



July 2009

Vol. 11, No. 07

<http://www.tgcfersoc.org>

Next Regular Meeting: Sunday, July 19, 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 hope everyone's plants are surviving the hot dry weather we're having. Keeping up with the watering is literally becoming quite a chore. It's time to think seriously about an automated watering system both inside and out.

The program this month is one requested by Larry Rucker. We're going to learn about medium- and large-footed ferns. We're going to find out what they are, how to grow them and how to propagate them to share with your fellow fern nuts.

During the Mini-workshop this month we'll be mounting Rabbit Foot Ferns on cork and I'll be bringing extra cork for those of you wanting to buy some for your other mounting projects. As we discussed at last month's meeting, the plants will be paid for by the members using them instead of coming out of the general Fern Society funds. The cost will be nominal, like in the past and I expect the cork that we'll be using to cost a couple of dollars but haven't weighed it yet to figure that out.

I hope to see all of you at the meeting this weekend.

Remember, the Garden Center is air conditioned :-).

Donna



Jessica Sheldon wants you all to know that **Aaron Brothers** is having their "buy a frame and get the second one for a penny" sale now until the end of July. We will be framing copies of ferns later on this year so you may want to take advantage of this sale.



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



New Member

We have a new member this month. Please give a warm welcome to Ms. Ann B. Hicks.



**Minutes of General Meeting, June 21, 2009
Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society**

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

The meeting commenced at 2:20 PM with President, Donna McGraw calling the meeting to order.

General Meeting: Discussion was held on the members' interest in having a booth to sell plants at the Mercer Arboretum Garden Fair September 26 & 27. A sign up sheet was circulated to determine the availability of members to man the booth. Additional ideas for raising funds were discussed. Malcolm McCorquodale proposed to sell the starter ferns at the general meetings instead of giving them away to the members. The members present approved. Price for the plants will be slightly over cost.

Donna McGraw suggested the membership consider having a Texas Fern Show in 2010. Judges could be brought in from out of state and the show location could rotate between the major Texas cities each year, more discussion to come.

Announcements: The Garden Club of Austin will be holding their 3rd Annual Fern Festival at Zilker Botanical Garden in Austin, Texas on August 28 & 29. Several presentations will be given, among them one by Sue Olsen, author of "Encyclopedia

of Garden Ferns". Ferns will also be for sale. Additional information is available on the website fernfestival.org. Also, Miller's Tropicals of Texas is now in Dripping Springs, about 23 miles southwest of Austin.

Program: A photo presentation of the Miami and L. A. Fern Shows was given by Monty McGraw. There were many beautiful photographs of spectacular ferns.

Mini-workshop: Malcolm McCorquodale presented a hands-on workshop showing how to make a unique hanging basket. All attendees received the necessary materials and got to construct a basket to take home. If you missed the meeting or would like a refresher, Malcolm has graciously put the instructions with pictures on the society website.

Plant Raffle: Patrick Hudnall ran the plant raffle with the member plants going to lucky winners Cherie Lee and Larry Rucker.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:45 PM.

Submitted by: Cherie Lee, Secretary



Meeting Refreshments

Refreshments for the **June meeting** were generously furnished by Mary McConnell, Angie Casas, Jean Richardson and Cherie Lee. Thanks to all of you.

July Refreshments:

Refreshments for July will be provided as follows:

Drinks: Terri Dolney & Faye Stansberry

Snacks: Helen Spiers

Veggies/Fruit: Jean Richardson

Desserts and Service ware: Lulu Leonard

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.



July Book Review

By: Frank Lee

"Encyclopedia of Ferns" by David L. Jones

This book contains seven sections: an introduction to the structure and botany of ferns; cultural requirements; pests, diseases and other problems; propagation and hybridization; specialized culture, repotting, containers and housing; species to grow; and lists of ferns for various purposes. Line drawings, black-and-white and color photographs enhance the text and there is a comprehensive glossary of terms. The book is aimed at amateur and professional growers.

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 July 21, 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 August 6, 2009.

