



February 2024

Vol. 26 No. 1

<http://www.tgcfernsoc.org>

Our meeting this month will be “blended” by meeting in-person at the Judson Robinson, Jr. Community Center (2020 Hermann Dr., Houston, 77004 and/or via GoToMeeting – member’s choice.

TGCFS MISSION STATEMENT

Organized in 1998 by a group of fern enthusiasts (a.k.a. fern lovers, fernies, pteridologists), to cultivate, foster and promote interest in ferns and fern allies, the TGC Fern Society presents educational programs including “how to” sessions, presentations by local, national and internationally known fern experts, and field trips and tours-thus providing a forum for fern enthusiasts to visit, learn, share plants, ideas, information, and have a good time. A very informative monthly newsletter is published for members, and special events include presentations to other groups, fundraiser events, and a year-end holiday season party. **Regular meetings are held at 2:00 P.M. on the third Sunday of each month at the Judson Robinson Jr. Community Center, 2020 Herman Drive, Houston, TX, 77004. Phone (713) 284-1994.**

A message from our President:

Hi Everyone!

I hope everyone’s year is getting off to a great start!! Mine has been full of technology problems, but I hope that is fixed now. I’m sorry the January newsletter did not get out; it could not be helped. With the short notice on the January meeting, we only had nine total in attendance. So, we decided since it was necessary information for the February meeting we would just wait and give it then. The nine of us had a brainstorming session that went very well. We focused on growing the Membership with members that are of a younger demographic, that with a little time might help take on some of the many jobs it takes to keep the society going. I think we had a very good discussion, and hope to work with some of the suggestions.

It was nice to see so many in December at the Party at Malcolm’s home, we had about 23 attendees. See photos at the end of this *Newsletter*. The food was wonderful, everyone did a great job!!

This February meeting is going to be a full meeting. We are going to start off with Larry Rucker explaining what it takes to grow ferns from spore, this part will be a PowerPoint presentation. Then we will spend a few minutes to put a small light stand together for you to take home and grow your spores on. Then the last part will be putting spore down for you to grow. Looking forward to seeing you at the meeting. The project is only available for those attending in person. Sorry, but you will be able to watch the process virtually.

We also had a couple of suggestion on future meetings so in March we will be talking on what ferns make good house plants and why. As hot has it was last summer some may

like to bring a few plants in for the summer and we will have a great discussion.

The April talk will be given by Adam Black and based on his field trip last year. It is titled ‘*Ferns and Lycophytes of Mindanao, Philippines*’. He is planning on meeting in person, which will be great since many have not seen him since he got his new job in North Carolina.

We are looking at May as our field trip. We are thinking about Moody Gardens and the Pyramid. It’s been a few years now since we did this and its always fun to see what new things, they have going on there.

June is our Summer Party; we are looking for someone that would like to host the event for us this year.

Remember the Meeting is the 3ard Sunday of the month at 2pm. The newsletter has the information in it, as well as the website if you are unsure.

We will be having another door prize this month for those attending in person! You do have to stay until we draw the numbers.

Looking forward to seeing even more of you at our February meeting!! Stay warm and safe!

Darla



Dues!

Dues for 2024 are currently being collected. If your 2024 dues have been paid you should have received an email from Beth Ayer in September. If you have any questions about the status of your dues, please contact Christopher Goodgame at: chris.goodgame@protonmail.com.

Your dues may be paid in person at a meeting or sent by mail to: Christopher Goodgame, PO Box 66116, Houston, TX 77266. Checks should be payable to: Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society (TGCFS).

2024 Officers and Committees:

President:	Darla Harris
Vice President:	Patrick Hudnall
Secretary:	Ceil Dow
Treasurer:	Larry Rucker
Board Members-at-Large:	Ruby Adams Christopher Goodgame
Education Chair:	Darla Harris
Hospitality Chair:	TBD
Library:	Fred Robinson
Membership Chair:	Christopher Goodgame
Newsletter:	Paul Geiger
Spore Exchange:	Patrick Hudnall
Ways and Means:	Larry Rucker
Raffle, Store, etc.	Rick Dow
Web Master:	Malcolm McCorquodale
Welcoming at Door:	TBD

4th Quarter 2023 Treasurer's Report

October 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023

Income:

Dues:	\$65.00
Raffle:	45.00
Donations:	\$0.00
Interest:	\$5.29

Expenses:

Plants	\$25.00
Program Expense	\$0.00
Bank Charges	\$0.00
Balance on 12-31-2022:	\$14,691.46
Balance on 12-31-2023:	\$15,003.89
Net gain for 4Q23:	\$90.29
Net gain for 2023:	\$312.43

Beth Ayer

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.

Please note that donations to the AFS are not tax deductible.

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

January 2024 Door Prize

Fred Robinson was the lucky winner of **this Rumohra adiantiformis** fern.

Congratulations, Fred!



Pictures from our December 2023 Party
(Pictures submitted by Betsy Robinson and Joe Harris)

