

# Lunarscope

July 2021



# Lunarfins Scuba Club

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

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 20th at 6:30 p.m.  
will be a ZOOM meeting with Leslie Whaylen Clift**



**Leslie Whaylen Clift** joined the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary team in July 2015. As the Sanctuary Advisory Council Coordinator, she serves as the primary contact for the Advisory Council and facilitates all aspects of council-related activities. Leslie also assisted with the sanctuary expansion review process. Leslie began diving in the sanctuary in the 1990s, as a volunteer fish surveyor, while working for the state of Texas as an Aquatic Scientist. After moving to the Florida Keys, she returned occasionally to FGBNMS to lead and instruct groups of REEF (Reef Environmental Education Foundation) divers and conduct fish assemblage surveys. Leslie returned to Galveston in 2012.

Leslie's presentation will focus on Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary and its recent expansion of 14 additional banks and reefs in the Gulf of Mexico.

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

Meeting ID: 827 5990 0375 Passcode: 594562



**Lunarfins Board Meetings**  
are held each month  
(except August & 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

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### Contributors:

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



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

## Events Calendar

(Tentative plans)

**July 11th @ 11 AM — Kings BierHaus — contact Kim Murphy**

**July 20th— General Meeting — Leslie Whaylen Clift — ZOOM — Texas Flower Gardens**

**July 24th @ 10 AM — Mammoth Lake Dive— contact Kim Murphy**

**Aug 17th— General Meeting — Dennis Deavenport — Palau and Yap**

**Aug 21st @ 2:00 PM. — Railean Rum Tour — contact Kim Murphy**

**Sept 21st— Heidi Whitehouse — Texas Marine Mammal Stranding Network**

**Oct. 19th—General Meeting—David Lenderman—Galapagos**

### 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 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/)**

**<https://www.lunarfins.com/>**

### 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	832-723-8075	<a href="mailto:cphilistine@sbcglobal.net">cphilistine@sbcglobal.net</a>
Vice President	Ja Van Pruett	281-229-8631	<a href="mailto:caladyfish@gmail.com">caladyfish@gmail.com</a>
Secretary	Courtney Scherer	720-668-0354	<a href="mailto:cscherer06@hotmail.com">cscherer06@hotmail.com</a>
Treasurer	John Gorman	281-705-3555	<a href="mailto:john_gorman_2@yahoo.com">john_gorman_2@yahoo.com</a>
Social Director	Brion Saathoff	979-239-8292	<a href="mailto:brionsaathoff@icloud.com">brionsaathoff@icloud.com</a>

#### APPOINTED

Training information	Bill Jones	281-992-2222	<a href="mailto:mr.bill.jones@comcast.net">mr.bill.jones@comcast.net</a>
Trip information	OPEN		
TGCC Representative	Tom Burns	281-851-5206	<a href="mailto:tmburns@sbcglobal.net">tmburns@sbcglobal.net</a>
Advisor	PeeWee Dwire	281-744-6076	<a href="mailto:rodneydwire@yahoo.com">rodneydwire@yahoo.com</a>
Advisor	Dennis Deavenport	832-265-0600	<a href="mailto:ddeavenport@comcast.net">ddeavenport@comcast.net</a>
Advisor	Fred Toole	281-532-1179	<a href="mailto:fctoole@yahoo.com">fctoole@yahoo.com</a>
Newsletter	Ja Van Pruett	281-229-8631	<a href="mailto:caladyfish@gmail.com">caladyfish@gmail.com</a>
Website	Tom Burns	281-851-5206	<a href="mailto:tmburns@sbcglobal.net">tmburns@sbcglobal.net</a>



## Lunarphins President's Notes

**Hello Lunarphins,**

Welcome new members and existing Lunarphins! We are excited to see some new faces at our lunch at Katies with 15 people eating outside. It was great to see many Lunarphins 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. 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 Ed Guiney to show us some exciting trip photos of his recently trip to the Islands of the Revillagigedo Archipelago (Socorro) off the coast of Baja for the third time. Great presentation!

The fun part about Zoom has been that we have had great speakers from other locations. This month our speaker is Leslie Whaylen Clift, she is the Sanctuary Advisory Council Coordinator for the Texas Flower Gardens and Leslie also assisted with the sanctuary expansion review process.

If you have been on any recent trips, let us know. See you at the next Zoom meeting and invite your friends!

Cindy Reuland

Lunarphins 2021-2022 President



*Happy Birthday to anyone that has a birthday this month!*

*May your day be wonderful!*

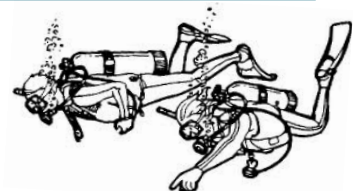


## positions still open

### 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.**



# Thank you

## Our guest speakers for June was Ed Guiney

Ed Guiney, gave a wonderful presentation on his recent trip to the Islands of the Revillagigedo Archipelago (Socorro) off the coast of Baja for the third time. He told us where it is, why go there, how to get there, what to see. Very informative presentations. So sorry if you missed it.

## 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](mailto:brionsaathoff@icloud.com). or Ja Van Pruett @ [caladyfish@gmail.com](mailto:caladyfish@gmail.com)



Tickets will be "ON SALE" NOW!

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

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

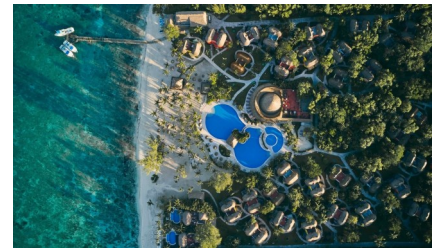
Other Departure Cities are Available.

**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**

**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.

# Congratulations !!

**Brion Saathoff**

**Diver of the Year 2020**



## **HOUSTON UNDERWATER FILM FESTIVAL Was held 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 Winners from Lunarfins are underlined in Blue**

### **Winners of HUFF 2020**

#### **Novice**

- 1 st – Dreaming with Whales – Laura Veariel (assisted by Dennis Deavenport)
- 2 nd – Caribbean Creatures – David Stone (assisted by Betsy Beasley)
- 3 rd – Turtles, Turtles & Other Critters – JaVan Pruett (assisted by Dennis Deavenport)**

#### **Fixed Lens**

- 1 st – The Mad World of Lembeh by Betsy Beasley
- 2 nd – Endless Battle for Survival by Nick Skiadopoulos
- 3 rd – That’s Strange – What’s Happening? by Dennis Deavenport**

#### **Short Video**

- 1 st – The Bottlenose Dolphins of Tiputa Pass by Rene Cote
- 2 nd – I’ve Got Crabs by Dennis Deavenport**
- 3 rd – 700 Sharks by Nicolas Zunino

#### **Made in Texas**

- 1 st – Showdown At Tiger Beach by Paul Cater Deaton
- 2 nd – Treasure Bay by Craig Beasley
- 3 rd – Freedom by Jennifer Opiela-Miksch

#### **Art House Flicks**

- 1 st – Transformation by Cathryn and Gui Garcia
- 2 nd – The Hunt by Ulf Marquardt
- 3 rd – Transformation by Dennis Deavenport**



## Volunteering at Moody Gardens



Hello! Everyone, I hope all is well with all my Lunarfins family.

I have had some members ask about volunteering at the aquarium and actually right now they have changed the volunteer interviews to a one-on-one basis instead of the spring and fall recruitment process. Karl Maas is the volunteer coordinator and he told me that he would be happy to schedule one on one meetings with people that are looking to volunteer at this time. Jake And the heads of the dive team are still working on how to deal with the Covid and volunteers in the dive program, as there are share the air in an emergency and in training and buddy issues as people are in extremely close proximity without masks of the dry earth kind.

But behind the scenes working with the Curators and the Biologists or in front of the scenes working with the public as a naturalist (educator) right now is a really big need and as the intern's head back to school and college there's going to be a greater need for help.

Behind the scenes you do some cleaning, food prep, feeding, more cleaning, etc. It might sound kind of mundane but as I have been there, I have learned a lot about mother nature and her children. a lot about their care what they eat how they live how they act. I can honestly say I have gotten an awesome education in the past couple of years in exchange for a little labor. Typically, everything is scheduled in four-hour shifts, right now Karl is good with adjusting the shifts as folks need. I prefer to do a full eight-hour day as midday traffic going to Moody Gardens on 61st St. can be a nightmare. My goal is to eventually make the dive team but even when that happens I will still do my time behind the scenes as I enjoy what I do very much. The December of 2019 I actually got to help feed the coral in the bio lab for the coral replenishment project. The goal is to help replace the hard corals that are dying off in the coral reefs. they can't stop the die off so they have decided to grow more corals in controlled environments to suit each area particular needs to replenish what we're losing. Right now, I am in the jellies gallery and I have learned a lot about jellyfish and jellies because not all jellies are fish. Something I did not know until recently. The people at Moody are awesome a fter 50 hours of service you get a season pass and discounts on season passes for up to five family members for \$50 each for the year, you get discounts on food, Merchandise, Services and rooms at the Moody Gardens Hotel. I did not know this when I volunteered, I was there to work towards being a diver and work with the fish and the animals. So it was kind of sweet to find out that there were all these perks.

If anyone is interested, I would love to see you there. you can contact Karl Maas at [volunteers@moodygardens.org](mailto:volunteers@moodygardens.org). By the way we do have some members that are already divers their PJ Campagna, Shon Corrier, and Barbara Corbin are there. PJ is the one that got me started there. Hopefully I will be back in the water on the 27th of this month so everybody will be hearing more from me as Kim Murphy, Jim Carmin and I start getting back in the water and doing some diving I really miss it.

I hope everybody has a blessed month.

*Brion Saathoff*

# Events You Might Be Interested In

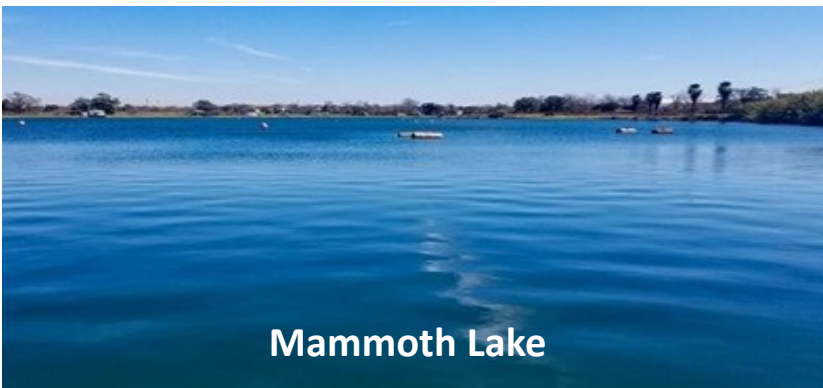


## King's BierHaus – League City

“King’s BierHaus, Gourmet Sausages + Specialty Brews” is a hybrid German/American restaurant with communal seating, a full bar, and an outdoor Biergarten!  
**828 W. FM646, League City, TX 77573**

**July 11, 11am for Lunch —  
it's a Saturday**

**RSVP** to: Kim Murphy (Brion Saathoff’s Social Secretary) 979-264-1621 —need a head count.



## Mammoth Lake Dive

330 N. Dixie Drive, F, Lake Jackson, TX 77566

**July 24th @ 10:30am—??**

Come Dive and enjoy fresh air  
and fellowship



## Distillery Tour & Tasting

Railean Handmade Texas Rum - Railean  
Distillery & Buccaneer Bar Craft Spirits  
Tasting Room

**341 5th St., San Leon Texas 77539**

**Aug. 21, 2:00pm—  
it's a Saturday**

**RSVP** to: Kim Murphy (Brion Saathoff’s Social Secretary) 979-264-1621— need a head count.

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.



# You should have been there!!



## Lunarfins

P.O. Box 57514  
Webster TX 77598-7514

281-851-5206

[webeditor@lunarfins.com](mailto: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/](https://tpwd.texas.gov/landwater/water/habitats/artificial_reef/)





## Trips Offered by Dive Shops etc.

### Captain Beard Charters

1011 Casco Rd – Freeport TX

[captainbeardcharters.com/index.shtml](http://captainbeardcharters.com/index.shtml)



### Island Dreams

10245 Kempwood Dr E119 – Houston TX

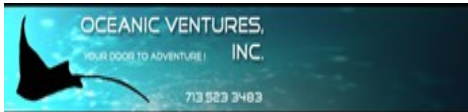
[www.divetrip.com](http://www.divetrip.com)



### Oceanic Ventures

5808 Newcastle Dr. – Houston TX

[oceanicventures.com](http://oceanicventures.com)



### REEF Trips

Dive Vacations That Count – Key Largo FL

[reef.org/trips](http://reef.org/trips)



### Texas Dive Center

364 FM 1959 #D – Houston TX

[txdivecenter.com/](http://txdivecenter.com/)



### Giggin' Marlin Dive & Swim

4502 Almeda Rd – Houston TX

[gigginmarlin.com](http://gigginmarlin.com)



### Maximum Scuba

134 Gulf Freeway North – League City TX

[maximum-scuba.com](http://maximum-scuba.com)



### Outside The Asylum

15015 Westheimer Rd #H – Houston TX

[otadiving.com](http://otadiving.com)



### Sport Divers

20814 Gulf Fwy #60 – Webster TX

[sportdivers.com](http://sportdivers.com)



### Texas Scuba Adventures

2315 Mechanic St #120 – Galveston TX

[texasscubaadventures.com](http://texasscubaadventures.com)