



Lunarfins Scuba Club

Legendary Atlantis

Produced by Dennis Deavenport with Help from Many HUPS Members

A photo and video journey with 16 HUPSters as we wound our way through the waters of the Central Visayas in the Philippines. Our good friends at Atlantis Dive Resorts and Liveboard catered to our needs both topside and underwater with total professionalism. The first 5 dive days were spent at their very well run Dumaguete resort and then we boarded the beautiful Atlantis Azores liveboard boat for 10 more days circumnavigating the long Island of Cebu, bouncing off Malapascua and Bohol, before running aground back at the Atlantis Dumaguete Dive Resort.

Along the way, we had some fun adventures in Manila and later experienced many memorable 5-star underwater sights such as infinite schools of sardines, deep and dark thresher sharks, macro critters everywhere, whale sharks, hungry turtles, snakes, and many of the other usual suspects acting out their lives in front of our cameras. Our presentation is a compilation of many photos and video clips from the people on the trip. I was able to corner almost half of the group to give first-hand tales on video of their favorite memories.

The show rambles along, as most of mine do, in a semi-non-random manner with fun and interesting things popping up at unexpected times. We have stories both topside and underwater to tell and that's what we do. There's a bit of AI lurking in the corners to spice things up a bit and unexpected encounters with a hungry Tiger shark added excitement and grist for several first-hand stories along with several hastily shot video clips in the dark, almost evening waters. Other than a few minor problems, we got home with many smiles and great memories of 2+ weeks in the Philippines. And, yes, contrary to rumors, we did all get back home (physically anyway). I think Brion's mind is still stuck over there. Thanks to Jan Baughman, John Van Atta, Brion Saathoff, Andy Lewis, Martin Daniels, and the wayward Jesse Cancelmo for giving us their stories to help prop up what passes for a storyline. And thanks also to the rest of the group, many of whom contributed to the show, P J Campagna, Shon Corrier, Carl Bergman, Craig and Betsy Beasley, Christi Dawson, Kathleen Close, Cheryl White, and Jay Jones for being so great to be with.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83674642772?pwd=YUtDMkdGdkhzVHRleFdwrfGT0pWL1hTdZ09>

ID: 836 7464 2772 Passcode: 076802



Lunarfins Board Meetings
are held every other month **Sept. 11th** if you want to attend
contact Brion Saathoff at brionsaathoff@icloud.com
before 7:00 PM. on day of meeting to get the zoom access code.

It will be a ZOOM Meeting

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



Lunarfins
119 Circle Dr.
Liverpool, TX
77577

Inside this issue

- 3 Events Calendar, Club Officers
- 4 Presidents Notes
- 5 Pictures from our Speaker-Dennis Deavenport
- 6 Raffle Information & Winners—ReNeatha Thompson, Bert Campanelli, PeeWee Dwire
- 7 Meetings information & -Meet Our New Member — Billie Williams
- 8 Welcome Our Guest — Renee Abbott & William (Billy) Young
- 9 For Sale Items— Rebecca Skyes & Cathy Strahan
- 10 TGCC Scholarship Winner's — Kadie, Elizabeth, Erin and Kimberly
- 11 About Our Members — JC Andrew's
- 12 About Our Members — Paul Cater Deaton
- 13 About Our Members — Dennis Deavenport
- 14 About Our Members — Tom & Cindy Reuland
- 15 About Our Members — Cathy Strahan
- 16, 17 About Our Members — Justin Wallace
- 18 About Our Friends— Texas Dive Center—David Bullard
- 19 Scuba Poker & Texas Flower Gardens
- 20 Mike Peters — Underwater Water Reservoir
- 21 Mike Peters Wreck of the Western Reserve, Lost Since 1892
- 22 Trish Ross – Bonaire Trip
- 23 (ACWAF)
- 24, 25 You Should Have Been There — General Meeting
- 26 Dive Shops

This's Month Contributors

JC Andrews,
Paul Cater Deaton,
Dennis Deavenport,
Kirk Leissner, Mike Peters,
Tom & Cindy Reuland,
Trish Ross, Cathy Strahan,
Brion Saathoff,
Texas Dive Center, Justin Wallace



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111 Circle Dr.
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77577



Events Calendar

(Tentative plans)

Membership

2025 Membership dues are now being accepted from **April 1st, 2024 to Now**

“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/>



**Aug. 19th — General Meeting — Dennis Deavenport —
Legendary Atlantics**

Aug. 23rd — Lunarfins Scuba Poker Fundraisers p. 19

Sept. 16th — General Meeting — Cris Ledford — TBA

Oct. 21th — General Meeting — TBA

Oct. 26th — Pumpkin Carving Contest

Nov. 19th — General Meeting — Marty Sniderman

Dec. 7th — Lunarfins Christmas Party

ELECTED OFFICERS

President	Brion Saathoff
Vice President	Ja Van Pruett
Secretary	Frances Boutin
Treasurer	Cathy Strahan
Social Director	Mike Peters

APPOINTED

Media Manager	Dennis Deavenport
Training information	Jessica Lee
Trip information	PJ Campagna
	Jessica Lee
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 2026?

Please share them with any of our officers.

Lunarfins President's Notes



Dear Members,

I hope everyone is having a great summer and enjoying their travels and hopefully getting in some great diving. I have been keeping track of the M.V. Fling and there has been some really nice water out at the FGBMNS, not to mention several Manta sightings. I am hoping to get out there soon.

I want to thank Craig and Betsie Beasley for the wonderful and interesting presentation they brought to us at the last meeting, it is always a pleasure to visit with them.

I hope you can join us at the August 29th meeting at Spring Creek BBQ to watch Dennis's film / presentation (Legendary Atlantis) he did a great job of corralling us so that he could compile our memories of the Philippines trip we took last year, for me it was the best trip I have ever been on with an amazing group of friends, I hope to someday make it back over there, Happy memories.

We will be at Lake Longhorn on August 23rd for the Lunarfins Scuba Poker Fundraiser to ACWA, we are honored to carry on the tradition for Bay Area Divers, the details are in this newsletter.

I would like to welcome **Billie Williams** as our newest member, he was a very dear friend of Peggy Widaman and now a part of our family.

Thank you Renee Abbot and Billy Young for coming to visit us, they found us in the JSC Round up newsletter, we enjoyed visiting with you and hopefully doing some diving in the future.

Thank you Cindy Reuland for keeping us in the Round Up, I hope you and Tom are doing well.

Congratulations to our four TGCC Scholarship winners Kadie Carouth, Elizabeth Gorman, Erin Sampson, and Kimberly Sanders.

I want to extend my condolences to the Bullard family and our friends at Texas Dive Center for their loss of David Bullard, he was an icon in the dive industry and a great man. He will be missed by many. I always enjoyed my visits with him when I would come to that side of town.

I hope the rest of your summer is filled with water and bubbles.

Best regards, Fins up,

Brion Saathoff :-)



**Members, if you have any diving gear that you want to sell.
Please give details to any board member.**



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

August Speakers Pictures



Lunarfin's Raffle — Let's Make Some Money

Lunarfin's will be offering raffle items at meetings. Tickets will be very reasonable and the items raffled off will be interesting and worth having. Cathy Strahan, Ja Van Pruett and Dennis Deavenport have regularly donated for the Raffle.

Each month will have at least one item to pick from and you will not know until you come and see what is being offered... Bring a little *Mad Money* to the meeting to the meeting to help Lunarfins earn money for social events. If you have something you would like to donate, Please contact JaVan Pruett at <caladyfish@gmail.com>, she would love to hear from you.



ReNeatha Thompson



Bert Campanelli



PeeWee Dwire



Upcoming General Meetings — Spring Greek Barbeque

Tuesday 19th, and Tuesday, September 16th

Be sure to check out their menu

<https://www.springcreekbarbeque.com/>

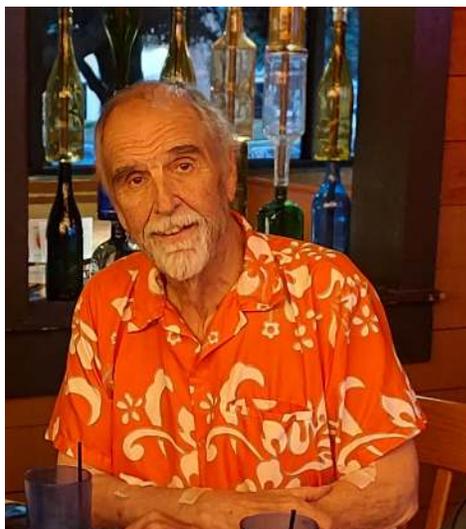
2710 Gulf Fwy S, League City, TX 77573

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

Speakers start at 7:00 pm —will be a ZOOM presentation

2710 Gulf Fwy S, League City, TX 77573

Welcome to Our Newest Member



Billie Williams

**Lives in Ft. Worth — Long time
friend of Peggy Widaman**

Welcome to Our Guests



Renee Abbott



William (Billy) Young

Items for Sale



Rebecca Skyes

rebecca.tx13@yahoo.com



Cathy Strahan's—veghead59@msn.com



\$20.00



\$20.00



Congratulations!!

To Our 4 TGCC Scholarship Winners



Kadie Carouth



Elizabeth Gorman



Erin Sampson



Kimberly Sanders

About our Members

Paul Cater Deaton

PCD is an award-winning, internationally-acclaimed writer, producer, director and cinematographer.



I am told that, in the city of New York, entire weeks can go by during which one does not see a Zulu warrior on line at the

About our Members

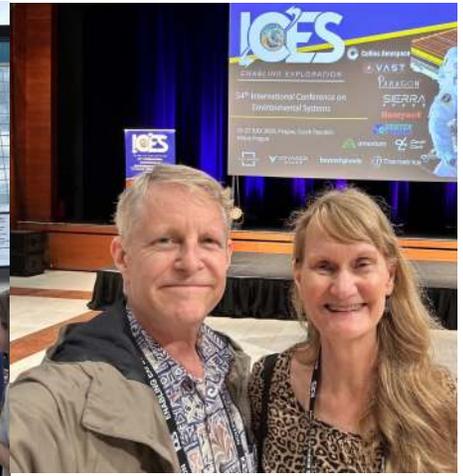
Dennis Deavenport

What a great time I had diving in Belize last month with friends. The weather was mediocre to say the least, but the friendship with others was over the top!



About our Members

Tom & Cindy Reuland



About our Members

Cathy Strahan

Cathy—“As a diver I couldn't imagine having to dive in conditions such as this!”

Center Point Volunteer Fire Department

Divers encounter snakes and other dangers as they clear a solid layer of debris off the surface of the river. Once cleared the divers will gear up and search the river bottom and nooks below the surface. At least 135 found dead **37 children** were killed in this flood. Let's hope this never happens again.



About our Members

Justin Wallace

SAILFINBLENNY



Photographing a sailfin blenny takes more than just a steady hand—it takes patience. I had to stake out its burrow, learn its rhythm, and earn its trust. Sometimes we just eye each other... like two stubborn artists waiting to see who moves first.

SAILFINSUPERMACRO

— at [Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary](#).



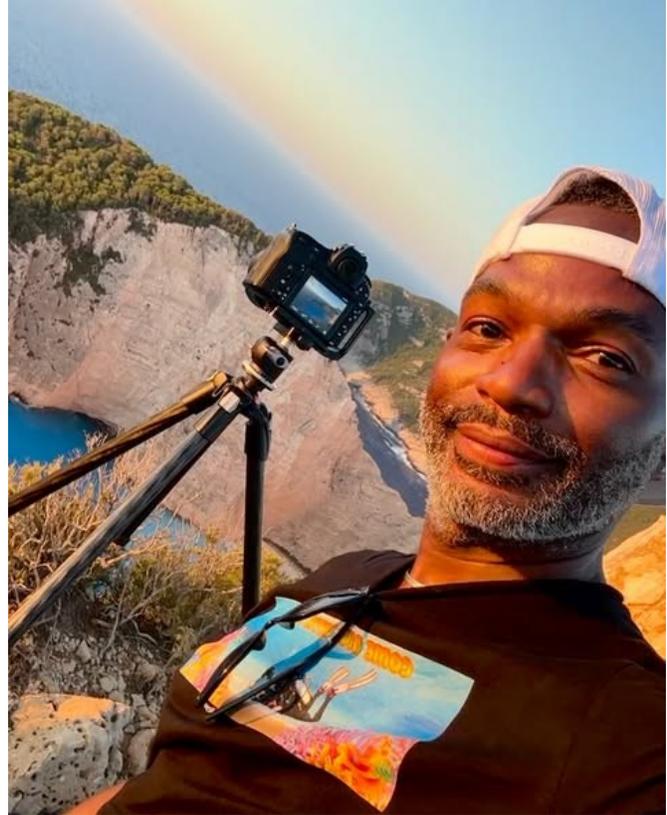
[Leaning Tower of Pisa.](#)



[Colosseo - Roma.](#)

About our Members

Justin Wallace (Continued)



Today's Accomplish-

[Zante, Greece](#) — at [Shipwreck Beach Zakynthos](#).

Photographing the Navagio wreck — a dream I've carried for years. I first saw it in travel magazines and on glowing screens: the rusted ship, stranded in white sand, surrounded by impossible cliffs and sea the color of dreams. It felt like a place that belonged to someone else's story.

But dreams have gravity.

And this one pulled me here — to Zakynthos, to golden hour, to the edge of the cliff with my camera in hand and my heart wide open. Watching the sun set behind the wreck, I felt a quiet kind of emotion... the kind that comes when a long-held dream finally lands.

[Follow that dream](#) — not just to live it, but to clear space for the next one.

Texas Dive Center

It is with great sadness that we must share the passing of one of our founders and co-owner yesterday, David Bullard. He was SCUBA industry standard for over 45 years having been a Master Service Tech working with many companies, individuals, and groups. He will be missed by many.



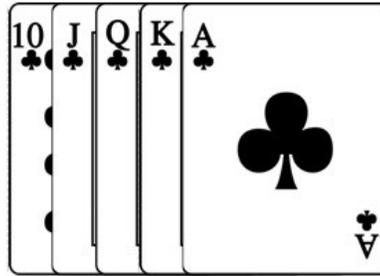
David Bullard Master Repair Technician

With more than 45 years experience, David is known throughout the Scuba Industry for his expertise and quality servicing of regulators and other essential diving gear.



Up coming Events

Lunarfins Scuba Poker Fundraiser



- Diving
- Games
- Prizes
- Food

**Benefitting the American Charitable
Watersport Activities Foundation.**

August 23, 2025

10:30 AM to 2:30 PM

Lake Longhorn, League City, TX

Entry Fee* \$15.00

*Park Admission
not included

Profits from contest entry fees and
contributions will be donated to ACWA



M-V Fling by Texas Caribbean Charters

One of the greatest secrets in all of scuba diving is a collection of pristine, healthy coral reefs called the **Flower Garden Banks**. These reefs are protected by the a federal designation as a National Marine Sanctuary, which limits the human activities near the reefs. They're protected by 110 nautical miles of open ocean between the reefs and the nearest land, and 150 miles from the nearest metro center (Houston, TX).



M-V Fling has been carrying divers out to the World-Class sites at the Flower Garden Banks NMS and beyond! It's by far the best diving in Texas. Come with us to dive in BLUE-WATER and see coral reefs and all the animals there!

info@TexasCaribbean.com



Underground Water Reservoir

Sent in by [Michael Peters](#)



Scientists have uncovered a giant underground water reservoir that contains three times the amount of water as all the Earth's oceans

Scientists have uncovered a massive underground water reservoir, and it's even bigger than all the oceans on Earth combined! This hidden world holds three times more water than we ever imagined. It's as if Earth has a secret it's been keeping from us all this time. Who knew that beneath the surface, so much water was waiting to be discovered?

The implications of this discovery are vast. From understanding Earth's geological processes to rethinking how we manage water resources, this underground ocean could be the key to many of the challenges we face today. As research on this find progresses, there's no telling where it might take us.

As we continue to explore this hidden reservoir, one thing is clear: there's still so much left to learn about the planet we call home. Who knows what other surprises Earth has in store?



Wreck of the *Western Reserve*, Lost Since 1892

Sent in by [Michael Peters](#)

Twenty-Seven Gone, One Survivor

After 132 years, the final resting place of the 300' steel steamer *Western Reserve* has been discovered roughly 60 miles northwest of Whitefish Point in Lake Superior.

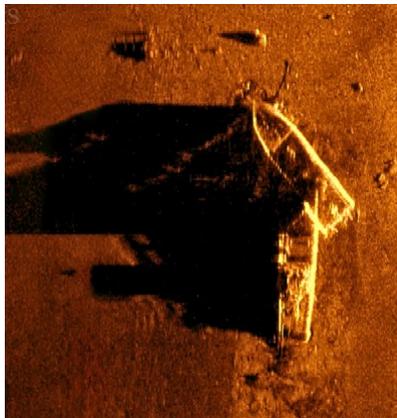
The Great Lakes Shipwreck Historical Society (GLSHS), using Marine Sonic Technology side-scan sonar aboard the non-profit's research vessel, *David Boyd*, made the initial discovery in late summer 2024. Subsequent ROV (remotely operated vehicle) deployments confirmed the identity of the shipwreck, revealing a ship broken in two, with the bow section resting on top of the stern in approximately 600' of water. Director of Marine Operations, Darryl Ertel, recalls "Knowing how the 300-foot *Western Reserve* was caught in a storm this far from shore made an uneasy feeling in the back of my neck, a squall can come up unexpectedly...anywhere, and anytime."

The *Western Reserve* was a very important ship in her time. She was one of the first all-steel vessels on the Great Lakes, she was built to break cargo shipping records and was deemed one of the safest ships afloat. One newspaper called her "the inland greyhound" for her outright speed on the lakes. *Western Reserve* was owned by millionaire Captain Peter G. Minch, a highly respected shipping magnate. Captain Minch took a large part of his young family aboard his ship (under command of Captain Albert Myer) for a late-summer cruise up through Lake Huron enroute to Two Harbors, MN. The weather was pleasant until they reached Whitefish Bay, when rough weather led the crew to drop anchor to await better conditions. They soon weighed anchor and steamed into Lake Superior, a gale overtook the ship and at around 9:00pm, August 30, 1892, the *Western Reserve* started to break up and sink.

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The Minch family and the *Western Reserve* crew safely boarded and launched the vessel's two lifeboats. Almost immediately, one lifeboat overturned and many of the ship's crew disappeared. The remaining lifeboat occupants recovered only two of the crewmen. Within ten minutes the big ship was gone, leaving one lifeboat with the Minch family and the remaining crew aboard. When the lifeboat overturned in the breakers. Only one survivor, Wheelsman Harry W. Stewart of Algonac, Michigan, lived to tell the tale. Salvation was near at hand when a steamship passed them in the night. They screamed for a half-hour, but with no flares...they were not seen. At about 7:30am the next morning, they were within one mile of the shoreline west of the Deer Park Life-Saving Station (Lake Superior's southeastern shoreline), when the lifeboat overturned in the breakers. Only one survivor, Wheelsman Harry W. Stewart of Algonac, Michigan, lived to tell the tale.





Join HUPS fun October 11-19, 2025

**This package includes: 8 Nights accommodations, daily breakfast,
10 boat dives, 6 days unlimited shore diving, nitrox, airport
transfers, taxes and welcome rum punch**

Claim your spot today!!!!



\$1,455 per diver double occupancy (\$1,876 single occupancy) - Deluxe Oceanview Room

Non Divers Rate: subtract \$ 420

Not included: Airfare, Visitor Entry Tax (\$75), Marine Park fee (\$40), DAN membership, Dive/ Travel insurance, Meals, Equipment rental, vehicle rental (if desired), Must be, or become, a HUPS member (\$35 per year).

Deposit \$ 100 due upon RSVP Final Payment due August 10, 2025
(no refunds after this date)

Payment accepted via Check: payable to HUPS or Zelle

Trip Leader: Trish Ross

(832) 425-7457

trishtreasure2@yahoo.com



American Charitable Watersport Activities Foundation



2025 Supporter Registration

The “American Charitable Watersport Activities Foundation” (ACWA) was established by SCUBA divers on March 31, 2023. ACWA is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) public non-profit charity. Staffed by non-paid volunteers, ACWA’s administrative and donation support is provided annually by members of our community.

Supporter Registration for the “American Charitable Watersport Activities Foundation” (ACWA) is open to Dive Clubs and Individuals who reside in the United States of America. 2025 registration is \$20.

“Supporters” on record for 2023 or 2024 are listed on a “Supporter Master List” and need not complete this form. They continue their charity efforts with their 2025 payment of \$20 to ACWA’s treasurer - Mark Leiserowitz (contact information listed below).

New “Supporters” need to complete this form to provide ACWA with contact and IRS reporting information. To join as an individual (must be a certified scuba diver, or a member of a dive club) - fill out the application below. 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 by you or the IRS.

Dive Club _____

or

Certifying Agency: _____ C-Card Number: _____

Make Checks Payable To: **ACWA, c/o Mark Leiserowitz, 5205 De Milo Dr., Houston, Texas 77092.**

Name: _____ Phone / Cell Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

You should have been at July General Meeting



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

119 South Circle Drive
Liverpool TX 77577

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 should have
been at July General Meeting
--It was Great!



Dive Shops, etc.



Diving with Jess

Dive Training~Group Travel~
First Aid

divingwithjess@gmail.com

979-236-9430



Gigglin' Marlin Dive & Swim

4502 Almeda Rd.
Houston, TX 77004

281-445-3483

gigglinmarlin.com

Please let them know you
are a member of Lunarfins



Maximum Scuba Houston

2391 Gun Range Rd.
League City, TX 77573
832-820-9949

9771 Long Point Rd.
Houston, TX 77055
832-993-2220

If you are a member of Lunarfins
You will get a 10% off.

<https://maximum-scuba.com/>



Oceanic Ventures

5808 Newcastle Drive
Houston, TX 77401

713-523-3483 (dive)

<https://oceanicventures.com/>



Outside The Asylum

2004 Mason Rd
STE C-2
Katy, TX 77450

www.otadiving.com

855-682-3483

Please let them know you are a
member of Lunarfins



Texas Dive Center

364 FM 1959 #D
Houston, TX

Txdivecenter.com/

Please let them know you are a
member of Lunarfins for
a discount.



Texas Scuba Adventures

2309 Mechanic St.
Galveston, TX 77550

409-363-9641

<https://texasscubaadventures.com/>