



HUPS Newsletter

April 7,
7- 9 pm



Video Basics
with Stephen Wolborsky

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Video Basics

Stephen Wolborsky

April 7th at 7 pm - Bayland Community Center

[Link to the Zoom broadcast](#)

Meeting ID: 822 2562 5836 Password: 079944

by Dennis Deavenport

As you probably know, I'm always on the lookout for presenters for HUPS meetings that have advanced skills to share. For the past two years, I've been following Steve Wolborsky on Facebook, watching him post a series of really excellent macro and super-macro video clips. He has been a regular on the Nudibase page and has become one of their top posters and has now branched out into blackwater work. Last June, he gave his excellent 'Macromaniac' presentation to HUPS. As a result, I gave into temptation and asked if he would do a similar presentation to HUPS but on underwater video. I already knew that he had this presentation worked up so why not? Lately, we've had a lively exchange on camera gear and after a number of informative exchanges on super macro diopters, I ordered a Nauticam CMC-2 which I'm excited to try out in about 2 months. Thanks Steve!

About 2-3 times a week, Steve will post a short 20 -25 second video clip on Facebook showing something that he has captured around Guam or in his travels. They are always excellent technically and interesting from a subject standpoint.

VIDEO BASICS:

Have you been deterred from trying underwater video due to the array of confusing terms and technical details? In this lesson, you'll learn how to:

Decode the jargon

Get the right equipment

Kickstart the creative process

Bio: Steve Wolborsky has lived in the US territory of Guam since 2004. A retired member of both the US Air Force and civil service, Steve learned to dive shortly after arriving on Guam. Nearly 4000 dives and numerous dive trips later, he is passionate about the ocean, diving, and all things underwater photography. Steve and his wife MJ both shoot stills with the Nikon D850, and Steve does most of his video work with the Panasonic GH5S. They both especially enjoy macro/supermacro. Their favorite locations for the small stuff are Lembeh, Anilao, Dauin, Puerto Galera and, of course, Guam. For their big animal fix, they particularly enjoy visiting Palau, which is less than a 2-hour flight from Guam.

Steve's work can be viewed on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/stephen.wolborsky/> or Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/stephenwolborsky/>

Anilao



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OCTOPUS









President's Message

by Craig Beasley

April is here and that means the HUFF 2025 is less than two weeks away – April 12-13, to be exact. You will find new information in this newsletter about the event including the raffle and details of the show. It will be similar to previous shows, but in my honest opinion, I think it is the best crop of films, overall, that we have shown. The quality of the films is stunning – lots of new gear has come to market in the last 5 years. I didn't feel that way when I was in the middle of the arduous, but fun task of reviewing and scoring them. When we finally got the first draft of the actual shows completed, we sat down to carefully QC them – mistakes can creep in – and I was blown away. We actually stopped the process, which is basically to look carefully at all the titles, transitions, etc, for errors and continued to watch some of the films. They were that good! I have to say that we also watched on an OLED screen, which makes everything look better. So we can't wait for the big screens.

In the meantime, the website, huff.hups.org, has had a full update and you can find all the information there including present and previous trailers (free to watch), all past HUFF shows at just \$10 for each HUFF year, the Extended Program and much more. I highly recommend you download the Extended Program which contains the program with authors names and the authors' descriptions of their films.

The raffle items are later in the newsletter (and on the web site) and like last year, you'll find travel, equipment, services and much more for which you can "pay your money, take your chances". Good thing it's still 3 tickets for \$5! That will buy you two chances for trips to the Philippines and a shot at an Ikelite \$500 gift certificate! Or 3 chances to win some of JaVan's famous jelly. Now that's a deal!!!

APRIL 12-13, 2025



HOUSTON UNDERWATER FILM FESTIVAL
MIDTOWN ARTS & THEATER CENTER

THE EVENTS

at Midtown Arts and Theater Center Houston (MATCH)

3400 Main Street, Houston, Texas 77002

Saturday, April 12, 3:00 PM - Screening of entries for the Environmental, Art House Flicks and Macro categories. Matchbox 2 Theater

Saturday, April 12, 5:30 PM - Meet the Filmmakers across the street at the Holman Draft Hall

Sunday, April 13, 3:00 PM - Screening of entries for the Made in Texas, Animation, Dance & Free Diving, and Feature Length categories. Matchbox 4 Theater

Sunday, April 13, 5:30 pm - Awards Reception in the Gallery at MATCH

INDIVIDUAL TICKETS*

Saturday, April 6, 3 PM - \$15

Sunday, April 7, 5 PM - \$15

Sunday, April 7, 5:30 PM - Admission is free, Appetizer Buffet \$10

TICKET PACKAGES*

\$25 Stargazer Package includes 1 ticket to the **Saturday screenings** and access to the **appetizer buffet** at the Sunday reception.

\$25 Octopus Package includes 1 ticket to the **Sunday screenings** and access to the **appetizer buffet** at the Sunday reception.

\$38 Manta Ray Package includes 1 ticket to **both screenings** and access to the **appetizer buffet** at the Sunday reception.

\$75 – Whale Shark Package – HUFF SPONSOR PACKAGE includes 1 ticket to **both screenings** and access to the **appetizer buffet** at the Sunday reception plus **praise for supporting HUFF!** You will be **acknowledged at the festival for your donation.**

*Please note that there is a \$3 per ticket handling fee.

Buy tickets [here](#)





Houston Underwater Film Festival 2025

Saturday, April 12, 3 pm Show

Environmental

1. Bone Shark Island
2. Requiem for the Baltic Sea
3. Ocean Governance
4. Critically Endangered Bandula Barbs
5. Overwhelming Remorse
6. The Cushion Star Dilemma
7. Tides of Change

Art House Flicks

1. He's Mine
2. Samsara  
3. The Dream of the Sperm Bank
4. Spectral Symbiosis
5. 2 Minutes
6. Flow
7. Educating
8. Power of Love

Macro

1. Rolling in the Deep - Romblon
2. Rhythms of the Reef
3. Uncle Bob's Small World
4. Breakfast at Anilao
5. The Coconut Octopus
6. Another Biodiversity Movie
7. Cosmogony
8. Beneath the Horizon
9. Magic of the Macroverse

Sunday, April 13, 3 pm Show

Feature Length

1. The Stingray Whisperer
2. Dreaming of Raja Ampat
3. The Magic of Coldwater Diving
4. Epic Encounters in the Sea of Cortez
5. Palau
6. The Coral Reef Cleaning Station
7. Residents of the Norwegian Sea
8. The Cosmos Beneath
9. Spring Arrives

Dance & Free Diving

1. I Feel You
2. The Deepest Kiss
3. Arminia - Coming Home
4. Anhelita
5. Aquaballet

Made In Texas

1. Fiji - Unspoiled Paradise
2. Tomorrow, the Mara
3. Diving Tubbataha
4. Why
5. 50 Shades of Nudis
6. Cuttlefish in Love

Animation

1. Even Though
2. The Sea in the Opposite Direction
3. Forest of Light Aquarium
4. The Enchanting Locket
5. The A Train Episode 2 - Global Warming
6. The Parallax
7. Drifting Turtle
8. Alien Felines from Beyond the Galaxy
9. The Ocean Protection City
10. Fish I

Raffle Items

Atlantis Resorts - Philippines Package

Buceo Anilao Beach & Dive Resort, Philippines Package

Ikelite - \$500 Gift Certificate

DAN Coast Guard Complete Medkit

5 years Texas Dive License Plates

Bluewater 1500 Lumen Focus Light

Oceanic Ventures Try Scuba Courses

Bob Straight Art - 2 pieces

DivePro M20 3000 Lumen Video Light - The Beasleys

Mares Puck Pro Plus Dive Computer - The Campanellis

Divevolk Sea Touch 4 Max I-Phone housing - The Lendermans

Framed Queen Angelfish Photograph - The Lendermans

Octopus Coffee Rack/ glass coffee cups - The Beasleys

Jellyfish Lamp - The Beasleys

Underwater Coloring Books - Justin Wallace

Gift Baskets - JaVan Pruett

Gift Baskets - Kathleen Close

More items to donate? Email Betsy Beasley at betsytennis@gmail.com

HUFF Virtual Tickets

**Available at the HUFF website
for all previous festivals
(2021, 2022, 2023, 2024)**

huff.hups.org/shop

**Continue to check the website for
upcoming HUFF 2025 news.**

**HUFF 2025 is Saturday and Sunday,
April 12-13, 2025.**

See the trailer [here](#)

March 2025 Photo Contest

Groupers, Sweetlips



Andy Lewis - Novice 1st



Andy Lewis - Novice 2nd



Tiffanie Crumbley - Novice 3rd



Alex Kendig - Intermediate 1st



Scott Singleton - Intermediate 2nd



Lynn Zechiedrich - Intermediate 3rd



Justin Wallace - Advanced 3rd



John VanAtta - Advanced 3rd



Justin Wallace - Advanced 2nd



John Van Atta - Advanced 1st

2025 POTY STANDINGS

Novice		
1ST	Andy Lewis	201
2ND	Tiffanie Crumbley	124
3RD	Aaron Crumbley	64
Intermediate		
1ST	Scott Singleton	198
2ND	Alex Kendig	198
3RD	Sage Holt	192
4TH	Lynn Zechiedrich	128
Advanced		
1ST	Justin Wallace	217
2ND	John Van Atta	216
3RD	Barry Cline	201

**Click [here](#) to view the
HUPS Photo Contests
on HUPSdotORG.**

2025 Photo Contest Categories

January	Single Color Focus (Blue, Red, Green, Yellow, etc.)	Subject must be a single color or shade of color, such as: green moray eel, green parrotfish, soap fish, sharks, sponge, coral .
February	Fish Portraits	1 or 2 fish (not critters), side on, angled views, or face-to-camera shots are what we're looking for.
March	Groupers, Sweetlips	Groupers typically have a stout body and large mouth, and can be quite large. Sweetlips also have large, fleshy lips.
April	Long and thin - fish or critters	Any fish or critter that is characterized by long, thin lines.
May	Pairs (2 of the same)	Two of the same critters or fish, similar in form, matched or associated.
June	Things that Live in Sand or Muck	Fish or critters that live in sand or muck.
July	Echinoderms (starfish, urchins, sea cucumbers, etc.)	Echinoderms usually have five-point radial symmetry, and include starfish, brittle stars, sea urchins, sand dollars, sea cucumbers, and crinoids.
August	Silhouettes	In Silhouettes the outline and shape of the subject are what is important. A good silhouette should have almost no detail observable in the primary subject. .
September	Juveniles of Any Species	A Juvenile can be anything that's not a mature adult, preferably fish or critters that are obviously still maturing. Such as: juvenile anglefish that have distinct markings or juvenile spotted drums that need to grow into their fins
October	Corals-Macro (hard or soft)	Coral a tiny soft-bodied animal that typically lives within a stony skeleton grouped in large colonies. The goal is individual polyps, not a reef composition.
November	Reef scenes with diver(s)	Any kind of reef scene somewhere in the shot, and also must include at least one diver.
December	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.

Spring Video Contest

***Entries are due by midnight
May 1***

***Short Video and Feature Length Video
categories.***

***Voting will take place on the HUPS Video
Contest Facebook page through May and
winners will be announced at the June
HUPS meeting.***

[View the rules on hups.org.](http://hups.org)

***Address questions to
betsytennis@gmail.com***

***Please transfer files to Betsy Beasley via
the free service - WeTransfer.com or any file
transfer service you prefer.***



See video [here](#)

Garden in the Gulf: Reef Rescue Mission

Dive into the Gulf with KPRC 2's Chief Meteorologist Anthony Yanez to witness the beauty of the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary with the team working to preserve the ecological treasure.

"Garden in the Gulf: Reef Rescue Mission" showcases the critical work being done by the Moody Gardens Dive Team in partnership with NOAA to study coral reefs along the Texas Gulf coast, which could help rehabilitate other living coral reefs across the world that have sustained damage due to climate change and pollution. Learn about progress being made, environmental stories revealed in the coral cores, and challenges posed by invasive species like lionfish.

Airs Thursday, April 24 at 7:00 pm on KPRC 2 and on the KPRC 2+ livestream.

Gadget of the Month



Bring your favorite
gadget to the
next meeting to
share.



**Miss
any recent
HUPS Meetings?**

**Click here to view them
on our YouTube channel
HUPSdotORG**

American Charitable Watersport Activities Foundation



2025 Supporter Registration

The “American Charitable Watersport Activities Foundation” (ACWA) was established by SCUBA divers on March 31, 2023. ACWA is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) public non-profit charity. Staffed by non-paid volunteers, ACWA’s administrative and donation support is provided annually by members of our community.

Supporter Registration for the “American Charitable Watersport Activities Foundation” (ACWA) is open to Dive Clubs and Individuals who reside in the United States of America. 2025 registration is \$20.

“Supporters” on record for 2023 or 2024 are listed on a “Supporter Master List” and need not complete this form. They continue their charity efforts with their 2025 payment of \$20 to ACWA’s treasurer - Mark Leiserowitz (contact information listed below).

New “Supporters” need to complete this form to provide ACWA with contact and IRS reporting information. To join as an individual (must be a certified scuba diver, or a member of a dive club) - fill out the application below. Please print legibly as e-mail addresses will be utilized to keep supporters abreast with the charity’s status and your name as identified below, used in any future donation reporting required by you or the IRS.

Dive Club _____

or

Certifying Agency: _____ C-Card Number: _____

Make Checks Payable To: **ACWA, c/o Mark Leiserowitz, 5205 De Milo Dr., Houston, Texas 77092.**

Name: _____ Phone / Cell Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

2025 TGCC MEMORIAL COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP



The Texas Gulf Coast Council of Diving Clubs (TGCC) plans to award one College scholarships (1 @ \$500) during 2025. This scholarship is given in memory of the many deceased members and leaders of our dive community. It is also awarded in recognition for support of the TGCC Scholarship Program by Rodney Dwire, Alicia Grimes, the Houston Underwater Club, the Houston Underwater Photographic Society, Linda Petty and Russell Ramsey. The purpose of this award is to support the higher educational goal of the members, and their families, who support the dive clubs in the Texas Gulf Coast area. The award will be paid by TGCC directly to the college towards tuition.

Eligibility Rules:

Scholarship applicant must be a college undergraduate or graduate student attending college in 2025, or a high school senior that has been accepted to college in 2025.

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 2025.

Application (see other side) must be received by the TGCC Donations Committee prior to **June 30, 2025**. TGCC will review all completed applications on July 10, 2025.

Applicant shall have the high school/college furnish a transcript of grades, courses and class standing.

Scholarship General Guidelines:

Scholarship decisions of TGCC are final.

Scholarship winner is expected to keep TGCC abreast with his/her progress in college.

TGCC reserves the right to not award a prize depending upon the number of entries and qualifications of the applicants.

A personal interview with members of the TGCC Scholarship Committee may be required prior to awarding this scholarship.

Confirmation will be by e-mail. Make sure phone and e-mail data provided is current.

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 should be e-mailed to the TGCC Donations Committee Chairman:

jfburek@consolidated.net

2025 TGCC MEMORIAL COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP



Applicant's First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____ Phone Number: _____

High School: _____ Year Graduated: _____

Name of college to be attended in 2025: _____

(Please enclose a copy of the acceptance letter, or current college transcript):

Comments and information about the applicant's grades and academic performance:

Comments and information about the applicant's sports and/or other extracurricular achievements:

**Description of why the applicant feels he/she should be selected for this scholarship.
(Use a separate page)**

TGCC Affiliation (member of TGCC or TGCC member club)

Applicant Parent Grandparent (please circle one)

Affiliate First Name(s): _____ Last Name: _____

Affiliate Clubs (TGCC, BAD, CHUM, HUPS, Lunarfins, etc.): _____

Number of Years as member of the above named club(s): _____

List any positions of leadership held by Affiliate: _____

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

TEXAS

Caribbean



M-V Fling has been carrying divers out to the World-Class sites at the Flower Garden Banks NMS and beyond! It's by far the best diving in Texas. Come with us to dive in BLUE-WATER and see coral reefs and all the animals there!

726 West Brazos Boulevard, Freeport, TX,

United States, Texas

(979) 233-4445

info@TexasCaribbean.com

Go view this video to get a small view of the Flower Garden Banks:

<https://>

www.facebook.com/100057303948082/videos/422927503937073

To book:

texascaribbean.com

Click [here](#) to view the
Fall 2024 Video Contest

SPRING 2025 VIDEO CONTEST

Entries are due by midnight May 1. Short Video and Feature Length Video categories. Voting will take place on the HUPS Video Contest Facebook page through May and winners will be announced at the June HUPS meeting.

View the rules on hups.org.

Address questions to betsytennis@gmail.com

Please transfer files to Betsy Beasley via the free service - WeTransfer.com

Membership

Info for Dues Payments

\$35 single person membership

\$45 family membership

Payable via PayPal on-line through HUPS webpage or cash/check. If choosing to pay via cash/check, please let us know so we can provide to you a mailing address. <https://www.hups.org/join>

Contact JaVan Pruettt at caladyfish@gmail.com

SAVE THE HUFF 2025 DATE

April 12-13

at Midtown Arts & Theater Center Houston (MATCH)

Monthly Photo Contest

Photo contest entries are due on the Wednesday before the upcoming monthly meeting. Please send them to Martin Daniels at

[HUPS Photo Contest@googlegroups.com](mailto:HUPS_Photo_Contest@googlegroups.com)

Address questions to Martin at

martin.daniels3@gmail.com

From the Editor.....

Send program ideas to Dennis Deavenport
at ddeavenport@comcast.net

Send workshop ideas to David Lenderman
at underh2o@mac.com

Send newsletter entries to Betsy Beasley
at betsytennis@gmail.com

2025 HUPS Dates

Bayland Community Center

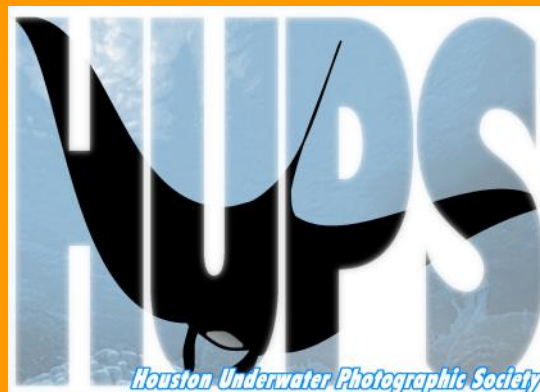
General meetings - Jan 6, Feb 3, March 3, April 7, May 5, June 2, July 7, August 4, Sep 8, Oct 6, Nov 10, Dec 8

BOD Meetings - TBD times - 2:00-4:00

Workshops - TBD

The BOD and Workshop dates are likely to change, as needed.

Stay Tuned!



LOOKING FOR PRESENTERS or IDEAS

Like every year, we are trying to fill our agenda with high quality presentations. But, this year, I am very interested in having some of our own members step up to do a show for the first time.

- Please email me with your willingness to get involved with a presentation. I will get back to you as soon as I can to discuss your involvement.
- Send me any ideas you have for subjects or presenters that you'd like to have do a show for HUPS. What would you like to see?

Dennis Deavenport
ddeavenport@comcast.net

2025 Meeting Presentations

Who	When	Topic	Expanded Topic
Craig Beasley & Others	January 8	“Anything Goes Video Night”	Video clips and short films from HUPSters
Mark Strickland	February 3	Up Close and Personal	Tips for Approaching Shy Marine Life
Nancy McGee	March 3	From the Tiniest Wonders to Ocean Giants	Tips for Approaching Shy Marine Life
Stephen Wolborsky	April 7	Best Practice for Shooting Underwater Video	A mini workshop
HUFF Crew	May 5	HUFF 2025 Retrospective	Overview of winning films and events of the weekend
Dennis Deavenport & various trip participants	June 2	HUPS in Central Philippines + Spring Video Contest Winners	Review of 2024 HUPS trip & view of macro & supermacro from Dennis from Iimagemaker’s trip
Various trip participants	July 7	HUPS in Central Philippines	Review of 2024 HUPS trip to Dumaguete and Central Visayas, Philippines
David Lenderman	August 4	Diving Tulamben, Bali, Indonesia	Mr. Potato Head may make a guest appearance
Ken Kiefer	September 8	Open topic for discussion	Ken is professional photographer with UW fashion specialty
Chuck Noe	October 6	Diving DEEP at Goodenough Caves	Exploring our limits at 4X recreational, Jesse Cancelmo commentary
Invited Guests	November 3	The arcane art of creating films + Fall Video Contest Winners	Pointers & examples of how to build an UW film
Martin and Mary Daniels	December 8	Christmas Dinner/Best of HUPS, and Creative Contests	Pot Luck Dinner/ Best of HUPS in Novice, Intermediate and Advanced Categories/ Creative Contest



APRIL 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 	8	9	10	11	
	14		16	17	18	19
	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

MAY 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5 	6	7	8	9	10
	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25		27	28	29	30	31

JUNE 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					



Monthly Meeting 7 pm at Bayland and on Zoom

**The Houston Underwater Photographic Society
meets at the Bayland Community Center from
7 pm - 9 pm, the first Monday of each month
(except Monday holidays).**

6400 Bissonnet, Houston, Tx. 77074

Visitors are always welcome!

2025 HUPS Officers

President: Craig Beasley

Vice President: Dennis Deavenport

Secretary: Tammy Allyn

Treasurer: Debbie Mensay

Membership: JaVan Pruett

Photo Contest: Martin Daniels

Video Contest/ HUFF Coordinator/ Newsletter: Betsy Beasley

Workshop Coordinator: David Lenderman

TGCC Reps: Frank Burek, JaVan Pruett and Mark Leiserowitz

Webmaster: Joe Holden

Trip Coordinator: Joe Haws

Historian: Frank Burek

Special Events: Mary Daniels

Merchandizing Coordinator: Sandy Bryan

Moody Gardens Coordinator: David Lenderman

2025 HUPS Board of Directors

Frank Burek	Henry Ragland	David Lenderman
Mary Daniels	Monica Losey	Betsy Beasley
Martin Daniels	Mike Greuter	Russell Ramsey
Jim Mensay	Joe Haws	Brion Saathoff



hups.org



[youtube/user/HUPSdotORG](https://www.youtube.com/user/HUPSdotORG)



**[facebook.com/
groups/174166478778](https://www.facebook.com/groups/174166478778)**



<https://www.instagram.com/>