



August 2007

Vol. 9, No. 08

<http://www.tgcfersoc.org>

**Next Meeting: Sunday, August 19, at 2:00 p. m. – Summer Social at the Home of John MacMillan
19923 Hickory Wind Dr., Humble, TX 77346 – Phone: (713) 852-3166**

A message from our President:

Hi Everyone,

OK, how many of you that prayed for a respite from the unusual rain we were having traded for this heat? I'll bet none. Isn't this torturous? Well, just try and keep yourself and your ferns as cool as possible for the next few weeks – maybe some iced tea, lemonade, Margaritas or Mojitos for yourselves and water for the ferns as we wait for the Fall season.

As everyone knows (I hope) our meeting this Sunday will be our Summer Social. John MacMillan will be our host. If you attended the July meeting you should have received a map to help you get to John's home. If not, a map is included with this *Newsletter*. A sign-up sheet was passed around for members to list the food or drink items you will be bringing. If for any reason you need to verify your food offering please contact Jessica Sheldon at 713-729-9188 or you can call me at 281-733-5564.

If you haven't heard already, Patrick Hudnall has graciously agreed to serve as our Society Vice President for the remainder of the year. If you haven't done so already, please congratulate and thank him for stepping forward when we really needed someone to do so.

We are still in need of a volunteer for the winter social on December 16. If you have the facility to accommodate our crowd the food and drinks will be supplied by members and guests that attend. If you'd like to do this, please don't be bashful – we need you.

I'm looking forward to seeing you on Sunday at John's.
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

TGCFS Dues amounts are as follows:

- Individual: \$10.00
- Family: \$15.00
- Student: \$5.00

Dues are payable to our Treasurer at our meetings or by mail to:

Mary McConnell
6218 Wister Lane
Houston, TX 77008

Checks should be made 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!



Meeting Refreshments

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 and elsewhere.

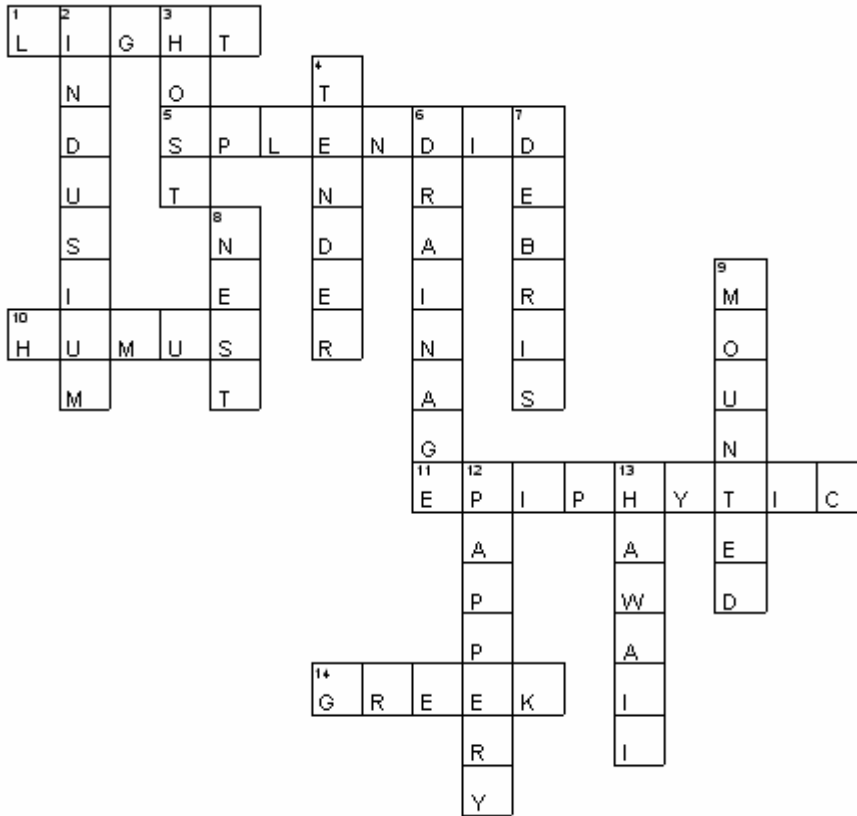


Plant of the Month

Because the July meeting was a "Plant Swap" program, there is no official "Plant of the Month" to discuss this month nor a puzzle for you. We do have the answers to the puzzle published last month. (Next Page):

Darla

**Answers to July Puzzle of the Month:
Aglamorpha heraclea**



Across:

- 1. Aglamorpha grows in bright to medium _____
- 5. Greek meaning for Aglaios
- 10. Cibotium chamissoi grows best in this soil
- 11. Grows on trees
- 14. Morphe is _____ for shape

Down:

- 2. The membrane surrounding or covering the sorus and where the name kibotos came from
- 3. Allows other plants to grow on its base
- 4. Will freeze if it gets too cold
- 6. Needs soil that has good _____
- 7. Collected by the nest like fronds
- 8. Overlapping fronds give this appearance
- 9. Epiphytic plants grow best if _____ on a board
- 12. Old fronds take on this look
- 13. Cibotium is native to what US state?



Fern Groaners

In a way, I hate to do this to you, but feel I must. The following was received by your editor via e-mail (from Ted and Jean) but traceable to members Ben and Phyllis Tobias. I hope the remembrance doesn't keep you up at night:

Quote:

A scientist was researching a particular fern so he sent a message to his colleagues to ask if they had any information about it. Unfortunately, his handwriting was really bad. Soon, faxes were pouring in with information about various types of ferns. The scientist grew frustrated. He had information on every fern imaginable except the one he was studying. So he sent another message to his colleagues: If it isn't bracken, don't fax it.

That reminds me of another one, if you can handle it:

A guy walks into a flower store and says, "I'd like three dozen of those beautiful anemones you've been advertising." The shopkeeper replied, "I'm sorry, sir, but we only have one dozen left. May I recommend some of these luscious ferns we just got in? I think they'd make a beautiful arrangement all by themselves." "You're right," the customer said, "With fronds like these, who needs anemones?"

Unquote



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