

HEARD NATURE PHOTOGRAPHERS CLUB

NOVEMBER 2020
VOLUME 36, ISSUE 11

MEETING DATE ***NOVEMBER 14TH - 2PM***

• MEETING WILL BE ONLINE ZOOM MEETING

Photo Challenge

Until we are able to safely have group field trips, we are going to have a monthly activity everyone can do on their own and share.

For the month of November, please submit up to four images representing **FALL COLOR.**

Please submit your images to Ron Marabito at his email address remarabito@gmail.com by **December 5**. Ron will create a slide show for us to present at the December meeting.

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"REMINDER" – MEMBERS CHOICE IS
COMING UP IN DECEMBER – START
GETTING YOUR IMAGES READY



Featured speaker:
Kathy Adams Clark

SPEAKER: KATHY ADAMS CLARK

“Depth of Field”

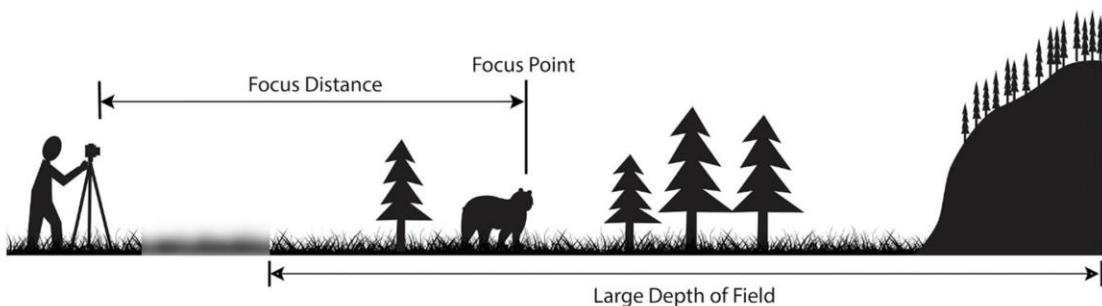
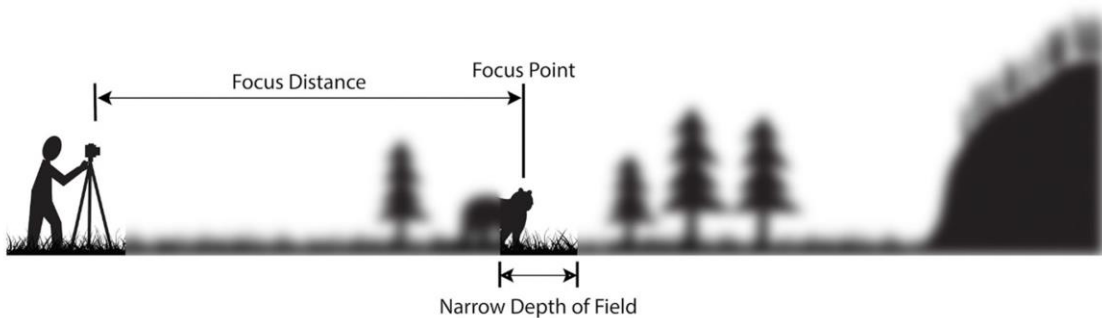
BY: *Elisabeth Shore*

In our November meeting, we will be discussing the use of Depth of Field (DoF). Wikipedia describes depth of field as: “the distance between the nearest and the farthest objects that are in acceptably sharp focus in an image. The depth of field can be calculated based on focal length, distance to subject, the acceptable circle of confusion size, and aperture. A particular depth of field may be chosen for technical or artistic purposes. Limitations of depth of field can sometimes be overcome with various techniques/equipment.”

Depth of field is one of the most important concepts in photography. Understanding what depth of field is, and knowing what factors affect it, are things all photographers should master.

Our final guest speaker for the year is Kathy Adams Clark, and she will be taking us on a deep dive into the mechanics of using depth of field effectively. Most photographer have a basic understanding of depth of field:

- Set the camera to f/2.8 and the background is soft.
- Set the camera to f/22 and everything in the scene is sharp.



Yet, depth-of-field is really more complicated, varied, and interesting. Are you using your knowledge of depth of field to its fullest?

Join us for this most interesting program to learn how depth of field changes based on the lens you're using, how close you are to you subject, and more. This program will also touch on the use of focus stacking to achieve more depth of field.

Kathy Adams Clark has been a professional nature photographer since 1995. Her photos have been published in hundreds of places, including *Family Fun*, *Nature's Best*, *New York Times*, *Birder's World*, and *Ranger Rick*. *AAA Journey*, *Texas Parks & Wildlife* and *Texas Highways* magazines have all used Kathy's photos on their cover.

Her photos have also appeared in a numerous books and calendars including the Barnes & Noble Ireland Countryside Calendar, the cover of the Arbor Foundation Rainforest Calendar, and the Sierra Engagement Calendar. Kathy's photos of Houston were compiled into a calendar offered in Costco in 2016.

Her photos appear every week in the "Nature" column in the Houston Chronicle written by her husband, Gary Clark. Kathy and Gary have worked with national publishing houses to produce ten books that combine their photography and writing skills. Their latest books are Book of Texas Birds published by Texas A&M University Press and Backroads of Texas published by Voyageur Press.

Kathy's photography is featured in Portrait of Houston published in 2012 by Farcountry Press. Photographing Big Bend National Park, published in 2013 by Texas A&M Press, is written by Kathy and uses her photography throughout.

Kathy is Past-president of the North American Nature Photography Association. She teaches photography and is a popular speaker at local and national events. She leads photo tours through Strabo Tours to countries including Costa Rica, Spain, Africa, Italy, Peru, Morocco, and Bhutan.



Long tailed skipper by Kathy Adams Clark



Sanderling by Kathy Adams Clark

FIELD TRIPS

If you are interested in any of the field trips scheduled you may sign up on our web site, email me at heardphototrip@gmail.com or sign up at our meeting.

2020 Field Trips

Date	Location
NOVEMBER	Photo challenge – due DECEMBER 5 th “FALL COLOR”
11/6 through 11/8	Caddo Lake Fall Colors

Field Trip

Thank you to everyone who participated in last month’s challenge. The challenge for October is to take “close up” images. Not everyone has a camera or lens capable of true macro photography, me included, so close up will give everyone a chance to participate.

The nature image must be taken in October. Please have your images to Ron Marabito by Saturday, November 5. Ron’s email address is remarabito@gmail.com.

Caddo Lake Fall Colors

We have 15 members registered for the Lake Caddo trip and it is still on. More updates will be coming.

Our November 6-8 Caddo Lake trip is still on the calendar. We will have to make a decision about that trip early September. There are 20 folks registered to go. If you are interested you may go to our website or email me at heardphototrip@gmail.com and I will add you to the list.

We will be returning to Caddo Lake this year, but we will be going to capture the fall colors this trip. Caddo is home to many species of birds, mammals, fish, plants, and to the bald cypress. I don’t know how many animals or birds we will see on this trip, but there is good chance the cypress will be in full color. More details on our website.

Steven Earles
Field Trip Coordinator



Caddo Lake Image by Anita Oakley



Caddo Lake image by Anita Oakley



**November 6-7-8, 2020 Field Trip
Caddo Lake
Uncertain, TX**

The focus of this field trip is to photograph the brilliant fall colors at Caddo Lake. We can't control mother nature, but the boat captain I am working with assured me we have a good chance of having great color. We will be offering sunset trips Friday and Saturday evenings and sunrise trips Saturday and Sunday mornings. Each trip will be two hours in duration. Each trip will be \$40.

Different from how we normally do things: For this trip, will need a firm commitment of interest **NO LATER THAN AUGUST 14 (our August meeting)** in order to ensure that we have enough boats for the tours! This is a busy season for the boats!

What will we see???

Caddo Lake in all its splendor.....water, Spanish moss, cypress trees, lily pads, lilies (2 varieties of lilies and one lotus we're told!), wildlife (birds, beavers, alligators....)

What is the cost?

\$40 per person for each:

\$40/pp for sunset boat tour

\$40/pp for sunrise boat tour

ALL PAID UP-FRONT THE WEEK BEFORE WE GET TO CADDO LAKE. Payment instructions will be provided at a later date.

Why \$40.....I see rates showing \$25/pp.....???

The \$40 keeps us on the water for two hours (\$25 shown on websites is for one hour).

Each boat will be limited to 6 passengers + the captain to allow adequate room.

When is it? November 6-7-8, 2020

How far is it? About 3 hours from McKinney – please check [googlemaps.com](https://www.google.com/maps) from your location. Destination: Uncertain, TX (where we meet the boats) or Jefferson, TX (one option for lodging)

What's the schedule?

The schedule of boat departure times and departure locations will be announced later. This is after daylight savings ends Sunrise is about 6:50 am and sets around 5:30 pm.

What else is there to photograph?

The Caddo Lake National Wildlife Refuge An 8,493-acre protected area of Texas managed by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service as part of the National Wildlife Refuge System. It is located along Caddo Lake in East Texas

Caddo Lake National Wildlife Refuge – there is a six-mile-long driving trail offering native grasses, birdhouses, feeders, duck boxes and bat houses/nurseries. Many wildlife observation areas on the refuge. Over 216 recorded resident and migratory bird species.

https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Caddo_Lake/visit/visitor_activities.html

You are welcome to enjoy the many open paved and gravel roads within the refuge as they are great for wildlife watching and hiking. An old railroad right-of-way is today a 9-mile nature trail. In addition to the Wildlife Observation Trail, several shorter trails are available for your enjoyment.

Free of charge, seven days a week from sunrise to sunset. Come prepared! Mosquitoes and deer flies can be abundant, so insect repellent is recommended. Be on the look-out for poison ivy.

Caddo Lake State Park

<https://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/caddo-lake>

Historic downtown Jefferson – for those who wish to photograph non-nature related items, you'll find architecture, historic buildings, antique stores and their “wares”.

Lodging Suggestions (we don't have a “where is everyone staying” location at this point):

The Shady Glade Resort in Uncertain offers several budget-friendly options: 2 cabins (with 2 double beds - \$ 99/night); five motel rooms w/2 double beds each - \$89/night double occupancy; and three manufactured homes with fully furnished kitchens (see website for # of bedrooms/baths and rates).

Website: www.shadygladeresort.com

Contact: Sara and David Smith 903/789-3295

This is about 25 minutes from Jefferson and is across the road from the Shady Glade docks where we will meet the boats.

Kahn Hotel in Jefferson

Warmly decorated rooms feature flat-screen TVs and free Wi-Fi; some en-suite bathrooms have showers only. Suites have kitchens; an upgraded suite adds a balcony and a whirlpool tub. (Just a heads up: Stairs to the second floor rooms are steep and difficult to negotiate with luggage. The Kahn does not have an elevator and does not serve breakfast or other meals – coffee, sweet rolls only. Most of the rooms are interior and do not have windows.

www.kahnsaloon.com or contact: Melanie 903/601-4434.

Other options:

There are multiple B&B's in Jefferson. Search google for information.

Cabins/houses can be rented on Caddo Lake. Search google for information.

Marshall, TX, offers options for chain hotels.

Sign up Options for the Caddo Lake field trip:

- On line – <https://www.heardnaturephotographers.com/field-trips-1/>
If you have already signed up on-line, there is no need to re-register!
- At the next meeting
- Call Steve Earles (713)898-5204
- Email heardphototrip@gmail.com

That's it! If you have questions, as always call me.



Good news!

The Gulf States Camera Club Council has decided to resume contests starting in July, with strictly digital submissions. They have also increased the allowable pixel dimensions going forward, and they are asking for images to be at least 1400 x 1050 pixels. Most of the images I have available to submit are too small because they conform to the former requirements. Please send me a new selection of any images you want me to consider for submission to contests. Remember, they no longer must be strictly nature images. I can submit in other categories for you as well.

Don't worry if your images are too big for the GSCCC contests, because the submission website will downsize them if necessary.

Thanks,
Anita

anitaoak@outlook.com



Electric Sunset by Anita Oakley

3rd Place



John Wayne of NM by Linda Grigsby

Honorable mention - Monochrome

Contest Committee

Volunteers Still Needed

The Heard Natural Science Museum and Wildlife Sanctuary supports the Heard Nature Photographers by providing the club with a place to meet. This is a big savings that allows the club to maintain its low dues. Every year the club sponsors a photo contest with the profit from the contest donated to the museum. This year we donated \$7,000 at a time when the museum really needed it due to the impact COVID-19 had on their revenue. Debbie Nielsen and Steven Earles are co-chairing the committee for the 2021 contest. We are looking for volunteers to help us. The contest is early next year. If you are interested, please contact one of us at debn654@gmail.com or steven.earles@yahoo.com.

Get involved

We are looking for people who want to be more involved with the club. If anyone is interested in an officer position – we have a few that are going to be available next year. We'll have more information at our next meeting. There is time to “shadow” the current person before the New Year starts.

Share

Please share your images and stories. We have a facebook group and usually have room in the newsletter for some of your images. Some folks haven't been able to get out and seeing beauty outside of our own homes is a treat. Share your secret spot that you've been able to go to and safely distance from other folks or a great website offering free or low cost classes.

Presidents Thoughts:

Hi Fellow Photographers,

Here we are in November. It's been a very tough year for all of us, with our activities curtailed, staying largely isolated from friends and family, and unable to meet with club members in person. It looks like this will continue to be the case for some time to come, but please be assured that the Heard Nature Photographers will survive, and that plans are in the works for continuity. The leadership committee has been working on officer nominations for 2021. The current board will meet to determine a process for the Members' Choice in December.

It has been an honor to complete this year as President for Peter Gilbert, and I know our club will continue to be strong in the years to come.

Stay safe

Anita

Members Choice

December will be our Member's Choice meeting as usual. Start getting your images ready. We are still working out the details on how we can make it work this year. I would have up to 5 of your best images ready to go. Once we can get the logistics worked out we will let everyone know how many images and how to enter them for the contest. Keep in mind we want a nature based image. We are looking forward to seeing all the great images from our members.

NOVEMBER Refreshment

Volunteers:

VIRTUAL SNACKS

If you haven't volunteered to bring snacks to share – please sign up – Ed will have a sign-up sheet at the meeting.

We need about **4-5 folks** per meeting to bring your favorite dessert or something healthy like a fruit or veggie tray. If everyone signs up, you will only need to bring something about once every year and a half.

A big thanks to Ed who brings the drinks, cups, plates, napkins, forks and ice to every meeting.





<http://www.psa-photo.org/>

<http://www.gulfstatesccc.org/>

2020 CLUB OFFICERS

President: Anita Oakley	anitaoak@outlook.com
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Newsletter Editor: Terree Stone	t.stone3@sbcglobal.net
GSCCC Representative: Anita Oakley	anitaoak@outlook.com

MONTHLY MEETING

14 NOVEMBER 2020

*****ZOOM MEETING*****

HEARD NATURAL SCIENCE MUSEUM

1 NATURE PLACE

MCKINNEY, TX 75069

<http://www.heardnaturephotographers.com>