



May 2006

Vol. 8, No. 05

<http://www.tgcfersoc.org>

**Next Regular Meeting: Sunday, May 21, at 2:00 p. m. – Houston Garden Center in Hermann Park, 1500 Hermann Drive, Houston, TX 77044 – Phone: (713) 529-3960**

**A message from our President:**

Hi Everyone!

WOW!!!! We had our first show at the George R. Brown convention Center with the Houston Orchid Society and it was a total success. I want to thank everyone that worked at the show and talked to the public about our ferns and the *Society*. The participation of our members was very good and the plants were wonderful. We had about 100 different ferns, from about 10 different members. Ted Richardson and Larry Rucker laid out our set design and built our lattice columns for the plants to hang from. Larry moved plants around until we got the look we wanted. A picture of the display is placed later in this *Newsletter*. We were awarded a red/white/and blue ribbon from the Orchid Society for recognition of a beautiful and well done presentation of ferns. It took 2 days for set up, but with the help of John, Carroll and Ian we broke down in less than 3 hours.

We would like to welcome our 4 new families who have joined the Fern Society, and hopefully more will join after they have a chance to review our membership information.

The Little Thicket Nature sanctuary had abundant ferns for our April field trip and the weather was very pleasant but not as many made it as we could have enjoyed. Well, maybe next time! The next field trip will not be a hardship on anyone not able to do a lot of walking.

We have speakers for the rest of the year lined up and we will be going over that with you soon.

We will have a new plant of the month at the May meeting. Come join us to learn more on growing some new and different ferns.

We need to have a short board meeting at the May meeting so board members please arrive around 1:00 pm.

As always, I'm looking forward to seeing you at the May meeting,  
Darla

Our Treasurer will be available to collect dues and membership applications at our meetings or you may mail your payments to:

Cecil Strange, Jr.  
12002 Palmton  
Houston, TX 77034

Please make your checks payable to Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society or simply TGCFS.

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

**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



**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 and videos available for immediate checkout.



**New Members**

- Welcome to our newest members:
- Don Ghiz
- Judith and Loren Neufeld daughter Sharon
- Alan Raymond
- Laurie and Shiela Skov and son, Russell



**Membership dues:**

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



**Statement of Income & Expenses**

January 01, 2006 to March 31, 2006

(Submitted by Al and Susan Peacock, Treasurers)

**INCOME**

Membership Dues: .....	\$345.00
Sale of Plants: .....	\$0.00
Raffle Income: .....	\$87.00
Sale of Books: .....	\$0.00
Interest Income: .....	\$0.00
Outstanding Checks: .....	\$0.00
Total:.....	\$432.00

**EXPENSES:**

Program Expenses -- Materials: .....	\$0.00
Program Expenses -- Lecturer: .....	\$0.00
Member Education: .....	\$20.00
Field Trip Expense: .....	\$0.00
Newsletter: .....	\$0.00
Cost of Plants Sold: .....	\$0.00
Bank Charges:.....	\$0.00
Total:.....	\$20.00

**CHECKING ACCOUNT**

Cash Balance, March 31, 2006: ..	\$5,769.42
Cash Balance, January 01, 2006: .	\$5,476.84
2006 Net Income: .....	\$292.58



**Speaker for May**

Our program in May will feature our own Walt and Carolyn Hesson whose topic is:

**PTERIDOPHYTES of the AMERICAN WEST**

Brief:

A fifteen year travelogue via fern images collected in various habitats across the Western US will be presented by Walt and Carolyn Hesson. Many of these featured lithophytic or xeric ferns have special morphological attributes that enable them to survive in harsh environments. Specific mineral needs are a requirement for growth and most of these plants are not cultivated.



Display at George R. Brown Convention Center – May 5, 6 and 7, 2006 (photo: Malcolm McCorquodale)