



HUPS Newsletter

September 14, 7- 9 pm



Shoot - Surface - Share
with Justin Wallace

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HOUSTON UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

— MONTHLY MEETING —

[Link to the Zoom broadcast](#)

Meeting ID: 822 2562 5836 Password:
079944

SHOOT SURFACE SHARE

AN UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY WORKFLOW

with Justin Wallace



SHOOT

GET IT RIGHT
BELOW THE SURFACE



SURFACE

MANAGE. CULL.
EDIT. PERFECT.



SHARE

ONE IMAGE.
MANY DESTINATIONS.

PREMIERE

**MONDAY
SEPTEMBER 14TH**

MONTHLY MEETING



MONDAY
SEPTEMBER 14TH, 2025



7:00 PM
MEETING STARTS



BAYLAND COMMUNITY CENTER
6400 BISSONNET ST.
HOUSTON, TX 77074

VISIT [HUPS.ORG](https://hups.org) FOR MORE INFORMATION

President's Message

by Craig Beasley

I dedicate this president's page to the memory of our friend and long-term volunteer in the Gulf Coast dive community, Rodney (PeeWee) Dwire. I will not repeat his obituary, which was published in the May 2026 HUPS newsletter. It is a great legacy to leave, and if you have not read it, I encourage you to do so.

Rather, this message is in recognition of his Celebration of Life, which was held Sunday, August 16, 2026, at Opus Ocean Grill – a fitting location by the sea.

I did not know him as long as many others in our community, but in the short time I did know him, I gained immense respect for both him and for his wife, JaVan. They have been tireless and reliable members of HUPS, even though their primary dive club affiliation is Lunar Fins. They have been instrumental in bringing these clubs closer together, allowing us to build on each other's successes and provide more for our members.

Last weekend, we attended his Celebration of Life, and it was both moving and inspiring. People from all walks of life and with diverse connections to PeeWee and JaVan gathered to share memories, tell stories and raise a glass in his honor. Neighbors, coworkers, dive buddies and relatives all brought their own perspective on knowing him and although the events they recounted varied significantly, one thing came through: he was a person to be remembered and one to model yourself after.

We knew this in the dive community, where we have witnessed his tireless commitment to building and supporting the dive community, its charities and awards. But their respect came through from every speaker – neighbors, coworkers and friends.

I was not surprised, but it is worth noting. We should all hope to end our time this way.

PeeWee, we do and will continue to miss you.

July 2026 Photo Contest

Odd-Shaped Bottom Dwellers



Aaron Crumbley - Novice 1st



Kurt Bollman - Novice 2nd



Kurt Bollman - Novice 3rd



Kurt Bollman - Novice 3rd



Tiffanie Crumbley - Intermediate 1st



Tiffanie Crumbley - Intermediate 2nd



Tiffanie Crumbley - Intermediate 3rd



Scott Singleton - Advanced 2nd



Barry Cline - Advanced 3rd



John VanAtta - Advanced 1st

2026 POTY STANDINGS

	Novice	
1ST	Aaron Crumbley	490
2ND	Kurt Bollman	457
3RD	-----	
	Intermediate	
1ST	Tiffanie Crumbley	522
2ND	Lynn Zechiedrich	389
3RD	Alex Kendig	322
	Advanced	
1ST	John Van Atta	582
2ND	Justin Wallace	538
3RD	Scott Singleton	537
4TH	Barry Cline	503

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

2026 Photo Contest Categories

January	Banded/Stripes	A fish or critter that has bands or stripes on their body. Detail: A pattern of parallel bands or lines on a contrasting background.
February	Crustaceans (Shrimp, Lobsters, Crabs, etc.)	Just like it says - look it up in the book (crabs, shrimp, lobsters, barnacles, etc.). When in doubt, Wikipedia can help you out.
March	Diagonal Composition	A diagonal composition is employed to arrange elements in an image based on a diagonal line.
April	Gobies, Blennies, Jaw fish, Triple fins	Tiny guys that like to hug the reef, hide out in holes, or build their nests in the sand. If you aren't sure, look it up in your fish ID book.
May	Fish with Spots or Polka Dots	A small round or roundish mark, differing in color or texture from the surface around it, such as boxfishes, coffer fishes, cowfishes and trunkfishes.
June	Eels (morays, garden, etc.)	There are lots of eels out there. They are pretty easy to spot. Think "snakes with gills".
July	Natural light	Use the sun for light (vs strobes), so lighting will be more even. Ideal for large subjects: large reefs, schools of fish, silhouettes, or large wrecks.
August	Odd-shaped bottom dwellers	If it's a bit odd looking and spends most of its life on or in the sand or reef, it probably qualifies. Infrequent-swimmers. Frogfish, crabs, flounder, scorpionfish, toadfish, batfish, lizardfish, crocodile fish...
September	Camouflage	Underwater camouflage is the set of methods of achieving crypsis—avoidance of observation—that allows otherwise visible aquatic organisms to remain unnoticed by other organisms such as predators or prey.
October	Large swimmers (> 4 feet) - not people	A fish or critter that is "swimming" with a length > 4 feet, such as: grouper, tarpon, shark, sting ray, manta ray, dolphin, moray eel
November	Hawkfish, Drums, Triggerfish	This theme gives you up to 3 possible choices of fish families. If not sure, check your fish ID book.
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.

2027 Photo Contest Categories

January	Angelfish & Butterflyfish	Pomacanthidae & Chaetodontidae are platter-flat, colorful, and pretty. If you aren't sure, look it up in your fish ID book.
February	Man-Made/Wrecks	Any large object (larger than a basketball) made by man that is on the bottom, such as: ships, planes, vehicles, etc. Avoid trash and debris.
March	Turtles	Sea Turtles, any variety – one or more. Your choice. Our air-breathing aquatic reptile buddies with the ancient pedigree.
April	Black & White (monochrome)	Mono-color images (black & white, sepia, blue-tone, etc.). Only shades of one color are allowed. Can be taken as a mono-color image straight out of the camera or edited down from full color.
May	Flat fish	It needs to have a pronounced flat profile and be a FISH: flounder, angelfish, filefish, butterflyfish, sunfish, triggerfish, etc.
June	Macro - Smaller than an orange	The subject is smaller than an orange. Can be a portion of a larger subject (eyes, fins, etc.). Should be taken with a macro lens or one that focuses close. Don't just over-crop.
July	Damselfish, Chromis, Hamlets, Basslets	A group of small fish generally 3 to 6 inches in length that have a perch like or oval profile. If you are not sure look in your fish id book.
August	Cephalopods (octopi, squid, cuttlefish)	Cephalopods are a sub-group of the phylum Mollusca (i. e., mollusks). Limit your entries to: squid, cuttlefish, octopi, and nautilus. (Not snails, slugs, clams, nudibranchs.)
September	Hogfish, Wrasses, Parrotfish,	This theme gives you up to 4 possible choices of fish families. If not sure, check your fish ID book.
October	Sharks & Rays	Chondrichthyes or cartilaginous fishes are jawed fish with paired fins, paired nares, scales, two-chambered hearts, and skeletons made of cartilage rather than bone. The class is divided into two subclasses: Elasmobranchii (sharks, rays and skates) and Holocephali (chimaeras, sometimes called ghost sharks).
November	Anemones & things that live in them	Just like it says. To qualify, an anemone must be in the shot. The "things" (clownfish, crabs, etc.) are optional.
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: Enter anything you want as long as you do the photography and any special editing.

Fall Video Contest

Entries are due by midnight October 1.

Short Video and Feature Length Video categories.

Voting will take place on the HUPS Video Contest Facebook page through October and winners will be announced at the November HUPS meeting.

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

Address questions to betsytennis@gmail.com

Please transfer files to Betsy Beasley via any free service like WeTransfer.com





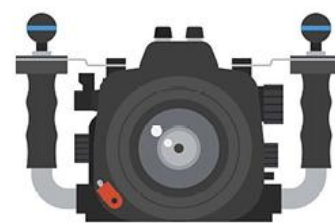
Welcome to Fin Facts, where we swim into the story behind a different HUPS member each month. Grab your mask and snorkel—we're exploring their favorite underwater adventure, creative inspirations, and the gear that keeps their fins kicking. Let's dive in with...

Trish Ross



Fin-tastic Image

Yellow head jaw fish, Stetson Bank, FGBNMS



UNDERWATER RIG

Olympus Tough TG-6, Ikelite housing with all the accoutrements!

1

DIVING

I first got into diving in 1998, after a little friendly guilt-tripping pushed me into the water.

2

PROFESSION

I am a Safety, Quality/ Environmental / Emergency Planning, Response, Recovery Consultant.

3

HUPS

I joined back in the 90's right when cameras became cool.



RECENT PURCHASE

Olympus Tough TG-6:

I hit the jackpot at the HUFF raffle and got an Ikelite certificate.

More Fin Facts...

What is your favorite dive destination and what makes it special for you?

Just off Kihei dock in Maui, there is a nursery that's in fairly shallow water. I love seeing different phases of life and the ability to spend hours just observing.

What underwater location is currently at the top of your wish list?

Maldives for Pelagic Mantas and Whale Sharks (though I prefer macro)

What critter are you currently obsessed with or hoping to shoot next?

Blennies....always Blennies and Nudibranchs

What are your dive plans for 2026?

St Croix in May; remainder TBD based on work schedule.

Which do you prefer?



“Both! Just getting into understanding how to use my TG6. The grace of ‘the dance’ is enchanting.”



I 'sea' you Trish!
... with the Trish-G6. Great camera btw, I've seen some amazing macro photos and videos come out of that power house. I'm more of a

blenny guy than a nudi guy...ooh wait, edit that out.

Many Tanks! - Justin

**WANT TO BE
FEATURED ON FIN
FACTS?**

We'd be thrilled to hear your story, **scan** or **click** the code, fill out the form, and stay buoyant!



SCAN OR CLICK



DISTRACTION, DISCOMFORT, AND DISORIENTATION



Avoid the three Ds

While diving is an enjoyable and relatively safe activity, divers should never forget that it involves using life-support equipment to venture into an environment that's not conducive to human survival. This is why DAN recommends that divers always be mentally and physically prepared to dive and remain focused throughout their dives.

Most dive accidents result from a series of small deviations from safe procedures, and in almost all cases, the accident could have been avoided at any point if a problem was noticed, its implications understood, and an appropriate response implemented. Distraction, discomfort, and disorientation are dangerous because they can impair focus and situational awareness.

Distraction

Task-loading (doing or managing too many things at once) is a common reason that a diver may become distracted. An example is attempting to hold a light and camera while navigating an overhead environment. It is easy to focus on one task to the exclusion of others when that task is complicated or particularly demanding.

Strong emotions can be significant enough to impact your ability to dive safely. If you've recently experienced grief or trauma, for example, take time to evaluate your well-being and emotional state as objectively as possible. If you have reason to believe that intrusive thoughts or overwhelming emotions might interfere with your ability to keep tabs on your depth, gas supply, and buddy, postpone your dive to a later day.

Anxiety can lead to uncertainty about the nature and reality of threats as well as self-doubt about one's capacity to handle situations. Physical symptoms of anxiety can vary widely, from damp palms and a quickened heartbeat to the crippling feelings of a full-blown panic attack or phobic reaction. The ocean can be a major stressor for some people. As stress increases, a diver's ability to recognize and respond properly diminishes. In a demanding situation it is critical that a diver be able to recognize and break out of the escalating cycle of stress before it reaches the level of panic. Be sure you have effectively managed any anxiety you're experiencing before you proceed with a dive.

Discomfort

When divers call the DAN Medical Information Line with questions about diving with various health and medical conditions, DAN medical staff typically advise against diving if the caller is experiencing any pain or discomfort. One reason for this is that pain could later be mistaken for a symptom of decompression sickness, complicating diagnosis after diving. But an even more important reason to avoid diving with pain or discomfort is that these symptoms can impair focus and awareness.

An upset stomach is not uncommon in diving settings. Seasickness affects many divers, and travel-associated disruptions to diet and schedule can also lead to queasiness. While it may be reasonable for a diver with nausea to enter the water to see if they feel better on the surface, they should not descend unless their symptoms resolve. In fact, they should be supervised while on the surface. Many divers have heard that it's possible to vomit through a regulator. While this is generally true, that doesn't mean it's a pleasant experience.

Disorientation

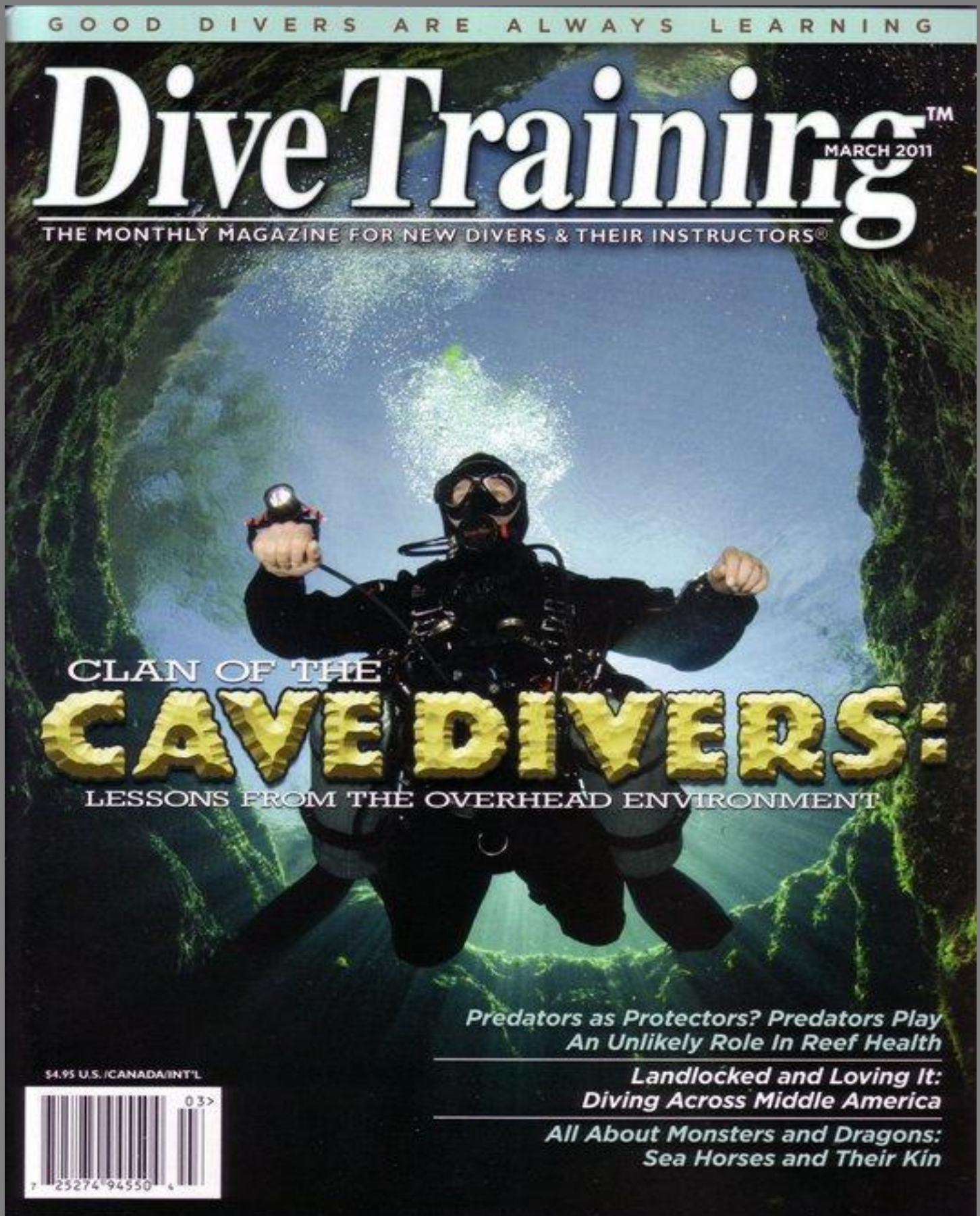
It should go without saying that diving and intoxication do not mix. While diving there's too much information to keep track of and too high a possibility of needing to make high-stakes judgment calls to risk being impaired. Remember you're responsible for you buddy's safety as well as your own.

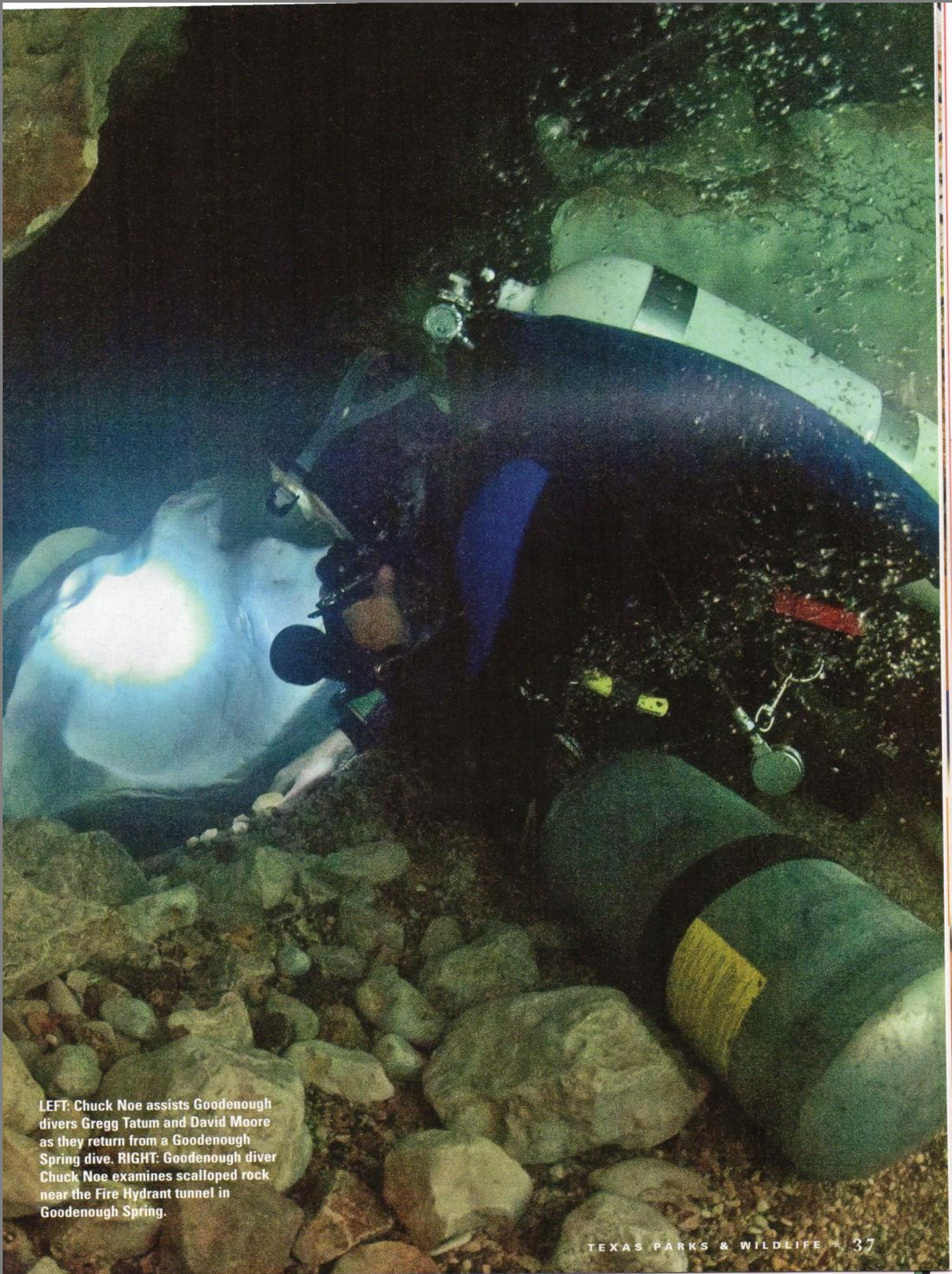
But recreational drugs aren't the only things that can lead to mental foggy or slower reaction time. Poor sleep, jet lag, and hangovers all have the potential to affect mental acuity. These are not uncommon among traveling divers, so be sure to consider how they might affect you, and postpone diving as necessary.

Some prescription (and even over-the-counter) medications have side effects that could make diving less safe. Warnings against using a drug while operating heavy machinery, for example, might also apply to diving. For this reason, doctors trained in dive medicine recommend against diving when taking a new medication for the first time. For a prescription medication taken daily, 30 days is recommended in order to ensure the dosage is correct and to reveal any side effects the diver is likely to experience. At least one doctor should be aware of all medications an individual is taking to minimize the risk of drug interactions. A diver should not dive if he experiences any side effects that could cause distraction or decreased awareness if they occur underwater.

Keep in mind that any irritation, uncertainty, or trouble you're experiencing on the surface is likely to become a bigger problem underwater. So whether you're dealing with an ongoing musculoskeletal injury, a jellyfish sting from a previous dive, or a persistent headache, stay out of the water until you're confident your focus, awareness, judgement, and ability to manage additional stressors is back up to 100 percent.

Below is a reprint of an article submitted by Jesse Cancelmo from March 2011.





LEFT: Chuck Noe assists Goodenough divers Gregg Tatum and David Moore as they return from a Goodenough Spring dive. RIGHT: Goodenough diver Chuck Noe examines scalloped rock near the Fire Hydrant tunnel in Goodenough Spring.



© Jesse Cancelmo

PARTINGSHOT



IMAGE SPECS:
Nikon D200 camera in Aquatica housing with a 10.5 mm lens; 1/90 second; ISO 200; dual Ikelite D125 strobes used for fill lighting.

Dives at Goodenough Spring, the deepest known underwater cave system, require a lengthy decompression process that typically involves stopping every 10 feet on the ascent to the surface and changing out breathing gas at two points. The spring is submerged under Lake Amistad in Southwest Texas. Photographer Jesse Cancelmo took this shot of Goodenough Springs Exploration Project member Rick Aurich making his slow ascent to the surface of Lake Amistad.

Deep, Dark and Dangerous

The nation's deepest known underwater cave system lures expert divers.

By Rae Nadler-Olenick

Positioned on the choppy surface of Lake Amistad, at 29° 32.21' N, 101° 15.18' W in Val Verde County, a simple white and blue buoy marks the location of a geographic feature few will ever see. The mouth to Goodenough Spring lies some 165 feet below the reservoir's normal pool level, beckoning the way to an environment so harsh that most divers — even the highly experienced — turn back.

But not all. For the past decade, the seasoned diver-explorers of the Goodenough Springs Exploration Project (GSEP) have been plumbing its secrets, gradually advancing farther and deeper into the United States' deepest known underwater cave system.

The system, which emerges from the Salmon Peak layer of Southwest Texas' Edwardian limestone, possesses both faulting and erosion channel features.

"It's a unique geology," says Chuck Noe, the project's director.

Before Amistad Dam's 1968 completion submerged 65,000 acres of desert beneath waters from the Rio Grande, Pecos and Devils rivers, Goodenough Spring flowed at the surface, a welcome resource in an arid land. Situated 12 miles northwest of Del Rio, it discharged an impressive 100-200 cubic feet of water per second under artesian pressure, making it Texas' third-largest spring.

With the sprawling new lake, the spring became obscured, and the lake became a recreational destination, drawing boaters, fishermen and sport divers. In the earliest years, most nonprofessional divers limited themselves to depths of 130 feet because of decompression and nitrogen intoxication issues, so the spring remained largely out of reach.

During the 1980s, the scuba community turned increasing attention to deeper, more complex dives, adopting advanced techniques previously reserved for elite Navy and commercial divers. In particular, the use of gas mixtures like trimix (oxygen, helium, nitrogen) allowed them to dive deeper and stay longer. By the early 1990s, divers trained in mixed-gas use — known as technical divers — had routine access to the cave.

R.D. Milhollin of Dallas was among those who explored the area during that period. He and his companions — Ise Kalsi, Terry Scoggins and, later, Robert Laird — reached the cave's main passage, where a torrent of fast-rushing water greeted them. They set out to conquer a 90-foot-long section of tunnel, known today as the Fire Hydrant, using mountain climbing gear. Wedging chocks tightly into available cracks in the ceiling, they tied climbing rope to them and climbed horizontally, upside down, against the fierce flow.

That wasn't their only approach: On one memorable occasion, Milhollin and Laird proceeded through a combination of maneuvers that included successively tossing and anchoring a length of heavy pig iron pipe, a few inches at a time, along the gravel floor.

Their efforts ended at a point, 200 feet deep under normal pool conditions, where piled-up gravel blocked most of the tunnel, preventing further access. Milhollin's team ceased its explorations around 1995.

Laird continued to visit the cave, and in 2000 he stepped up his involvement when a group of Houston-area divers asked him to help them locate the spring. His interest rekindled, he joined with them in launching GSEP to explore the site systematically.

Laird calls Goodenough "probably the most difficult, dangerous dive there is."

The spring's challenges are in fact monumental. In addition to its great depth, enormous flow and the often-poor visibility of the surrounding lake water, a steep gradient between the spring's year-round 81-degree water and ambient lake temperatures as low as 55 to 60 degrees in winter severely limits cold weather diving activity.

GSEP's 11-year history unfolds as one of tireless work and steady, gradual progress punctuated by dramatic breakthroughs. The "Goodenoughers" devoted earlier efforts to such basics as the installation and maintenance of sturdy chain moorings and tough, knotted nylon guide lines in the previously explored areas. Only in 2002 did they make their first coordinated effort to get past the gravel barrier by digging gravel away to enlarge the opening. Their excavations eventually yielded a hole barely large enough for Noe, the smallest team member, to squeeze through into the unknown.

"My heart was pounding," admits Noe, who returned quickly after installing a steel piton in a wall crack to extend the guide line to the other side. On a second brief trip the next day — still alone — he glimpsed a steeply dropping passage: one hint (along with the warm temperature) of the cave's great depth potential. But it would be more than a year before anyone followed him beyond the gravel dam. In the summer of 2003, nature intervened to accomplish what long hours of laborious excavation had not. Waters stirred by Hurricane Claudette's landfall on the South Texas coast, roaring through the spring system, blew most of the gravel away.

Since then, GSEP divers have explored deeper into the cave in the course of several trips each year between May and October, ultimately achieving a depth of 515 feet.

They added a scientific dimension to their mission in 2005 when water scientist Ray Kamps, then a Texas State University doctoral student, sought their assistance. Kamps, who was conducting federally sanctioned limnology research at Lake Amistad, needed divers to deploy instrumentation to measure water temperature and salinity at the spring.

It proved a fortuitous collaboration. Exploration and science have worked hand in hand ever since. GSEP has expanded its research role, taking on projects in connection with the Texas Water Development Board and the U.S. Geological Service, and publishing an article on the chemistry of Good-enough Spring in the peer-reviewed *Hydrogeology Journal*.

They also pay for their own independent studies, like their ongoing effort to delineate the spring's catchment area. Kamps, who soon joined GSEP as its scientist of record, believes the catchment is a large semicircle around the spring.

"That's the first assumption," he says. "The question is: How big is the circle? Is it skewed? If it rains over there, does the water end up in Goodenough Spring here?"

To learn the answer, he analyzes the data he collects for spikes in three parameters — pressure, salinity and temperature — that occur with rainfall. "They travel at different rates through the aquifer," he explains. "If they all come at the same time, water fell close to the spring."

Time differences between the spikes increase with distance from the rain source. He then matches his readings to radar weather maps in an effort to identify which thundershower produced a given spike or spikes. Though the work is far from complete even after four years, results to date suggest that the catchment area is a wide swath of plateau land located on both sides of the border: north, sweeping west and ending south of the spring, with the biggest response from the west.

Exploration — safely advancing members' individual goals in a context of close teamwork — remains the heart of the enterprise. In 2009, GSEP received the National Speleological Society Cave Diving Section's coveted Exploration Award for achieving the deepest cave dive ever documented in the United States.

"When we started this project, we didn't even know that the cave went deeper than 100 feet. We just wanted to explore it," says Noe, who, with extensive logistics support from six other Goodenoughers, descended to a record-breaking depth of 515 feet.

Staging for each trip is a highly complex production. A typical expedition finds GSEP's two dive boats fully loaded with several tons of equipment: tanks of varying gas mixtures, wetsuits and other personal gear, maintenance supplies and scientific instruments — plus the seven or eight divers (about half the current active membership) themselves. Depending on need, they might also haul such specialty items as a wetsuit-heating unit Noe himself constructed for dives deeper than 250 feet at chilly temperatures.

The redundancy of tanks and the heating equipment are necessary for decompression issues. During a typical deep dive, nitrogen dissolves in the bloodstream — nitrogen that must be released very gradually on ascent if the diver is to avoid a life-threatening pressure illness known as the bends.

Ascending divers make multiple progressively longer decompression stops at progressively shallower levels. They also change tanks twice along the way (to a 50-50 oxygen/nitrogen mix at 70 feet and pure oxygen at 20 feet), clipping on new gas cylinders that setup crew have previously tethered to the mooring chain in the appropriate spot. The longest decompression stop — sometimes lasting several hours — occurs at the 20-foot level where, in cold weather, hot water pumped through a hose from Noe's propane-fired Deco Heater on deck makes the wait more comfortable.

When the lake is at normal pool level, a Goodenough Spring dive begins with a 150-foot descent to an amphitheater-like area. Fifteen feet farther down, GSEP's Grim Reaper sign, installed to warn the unwary away, marks the cave's entrance: a 6-foot-wide fissure that quickly opens into a round, high-ceilinged room called the Well. To the left, a trip through the formidable, scalloped Fire Hydrant tunnel and past the former gravel restriction reveals a geography of sharp, deep drops and winding switchbacks; of mud and boulders and gravel-filled pit bottoms; and clay walls deeply fluted (possibly from the action of churning gravel during storms). And no end in sight.

Will they push on to 600 feet?

"We'd like to," says Noe. "It's just difficult to say when. We can plan for it and talk about it, but until Mother Nature relents and gives us an opportunity, we can't pick a date."

Indeed, nature has been merciless since Hurricane Alex ripped the Texas coast in June 2010. GSEP's expedition in October of that year found guide lines ripped out, scientific instruments damaged or gone and a flow so high that divers were unable to proceed past the Well. Last May's group encountered conditions nearly as extreme, though they were able to proceed several feet into the Fire Hydrant to set new instruments.

But repair and maintenance, planning and, sometimes, waiting are all part of the game.

The next major push — when it comes — will make use of scooters: neutrally buoyant, battery-powered, propeller-driven propulsion units that can pull divers along at more than 200 feet per minute under ideal conditions. Divers swimming hard at that depth require the mechanical assistance to avoid joint injuries caused by gas buildup in their tissues.

"I'll leave that to the younger guys," says Noe, who's 52.

Should they ever descend 800 feet or deeper, they'll need to adopt rebreathers — a completely different and highly sophisticated breathing technology that recycles used air. But they don't think the cave will turn out to be that deep.

Kamps expects it to bottom out at around 700 feet. "The water temperature of Goodenough Spring is a very consistent 27 degrees Celsius (81 degrees Fahrenheit)," he says. "That's the temperature of water in the earth at 700 feet. I'd expect it to level off there. It can continue straight for miles, or it could lose its character as a conduit and become diffuse, but it won't go deeper."

In any case, the Goodenoughs have plenty to look forward to in the way of future exploration, science and maintenance. Though they also dive at Jacob's Well in Wimberley, Goodenough Spring remains their first love.

"We've sort of made it our project and our life," Noe says.

Gadget of the Month

Acer USB C Hub, 7 in 1 Multi-Port Adapter for Laptop/Mac Type C Devices 4K USB C to HDMI Splitter Hub, 100W Max PD Port, 2 USB 3.0 & 1 USB C Data Ports 5Gbps, SD/TF Card Reader

Presented by
Craig Beasley
at August
meeting

Click [here](#)
to see on
Amazon



Gadget of the Month²⁵



**Bring your
favorite gadget
to the next
meeting to
share.**

HUFF 2026

Virtual Tickets

**Available at the HUFF website
and for all previous festivals
(2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025)**

huff.hups.org/shop

**Continue to check the website for
upcoming HUFF 2026 and 2027 news.**

HUFF 2027 is April 3-4

Enter HUFF 2027 at

<https://filmfreeway.com/HoustonUnderwaterFilmFestival>

Entries are now being accepted



**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

**Miss
any recent
HUPS
Meetings?**

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



American Charitable Watersport Activities Foundation



2026 Supporter Registration

\$20

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, all ACWA’s administrative expenses and some of its donation support, is provided annually by members of our community who chose to become “Supporters”.

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

“Supporters” on record for 2023, 2024 & 2025 are listed on a “Supporter Master List” and need not complete this form. They continue their charity efforts with their 2026 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 the others who believe in supporting the operations of a charity targeting our community. 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.

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

Name: _____ Phone / Cell Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Click [here](#) to view the
Spring 2025 Video Contest

FALL 2026 VIDEO CONTEST

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

View the rules on hups.org.

Address questions to betsytennis@gmail.com

Please transfer files to Betsy Beasley via any free service like 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 Dennis Deavenport at ddeavenport@comcast.net

SAVE THE HUFF 2027 DATE

April 3- 4

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

Address questions to Martin at

martin.daniels3@gmail.com

From the Editor.....

Send program ideas to Justin Wallace

at jwunderwater@gmail.com

Send workshop ideas to David Lenderman

at underh2o@mac.com

Send newsletter entries to Betsy Beasley

at betsytennis@gmail.com

2026 HUPS Dates

Bayland Community Center

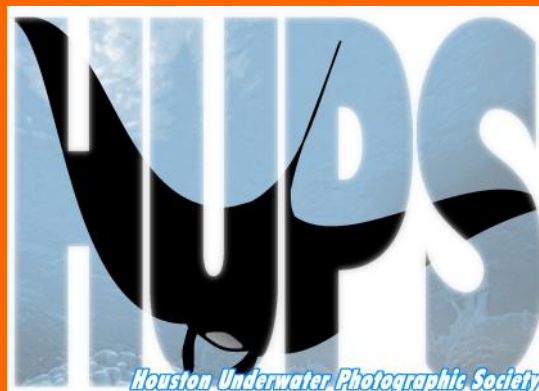
**General meetings - Jan 5, Feb 2, March 2, April 6,
May 4, June 1, July 6, August 3, Sep 14, Oct 5, Nov 9,
Dec 7**

**BOD Meetings -
Feb 28, 2 pm at Bayland Community Center**

Workshops - TBD

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

Stay Tuned!



2026 Meeting Presentations

Who	When	Topic	Expanded Topic
Justin Wallace & Dennis Deavenport	January 5	“Anything Goes Video Night”	Video clips and short films from HUPSters
The Fling Team	February 2	“The Fling & The Flower Gardens”	History and behind the scenes look at The MV Fling
Craig Beasley	March 2	Flotation	The most important aspect of underwater photography never discussed
Kramer Wimberley	April 6	Diving with a Purpose with CARES	Collective approach to restoring our ecosystem
David Lenderman, Justin Wallace, Dennis Deavenport, Betsy Beasley	May 4	HUFF 2026 Retrospective	Overview of winning films and events of the weekend
Burt Jones	June 1	Stories From the Secret Sea	Four Decades Beneath the Surface
Hergen Spalink Reef Photo & Video	July 6	Diving in Indonesia with a Nauticam Ambassador	Underwater photography journey
Trish Ross	August 3	Diving Safety	Practical dive safety principles for photographers
Justin Wallace	September 14	Shoot, Surface, Share	UW photography workflow overview
	October 5		
	November 9		
Martin and Mary Daniels	December 7	Christmas Dinner/Best of HUPS, and Creative Contests	Pot Luck Dinner/ Best of HUPS in Novice, Intermediate and Advanced Categories/ Creative Contest

SEPTEMBER 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	Labor Day	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

OCTOBER 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	COLUMBUS DAY	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	HAPPY HALLOWEEN

NOVEMBER 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	ELECTION DAY	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	Veterans Day	12	13	14
15	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!**

2026 HUPS Officers

President: Craig Beasley
Vice President: Justin Wallace
Secretary: Tammy Allyn
Treasurer: Debbie Mensay
Membership: Dennis Deavenport
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: Trish Ross
Historian: Frank Burek
Special Events: Mary Daniels
Merchandizing Coordinator: Sandy Bryan
Moody Gardens Coordinator: David Lenderman

2026 HUPS Board of Directors

Frank Burek	Henry Ragland	David Lenderman
Mary Daniels	Monica Losey	Betsy Beasley
Martin Daniels	Mike Greuter	Russell Ramsey
Brion Saathoff	Dennis Deavenport	Trish Ross



YouTube

facebook



hups.org

youtube/user/HUPSdotORG

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groups/174166478778](https://facebook.com/groups/174166478778)

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