



October 2006

Vol. 8, No. 10

<http://www.tgcfersoc.org>

Next Regular Meeting: Sunday, October 15, 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!

We had a great time in San Antonio, I'm sorry more could not make it. The weather was great and the garden beautiful. They have a lot of ferns and a very nice facility. A beautiful picture taken by Patrick Hudnall can be found on Page 2 of this *Newsletter*.

I have appointed Susan Peacock as the Chair head of the nominating committee for the up coming election of officers. Susan and her committee will nominate persons to be voted on at the November meeting. We have been requested to consider an amendment to our bylaws so I have scheduled a meeting of the Board for 1:00 pm on Sunday to address the issue and possibly draft a resolution to put before the general membership. The one in question is regarding the 2 year limit we have on board member positions. It has been suggested that it may be in the best interest of the *Society* to increase the allowed length of service. If a resolution is adopted we must give 30days notice so a vote would be held at the 19 November meeting, just before presenting the slate of nominations. I know the reason this is coming up now is trying to fill the positions for next year. Also, if a resolution is adopted by the Board I intend to open the issue for discussion at our regular meeting this Sunday.

Don't forget, Board members: we have a meeting 15 Oct at 1pm.

Our speaker this month is gifted in both speech and his abilities to grow ferns. To know Reggie is to love him, so don't be late. This will be one of our best meetings.

I'm looking forward to seeing each of you Sunday,
Darla



Membership dues:

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

Our Treasurer will be available to collect dues and membership applications at our meeting or you may mail either to:

Cecil Strange, Jr.
12002 Palmton
Houston, TX 77034

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



New Members

There were no new members in the last month.



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

We encourage you to take advantage of 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.

Don't forget to visit our web site (see link in header, above) and click on **Library** to see the current of the listing books available. There you will see some pictures of the books we have and links to reviews at Amazon and elsewhere.



Refreshments

Refreshments for the October meeting will be provided by Patsy and Paul Geiger.



Speaker for October

Our speaker for October is Reggie Whitehead

Reggie Whitehead is a native Miamian and a member of South Florida's burgeoning horticultural community. In 2003, he was elected to the Board of Trustees of Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden in Miami.

Reggie is the founder of the Tropical Fern & Exotic Plant Society (currently serving as President and on the Board of Directors and editor of its Newsletter), past president of the South Florida Fern Society (board member and editor) and board member of the International Aroid Society. He is also a member of the American Fern Society, the Los Angeles Fern Society, the Sarasota Fern Society and the Tampa Bay Fern Society.

Reggie is known in the international horticultural community as a fern specialist and lecturer. While his formal education is in Communications (Bachelor of Science degree in Communications – journalism and public relations, from Florida International University), he has spent the past 25 years studying and growing ferns from all over the tropics. He has traveled extensively throughout the Americas and Southeast Asia in search of new and exciting plant material, particularly ferns. His fern forays have taken him to Ecuador, Jamaica, Costa Rica, Trinidad, Mexico, Java, Thailand, Borneo, Malaysia, Singapore and Sumatra. In Sumatra, he discovered a new and distinctive fern species that was subsequently named in his honor, *Microsorium whiteheadii* Smith & Hoshizaki.

When not performing volunteer services for Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden or tending to other plant related endeavors, Reggie is a professional, award winning actor, director and choreographer.

Members Talk about Ferns!!

This month’s fern of the month article is contributed by Cecil Strange. It is a chart displaying the characteristics of 177 ferns and is found as an attachment to this *Newsletter*. It is taken from a book titled *FERNS* by Philip Perl and the Editors of TIME-LIFE BOOKS, Alexander, Virginia, pages 148 and 149.

Cecil said it has been a fern saver for him and recommends it as a valuable resource for anyone interested in preserving a fern they have acquired or are interested in.



A souvenir from San Antonio Botanical Garden:



Photo by: Patrick Hudnall, September 2006



Statement of Income & Expenses

January 01, 2006 to September 30, 2006

(Submitted by Al and Susan Peacock, Treasurers, TGCFS)

INCOME

Membership Dues:	\$605.00
Sale of Plants:	\$95.00
Raffle Income:	\$358.00
Sale of Books:	\$25.00
Interest Income:	\$19.12
Outstanding Checks:	<u>\$0.00</u>
Total:	\$1,102.12

EXPENSES

Program Expenses -- Materials:	\$878.36
Program Expenses -- Lecturer:	\$30.00
Member Education:	\$20.00
Field Trip Expense:	\$0.00
Newsletter:	\$144.20
Cost of Plants Sold:	\$15.00
Bank Charges:	<u>\$0.00</u>
Total:	\$1,087.56

CHECKING ACCOUNT

Cash Balance, June 30, 2006:	\$5,369.25
Cash Balance, January 01, 2006:	\$5,476.84
2006 Net Income:	(\$107.64)

