

HUPS Gets a Pair of Eyes on the Philippines - HUPS Presentation for Monday September 13, 2010

By Jim Mensay

Every Saturday morning the "Garden Guy" has a radio talk show on one of the Houston A M radio stations. As he is discussing some landscape problem, challenge, or success, he always talks about "Getting a Pair of Eyes on That".

Well at the September 13, 2010 HUPS meeting, we are going to be treated to how 27 HUPSters all had a "Pair of Eyes" (Or Camera Lens-as the case may be) on the Philippines'.

Tom Collier will be the Master of Ceremony as he guides us through a couple of hundred images. Tom has put together the best of the best images submitted by participants in the April, 2010 Philippines trip. I

understand that practically a HUPSABYTE of images were shot, but only the Best of the Best were submitted for this show. This promises to be really entertaining.

For you who are new to HUPS, a Hupsabyte is a smidget larger than a terabyte, but is compressed in size once it is culled through. Often times it requires that you buy one of those external hard drive thingy's (or a new "hand made" computer) like Tom just got.

Let's all take a look at the fun and beauty of the Philippines as seen by HUPS.

As usual our meeting will begin at 7 PM- Bayland Community Center - 6400 Bissonnet. A map can be found on the back of this newsletter.

Jan Baughman - Capturing the Essence of The Solomon Islands

By Jim Mensay

We all know friends, acquaintances, and even members of HUPs that take some incredible pictures.

AND

We all know friends, acquaintances, and even members of HUPs that can tell a great adventure story.

BUT

Not many of us can combine the two and really capture the ESSENCE of a dive location, and tell the story via a presentation.

HUPS gives a big Thank You to Jan Baughman for doing just that. During and after Jan's presentation, we felt like we were right there with her. We came away feeling like we had met the islanders, experienced the culture, taken the dives, and came away with the stories, experiences, and pics to proof it.

Thanks Jan for a great show.

President's Message

Good Times

By Tom Collier

This month I have been preparing and composing a slide show for the September HUPS meeting. The presentation will be a Recap of the April HUPS dive trip to the Philippines. I have solicited images from all the trip participants who wish to have some of their images compiled into the show. I received a fair amount of images and several things are obvious from the material I received.

First: We take some darn good pictures! I expected to see great images from the seasoned HUPSters and I have not been disappointed. However, I have also received some very good images from the less experienced members. In retrospect, this should not be a surprise as we have all noticed from the monthly photo contest entries that the lines are getting blurry between the three different entry classes: Novice, Intermediate and Advanced.

Second: Video is cool! I received some short video clips taken with compact cameras and I can see where part of my future is headed. The short video clips that I received are not exceptional quality but very good and a lot of fun to watch. I have a new camera that does have video capabilities and now I want to figure out how to utilize that aspect of my camera. The HUPS BOD has discussed including more video into the monthly meetings and I believe that will indeed come to pass.

Third: There are a lot of smiles on the faces of the HUPSters in the pictures. I asked for and received some topside photos as well as the usual u/w shots. This show is a recap of the trip and we spent a good portion of the trip above water. So, how did we spend our surface intervals? What was the geography like? What did the resort look like – I want to portray as much of the whole experience as possible. It is apparent that most of us really enjoyed the trip, took some great u/w images, had a pleasant experience at the resort and got something positive from the total experience.

Shortly, after returning from the trip, I made a comment regarding a bout of sickness that went around during the trip – I referred to the sickness as the 'Manila Crud'. That was an inaccurate statement, as I later learned that the 'bug' was imported from Texas and came to the party courtesy of one of our very own. My apologies to Manila, although they really could use some more ticket agents at the airport, we did not pick up any sickness from the Philippines.

The benefits of a club dive trip have been repeatedly touted and I am not going to expand on those benefits here. Needless to say, a HUPS trip is a successful venue for accomplishing a lot of good things. Our members are increasingly recognizing this fact and next year's trip should be no exception, as it is already sold out.

Tom Collier

Calling all Writers

The HUPS newsletter is **always** looking for articles. If you have anything you would like to share send it to underh2o@mac.com. We welcome just about anything that would interest your fellow underwater photographers. Don't be shy - share!

Dive Trip News

By Tom Collier

RIVIERA MAYA, YUCATAN, MEXICO
Oct 23 - 30, 2010

Last chance to register – Cut off date is Sept 15th
All inclusive, including airport ground transfers. Airfare not included.

3 days of reef diving, 2 days of cenote diving
More information available on HUPS forum
\$1,385.00 per person (double occupancy)
Trip leader - Mike Grueter
8 spaces available

BALI, INDONESIA
May 27 – June 5, 2011

Scuba Seraya Resort
All inclusive, including 2 nights in Ubud
6 days of diving with Scuba Seraya
More information available of HUPS forum
\$1,250.00 per person (dbl occp), Airfare not included
Trip leader – Tom Collier
Sold Out – Waiting List started

FLORES – ALOR, INDONESIA
June 5 – 15, 2011

Komodo Dancer live-aboard
9 days of adventure diving
\$3,355 & up per person (dbl occp), Airfare not included
Trip contact – Island Dreams
10 spaces available

NCUPS SEA 2010 Accepting Entries

Every year a lucky underwater photographer or videographer wins the prestigious Bob Commer Award of Excellence and this year it may be your turn! Last year's winner David Hinkel, from San Diego, California won the award with a beautiful image of two pigmy seahorses! In addition to a wonderful trip on the Indonesia based live aboard dive boat the Pindito, David won \$500 cash (USD) and a beautiful glass sculpture of a diver. Last year's winners are available to review on the SEA Competition web page at <http://www.ncups.org>.

Categories for 2010, rules, regulations, and entry instructions are on the NCUPS website now! Upload images via the online upload process and/or get your prints and videos in the mail. The traffic on the upload site is very heavy the final few nights, so I suggest that you upload your images as early as possible.

The details including rules and regulations are available now on the NCUPS website <http://www.ncups.org>. The SEA competition is dedicated to rewarding amateur underwater photographers for their finest images. Amateurs only please!

While on the NCUPS website take a look at our sponsor list for an example of the prizes you could win!

I am always impressed each year when all the beautiful images come in and can't wait to see what is sent in this year.

Kathy Mendes
NCUPS SEA Coordinator
sea@ncups.org

LAUPS Photo Contest

The Los Angeles Underwater Photographic Society announces the 48th Annual International Underwater Photographic Competition. This year the oldest and one of the largest contests of its kind offers seven categories, five still and two video which amateur photographers may enter. Prizes include live-aboard/land-based vacations, diving/photo equipment, and much more. The deadline for receipt of entries is September 18, 2010. Visit our website http://www.laups.org/comp_2010/index.php for competition guidelines, rules and entry form.

Life Time Member Spotlight- Jean Himes

By Alicia Grimes

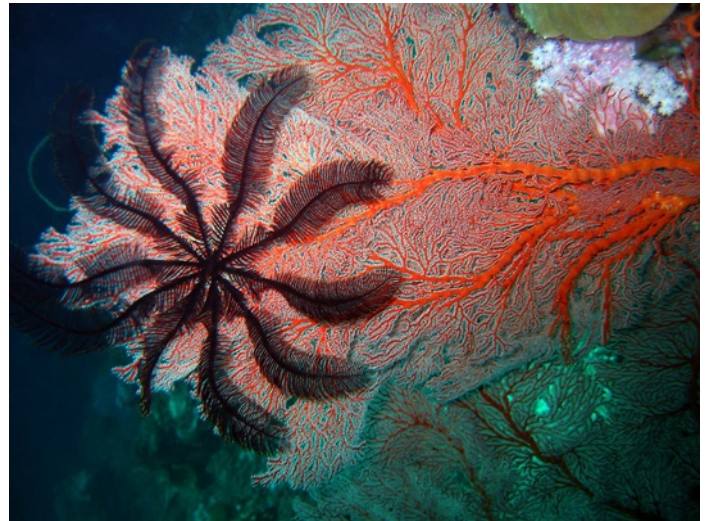
I am sure we all can relate to being the new kid in class walking into a room where you know no one but still want to feel a part of the group. When you are the new kid, you look around the room trying to find someone who looks willing to welcome you and give you a smile, that person for HUPS has always been and will be Jean Himes. Jean, although she has had her own personal trials in her life, always has a welcoming smile and a hug for anyone who wants to join our happy group. She is a beacon to all of us and is always full of life and joy. We as the HUPS community look to her for her smile and warmth.

Jean, a native of Arkansas, began her dive/underwater photography story this way... Jean and her husband Glenn were on a cruise of the major Hawaiian Islands to celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary. Jean decided to snorkel for the first time and had the desire to be below the water for longer periods of time, thus she began her diving certification. She could not believe the amount of fish and nature she saw below the water. She now has been certified for over 15 years. Jean took her first dive in the Blue Lagoon in Huntsville and then her first ocean dive was in Belize. Her favorite place to dive is Turks and Caicos for its great fish and wall diving and topside she loves Cozumel for its small town feel. Jean began using a Nikonos IV as her first underwater camera to capture some of the amazing creatures below and currently owns the Olympus 7000 after a lecture by Ken Kneznick who showed some of his gorgeous images that he was able to create by using the Olympus 3000. She would love to use her camera to capture the shy clown fish.

Jean, always the educator gave for this article some great advice, read, read and read your camera manual. She stated that she received this advice from our resident pro Jesse Cancelmo. She also recommends to subscribe to underwater magazines and to read everything you can get your hands on when you are first getting started. HUPS meeting/trips and workshops are always a good source for learning.

On that note, her dive story taught her a valuable lesson. On a dive trip with HUPS in Cozumel the group, on their first day of diving, were shooting huge angelfish when the surge picked up with no explanation to an unbelievable point. Jean stated, "I thought I was heading to Belize". "Although intimidated to be in the company of great underwater photographers it was pretty funny to see the entire group flying by fish and coral and just as quickly as it began, it stopped and they resumed their task of photography. You know you are in the mist of the pros when they could do that".

Although Jean is unable to dive anymore, due to a second diagnosis of cancer, that has damaged her torso and leg bones. She still loves to come to HUPS to see all of the beautiful images that her friends have captures and as she says in her own words, "I sort of stunk at underwater photography but it was the most thrilling challenge of my life and would love to do it all over again". We at HUPS love that Jean is in our mist and hope she continue to come to give us that every present smile to those who want to join the club.



Intermediate 1st place - Mary McDonald, © 2010

Important Dates

Put them on your calendar

September 11

HUPS Workshop - Stop Taking Pictures & Start Creating Images by David Lenderman - [Link](#)

October 4

HUPS Meeting - Jackie & Mary Lou Reid - topic TBA

November 1

HUPS Meeting - Alicia & Greg Grimes - Sipadan & Mabul, Malaysia

September 13

HUPS Meeting - HUPS Philippines Trip Recap

October 16

HUPS Workshop - Roundtable on creating slideshows using Pro Show Gold/Producer

December 6

HUPS Meeting - Holiday Dinner pot luck and Best of HUPS Contest

TGCC Awards Scholarships

The Gulf Coast Council of Dive Clubs recently awarded three scholarships to deserving students. The recipients were as follows:

Jesse Cancelmo IV - \$1000
Morgan Jasken - \$500
Sarah Timaeus - \$500

The applicant or a parent/grandparent/guardian must be an individual member of TGCC or a qualified member of a member dive club. HUPS and many area dive clubs are TGCC member organizations.

The Texas Gulf Coast Council of Dive Clubs (TGCC) is a 501c4 non-profit organization of diving clubs that seeks to promote the safe recreational sport of scuba diving. TGCC member clubs participate in shared activities, learning events, and recreational activities in an effort to promote club participation among new and experienced divers in scuba diving. TGCC is also the sponsor of TrashFest, one of the nations oldest aquatic clean-up projects, after which many other activities have been modeled.

HUPS Member Galleries

By James Heimer - Webmaster

The gallery page on the website has been revised to link to individual photographer's websites. As a starting point, those member sites identified on the news and links page have been used to populate the gallery page. If you have an individual gallery of your underwater photographic images (or a general photographic website that contains your underwater images), let the webmaster know what the link is, and he will add you to the gallery links. Here is the current gallery page:

<http://www.hups.org/Gallery%20Pages/Photographer%20Gallery%20Pages.html> .



Advanced 1st place - Ken Knezick, © 2010

More Bad News for Coral Reefs

Submitted by Jack Allyn

A recent AP article in the Houston Chronicle reported a new coral bleaching event in the northwestern province of Aceh, Indonesia. Wildlife Conservation Society marine biologists measured sea temperatures of 93 degrees Fahrenheit back in May. This is seven degrees above long term averages. These elevated water temperatures cause the coral to expel its symbiotic algae. The algae is what gives coral its color. The lack of algae creates the white (bleached) appearance. Reefs across Asia are at risk of bleaching due to rising sea temperatures. For more information on this bleaching event you can check out an article in the Jakarta Globe here:

<http://www.thejakartaglobe.com/home/massive-coral-bleaching-diaster-hits-acehs-coral-reefs/391607> .



Advanced 2nd place - Jackie Reid, © 2010



Nov ice 2nd place - Lance Glowacki, © 2010

Upcoming Monthly Photo Contests

Each month we will have Advanced, Intermediate and Novice contests. For complete contest rules checkout: <http://www.hups.org>

September - Anything with Lungs

October - Things Only a Mother Could Love

November - Wide-angle

December - Best of HUPS

January 2011 - Eyes and/or Teeth

February 2011 - Seahorses & Pipefish

September Contest

The September contest topic is "Anything with Lungs". According to the HUPS website that means - "Mammals, reptiles, birds, amphibians (i.e., turtles, dugongs, aquatic iguanas, whales, dolphins, people, walrus, polar bears, diving birds, snakes, sea lions, etc). Shots must be taken underwater." You can't win if you don't enter!

Descriptions of all 2010 & 2011 contest topics and rules can be found on [hups.org](http://www.hups.org).

Entries for the monthly contest should be emailed to photocontest@hups.org at least **48 hours prior** to the meeting. This mailbox is reserved for entries only. If you have a question regarding the digital contest send your email to ddeavenport@comcast.net or underh2o@mac.com. Complete contest rules can be found at <http://www.hups.org>. **Please be sure to adhere to the file naming instructions.** If you do not follow all the rules for digital entries your images will not be judged.

Contest Results

August - Seafan City

Novice

1st Kandace Heimer
2nd Lance Glowacki
3rd Monica Losey & Lance Glowacki (tie)

Intermediate

1st Mary McDonald
2nd Paul McDonald
3rd Jim Mensay

Advanced

1st Dennis Deavenport & Ken Knezick (tie)
2nd Dennis Deavenport & Jackie Reid (tie)
3rd Tom Collier & Tom Collier (tie)

Cool Website

Submitted by Jesse Cancelmo

The website is Global Tagging of Pelagic Predators. This site has tons of interesting information on numerous pelagic species including: tuna, sharks, whale sharks, Leatherback turtles and others. Check out the whale shark video at the bottom of the home page. Here is the link: <http://www.gtopp.org/>

Upcoming HUPS Workshops

We are about halfway through the year, but we still have several exciting HUPS workshop planned for 2010. Here is a quick look at the schedule:

September 11th - Stop Taking Pictures and Start Creating Images by David Lenderman. To read about this workshop check out this link:

http://www.hups.org/Workshops/Workshops/2010-Start_Creating_Images.htm If you have questions or comments or want to sign up for this workshop you can do it on the HUPS Forum here: <http://www.hups.org/forum/index.php?topic=379.0>

October 16th - Using ProShow Gold & Producer - Oct. 16, 2010 (12 noon - 3pm) Have you ever wondered how to make those really cool videos that you see at the monthly meetings?

On Saturday October 16, 2010 HUPS will have a round table share and learn at the Bayland Community Center to discuss the software ProShow. This very dynamic and rich in content software is available in both Gold and the even more powerful version known as Producer.

Trashfest 2010

By Alicia Grimes

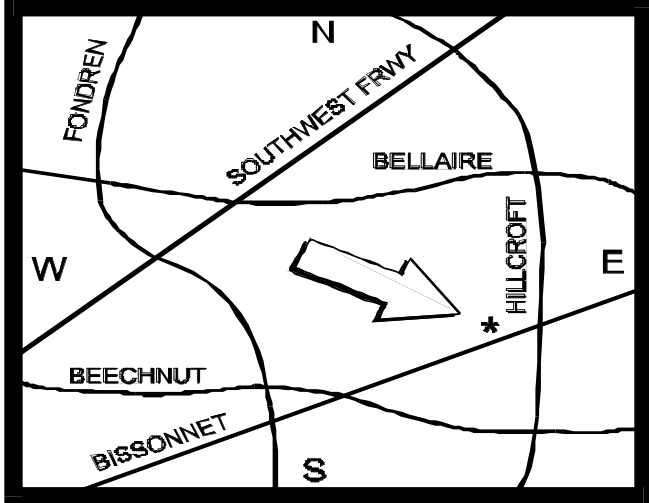
Are you looking for a way to interact with the Texas dive community as well as give back to the environment? Well join us this year at Trashfest 2010. As we did last year, HUPS is putting together a team for Trashfest where we will help clean up the Comal River in New Braunfels. Teams can be up to 8 divers. It would be great to have multiple HUPS teams. Preregistration is available now through Sept. 24th. If you are interested please let me know by email at Alicia@theworldinflash.com. For more information about Trashfest click on the the TGCC website at: <http://www.tgccdiving.org/trashfest/about.html>. There is a BBQ and award ceremony following the clean up. Hope you are available to join us.

More Chips and Salsa Please

Everyone is welcome to join us for some Tex-Mex following HUPS meetings. A number of us meet at Don Carlo's Mexican Restaurant. It is on the 59 Northbound feeder just North of Hillcroft. Exiting Bayland Community Center go left on Bissonnet, left on Hillcroft and then right on the 59 feeder. It's about 100 yards on your right. You can't miss it.

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

*** BAYLAND COMMUNITY CENTER**



<http://www.hups.org>

2010 HUPS Officers

President Tom Collier

Vice President Jim Mensay

Secretary Tammy Allyn

Treasurer Henry Ragland

Membership/Promotions Alicia Grimes

Photo Contest Deavenport

Newsletter David Lenderman

TGCC Rep Frank Burek / Debbie Mensay

Web Master James Heimer

Workshops Greg Grimes

Trip Coordinator - Tom Collier

Historian Frank Burek

Special Events Jan Baughman/Greg Grimes

Board of Directors

Jan Baughman

Frank Burek

Dennis Deavenport

Greg Grimes

Mike Greuter

Kandace Heimer

Ken Knezick

Mary McDonald

Russel Ramsey

**Underwater
Images**

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