



October 2018

Vol. 20 No. 10

<http://www.tgcfersoc.org>

Next Regular Meeting: Sunday, October 21, 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!

Wow! Fall is in the air! It is nice to have a little cooler weather to be able to get out and work on our yards and start getting everything ready for winter. I do hate winter! We are so unpredictable on our winter weather that it is difficult to prepare for. So I always plan on the coldest and hope for the warmest and see what nature will deliver us! It looks like we will be spared a hurricane this year. With the cool fronts headed this far south, they don't normally form for us once this happens. We will see! Time to get your ground hardy ferns planted. I was holding off just a little to make sure we were not going to get flooding rains from a storm. Yes it could still happen, but getting less likely. I have been adding evergreen ferns into my landscape even though I love to see those new crosiers push up to tell us spring is here. So I'm going to be about a 50/50 mix of evergreen and deciduous ferns. I have been testing some new ferns for our area to see if they will take our summer heat and our winters and come through happy. I'll keep you posted. You should see some pop up on the raffle table this next year.

Our September meeting was wonderful. I know I'm ready to head off to Nepal! What I really enjoyed was the overlap and direct correlation to Texas. That really makes you think about additional ferns that should do well for us in our climate. What a beautiful and diverse country with so much in common with our state in terms of population, plant numbers, etc. The fact we only have a fifth of the ferns that Nepal has was amazing! Wow, wouldn't have thought the mountain terrain would have made such a big difference in the fern types. We did know that our piney woods do not have the number of ferns a deep west Texas has, but who knew that part of that was due to the mountains, with different elevation, drainage, and soil types. I hope everyone enjoyed this

talk as much as I did. Thank you George Yatskievych for bringing this far away country home to us! Also for bringing us some additional resources for our library!! Thank you!

October is a busy month for us with the fern society. We have our Plant Swap at this month's meeting. All the details are in the program note so please read it so you bring the right number of plants. We also have our nominating committee to set up so we can have nominations for next year's officers for our November elections. We are always looking for new perspective and ideas to keep our society a fun, educational, and warm society. As we move forward to our next 20 years, we want it to go as smoothly as the past 20 years have gone. This society belongs to all of us so please take part and share in the responsibilities. Please make yourselves available to share in the work load of setting up the rooms, setting up the refreshment table, handing out supplies for projects, etc. The doors open at 1PM and we start the meeting at 2 PM so that's not long to have everything ready. If we all come a little early and help, we can all have time to talk to each other and enjoy the meeting. Don't forget we are looking for a hospitality chair to help out with the refreshment list each month and folks to help out with the raffle and help with unloading and loading supplies for the meeting. Lots of little things have to be done at every meeting to make it work smoothly. Please help!

For the November meeting we will be putting our new little sporophytes from the spore we put down in June up into larger containers. I hope out of the three containers of spore everyone made they have one they can bring with them to learn how to do this. We will have containers and soil ready for you. Patrick Hudnall will be helping on this and I hope everyone that has grown or currently grows from spore will take a turn talking about their experience both in success and failure. We will have more information in next month's newsletter on what you need to bring. This

should be a great meeting. We have not done this before, but we feel a little help to that next stage would be a great way to help with success of the project!

We need a volunteer for our Holiday Party!!!! We had a volunteer back in the early part of the year, but we forgot who had said they would love to host. Please get with me and let me know if you are willing to have our group over to enjoy your home and plants! The refreshment list will be on the table so we can start getting everything ready for the party!!! Don't forget to look for something special for the gift exchange.

See you soon and happy gardening!

Darla



October Program Plant Swap

It's TIME.... for our annual Plant Swap. Our October meeting will be our plant swap and the rules are as follows: each member may bring up to **five** plants or plant related items. Please bring established plants and no cuttings to trade. We will give out a number to each participating member and draw to see who gets to select first. After that, the person who picks next will be the one who brought the item selected by the first person. The third person to pick will be the one who brought the item selected by the second person and so on until everything is chosen. So you want to bring something that everyone wants so they will choose your item and then it will be your turn to choose. Your items do not have to be ferns, but ferns are always good. Any plants, or plant related items are welcome. This is always fun and getting to take home some new treasures makes it extra special.

Due to the Plant Swap, there will be **NO RAFFLE**.

Submitted by: Darla Harris



Up and Coming Attractions:

2018:

Oct 21: Plant Swap

Nov 18: "Moving Up Our Sporophytes"
by Darla Harris & Patrick Hudnall

Dec: Holiday Party
location to be determined

Submitted by: Larry Rucker, VP



Please Welcome Our New Members

Mary & Doug Rutherford



Statement of Income & Expenses July 1, 2018 to September 30, 2018

INCOME

Membership dues	\$ 220.00
Raffle Income	167.00
Projects	100.00
Bank Interest	0.44
Total:	\$ 487.44

EXPENSES

Program Expenses	\$ 115.00
Total:	\$ 115.00

Balance 12-31-2017: \$9,283.77

Balance 6-30-2018: \$9,553.57

Balance 9-30-2018: \$9,926.01

Net Gain Loss for 3rd Qtr: \$ 372.44

Net Gain Loss for 2018: \$ 642.24

Submitted by Beth Ayer, Treasurer



Refreshments:

Refreshments for September were generously furnished by:

Beth Ayer, Darla Harris, Ruth McDonald, Rodolfo Reyes, Betsy Robinson, Larry Rucker, and Donna Williams

Refreshments for October will be generously furnished by:

Drinks: Beth Ayer
Dessert: Ceil Dow
Savory: Marcia Livingston, Ruth McDonald
Service ware: Ruth McDonald

Please let Raini Cunningham, bnrc@xmission.com / 801-891-2254, or Ruth McDonald, rmcdonald0@gmail.com / 979-530-6186, know if you can help with the refreshments for any months in 2018. Come out and enjoy some really delicious food!



**Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society
September 16, 2018**

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

General Meeting:

President, Darla Harris, asked for a volunteer to chair the nominating committee. No one volunteered so she will be contacting members about this position. At the October meeting two additional members will be asked to serve with the chairperson on that committee.

Darla said someone had previously volunteered to host the Holiday party, but that name has been lost. She asked that the member who volunteered please contact her.

We need a new hospitality person to help Raini Cunningham with refreshments for each meeting. Please let Darla know if you are willing to help.

Darla thanked people who brought items for the raffle table. She reminded us to sign the raffle and refreshment lists.

Program:

Darla then introduced our guest speaker who was George Yatskiyevych, a botanist from the Plant Resources Center at the University of Texas at Austin where he is currently the curator for the herbarium. His talk with slide show was entitled, "A Fine Fern Field Trip to Nepal". It was extremely informative, and he showed beautiful slides of plants and countryside seen on that trip. Nepal is a unique and fascinating country comprised mainly of the Himalayas. Because of the great variations in elevation and climate, it contains a vast assortment of lovely ferns.

Questions followed the lecture and members were invited to look at some of the many books our speaker brought from his collection.

Raffle:

The raffle was then held, and we had many happy recipients of great raffle items. The raffle brought in \$81 for the club.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Williams, Secretary



October Book Review

Tree Ferns

Large, M. F., & Braggins, J. E. (2004)
Portland, USA: Timber Press

Tree Ferns was written by Dr. Large (currently a professor at Unitec Institute of Technology, Auckland, NZ and botanical consultant for the BBC TV series, *Walking with Dinosaurs*) and John Braggins (formerly a botany professor at the University of Auckland, NZ). Barbara Joe Hoshizaki wrote a very positive review in *Pacific Horticulture*, saying "*Tree Ferns* was not intended to be an identification manual. Its primary purpose is to stimulate interest, expand our knowledge, and bring us up to date on important findings about these elegant plants; for this, the authors are to be commended."

If you have a chance, check out this book from our library. For those fern lovers who also appreciate Mexican folk art, look at the photo on page 173 which shows some artistic by-products of *Cyathea bicrenata*.

Submitted by: Ruth McDonald



2018 Officers and Committees:

President:	Darla Harris
Vice President:	Larry Rucker
Secretary:	Donna Williams
Treasurer:	Beth Ayer
Board Members-at-Large:	Jacqueline Smith Johnny Williams 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



2018 Membership Dues

Renewals for 2018 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.



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.



Editor's Comments

Deadline for the November Newsletter is October 31, 2018. 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:
October 16, 2018

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 is:
November 1, 2018