinephelus itajara*

Bigeye, *Priacanthus arenatus*
 Slender Sharksucker, *Echeneis naucrates*
 Common Dolphinfish, *Coryphaena hippurus*
 Red Snapper, *Lutjanus campechanus*
 Yellowtail Snapper, *Ocyurus chrysurus*
 Four-eye Butterflyfish, *Chaetodon capistratus*
 Blue Angelfish, *Holocanthus bermudensis*
 Queen Angelfish, *Holocanthus ciliaris*

Rock Beauty, *Holocanthus tricolor*
 Stoplight Parrotfish, *Sparisoma viride*
 Great Barracuda, *Sphyrna barracuda*
 Blue Tang, *Acanthurus coeruleus*
 Blue Marlin, *Makaira nigricans*
 Queen Triggerfish, *Balistes vetula*
 Ocean Sunfish, *Mola mola*
 Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle, *Lepidochelys kempii*

HUPS BOD Meeting

There will be a HUPS Board of Directors meeting at 5:30pm October 3rd prior to the regularly scheduled October HUPS meeting. Please let any of the BOD members know if there is a topic you would like discussed.

HUPS PO Box

Please take note that HUPS will no longer be maintaining a physical PO Box address any longer. If you utilized this address to send in membership dues, please either pay dues on-line via Paypal, at the meeting, or send to the HUPS Treasurer's personal mailing address, which can be found in the HUPS Roster. If you used the PO Box for another reason, please let a BOD member know so we can discuss.

Keep Canyon Lake Beautiful

The US Army Corps of Engineers & Keep Canyon Lake Beautiful are in need of divers to clean the lake bottom on Sept 17, 2016 in honor National Public Lands Day.
<http://www.swf-wc.usace.army.mil/canyon/>

Don't forget to submit photos to hupsphotocontest@gmail.com no later than 11:59pm this Wednesday, September 7th for submission into the monthly photo contest. This month's topic is "Texture".

The Ten Commandments of Underwater Photography Etiquette

After some feedback from multiple folks while on a recent HUPS trip, it was determined that it can't hurt for us all to be reminded of some basic manners that we as underwater photographers should follow. We are usually diving with other folks, often non-photographers, and should keep in mind how our actions reflect upon not only underwater photographers but divers as well. Joe Haws was kind enough to put together this list of Ten Commandments and the BOD agreed that they are something for which we should all be mindful. I'd like to personally add that we should muster up the courage to speak to an individual personally and respectfully if we see a behavior we are uncomfortable with while diving with someone. Do not just complain without giving the person the opportunity to improve. We aren't always aware of our impact to others and our environment, and I have to believe that we don't maliciously want to violate the ideas portrayed in these Ten Commandments. Conversely, if you are approached by someone with some constructive feedback, please keep an open mind and try not to get defensive. It is often hard to approach people with this type of critique so keep in mind the courage it took for them to approach you and remember that it is most likely being discussed with you to help improve a situation. After all, I do believe that we all just want to have fun, stay safe, leave the least imprint as possible on our environment, and attempt to discredit (or at least not substantiate) the sometimes "bad reputation" that non-photographer divers have of us underwater photographers.

- I. Thou shalt be Safe, including yourself, your buddy and your group. Do not charge off on your own, stay with your buddy or team. Watch your gas consumption.
- II. Thou shalt respect marine life and other divers – no harassing, no touching, be mindful of lights and strobe use; watch where you point your lights. Shining them on a subject without invitation is an intrusion. Be especially aware of non-photographers.
- III. Thou shalt be aware of the marine life and other divers when departing from a shot; avoid a quick exit or kicking up sand.
- IV. Thou shalt share the subject; especially with non-photographers. Take a few shots, then point out the subject to others and move on. If you want more shots, wait for the others to finish.
- V. Thou shalt be respectful of other equipment whether larger or smaller, especially on the camera table and rinse tank; do not monopolize either. Try to minimize your area on the camera table. Do not leave any equipment in any of the rinse tanks, as they are intended for rinse and remove. Your gear should not leave your control, whether a camera, mask, or wetsuit, etc.
- VI. Thou shalt not move in front of another person's shot line or crowd yourself into a shot. This includes your equipment. Be aware of your surroundings, not just what is in front of you.
- VII. Thou shalt be aware of your bubbles, especially along a wall. Try not to swim under another diver. It can ruin a shot or put bubbles on their lens.
- VIII. Thou shalt be respectful when waiting for a subject. If another person is shooting a subject; do not get too close, as it can scare away the subject or disrupt the shot. Stay back a fair distance until the other person is through with their shots.
- IX. Thou shalt be cognizant of your buoyancy and trim and adjust during the dive, as needed. They are not constant.
- X. Thou shalt not take possession of a scene. Just because you have a camera in your hand, it does not give you any special rights. A strobe going off will often attract many others too.

2016 POTY Standings through August

NOVICE

1st	Mathis Weatherall	510
2nd	Craig Beasley	494
3rd	Kevin Crofoot	387
4th	Lorna Carpenter	225
5th	John Van Atta	139
6th	David McCracken	103

INTERMEDIATE

1st	Martin Daniels	500
2nd	Bess Bright	459
3rd	Lance Glowacki	455
4th	Beata Lerman	440
5th	Paul McDonald	373
6th	Joe Holden	207

ADVANCED

1st	Jackie Reid	615
2nd	Dennis Deavenport	613
3rd	Debbie Mensay	299
4th	Jim Mensay	295
5th	Daniel Bergeron	181



John VanAtta
Novice 1st



Martin Daniels
Intermediate 2nd



Dennis Deavenport
Advanced 1st



Jackie Reid
Advanced 2nd

2016 Meeting & Contest Topics

	Presentation	Presenter	Contest Topic	Tech Topic
January 4	"Ancient Waters" Red Sea diving, pre & post excursions in Istanbul & Luxor	Jan Baughman & Dennis Deavenport	Shrimps, Crabs, Lobsters	None
February 1	"Veering Off Course in the Philippines"	Tom & Kay Collier	Black & White	Shooting mandarin fish
March 7	USA – East Coast/West Coast	Beata Lerman	Toadfish, Scorpionfish, Lizardfish	Video – slow it down
April 4	"How-To" on Publishing & Review of <i>Glorious Gulf of Mexico: Below the Blue</i>	Jesse Cancelmo	Something striped	None
May 2	Bonaire – 2014 & 2015 HUPS trip	Jim & Debbie Mensay	Curves	How I got that shot
	Coco View, Roatan, Honduras	Mitch Carlson		
June 6	Fluoro-Diving – UV induced phosphorescence (Sponsored by Oceanic Adventures)	Greg Gebhardt	Barracuda, tarpon, spadefish	None
July 11	Strobe Placement & F-Stops	Danny Bergeron	Eyes	
August 1	The Fountains of Saint Mark	Ron Coley	Echinoderms	TBD
September 12	HUPS does Yap – 2016 HUPS trip	Lance Glowacki / Joe Haws / Debbie Mensay	Textures	How to video mating mandarin fish
October 3	Cebu, Philippines & Lembeh, Sulawesi, Indonesia	Kandace & Jim Heimer and Mary Lou & Jackie Reid	Wild faces	How to stalk fish and/or Video Techniques
November 7	BVI/St. Croix – 2016 HUPS trip	Jim & Sudi Babcock	Hogfish, wrasse, parrotfish, razorfish	Jellyfish snorkeling – video & photo techniques
December 5	Best of HUPS	Lance Glowacki	Creative	

Month	Themes	Description
1	Shrimps, Crabs, Lobster	Just like it says... look it up in the book (crabs, shrimp, lobsters, etc.). When in doubt... Wikipedia can help you out.
2	Black & White	Mono-color images (black & white, sepia, bluetone, etc.). Only shades of one color are allowed. Can be taken as a monocolored image straight out of the camera or edited down from full color.
3	Toadfish, Scorpionfish, Lizardfish	A group of Odd-shaped bottom dwellers. Normally found resting on the sea bottom. All are consisted experts at camouflage
4	Something Striped	A critter or fish that has noticeable stripes. A long narrow band distinguished, as by color or texture, from the surrounding material or surface
5	Curves	Anything that is characterized by a curve. Can be fish, invertebrates, or even non-living. To have or take a turn, change, or deviation from a straight line or plane surface without sharp breaks or angularity
5a Video	General	1 to 3 minutes. At least 50% must be video footage.
6	Barracuda, Tarpon, Spadefish	A group of fish ranging in color from silver to gray. May have blueish, yellowish or greenish tints. In this theme we are only dealing with 3 types of fish.
7	Eyes	Any sea life that has an eye. Can be fish, invertebrates or mammal.
8	Echinoderms (starfish of all kinds, urchins, sea cucumbers, etc.)	The adults are recognizable by their (usually five-point) radial symmetry, and include such well-known animals as starfish, sea urchins, sand dollars, sea cucumbers, as well as the sea lilies or "stone lilies".
9	Textures	Texture, another element of art, is used to describe either the way a three-dimensional work actually feels when touched, or the visual "feel" of a two-dimensional work.
10	Wild Faces	The face is the front part of the head that extends from the forehead to the chin and includes the mouth, nose, cheeks, and eyes. The wild is going beyond normal or conventional bounds.
11	Hogfish, Wrasses, Parrotfish, Razorfish	A group of fish that have pectoral fins with large, even scales.
11a Video	General	1 to 3 minutes. At least 50% must be video footage.
12	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.

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!



2016 HUPS Officers

President:

Russell Ramsey

Vice President:

Dennis Deavenport

Secretary:

Tammy Allyn

Treasurer:

Debbie Mensay

Membership/Newsletter:

Monica Losey

Photo Contest:

Lance Glowacki

TGCC Reps:

Alicia Grimes

Frank Burek

Debbie Mensay

WebMaster:

Joe Holden

Workshops:

Lance Glowacki

Trip Coordinator:

Jim Mensay

Historian:

Frank Burek

Special Events:

Jan Baughman

HUPS on the Internet



www.hups.org



www.youtube.com/user/HUPSdotORG



www.facebook.com/groups/174168478778/

2016 HUPS Board of Directors

Jan Baughman
Bess Bright
Frank Burek
Martin Daniels

Lance Glowacki
Mike Greuter
Beata Lerman
Ken Knezick

Monica Losey
Henry Ragland
Tom Collier
Joe Haws

Jim Mensay



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