# Lunarscope

# **June 2021**



# Lunarins Scuba Club

Lunarfins, a non-profit club that promotes the sport of scuba diving.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 15th at 6:30 p.m. will be a ZOOM meeting with Ed Guiney





I initially was certified as a SCUBA dive thru the YMCA in 1978 but only dove a few times. I got recertified thru PADI in 2003 and went on to become a Dive Master in 2007 and an Assistant Instructor in 2010. I enjoy helping new students learn to dive and already certified dives perfect their skills. When I moved to the Humble area in 2015, I associated with an SSI shop in the area and did a crossover to SSI Dive Con. In 2019 I became an SSI Open Water instructor.

While I have dove many of the islands in the Caribbean, I retired eight years ago and began checking off some dive locations from my bucket list. Most notably I have had the opportunity to dive the Galapagos Islands twice, Fiji, and the North Andaman Sea in Thailand, The Derawan Islands, The Forgotten Islands, and Raga Ampat all in Indonesia, the Island of Cocos off of Costa Rica twice, the Islands of Yap and Palau, and most recently the Islands of the Revillagigedo Archipelago (Socorro) off the coast of Baja for the third time.

Tonight's presentation is on the Revillagigedo Archipelago –Where it is, why go there, how to get there, what to see.

Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82759900375?

Meeting ID: 827 5990 0375 Passcode: 594562





# Lunarfins Board Meetings

are held each month
(except December) at 6:30 PM.
Arrive at 6 to select your supper.
Luka's BBQ and Steakhouse
17052 Saturn Ln
If you have an item to bring before the board, contact any board member to get on the agenda.

### Inside this issue

- 2 Events Calendar, Club Officers, For Sale, & Hydro Info.,
- 3 President Notes, Position Open
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- 5 New Members, Info. On HUFF
- 6 List of Diving
  Destinations
- 7 Events of Interest, Turtle App Article
- 8 Should have been there!
- 9 Dive Shops

Contributors:
Bill Jones
Dennis Deavenport,
Ja Van Pruett,
Cindy Reuland,
Brion Saathoff



Lunarfins P.O. Box 57514 Webster, TX 77598-7514



# Membership

2021 Membership dues are Now being accepted.

Membership runs from March
1st to February 28th 2022

The renewal form is required each year in February.

Please bring the form (below) to the next meeting or mail it in.

Please fill in <u>all fields completely</u> so that records can be verified this time around.

Don't forget to check your interest (s) and if you want to be included in the directory.

**Membership Application** 

https://www.lunarfins.com/

# **Events Calendar**

(Tentative plans)

June 12th—Lunch at Katie's Seafood House-Galveston, Tx

June 15th —Ed Guiney—Revillagigedo Islands of San Benedicto

June 26 & 270th — HUFF- Houston Underwater Film Festival

July 2 — Lunarfins Board Meeting — Luka's BBQ and Steakhouse

July ???—Lunch at TBA

Do you have any ideas for event or

Topics for Speakers for 2021?

Please share them with any of our officers.

# **Pre-Owned Dive Gear for Sale**

US Divers Shoe Fins Size 6 1/2-8 (40-41) Black

Please contact Ja Van Pruett (all proceeds goes to Lunarfins)

## In the Market For New Gear?

**Gigglin' Marlin has offered our members a discount on equipment.** So if you are in the market for maybe a wet suit, a regulator, or a BCD, contact Louise Toole. A letter will be generated that you are a member in good standing and mailed to Gigglin' Marlin. Check out the Gigglin' Marlin web page and get more familiar with the dive shop. https://gigglinmarlin.com

For those Lunarfins having SCUBA cylinders requiring hydrostatic testing, Western Sales & Testing is recommended. They will also do a VIP if requested.

They are located at 2814 East P Ave., Deer Park.



## **ELECTED OFFICERS**

President Cindy Reuland
Vice President Ja Van Pruett
Secretary Courtney Scherer
Treasurer John Gorman
Social Director Brion Saathoff

**APPOINTED** 

Training information Bill Jones
Trip information OPEN
TGCC Representative Tom Burns
Advisor PeeWee Dwire
Advisor Dennis Deavenport
Advisor Fred Toole

Advisor Fred Toole

Newsletter Ja Van Pruett

Website Tom Burns



# **Lunarfins President's Notes**

# Hello Lunarfins,

Welcome new members and existing Lunarfins! We are excited to see some new faces at our lunch at La Brisa with 25 people eating outside. It was great to see many Lunarfins again! Wear your shirts and advertise! Let's continue to network and bring friends to events like this. It's a great way to introduce them to the club in an informal setting. We have a couple new people getting certified. I am looking for someone to setup up a couple of meetings to brainstorm more ideas to get new members. Please let me know if you are interested to help on this quick project. We want to grow the club and continue with great education, trip and dive sharing, and dive socials.

We have some great events coming up this month. We had a fun interactive speaker last month a fictional dive book writer, Nick Sullivan, from New Jersey. The fun part about Zoom has been that we have had great speakers from other locations. This month our speaker is Ed Guiney to show us some exciting trip photos! If you have been on any recent trips, let us know. <u>Please</u> join us at this month's general meeting.

TBD status of Clear Lake Park.

See you at the next Zoom meeting or at the park and invite your friends!

Cindy Reuland Lunarfins 2021-2022 President LunarFins2021@gmail.com





May your day be wonderful!

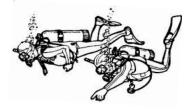


# positions still open

# **Trip information**

When you volunteer you become a bigger part of the club, we always want new ideas.

Folks! Please remember, the more you volunteer for leadership or to be in charge of an event. **The more you enjoy your club.** 





# Our guest speakers for April was Nick Sullivan

Nick was wonderful, he shared his background in theater and recording hundreds of books over 20 years he decided to write some of his own. An avid scuba diver for many years, his travels to numerous Caribbean islands had inspired his new Caribbean Dive Adventures (Deep Novels) series. "Deep Shadow" is set on the Dutch island of Bonaire and its sequel,

**Congratulations!** Mary Smith you won the Signed—Book

# New Logo Lunarfins T-shirts

Would you like a New Logo Lunarfins T-shirt? Brion Saathoff came up with a new design and a way to make the club a little money. We have two colors and two styles, Blue or Red, a Crew or a V-Neck. We have a few left from the first order. If you would like to have one or more please contact Brion Saathoff at @ brionsaathoff@icloud.com. or Ja Van Pruett @ caladyfish@gmail.com



Tickets will be "ON SALE" NOW!

# <sup>20th</sup> Annual Bill Jones 2021 COZUMEL Vacation Package

NON-STOP Flight Departing from HOUSTON's Bush Intercontinental Airport.

Other Departure Cities are Available.

August 2-9,2021 for 8 Days, 7 nights for

less than \$1299 pp, dbl occ, tax incl.

Less than \$150 per day

**DIVING IS NOT INCLUDED or Required** 



WATCH FOR THE "EARLY BIRD SPECIAL" that can save you \$200 hundred **Staying at the fabulous IBEROSTAR COZUMEL RESORT** 

The Annual Bill Jones Cozumel Vacations Group Package Price INCLUDES:

Round Trip Air Fare, Round Trip Ground Transportation, Length of Stay
All-Inclusive **Hotel Accommodations** 

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**ALL YOU CAN EAT AND DRINK** 

All Taxes. Exit Fees, and Gratuities

For those Lunarfins having SCUBA cylinders requiring hydrostatic testing, Western Sales & Testing is recommended. They are located at 2814 East P Ave, Deer Park. They will also do a VIP if requested.

# New Members: Welcome



**JC Andrewes**Diving for 28 years





# HOUSTON UNDERWATER FILM FESTIVAL JUNE 26-27, 2021

HUFF aims to promote underwater film making and appreciation of the beauty and diversity of all things underwater as well as encouraging the art of underwater videography. Underwater videographers from around the world are invited to submit entries for consideration for screening.

The HUFF tickets are now available online. There will be 3 shows at the 14 Pews Theater in The Heights, 800 Aurora St., Houston, 77009 on JUNE 26-27, 2021. Tickets are \$11.

The Saturday, 3 pm matinee will feature 27 films in two categories: Environmental and Art House Flicks.

The Saturday, 7 pm and Sunday, 3 pm shows will feature 34 films in four categories: Novice, Fixed Lens, Short Video and Feature Length.

There will be Pre-Show of HUPS Photo Contest winners throughout the years and an Intermission Show featuring 4 films by Emmy award winning filmmakers, Howard and Michele Hall, and Dustin Adamson.

Following the Sunday matinee, there will be an After Party in the back garden. All are invited.

Here are the links to buy tickets:

**NOTE:** The tickets won't be available to buy until 6-8 weeks before the festival

Saturday, June 26, 3 pm Matinee

Saturday, June 26, 7 pm Show

Sunday, June 27, 3 pm Matinee

Attachments area Preview YouTube video Huff Trailer revised for June 26 & 27, 2021



# List of Diving Destinations Open to Vaccinated Travelers

The list of places that's welcoming vaccinated people is growing by the week. Proof of vaccines is easing travel restrictions to some places, and is the only way travelers can gain entrance to others. Yet from health forms to testing protocols, travel remains complicated even for the immunized. Rules differ from one country to the next. Some places reject certain types of vaccines, while others still require a quarantine period — often shortened.

Travelers almost always have to be <u>fully vaccinated</u> — which is commonly defined as two weeks following the last required dose. However, several places allow travel the same day as a second shot. So, travelers should read the fine print before booking a trip abroad, which includes understanding Covid-19 protocols that may be stricter than what's required at home.

# The U.S. CDC may have eased mask rules for fully vaccinated Americans who are outside, but other places, such as Greece, have not.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends against traveling to all but 31 destinations in the world. The 31 places are under the CDC's <u>Level 1 travel advisory</u>, which indicates the risk for Covid is low there.

Only four of those places are on the list below, so a sizable chasm remains between where vaccinated travelers can go and where they're recommended to go.

# **U.S. CDC Travel Recommendations by Destination**

Level 1: Low — Travelers should wear masks, avoid crowds, etc. Level 2: Moderate — Avoid all nonessential travel.

Level 3: High — Avoid all nonessential travel.

Level 4: Very high — Avoid all travel.

To be clear, vaccinated travelers can still contract Covid-19 (and possibly transmit it), so researching infection and vaccination rates at intended destinations is also advisable.

CNBC Global Traveler will update this list as new information is made public.

### The Caribbean

<u>Travel Level: 1--The British Virgin Islands</u> are one of few CDC Level 1 Covid destinations that are welcoming vaccinated travelers Grenada--From May 1, vaccinated travelers will still need to test negative before and after arriving in Grenada and its dependent territories of Carriacou and Petite Martinique. Quarantine periods will be reduced from a week to <u>no more than 48 hours</u>, if they are vaccinated.

<u>Hawaii</u>—Starting May 11, Hawaii residents can travel between islands without Covid-19 tests or quarantines if they have been vaccinated in Hawaii. The state is expected to loosen entrance requirements for vaccinated travelers from the mainland United States later this summer.

<u>Maldives</u>--Pre-flight Covid testing and quarantines aren't necessary for vaccinated travelers anymore — but their uninoculated kids will need a test. Unvaccinated travelers can also avoid quarantines if they stay on an island where 60% of the population is vaccinated. The country's Health Protection Agency will regularly publish a list of these islands, according to a statement from the Maldives' Ministry of Tourism. Vaccinated people are not subject to quarantines in the Maldives.

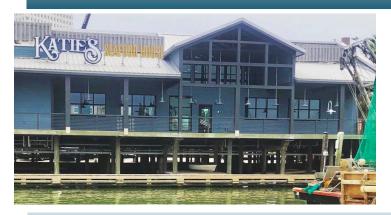
<u>Travel Level: 2--Bahamas</u>--Visitors who upload a vaccination record before they arrive are <u>exempt</u> from a prearrival polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test and a post-arrival rapid test. They don't need to answer daily health questionnaires during their stay either. Only vaccines made by Pfizer BioNTech, Moderna, Johnson & Johnson and AstraZeneca are accepted.

<u>Bermuda</u>—While all travelers aged 10 and older must take Covid tests before and after arriving on <u>Bermuda</u>, immunized travelers who test negative can avoid a four-day quarantine once there. Vaccinated travelers also needn't wear wristbands or report their temperatures twice daily, and accompanying children aged 17 and under are not subject to quarantines.

They must, however, take Covid tests on day 4, 8 and 14 of their vacations. Unvaccinated travelers take note: From June 6, travelers who are not immunized are subject to supervised quarantine for up to 14 days in a designated facility at their own expense.

For full report go to: <a href="https://www.cnbc.com/2021/04/30/places-where-vaccinated-people-can-travel-see-the-updated-list.html?">https://www.cnbc.com/2021/04/30/places-where-vaccinated-people-can-travel-see-the-updated-list.html?</a>
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<a href="https://www.cnbc.com/2021/04/30/places-where-vaccinated-people-can-travel-se

# Events You Might Be Interested In



# Katie's Seafood Market

1902 Wharf Rd. Galveston, TX 77550

**June 12, 12pm it's a Saturday RSVP** TO Kim Murphy (Brion Saathoff's Social Secretary) 979-264-1621 need a head count. Thank you in advance.

# App will help track sea turtles along Gulf

Sent in by Brion Saathoff

A science degree isn't required for local resident to participate in a major scientific undertaking. <u>iSeaTurtle</u>, a tracking app developed by Texas A&M scientists for an ecological assessment of Matagorda Bay, is now usable to track sea turtles across the Texas coast.

The idea for the app grew out of discussions between researchers and fishers.

"Every fisherman stopped by to watch us attack location transmitters to turtles, and they each had a sea turtle story to tell" Pamela Plotkin, Texas Sea Grant's director, said I a statement. "That day I realized that the fishermen had information about sea turtles they wanted to share with us, and they were eager to learn more and play a role in the project. I decided that we needed to do something to get them involved."

Plotkin's lab worked on the app with assistance from the Texas Office of the comptroller, and it launched last year. The Turtle Island Restoration Network partnered with them recently to expand the app's scope coastwide.

Sea turtle commonly are seen around oyster beds, seagrass and marine structures like pier and jetties. During nesting season, Kemp's Ridley Sea turtles take to Texas beached to lay their eggs, including those in Brazoria County.

Sea turtle's population off North American coasts are endangered, and Kemp's Ridley Sea turtle more than others--it's the rearrest and most endangered. Most pregnant Kemp's Ridley Sea turtles next along Mexican beaches, but
around 2 percent annually make it north.

It's been a slower nesting season so far. Nesting typically starts around April. Turtle patrollers on Padre Island Nation Seashore discovered Texas' first two sea turtles nexts of the year April 28.

"We've only had one next, and it was up in Bolivar," Toni Capretta, turtle patrol volunteer and Surfside Beach aider -woman said Monday. "That was just (Sunday), All the rest have been further down south."

People who see a nesting turtle on /Brazoria County beaches should call 1-866-TURTLES-5 before noting the sighting on the app. "It seems like we usually get calls around the fifth and sixth of May, so they may just be a little slow," Capretta said. "It may just be the weather, since it's bee a littler cooler they're not coming up this far yet. But I know (Sunday) was a pretty busy day further south, but so far, Surfside's had none."

Efforts like data reporting through the app will give a better picture of where the turtles are in the sea, along with where they then to nest. People can download the app through the Google Play store and Apple App Store. More app specifications an be found at <a href="mailto:tx.ag./SeaTurtle">tx.ag./SeaTurtle</a>.

The Lunarfins Scuba Club was organized in 1963 by a small group of divers who worked at the Manned Spacecraft Center, as Johnson Space Center (JSC) was known back then. The club grew primarily through the sponsorship of SCUBA training classes, local dive trips and social activities. Since that time, membership has broadened to include anyone interested in diving. The majority of our members are in some way affiliated with NASA but this is not a requirement for membership and we have members from all across the board.

# Lunarfins P.O. Box 57514

Webster TX 77598-7514

281-851-5206 webeditor@lunarfins.com

# Facebook:

 $\frac{https://www.facebook.com/}{groups/687047211312336}$ 

# Website:

https://www.lunarfins.com/

# **TGCC**

https://www.tgccdiving.org/

# TPWD reefs:

https://tpwd.texas.gov/ landwater/water/habitats/ artificial reef/



# should have





# Trips Offered by Dive Shops etc.

# Captain Beard Charters

1011 Casko Rd – Freeport TX captainbeardcharters.com/index.shtml



## **Island Dreams**

10245 Kempwood Dr E119 – Houston TX www.divetrip.com



### Oceanic Ventures

5808 Newcastle Dr. – Houston TX oceanicventures.com



## **REEF** Trips

Dive Vacations That Count – Key Largo FL reef.org/trips



## **Texas Dive Center**

364 FM 1959 #D - Houston TX txdivecenter.com/







# Gigglin' Marlin Dive & Swim

4502 Almeda Rd – Houston TX gigglinmarlin.com



## Maximum Scuba

134 Gulf Freeway North – League City TX maximum-scuba.com



# **Outside The Asylum**

15015 Westheimer Rd #H - Houston TX otadiving.com



# **Sport Divers**

20814 Gulf Fwy #60 - Webster TX sportdivers.com



## **Texas Scuba Adventures**

2315 Mechanic St #120 - Galveston TX texasscubaadventures.com