



November 2018

Vol. 20 No. 11

<http://www.tgcfersoc.org>

Next Regular Meeting: Sunday, November 18, at 2:00 p. m. – Judson Robinson Jr. Community Center, 2020 Hermann Drive, Houston, TX 77004 - Phone: (713) 284-1994

A message from our President:

Hi Everyone,

Winter may be on its way! Bummer for me, but I do like the little bit cooler weather. I have been busy trying to get all my plants ready for the first freeze of this season. I hope we have a milder year than last winter's two snows and the very cold few days that really took its toll on the Houston area gardens. Many I talked to said that was nature's way of saying we need to change things up a bit. So I hope everyone enjoyed their planting season this past spring and summer and even into our four days of fall.

The plant swap at the last meeting was very successful. We had a good turn out even though we have several members who had to be out of town that weekend. Know you guys were missed! Fred Robinson got the first pick of the plant swap and then we were off to the races, picking and choosing what would work best for us in our lives. I know I came home with some real winners and I hope everyone was happy with their selection.

The November meeting will be a continuation of the meeting back in June. I know some of you, based on the show of hands, did not have the success we were all hoping for. I would like you to still bring your spore containers to the meeting so we can try to trouble shoot what went wrong for you. We will move on to step two and there will be enough to share with everyone. What I need for you to do is to bring some tweezers. If you have more than one pair, please bring them and share. We will have one new container for you to move up a set of new ferns so you can see what to do and then you can move up your other ones if not this time next time.

Party!! Party!! Oh no, maybe no Party..... sorry but Patrick is not sure they will be able to host after all. We are still looking for a home to host the party! We have given up the room so we cannot have it at the Judson Robinson Jr. Community center. We have to

have it somewhere else. Also, in the past we have moved up the Party date to the second Sunday to give more time between our party and the Christmas holiday. However, this year our regular meeting date is not as close to Christmas as some years. So we are going to take a vote at the November meeting (provided we have a place to go) for either the second Sunday, the 9th of December, or the third Sunday, the 16th of December. Please think it over and be ready to vote. Also, due to the short days, we will start the party at 1PM.

At the November meeting, we will also be voting on our Officers and Board of Directors for 2019. I'm looking forward to seeing who is going to help our society move forward next year with ideas and help fulfill our commitments to our fern world. What would you like to see as a meeting? What do you want to learn more about? These are question we all ask, but we need you to tell us your thoughts so we can incorporate them. This will be another fun and exciting year of new ideas and new ferns for us to grow ourselves.

See you at the meeting,

Darla



Up and Coming Attractions:

2018:

Nov 18: "Moving Up Our Sporophytes"
by Darla Harris & Patrick Hudnall

Dec ?: Holiday Party
location to be determined

Submitted by: Larry Rucker, VP



November Program

Spore to Gametophyte to Moving Up Our Sporophytes

We have learned how to collect spore off the fern leaf and we learned how to fold the spore into a paper to keep them dry and together until we are ready to put them down. We also learned how to mix our spore in distilled water and apply it with a dropper over either a peat pellet or into a container of sterile seed mix. We discussed providing light for 10-16 hours a day and keeping them evenly moist with distilled water to make sure fertilization occurred. Then we waited and waited and waited to see what happened. Now we are going to go to the next step of moving the gametophytes and sporophytes up to a larger container so they have room to grow and mature into larger sporophytes, aka ferns.

Please bring with you tweezers and your spore cups that you did at our June meeting. Please bring them whether or not you had success so we can trouble shoot what went wrong. We will have a short talk on the process from start to this point and will have a question and answer session on the process. Then we will each put down some baby ferns to watch them grow into the next step.



Submitted by: Darla Harris



Refreshments:

Refreshments for October were generously furnished by:

Beth Ayer, Raini Cunningham, Ceil Dow, Darla Harris, Rodolfo Reyes, Larry Rucker, Donna Williams, and Brenda Williams

Refreshments for November will be generously furnished by:

Drinks: Beth Ayer
Dessert: Beth Ayer, Ruby Adams
Savory: Donna Williams
Dessert or Savory: Ceil Dow, Larry Rucker, Faye Stansberry
Service ware: Raini Cunningham

Please let Raini Cunningham, bnrc@xmission.com / 801-891-2254, or Ruth McDonald, rmmcdonald0@gmail.com / 979-530-6186, know if you can help with the refreshments for any months in 2018. Come out and enjoy some really delicious food!



2019 Membership Dues

Renewals for 2019 membership are now being accepted. Thank you to all of you who have already renewed. If you have not renewed, please complete the membership form and return it with your payment and any changes noted to our Membership Co-chairs Beth Ayer and Marcia Livingston at our next meeting or mail it to:

Beth Ayer
5815 Portal Drive
Houston, TX 77096

TGCFS dues amounts:

Individual: \$10.00
Family: \$15.00
Student: \$ 5.00

Please make your checks payable to Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society or simply TGCFS.



Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society October 21, 2018

The October meeting of the Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society was held at the Judson Robinson Jr. Community Center, Houston, Texas. The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by President Darla Harris.

General Meeting:

Darla announced that the new society T-shirts have come in. They are \$10 each for any member who would like to purchase one.

She said that Jere Noerager has agreed to be the Nominating Committee Chairman. She asked for two additional members to work with Jere on this committee. Beth Ayer and Ruby Adams volunteered. Darla also reminded members that we need a volunteer to help Raini Cunningham with Hospitality. If anyone is interested, please contact Darla.

So far no one has volunteered to host the December party. If you would like to do this, please contact Darla.

Next month's meeting will be "Moving Up Our Sporophytes" and will be given by Darla Harris and Patrick Hudnall. Darla asked that members bring their containers of sporophytes and, if willing, share them with members who were unsuccessful at growing them or who did not put spore down at the June meeting. The society will furnish a container and show us the procedure for moving them up.

Darla reminded us that it is time to start paying our 2019 dues. Please see Treasurer Beth Ayer to pay them.

She also asked for a member or members to take photos of this meeting and to send them to Newsletter Editor Cherie Lee.

Program:

This meeting was our annual Plant Swap. Darla Harris reviewed the rules and Larry Rucker gave a ticket to each person who brought an item for the swap. Larry then called out the ticket number to start the swap and it belonged to Fred Robinson. There were many very nice items in the swap and everyone had a great time.

Because of the plant swap there was not a raffle at this meeting.

Attendance: 22 members

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Williams, Secretary



November Book Review

*Indian Fern Journal:
an International Journal of Pteridology*

Members might be interested in checking out a volume of the *Indian Fern Journal: an International Journal of Pteridology*, an official publication of the Indian Fern Society, first published in 1984. The focus is research on Pteridophytes in India, but there are also reports from other parts of the world. Articles are in English and are peer reviewed. As of now, no indexing is available. Each volume contains charts, maps, diagrams, as well as color photographs. This journal is hard to find, but fortunately, our library received two volumes (2015 and 2016) from George Yatskievych, who recently gave a presentation to the society on the "Ferns of Nepal."

Submitted by: Ruth McDonald



Library

We encourage you to take advantage of the great resource of information available in our library. At each meeting there are a wide variety of books available for immediate checkout. If there is a particular book you would like to check out at the meeting, please contact Ruth McDonald at rmmcdonald0@gmail.com or 979-530-6186 prior to the meeting to make sure it will be available.



Editor's Comments

Deadline for the December Newsletter is November 25, 2018. Thanks.

Cherie Lee, Editor, *TGCFS Newsletter*



2018 Officers and Committees:

President:	Darla Harris
Vice President:	Larry Rucker
Secretary:	Donna Williams
Treasurer:	Beth Ayer
Board Members-at-Large:	Jacqueline Smith Johnny Williams Cherie Lee (Past Pres)
Education Chair:	Darla Harris
Hospitality Chair:	Raini Cunningham and Ruth McDonald
Library:	Ruth McDonald
Membership Co-chairs:	Beth Ayer and Marcia Livingston
Newsletter:	Cherie Lee
Spore Exchange:	Patrick Hudnall
Ways and Means: - Raffle, Store, etc.	Larry Rucker Biruta Claunch
Web Master:	Malcolm McCorquodale
Welcoming at Door:	Beth Ayer and Marcia Livingston



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Upcoming Events in the Houston Area:

Bromeliad Society/Houston Inc.

– www.bromeliadsocietyhouston.org –

Regular meetings are held the third Tuesday of every month at 7:00 PM at the West Gray Multi-Service Center
1475 W. Gray St., Houston, TX 77019

Next regular meeting is:
November 20, 2018

The Houston Orchid Society, Inc.

– www.houstonorchidsociety.org –

Regular meetings are held the first Thursday of every month at 7:30 PM at the First Christian Church,
1601 Sunset Blvd., Houston, TX 77005

Next regular meetings is:
January 3, 2018

October Plant Exchange





Lucky First Pick – Fred Robinson





Photos by Judith Neufeld