

December 2022



Lunarfins Scuba Club

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 17th at 6:00

**Debbie & Jim Mensay on Africa
at Spring Creek Barbeque**

A Note from the Editor:

Dear Members,

I want to thank each and everyone of you for being in Lunarfins, I appreciate you more than you will every realize. You bring me such joy, your smiles and when I read about you on Facebook or talk to you on the phone about what you are doing, I just want to share with the rest of the members about what you are doing, because you are either helping other people or you are visiting some exotic places and you share your experiences. Your photo's make all the difference in the world. Some of you have given presentations and I know all too well how much time and work that you put in to it. You are just awesome!

So, Thank you!

Ja Van Pruett

V. President &

Editor of Lunarscope

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Mike Peters,
Ja Van Pruett,
Cindy Reuland,
Brion Saathoff



Lunarfins Board Meetings
are held every other month on the 2nd
Monday of the Month. Our next meet will be
on **January 9th, if you want to attend**
contact Cindy Reuland at
<cphilistine@sbcglobal.net>
before at 6:30 PM.



Will be a ZOOM Meeting only

If you have an item to bring before the board,



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



Events Calendar

(Tentative plans)

Membership

**2022 Membership dues are
Now being accepted.**

Membership runs from April 1st, 2022 to March 31st 2023

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 all fields completely 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.lunarfinns.com/>



Dec. 11th — Lunarfinns Scuba Club Christmas Party @ Opus Grill 5pm & Member of the Year Award Voting

Dec. 17th—Iceland—@ Moody Gardens—4:30 pm

Jan. 9th — Lunarfinns Board Meeting — ZOOM

Jan. 15th — Movie —'Avatar: The Way of Water'

Jan. 17th — General Meeting — Debbie & James Mensay—Africa

**Feb. 21st — General Meeting — Dennis Davenport & Tom Collier
Phillipines**

Mar. 3rd — Lunarfinns Board Meeting —ZOOM

Mar. 21st — Open House —Celebration of 60th Anniversary & Elections of Officers

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

ELECTED OFFICERS

President	Cindy Reuland
Vice President	Ja Van Pruett
Secretary	Deana Coale
Treasurer	John Gorman
Social Director	Brion Saathoff

APPOINTED

Training information	Bill Jones
Trip information	PJ Campagna/ Deana Coale
TGCC Representative	Tom Burns
Advisor	Dennis Deavenport
Advisor	PeeWee Dwire
Advisor	Mike Peters
Newsletter	Ja Van Pruett
Tom Burns	Website

**Do you have
any ideas for
event or**

**Topics for
Speakers for
2023?**

**Please share
them with
any of our
officers.**

Lunarphins President's Notes



December 2022

Happy Holidays Lunarphins!

Glad you could join us for an informative and fascinating presentation by Bob and Christine Sanders on cave diving with a great introduction video by Dennis Deavenport. We are glad to have talented Lunarphins members! Thank you for sharing your experience and tips with divers.

Our 60th anniversary logo shirts are completed and ready for pickup at the Christmas party. If you have not paid yet, please bring it to the party to pickup your shirt or mail it to the PO Box.

We are going to have our holiday party on Sunday December 11th at 5pm at Opus Ocean Grille. It will be a special event and a great opportunity to get to know each other and share stories. It has been a great year and it will be fun to share this time together.

We are kicking off our history project for the 60th anniversary video. We are gathering names of people who want to be interviewed or tell stories along with photos. Please let me and Dennis Deavenport know if you are interested in participating or helping. It will be a memorable video for Lunarphins to enjoy for years. Be a part of Lunarphins history!

We have more events to look forward to in December and January so checkout the events! We look forward to seeing you.

Cindy Reuland

2022-2023 President



Thank you

Our speaker for November was **Bob and Christine Sanders** from our club. We are always so honored to have the Sander's talk. I am only sorry that I was not able to see and hear it. From the beautiful pictures that I saw on Facebook I know that they shared so much information on how and as well as how to dive safely in a cave.

If you missed this presentation, like PeeWee and I did then you missed a outstanding presentation.

We met at Spring Creek Barbeque on Gulf Freeway, same place we will meet in November. Please let a member of the Lunarphins Board of Directors on what you think of the location or you can help us find a better place.



Spring Creek Barbeque

Be sure to check out their menu

<http://www.springcreekbarbeque.com>

January 17th, 6:00pm

Come at 6pm—and order, 6:30—announcements & social

Speakers start at 7:00 pm

2710 Gulf Fwy S., League City TX 77573

Up Coming Events

REEF Fish Survey Trip in Belize

January 21-28, 2023

There are still a few spaces available on the **REEF Field Survey Trip to Belize!** Trip dates are January 21-28, 2023. During this trip, we will document the fish species we find in Belize and collect citizen science data for the REEF Volunteer Fish Survey Project. No prior survey experience is needed.

Teachers may **earn professional development credit by participating in any REEF Field Survey Trip.** Credits (2.5) are available from the University of California San Diego. Each trip provides opportunities to snorkel or SCUBA dive as a citizen scientist and collect species and abundance data on marine fish populations. Educators will return to the classroom with a unique field experience to share, as well firsthand knowledge of fish identification and behavior, biodiversity, and human impacts on ocean ecosystems.

This trip package includes 7 nights of double occupancy accommodation on the Belize Aggressor IV liveaboard, 5 and a half days of diving, three daily meals, and snacks, plus fish identification presentations and all fish survey materials.

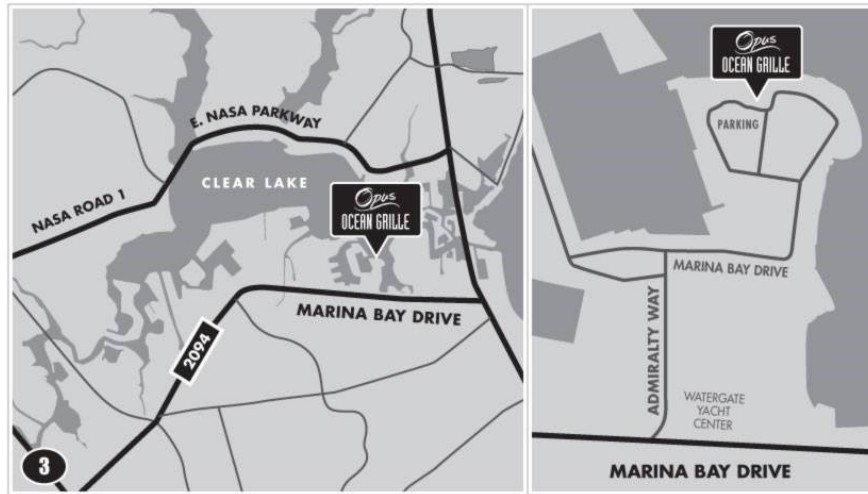
More information is available here: <https://www.REEF.org/events/belize-field-survey-trip>. For more details or to register, email trips@REEF.org.

Up Coming Events

2022 NASA Lunarfins Christmas Party

OPUS OCEAN GRILLE

Dec. 11 @ 5:00 PM — 2nd Floor



1510 Marina Bay Drive, Building 124

Clear Lake Shore, TX 77565

Opus Ocean Grille offers a variety of your favorite fresh seafood dishes; from oysters on the half shell, Alaskan King Crab, Chilean Sea Bass and much more!

Located within the Watergate Yachting Center in Clear Lake Shores, our waterfront dining experience makes for a perfect brunch or evening out with Friends and family.

Be sure to bring a gift (something you would like to receive) for Gift Exchange.

Plus, we have Door prizes!

Dress— Dressy or Sunday clothes

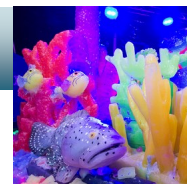
Please RSVP: Kim Murphy, text or email

kamurph5717@gmail.com

or Ja Van @ caladyfish@gmail.com

<http://www.opusoceangrille.com/>

Events You Might Be Interested In



Lunarfins Get-together at Moody Gardens

**December 17th —
4:30pm**

Contact Kim: kamurph5717@gmail.com

**Guests Will Dive to the Depths of the Gulf of Mexico
for the Holidays**

Christmas comes early this year as Moody Gardens is thrilled to announce Ice Lands' return for the 2022 holiday season. The North Pole meets the Caribbean as Moody Gardens introduces ICE LAND: Ice Sculptures, A Caribbean Christmas opening on November 18 through January 7.

An award-winning team of master ice carvers from Harbin, China will return to Moody Gardens to chart the course for the ultimate Caribbean Christmas as will carve these magnificent, towering ice sculptures out of two million pounds of ice for a spectacular aquatic adventure.

Guests will embark on a breathtaking underwater journey from the shores of Galveston Island through the Gulf of Mexico. As they explore the depths of the ocean, they will discover sunken treasure and see Christmas surprises along the way. Venture through the beautiful Flower Garden Banks for encounters with spectacular schools of colorful tropical fish, eagle rays, turtles, dolphins, Hammerhead sharks, and more on the way to their Caribbean island destination. There is even an opportunity to enjoy Shivers Ice Bar featuring festive holiday spirits inside this ultra-cool bar made completely out of ice.

Visitors will be fully immersed in the region's coolest holiday attraction featuring a variety of different scenes. It will offer a more diverse range of sculptures than ever in the 28,000 sq. ft. insulated tent structure chilled and maintained at nine degrees.

"We are very excited for Ice Land to be making its return this year," said John Zendt, Moody Gardens President and CEO, who added that this year's experience will be memorable, engaging, and distinctive for visitors and the artists who are creating it. "This attraction shows an appreciation for all of the sea life and beauty offered right here in our own backyard with a special festive Christmas focus."

As Moody Gardens transforms into Holiday in the Gardens, it has become a holiday tradition as families throughout the region are offered a very diverse range of attractions to complement ICE LAND. Festival of Lights is a mile-long walking trail decked with two million lights and filled with sound-enhanced lighted and animated displays themed to everyone's favorite holiday music and spectacular views of Galveston Bay. Guests will also enjoy an outdoor ice rink, Arctic Slide, a holiday buffet, and train rides. Guests can also enjoy holiday 3D films and the Rudolph 4D. The Moody Gardens Hotel will feature an exciting new Cirque Joyeux Dinner and Show at the Moody Gardens Hotel and the New Year's Palooza Family Celebration. Special Hotel Packages are available with the holiday attractions and events.

For more information visit www.moodygardens.org or call 409-744-4673.

Everything we can expect from 'Avatar: The Way of Water,' the long-awaited sequel to the hit 2009 movie.

The sequel takes place over a decade after the events of the first "Avatar."



- A lot of the movie will be set underwater.
- [Lunarfans will see this on January 15th, 2023.](#)

Director James Cameron has been discussing a sequel to "Avatar" ever since the original film opened in 2009 and became the highest-grossing movie of all time ("Avengers: Endgame" took the title in 2019).

The powerful sci-fi movie is set on a far-away moon called Pandora and follows human Jake Sully (Sam Worthington) as he befriends the natives (called the Na'vi) by using a genetically engineered Na'vi body.

Now, the sequel picks up over a decade later and will focus on Sully, his lover Neytiri (Zoe Saldana), and their new family.

Along with Worthington and Saldana returning for the sequel, we'll also see Giovanni Ribisi, who was the lead corporate administrator of the human-mining project on Pandora in the first movie.

Two actors whose characters died in the first movie will also be returning. Sigourney Weaver, who played Dr. Grace Augustine, is coming back, but not playing the same character. Stephen Lang, who played the villain Colonel Miles Quaritch, is also getting a second chance.

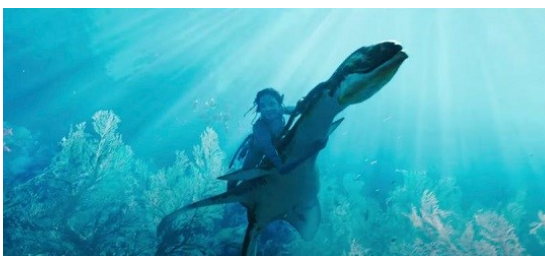
But there are also newcomers. Kate Winslet will be teaming up with Cameron for the first time since she starred in his other major blockbuster hit, 1997's "Titanic."

Winslet is set to play a free diver named Ronal, one of the Na'vi who inhabits the waters of Pandora called Metkayina.

Cliff Curtis ("Blow," "Training Day," "Whale Rider") will play Tonowari, the leader of the Metkayina.

Edie Falco and Michelle Yeoh have been cast for live-action roles. And Vin Diesel said in a 2019 Instagram post that he will also be joining the cast. However, there are no details yet on who he will play.

As the title suggests, we're going to see more of what goes on below the surface of Pandora in the sequel.



To pull off these scenes, a massive 900,000-gallon performance-capture tank was built in New Zealand for the sequels.

Like the first movie, the technology used to make "Avatar: The Way of Water" is groundbreaking.

Along with filming underwater, Cameron and the special effects team at Wētā FX developed a motion-capture underwater system to capture the performances.

The equipment has never been used before this movie and took a year-and-a-half to develop. And, like the first movie, Cameron plans to push the boundaries of 3D to present "the most immersive 3D available," he said at 2022 CinemaCon via a video message.

"We're pushing those limits even further, with 3D with high dynamic range, with high frame rate, higher resolution, and a much greater reality in our visual effects," he said.

Flower Garden's News

Marine Sanctuary Explorer App

Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary

A free mobile app is now helping sanctuary users explore the 3,800 square miles of water surrounding the Florida Keys. **Marine Sanctuary Explorer** was funded by the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation with content created by the site's MOVE team, describing the more than 50 marine zones located within Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. Easy-to-read guidelines communicate activities allowable in each managed area. Featuring GPS-enabled technology in both Apple and Android formats, the app alerts users when they are approaching managed zones.

TGCC News

TGCC's 2023 Clubs Award Luncheon Information:

o Bayland Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet (near Hillcroft)

o Saturday, Jan. 28, 2023

o Social -11:00 AM Lunch - 11:45 AM

o Ticket price is \$25. ([see Ja Van for tickets](#))

o Event will be catered by Todd Rushing.

TGCC has elected it officers for 2023 & 2024:

President – Frank Burek

1st Vice President – Pee Wee Dwire

2nd Vice President – **Open.**

Treasurer – Mark Leiserowitz

Secretary – Ja Van Pruett

TGCC has appointed additional officers to certain positions for 2023 & 2024:

Donations/Scholarship Chairman – Frank Burek

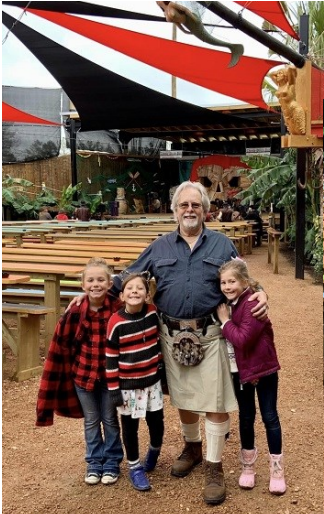
Historian – Frank Burek

Webmaster – Tom Burns

About our Members

congratulations!!

Paul Cater Deaton



Great fun with the nippers at **Texas Renaissance Festival** Celtic Christmas.

Thirty signed up to march in the Houston Thanksgiving Day Parade. Then the weather forecast gave it an 80% chance of rain, and maybe even thunderstorms. One by one, everyone backed out but Vader and me, (**Paul Cater Deaton**) and three handlers. It spat on us a bit right as we were getting started, but I used The Force and made it stop.



“...December 7th, 1941, a date which will live in infamy...” Those who fail to learn from history are doomed to repeat it.

<https://fb.watch/gmz62DVDzr/>

CAF Tora! Tora! Tora! Squadron celebrates 50 years of airshow performances. It began when a Tennessee man purchased replicas of Japanese warplanes used in the production of the 1970 20th Century-Fox film, "Tora! Tora! Tora!" He then donated the aircraft to the organization now known as the **Commemorative Air Force**.

Known as the "Ghost Squadron," the CAF is a flying museum dedicated to a mission of history, education and Patriotism.

Museum leadership was less than enthusiastic about the donation. According to pilot Patrick Hutchins, "They didn't know what to do with them," citing their preference for authentic warplanes over the replicas.

Our own producer/director, **Paul Cater Deaton**, was on staff many years ago as photojournalist with the CAF DISPATCH Magazine, under the leadership of CAF Founder, Lloyd Nolen. Deaton visited Hutchins at his hangar to talk about the history and development of the squadron.

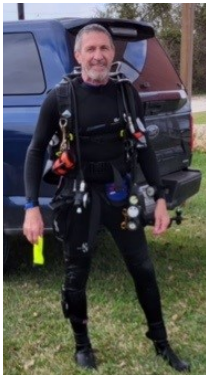
Ironically, the Tora! Tora! Tora! Squadron has become one of the leading attractions of Commemorative Air Force airshows, and others around the country, as they perform their tightly choreographed aerial exhibition.

At the CAF Wings Over Houston Airshow on 29-30 October at Ellington Airport, the squadron will celebrate its 50th anniversary.

About our Members, (Continued)

congratulations!!

Brion Saathoff



He passed—The physical this time (see story on next page)

congratulations!!

Kim Murphy

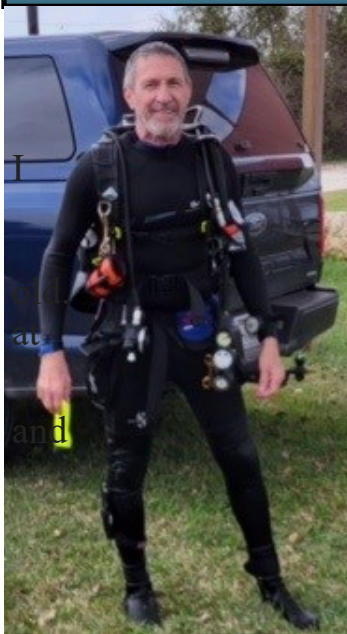
You will receive a \$25 Amazon Card or your membership paid for to Lunarfin's Scuba Divers Club, for attending almost all of the events that we offered. Thank you for attending, you are a special member..

About our Members, (Continued)



Toured the NBL with family and got this photo.

Brion's Corner — Never Give Up



I finally did it I have passed my swim and dive assessments which I've taken twice, (The first one I failed because I did not educate myself on rescuing an unconscious diver from the bottom and in theory, drowned the person I was trying to save) I passed my physical for the second time, I passed the first one but it is only good for two years at my age of 61 years and it's more in depth if you are over 40 years It has taken three years to finally get the OK to dive in the aquariums Moody Gardens.

Typically, it all gets done in one year. In 2018 I joined Lunarfins at one of the meetings P J was talking about her and Shon diving the Caribbean at Moody Gardens so after the meeting I said tell me more about Moody Gardens. Next thing you know I'm applying for a volunteer position at Moody Gardens, in January 2019 I had my first interview and background check and March 2019 I started volunteering in November 2019 I passed my first physical then December 2019 I had my first swim and dive assessment. Then came 2020 in March 2020 Moody Gardens was shut down except for essential personnel due to the pandemic.

Once towards the end of 2020 I managed to schedule a shift because the volunteer site on the computer had inadvertently not been shut down. I was immediately spotted and sent home by Rachel one of the dive safety officers. I told her 'Well' at least I tried, I missed Moody and the people at Moody. So, July 2021 the whole interview process and background check was done again and I was called back to volunteer in jellies and corals. Unfortunately, the dive program was still on hold because of the logistics of cleaning the gear and Covid. Finally, June of this year there was another interview and four of us were scheduled for a dive and swim assessment. The swim assessment is basically a lifeguard test.

August of this year I got an email from the Dive safety officer (Jake Emmert) they were setting us up for our physicals industrial medicine in Texas City. The physical this time was basically the same physical that they give to the fire fighters at the plants to assess your fitness and ability to use a SCBA (self-contained breathing apparatus) eKGs, lung capacity, chest x-rays, etc.

I finally get to take my DAN class this month which is the last step to diving at the aquarium. The good Lord willing I will be in the water in January or the end of this month.

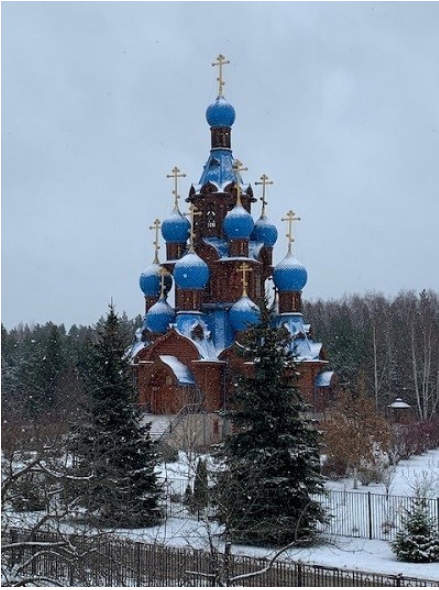
The commitment is two Sundays a month for a minimum of a year I'm going to do two Sundays a month for as long as they will have me.

Like, I tell my grandchildren **never give up**. Keep on trying until you finally win.

I hope everybody has a blessed and safe Christmas.

Brion

About our Members, (Continued)



Keith Brandt — is spending in Christmas in Russia

Russia for Star City, 30 km NE of Red Square in Moscow,
Russia



Great day Mammoth Lake Texas with Stanley Fontenot, Charles Maricle, Matthew Williams average for me (JC Andrews) and Stanley was 62 degrees. We averaged 40 feet both dives. found 3 face masks, and a laptop. The laptop is an old laptop with a Maximum Scuba sticker

Pete Hunter - Is a long time member of Lunar fins, he has been ill for over a year with Cancer. He has decided that he will no longer be diving. He has some dive items he no longer needs so his wife Norma Hunter has listed items **For Sale**— If your interested message Norman Hunter on FB or Please contact Norma Hunter <nahpwh@yahoo.com> Intergraded BCD atmos-Aeris, dive skin large, cress sub - regulator set sx2, 80 cc tank, full 3/m -2 dive suit bare, shorty 3m dive suit Henderson, Henderson Vest xl, Aqualung Lg fins, Oceanic med fins, 3 good masks - more, complete sea life camera package 12.

“Aquarius Art Tunnel” submitted by Alton Dulaney

Aquarius Art Tunnel immersive art installation at IAH is a 240 feet long experience complete with floor to ceiling mural, lenticular lenses, custom carpet tiles, original soundtrack, and an augmented reality filter. This bright and colorful tunnel visually transports passengers of the International Terminal in the George Bush Intercontinental Airport to an underwater wonderland, inspired by the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary located 100 miles off the coast of Texas. Artist and Marine Conservationist [Janavi Mahimtura Folmsbee \(Artist\)](#) gathers inspiration from her own scuba-diving excursions to use in her artwork and to create this multi-media experience. View project on CODAworx: <https://www.codaworx.com/projects/aquarius-art-tunnel> (see next page)

Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary



"This tunnel is mine," Janavi Mahimtura Folmsbee kept telling herself.

She wasn't just sending the thought out to the universe, as she often does when she is trying to will something important to happen. The tunnel she was speaking of—a corridor connecting the two international terminals at Houston's George Bush Intercontinental Airport—tethers her life, in a way. She traverses it every time she boards a plane to visit her family in Mumbai, India, from her home in Houston. Now she can say it with confidence and pride. Mahimtura Folmsbee, a marine conservation artist and avid scuba diver, has transformed the space from an institutional, gray hallway into an immersive, aquariumlike environment inspired by Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary.



Janavi Mahimtura Folmsbee, JaVan Pruett PeeWee Dwire and Brion Saathoff at Janavi's ribbon cutting ceremony in the tunnel between E terminal and D at Houston Intercontinental airport. 240 feet of murals Paying homage to the Flower Gardens Marine National Sanctuary. Janavi also designed the carpet tiles the lighting and her dress. The murals start with the mesophotic (middle light) parts of the gardens on the ends and up to the shallow areas (64ft deep) in the middle. All the work is certified accurate by marine biologists that she consulted with during the install. We have all four been down there so it makes it even more special for us. She named the work —**THE AQUARIUS ART TUNNEL**.

We are all so very proud of Janavi

What a Beautiful Artemis Launch! By Pete Hasbrook

Annette and I were sorry to miss the November LunarFins meeting, but we think we had a good excuse: we were in Florida for the Artemis I launch. And it was definitely worth the trip!

Annette retired from NASA last December. Her last 6 years were in the Orion Program Office. She is enjoying retirement, but she missed her NASA family and she wanted to help the Orion program through its final journey to launch and its first mission to the Moon. She was able to secure a one-year part-time “term” appointment back in the Orion program, and one benefit was to be invited to the Artemis I launch.

Orion is the NASA’s newest spacecraft that will take humans to the Moon and beyond, and bring them back home safely through the atmosphere at the end of each mission. Orion is the same shape as the Apollo capsule, but it is larger. Its base, the heat shield, is about 30% larger than Apollo’s, 5.0 meters vs 3.9 meters. Orion has larger volume than Apollo, with room for four astronauts vs Apollo’s three. Orion is launched atop the Space Launch System rocket; together with all of the ground launch support systems, they make up the Artemis Program.

One of the benefits of the previous launch scrubs (plus two hurricanes) was that the launch time moved to a night launch. Our perch was in the bleachers at NASA’s Banana Creek viewing site, about 3 miles from the launch pad. The skies cleared while we were waiting for launch, and we were treated with a bright half moon. We’ve been privileged to see several types of rockets launch during our NASA careers. Artemis I was definitely the biggest, the brightest, and the loudest. The pressure waves from the sound of the rocket engines caused a great thumping on our chests. Another strange sensation was to feel my pant legs behind my calves whipping in the wind!

Annette took these photos, with just her iPhone 13, with the standard “photo” setting, zoomed in with autofocus (12MP camera, “wide camera”, 26mm, f1.6). She added skills she’s learned from her years of photography while diving: recognizing a good shot, zoom and framing, and a steady hand. She did not do any post-processing.

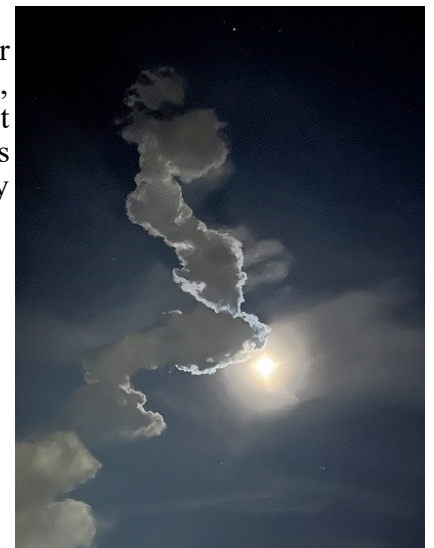
The first photo was about 90 seconds after launch, before the Solid Rocket Boosters (SRBs) separated. The base of the launch exhaust plume is lit by the xenon lights at the launch pad. Note the reflection of the plume on the water of Banana Creek. The plume near the ground is mostly steam, created from the millions of gallons of water dumped in from the sound suppression system, which prevents damage to launch pad hardware from the very high pressures and vibrations created by the rocket’s engine exhaust. The rest of the launch plume is a mix of exhaust from the SRBs plus steam from the core stage’s 4 main engines, which mix hydrogen and oxygen to create thrust and make water as a byproduct. The bright region in the upper right is a layer of high cirrus clouds, lit from above by the engines after the rocket passed through it. Annette called it the “Artemis Nebula”.



The second photo was near 6 minutes after launch. The rocket’s engines are still visible, as the bright dot at the top middle. The exhaust plume has been blown by winds of various speeds at different altitudes, and it’s backlit by the Moon.

Very cool to have Artemis (and Orion) and the Moon in the same shots. We. Are. Going!

For more information about the Artemis program and the Orion mission, see <https://www.nasa.gov/artemis-1>





Brion's Corner — Keeping in Practice

Dear members,

Merry Christmas / Happy Holidays

A few months ago I got this hair brained idea. Instead of exploring and sightseeing underwater I was going to do some compass runs and practice some buoyancy. Then I was going to sit on the training platform and take my entire kit apart (except removing the first stage from the cylinder of course) I felt that doing it multiple times in different orders would be a good idea also. So I proceeded to unhook the slate write on it, clean it off stow it (pencil could have been sharper) I fumbled with the clip on the DSMB got it off partially deployed it (I didn't let it go all the way up and freak anyone out) and reeled it back in. I found the black Velcro to be a pain to find and the location I had it wasn't ideal. The clip has been changed along with the location on my BC. Both the black Velcro straps now have purple Velcro tabs sewn on them for visibility. I found no issues with the knives, sheath and gloves as I tend to pull the off or out from time to time. The rest of the kit has become fairly normal to remove and replace as I have had a couple of swim and dive assessments in the last few years with moody so no issues there and I flood my mask from time to time to keep a flooded mask in my comfort zone so taking it off has become old hat. I did switch back and forth with my primary reg and my secondary because I use an air 2 on my hydros so it's not a long hose like a standard octopus. And reminded my self to blow little bubbles the whole time it's not in my mouth. (Forgetting that one is an automatic fail for the dive assessment) all in all everything else went good and stayed well within my comfort zone. The bottom line is how many times have you actually used or deployed all the goodies that we clip to ourselves? are they easy to see down there in less than perfect water.? When is the last time you took your kit off and put it back on? Are you comfortable with a flooded mask at depth? Do you know your hand signals and use them? Before I onboarded with moody I hadn't practiced most of these things in many years. It seems that a lot of times some of us only touch our gear is when we go on vacation. And when that happens there is usually no practice time involved. Especially if you wind up with one of those dive buddies that's more focused on getting there than making it back in good condition. That is why we are lucky to have training lakes practically in our back yards. The one closest to me is Mammoth Lake it's a well run operation with clean air.

Jim Carmin and I have this mantra "LIVE TO DIVE ANOTHER DAY". Anyone can call a dive at any time without their buddy getting an attitude. That's the only kind of people I care to dive with. I believe the more I practice the less the chances of having to call a dive

God bless and safe travels to all.

Brion Saathoff

Fling Charters

726 West Brazos Boulevard, Freeport, TX

979-233-4445



Fling Charters 2022 Trips:

Dec. 10-11 Field Day Afloat

Dec. 16-18 3-Day High Island Cruise

Here's the new web page: TexasCaribbean.com

In 2023 will bring many improvements to the operation, specifically how we book divers and work with our dive center partners.

**New plans for the Fling. New trips. Upgrades onboard.
Modern Online Booking Service
Partner sales**

**Lots of diving coming up for 2023 — you
will see in next month's newsletter!**

About our Members, Do you remember these pictures?



A large collage of 24 photographs capturing various moments from a Christmas dinner and party. The images show people in formal and casual attire, gift exchanges, a person in a Grinch costume, and a diver in a scuba suit. The setting appears to be a restaurant or banquet hall with white tablecloths and festive decorations.

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

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281-851-5206

webeditor@lunarfins.com

Facebook:

<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/



You should have been there!!



I got lucky — only female with 6 great guys. We talked about diving, fish ID, photography & more. Awesome!



Happy Birthday! to anyone that has a birthday this month! May your day be wonderful!

Trips Offered by Dive Shops etc.

Captain Beard Charters

1011 Casco Rd – Freeport TX

captainbeardcharters.com/index.shtml



Island Dreams

10245 Kempwood Dr E119 – Houston TX

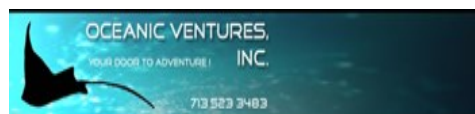
www.divetrip.com



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/



Giggin' Marlin Dive & Swim

4502 Almeda Rd – Houston TX

gigginmarlin.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