



August 2008

Vol. 10, No. 08

<http://www.tgcfersoc.org>

**Next Meeting: Sunday, August 17, at 2:00 p. m. – Summer Social at the Home of Mary McConnell:  
6218 Wister Lane, 77008 – Home Phone: (713) 880-2530**

**A message from our President:**

Hi, everyone!

I want to start off by saying I have sure missed being with each of you. I was out of town for two of this year's meetings and with my mother at the time of the July meeting. I want all of you that phoned and asked about her health to know that your concerns and best wishes meant a lot to me. It is such a comfort to know that you have good friends who are there to offer support at such times. Thank you!

Our Summer Social will take place this Sunday as scheduled. I understand there was some misinformation out there regarding dates, but rest assured it is this Sunday. We did have a last minute change as to our location though, and I will explain in detail below.

Mary McConnell has volunteered to host at her home. Details on location are to be found later in this *Newsletter*. Mary has a lovely, centrally located home and has a nice collection of ferns started. This will be our normal covered dish type party. Please contact Jessica Sheldon and let her know what you plan to bring or if you have any questions in that regard. If you would like to bring something special to drink you're welcome to do so. We do have a great group of people but this is always a fun and enjoyable way to get to know each other better.

**Jessica's contact information (she's recently moved):**

New address: 10 Southgate Dr.  
The Woodlands, TX 77380

New home phone: (281) 298-4287

Cell (the same): (713) 598-5836

E-mail (the same): [jscoking@aol.com](mailto:jscoking@aol.com)

Bill Barrett had planned to host our Summer Social this year but he called me last week to tell me that his very good friend Ken Altvater had a stroke recently and passed away. This was such a shock and totally unexpected to those who knew Ken. Ken had been a member of our *Fern Society* for several years and most of you had a chance to visit with him at some of the *Society* functions. Ken is going to be missed by his children and sister, as well as many friends and other family. His memorial service is set for this Friday. Details were in Sunday's *Chronicle* for those that are able to attend.

We are planning a field trip for our September meeting and in October Larry is going to show us how to make stepping stones that look like old world fossils. This will be a hands-on project. At November's meeting we will be crafting some ferny

gift items. This one will also be a hands-on project and should be a lot of fun.

We need a volunteer for our Winter Party to be held (preferably) on December 21. This has not been spoken for yet so if you have not had an opportunity to show off your fern collection to our group this would be a great way to do so. Please let me know as soon as possible so we can start making arrangements for it.

I'm looking forward to seeing y'all Sunday,  
Darla



**TGCFS DUES**

**Dues amounts:**

Individual: \$10.00

Family: \$15.00

Student: \$5.00

Our Treasurer will be available to collect them at the next meeting or you may mail your payment to:

Mary McConnell  
6218 Wister Lane  
Houston, TX 77008

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:	Laura Lee
Secretary:	Terri Dolney
Treasurer:	Susan Peacock
Board Members at Large:	Ted Richardson & Cecil Strange, Jr.
Membership Chair:	Mary McConnell
Newsletter:	Paul Geiger
Library:	Patrick Hudnall
Raffles:	Jean Keiser
Hospitality:	Jessica Sheldon
Welcoming at Door:	Emma Lee Payne



**Refreshments**

Thanks to Frank and Cherie Lee, Cecil Strange, Donna and Johnny Williams and Paul and Patsy Geiger for supplying the delicious refreshments at the meeting in July. Of course, it all

comes together under the care and coordination of Jessica Sheldon.

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, page 1) and click on **Library** to see the current list of books available. There you will see some pictures of the books we have and links to reviews at Amazon and elsewhere.

**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

Directions to Mary's home:

If traveling on I-10 take the T. C. Jester exit and go north.

If traveling on 610 take the W. T. C. Jester exit if coming from the west or the Ella Blvd. exit if coming from the east and go South. Ella and T. C. Jester cross at about 18th street.

