



Lunarfins Scuba Club

June 16th—Jessica Lee

Diving Destin-Fort Walton Beach: The Most Active Artificial Reef Program

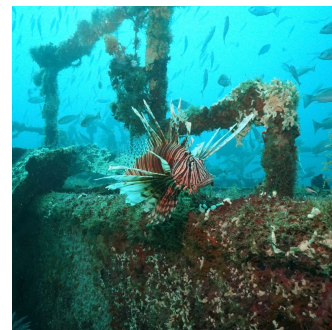
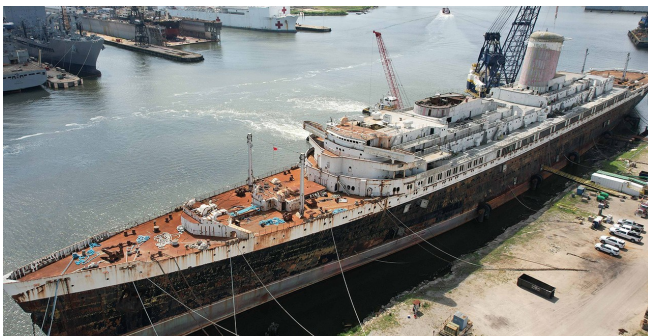


Join us for a fascinating look beneath the surface as we explore the Destin-Fort Walton Beach Artificial Reef Program. Jessica Lee, Lunarfins member and former club Dive Training Officer, will be returning to talk about this exciting project in her new role. Jess is a scientific diver, scuba instructor, and marine biologist. She recently became a member of the Destin-Fort Walton Beach Natural Resources team, helping advance marine conservation, research, and public engagement efforts.

With more than 580 artificial reef sites, Destin-Fort Walton Beach is home to the most active artificial reef program in the United States. These reefs provide critical habitat for marine life while creating world-class opportunities for fishing, diving, snorkeling, and scientific research. From purpose-built reef structures to retired vessels, these underwater habitats have transformed the Gulf seafloor into thriving ecosystems.

This program includes updates on the SS United States, the 990-foot ship that is being prepared to become the world's largest artificial reef. When deployed offshore, the vessel will create an unprecedented marine habitat and a globally significant dive destination.

Whether you're interested in marine conservation, diving, fishing, maritime history, or coastal tourism, this presentation offers a unique opportunity to learn how artificial reefs benefit both marine ecosystems and local communities.



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

ID: 836 7464 2772 Passcode: 076802



Lunarfins Board Meetings

are held every other month **July 9th** if you want to attend contact Brion Saathoff at [<brionsaathoff@icloud.com>](mailto: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



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This's Month Contributors

P J Campagna,
Paul Cater Deaton,
Dennis Deavenport,
Janavi Mahimtura Folmsbee,
Jessica Lee,
Kirk Leissner,
Cindy & Tom Rueland,
Brion Saathoff,
Cathy Strahan



Events Calendar

(Tentative plans)

Membership

2026 Membership are due Now

If you are a returning member you do not have to fill out a membership form. Unless you have changed your address, email address or phone number. Please bring the form to the next meeting or mail it in.

*Remember you can pay with a check which will be deposited once received, or you can Zelle it to **Cathy Strahan***

Don't forget to check your interest (s) and if you want to be included in the directory.

[Membership Application](#)



Jun. 16th — General Meeting — Jessica Lee — SS United States and artificial reefs

Jun. 28th — Check-out Dive at Mammoth Lake

Jul. 21st. — General Meeting — Valera Sakhnenko

Aug. 18th. — General Meeting — Chuck Noe

Aug. 30th. — Lunarfins Scuba Poker

Sept. 15th. — General Meeting — Walter Marti

Oct. 20th. — General Meeting — Dennis Deavenport

Nov. 17th. — General Meeting — Scott Singleton

Dec. 6th. — Lunarfins Christmas Party

ELECTED OFFICERS

President	Brion Saathoff
Vice President	Ja Van Pruett
Secretary	Brandy Behanna
Treasurer	Cathy Strahan
Social Director	OPEN

APPOINTED

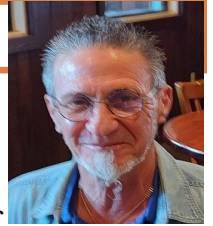
Media Manager	Dennis Deavenport
Trip information	P J Campagna
TGCC Representative	Tom Burns
Advisor	Dennis Deavenport
Advisor	Kirk Leissner
Advisor	Mike Peters
Newsletter	Ja Van Pruett
Website	Tom Burns

Do you have any ideas for event or

Topics for Speakers for 2027?

Please share them with any of our officers.

Lunarfin's President's Notes



Hello, my Lunarfin's family,

Happy upcoming Father's Day to all the fathers out there.

I would like to thank Autumn Blum of Stream2Sea on a wonderful and educational presentation last month. I had gotten away from the toxic chemicals in sunblock's a number of years ago and started using her products. I was really impressed on how Autumn's line has expanded to not only protect but help nurture the corals in our oceans. Seriously folks if you had seen her presentation, you would think twice about what you are putting on you, your children, and your grandchildren. An estimated 6000 to 14,000 tons of sunblock chemicals goes into our waterways and oceans every year damaging our fragile ecosystem.

Please join us this June 16 for a presentation from our very own Jessica Lee on diving Destin-Fort Walton beach and the progress they are making on the SS United States.

I had the pleasure of seeing her introduction to the FWB area at the Brazosport Underwater Club meeting before she moved to Florida so I know this one will be more in depth, Congratulations Jess on living your dream.

We will be hosting the Annual checkout dive on Sunday June 28th at Mammoth Lake, the details are on page 6, please keep in mind that you have to reserve your day passes in advance, I typically contact them at least a week ahead of time as it can get pretty busy this time of the year, the water above the thermal is about 81 degrees and about 65 degrees at 22 feet. Vis was around 15 ft above the thermal. We did six dives there last month and had a good time. If you follow the Lunarfin's Facebook page I always post the days I will be diving in advance to give anyone that wants to practice skills a chance to blow some bubbles. You are more than welcome to post any of your intended dives as we have people that are looking for dive buddies from time to time.

I would like to welcome our newest member to the family, My friend Scott Leonard from our sister club CHUM, and our guest Cindy Foley from the Clear Lake area, Kirk and I had the pleasure of diving with Cindy on the 24th of last month.

The scuba poker fundraiser to benefit ACWA is set for August 30 at Mammoth/Thunder bay this year. Details are on page 13.

The Fiji trip to BEQA lagoon in 2027 has been filled but Jess has put out a feeler with the resort for additional bungalows, and she has started a reserve list if anyone is still interested. The information is on page 17.

You will see what looks like a new dive shop on our sponsor page: Space City Dive Center, Texas Dive Center has changed ownership and with it a new name, Rick, Dave and all the same great staff are still there along with the same excellent service department.

Thank you to all our sponsors for the incredible services you provide for our members. We have a great summer planned with plenty of opportunities to get wet, I hope to see you soon.

Fins up

Brion Saathoff ><:;>



Happy Birthday to you!
May your day be filled with Happiness.

Christie Emerson — June 19th

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 Dwire 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 help Lunarfin's 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.



Cindy Foley



Christie Emerson



Upcoming General Meetings — Spring Creek Barbeque

Tuesday, June 16th, and Tuesday, July 21st.

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

IT'S NOT JUST GIGANTIC – IT'S **MAMMOTH**
LUNARFINS / TGCC PICNIC & DIVE OUTING

Sunday June 28th—10:30 to 4:00 ALL CLUBS INVITED

Divers \$25 entry -
Non divers \$15

Picnic \$10

Tanks and air available at lake

Dennis will be offering a GoPro
in-the-water workshop



Lunarfins, Please! help Welcome our newest Guests



Cindy Foley

and newest Member



Scott Leonard

About our Members

Paul Cater Deaton

“To Paul, my diamond in the rough.”

That’s what my journalism teacher, Gene (Eugenie) Yates wrote in my yearbook at the end of senior year at Harlingen High.

That woman changed everything for me. She saw something in me, I guess. She nurtured my raw skills and helped me find balance and control. She made us all understand the critical importance of objective, factual journalism and how essential it is to maintaining freedom and democracy.

Gene Yates turned things around for me. I found myself wanting to make her proud and I thought of her every time I penned a story. Still do.

I wrote her a letter when I got hired to write and shoot for the CAF Dispatch Magazine back in 1984. I wanted to let her know that I’d “made it.”

Little did I know that the adventure was just getting started.

In 2014, I gave a presentation for a Rotary Club in Harlingen, and I made sure that Mrs. Yates was invited. I was there, ostensibly, to talk about my career as a documentary filmmaker. I did, eventually, but not before producing a bouquet of flowers from behind the podium for her.

With tears streaming down my face, I told the story about her notation in that yearbook. I gave her a big hug and thanked her for believing in me and helping me find my path. She had a twinkle in her eye and I heard her voice in my ear.

“You were pretty rough,” she said.

I just learned that we lost Mrs. Yates three days ago. I shall never forget how that very special woman altered the trajectory of my life.

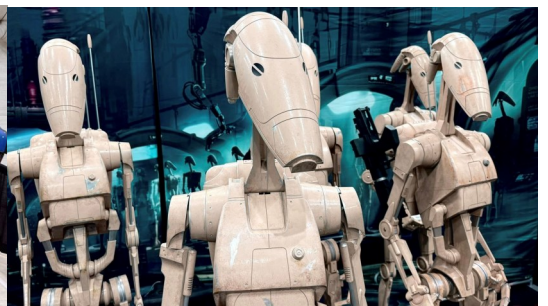
And I shall never stop trying to make her proud of me.



About our Members

Paul Cater Deaton-(Continued)

Saturday was the only day I could attend [Comicpalooza](#) this year, owing to a film shoot on Sunday, but we got a lot done! I had the honor of moderating the “Behind the Helmet” panel discussion on Star Wars costuming. We then participated in the Galactic Style Show, which was a real hoot. I haven’t seen the final numbers, but I understand that we made over \$4,000 for Make-a-Wish. On top of that, everyone had loads of fun. We even got to see a Colonial Viper and the Batmobile. Congratulations, one and all, on a highly successful show. I was proud to be there with you



About our Members

Dennis Deavenport

Dennis spent some time in Boulder, Colorado to visit with family. Glad to have you home.



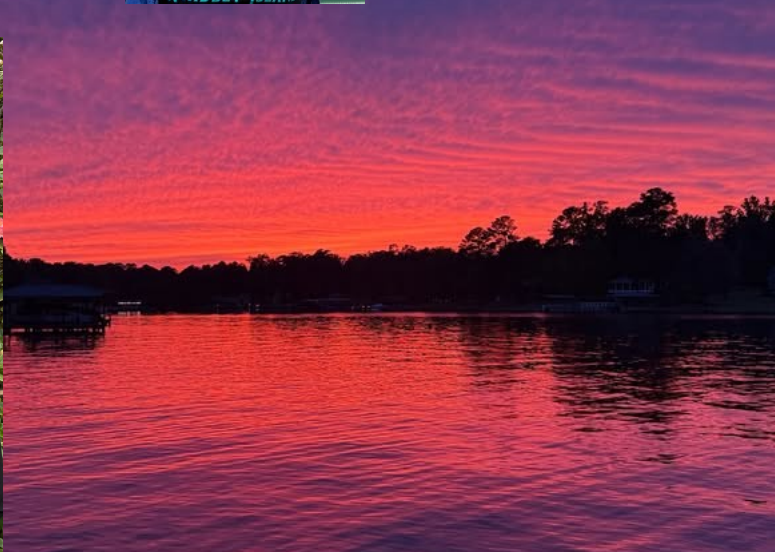
**These grow in Dennis's
back yard.**

About our Members

Cindy Rueland



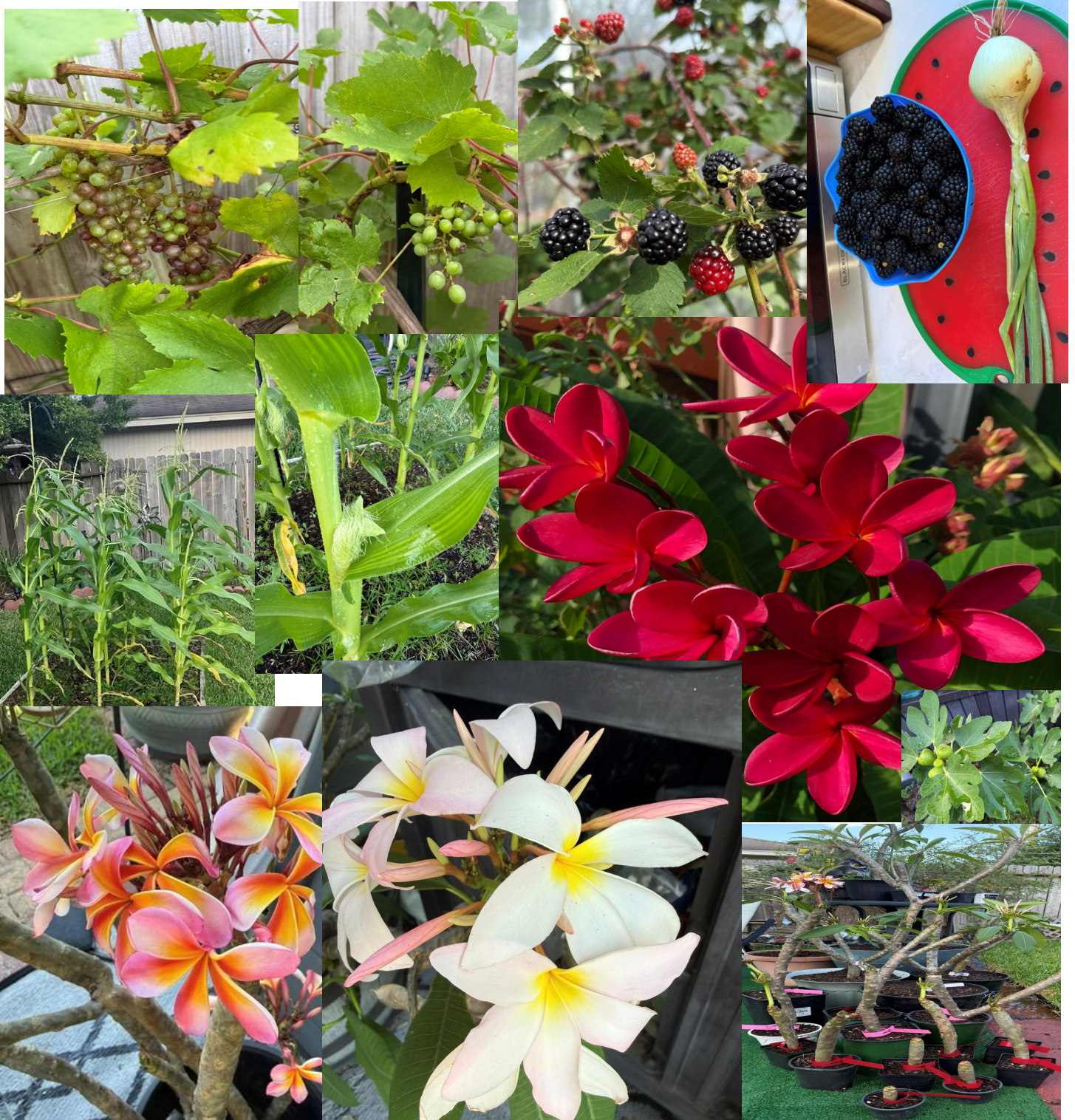
Mother's Day Weekend



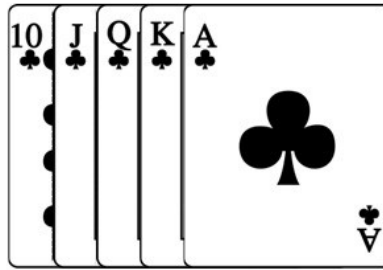
About our Members

Cathy Strahan

Not only is Cathy our Treasurer – But, this is what does in her spare time. She is a farmer. She grows grapes, corn, onions, blackberries and plumerias.



Lunarfins Scuba Poker Fundraiser



- **Diving**
- **Games**
- **Prizes**
- **Food**

**Benefitting the American Charitable
Watersport Activities Foundation.
August 30, 2026
10:30 AM to 2:30 PM
Mammoth Lake, Clute, TX**

Entry Fee* \$15.00
*Park Admission
not included

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



[NOAA's National Coral Reef Monitoring Program story map](#)

This comprehensive story map highlights NOAA's National Coral Reef Monitoring Program and captures their journey through the 2024-25 monitoring surveys in Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary, Florida, U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico. Data from these monitoring efforts help inform coral reef management, conservation, and restoration practices.

This [story map](#) visually narrates NOAA's coral reef monitoring efforts in the Atlantic and Caribbean, highlighting the team behind the work and the ecosystems they study. It showcases why these reefs matter and how monitoring supports the protection of these vital marine habitats.

National Ocean Service, NOAA



2026 Get Into Your Sanctuary Photo Contest

Celebrate the beauty, wonder, and diversity of America's national marine sanctuaries through your lens!

NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries is opening the 2026 *Get Into Your Sanctuary* Photo Contest, inviting photographers, divers, boaters, surfers, paddlers, beachgoers, students, scientists, and coastal communities to share images from national marine sanctuaries and other ocean and Great Lakes places.

This year's contest introduces four new categories. The photo contest runs through Labor Day, September 7, 2026, making it a great summer opportunity for anyone exploring the coast, Great Lakes, or national marine sanctuaries to share their perspective.

Show the world what the ocean and Great Lakes mean to you.

- **Life in Motion** challenges photographers to capture natural wildlife behavior, from feeding and hunting to schooling, caregiving, and symbiotic relationships.
- **Sanctuaries and You** highlights the ways people experience sanctuaries through diving, boating, paddling, research, education, and everyday moments on or near the water.
- **The Water's Edge** explores the boundary where land and sea meet, including shorelines, tidepools, coastal landscapes, and split-level perspectives.
- **Ripples From the Past** focuses on maritime heritage, including shipwrecks, aircraft, lighthouses, historic bridges, and cultural landmarks.

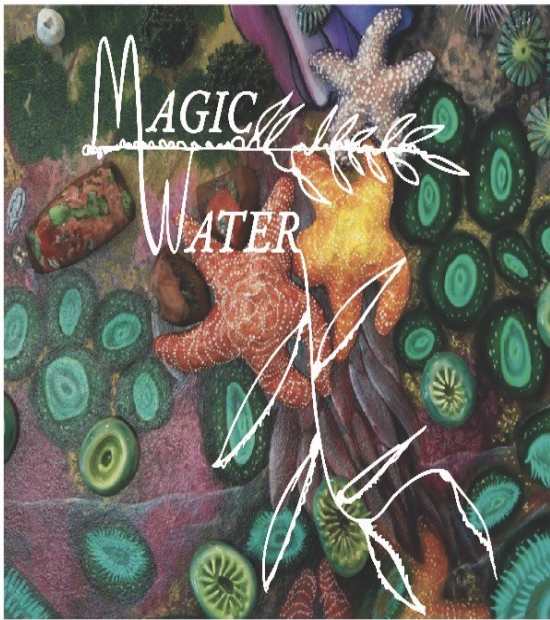
Winning photographs will be announced in October 2026. Winning photos reveal a moment of connection, behavior, or wonder in a way that feels both visually compelling and authentic to the natural world. As you prepare your entry, keep these qualities in mind. Here's what our judges are looking for:

- Strong composition and lighting
- Unique perspective or subject
- Storytelling or emotional impact

Adherence to [responsible photography](#) practices

You should have been there!!

JANAVI MAHIMTURA FOLMSBEE



"This body of work draws from coral gardens in the Gulf of Mexico, reefs within the Coral Triangle in Wakatobi, the Blue Mountain coral reefs of the Red Sea in Egypt, tide pools along the Olympic Coast and coastal waters of Mumbai, South Africa, and beyond. Through collaboration with marine biologists, conservationists, and Indigenous stewards of coastal lands, I gather visual knowledge from abundant ecosystems and reimagine it in layered visual language."

MAGIC
WATER



JANAVI MAHIMTURA FOLMSBEE

(CONTINUED)





3 New Boats



JOIN US FOR
BEQA'S
THRILLING
CATHEDRAL
SHARK DIVE



7 Night FIJI DIVE ADVENTURE

May 29-June 5, 2027 (leave on May 27th)

Package price \$3,900*

Included:

R/T Non-Stop Air DFW to Fiji



R/T ground and boat transfers from airport to Beqa Lagoon

7nights in a Deluxe, AIR CONDITIONED, Fijian villa

3 gourmet meals daily

5 Two-tank boat dives & unlimited shore diving

Kayaking, hiking treks, snorkeling, paddle boarding

Fijian cultural events & entertainment daily

Air & Hotel taxes

BONUS FEATURE

CATHEDRAL SHARK DIVE

&

Welcome poolside foot massage

One of....
1,000 Places to See Before You Die
NY Times #1 Bestseller

BEQA LAGOON RESORT
Fiji Islands

Home of....
the Legendary Firewalkers

World Class Diving
Shark & Big Fish Encounters
&
Friendly Fijian Hospitality

Reserve your spot by contacting Jess:

divingwithjess@gmail.com 979-236-9430

\$750 non-refundable deposit to reserve (applied to balance)

Due by May 25, 2026

*Pricing is per person USD\$ based on double occupancy in Kol/Garden view room. Upgrade to Beachfront villa is \$100pp. Single supplement is \$300. Space is based on availability at time of booking. **For non-diver deduct \$500 pp** from the package price. Pricing is subject to change & other restrictions may apply.

American Charitable Watersport Activities Foundation



2026 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. 2026 registration is \$20.

ACWA’s Donation Committee optional targets for 2026:

o Sea Camp Scholarships

o Houston Underwater Film Festival – Pay discounted ticket costs for Marine Biology or Film Study students to attend. Donation would go to cover the MATCH theater portion of each ticket, HUFF would no charge their portion of each ticket.

o Adaptable

o Turtle Conservation

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: _____

Lunarfins Scuba Club Membership Application

18515 Sandelford Drive, Katy, TX 77449

Taking Dues Now!

Please Check Membership Type ☐ New Fill out and sign the complete application below. ☐ Renewal _____ ☐ No Changes to previous information provided	DUES Individual \$25/year ☐ Last years members will pay a prorated fee \$19.00 Family \$35/year ☐ Last years members will pay a prorated fee \$26.00 Membership year: January 1 – December 31 New Applicants joining July 1 or later, ½ price
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Name	Certification Information Agency & Type	(List highest certification only) Certification Number Year	

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, or assigns for any and all injuries suffered by me in any club event in which I may participate:

Signature(s) _____ Date _____

Directory YES or NO (Circle one)	Volunteer Functions Check any that interest you	
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 e-mail address(es) above, whether or not you elect to be included in the Directory.	Club President	Meeting technician
	Vice President (pgms)	Board Member
	Secretary	TGCC Representative
	Treasurer	Membership
	Social Director	Presenter
	Trips & Training	Activity helper
	Webmaster	Other
	Newsletter editor	Other

You should have been at May General Meeting --It was Awesome!

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

18515 Sandelford Drive,
Katy, TX 77449

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/



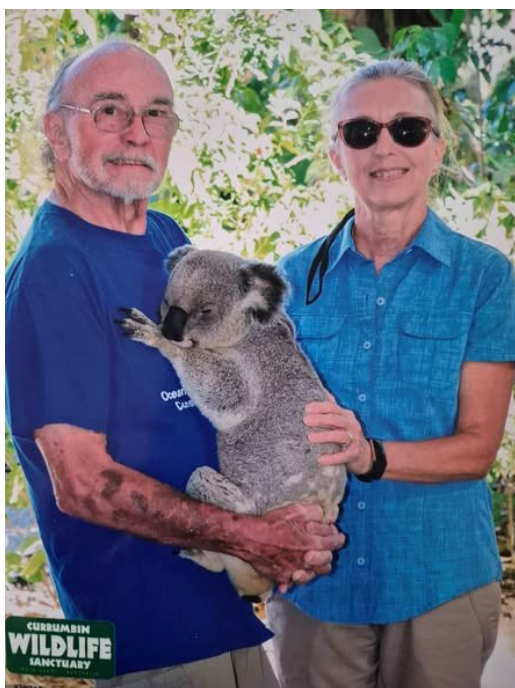
About our Members

Barney Corbin

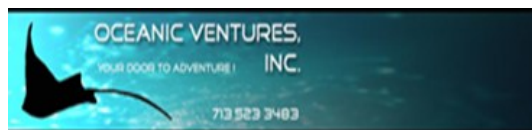
Barney has embarked on his final adventure. He passed peacefully June 4, 2026 in his home with his wife and 2 dogs, as was always his wish. For those who knew him well, you know how much he loved adventure and how many he has undertaken. His adventures were never tame, but I loved joining him in every one. He is now free to re-engage in all the things he loved doing with no physical restrictions. He can fly with the birds (pilot), feel the rush of the wind as he speeds towards the ground (skydiving), extend his bottom time with the fish (scuba diving), Surf the coast of Florida, ride his motorcycle up and down the Pacific Coast Highway (he had 3), ride a horse in the woods (he did that one for me), jet ski with his many dogs (he had one that loved the jet ski), circumnavigate the "great loop" in his motor yacht (boat captain), hit the open road in his motorhome, or just relax and watch the deer and the birds from his seat in heaven. He will continue to watch over his family and friends to keep them safe. He will always be in our hearts and will be sorely missed, but he is at peace as he joins his parents, Barney Sr. and Lillian, his younger brother, Jack, his daughter Bernadette, and the numerous dogs he's loved in his lifetime. Rest in peace my Love.

Two services will be arranged (details to come): one in Houston for all his NASA colleagues and Scuba friends, and one off the coast of Florida, where he wants his ashes scattered from a plane over clear water - joining all that he loved, air, water and family

Barney was long time member of Lunarfinns, he was our equipment officers when we were at NASA.



Dive Shops, etc.



Oceanic Ventures

5808 Newcastle Drive

Houston, TX 77401

713-523-3483 (dive)

<https://oceanicventures.com/>



Giggin' Marlin Dive & Swim

4502 Almeda Rd.

Houston, TX 77004

281-445-3483

gigginmarlin.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

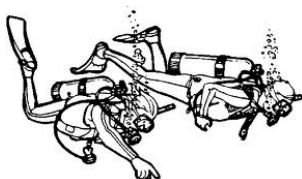
9771 Long Point Rd.

Houston, TX 77055

832-993-2220

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

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



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



SPACE CITY DIVE CENTER
LAUNCHING UNDERWATER ADVENTURES

364 FM 1959 #D

Houston, TX

Txdivecenter.com/

Please let them know you are a
member of Lunarfins for



Texas Scuba Adventures

2309 Mechanic St.

Galveston, TX 77550

409-363-9641

<https://texasscubaadventures.com/>