

Lunarscope

May 2023



Lunarfins Scuba Club

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 16th at 6:00 p.m.

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

Kevin Whitton, I've been diving since 1986, during high school. I got my open water at the shop located outside jersey Village. Currently a Rescue Diver with an untold number of dives under my belt, since I lost my logs in one of the floods.

Past member of Fanta Sea Divers in Humble area. Was council rep, VP, then President of Fanta Sea. Worked I the TGCC as the rep, then VP, an President of the council.

Currently a survival and Safety instructor at All Stop! Safety and Survival Company. I will discuss how we impact the overall safety of the oil, gas, energy fields, and how our divers are a key part of our overall safety and success.

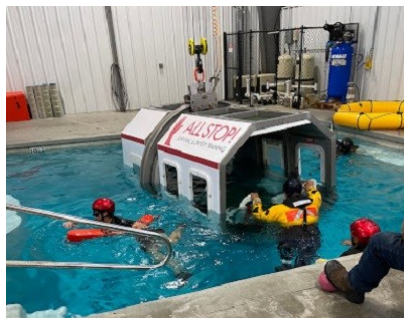
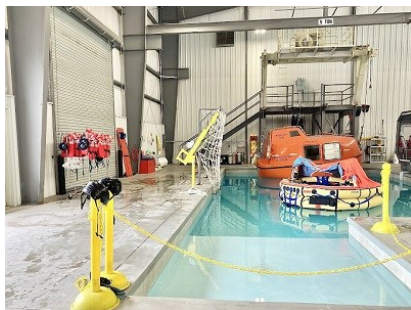
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Frank Burek,
JP Campagna,
Paul Cater Deaton,
Dennis Deavenport,
John Harvey,
Pete Hunter,
Stanley Fontento,
Andy Lewis,
Mike Peters,
Ja Van Pruett,
Brion Saathoff



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



Lunarfins Board Meetings

are held every other month on the 2nd Monday of the Month. Our next meet will be on **May 1st**, if you want to attend contact Brion Saathoff at brionsaathoff@icloud.com > before at 7:00 PM.

Will be a ZOOM Meeting only

If you have an item to bring before the board,





Events Calendar

(Tentative plans)

Membership runs **Member-ship**

2024 Membership dues are Now being accepted 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.



May 13th — Lunarfins Luncheon — Tookie's Hamberger — this

2 pm — See P. 4 — Please RSVP to Kim Murphy or Mike Peters

May 16th — General Meeting — Kevin Whitton— Survival & Safety Training

June 17th — Houston Area Scuba Yard Sale / Swap Meet —

Please RSVP to Kim Murphy or Mike Peters

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

July 9 — Lunarfins Board Meeting — ZOOM — 7:00 pm

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

July??? — Crayfish Boil — Location

Aug. 15th — General Meeting — Gail Chapman — Women Divers

Sept. 10th — Lunarfins Board Meeting — ZOOM — 7:00 pm

ELECTED OFFICERS

President

Brion Saathoff

Vice President

Ja Van Pruett

Secretary

Christi Dawson

Treasurer

John Gorman

Social Director

Mike Peters

APPOINTED

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

Do you have any ideas for event or

Topics for Speakers for 2023?

Please share them with any of our officers.

Lunarfin's President's Notes

Hello Everyone,

I hope life is treating everyone well, and you're blowing plenty of bubbles.

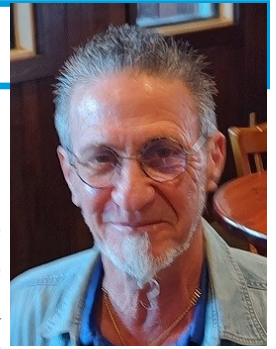
The tall ships in Galveston was really a great event, it was nice to revisit the Elissa and board some of the other ships. there were craft beers and some good island style and cajon bands to hear in the beer garden area. I would recommend spending \$20 more on the fast pass so you could see more of the ships with less wait time. NOAA had the Thomas Jefferson there on Saturday, but Micah was ready to go to the strand and the line was long, so we did not board her. I think they will be back in two years.

HUFF turned out awesome, both days films were worth driving to midtown for and the camaraderie before, during, and after on both days were very enjoyable. there were a lot of clubs represented, Lunarfin's, HUPS, Chum, BAD, Nubians, BUC, and more. thank you to All the people that graciously donated their time, products, and resources to make this event a big hit in the dive community. do not forget to put it on your calendar for next April. **Congratulations!** to our dear friends Dennis Deavenport who took 1st place and Justin Wallace for 2nd place in the Made in Texas categories, Nudi Blues (Dennis) and The Best Mucking Time Ever (Justin). Also, Congratulations on the birth of the newest diver to our community Justin Wallace the second.

We are going to change the date for the crawfish social (June 17) to a later date so we can set up a table at the Chum Garage sale and social (details are in the newsletter) if you would like to sell used gear or upgrade your gear we can put them on the Lunarfin's table (scuba or marine art related) I will try to coordinate with one of us to do a pick up. or if you want to sell unused or upgrade your gear, then come on up and you can share the space with us. It will be a great opportunity to spend time with our sister clubs and each other. We will be at Toookie's Hamburgers this Saturday May 13 and Kevin Whitton Will be our guest at the General meeting doing a survival and safety training. I hope to see you there.

Fins up and many tiny bubbles.

Best Regards,
Brion Saathoff
2023-2024 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>

May 16th, 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

Lunarfins May Social



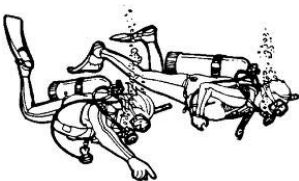
Lunarfins Luncheon

May 13, 2023 — 2pm

406 Texas Ave.

Kemah, TX 77565

Please RSVP to Kim Murphy—
kamurph5717@gmail.com or Mike Peters—
MGPetershome@comcast.net



About our Members



Pete Hunter

Pete was born on May 24, 1942, in Brooklyn, NY. The family moved to Texas in 1954 when his dad was transferred with Todd Ship Yards. At the time he was the oldest of 5, and his dad wanted them out of Brooklyn. At the time he was already a half year ahead of kids his age and with this move put him another half year ahead. He turned 17 a week after graduating from Pasadena High School in 1959, it was tough being 2 years younger than most of the kids in your class.

San Jacinto College was not built at the time and the University of Houston was not state-supported. His parents could not afford college so that October he joined the Air Force. Finally, he was stationed in Newburgh, NY. He was an aircraft control and warning operator. Pete was involved with the Cuban Missile Crisis.

Pete met Norma (wife) in 1961 while she was at a college about an hour away. Norma's roommate was engaged to an airman and one night he brought Pete. They were married on May 11, 1963, 60 years the next month.

He worked for Stauffer Chemical and Lyondell/Basell, he retired when he turned 59. During those years he worked hard to get his college degree, took which 10 years while raising two boys. His degree was a Bachelor of Business.

After both boys were put through college, he finally had time to pursue his dream of diving.

Below you will see his accomplishment:

Open Water Diver May 30, 2005
Advanced Open Water May 26, 2006
Specialty Diver Buoyancy May 18, 2006
Enriched Air Diver June 16th 2016
Diving for Science Aquarian Springs Aug,
2018

Trips: Oahu Hawaii – 2 dives – 6-21-05
Aruba – 8 dives -- 6-23-06
Cozumel, Mexico – 6 dives – 10-18-06
Grand Cayman – 6 dives – 5-08-12
Roatan – 2 dives – 5-21-14
Belize – 2 dives – 5-22-14
Grand Cayman – 2 dives – 5-11-17
Cozumel, Mexico – 2 dives – 5-12-17
Grand Cayman – 10 dives – 5-13-18

Trashfest 2-3 times

Club Lake dives – many



What many of you do not know, Pete has been recovering from squamous cell carcinoma. It is a skin cancer but it is metastasized and it has popped up 4 times. He has had a year of chemo, every 3 weeks, and 7 weeks of radiation every day Monday and Friday. Right now, scans show cancer free. He does not have full use of his left arm so he cannot dive anymore. **An update on Pete—he now has pneumonia.** Please say a prayer for him.

He loved being in Lunarfans and going on all the dive trips, picnics, events, and learning from speakers at the meetings. We hardly ever missed a meeting.

Pete and Norma joined Lunarfans and Bad again hoping to make some meetings. Driving has been difficult and harder at night with work traffic.

About our Members

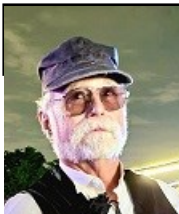
Stanley Fontento



Had a fun morning helping with a scuba class at Clear Brook high school. I enjoyed working with Chuck Miracle



Thank you rain for holding off tonight so I could lead a fabulous 14.4 mile skate with 16 people through the streets of Houston!



John Harvey — 2023 — Art Car Parade

Yeah, I know, this doesn't have anything to do with diving, but I've put another Art Car Weekend in the bag; a lot of work completed, and a lot of partying done. It is the original, it's the biggest, it's the oldest, and it's the best Art Car Parade in the country. I am tired, but I would not have missed it. I get to see some people I only see once a year, others I only see every few years, and meeting some others I have not met before; it is always an experience.

I originally learned about Houston's Art Car Parade back in the late '80s while hanging out with the other skaters ... the infamous Urban Animals. The first (and curiously, the last) Art Car Parade I watched was 1989; back then it was put on in conjunction with one weekend of The Houston International Festival. The next year I worked as a volunteer to help put it on, and have been at it ever since.

Back then the parade route started on Allen Parkway and finished at Market Square, but that route only lasted another year or two. And that was before we had radios, so my jobs included running messages back & forth, and other Blue Team duties including getting the participants staged in their assigned order, then escorting, or valeting, several, sequential, vehicles through the parade route.

The next few years the route went around a few blocks inside the I-Fest, then back out Allen Parkway with an after-parade event across the bayou at the city's Parking Lot H over by Fondé Community Center. Eventually the route morphed to take a little more of downtown and all the way back out Allen Parkway to Shepherd, where the participants disperse to prepare for the next event.

Eventually I moved from exclusively working on the Blue Team, and began working check-in – Green Team – checking the entrants in, checking fire extinguishers, and other various short-lived assignments that caused back-ups and delays, then going to Blue Team to escort participants along the route.

That led to my being the Green Team Captain for many years, which led my being asked to be on the Parade Committee in 2000. Over the years I've also been on the Red Team ('the Rangers,' who get to handle all the little things that constantly go wrong,) as well as the Blue Team Captain a couple times.

Nowadays I'm pretty much just a Ranger (as the Red team was melded into the Radios) and spend much of the day working out in the hinterlands ... dealing with the support vehicles that trailer in some of the entrants. And recently the Parade Committee has been merged with the Parade Steering Committee, which generally means there are several more people at the meetings.

And the Art Car Weekend is a lot more than just a parade. The Art Car Weekend's general schedule of events starts on Wednesday evening with the Out-of-Towners Welcome Party and Packet Pick-up. That event always requires several wranglers to direct the parking.

Thursday starts early with The Main Street Drag, where several caravans of art cars travel around town, visiting schools and hospitals, where children get to see – and touch the art cars. For many of the artists this is their favorite part of the weekend, with the parade being almost anticlimactic for many of them.

Thursday afternoon and evening is The Sneak Peek at Discovery Green downtown. It is another opportunity for the public to see many of the art cars staged in and around the park. This event always requires several wranglers on skates to direct the parking on the promenade, sloped sidewalk, and on The Avenida De Las Americas in front of The George R. Brown Convention Center.

Friday morning has the Spring Branch Main Street Drag, similar to the one on Thursday morning, only going to another part of the Houston area. Friday night is The Art Car Ball at The Orange Show, a truly unique event (bordering on spectacle,) and in my humble opinion, it is something that should be attended at least once.

Saturday morning it is all-hands-on-deck for staging and setting up for the parade (it is a rain-or-shine event, and I've worked it all three times rain has been involved.) Parade staging starts at 9:00 A.M., and rolls at 2:00 P.M. sharp, with about 250, or so, Art Cars participating and several hundred thousand people lining the parade route to view it.

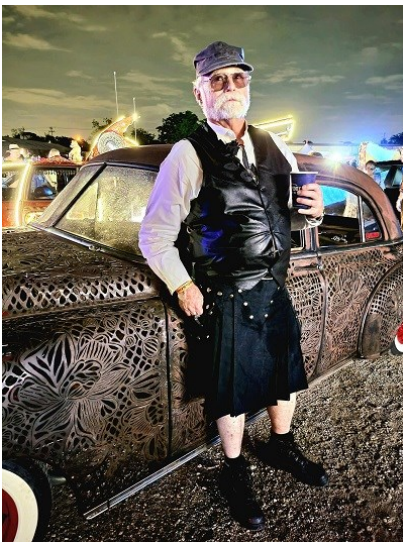
John Harvey — 2023 — Art Car Parade (Continued)

After the parade some of the Art Cars end up at Market square for a post parade event, and in preparation for The Illuminated Processional (it's a processional, not a parade!) This is a Houston Art Car Klub event (HACK, as opposed to every other event being sanctioned by The Orange Show) where many of the vehicles with lights, as well as those that have fire involved get to display their vehicles in the dark while driving to several places around the city.

Sunday is the official wrap-up with a brunch and the awards ceremony at The Orange Show. The first-place awards, as well as some of the 'big' awards get a check to go along with a unique, artist-made trophy.



GRAND TROPHY & \$2,000



**John Harvey
at the Art Car Awards
Ball**



GRAND TROPHY & \$1,500

As I'm writing this almost a week later, I'm still working on healing, as well as trying to catch up on all the sleep I didn't get while I was working it, but like I said earlier, I wouldn't have missed it, and I'm looking forward to working next year's event ... but I still need a few more days to heal.

Mark your calendar— Art Car Park — April 13, 2024

The Wreck of Santa Maria de Yciar

Port Mansfield, Texas.



Padre Island is the longest barrier island in the world, measuring 113 miles from Corpus Christi to near Brownsville. Up until the late 1950s, you could drive the entire length of the island in less than half a day with a decent four-wheel drive vehicle. That option was blocked in 1957 when the Port Mansfield Cut was dredged. It gave the new port created at Red Fish Landing a convenient waterway into the Gulf of Mexico. The channel had been a dream of the Laguna Madre-locked locals for decades.

October 20, 1957, at 4 a.m. was the incredible moment that the giant dredger dug out the last sand dune and cut the island in two. This formally created North Padre and South Padre Islands.

Bill Rapp, a Port Mansfield resident, was there for that moment and was elated that he was. He wrote: "You often dream of things and they come to pass, but for some reason you aren't there at the precise moment. BUT I WAS THERE when the Dredge Miami took the final cut out of the old Padre and the waters of the Laguna Madre went rushing into the Gulf of Mexico."

The Port Mansfield Channel was about nine miles long overall, running seven miles through the bay, and it cut through two miles of island mud flats and dunes to reach the sea. In fact, that was the common promotional mantra for the project heard frequently in Willacy County in the many years they lobbied Congress for the cut: "Give Port Mansfield access to the sea."

A lone boat with an outboard motor was the first to pass through the channel after the dredge opened the way. But this was just the first phase. The channel needed to be widened considerably, and this is when things got much more interesting as a discovery was made that changed much more than the island landscape.

In the dredging that continued one bright sunny afternoon, the mud and clay being sucked from the channel and spewed onto the banks suddenly brightened as silver coins began sparkling in the sunlight. Hundreds of ancient Spanish coins were being harvested from the bottom of the canal. The dredge had crushed an old Spanish Galleon, the classic sailing ship, buried there for four centuries. Work was stopped for a while and the coins collected.

Ensuing investigations revealed a story more dramatic than the dredging of the channel. The ship that was discovered there was the Santa Maria de Yciar, one of four ill-fated ships carrying treasure that had set sail together from Vera Cruz, Mexico, in late April of 1544 on the way back to Spain. The king had ordered that the ships were to bring back 100,000 coins of gold and silver from Mexico for the Spanish treasury, but being a man who was wise with money, he ordered that his funds be diversified. Each ship would carry 25,000 coins so the risk was spread across all the vessels. The ships also carried some 300 passengers: priests, women and children, some soldiers and businessmen returning with fortunes of their own from New Spain, as Mexico was called then. Estimates are that the ships carried the equivalent of about \$80 million in today's purchasing power.



A late spring tropical storm blew them off course, and the relentless winds pushed three of the ships across the entire Gulf, where they were crushed on the sandbars of Padre Island. Their hulls were pried open and their treasures spilled out onto the sandy bottom. In the centuries ahead Padre would be known as the "graveyard of the gulf" because of its location as the backstop of storms. The fourth ship limped into Havana but was so damaged it could not return to Spain.

The passengers were marooned and decided that they would walk to Tampico, where there was a known Spanish outpost. They mistakenly guessed that they could walk there in three days – but it was actually 300 miles of trudging across dunes and swollen rivers and coastal marshes with no food and little drinkable water. They were mostly picked off and killed by Native Americans, and only one badly wounded friar made it to Tampico to tell the tale. Another passenger, after crossing the Rio Grande, decided to return to the ships, and he was saved when the Spanish salvage ships came for the treasure.

The three wrecked ships – the Esteban, the Espíritu Santo and the Santa Maria de Yciar – all sat undiscovered for four centuries. The Esteban and Espiritu Santo were both found years later a few miles north of the Mansfield cut. Treasure hunters descended on them and had collected quite a fortune when the State of Texas took action and forced them to cease and desist operations and turn over their plunder to the state. But Texas had no law to protect its antiquities, so the Legislature quickly passed the State Antiquities Code in 1969. The state and the recovery company fought it out in court for years, and finally Texas paid them \$313,000 for their efforts and then placed the coins, anchors, canons and other artifacts from the wrecks in the Corpus Christi Museum of Science and History, where you can still see them today.

You can visit the Port Mansfield Cut by boat or car. Launch your boat in Port Mansfield and enjoy following the dream made real out to the sea. Or, drive to South Padre and take State Park Road 100 North to Beach Access 6. Get on the beach and head north for 30 miles and you'll be at the cut (four-wheel drive recommended). It's beautiful there, with great fishing, and a marvelous place for a picnic on the granite boulders of the jetties.

And if you're wondering if coins can still be found, Ron Mills, the executive director of Port Mansfield, told me that "within the past two years the channel was dredged to the deepest depths ever, at 23 feet between the jetties and 17 feet throughout the entire channel. During those operations there were no reported discoveries of new coins or other artifacts that may have pertained to the shipwrecks."

Sorry, treasure hunters.

News from Flower Garden Banks

[Capitol Hill Ocean Week \(CHOW\)](#)

June 6 – 8, 2023

Capitol Hill Ocean Week (CHOW), hosted by the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, is a multi-day conference that convenes policymakers, scientists, managers, business leaders, conservationists, educators, students, and members of the public to engage in dialogue and debate on significant issues that impact our ocean and Great Lakes and to propose innovative policies and partnerships to address these issues

CHOW 2023 is open to the public and free to attendees.

Register today to be a part of the conversation either **in-person (Washington, DC)** or **virtually**. Explore the ocean-climate connection and how we can make ocean conservation part of climate strategies and nationally determined contributions to address climate change.

Join us in Washington, DC and virtually from June 6 – 8, 2023!

[Register Now for CHOW](#)

News from the Flower Gardens

REEF Surveyors: Be on the Lookout for Black Spot Syndrome in Caribbean Fishes

Author: Sierra Barkdoll, Citizen Science Coordinator

We are encouraging Tropical Western Atlantic REEF surveyors to be on the lookout for a skin condition that is affecting reef fish in the Caribbean. Black Spot Syndrome (BSS) affects many reef fish but can easily be observed on Ocean Surgeonfish, especially when they are pale in color. The black spots are usually on the fins and skin of the affected fish. In many cases, Black Spot Syndrome is caused by a trematode parasite, *Scaphanocephalus spp.*, which moves from marine snails to reef fish and ultimately into osprey, which consume the infected fish. Infections seem to be especially common in Bonaire and Curacao, although other areas with reported cases include St. Kitts and South Caicos, Turks & Caicos Islands. Divers and snorkelers who see surgeonfish affected by BSS are encouraged to take underwater photos or video to document and record the location. Observations and questions may be sent to Dr. Pieter Johnson at the University of Colorado at pieter.johnson@colorado.edu.

For additional information, see: Kohl, Z. F., Calhoun, D. M., Elmer, F., Peachey, R. B. J., Leslie, K. L., Tkach, V. V., Kinsella, J. M. and P. T. J. Johnson (2019). Black-spot syndrome in Caribbean fishes linked to trematode parasite infection (*Scaphanocephalus expansus*). *Coral Reefs* 38: 917-930 (<https://doi.org/10.1007/s00338-019-01819-3>).

Photos by Cheyenna de Witt.



[Request for Public Comments: Petition to Protect Endangered Rice's Whales in Gulf of Mexico](#)

NOAA Fisheries is requesting comments on a petition for rulemaking to establish a year-round 10-knot vessel speed limit in the Gulf of Mexico and other vessel-related mitigation measures in an area referred to as core habitat by the petitioners. Rice's whales are protected under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) and are listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

NOAA Fisheries received the petition pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act from the Natural Resources Defense Council, Healthy Gulf, Center for Biological Diversity, Defenders of Wildlife, Earthjustice, and New England Aquarium. The petitioners are requesting that we utilize our authorities under the ESA and MMPA to establish a "Vessel Slowdown Zone" to protect Rice's whales from collisions with vessels and noise pollution.

NOAA Fisheries seeks public comment on the petitioner's request. NOAA Fisheries is not issuing a proposed rule at this time. NOAA Fisheries will consider all comments and available information when determining whether to accept the petition and proceed with rulemaking.

Comments are due by July 6, 2023

SOURCE: NOAA Fisheries

Fling Charters

726 West Brazos Boulevard, Freeport, TX

979-233-4445



Blue-Water diving

Coral Reefs

100 feet

<https://fling-diving.com/Book-Now>



In Texas! You bet! Get on a trip this season and visit the healthiest coral in the Hemisphere, mounds and mounds of it!

SHOOTING UNDERWATER VIDEO FOR DUMMIES AND NOT-DUMMIES

THREE VIDEO WORKSHOPS ANNOUNCED FOR BEGINNING TO INTERMEDIATE VIDEOGRAPHERS

by **Dennis Deavenport**

STARTING MAY 20, 2-4 pm Bayland Community Center

Zoom Participants will log onto the HUPS Zoom link

Three one-hour workshops will be held starting May 20 from 2-4 pm at Bayland Community Center. All three sessions will be in person and via Zoom for any participants that can't make it to the in-person presentation.

COST: NOTHING

WHO CAN ATTEND: ANYONE who wants to show up in person or who logs on *via* Zoom.

(Up to a max of 100 on Zoom)

CONCEPT:

I really want to keep this simple but practical. The three sessions will only deal with how to take good video clips underwater. They will not deal with editing and assembly into final films. The premise here is that if you are capable of reliably taking decent video footage, the editing and film assembly becomes a lot simpler and a whole lot more fun and satisfying. The surprising thing about UW video is that it doesn't have to be a black art. There are some simple practices that are easily taught and somewhat easily practiced that will make a night and day difference in results you achieve.

Yes, this is geared toward beginners and intermediate videographers but there are probably pointers that will be valuable even for the grizzled veterans of the 'deadly red button on the back of the camera'.

Session one will be spent on one topic: **ACHIEVING GOOD COLOR UNDERWATER**

Session two will cover: **HOW TO TAKE STABLE UW VIDEO CLIPS**

Session three will cover: **TAKING VIDEO THAT IS CRITICALLY IN-FOCUS (plus other short topics)**

Since there will be a variety of video systems that people will be using, time will be spent discussing how to best get reliable results from action cameras, point and shoot systems, and higher end SLRs. Following the presentation, questions will be fielded for answers and discussion.

Contact Dennis at ddeavenport@comcast.net to sign up or get more information



SCUBA Yard Sale / Swap Meet & Social Hosted by CHUM Saturday, June 17th 10am - 2pm

Date: Saturday, June 17th, 2023 *rain date the following day (6/18/23)*

Setup time for vendors: 9am

Sale time: 10am - 2pm

Social time: 10am - close (midnight).

Place: City Acre Brewery 3418 Topping St, Houston, TX 77093-5639

Event Coordinator: Jennifer Ackerman (*Scuba Chick*) SirenDive@gmail.com (281) 216-7021

Open to the public!

This will be a huge event, not just for SCUBA buyers and sellers, but even if you just want to grab a bite and a drink from City Acre Brewery! All items SCUBA, swim or water related including photography, books, collectibles, SCUBA equipment, free diving, spear guns, decorations, trinkets, anything we all geek out on!

Shoppers: TOTALLY FREE to attend, browse and buy.

Swappers: Don't have enough gear for a table or don't want to stick around 4 hours? Bring your small items to trade with other divers.

Socializers: Please come, and bring your outdoor games, table games, board games, guitar, dive stories and photos! Enjoy a brew and a bite from City Acre!

Sellers (used gear or new gear below retail prices): Please contact event coordinator to register. City Acre has a large number of wood tables for use, but you are encouraged to bring table cloths, awning/tent, lawn chairs and/or your own table/clothes rack). A \$35 deposit is required to reserve your spot which will be donated to City Acre who has generously donated their event space for our event.

Retail shops that want to sell new items at retail prices, trips, or classes: registration fee is \$50.

Non-profit organizations, conservation organizations or educational organizations are free to set up a table at no charge or deposit.

Deposits can be sent via Paypal or Zelle to chum@chumclub.org - please note "Yard Sale".

American Charitable Watersport Activities Foundation



2023 Supporter Registration

Supporter Registration for the “American Charitable Watersport Activities Foundation” (ACWAF) is open to Dive Clubs and Individuals who reside in the United States of America. This 2023 payment is made to the Texas Gulf Coast Council of Diving Clubs (TGCC) to support the incorporation and nonprofit application process of a new 501(c)(3) organization. 2023 Registration also indicates your current intent to support this new organization for the foreseeable future.

Our Purpose: This nonprofit corporation is organized and operated exclusively for charitable purpose within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal revenue Code. Its charity awards and function are intended to:

- Encourage and promote education in the watersport community
- Encourage or increase safety
- Support the conversation and appreciation of marine biological resources, the marine and coastal environments
- Perform 501(c)(3) public nonprofit actions that support the watersport communities and the environments that they utilize.
- The work of the corporation shall not be for profit. No dividend, compensating or part of the income of the corporation is to be distributed to its directions or officers. The corporation shall not attempt to influence, or participate in, or intervene in any political campaign.

To join as an individual (must be a certified scuba diver, or a member of a dive club) - fill out the application. Please print legibly as e-mail addresses will be utilized to keep supporters abreast with the charity’s status and your name as identified below, used in any future donation reporting required to confirm your support of ACWAF. Once officially formed, it is anticipated that the annual Supporter Fee for the new organization will be \$20.

☐ \$15

2023 TGCC MEMORIAL COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

(In memory of Jack Allyn, Greg Grimes, Jean Himes, Anne Millioud, Clint (Dwight) Moore, John Petty, Jackie Reid, John Ringrose, Michael Szewczyk, Randy Widaman, Ted Wimprime 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, Jackie Reid, John Ringrose, Michael Szewczyk, Randy Widaman, Ted Wimprime 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.

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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: _____

You should have been there!!



Made in Texas Video

Dennis Deavenport took 1st Place



Made in Texas Video

Justin Wallace took 2nd Place



**You should have
been there!!**



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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Webster TX 77598-7514

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!!



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