



December 2016

Vol. 18 No. 12

<http://www.tgcfersoc.org>

**Holiday Party: Sunday, December 11, at 1:00 p. m. – Biruta Claunch's Home,
3231 Village Falls Ct., Kingwood, TX 77339 - Phone: (281) 358-8717 (H), (832) 541-5242 (C)**

A message from our President:

Hi Everyone.

As this year comes to a close, I can't help but think about all my friends at the Fern Society and sadly the ones we have lost too. We have the best group of people: friendly, willing to help each other out, the best cooks and willing to bring goodies to our meetings and parties, sharing their plants both in gifts and in raffles, and those willing to give us great programs even on short notice. The willingness to support our Society is overwhelming!! Thank you, each of you! You all make our club Great!

Don't forget this is the month for our Party at Biruta Claunch's house in Kingwood, map further in the newsletter! We will be meeting a week earlier than normal this month, the 11th of December and also an hour earlier so 1pm! We will be having a traditional winter feast, so please check with Raini Cunningham or Ruth McDonald to help fill out our menu. We also have a gift exchange for those who would like to participate. It should be wrapped, plant/fern related, and in the \$10-\$20 price range. It's always fun to take a nice gift home with you so I hope you will join in, but you don't have to. Biruta is an avid gardener and has been a member of both the Humble and Kingwood Garden Clubs for many years so there will be lots to see at her home. Thank you for your hospitality Biruta!

I hope everyone enjoyed our decorating of the balls. Haha... Larry Rucker put on another fun project for us and we always try to work ferns in and I think it was a big success! Everyone did such a wonderful job of creating their own designs. I'm going to put some clear paint on mine so I can keep it much longer. Great job!

I would like to thank the nominating committee for presenting a slate of officers to the Society for the membership to pass without discussion. I would like to thank the outgoing officers for a job well done! Special thanks to Mary McConnell who served as Treasurer for the past four years.

Arranging the programs for next year has started. In January we will be doing a project on etching ferns into a picture frame. Larry Rucker will lead this program and all items will be provided free for members and \$5.00 for non-members. So again come dressed for fun!

February we will be putting terrariums together. We will also be addressing how to maintain the terrarium after it is put together. If anyone has ferns they would like to share with the group from one of our past programs, this would be wonderful. I hope we will be able to get 3 or 4 different ferns for everyone. Please think about your container and bring it with you. The Society will provide plants, medium, and charcoal for members free, \$10.00 for non members.

We will have programs for more months filled by next newsletter so you can mark your calendars. If you have any suggestions on programs, please let Larry Rucker know. This will be another fun and educational year with ferns of all kinds.

Let's hope for a mild winter and see you at the party.

Darla



November Raffle Donors:

Thank you to our Donors: Bret & Raini Cunningham, Will Fleming, Darla Harris, Chuck Hudson, Jan Kramer, Fred Robinson, Larry Rucker, Faye Stansberry, and Cecil Strange

Congratulations to the Winners: Biruta Claunch, Bret Cunningham, Will Fleming, Darla Harris, Jan Kramer, Frank Lee, Ruth McDonald, Fred Robinson, Faye Stansberry, Cecil Strange, Donna Williams, Johnny Williams



Up and Coming Attractions:

2016:

Dec 11: Holiday Party – 1 PM
at Biruta Claunch’s home

2017:

Jan 15: “Etching Ferns on Glass”
by Larry Rucker

Feb 19: “Building a Terrarium”
by Darla Harris

Mar 19: “The Enigmatic Horsetails:
Ancient Plants in the Modern World”
by Chad Husby

Apr : Field Trip – date and location TBD

Submitted by: Larry Rucker, VP



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. Biruta Claunch
Web Master: Malcolm McCorquodale
Welcoming at Door: Beth Ayer and
Marcia Livingston



2017 Dues

If you have not renewed your membership for 2017, 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.



Refreshments:

Refreshments for November were generously furnished by:

Biruta Claunch, Raini Cunningham, Diane Hudnall, Joy Hudson, Jan Kramer, Cherie Lee, Ruth McDonald, Susan Peacock, Betsy Robinson, Larry Rucker, Cecil Strange, and Donna Williams

December will be our Holiday Party. Ruth McDonald and Raini Cunningham are organizing the feast so please let them know what delectable dish you plan to bring.

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 2017. Come out and enjoy some really delicious food!



Editor’s Comments

Deadline for the January Newsletter is December 30, 2016. Thanks.

Cherie Lee, Editor, *TGCFS Newsletter*



Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society General Meeting Minutes - November 20, 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 asking Bret Cunningham to review the nominated officers for 2017. Bret detailed the 2017 officers – Darla Harris for president, Larry Rucker for Vice President, Diane Hudnall for Secretary, Beth Ayer for Treasurer, and Terry Dolney and Johnny Williams for Board members-at-large. Darla asked if anyone opposed the elections and then asked for motion to accept. Motion to accept the new board members was granted and approved.

Darla reminded everyone that there would be a board meeting after the regular meeting. She also reminded the group that next month was the Holiday party at Biruta Claunch's home. Biruta's address is 3231 Village Falls Court. Address and directions will be in next month's newsletter. The signup sheet was sent around for food and refreshments

Program: Larry explained the project for this month. We all made a Christmas ornament using butterfly, bird and fern napkins.

Attendance: 25 members attended

Raffle: \$64 raised selling raffle tickets

Brushes: \$3 raised for brushes.

Submitted by: Diane J. Hudnall, Secretary



Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society Board Meeting – November 20, 2016

The Board meeting was held at the Judson Robinson Jr. Community Center, Houston, Texas. The meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm by President Darla Harris.

Income and expenses: Current ending balance is approximately \$9,000.

Meeting: Darla called the meeting to order and thanked all for their service during 2016. She talked about the potential speakers lined up for next year. Mary McConnell suggested additional speakers because the balance in the account was approximately \$9,000.

Attendance: Darla Harris, Cherie Lee, Larry Rucker, Mary McConnell, Biruta Claunch and Diane Hudnall

Submitted by: Diane J. Hudnall, 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.



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 5, 2017

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 17, 2017

“Fern Holiday Ornaments”

by Larry Rucker



Our instructor Larry Rucker hard at work



Artists at work



Teamwork



Multi-tasking

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