



December 2014

Vol. 16 No. 12

<http://www.tgcfersoc.org>

Holiday Party: Sunday, December 14, at 1:00 p. m. – Frank and Cherie Lee’s Home, 24672 Pine Ridge Road, Hockley, TX 77447 - Phone: (936) 372-2728 or (832) 566-5786

A message from our President:

Hi Everyone,

I want to start with a big thank you to all of you for a wonderful year of friendships at the Fern Society. I want to send a special thank you to all the officers and committee chairs who served our Society so well. It takes time and effort to do such a good job and I want you to know we have all noticed the unwavering dedication you have shown all year.

We had a good year with several new members joining us in the fun of learning about ferns. We had a successful sale that will allow us to continue on with projects and speakers going forward into the New Year. We had great speakers this year from California and of course from our local members who always put on excellent programs. We also received our new book on Texas ferns. And what can I say about all the raffle plants this year but thank you to all who contributed and to those who bought tickets to take a chance on winning some special plants. We have a wonderful group of people who make our Society one where you enjoy the people as much as the plants.

December is our time to get together, get to know each other better, and see a member’s plants and how they are grown. Not to mention, we have some great cooks. So far we have meats (brisket and ham), deserts, but could use some sides, drinks, and appetizers. Please get with Faye Stansberry on what you are planning to bring. The Lee’s have generously offered their home this year for our Party and directions will be further down in the newsletter. Remember it is the second Sunday and the time is 1 PM. Don’t forget the gift exchange if you would like to participate. Something in the \$15-20 range and plant/fern related. This is always fun.

The November meeting was a smashing hit! Larry Rucker hit it out of the ball park... but then who is surprised by that since he always does. Thank you Larry! Etching ferns on glass turned out to be so much fun. Everyone who wanted to participate took home a very nice picture frame with their handiwork etched on it. They really turned out nice!

We have most of next year set up with speakers and projects. We have to confirm a few dates, but it should be another fun year. We will start the year learning how to put together a Platycerium (staghorn) ball with a hands-on project and one to take home with you. In February, we will learn how to put a terrarium together and we will have terrarium ferns for you to

plant. You will need to bring a container to use for your terrarium but the other supplies will be provided for a small fee to cover part of the cost. Details will be included in the next newsletter. We have a field trip planned for April as well as a talk on Isoetes (quillworts). We will even have a presentation on fossil ferns. This is just a fraction of what we have planned. Stay tuned for more.

On a personal note: This is my last newsletter to write as your President. I have enjoyed the past four years very much and am looking forward to working with you in 2015 as Vice President. I turn the reins over to Cherie Lee and we will be in great hands. I know everyone will love working with Cherie in her new role with the Society. She has been a wonderful Vice President this year and has been unflappable as our newsletter editor. Also, thank you to all who accepted positions on the board and as committee chairs.

Darla



Please Welcome Our New Member:

Hannah Martin

and

Karen & Jim Pol



Our Sincere Condolences:

To Darla Harris who lost her father after a courageous battle with cancer. Please keep her and her family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.



Up and Coming Attractions:

- Dec 14: Holiday Party – 1 PM
Frank & Cherie Lee’s home
- Jan 18: Making Platycerium Balls
presented by Larry Rucker
- Feb 15: Building Your Own Terrarium
presented by Darla Harris
- Mar 15: TBD
- Apr 18/19: Sat “Field Trip”
led by Carl Taylor, destination TBD
Sun “Isoetes (Quillworts)”
presented by Carl Taylor
- May 17: “Fern Fossils”
presented by Diane Kerr Hudnall

Submitted by: Cherie Lee, Vice President (with Darla’s help)



Reminder

Please remember to submit any receipts for reimbursement to Treasurer Mary McConnell before the end of the year so she can balance the Society’s books. Thanks.



2015 Dues

2015 dues are now being accepted. Please complete the membership form and return it with your payment 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.



2014 Officers and Committees:

- President: Darla Harris
- Vice President: Cherie Lee
- Secretary: Anna Belle Hicks
- Treasurer: Mary McConnell
- Board Members-at-Large: Patrick Hudnall
Larry Rucker
- Hospitality Chair: Faye Stansberry
- Library: Frank Lee
- Marketing Chair: Laura Jordan
- Membership Co-chairs: Beth Ayer and Marcia Livingston
- Newsletter: Cherie Lee
- Spore Exchange: Patrick Hudnall
- Ways and Means: Larry Rucker
- Raffle, Store, etc.
- Web Master: Malcolm McCorquodale
- Welcoming at Door: Beth Ayer and Marcia Livingston



Refreshments

Refreshments for November were generously furnished by:

- Drinks: Rodolfo Reyes, Cherie Lee
- Savory: Beth Ayer, Faye Stansberry, Darla Harris
- Veggies: Cherie Lee
- Desserts: Pat & Diane Hudnall, Cherie Lee
- Service ware: Cherie Lee, Beth Ayer

December will be our Holiday Party. Faye Stansberry is organizing the feast so please let her know what delectable dish you plan to bring. Also, please let her know if you can help with the refreshments for any months in 2015. Email to stansberry.faye@yahoo.com or call 713-734-0170. Come out and enjoy some really delicious food!



December Book Review

“Platycerium Hobbyist’s Handbook” by Roy Vail

This book contains nearly 200 pages of clear, understandable information on staghorn ferns by the world’s leading expert on them. He has grown these ferns for over 40 years and explored areas where they grow where no other hobbyist has ever been. The book has how-to instructions on spore propagation, division, buying staghorn ferns, as well as photos and discussions of each species and distribution maps of where they occur in nature.

Submitted by: Frank Lee



Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society General Meeting – November 16, 2014

The regular monthly meeting was held at the Judson Robinson Jr. Community Center, Houston, Texas. The meeting was called to order at 2:10 PM by President Darla Harris.

General: Darla announced that Frank and Cherie Lee have invited us to their new house for our Holiday Party on December 14th which is one week earlier than our normal meetings. The party will begin at 1:00 PM.

Beth Ayer, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, was asked to give their nominations for 2015 officers. The following were nominated:

President: Cherie Lee
Vice President: Darla Harris
Secretary: Diane Kerr Hudnall
Treasurer: Mary McConnell
Board at Large: Patrick Hudnall and Larry Rucker

Martha Burg made the motion that these nominees be accepted. Marcia Livingston seconded the motion. A show of hands was asked and the motion was approved.

Members were asked to sign up for the Holiday Party refreshments. Members were reminded that 2015 dues are now being accepted and due no later than March.

Program: Larry Rucker presented our project for the month which was etching on glass. Larry had assembled all the materials for this project. He showed us an example he had done and then explained the procedure and also cautioned us in using the etching compound. Gloves and safety glasses were available for protection. There was a \$5.00 charge for the materials. It was an interesting project and everyone was very pleased with their pretty etchings.

Plant Raffle: There was a variety of plants on the Raffle Table and \$85 was collected.

Attendance: 16 members and 1 guest were present.

Submitted by: Secretary Anna Belle Hicks



Library

We encourage you to take advantage of the great resource of information available in our library. At each meeting there are take-home sheets that contain a brief review of available books. Also at each meeting, there is a wide variety of books and videos available for immediate checkout. Don't forget to visit our web site (see link in header, page 1) and click on **Library** to see the current list of books available. There you will see some pictures of the books we have and links to reviews at Amazon and elsewhere. If there is a particular book you would like to check out at the meeting, please contact Frank Lee at f.a.lee@sbcglobal.net or 832-566-5788 prior to the meeting to make sure it will be available.



Editor's Comments:

Deadline for the January Newsletter is January 1, 2015. Thanks.

Cherie Lee, Editor, *TGCFS Newsletter*



Upcoming Events in the Houston Area:

If you have the time and would like to expand your horticultural activities, take note of the following announcements.

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 meeting is January 8, 2015

Bromeliad Society/Houston Inc.

www.bromeliadsocietyhouston.org

Regular meetings are held the third Tuesday of every month at 7:30 PM at the
West Gray Multi-Service Center,
1475 W. Gray St., Houston, TX 77019

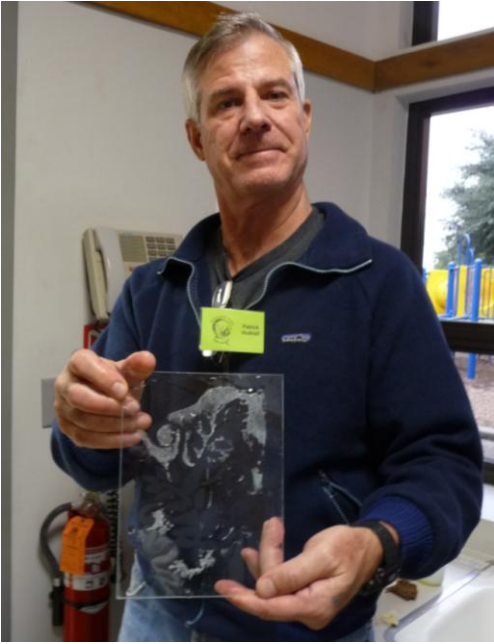
Next regular meeting is January 20, 2015

**“Etching Ferns on Glass”
by Larry Rucker**



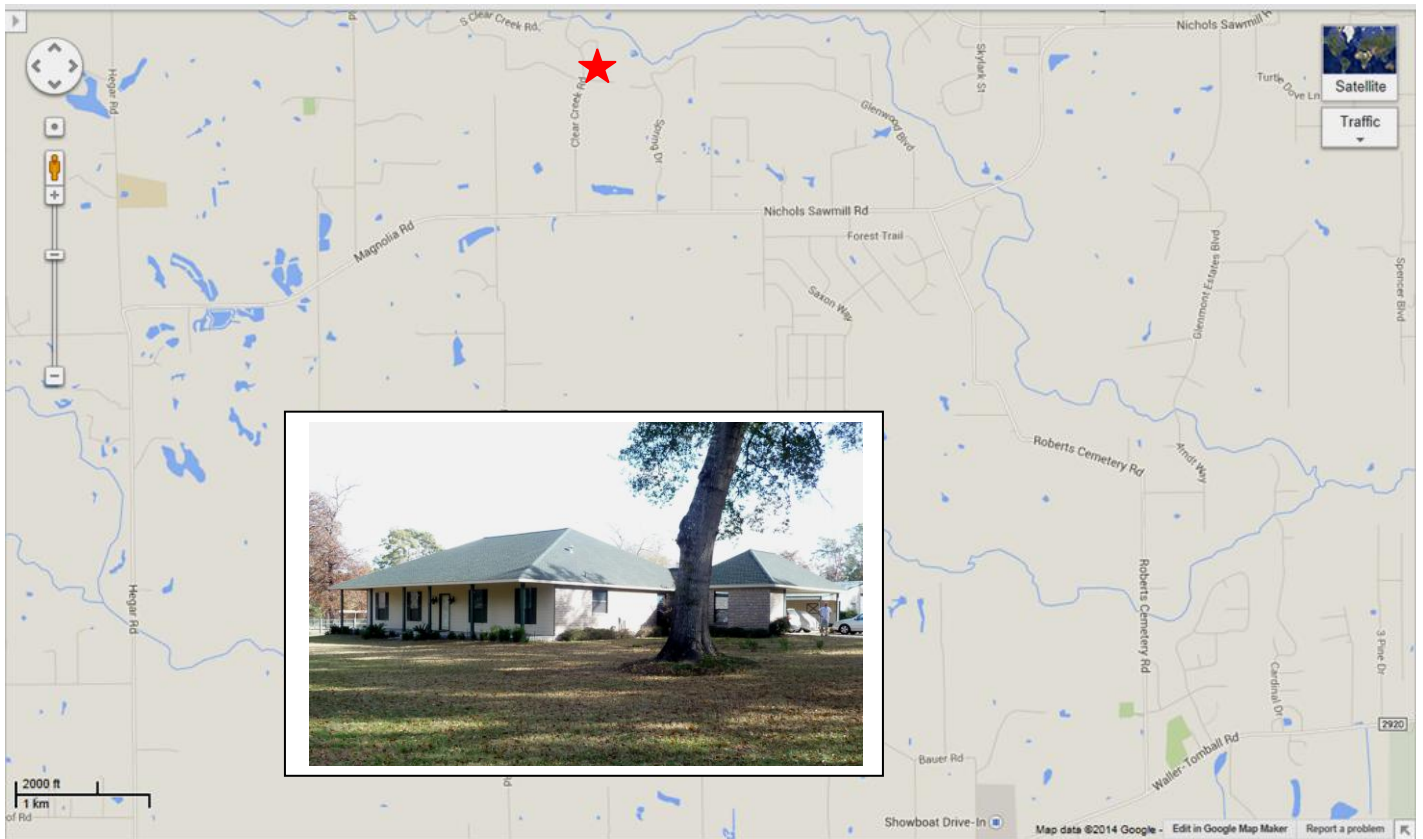
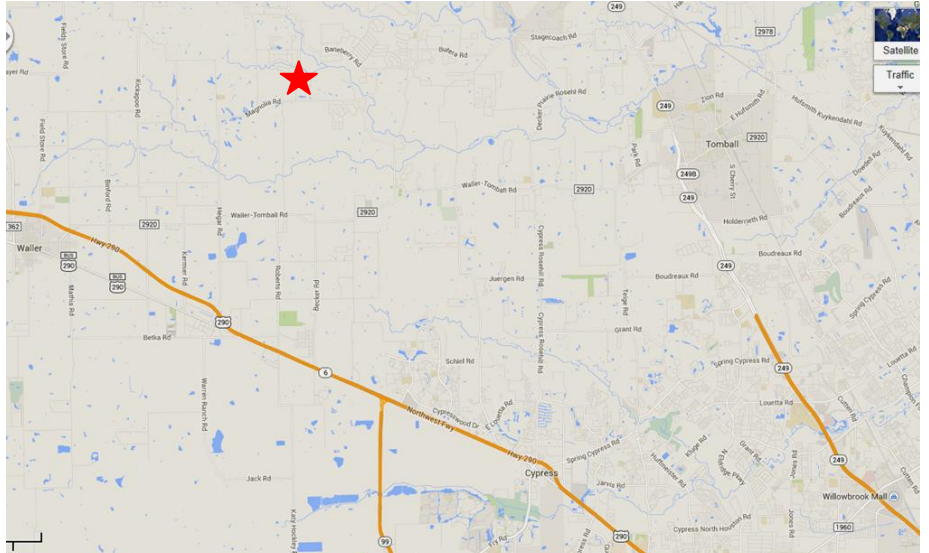
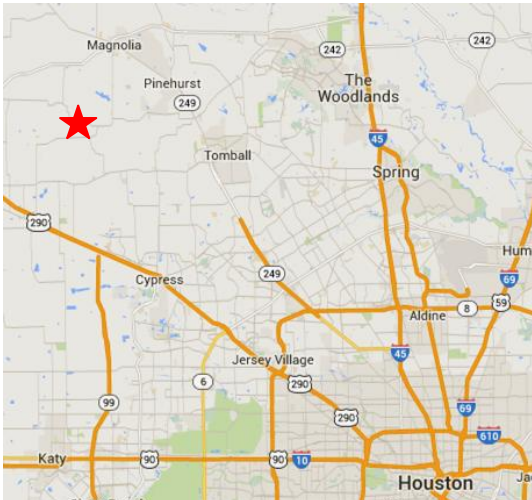
Instructor Larry hard at work





Another wonderful raffle!

Holiday Party – December 14th at 1 PM
Frank and Cherie Lee's Home
24672 Pine Ridge Road, Hockley, Texas 77447
936-372-2728 or 832-566-5786



From Tomball (249):

- West on FM 290 (Waller-Tomball Rd) for 8.2 miles
- Turn right on Roberts Cemetery Rd for 3.3 miles
- Turn left on Nichols Sawmill Rd for 1.7 miles
- Turn right on Clear Creek Rd for 0.6 miles
- House on northeast corner of Clear Creek and Pine Ridge

From 290:

- Take Hegar Rd exit and turn right on Hegar Rd for 5.2 miles
- Turn right on Magnolia Rd for 2.2 miles
- Turn left on Clear Creek Rd for 0.6 miles
- House on northeast corner of Clear Creek and Pine Ridge