



August 2005

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<http://www.rwsarchitects.com/fern.htm>

**Next Meeting: Sunday, August 21 at 2:00 p. m. – Social Gathering at the Home of Malcolm McCourquodale
2905 Drexel Drive, 77027 – Phone: (713) 621-6217**

A message from our President:

Hi Everyone,

I hope you are finding a way to keep cool and take care of your gardens. At least we have gotten a little more rain and the humidity is up – good for ferns – if not so good for us!

In the spirit of vacation month, I'm keeping this message short and just want to say I'm looking forward to seeing you all at Malcolm's house this Sunday. Please remember to bring your own serving pieces for your dish. Maybe a light folding chair would help keep you comfortable, also.

Directions to Malcolm's are included with this *Newsletter*.

See ya' Sunday.

Darla



Members: - Spread the word – encourage someone you know to visit us - we always have room for more!

Membership dues:

Individual:	\$10.00
Family:	\$15.00
Student:	\$5.00



Officers and Committees:

President:	Darla Harris
Vice President:	Martha Burg
Secretary:	Patsy Geiger
Treasurer:	Al and Susan Peacock
Board Members at Large:	Ted Richardson, Cecil Strange, Jr. and Larry Rucker
Membership Chair:	Cecil Strange, Jr.
Newsletter:	Paul Geiger
Library:	Patrick Hudnall
Raffles:	Jean Keiser
Hospitality:	Lulu Mae Leonard
Welcoming at Door:	Emma Lee Payne



**Minutes of Meeting
July 17, 2005**

A regular monthly meeting of the TEXAS GULF COAST FERN SOCIETY was held at 2:00 p.m., July 17, 2005 at the

Houston Garden Center in Hermann Park, 1500 Hermann Dr., Houston, TX 77044. President Darla Harris presided.

Darla announced plans are in the works for the first annual fern sale next year. Details are to follow, but Donna McGraw has accepted Chairpersonship and will be conducting a survey to organize it.

Larry Weed of Metairie, Louisiana, was the guest speaker. Although he proclaimed himself an unpolished, nervous speaker, he gave a very entertaining talk on his experiences with raising ferns and assisting several gardening societies he is associated with. He brought along some very interesting "collector's item" ferns that many in attendance had never seen up close. Larry's "collector's item" ferns were not for sale or touching, but with the assistance of his wife, Glenda, he arranged quite a large inventory of ferns that were sold.

Patrick Hudnall won the Member's Raffle.

Refreshments were provided by Patsy and Paul Geiger.

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

Submitted by: Patsy Geiger, Secretary



Treasurer's Report:

**Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society
Statement of Income and Expense
January 1 – July 31, 2005**

Income:

Membership Dues	\$366.00
Sale of Plants	332.00
Raffle Income	245.00
Sale of Books	0.00
Interest Income	<u>4.74</u>
Total Income:	\$947.74

Expense:

Program Expense	\$206.09
Member Education	0.00
Field Trip Expense	0.00
Cost of News Letter	124.32
Raffle Expense	10.00
Bank Printing Charges	<u>0.00</u>
Total Expense:	\$340.41
Net Income:	\$607.33

Cash Balance, Jan. 1, 2005:\$5,444.15

Cash Balance, July 31, 2005:\$6,051.48

Submitted by: Al and Susan Peacock, Treasurers



Visitors

We had six (6) visitors at the July meeting:

Imogene Macias
Pat Foreman
Margaret Brukner
Tony Diager
Bill & Susan Robinson

If you know any of these guests, please encourage them to return.



Library

Don't forget the great resource of information available in our library. At each meeting there are take-home sheets that contain a brief review of available books. Also at each meeting is a wide variety of books available for immediate checkout.



August Social Meeting:

Our August meeting will be a social gathering at the home of Malcolm McCourquodale, 2905 Drexel Drive, 77027. His home is located east of the Galleria, "inside the loop" between Westlayan and the Railroad tracks.

Malcolm advises the following:

From the Galleria: Go east, towards downtown, on Westheimer Road. Cross over the railroad tracks and take a right at the light which will be Drexel Drive. (If you get to Westlayan, you have gone too far). Go about a block and a half and you will see my house.



Upcoming Monthly Meetings

Our guest speaker for the **September 18** meeting is **Linda Gay** of Mercer Arboretum. She will talk on ferns and shade loving plants.

Our speaker for the **October 16** meeting is Robin Moran. We have announced this several times, but it just can't be mentioned enough. **Dr. Robbin Moran** is Curator of Ferns at The New York Botanical Garden. He has published four books and over 70 papers on ferns. He served as the main writer, editor, and organizer for the fern volume of *Flora Mesoamericana*, which is the largest fern flora ever written. He is co-author of the *Ferns and Allied Plants of New England* and the *Fern Grower's Manual*. He recently published (October 2004) a new book with Timber Press, *A Natural History of Ferns*. Robbin has taught fern courses in Costa Rica, Venezuela, Ecuador, and Bolivia, and traveled widely in Latin America, Thailand, and Taiwan. During summers, he co-teaches *Tropical Plant Systematics*, a six-week long course in Costa Rica sponsored by the Organization for Tropical Studies. He also serves as an Associate Editor for *Brittonia* and the *American Fern Journal*, and is a card-carrying member of the New York Mineralogical Club.

