



Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society

October 2011

Vol. 13, No. 10

<http://www.tgcfersoc.org>

**Next Regular Meeting: Sunday, October 16, at 2:00 p. m. – Houston Garden Center in Hermann Park,
1500 Hermann Drive, Houston, TX 77044 – Phone: (713) 529-3960**

A message from the Editor:

Hi Everyone,

Well, it's finally started to cool off a little although still no rain. At least the cooler temperatures will provide some relief for our poor ferns. Speaking of our ferns, I hope everyone enjoyed the "Plant Swap" at our meeting last month and you have some new treasured plants to nurture. Unfortunately I missed it, but I heard there were many nice plants from which to choose. I'll just have to look forward to next year.

You may wonder why I am writing this instead of our President. Darla has had the misfortune of having both computer and phone problems so is currently incommunicado. Hopefully she will be back in business by next month and will share more of her fern knowledge with us. I do enjoy reading her plant articles.

Now a plug for the newsletter...it would be great to have some articles from other folks as well. Please consider writing something about your favorite fern, something you learned about growing a particular fern, a ferny place you visited, or anything else that may be of interest to others. It doesn't have to be long and pictures are always welcome.

Jessica has a special project in store for us this month so please read her article and note the RSVP and the suggested tools, etc. to bring along. Hope to see you all there.

Submitted by: Cherie Lee, Editor



A message from our Vice President:

Surprise! The Holiday Wreath Project October 2011

What a surprise! The powers that be decided to do the old switch-a-roo. Darla will be presenting a program in November on spring and I will present the wreath project this month. Really it's a good thing. Gives your wreath time to hang for Thanksgiving and the fern to establish itself if giving for a gift. It's a win-win.

So you don't want a wreath? Break away, think outside the plaque, go wild!!!! Think of it as a different way to mount a

Staghorn. I am already on top of the whole enchilada. I think I'll change that. The thought of being on top of an enchilada, not my favorite food, isn't very appealing. Let's change that to pizza.

I have bought 20 wreaths (16 inches in diameter) and 60 *Platynerium lemonei*, French or Silver Staghorn. (Yes, I know I said I wasn't going to order plants, but, hey, I changed my mind.) We will have sphagnum, fishing line, and hopefully some Spanish moss to give your wreath a finished look. I haven't the final figure, but the project should be no more than \$10.00. This includes the wreath and ONE fern. If you want more ferns, you may purchase them.

Here's what you have to do. It's simple, really.

Email me to reserve your wreath (or more than one if you want): jscoking@aol.com

Or phone: **936-242-9900** (this is a new number, the only one I have).

Leave a message by: **Friday, October 14, 2011** to reserve a wreath and one fern.

Bring decorations to put on your wreath (I will bring a hot glue gun), other epiphytes, surprise me!!!!!!





The small wreath in the center is the 16" wreath that you will be decorating.



Suggested tools to bring: produce net (like for oranges, onions, etc.), pliers, and wire cutters.

Submitted by: Jessica Sheldon, Vice President

Up and Coming Attractions:

October 16: Holiday Wreath Project by Jessica Sheldon
 November 20: Sporing by Darla Harris
 December 18: Christmas Party with gift exchange

Submitted by: Jessica Sheldon, Vice President



Refreshments

Refreshments for September were generously furnished by:

Drinks: Donna McGraw
 Savory: Mary McConnell
 Fruits: Terri Dolney
 Veggies: Jean Richardson
 Service ware: Society

Refreshments for October will be generously furnished by:

Jean Keiser and Emma Payne

Please let Jean Richardson know if you can help with the refreshments for future months. [mail to:tedandjean@aol.com](mailto:tedandjean@aol.com). Come out and enjoy some really delicious food!



2011 Officers and Committees:

President: Darla Harris
 Vice President: Jessica Sheldon
 Secretary: Cherie Lee
 Treasurer: Terri Dolney
 Board Members at Large: Marcia Livingston, Donna McGraw, and Lulu Leonard
 Membership Chair: Mary McConnell
 Ways and Means: Ted Richardson
 Special Projects: Larry Rucker
 Web Master: Malcolm McCorquodale
 Newsletter: Cherie Lee
 Library: Frank Lee
 Raffles: Larry Rucker
 Spore Exchange: Patrick Hudnall
 Society Store: Larry Rucker
 Hospitality: Jean Richardson
 Welcoming at Door: Beth Ayer and Marcia Livingston



**Statement of Income & Expenses
July 1, 2011 to September 30, 2011**

INCOME

Membership dues	\$ 265.00
Raffle Income	269.00
Plant Re-imbusement	791.00
Project Re-imbusement	340.00
Miscellaneous	161.00
Petty Cash	251.46
Bank Interest	<u>2.18</u>
Total:	\$2,079.64

EXPENSES

Cost of Plants	\$ 668.39
Project Supplies	44.51
Lecturer's Fees	150.00
Lecturer's Gifts	40.97
Bank Fees	33.36
Miscellaneous	668.88
Transfer to Petty Cash	<u>200.00</u>
Total:	\$1,806.11

Bank Balance 12-31-2010: \$5,516.13

Petty Cash \$ 200.00

Bank Balance 9-30-2011: \$5,841.54

Net Profit 9-30-2011: \$ 527.62

Submitted by: Terri Dolney, Treasurer



**Grand Opening
Memorial Park Greenhouse & Plaza
October 28, 2011 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM**

Please join us for the grand opening of the New Memorial Park Greenhouse & Plaza, 6501 Memorial Drive 77007.

RSVP by October 19th to revpparks@houstontx.gov or 832-395-7061.



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, there 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.



**Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society
General Meeting
September 18, 2011**

A regular monthly meeting was held at the Houston Garden Center, Houston, Texas. The meeting commenced at 2:10 PM with President, Darla Harris calling the meeting to order.

General Meeting: Nominating committee will be selected at the October meeting.

Bulb Mart will be Friday and Saturday, October 7 and 8, at Holly Hall.

Ted Richardson reported that dismissal notices on the last three parking tickets will be issued by the City of Houston.

Upcoming Programs/Meetings: VP Jessica Sheldon explained the November meeting staghorn wreath project and showed example of finished project. (Schedule change: wreath project is now scheduled for October.) The December party and gift exchange will be held at Malcolm McCorquodale's home.

Hospitality: Chair Jean Richardson reminded everyone to please sign up to bring refreshments for upcoming months.

Plant Exchange: Darla led a discussion of each of the ferns for "swap". There were many nice ferns and other plants making a very successful Plant Swap.

Plant Raffle: Larry Rucker ran the plant raffle with many plants finding new homes.

Attendance: Members 26
Visitors 0

Meeting was adjourned at 3:30 PM.

Submitted by: The Richardsons for Cherie Lee, Secretary



October Book Review

"Platycerium Hobbyist's Handbook" by Roy Vail

This book contains nearly 200 pages of clear, understandable information on staghorn ferns by the world's leading expert on them. He has grown these ferns for over 20 years and explored areas where they grow where no other hobbyist has ever been. The book has how-to instructions on spore propagation, division, buying staghorn ferns, as well as photos and discussions of each species and distribution maps of where they occur in nature.

Submitted by: Frank Lee



Editor's Comments:

As most of you are aware, the Newsletter is posted on the TGCFS website at the same time as it is mailed out to the members. In an effort to save money on mailings, it has been suggested that email notification be sent that the Newsletter has been posted on the website instead of mailing the Newsletter. Members can then visit the website to view the Newsletter and print it for themselves if they wish. **If you have not done so already, please let me know if you are willing to accept the email notification and forgo the mailed Newsletter.** You can contact me by calling 281-999-8368, emailing cherie.d.lee@sbcglobal.net, or let me know at the next meeting. If I don't hear from you, you will continue to receive the Newsletter as usual. Thanks.

Deadline for the November Newsletter is November 4, 2011.

Cherie Lee, Editor, *TGCFS Newsletter*



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 October 18, 2011.

The Houston Orchid Society, Inc.

www.houstonorchidsociety.org

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

Next regular meetings are November 3, 2011.

Plant Exchange September 18, 2011



Let the Plant Swap begin!



Lucky first pick!



