



January 2020

Vol. 22 No. 1

<http://www.tgcfersoc.org>

Next Regular Meeting: Sunday, January 19, 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,

What a wonderful party! Thank you Malcolm for hosting the party for us, even though you ended up under the weather! Thank you Larry for bringing all the meat to the party. I was to bring the ham and a week out I knew I was not going to be able to make it. So Larry being Larry said no worries, he would do the ham too! Thank you! All the food was excellent. I had a little bit of everything, nothing was to be missed! Thank you to all our great cooks! The gift exchange went well for those who participated. The weather was wonderful and we saw a few folks who had missed meetings this year so it was good to see they were doing well. We did have a few with health issues that were not able to make it. We want to express our concern and to let you know we truly missed you!

I want to welcome our new board for the year. In doing so I would like to have a board meeting at our January meeting. So please let me know if you have something you would like to see added to the agenda. We will have the meeting after the program.

Patrick Hudnall is our new Vice President and he has a great line up for us already for the year. Once he gets confirmed who's doing what and which month, he will let us know, but it should be great! Do let him know if you have any ideas for a program. The society belongs to all of us and we want everyone to feel like they are a part of it and to participate. I hope more of you will join the board next year and have an even bigger part! It really is awesome!

If you have not yet renewed your dues, please do so as soon as you can so the ladies will be able to get the membership book together in an easy fashion. Last minute renewals put stress on everyone.

I hope everyone will have a happy and healthy 2020. Here is to another great year of learning and growing ferns of all types!

Darla



“Dividing Footed Ferns”

by Pat Hudnall

Have you ever had a Rabbit’s Foot fern that has completely engulfed its pot or basket? What do you do now? This month our Vice President Pat Hudnall will present a program on Vegetative Reproduction by dividing “Footed Ferns”. It will also cover Footed Ferns of various genera and species and their recommended cultivation methods. Don’t miss it.



Board Meeting

There will be a Board Meeting after the regular membership meeting on January 19, 2020 at the Judson Robinson Jr. Community Center at 2020 Hermann Drive. Board members and all interested members are welcome to attend.



2020 Up and Coming Attractions:

Jan 19: Dividing Footed Ferns
by Pat Hudnall

Submitted by: Pat Hudnall, VP



2020 Membership Dues

Renewals for 2020 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.



The American Fern Society (AFS)

The American Fern Society is over 120 years old. With over 900 members worldwide, it is one of the largest international fern clubs in the world. It was established in 1893 with the objective of fostering interest in ferns and fern allies. It exchanges information and specimens between members via their publications and spore exchange.

AFS non-professional membership (\$20) includes access to the Spore Exchange and subscription to the Fiddlehead Forum.

Professional membership (\$40) includes the benefits above plus access to the American Fern Journal.

To find out more about the Society and/or join, visit <https://www.amerfernsoc.org/>.



Refreshments:

Please let Larry Rucker, herbie39L@att.net / 832-453-2992 cell, 713-649-3535 home, know if you can help with the refreshments for the January meeting and what you plan to bring so he can make sure everything is covered and we don't have a lot of duplicates. It will make his job much easier. Come out and enjoy some really delicious food!



Statement of Income & Expenses October 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019

INCOME

Membership Dues	\$ 290.00
Raffle Income	95.25
Donations	7.11
Bank Interest	<u>0.72</u>
Total:	\$ 393.08

EXPENSES

Program	\$ 114.13
Newsletter	<u>39.99</u>
Total:	\$ 154.12

Balance 12-31-2018: \$ 9,743.88

Balance 9-30-2019: \$10,418.67

Balance 12-31-2019: \$ 10,657.63

Net Gain for 4th Qtr: \$ 238.96

Net Gain for 2019: \$ 913.75

Submitted by Beth Ayer, Treasurer



2020 Officers and Committees:

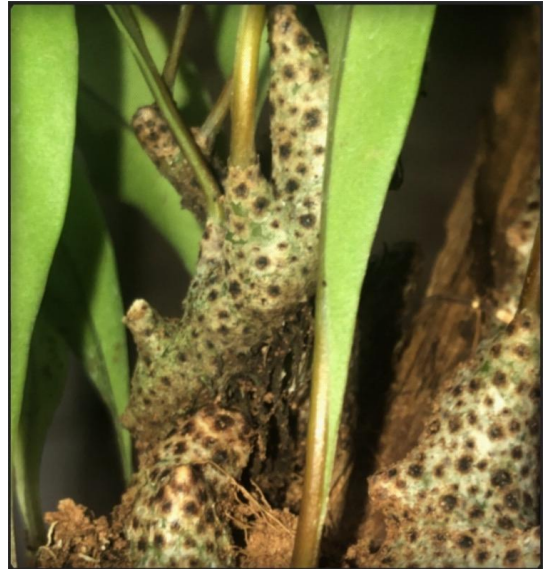
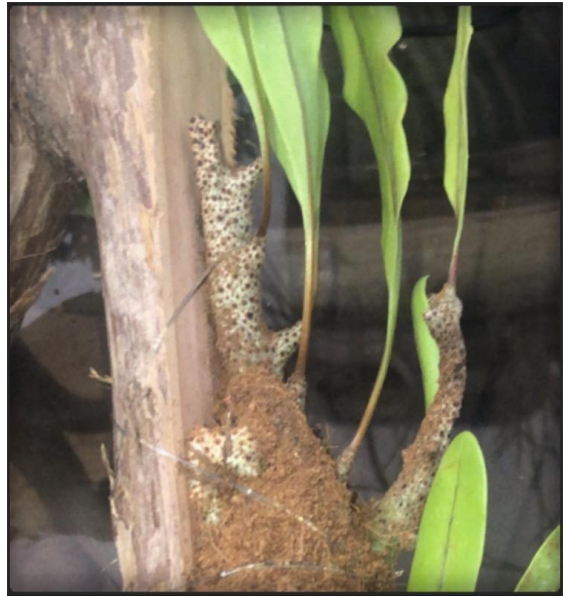
President:	Darla Harris
Vice Presidents:	Patrick Hudnall
Secretary:	Donna Williams
Treasurer:	Beth Ayer
Board Members-at-Large:	Ceil Dow Jere Noerager Cherie Lee (Past Pres)
Education Chair:	Darla Harris
Hospitality Chair:	Larry Rucker
Library:	Ruth McDonald
Membership Co-chairs:	Beth Ayer and Marcia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



***Lecanopteris sinuosa* - Ant Fern**

The Ant fern is an intriguing fern that grows throughout the world in tropical to sub-tropical areas. There are 13 species of this genus with *L. sinuosa* falling in a subgenus of *Myrmecopteris* in which there are only four species. These species have peltate scales and the sori are deeply imbedded into the pinnae or leaf. This group of ferns get their name from the relationship they have with a non stinging type of ant that rears its larva in the rhizome of the fern to protect them, but the fern also benefits from the ants leftovers and fecal matter because it needs extra fertilizer. However, these ferns do not have to have the ants to survive and can be grown outside of that environment.

L. sinuosa is one of the easiest of the ant ferns to grow in our homes. They are an epiphytic fern crawling along on a very cool rhizome up a tree or other upright surface. They like to grow in warm home conditions, but can tolerate a wide range of temperatures. Can be grown on a window sill and accept the lower humidities of our homes. To make up for the lack of ant fertilizer you can use a little Osmocote or similar type. With only moderate water required, these are a great fern to add to your collection.



Submitted by Darla Harris



**Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society
Holiday Party
December 15, 2019**

The December meeting of the Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society was the annual holiday party. It was held at the home of Malcolm McCorquodale who graciously offered to host the party.

This was a potluck meal and those attending brought an assortment of wonderful foods with Larry Rucker doing his usual excellent job of organizing it.

Those who wished to do so participated in a gift exchange. There are many nice gifts brought to this event each year.

The party is always a lot of fun and a good time to visit with members that we may not have time to talk with at regular meetings. There were 30 people present, including four guests.

Malcolm's home and garden are lovely to visit. It made for a pleasant, relaxing time for all.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of you!

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Williams, Secretary



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.

If you have books checked out, please bring them to the January meeting as Ruth will be performing a year-end inventory. Thank you.



Support Our Society Using Amazon Smile

AmazonSmile is a way for you to support our society every time you shop with Amazon.

At smile.amazon.com you will find the same Amazon items that you know and love, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the price of eligible purchases to the Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society.

Signing up is easy!

Here's how to signup and shop at AmazonSmile:

1. Visit smile.amazon.com
2. Sign in with your Amazon username and password.
3. Then either go to "Your Account", and under the box "Shopping programs and rentals", select the option to "Change Your Charity"; or you can also hover your mouse over the small arrow next to the charity you are currently supporting and click Change.
4. Type Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society into the search and the click select.
5. Start shopping! You can add a bookmark for smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.



Editor's Comments

Deadline for the February Newsletter is January 28, 2020. Thanks.

Cherie Lee, Editor, *TGCFS Newsletter*

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:
January 21, 2020

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 are:
February 6, 2020

Holiday Party – December 15th
Hosted by Malcolm McCorquodale

Our Host Malcolm



Photo courtesy of Darla Harris





Photos courtesy of Judith Newfeld
except where otherwise noted