

TROPICAL FERN AND EXOTIC PLANT SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, Issue 9

January 2020

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year to all of our members!

I hope your holidays were as delicious and delightful as mine. I'm looking forward to an excellent 2020, but I'd like to give you a quick recap of the end of 2019.

For those of you who came to our last regular meeting, I'm sorry that we could not get the audio-visual system to work in order to hear and see the presentation that was scheduled. The speakers, Kristiana St. Claire and Dallas Hanson, will be returning this month to give that presentation, and I hope you will be able to attend. For those of you that didn't make it to the November meeting, you didn't miss much!

Thank you to everyone that came to the holiday party in December. We held it jointly with the Tropical Flowering Tree Society and in my opinion it was fantastic. It was wonderful to have a mix of plant-loving members from both societies, delectable food and drinks, and to share in their tradition of a silent auction and poinsettia plant raffle. I'd like to thank everyone that brought food and/or auction items, as well as our guitarist Rob Friedman for providing delightful music.

Our last bit of old business, which actually brings us to the present, was the election of our Board. I'm the President for another year. We still technically have a vacancy for Vice President, but Ellis Brown has stepped up to be temporary VP. I'd like to thank our outgoing VP Mike Twyford for providing us with wonderful speakers this past year.

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I invite all of our members to contribute their suggestions, along with contact information, for future speakers. Thank you to our outgoing membership secretary, Sherrin Smith, for everything you have done as membership chair for TFEPS! We have a new board member, Kristin Cadavieco, who has taken over Membership, and is also actively contributing to VP duties and taking over some of Marnie's past responsibilities (we need more people like her!) Thanks to everyone else on the board and committees for continuing to do what you've been doing.

I'm definitely forgetting something or someone, so please forgive me. For all the newsworthy bits of TFEPS news, come to the meeting (or possibly scroll further down this newsletter)!

Hope to see you all soon,

Arielle

• MEETING REMINDER •

Monday, January 27, 2020 at 7:30 pm in the Garden House

Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden , Corbin A

10901 Old Cutler Road, Coral Gables, Florida

Speakers: Kristiana St. Claire and Dallas Hanson

Refreshments will be served

TFEPS
2019 HOLIDAY PARTY

The TFEPS joined our friends in the Tropical Flowering Tree Society for a very well attended and delightful holiday party on December 9th. The crowd descended like locusts on the appetizer table but thankfully there was plenty of excellent food served up for dinner to sate even the biggest gluttons. And the culinary skills of many members was on fine display with not only excellent preparation of standard American fare, but also some international treats that ranged from tamales from Cuba to kimchi from Korea.

THANKS to everyone who contributed to the excellent fare included in our food offerings!

Presidents Arielle Simon and Jessica Cabrera did fine jobs of orchestrating the event and guests has plenty of time to socialize before, during, and after dinner as the beautiful guitar music of Rob Friedman drifted through the air. There were also many interesting plants and other items available for a silent auction, and Paul Gehrke supplied exotic poinsettias that served first as decorations and then as door prizes in a raffle.

The evening ended with an excellent dessert table and guests didn't seem to need any reminders of "What does being full have to do with dessert?" I felt compelled to sample many of the offerings that included the word "chocolate" and all of them were winners. The fare included a wide variety of desserts and all were excellent from the accounts I heard. As usual, Lenny Goldstein's cheesecake was one of the first desserts to run out, and missing that has me already looking forward to our 2020 event!

Regards,

Steve Pearson

TFEPS Scholarship Program

TFEPS has just concluded the first year of its scholarship program. Initially a committee of two, Lenny Goldstein and myself came together to create the guidelines for the process. Many meetings later and almost a year after the initial meeting, we had the focus of the philanthropy, the timeframe, guidelines, announcement document, and application document.

We felt the Society could do the most good with its philanthropy by focusing on student scholarships. Once the applications began to come back to us, we asked Georgia Tasker to come on board to help us decide who would be recognized this year. There were eight applicants representing both FIU and Miami Dade College.

In this our inaugural year, the committee awarded 3 students; congratulations to **Tatiana Loch**, **Brittany Harris** and **Blaire Kleiman**. Each received \$500.00 towards their education.

Kudos, also, to you, members of the TFEPS, who voted and approved of this philanthropic activity by our society. It is a positive, generous way to help others, allocating some of our resources to their academic endeavors.

Regards,

Martha Kent

- It's that time of year - annual membership dues are due. It would be appreciated if you use the attached 2020 application for your renewal—please fill it in and include with your payment, sending both to Bob Benaim.

Thank you



**Tropical Fern and Exotic Plant Society and
Tropical Flowering Tree Society Holiday Party**

Left to Right

***Corey Burchfield, Adam Pollak (TFTS vice president), Arielle Simon
(TFEPS president), Marc Gingras, Jessica Cabrera (TFTS president),
Paul Marcellini***



ABOVE

Rhipsalis Baccifera (mistletoe cactus) 2019 Second Place

TFEPS 2019 Plant Show and Sale

BELOW

Neomarica 2019 Second Place



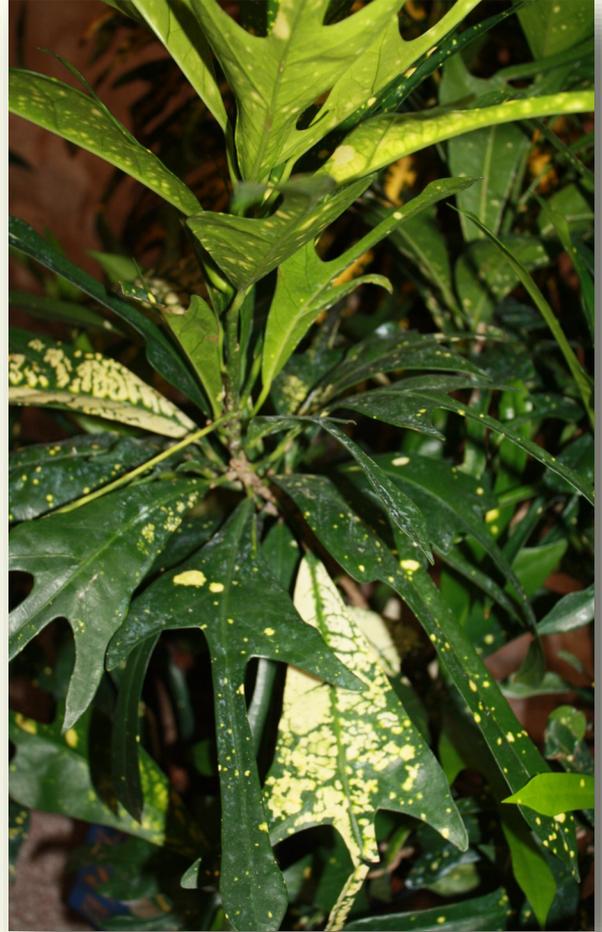


ABOVE **Neoreglia "Picasso"** 2019 Second Place

TFEPS 2019 Plant Show and Sale

BELOW **Cryptanthus "Very Cold Tooth"**





Croton Arrowhead

TFEPS 2019 Show and Sale

2019 Best in Show Croton

2019 First Place

Plant Show and Sale photos by Janet Reed



MOUNTING PLAQUES

Made of 1" x 3" Pressure Treated Lumber

12' x 12" - \$10.00 15' x 15" - \$13.00

18' x 18" - \$17.00 24" x 24" - \$25.00

Contact—Bob Benaim 305-793-9755 or,

bobbenaim@gmail.com



Impatiens Mirabilis 2019 First Place

TFEPS 2019 Show and Sale

Events Calendar:

-  **14th Annual Chocolate Garden - January 24-26, 2020 at**
Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, 10901 Old Cutler Road, Coral Gables
-  **17th Annual Fine Arts Festival - January 25-26, 2020 at**
Pinecrest Gardens, 11000 Red Road, Pinecrest
-  **BayCrest Music & Food Festival - January 26, 2020 at**
Palmetto Bay Park, 17535 SW 95 Avenue, Palmetto Bay
[US 1 at SW 175 Street] Tickets at BayCrestFestival.com
[all proceeds to benefit The Brothers Project]
-  **Artist Charles Ellis exhibit “Beautiful Chaos”**
January 28—March 8, 2020 at
Miami Beach Botanic Garden, 2000 Convention Center Drive, Miami Beach



Membership Application - 2020

We offer 4 different memberships options:

Yearly dues are
for calendar year – January - December

_____ \$ 15.00 for individual

_____ \$ 17.00 for two members at the same address

Lifetime:

_____ \$ 125.00 for individual

_____ \$ 150.00 for two members at the same address

This is for a New Membership: _____ or for Renewals

Please Print

Name: _____

Phone: H or C: _____

E-mail: _____

Name: _____

Phone: H or C: _____

E-mail: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State: _____

Zip Code + 4: _____ + _____

H – Home Phone C – Cell Phone

Enclose check payable to: TFEPS

Please mail to: TFEPS – Membership
P.O. Box 902094
Homestead, Florida 33090-2094

2020 OFFICERS:

President: **Arielle Simon (305) 588-5026**

Vice President: **Ellis Brown (305) 484-7997**

Secretary: **Leonard Goldstein (305) 873-4105**

Treasurer: **Bob Benaim (305) 793-9755**

2019-2020 DIRECTORS at LARGE:

Chad Husby (321) 474-2753

Martha Kent (305) 667-3197

2018-2019 DIRECTORS at LARGE:

Ellis Brown (305) 484-7997

Paul Marcellini (305) 299-0690

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT:

Marni Valent (305) 233-5929

2020 DIRECTORS:

The 2020 TFEPS Board of Directors consists of TFEPS officers, the Immediate Past President, and the Directors at Large.

2020 COMMITTEES:

Hospitality:

Emaly Israel (305) 235-0886

Newsletter Editor:

Janet Reed (305) 510-3891

Membership:

Kristin Cadavieco (305) 934-5990

Raffle Table:

Ralph Hernandez (786) 261-4856

Special Sales:

Marie Nock (305) 232-2257

Show & Sales:

Vivian Waddell (305) 665-5168

Webmaster:

Bob Benaim (305) 793-9755