



June 2009

Vol. 11, No. 06

<http://www.tgcfersoc.org>

**Next Regular Meeting: Sunday, June 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:

Greetings, everyone,

I'm writing my column this month from Los Angeles. Monty and I are out here for the *LAIF (Los Angeles International Fern Society) Show and Sale*. They're having some unusual weather for this time of year. It's barely 70 in the daytime and has been rainy and drizzly for the last few days. The show has some beautiful plants and it was a pleasure to be asked to be a judge again this year. We've been attending the show most years for the last 20. Over the years we've amassed some interesting pictures from both this show and the one in Miami and we'd like to share them with you at this month's meeting.

I've been asked numerous times by several members if I thought we'd ever have a fern show and my answer has always been "I hope so". I'd like the membership to give this some thought and give me some feedback as to whether you'd like to see our club put on a show. We've had numerous fern displays at various venues over the years and a show wouldn't be a whole lot more work but it would involve most of the membership. I've been giving this some thought for a while and I'm not sure we have enough members to pull this off so I was wondering how you'd feel about having a Texas Fern Show. I've contacted the president of the Dallas and Austin groups about the possibilities and we'll talk more about that at the meeting this month.

We've been asked to participate in the Mercer Arboretum's Garden Faire in September. I'd like to have a board meeting an hour before this month's regular meeting to discuss our participation so we can present a proposal to the membership during the meeting. Committee heads are welcome to attend - as well as any member who feels they would like to offer their input.

Malcolm will be leading our Mini-workshop this Sunday. It will be a mini-seminar on building baskets like the one shown on our web site: <http://www.tgcfersoc.org/Basket/Basket.html>. Malcolm asks that each member bring a set of pliers. Wire to make the basket, and soil for the lining will be provided.

Happy Father's Day to all our fathers!

I look forward to seeing you Sunday!

Donna



DUES

TGCFS 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.



Officers and Committees:

- President: Donna McGraw
- Vice President: Sara Chumley
- Secretary: Cherie Lee
- Treasurer: Terri Dolney
- Board Members at Large: Sharon Banister, Darla Harris and Lulu Leonard
- Membership Chair: Mary McConnell
- Ways and Means: Ted Richardson
- Special Projects: Larry Rucker
- Newsletter: Paul Geiger
- Library: Frank Lee
- Raffles: Jean Keiser
- Hospitality: Jessica Sheldon
- Welcoming at Door: Emma Lee Payne



Minutes of General Meeting, May 17, 2009

Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society

A regular monthly meeting was held at the Houston Garden Center, Houston, Texas.

The meeting commenced at 2:25 PM with President, Donna McGraw calling the meeting to order.

General Meeting Announcements: Martha Burg announced that Sue Olsen, author of "Encyclopedia of Garden Ferns" will be speaking in Austin the last weekend in August. Stay tuned for more details.

Committee reports:

Membership: Chair Mary McConnell passed out printed membership lists.

Hospitality: Chair Jessica Sheldon reminded attendees to sign up for refreshments for future meetings.

Library: Chair Frank Lee reminded attendees that the Library was open for checking out books and to please return books at the next meeting.

Store: Chair Larry Rucker reminded attendees that there were loupes and plant tags available in the store. Donna McGraw has cork for mounting plants that she'll try to have available for sale at the June meeting for those interested.

Program: Duane Peterson, a fern grower from Kansas, presented a program on growing and identifying Maidenhair ferns. He brought more than 30 varieties to show and discuss. He also brought beautiful plants to sell including Adiantums and Boston Ferns. If that wasn't enough, each attendee then received two Maidenhair ferns to take home: Rosy and Fragrans.

Plant Raffle: Patrick Hudnall ran the plant raffle with many plants finding a new home.

Meeting adjourned at 3:55 PM.

Submitted by: Cherie Lee, Secretary



Meeting Refreshments

Refreshments for the **May meeting** were generously furnished by Terri Dolney, Angie Casas, Jessica Sheldon, Andrew Fraley and Lulu Leonard. Thanks to all of you.

June Refreshments:

Refreshments for June will be provided as follows:

Drinks: Mary McConnell

Snacks: Angie Casa

Veggies/Fruit: Jean Richardson

Desserts and Service ware: Cherie Lee

Come out and enjoy some really good and delicious food to be provided by some of your fellow fernies!



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, 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.



June Book Review

By: Frank Lee

"Encyclopedia of Garden Ferns" by Sue Olsen

This book is a comprehensive reference with succinct descriptions, habitat information, and cultural recommendations for more than 960 ferns, accompanied by 700 color photographs. Whether you are a beginner, an expert, or anywhere in between, this expansive, well-organized, and lavishly illustrated volume will be the first place you'll turn to deepen your knowledge and appreciation of the fascinating world of ferns.

If you don't have your own copy you can check it out of our library. Just see Frank for the sign-out sheet.



Upcoming Events – Other Societies in Houston Area:

If you have the time and would like to expand your horticultural activities, take note of the following announcements by the Houston Bromeliad and Orchid Societies.

Bromeliad Society/Houston Inc.:

www.bromeliadsocietyhouston.org

Regular meetings are held the third Tuesday of every month at 7:30 PM at: The Houston Garden Center.

Next regular meeting is June 18, 2009

The Houston Orchid Society, Inc.

www.houstonorchid society.org

Regular meetings are held the first Thursday of every month at 7:30 PM at: The Houston Garden Center.

Next regular meeting is July 2, 2009.

