



November 2007

Vol. 9, No. 11

<http://www.tgcfersoc.org>

Next Regular Meeting: Sunday, November 18, 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,

Our October meeting was a wonderful presentation on Bromeliads by our very own Malcolm McCorquodale. Malcolm brought numerous plants of different varieties and blooming stages. He discussed the evolutions of these prehistoric (though not as old as the fern) plants. To those of you that missed this meeting I can say you really missed a good one. I would like to thank the Lees for donating the plant of the month with several different kinds of starter bromeliads. We had several members bring in different varieties of bromeliads and other plants and ferns for the Raffle. The Members Plant was provided by Sharon Bannister.

Our November meeting will be presented by two of our members that have just recently returned from Scotland – Martha Burg and Lulu Leonard. They were participants in the Begonia Society’s field trip. (Now that’s a field trip!) They plan on showing us how well Ferns and Begonia’s work together in the landscape and our gardens. Their talk will be accompanied by a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation so come early to get the best seating.

We will be having our elections for next year’s officers at this meeting. This would be a great way for you to give back to our Society by volunteering for one of the positions. Let the Nominating Committee know of your interest and they will put you on the list for the slate of officers. The Committee Chair is Frank Lee and the elected committee members this year are Mary McConnell and Jessica Sheldon.

Winter is just around the corner and it is time to start putting our tropical ferns in our greenhouses for winter. If you’re not sure which of your ferns need to be protected from cold weather, we have many books in our library that will help you with this, as well as several members that raise many varieties of ferns with greenhouses.

I would like to thank our members for the refreshments that have been provided at each of the meetings this year. You have out done yourselves all year. The same can be said for all the plant donations for our Raffle. You have been very generous with your plants. I would like to invite others to participate in the sharing of their plants as well so everyone can take part and get some new and different plants.

We will be announcing the time, place and host for our end of the year party. We will be having our gift swap again this year so look for something special during the next month as a

lot of the gardening supplies and plants will be on sale at reduced prices.

I hope to see each of you at the meeting.

Darla



Officers and Committees:

- President: Darla Harris
- Vice President: Patrick Hudnall
- Secretary: Patsy Geiger
- 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



DUES

It’s that time of year again! Members should be planning on paying dues for 2008. TGCFs Dues amounts are as follows:

- 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.



Meeting Refreshments

Refreshments for the October meeting were generously supplied by:

- Jean Keiser - drinks
- Emma Payne - snacks
- Sara Chumley – service ware, dessert and fruit
- Jessica Sheldon – dessert

Refreshments for the November meeting will be supplied as follows:

- Lee Murdock – drinks
- Darla Harris – snacks
- Susan Peacock – fruit or veggie tray

Terri Dolney – dessert

Cecil Strange – Service ware

Come out and enjoy some good food and fellowship! Better yet, try to bring a guest with you. We always have room for more people.

Jessica Sheldon, our Hospitality Chairperson wants to remind everyone that we now have several categories of refreshments each month to encourage more participation from our members. The categories are: **Drinks** (sodas, ice tea, water, etc.); **Snacks** (chips, dips, crackers, cookies); **Fruit or Veggie Tray** (seasonal foods); **Desserts** (bought or yum, homemade); **Service Ware** (plates, cups, plastic ware, napkins). And for those who would like to express their culinary talents, think outside the usual and surprise us with your own creation!



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.com and elsewhere.

