

Lunarscope

March 2023



Lunarfins Scuba Club

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 21st at 6:00 p.m.

Happy 60th Anniversary!

New Place this month only: South Shore Grille

2800 Marina Bay Dr League City TX 77573

Time: 6:00 pm order Dinner

6:30 pm general meeting

7:00 pm open mic time and dinner

Open Mic night of sharing and laughter!

Everyone, share your favorite story in less than 3 minutes so we can keep the flow of stories! Let us know if you are ok to be video recorded.

General meeting to elect 2023-2024 board

Bring your favorite memorabilia to show of photos and items and wear your favorite Lunarfins attire!

Let us celebrate 1963-2023 Lunarfins Scuba club!

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83674642772?pwd=YUtdMkdGdkhzVHRleFdwrgT0pWL1hTdZ09>

Meeting ID: 836 7464 2772

Passcode: 076802



Lunarfins Board Meetings

are held every other month on the 2nd Monday of the Month. Our next meet will be on **April 10th**, 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, contact any board member to get on the agenda.

Inside this issue

- 2 Events Calendar, Club Officers
- 3 President Notes
- 4 Meeting Place & Slate of Officers
- 5 Full list of Board Members & Notes From Lunarfins Board of Directors
- 6 Mike Pieters's Article & Magic Show
- 7 Flower Garden News
- 8 About our Members Stanley Fontento
- 9 About our Members Stanley Fontento (continued) & Justin Wallace
- 10 About our Members—Paul Cater Deaton
- 11 Texas Caribbean Party
- 12 Tall Ships Article
- 13 HUFF Info
- 14-15 Brion's Article & Galley Mate Needed
- 16-17 TGCC Scholarship Info, Scholarship Application
- 19 You Need to Be There
- 20 Dive Shops

Frank Burek,
Tom Burns,
JP Campagna,
Paul Cater Deaton,
Stanley Fontento,
Mike Peters,
Ja Van Pruett,
Cindy Reuland,
Brion Saathoff,

Justin

Wallace



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



Membership

**2024 Membership dues are
Now being accepted.**

Membership runs from **April
1st, 2023 to March 31st 2024**

"The renewal form and dues
payment is required as soon as
possible prior to April 1.

*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.lunarfins.com/>



Events Calendar

(Tentative plans)

Mar. 18th — Magic Show at the Magic Show Theater — 5:00 pm

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

Apr. 10th — Lunarfins Board Meeting — ZOOM — 6:30 pm

Apr. 15th — Tall Ships coming to Galveston — Tom Burns

**Apr. 18th — General Meeting — Andy Lewis — The Texas
Caribbean and Fish ID**

Apr. 29th & 30th — Houston Underwater Film Festival (P.12)

May 8th — Lunarfins Board Meeting — ZOOM — 6:30 pm

**May 16th — General Meeting — Robert Gardiner — Deep Zone
Aquatic Center**

**June 20th — General Meeting — Dennis Deavenport & Justin
Wallace — "Anilao Follies"**

July 9th — Lunarfins Board Meeting — ZOOM — 6:30 pm

**July 18th — General Meeting — Dennis Deavenport & Henry
Ragland**

ELECTED OFFICERS

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

APPOINTED

Media Manager	Dennis Deavenport
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
Website	Tom Burns

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

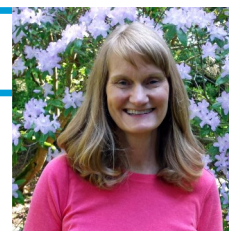
**Topics for
Speakers for
2023?**

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

Lunarfins President's Notes

March 2023

Happy 60th Anniversary Lunarfins!



Congratulations on supporting and being a part of Lunarfins Scuba Club!

This month we will celebrate the kickoff of our 60th anniversary for being a club in 1963-2023! Our general meeting will be a little different. We will start off with a general meeting to get a few items completed before we start the celebration.

The first item is elections of 2023-2024 officers and approval for the 2023-2024 budget.

Reminder that dues start on April 1 so send in your applications or bring them to the meeting. Only members can vote.

Next, we will have an open mic night to tell your favorite Lunarfins story in 3 minutes to keep the stories flowing. We will go around the room and encourage everyone to say something about Lunarfins as we all have something to share whether it be a story or just to say you enjoy it. If you are willing, we will video a few stories as preparation for Dennis Deavenport's historical video to be completed later in the year. It will be a fun time of laughter and sharing. Bring with you any fun memorabilia or photos to display and share. Wear your favorite Lunarfins shirt! We will get some photos of the group.

The celebration will be at the South Shore Grille on Marina Bay Drive in League City. They have a nice large quiet room in the back and a variety of dinner choices at good prices. So, come at 6 pm to order and then we can socialize and get the program started. We will try to do this by Zoom, but keep in mind it's a new location and it would be more fun to be in person. Maybe we can get some long time Lunarfins to join online so do try to join. So, come out and celebrate with us!

I am not running for President. I have been President for the past 3 years and feel it's time to do some new activities. It has been great to lead this group of divers! I am honored to serve you and will continue to send out JSC Roundup articles to encourage NASA employees to join us. Thanks to everyone on the board for your hard work, support, and volunteer time!

I also encourage you to join us at the Magic show on March 18! It will be fun.

Enjoy!

Cindy Reuland

2020-2023 President!



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



South Shore Grille

Be sure to check out their menu

<https://soshoregrille.com/league-city-south-shore-grille-food-menu>

March 21st, 6:00pm

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

Speakers start at 7:00 pm

2800 Marina Bay Dr. League City TX 77573

Notes From the Lunafins Board of Directors:

- ♦ The new slate of Officers (See Page 5)

President

Brion Saathoff

Vice President

Ja Van Pruett

Secretary

OPEN

Treasurer

John Gorman

Social Director

Mike Peters

- ♦ Budget for the coming year 2023-2024
- ♦ Moving money to one bank
- ♦ General Meeting for March

SLATED OFFICERS for 2023-2024

President	Brion Saathoff
Vice President	Ja Van Pruett
Secretary	OPEN
Treasurer	John Gorman
Social Director	Mike Peters

APPOINTED Positions

Media Manager	Dennis Deavenport
Training information	Bill Jones
Trip information	PJ Campagna
	OPEN
TGCC Representative	Tom Burns
Advisor	Dennis Deavenport
Advisor	PeeWee Dwire
Advisor	Mike Peters
Newsletter	Ja Van Pruett
Website	Tom Burns

Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary

Hatchling Hustle - Galveston, TX

April 15, 2023

The goal of this event is to raise awareness of the beginning of sea turtle nesting season.

<https://runsignup.com/Race/TX/Galveston/HatchlingHustle>

SOURCE: Turtle Island Restoration Network

Funding for Place-based Education in the Gulf of Mexico Region

K-8th Grade

The Gulf Research Program is offering up to \$2 million to support place-based educational activities in the Gulf of Mexico region. Full details can be found on the Gulf Research Program [website](#). Applicants must request at least \$75,000 for projects, commensurate with the scope of work, that are up to 30 months in duration.

Submit your applications by March 29, 2023 5:00pm ET.

SOURCE: GOMA



Mike Peter's

Our Lunarfins Dive Club has been at the forefront of conducting zoom education over the web, just as the Flower Gardens Marine Sanctuary has also started to conduct educational webinars. All members should be proud of the progress that Lunarfins Dive Club has made, and using the technology of the web to promote education of All the public regarding our underwater world. We as members wish to thank those skilled club members who have used their internet skills that make it possible for our club to utilize zoom broadcast to reach out and bring education on marine diving to the public over the internet.

The Magic Show

March 18, 2023 — 5:00 pm

Meet at St. Thomas Episcopal Church
18300 Upper Bay Rd. Nassau Bay 5 pm
Bus will leave as soon as it's full ...

We will arrive in plenty of time to get a bite to eat on your own before show starts at 8 pm.

Theater offers free water and popcorn and since there is no liquor license, you can bring liquor, wine, beer and/or soft drinks for yourself at to share.

Bus will be back in Nassau Bay by approximately 11 pm.

Tickets will cost only \$12.50 (50% discount code is 5150)

go to www.magicshowtheater.com to purchase tickets in advance.

WE NEED AN RSVP ASAP TO SECURE THE BUS!!!

So please let us know how many people you are reserving for to

JaVan: 281-229-8631

P J: 713-875-6005

Brion: 979-239-8292 (please leave a message)

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.

Lionfish Invitational Applications Available

As an alternative to Lionfish derbies, Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary hosts the Lionfish Invitational. This multi-day event is a science-based research expedition in which 11 dive teams work to remove as many lionfish as possible, while also recording helpful data on lionfish activity and sightings. In addition, a science team of 8 divers conducts surveys to determine what species, quantities, and sizes of fish are present at each designated site before and after the removals.

We have scheduled two trips this year:

June 11-14, 2023

July 23-26, 2023

[Applications are now available](#) and are **due by March 1, 2023**.

To make these Lionfish Invitational trips happen, the sanctuary partners with Lionfish Invitational, Inc., with support from Moody Gardens and Texas State Aquarium through the Aquarium-Sanctuary Partnership for America's Keystone Wildlife, and Texas Caribbean Charters.



[Bright Bank](#) is named after Tom Bright, who studied the Flower Garden Banks and surrounding areas throughout the 1970s and 1980s ("person of interest" in top photo). Bright Bank became part of Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary in 2021.

New Report to Congress Highlights Exciting Deep-Sea Coral and Sponge Discoveries

The deep sea is the largest habitat on Earth, and the least well known. NOAA's Deep-Sea Coral Research and Technology Program has significantly improved its understanding of deep-sea coral communities. The [2022 Deep-Sea Coral Report to Congress](#) (PDF, 18 pages), showcases new accomplishments and scientific discoveries and summarizes exciting activities from 2020 and 2021.

About our Members

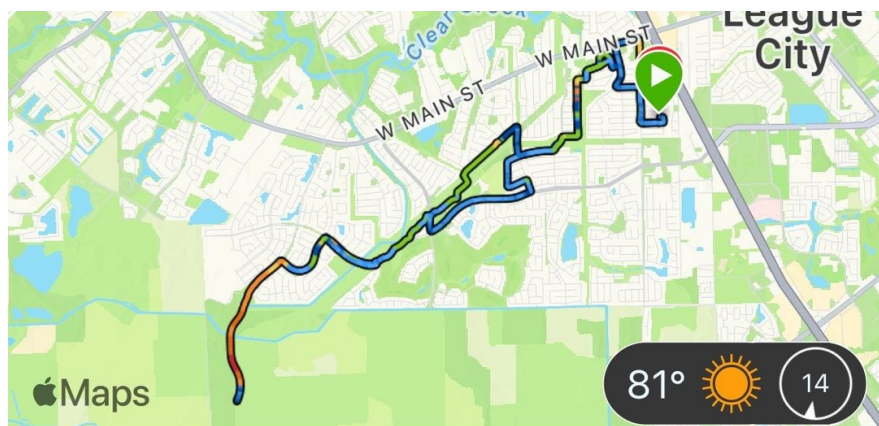
1st Dive Trip to Cozumel! Stanley Fontento

Below are some of the pictures from his trip.



About our Members, (Continued)

Stanley Fontento



Justin Wallace

Where is he now??



About our Members, (Continued)

congratulations!!

Paul Cater Deaton



The jewel of each annual Clinic is our Saturday Evening Film Festival. The Sea Rovers take pride in the fact that we have continuously blazed the trail in the underwater world, premiering more speakers and presentations from our stages than any other show.

Paul Cater Deaton was one of the presenters for this event. Paul is an award-winning Writer, Producer, Director, and Cinematographer who has shot on six continents for film, TV, music video, magazine, and documentary projects. Credits include The Travel Channel, The Discovery Channel,, HBO Documentaries, and The Amazing Race.

He is a member of The Explorers Club, the Television Academy, Boston Sea Rovers, Historical Diving Society, and Rotary Club.

Paul has been a SCUBA diver for over 35 years. He is a NAUI Instructor and TDI Rebreather Diver. He is certified in Global Shark Biology, Biodiversity and Conservation by Cornell University and the University of Queensland, Australia.



EVERYONE GOT THEIR “JUST DESSERTS” AT GIRL SCOUTS OF SAN JACINTO DONOR

This was such a fun event and a fabulous cause. Thank you for the invitation. I was proud to be there.

Fling Charters

726 West Brazos Boulevard, Freeport, TX

979-233-4445



THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2023 AT 6:30 PM

M-V Fling Party and Gulf Coast Scuba

[M-V Fling by Texas Caribbean Charters](#)

Public · Anyone on or off Facebook

Join our friends at Gulf Coast Scuba for a Springtime party with the jolly crew of the M-V Fling! They have snacks and cool drinks. Our very own Andy Lewis will have a slide show about the Flower Garden Banks, the corals, the fishes, the strange creatures, and so much more. Learn about our trips. Learn about Gulf Coast Scuba's sponsored trips!

Best of all, we can sign you up on the spot without the booking fees!

Tall Ships in Galveston on April 15, 2023



Galveston will be hosting the 2023 Tall Ships festival. There will be tours of participating ships, numerous special events, sail-away excursions, music, food, and fun in a family-friendly format. Galveston Island will serve as one of three ports for the TALL SHIPS CHALLENGE® Gulf Coast 2023 Series, which features a fleet of ships traveling across the Gulf of Mexico as they visit other participating cities.

The Tall Ships Challenge® is a series of annual events organized by Tall Ships America. These events draw hundreds of thousands of people to witness beautiful tall ships from the age of sail and provide a unique opportunity for the participants to interact with the crews of different vessels in friendly rivalry as they race from port to port.

The series began in 2001 on the Great Lakes and saw vessels from six countries and visited seven US and Canadian ports. Since its launch, the Tall Ships Challenge® series has visited dozens of North American cities, bringing millions of spectators down to the waterfront to experience the tall ships and creating a cumulative economic impact of hundreds of millions of dollars for host communities. It has continued to grow every year and is an eagerly anticipated event in the seaside communities that host the vessels and beyond.

PLEASE NOTE: TALL SHIPS® GALVESTON tickets are non-refundable. The festival is open, rain or shine. GHF is not responsible for independent transactions between visitors and vendors. All ships are viewable from the pier. However, on-board tours are not handicap accessible. If we can assist with arrangements, please contact us at 409-765-7834 in advance of your visit. Pets and ice chests are not allowed. Scooters, skateboards, rollerblades, skates, Segways, and other recreational “wheels” are forbidden.

This returning festival hosts tours of the participating ships, numerous special events, sail-away excursions, music, food, and fun in a family-friendly format. Tickets are good from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. (last tour at 5 p.m.) for the date selected. **Fast Pass tickets allow to holders to access on-board tours ahead of the general admission line through a private queue.**

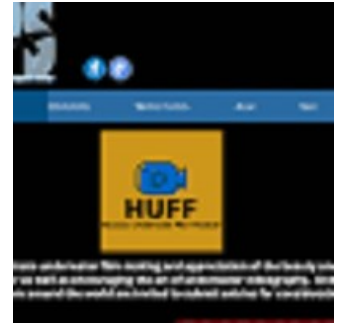
<https://www.galvestonhistory.org/events/tall-ships-galveston/tickets>

Galveston Historic Seaport - Home of the 1877 Tall Ship ELISSA 2200 Harborside Drive
Galveston, TX 77550

Please note: there are two types of festival tickets.

Festival Admission (No Ship Boarding) - Enjoy access to festival grounds and view appearing Tall Ships. This ticket does not allow you onboard any ship. Festival grounds and ship viewing are open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily.

Festival & Ship Access - Welcome aboard! These tickets allow access to festival grounds and the ability to tour each appearing Tall Ship. Ships are available for tours from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.



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.

**To see trailer of
HUFF**

go to: [https://
www.hups.org/huff](https://www.hups.org/huff)

Contact Information:

Website - <https://www.hups.org>

Email: huff@hups.org

Phone: 713-231-4052

Address: 14 Windermere Ln., Houston, Texas 77063 USA



Brion Saathoff — Octopus



Happy St. Patrick's Day! everyone,

I hope the New year is treating everybody well. I thought it would be nice to touch on one of my favorite sea creatures the octopuses. As we all know they they are a soft body eight limbed Mollusk of the order Octopoda. It consists of approximately 300 species and is grouped within the class Cephalopoda with squid's cuttlefish and naticoids. They are bilaterally symmetric with two eyes and a beaked

mouth at the CenterPoint of the eight limbs. The head and foot are at one end of the elongated body and function as the front of the animal the head includes the mouth and brain. the foot has evolved into a set of flexible appendages known as arms that surround the mouth and are attached to each other near their base by the web structure, the arms are divided into four pairs the two rear appendages are generally used to walk on the sea floor while the other six are used to forage for food. The hollow mantle (visceral hump) is fused to the back of its head it contains most of the vital organs. The mantle cavity has muscular walls and contains the gills, it is connected to the exterior by a funnel (siphon) The mouth is located underneath the arms it has a sharp hard beak, the skin consists of a thin outer epidermis with mucus cells and sensory cells, and a connective tissue dermis consisting largely of collagen fibers and various cells allowing color change. Most of the body is made of soft tissue allowing it to lengthen, contract, and contort itself. the octopus can squeeze through tiny gaps, even the larger species can pass through an opening close to 1 inch in diameter. if the beak can fit the opening the rest of the octopus can also fit. They have been filmed stuffing their entire body into a beer bottle and other vessel's with very small openings. The arms are flexible and can be made rigid for walking on the ocean floor.



Octopuses have three hearts a systemic or main heart that circulates blood around the body and two branchial hearts that pump it through each of the two gills. The systemic heart is inactive when the animal is swimming so it tires quickly and prefers to crawl octopus blood contains a copper rich protein (hemocyanin) To transport oxygen in cold conditions with low oxygen levels, it transports oxygen more efficiently than hemoglobin. It also gives the blood a bluish color. The thin skin of the octopus absorbs additional oxygen when resting around 41% of an octopus's oxygen absorption is through the skin this decreases to 33% when it swims as more water flows over the gills, skin oxygen uptake also increases when it is resting after a meal absorption through the skin can drop to 3% of its total oxygen uptake.

Octopuses and cuttlefish have the highest brain to body mass ratios of all invertebrates; they have the same jumping genes that are active in the human brain. They have a complex nervous system only part of which is localized in its brain. 2/3 of an octopus's neurons are in the nerve cords of its arms, these are capable of complex reflex actions without input from the brain. Unlike vertebrates the complex motor skills of octopuses are not organized in their brains.

Octopuses have camera like eyes that can distinguish the polarization of light, color vision appears to vary from species to species. Opsins in the skin respond to different wavelengths of light and help the animals choose a coloration that camouflages them. the chromatophores in the skin can respond to light independently of the eyes. The suction cups are equipped with chemoreceptors so they can taste what they touch, octopus arms move easily because the sensors recognize octopus' skin and prevent self-attachment.

The ink sack of an octopus is located under the digestive gland, a gland attached to the sack produces the ink and the sac stores it. the sack is close enough to the funnel for the octopus to shoot out the ink with the water jet, before it leaves the funnel it passes through glands which mix it with mucus creating a thick dark blob which allows the animal to escape.

Octopuses have a relatively short lifespan some species live for as little as six months. the giant pacific octopus one of the two largest species of octopus may live for as much as five years. Octopuses' lifespan is limited by reproduction, for most octopuses the last stage of their life is called senescence. It is the breakdown of cellular function without repair or replacement. For males this typically begins after mating it may last from weeks to a few months, at most. For females, it begins when they lay a clutch of eggs females will spend all of their time aerating and protecting their eggs until they're ready to hatch. during senescence



Brion Saathoff — Octopus — (Continued)

it will not feed and quickly weakens. The octopus literally degenerates. Unable to defend themselves, octopuses often fall prey to predators. The larger Pacific striped octopus is an exception as it can reproduce repeatedly over a life of around two years. Octopuses are highly intelligent; maze and problem-solving experiments have shown evidence of a memory system that can store both short- and long-term memory. Young octopuses learn nothing from their parents as adults provide no parental care beyond tending to their eggs until the young octopuses' hatch. In laboratory experiments octopuses can randomly be trained to distinguish between different shapes and patterns, they have been reported to practice observational learning although the validity of these findings is contested. Octopuses have also been observed in what has been described as play, repeatedly releasing bottles or toys into a circular current in the aquariums and then catching them. they often break out of the aquariums and sometimes into others in search of food. There was an octopus named Inki at an aquarium that escaped from his tank and slithered the floor drain that dropped him out to the ocean. There are also videos out there where they put a crab in a jar of water and put it in the octopus's aquarium and the octopus will unscrew the lid and get the crab out. the veined octopus collects discarded coconut shells and uses them to build a shelter an example of tool use. I have actually seen a video where it puts the two shell halves together around its self and rolls down the ocean floor and then picks them up and carries them off to its den. Others have been known to line the sides of their den with discarded mollusk shells.



Octopuses use camouflage when hunting and to avoid predators to do this they use skin cells which change the appearance of the skin by adjusting its color, opacity, or reflectivity. Chromatophores contain yellow, orange, red, brown, or black pigments, most species have three of these colors well some have two or four. Other color changing cells are reflective iridophores and white leucophores this color changing ability is also used to communicate with and warn other octopuses. Some octopus's muscles in the skin can change the texture of the mantle to achieve greater camouflage, in some species the mantle can take on the spiky appearance of algae. Octopuses that live in shallow water have evolved more complex skin than their nocturnal and deep-sea counterparts. They can also create distracting patterns with waves of dark coloration across the body a display known as the passing cloud.

Besides having an ink cloud to help them escape Some species can actually detach an arm the way a skink or a lizard would their tail. the crawling arm may distract would be predators it remains sensitive to stimuli and moves away from unpleasant sensations the octopus can replace the lost limb.

Some octopuses such as the mimic octopus can use their flexible bodies and color changing ability to mimic other more dangerous animals such as lion fish, sea snakes, and eels.

In closing I hope that I have not made this too long and boring but the more I read about these amazing creatures the more I want to know.



Flower Garden Banks — Galley Mate / Deckhand — Seasonal

Description

Cardinal Point Captains, Inc. (CPC) is seeking an experienced and qualified individual to serve as a 2023 field season Galley Mate for vessel support services to Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary (FGBNMS), located offshore from Galveston, TX. The vessel field season will span from May through mid-October. However, there may be work hours available prior to May and after October, if desired.

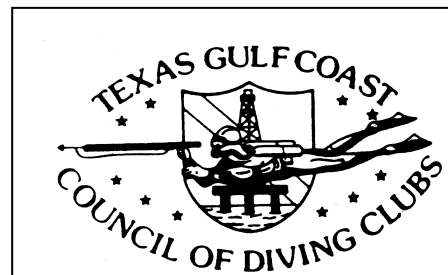
FGBNMS operates an 83-foot Research Vessel (R/V) Manta R-8301. The vessels perform research, education and outreach missions that address the goals and needs of the national marine sanctuaries. The vessels are home ported at Galveston. Employees are required to maintain a professional demeanor and work closely and collegially to support scientists, natural resources managers, and educators working onboard the vessel.

For more information:

https://recruiting.paylocity.com/recruiting/jobs/Details/1430994/CARDINAL-POINT-CAPTAINS-INC/Galley-Mate-Deckhand---Seasonal?utm_medium=email&utm_source=GovDelivery

2023 TGCC MEMORIAL COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

(In memory of Jack Allyn, Greg Grimes, Jean Himes, Anne Millioud, Clint (Dwight) Moore, John Petty, John Ringrose, Michael Szewczyk, Randy Widaman and Dick Zingula)



The Texas Gulf Coast Council of Diving Clubs (TGCC) plans to award one College scholarships (1 @ \$500) during 2023. This scholarship is given in memory of Jack Allyn, Greg Grimes, Jean Himes, Anne Millioud, Clint (Dwight) Moore, John Petty, John Ringrose, Michael Szewczyk, Randy Widaman and Dick Zingula; deceased members of our dive community. It is also awarded in recognition for support of the TGCC Scholarship Program by Alicia Grimes, the Houston Underwater Club, the Houston Underwater Photographic Society and Linda Petty. The purpose of this award is to support the members who support the dive clubs in the Texas Gulf Coast area. The award will be paid by TGCC directly to the college towards tuition.

Eligibility Rules:

1. Scholarship applicant must be a college undergraduate or graduate student attending college in 2023, or a high school senior that has been accepted to college in 2023.
2. The applicant, the parent(s) (biological or through formal adoption), or the grandparent(s) of the applicant, must be an individual member of TGCC or a member of a TGCC member club with dues current in 2023.
3. Application (see other side) must be received by the TGCC Donations Committee prior to **June 30, 2023**. TGCC will review all completed applications on July 6, 2023.
4. Applicant shall have the high school/college furnish a transcript of grades, courses and class standing.

Scholarship General Guidelines:

1. Scholarship decisions of TGCC are final.
2. Scholarship winner is expected to keep TGCC abreast with his/her progress in college.
3. TGCC reserves the right to not award a prize depending upon the number of entries and qualifications of the applicants.
4. A personal interview with members of the TGCC Scholarship Committee may be required prior to awarding this scholarship.
5. Confirmation will be by e-mail. Make sure phone and e-mail data provided is current.
6. TGCC is offering this scholarship as a reward to TGCC members, TGCC member and associate clubs or the children of these members to thank them for supporting TGCC's efforts in promoting safe sport diving. The committee will take into consideration the applicant or applicant's parents involvement in TGCC and member clubs and/or the diving community in general throughout the year.

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

jfburek@consolidated.net

The Texas Gulf Council of Diving Clubs (TGCC or Council) 2023 Report

By Frank Burek

Founded in 1963 to protect the right of divers to pursue their sport, the TGCC is celebrating its 61st year of service to the diving public. The TGCC is a membership of clubs and individuals whose overall objectives are to share their diving experiences, improve themselves and grow their community.



Memberships in the TGCC is open to Dive Clubs and Individuals from Texas and surrounding States.

TGCC's Purpose and Objectives:

To defend and advance the legal rights and privileges of all divers through appropriate State and Federal legislation.

To encourage, and promote cooperation and water safety among all divers, member and non-member clubs.

To monitor and keep its clubs abreast with respect to Federal, State and Local proposed or enacted rules, regulations and actions that affect them and their members.

To encourage and facilitate communication among its various member clubs.

To promote education in the dive community.

To support higher education for members of the dive community.

To provide recognition for outstanding contributors to the dive community.

To foster environmental awareness in the dive community.

To promote safe skin and Scuba diving.

To enable the individual dive clubs to participate jointly in the dive and local communities.

TGCC's web-site (www.tgccdiving.org) is available to individual members and clubs to inform members of community activities, as well as of news of interest from around the world.

TGCC has several award and recognition programs available to members. Those include our (1) Neptune Award (for community educational participation and leadership), (2) Member-of-the-Year based on contributions to the diving community, and (3) Lifetime Achievement Award (based upon leadership and extensive involvement with the diving community).

The TGCC Memorial College Scholarship Program (MCS) which is conducted annually and available to members of TGCC Member clubs, their children and grandchildren. Awards are based upon merit; the value and number of MCS awards are based upon the Council's budget. This award is given in memory of significant members of our community who have passed on - Jack Allyn, Greg Grimes, Jean Himes, Anne Millioud, Clint (Dwight) Moore, John Petty, John Ringrose, Michael Szewczyk, Randy Widaman and Dick Zingula.

The TGCC is presently determining the feasibility and support of the diving community, for the creation of a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Its purpose is to provide the diving public with a tool to support the educational advancement of divers; support our families; and impact science, research and environmental conditions in areas where we pursue our passion for diving.

The TGCC Clubs Annual Awards Luncheon – Annually the TGCC member clubs join together to celebrate another year of dive club service to the dive community. We review the events of the past year; the plans for the current year; and present award the current service and outstanding performance awards to key members of each club. Significant activities that effect our community are also covered - including the TGCC scholarship program and the Houston Underwater Film Festival.

2023 TGCC MEMORIAL COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

(In memory of Jack Allyn, Greg Grimes, Jean Himes, Anne Millioud, Clint (Dwight) Moore, John Petty, John Ringrose, Michael Szewczyk, Randy Widaman and Dick Zingula)



Applicant's First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____ Phone Number: _____

High School: _____ Year Graduated: _____

Name of college to be attended in 2023: _____

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

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

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

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

TGCC Affiliation (member of TGCC or TGCC member club)

Applicant Parent Grandparent (please circle one)

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

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

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

List any positions of leadership held by Affiliate: _____

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

The Lunarfin's 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.



Lunarfin's

P.O. Box 57514
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281-851-5206

webeditor@lunarfin's.com

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/687047211312336>

Website:

<https://www.lunarfin's.com/>

TGCC

<https://www.tgccdiving.org/>

TPWD reefs:

https://tpwd.texas.gov/landwater/water/habitats/artificial_reef/



You need to come to the meeting to vote,

and to give us your memories of being a Lunarfin's member.



**Brion Saathoff —
for President**



**JaVan Pruett —
For Vice President**



**John Gorman —
for Treasurer**



**Mike Peters — for
Social Chairman**

Secretary is Open — Please step up an volunteer

Happy

Faces!

**We hope to
See more of
you at our
meetings and
events**

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

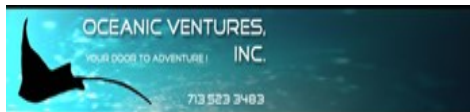
www.divetrip.com



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/



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