

October 2011

Underwater Images

HUPS Presents – Dr. Brian Tulloch – Diving in two Oceans – Panama

By Greg Grimes

HIGHLIGHTS

- Dr. Brian Tulloch Presents Panama
- Video Workshop
- How to shoot video like a Pro
- What's new at HUPS
- Board member agenda

In this month's meeting we will have the privilege to be taken along with Dr. Brian Tulloch as he relays his travelogue while being a guest lecturer in Santiago-de-Veragues, Panama. As a form of introduction, Dr. Tulloch is a frequent contributor to the HUPS newsletters with his adventure around the globe while diving as well as being a superior fisherman and sailor. If you have in the past enjoyed his articles we know you will also enjoy his adventure in to Panama.

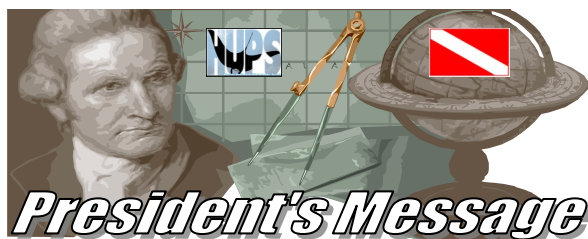
As a preview of his presentation, Dr. Tulloch provided the following information to get you in the mood for both diving and topside inside Panama. His diving began at the central point of the Pacific Ocean at the lovely 35x15 mile island of Colba. The island was originally a penal colony but is now converted to an Environmental Nature Resort. Divers have access to pristine unspoiled reefs. During the surface intervals Howler monkeys can be seen swinging from tree to tree. Colorful scarlet macaws flash from the treetops and in season Humpback whales on their route from the Arctic to the Antarctic region can be heard signing. The second diving adventure began in Portobello's Caribbean Coast. The diving there gives a wonderful window into this mix of unspoiled Caribbean Reef and historical artifacts. Several of the wreck sites are named after the accounts of her Majesties privateers.

Panama's history goes back to Pre-Columbian days where it used to be a haven for British pirates. Today, it is full of modern day high rises similar to Miami Beach where most of the money comes from Venezuelan dollars that are exported from their dictatorship.

Although Panama may not be on our diving wish list, it maybe after this informative presentation. Dr. Tulloch's presentation will include underwater images that were taken with a "simple pocket underwater camera". He will also give insight into the topside and underwater adventures in this lovely country that is only a 3 ½ hour flight from Houston.

Our meeting will be held on October 3rd at 7:00 p.m. until 9:00p.m. at [Bayland Community Center](#). Please arrive early to enjoy some socializing time to relay your latest adventure with your fellow HUPS members. Visitors are always welcome.





Over the last few months, I have been amazed at how many CHOICES and DECISIONS we HUPSters have to make. For instance:

Do you shoot wide angle or macro on your next dive? I almost always prefer macro, but a ray (eagle or manta) can always show up, and macro just won't capture the image. On a trip to Thailand a few years ago, we dove in and encountered a whale shark as we were descending. At least my Olympus point and shoot had a movie mode that could capture the image. A macro lens would have just been a waste.

Do you bring an extra back up rig? Some trips are almost perfect, but some trips the flood happens on the first dive. We had a flood on the last trip we took, but we quickly changed to our back up and kept on diving and shooting. Sometimes the back up stuff just winds up being extra weight in your bag.

Do you check everything or do you carry on the camera gear? Sometimes I really get tired of carrying on the 40 pound camera bag, but at least I know it will always be there when we get to the resort. However, some flights and carriers don't always give you that option.

Do you make a night dive or do you call it a night early? After a day of diving and lugging all that gear, it feels good to be dry and warm for dinner. But a night dive can be the most peaceful and relaxing dive you ever take, and it can also have some of the neatest critters you would ever want to see.

Do you dive Nitrox or just dive air? Of course Nitrox costs a few bucks more, but it gives you a bunch of added safety (if you choose to use it that way).

Do you dive the Caribbean, the Pacific, Indonesia, South East Asia, etc? In the last couple of years we have done several Caribbean destinations. You get there all in one day, all in one flight. But the trip back to Bali gave us a chance to shoot images that you just don't get in the Caribbean. By the way, HUPS is working on a trip back to the Philippines as well as the Caribbean for 2012.

Do you enter the photo contest this month or do you just pass on it? I used to just take a pass, but lately I have really enjoyed reviewing my pics and working to shoot my very best. The contest has been an incentive to study, practice, and try to improve my skills. This is an open invitation to join in the fun and to share some of your success with the club.

Do you want to get more involved in HUPS or wait till next year? This is the time to think about it. We will take nominations for Officers and Board members for next year at the October meeting. We need your involvement and point of view. Jump in now and we'll see you under the boat.

Scuba Jim

What's new at HUPS?

By Alicia Grimes

As we are all aware, it has been a very long HOT summer. We are now looking forward to the winds of change that we hope will arrive soon with fall and winters arrival. Just like the winds of change HUPS is also in the middle of some pretty big changes as well. If you have not been to a meeting in a while, you are missing out on our brand new equipment that is now in the HUPS arsenal. HUPS has recently purchased a new projector that can now show off those fantastic shots that we all strive so hard to get. In addition to this upgrade, we have as of last month, added a new screen to enhance the images even further. Thanks in part to our partnership with Moody Gardens and the sale of your photos at their gift shop. We would like to thank Bayland Community Center for allowing HUPS to store the screen at their location.

In recent months we have also been privileged to have had two wonderful workshops. One on traveling in the 21st century given by Ken Knezick owner of Island Dreams, the other by James Wiseman on post processing your photos once you arrive home from your dive destination. In addition to those workshops, you can probably tell that this month's theme is videography. With that in mind, Greg Grimes will be giving a workshop on videography that will help you use that video button on your camera that you may have hesitated to try. It will include how to obtain different shots as well as take your audience underwater and tell a story with your video. This workshop will take place on November 5th. You can sign up for this workshop at the next meeting or on the [HUPS forum](#).

HUPS is also in the midst of looking for another "Club" trip for 2012. If you were at the last meeting, you can see how much fun those trips can be and we hope once we have a trip established that you will take advantage of the great deals as well as learning from other members and building a stronger club.

New things are always happening on the forum, in the newsletter and at the meetings. Get involved and be a part of the changes.



Workshop Info

By Greg Grimes

Last month we had the privilege to learn from one of the best at post processing, James Wiseman. James spent his 3 hours on stage, showing all that were in attendance, how to use LightRoom including some unknown tips that even those who are very familiar with LightRoom could take advantage of. The workshop was also open to question and answers as well as sharing amongst the group so that all of us received the results that we are striving for.

In the question and answer portion James recommended a software that we can all use to increase our knowledge of Marine life as well as use the correct names for "Keywords" while using LightRoom. This software is available for research and to purchase from the [HUPS website](#) once you click this link you will find the Marine Keywords link on this page. If you are interested in purchasing this software please order it from this page, **HUPS will receive a small re-seller profit for each copy of Marine Life Keywords if ordered through our site using the link above.**

We want to thank James again for his informative workshop and hope he is able to do it again next year for the HUPSters.



Upcoming Workshop: Shooting Underwater Video for Post Production



For those of you who have a still camera with video capabilities and are willing to give it a try, we also have an upcoming workshop for you. Join Greg Grimes on **November 5th** from **12:00 - 3:00 p.m.** at Bayland Community Center as he take you through some video capturing techniques that include different shooting types, using magic filter, white balancing with your hand, best settings for DSLR cameras to maximize quality, how to collect your underwater footage to tell a story with video and so much



more. The workshop will conclude (time permitting) with a roundtable discussion with HUPSters who have shot video to discuss what works for them and how we all can improve in video. Please join us even if you don't have video capabilities yet! You can sign up at the next meeting, on the [forum](#), or email me at greg@theworldinflash.com.

These workshops are for you. As we move into 2012 I'm looking for workshop ideas so if you have any suggestions please feel free to post your thoughts for workshop ideas on the forum.

September Photo Contest Results

Novice	
1st	Paul Marcellus
2nd	Monica Losey
3rd	Greg Grimes

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

Advanced	
1st	Dennis Deavenport
2nd	Dennis Deavenport
3rd	Jackie Reid

Contest results through September 2011		
NOVICE		
1st	Monica Losey	559
2nd	Lance Glowacki	515
3rd	Greg Grimes	507
4th	Bess Bright	492
5th	John VanAtta	378
INTERMEDIATE		
1st	Kandace Heimer	586
2nd	Debbie Mensay	571
3rd	Jim Mensay	539
4th	Mike Greuter	486
5th	Paul McDonald	353
ADVANCED		
1st	Jackie Reid	610
2nd	Dennis Deavenport	573
3rd	Mary Lou Reid	563
4th	Tom Collier	553
5th	Ken Bean	489

Helpful Video Websites for learning Underwater Videography

There seems to be a lot of interest in wanting to add videography to your underwater diving experience. I have done some of the research for you to get you started. Click on the links below to get started and learn more about underwater videography.

1. [Learn underwater videography](#)
2. [Wet pixel](#)
3. [Fishtales Films](#)

HUPS Upcoming Board Member Meeting:

If you are a HUPS board member please remember that your next board meeting is November 7th at 5:30 at Bayland Community Center.

The following items are on the agenda:

1. Elections for Board and Officers for 2012 and Diver Awards for 2011
2. Financial Report
3. Membership Report
4. Moody Gardens Update
5. Trip Report - Recap Bali 2011 and Discuss 2012 Trips
6. Recap Projector, Screen, Blue Ray equipment and performance
7. Workshop Suggestions for 2012
8. Speaker Suggestions for 2012
9. Old Business
10. New Business

Please let Jim Mensay know if for some reason you are not able to attend.



Video: How much is enough?

Enjoy these two articles from the past related to videography. Both still hold true today. If you are interested in videography, join Greg Grimes seminar on November 5th



If you have been swimming around your video camera, poking it around coral heads and aiming it at wrecks, you probably have had some misgiving about how much is enough.

Well obviously, if you are taping a feeding frenzy, a diver uncovering bards of gold or any other identifiable piece of "action" there is a beginning and an end. You can certainly recognize it if you missed the beginning or stopped before the action was completed. In these cases, it would be great to begin taping a few seconds before it starts and records a few seconds beyond the finish, to allow for editing later.

If you are like us, you go down with your camera, just to be able to bring back a record of your dive. We cannot seem to get ourselves organized enough to make up a story and then stage it for video camera, as the magazine articles tell us to do. Maybe we could if we spent every day of our lives underwater like the people

who write the articles do. Don't they know we are just excited to be in the water at all? We cannot waste our valuable vacation time planning and reshooting a series of scenes to fit a script. Besides, fish and other divers have their own agendas.

We find ourselves engaging in the same conversation over and over again: How long should you tape something that is not "Happening?" We have a tendency to sit and watch animal behavior. It can be fascinating while we sit there, but watching it at home is boring.

We video when we come upon a situation or site that has potential. Maybe it is a cleaning station. How long do you tap the same repetitive activity? From one standpoint, it is "action" in much the same way that rain or traffic is "action". It may be "action" but nothing is happening. Just how long should you record a shell, a wreck or a sunset? How long should such a segment be when it is edited into a finished program? The following comment by John M. Bishop in HOME VIDEO PRODUCTION gives a pretty good answer to this question.

The human breath cycle, inhale-exhale, last about 6 seconds, and film editors try to have something significant happen to the screen every 6 seconds. This can be a cut to another shot, or a change of composition (such as a zoom or pan, or people moving within the frame so the geometry changes.) This general rule is broken all the time, both with longer and shorter shots; but, often the 6-second interval will be maintained and then a much longer or shorter cut will reawaken the viewer's attention.

The 6-second rule of thumb applies better to editing than to shooting. If something is happening in front of the camera, keep shooting as long as it stay interesting; perhaps varying the shot with a slight pan or zoom every 6 to 10 seconds. For static shots such as the front of a house, a name on a mailbox, or a wide establishing shot, make the shot 6 to 10 seconds long.

So, the next time we find ourselves parked behind the video camera at a cleaning station, we can tape from one position for one breath cycle, move a little closer, inhale-exhale, move to one side, breathe and ascend a couple of feet. By this time, something will have happened or we will have lost interest.

Underwater Video - How To Shoot Like a Pro

By J. Faye Morris

Shooting U/W video can be easier than shooting still pictures, because focus and exposure can be automatic. The challenge to shooting U/W video like a pro is in mastering composition, anticipating movement, adjusting camera angles, and changing size perspective.

Composing U/W video is similar to composing still photos. Even though your subject is moving, you want to position your subject so that the movement is from one corner to the opposite corner, from side to side, or top bottom while you apply the Rule of Thirds. Now while you are applying the Rule of Thirds to fill the screen. The subject does not have to be in center stage and the only thing to fill the screen (even though this can be effective for short cuts of non-moving subject primarily used for marine identification). Effective use of negative space can mean the difference on O.K. video and outstanding video. In general, composition needs to be tighter. If you are filming two divers, the divers are best positioned close together.

Anticipating movement and then capturing the movement on film in an artistic manner is putting all your knowledge together. You can't tell the fish which way you want him to go. You can only watch and wait. Taking as many cuts as your air, film, light, and time allow. In general, you want to have plenty of nose room (the space in front of the subject's movement). You don't want it to appear as though the subject is crowded. The best panning techniques is to anticipate the movement, hold the camera still with the subject out of view, have the subject swim into view, when the subject's head reaches the center of the screen, start moving the camera to keep up with the movement of the subject, following the subject for three to five seconds, then allow the subject to swim out of the screen holding the camera stationary. Panning is best reserved for medium to large subjects.

Camera angles create effects and moods. The angle of the camera can make your subject larger. Downward angles make the subject smaller. Level angles pre-set the diver's point of view. Experiment! Take as many shots, from as many different angles, as you can imagine. It doesn't look like you think it's going to look.

Finally, size perspective can be controlled by you, the camera person. Camera-to-subject distance is the key to controlling the apparent size of two or more subjects. The subject is closest to the camera will look biggest.

These are just a few points with regards to composition, movement, camera angles and size. As in still photography you want to Bracket! Bracket! Bracket! With video you want to Shoot! Shoot! Shoot!





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

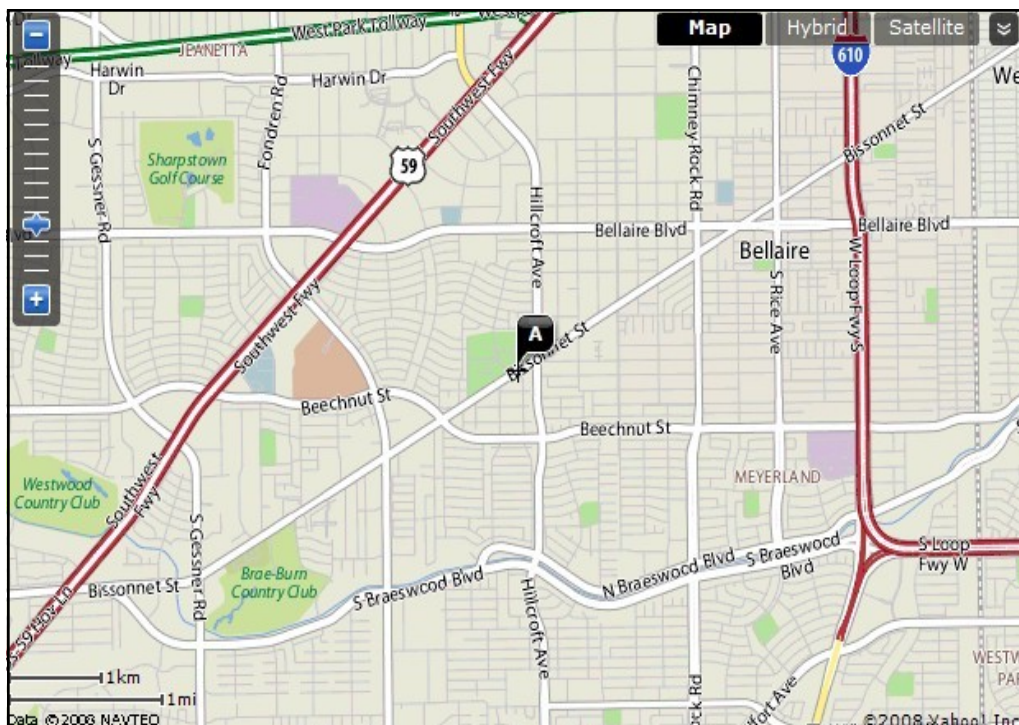
Workshops & Education

Event	Date	Instructor/Leader	Online Info
Shooting Underwater Video for Post Production	Nov. 5, 2011	Greg Grimes	http://www.hups.org/Workshops/Workshops/2011-UWVVideo.htm

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

Wendy McSwain

Mike Fernandez

HUPS Board Meeting Dates

7-Nov

Bayland at 6:00pm 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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