



June 2022

Vol. 24 No. 6

<http://www.tgcfersoc.org>

Our meeting this month will be our annual Summer Party – 2 pm. Our hosts will be Lisa and William George. Please consult your Membership Directory for their address

A message from our President:

Howdy everyone,

It sure has been a dry start to the summer in my garden. City water is a poor substitute for rain.

This month's meeting will be our annual Summer Party. The date has been moved forward a day to Saturday the 18th of June. Lisa and William George will be hosting this year. Their address can be found in the 2019 Membership Directory. It's always nice to visit other member's homes. Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend. I will be out of town on that date and I will certainly miss seeing all of you and enjoying the great food.

Refreshments and visiting go hand in hand. Often times it is challenging when not knowing who or how many members and guests will be attending our meetings and this party. We need to contact Larry Rucker and let him know what we plan to bring so he doesn't have to go out and buy the food for us. Please contact Larry Rucker by phone text or email and let him know what you plan on bringing. Larry's contact information is 832-453-2992 and herbie39L@att.com. Put his phone number in your contact list so it's an easy call each month. And **please** don't wait till the last minute. Contact Larry ASAP and let him know your intended refreshment contribution. We don't have to bring a lot of things, but if everyone will bring something then the burden is a shared one! Ten people bring one thing is easier than one person bringing ten things.

It sure was nice to get back together with many of our members at the May meeting. I found the presentation by George Diggs very interesting and informative. I was surprised to see how many ferns and lycophytes are found in Texas. It was interesting to learn why Texas has such a high diversity of ferns and lycophytes. Darla and Joe did a great job on the computer technology to make the blended meeting top notch.

Looking ahead, July's meeting at the Judson Robinson Center will feature Lewis Feldman PhD as speaker and presenter. The subject will be on the Gardens at UC Berkeley. The presentation will use blended technology like the May meeting.

And Darla advises that on August 21, we will have a Hands-on presentation on kokedama

We are truly fortunate to have top tier fern experts sharing a bit of their knowledge with our Fern Society.

Patrick



2022 Officers and Committees:

- President: Patrick Hudnall
- Vice President: Lisa George
- Secretary: Ceil Dow
- Treasurer: Beth Ayer
- Board Members-at-Large: Darla Harris (Past Pres)
Jacqueline Smith
Malcolm McCorquodale
- Education Chair: Darla Harris
- Hospitality Chair: Larry Rucker
- Library: Betsy and Fred Robinson
- Membership Chair: Ruby Adams
- Newsletter: Paul Geiger
- Spore Exchange: Patrick Hudnall
- Ways and Means: Larry Rucker
- Raffle, Store, etc. Rick Dow
- Web Master: Malcolm McCorquodale
- Welcoming at Door: Faye Stansberry



Dues! Dues! Dues!

Reminder: Dues are due for 2022.

As of January 1, 2022, Ruby Adams is handling membership. She may be contacted at: radams13@sbcglobal.net or cell 281.830.4633



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/>



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Signing up is easy!



Actiniopteris semiflabella

By Patrick Hudnall



Photo by Pat Hudnall

Here's how to sign up and shop at AmazonSmile:

1. Visit smile.amazon.com
2. Sign in with your Amazon username and password.
3. Then either go to "Your Account", and under the box "Shopping programs and rentals", select the option to "Change Your Charity"; or you can also hover your mouse over the small arrow next to the charity you are currently supporting and click Change.
4. Type Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society into the search and then click select.
5. Start shopping! You can add a bookmark for smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.



I was the Society's Librarian for some time and enjoyed the opportunity to scan through all the books. Then one day I saw a fern for sale at a local nursery which I recalled from a couple of those books. It was the *Actiniopteris semiflabella* or "Eyelash Fern". I made the mistake of not reading and comparing different references on the plant's cultivation. Perhaps that wasn't important because descriptions for care can vary a fair amount. Before I had even learned to pronounce the plant's Latin name it had died. Oops! Recently I've seen these little ferns become available again at a local nursery. So, I picked one up and decided to give it another try. This time I read up on its care. The instructions seemed rather contradictory. It naturally grows in rock crevices in dry to arid climates, as D.L. Jones writes. Others say it is a xeric fern but likes its roots damp. They say it likes high humidity but doesn't like its fronds to get wet. Most all writers include comments that ~ "They are somewhat tricky to grow". Not to be easily dissuaded, I am determined to add this plant to my collection of odd ferns. If I fail with this one on my bench outside, I will try it in a terrarium. So, I invite you to try growing ferns other than what you find at the *Big Box* stores. And if you fail, read up and try again.



San Diego Fern Society Announcement

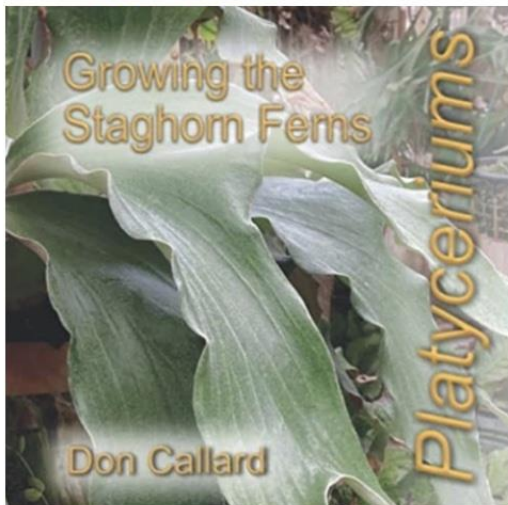
This announcement is submitted by Darla Harris, our Education chair. Dan has spoken to our society twice.

San Diego Fern Society is publishing a new book on *Platyceriums*! This project shares from Don Callard's many years of growing experiences with the various species, and includes over 50 color photos of staghorn ferns mostly from the collections of Don and other members of San Diego Fern Society.

Platyceriums

Growing the staghorn ferns

Don Callard



Available on Amazon books