



# Lunarfins Scuba Club

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, Feb.15th at 6:30 p.m.**

**In Person– Live meeting with Justin Wallace**

**Today's Office – Scuba Diving Adventures with Justin Wallace**—Trinidadian by birth and Texan by worth. I got certified in summer 2015, I took my first giant stride on to the Antilla Wreck in Aruba, I immediately knew I found my life long passion. I inherited my love for photography from my Father, he would always have the latest and greatest camera and of course he delegated the task of reading the manual and teaching him the features of the camera to me. Underwater photography has become more than a passion, borderline addiction. I have a collection of over 20 vintage underwater cameras going as far back as the Nikonos 1 from 1963 along with the original magazine ads, along with countless books related to scuba diving and underwater photography, yea I am pretty much an underwater photography nerd. Over the last six years, I've been privileged to dive all over the world, notably; Aruba, Bonaire, Australia, Komodo, Fiji, Grand Cayman, Mexico, Panama, Thailand, Puerto Rico, Florida, Texas and of course the Maldives. My current "rig" is a Nikon D850, Nauticam housing, dual Inon strobes, additional strobe for my snoot, yes I am that guy at the airport counter checking in with a bunch of gear! I've been a member of the Houston Underwater Society for four years and in 2020 I won Novice Photography of the year – my first underwater photography accolade and recently Intermediate Photographer of the year.

"Today's Office" is a tag line I've used on my social media posts to share my "office" wherever I am in the world (normally an epic drone shot). I am excited to share with you The Maldives edition of today's office which will highlight my adventure topside and below the Indian Ocean. Stay tuned for more editions!



**Lunarfins Board Meetings**  
are held each month  
(except December) at 6:30 PM.

**Will be ZOOM only**

*If you have an item to bring before the board,  
contact any board member to get on the agenda.*

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### Contributors:

Tom Burns,  
Dennis Deavenport,  
Mike Peters,  
Ja Van Pruett,  
Cindy Reuland



**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.lunarfins.com/>

**Feb. 13th — La Brisa Brunch—12pm-501 N. Westley Dr.  
League City**

**Feb. 15th — General Meeting — Justin Wallace —  
Somewhere in the Caribbean Islands**

**March 6th — Calm Water Color Storm Semi-Private  
Showing—2pm-5pm— Please RSVP to Kim Murphy  
(see article)**

**March 6th — Lunch before show—11:30-2pm—Location—TBA**

**Mar. 15th — General Meeting — Kristen Maples — Our  
newest SAC (Sanctuary Advisory Council) member**

**Apr. 2, 3 — Houston Underwater Film Festival (HUFF) - Pg.11**

**Apr. 19th — General Meeting — Paul Cater Deaton —  
Bethlehem in the Bohol Sea — Philippines**

**May 17th — General Meeting — Sage Holt — Blackwater**

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.

*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	Courtney Scherer
Treasurer	John Gorman
Social Director	Brion Saathoff

### APPOINTED

Training information	Bill Jones
Trip information	OPEN
TGCC Representative	Tom Burns
Advisor	Dennis Deavenport
Advisor	PeeWee Dwire
Advisor	Fred Toole
Newsletter	Ja Van Pruett
Website	Tom Burns

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

**Topics for  
Speakers for  
2022?**

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

## Lunarfin's President's Notes

Happy New Year Lunarfin's!

Welcome everyone,

We hope that you are well! We had a good meeting in January with inspiring underwater videos by Dennis Deavenport-Thank you! We will meet in person in February at Las Haciendas. We have a large room, and we can spread out and be safe. Meeting in person allows for a better presentation and to interact. We have a new projector and a great speaker with beautiful underwater photos and videos. Come out to learn and visit!

We had a great showing at the TGCC banquet with many members in attendance. I presented Brion Saathoff for 2020 and John Gorman for 2021 as Lunarfin's of the Year! Congratulations and thank you for your dedication!

We have a big event planned in March for the TGCC sanctioned Art showing. Please come and bring your friends. Thanks JaVan for arranging this special event open to all TGCC dive clubs.

2022/2023 elections are coming fast. We will vote at the March 15 General meeting and the new board starts on April 1. JaVan Pruett is leading our nominating committee and let her know if you want to volunteer or she will call you. Our positions are President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and Social Director. Other positions such as Trip information officer, Training information officer, Lunarscope newsletter editor, Webmaster, TGCC representative adviser will be appointed by the 2022 President in April. The Lunarfin's club has a lot to offer to the community and it takes a great group of folks to manage activities.

I put an ad in the JSC Roundup in January and will continue to advertise to gain new members! Invite your friends too and bring them along.

Dues for 2022/2023 should be paid by March 31, 2022 and are \$25 for individuals and \$35 for families. Help us make this a great year! Thank you and please reach out to me or other board members with any questions. Included is the new membership form.



# Congratulation!



## Tom Burns

## TGCC Webmaster



2022/ 2023

## Lunarfins Scuba Club Membership Application

P. O. Box 57514  
Webster, TX 77598

<http://www.lunarfins.com>

<b>Please Check Membership type</b> <b>New</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Fill out and <b>sign</b> the complete application below. <b>Renewal</b> <input type="checkbox"/> New signatures are required every year. Identify changes to your information.	<b>DUES:</b> <b>Individual</b> <input type="checkbox"/> (\$25/Year) <b>Family</b> <input type="checkbox"/> (\$35/Year)  Membership year: April 1 – March 31 New applicants joining in August or later, dues are one-half.
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Name	Work Affiliation (*see note)	Certification Information (not required)		
		Agency & Type	Number	Year

**\*NOTE:** For Work Affiliation, please indicate one of the following: NASA, Ret. NASA, NASA Contractor, Ret. Contractor, or Other. Certification information is for information only to know who is certified for dive events or who may want training if not certified.

Address:

Phone:

E-mail address(es):

Phone:

### Individual Release Form

*In consideration of the acceptance of this application for membership in the Lunarfins Scuba Club, I, intending to be legally bound, hereby for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against the Lunarfins Scuba Club, its members, agents, representatives, successors or assigns for any and all injuries suffered by me in any club event in which I may participate.*

Signature(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### DIRECTORY INFORMATION:

**YES or NO** Circle One

I would like my contact information published in the membership directory. Only those included in the directory will receive the Membership Directory.  
Addresses and phone numbers are not distributed to any third party.

Your monthly newsletter will be sent to the email address(es) above, whether or not you elect to be included in the Directory.

### VOLUNTEER INFORMATION:

Check areas in which you would like to **volunteer**:

- ☐ Club President
- ☐ Meeting Programs (Vice President)
- ☐ Secretary
- ☐ Treasurer
- ☐ Social Director
- ☐ Trips & Training
- ☐ Webmaster

Revised January 2022

**See Attached 2 pages (print, fill out and send in with check)**

# Thank you

Our speakers for January was a ZOOM meeting with Dennis Deavenport.  
Dennis always gives his all, so many of us wish we had his talent for creating the most unusual video's. Dennis always tells a story or two, there is always a laughter in his voice. He is a gifted individual and explains how he takes certain shots and if you missed it...

I am so sorry for you.

## New Logo Lunarfin's T-shirts

Would you like a New Logo Lunarfin's T-shirt? We have two colors the first order. If you would like to have one or more two styles, Blue or Red, a Crew or a V-Neck. We have only 3 left. Please contact Brion Saathoff at @ [brionsaathoff@icloud.com](mailto:brionsaathoff@icloud.com). Or JaVan Pruett @ [caladyfish@gmail.com](mailto:caladyfish@gmail.com)



## Pending Events

### <sup>21th</sup> Annual Bill Jones 2022 COZUMEL Vacation Package

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

Other Departure Cities are Available.

**July 2022 for 8 Days, 7 nights**

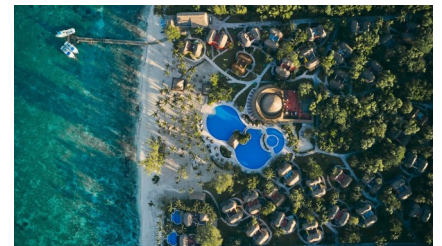
**for approximately \$1199 pp, dbl occ, tax incl.**

**Less than \$150 per day**



**DIVING IS NOT INCLUDED or Required**

Tickets will go on-sale in January 2022



**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**

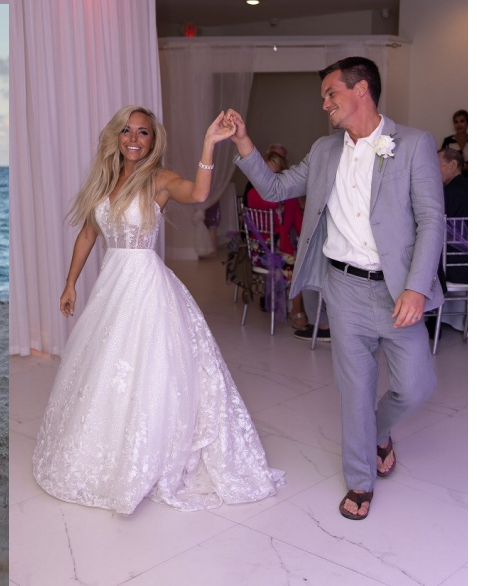
**All Taxes, Exit Fees, and Gratuities**

**For Detailed Information, Contact: [Mr.Bill.Jones@comcast.net](mailto:Mr.Bill.Jones@comcast.net)**

**All Taxes, Exit Fees, and Gratuities**



# Congratulation! Shelby & Eric Bergman



# Scuba News

## The Barreleye Fish

Sent in by Mike Peters



Macropinna is a genus of ray-finned fish belonging to Opisthoproctidae, the barreleye family. It contains one species, *M. microstoma*. It is recognized for a highly unusual transparent, fluid-filled shield on its head, through which the lenses of its eyes can be seen. The green glowing orbs that you can see through the transparent head are the eyes. The fish can rotate them upward to look for prey above it. When the fish wants to see the food it's eating, it rotates the eyes forward.

Barreleyes, also known as **spook** fish (a name also applied to several species of chimaera), are small deep-sea argentiniform fish comprising the family Opisthoproctidae found in tropical-to-temperate waters of the Atlantic, Pacific, and Indian Oceans. A necessary physiological trait as the barreleye's mouth doesn't point upward, but rather to the side. Despite the fact that MBARI's recorded more than 27,600 hours of deep-sea video, the organization's only seen the barreleye nine times. Which, of course, makes it **a seriously rare fish**

In addition to their amazing “headgear,” barreleyes have a variety of other interesting adaptations to deep-sea life. Their large, **flat fins allow them to remain nearly motionless in the water**, and to maneuver very precisely (much like MBARI's ROVs)

Barreleye fish (*Macropinna microstoma*) feed on **jellies, other siphonophores, and crustaceans**. When they're young they also feed on zooplankton. For more information: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Akv36y8WLYA>

## The World First Folding Fin Now Available to Preorder

Sent in by Mike Peters



**Exotech** has announced that it is now taking orders for the world's first folding fin.

The innovative design uses cutting-edge engineering, including “*Bio-mimetics*,” to create a fin that was inspired by nature.

The fin features two rigging arms that can be folded, with a Bio-mimetic membrane between them. The membrane mimics the soft tissue in fishtails or webbing between frogs' legs and such.

The fins were initially designed for use by maritime special forces operators who needed to move around without dragging large bulky fins with them. The fins can be folded and stowed away easily, making them ideal for traveling divers as well as special forces soldiers.

Aiming to keep the fins environmentally friendly, they are constructed from recycled plastics and are made with reducing their environmental impact in mind.

You can find out more about the **folding fins** check out the video below about the story of the folding fin. <https://foldingfins.com/products/folding-fins>



# Scuba News (Continued)

## The giant, pristine coral reef that explorers found deep in the ocean's 'twilight zone'

*Sent in by Mike Peters*



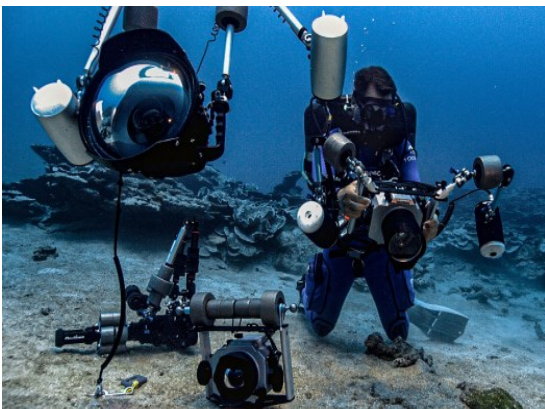
In deeper water, reefs are more likely to escape human activity and warming waters that are destroying their counterparts nearer the surface.

In 2019, a coral bleaching event took place in the waters around French Polynesia, which was estimated to attack [50% to 60%](#) of the coral reefs around the islands of Tahiti and Mo'orea in a matter of days, stripping them of their nutritional algae—the food and habitat for various sea creatures.



But a [newly discovered coral reef](#) off the coast of Tahiti appears to have remained completely unharmed by that event. Divers on a research mission found the reef to be pristine, possibly because it's deeper than many of the reefs we know about and therefore is better equipped to protect itself from warming water and human activity. The finding, aided by technological advances, gives hope that more healthy reefs exist in deep waters. But it's also a reminder that we need to map more of the world's oceans in order

to produce a sensible framework for sustainable ocean management.



A team of divers, led by French explorer and photographer Alexis Rosenfeld, found the “magical” reef to be about 3 kilometers long, consisting of rose-shaped coral structures that are completely intact. The divers spent 200 hours studying and capturing images of the reef, and even witnessing it spawn. “This reef in particular, it's quite a beautiful piece,” says Julian Barbière, head of marine policy and regional coordination at UNESCO. Unlike many, this one is located deeper, in the ocean's “twilight zone,” about 30 to 65 meters deep, which is unusual at that size.

Barbière says the finding provides some hope that there might be more thriving reefs out there. For its part, UNESCO, the United

Nations agency in charge of oceans, aims to have all the world's oceans mapped in high resolution by 2030. The stated objective of the agency's [Decade of Ocean Science](#) initiative is to “reverse the cycle of decline in ocean health” between 2021 and 2030.

And it's in better shape than those closer to the surface, which suggests to scientists that the depth protects it from destructive forces, including human activities like overfishing and pollution, as well as warming waters caused by climate change; about half of all the Earth's reefs have lost their cover since the 1950s due to frequent [bleaching episodes](#). It's crucial that reefs stay intact, as they sustain about 25% of all marine species; what's more, they are key to the livelihoods of coastal communities, they protect against



# Scuba News (Continued)



So far only [20% of the seabed](#) has been mapped using modern methods. [Ocean mapping started](#) in the 19th century, using rudimentary measurements involving lead-weighted ropes, and the first official “bathymetry” chart was published by commission of Prince Albert I of Monaco in 1905. Now more efficient means include radars and echo sounders on research vessels, as well as remotely operated autonomous vehicles for ocean observation.

For this particular dive, UNESCO partnered with French scientific research bodies as well as Rosenfeld’s organization, [1 Ocean](#), which is using photography as an awareness tool to help adopt the U.N.’s target of conserving at least 30% of the globe’s oceans by 2030; currently, only 7.5% have achieved marine conservation status. “It’s all very nice to find nice ecosystems,” Barbière says, **“but we need to protect them.”**

## [Depths of Courage: Heroism at Sea and in Sanctuaries](#)

### [50th Anniversary Sanctuary Signature Articles](#)



Courage in and around national marine sanctuaries wears many faces but shares a consistent motivation: the protection of the wildlife, people, communities, and nation who depend on the ocean. Writer and activist Maya Angelou wrote: “Develop enough courage so that you can stand up for yourself and then stand up for somebody else.” Sanctuary staff and volunteers show their courage and stand by their values every day.

For full article: [https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/50/depths-of-courage.html?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=GovDelivery](https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/50/depths-of-courage.html?utm_medium=email&utm_source=GovDelivery)

## Events You Might Be Interested In



*Las Haciendas*

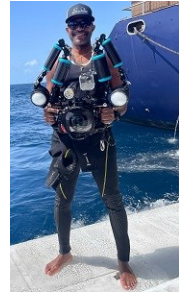
**February 15th, 6:00pm**

**Come at 6pm– order off menu, 6:30—7pm announcements  
& social.**

**Speaker start at 7:00 pm.**

**With Justin Wallace**

**1020 W Nasa Rd 1 (off I-45)  
Webster, TX 77598**



**Lunarfins Annual La Brisa  
Brunch**

**Sunday February 13 – 12pm --???**

**La Brisa Mexican Bar & Grill**

**501 N. Westley Dr., League City**

**"La Brisas is always good!"**



## **CALM WATER COLOR STORM AN INTERDISCIPLINARY ART EXHIBITION**

**By**

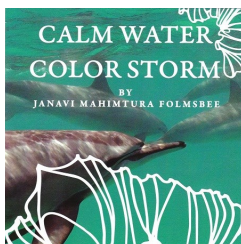
**JANAVI MAHIMTURA FOLMSBEE**

**A Special Viewing Will be Held on March 6, 2022 at 2:00 pm**

**at HEIDI VAUGHAN FINE ART**

**3510 Lake Street, Houston, Texas 77098**

**at Colquitt in the Upper Kirby Galleries**



# **HOUSTON UNDERWATER FILM FESTIVAL**

**April 2-3, 2022**

**at the Midtown Arts and Theater Center Houston  
(MATCH)**

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.**

**Sponsored by Houston Underwater Photographic Society**

**Buy tickets at <https://matchhouston.org/box-office>**

**BOX OFFICE: 713-521-4533**

## **Categories**

**Novice**

**Fixed Lens**

**Short Videos**

**Feature Length Films**

**Made in Texas**

The HUFF Committee visited the Midtown Arts and Theater Center Houston (MATCH) **Very modern and high-tech.**

**Address: 3400 Main St.**

**Houston, Texas 77002**



**Houston  
Underwater Film Festival**





***Sent in by Cindy Reuland***

## SPACE NEWS ROUNDUP

The next monthly meeting of the Lunarfin (MSC Scuba Diving Club) will be held at 7:30 p.m., October 21, in the east conference room of Building 1.

Last month's meeting was combined with a social fish fry in San Leon, and members, their families, and prospective members feasted on fresh boiled shrimp and fried fish that club members had speared.

Seven members of the club are now attending the small boat handling course being taught by the U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Future activities planned by the club include entering the Alligator Gar Spear Fishing Contest at Lake Bistineau, near Shreveport, La., November 28-29. The Texas Gulf Coast

council, with which the Lunar-fins are associated, will have an underwater film festival in November at a time and place

yet to be established.

All interested parties are invited to attend the next meeting of the Lunarfins.



at work...



# Brion Saathoff

## 2020-2021



**John Gorman**  
**2021-2022**

**LUNARFINS SCUBA DIVE CLUB**  
**Proudly Presents Interdisciplinary**  
**CALM WATER COLOR STORM**  
**AN INTERDISCIPLINARY ART EXHIBITION**

**By**

**JANAVI MAHIMTURA FOLMSBEE**

**A Special Viewing Will be Held on March 6, 2022 at 2:00 pm**

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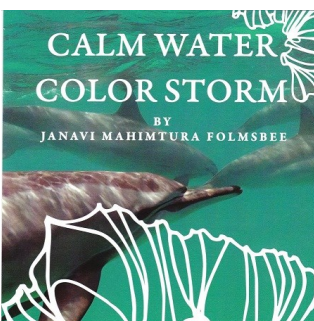
**Janavi Mahimtura Folmsbee** is an artist, writer, and scuba diver who has worked with some of the world's leading clients. She is from Mumbai, India, started diving in 2007. Her words "When I dive, I am one with my breath and invited into a world of pure beauty where I am not judged but just encouraged to view and experience. My art is about recreating that meditative experience for the viewer. The work I create is uplifting, educational, appropriate for all ages, color driven and extremely immersive". Janavi is an active recreational diver who blends her experiences of scuba diving with her large fine art murals found throughout Houston.

Janavi is a global citizen and has traveled all over the world to dive such as Egypt, Greece, the Maldives, the Indian Ocean, the Caribbean Sea, the Pacific Ocean, and the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary in Texas, the list goes on. Her work in this exhibition will feature oil paintings, lenticular works of art, three-dimensional objects, as well as textile, projection, and other installation works. Whether figurative or abstract, the focus is always on marine life and carries a positive message. She creates ethereal, intricate shapes she calls characters that are meant to invite viewers into the world at the moment from which they inspire her. Her interdisciplinary art installations transform spaces and create relationships between objects and spectators to evoke a sense of real closeness to the marine world.

She collaborates with the Galveston Bay Foundation and is one of the new members of the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council (SAC) for NOAA. 2022-2025

**All Divers are invited for this special viewing to meet the artist and hear about her work.**

**Please RSVP to Kim Murphy -**[\*\*kamurph5717@gmail.com\*\*](mailto:kamurph5717@gmail.com)



### Fling Charters

726 West Brazos Boulevard, Freeport, TX

979-233-4445



#### **Fling Charters 2022 Trips:**

Feb. 25-27 — Flower Gardens Hammer Head Season

Mar. 18-20 — Flower Gardens Event

April 15-17 — Flower Gardens Event

May 23—25 — Blackwater Diving

Aug. 11-12 — Stetson-Kraken Excursion Trip

Aug. 18-21st — 4-Day Mass Coral Spawn Excursion

Sept. 6—8 — Blackwater Diving

**For more information contact:** <https://www.flingcharters.com/>

## NOAA National Ocean Service

### Experiential Professional Development Courses

Space is still available in **Ecology Project International (EPI)** professional development courses this summer. These programs are field-based and include hands-on training in the NGSS. They are open to formal and informal educators; no application process is required.

Our program dates are as follows:

Baja, Mexico: May 28 - June 3, 2022

Maui, Hawaii: June 26 - July 3, 2022

Costa Rica: July 5 - 11, 2022; July 16 - 22, 2022

Galapagos: July 18 - 27, 2022

Yellowstone: August 6 - 13, 2022

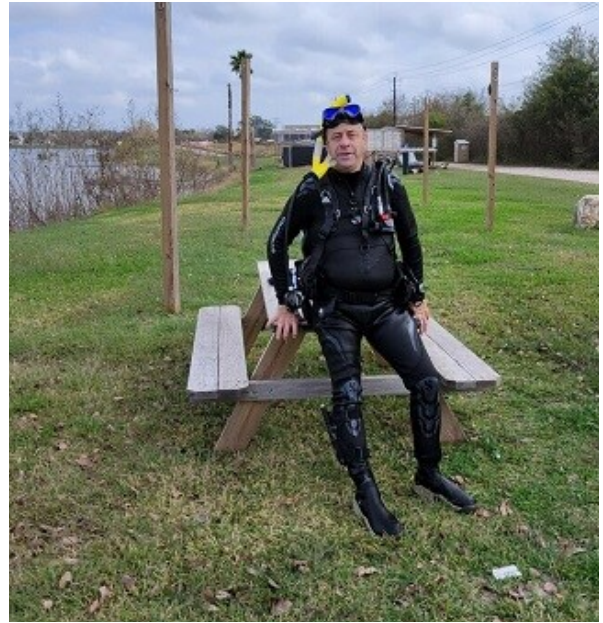
You can access information about price, sample itineraries, and syllabi here: <https://www.ecologyproject.org/professional-development>



# You should have been there!!

Brion Saathoff and Jim Carmin dove on January 23 and did a 64ft dive.  
They dive almost every weekend at  
Mammoth Lake, in Clute, Tx.

Great place to practice diving skills or camera skills. So, what are you waiting on? There is a standing invitation to come and join them.



## More Trips to think about

**Cozumel** — July 2—9, 2022

Cost is \$2149/person for airfare, resort all inclusive and diving and close location to dive boat.

**Roatan** — March 19—26 — Cost is \$2500/person including airfare — **details to come.**

**Bonaire** — November 24—27 (Thanksgiving Weekend)— Cost is \$2500/person for airfare—  
**details to come**

Members please let us know who is interested and we will work out the details.



# You should have been there!!

## 2021 — 2022 Texas Gulf Coast Council Banquet





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!!

## 2021 — 2022 Texas Gulf Coast Council Banquet



**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/)



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

*The more you enjoy your club.*



*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](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/)



### Gigglin' Marlin Dive & Swim

4502 Almeda Rd – Houston TX

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