



June 2016

Vol. 18 No. 6

<http://www.tgcfersoc.org>

Next Regular Meeting: Sunday, June 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!

Let's remember this cool wet weather this summer when it's 100 degrees and hasn't rained in six weeks. I know it's been difficult trying to get out and work in the yard without sinking or getting hit by lightning. North side has gotten the bulk of this last storm I know we got 15" in 24 hours, but the good news for us was it drained off in 24 hours too. Unfortunately for the south side of town that got the down line runoff water and it lasted for days. I do hope all our members are safe and have no property damage.

It was so nice to have Alejandra Vasco come from Mexico City to speak to our group. Her information on the regions in Mexico and the type of ferns that grow in each of those regions taught me a lot. I'm ready to take her up on her offer to go to Mexico and join a field trip. The good news is her husband is moving to Dallas and could move to Houston so we might be seeing more of Alejandra in our society in the future. I would like to thank Lisa George and her family for hosting Alejandra and hosting the reception for her, unfortunately it rained and we did not have many come. We lost power but the few that were there had a very good time. On Monday, four of us (Adam Black, Craig Jackson, Lisa George, and I) took Alejandra to the Big Thicket before she needed to catch her flight home. We saw several ferns and lots of other plants and got to get a good feel for what the thicket must have felt like back in the days of old, lots of mosquitoes and rain. It was a good field trip!

This month we have a hands-on program with Joan Hudson from Sam Houston State University. She will be bringing microscopes and we will be looking at gametophytes. Those who want to take a look and see how yours are doing from our March meeting, bring one along. We can discuss the process and talk about the next stages. Bring your hand lens too. Come early and

help set up. We will be in our normal room with the kitchen. For more information, see the Program article.

The refreshments have been great! Thank you. Please take a peek at the list for this month and see if you want to bring something extra. Thank you everyone! The Raffle has been wonderful. Not only does it give someone a chance to grow a new plant, but it helps pay for speakers and the supplies for our programs. Your contributions are well noted!

I have been asked for T-shirts again, so if you would like to order a T-shirt please let me know.

Take care everyone,

Darla



Please Welcome Our New Member:

Adam Black



Editor's Note

My apologies for not getting the June Newsletter out on time but the electrical storms got to my computer, printer, and internet. I am sending out this late condensed version to document the meetings, minutes, etc. for the record. I hope to follow with July's Newsletter shortly.

Again my apologies,
Cherie Lee, Editor, *TGCF S Newsletter*



Fern Gametophyte Growth & Development by Joan Hudson

We have been fortunate to have had Joan Hudson speak to our group before and teach us some of the things she teaches her students at Sam Houston University in her botany class. So she always has something growing in a Petri dish to show us. Lucky for us one of her favorite topics is gametophyte development. So since this is a near and dear topic you're sure to enjoy her enthusiasm and knowledge on the subject.

This is going to be a great follow up meeting to our March meeting when we put down spore. Joan is going to bring microscopes and we will be able to look at gametophytes and see what we should be looking for. She will be discussing the full sporophyte to gametophyte to sporophyte reproduction process that is so unique to ferns and lycophytes. It is truly amazing how it all works and is one of the key things that separate ferns from the bryophytes and the seed plants.

Please feel free to bring one of your boxes to look at and see if your gametophytes are off to a good start.

See you then!

Submitted by: Darla Harris



Up and Coming Attractions:

2016:

June 19: "Fern Gametophyte Growth & Development"
by Joan Hudson

July 17: "Exploring Taiwan's Fern Diversity"
by Adam Black

Aug 21: Summer Party
at Larry Rucker's home

Sept 18: Annual Plant Swap

Oct 16: Cheilanthoid ferns
by George Yatskievych, Ph.D.
Botanist, Curator, Plant Resources Center,
University of Texas at Austin

Nov 20: "Fern Holiday Ornaments"
by Larry Rucker (hands on, cost TBD)

Dec 11: Holiday Party
at Biruta Claunch's home

Submitted by: Lisa George & Larry Rucker, VPs



2016 Dues

If you have not renewed your membership for 2016, 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.



2016 Officers and Committees:

President:	Darla Harris
Vice President:	Lisa George and Larry Rucker
Secretary:	Diane Hudnall
Treasurer:	Mary McConnell
Board Members-at-Large:	Biruta Claunch Terri Dolney 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:	Larry Rucker
- Raffle, Store, etc.	
Web Master:	Malcolm McCorquodale
Welcoming at Door:	Beth Ayer and Marcia Livingston



Refreshments:

Refreshments for May were generously provided by:

Drinks: Beth Ayer, Cherie Lee, Rodolfo Reyes
Savory: Ruth McDonald, Larry Rucker
Fruit: Diane Hudnall
Desserts: Beth Ayer, Cherie Lee, Lucy Melara,
Jacqueline Smith, Brenda Wilson
Service ware: Cherie Lee

Refreshments for June will be generously furnished by:

Drinks: Beth Ayer
Savory: Biruta Claunch, Mary McConnell
Desserts: Darla Harris
Service ware: Ruth McDonald

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 2016. Come out and enjoy some really delicious food!



May Raffle Results:

Thank you to our Donors: Raini & Bret Cunningham, Will Fleming, Pat Foreman, Pat Hudnall, Craig Jackson, Jan Kramer, Cherie & Frank Lee, Lu Lu Leonard, Larry Rucker, Donna & Johnny Williams, and Brenda Wilson

Congratulations to the Winners: Beth Ayer, Martha Burg, Biruta Claunch, Pat Foreman, Jan Kramer, Cherie Lee, Mary McConnell, Jere Noerager, Rodolfo Reyes, Fred Robinson, and Jacqueline Smith



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. 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 Ruth McDonald at rmmcdonald0@gmail.com or 979-530-6186 prior to the meeting to make sure it will be available.



Texas Gulf Coast Fern society General Meeting May 15, 2016

The general meeting was held at the Judson Robinson Jr. Community Center, Houston, Texas. The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm by President Darla Harris.

General: Darla opened the meeting by thanking Beth Ayer, Marsha Livingston, and Cherie Lee for putting together the membership booklets. Darla also said the field trip last month to Peckerwood Gardens was absolutely fantastic, great weather and a great host. The Director of Horticulture at Peckerwood, Adam Black, will be giving the presentation at our July meeting.

Cherie Lee mentioned that she will be out next month and asked for volunteers to take pictures. No one has offered yet.

Darla announced that Ruth McDonald has taken over as librarian and thanked her for taking the position and also thanked Frank Lee for his time as librarian.

Program: Darla thanked Lisa George and her entire family for hosting this month's speaker, Alejandra Vasco, and for organizing the reception at her home the previous evening. She said the food was delicious. Alejandra is currently a professor at the University of Mexico in Mexico City. Her talk was on the Ferns and Lycophytes of Mexico. She covered mostly ferns in the moist regions and left her email in case anyone would like to contact her or visit, a.ascog@gmail.com.

Attendance: 35 members were present.

Raffle: \$107.00

Submitted by:

Diane J. Hudnall, secretary



Editor's Comments

**Deadline for the July Newsletter is July 2, 2016.
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:
July 7, 2016

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:
July 19, 2016

“Ferns and Lycopytes of Mexico” presented by Alejandra Vasco



Alejandra Vasco



Reception at the George's