



Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society

December 2008

Vol. 10, No. 11

<http://www.tgcfernsoc.org>

**Next Meeting: Sunday, December 14, at 2:00 p. m. – Winter Party at the Home of Jessica Sheldon:
10 Southgate Dr., The Woodlands 77380 – Home Phone: (281) 298-4287, Cell: (713) 598-5836**

A message from our President:

Hi, everyone!

For those that missed the November meeting, you missed a lot! First, Jessica did an outstanding job on her gift bag presentation. It was fun and informative and, as always, the group enjoyed each other.

Second, we received nominations and voted for our officers for 2009. I would like to thank our Nominating Committee composed of Donna McGraw, Chair, along with Sara Chumley and Jean Keiser for presenting the *Society* with a new slate of officers. The nominees were Donna McGraw for President, Sara Chumley for Vice President, Cherie Lee for Secretary, and Terry Dolney for Treasurer. For Board Members at large: Sharon Banister, Lulu Leonard, and Darla Harris (as outgoing President).

A motion to accept the slate of nominees as presented was submitted by Ted Richardson, seconded by Frank Lee and was passed with no objections by the Membership in attendance. So, I offer my congratulations to all. This will be a fresh slate of officers that should have some new ideas to help our *Society* continue to grow and move forward in the spirit of learning and enjoying ferns and the “fern friends” that we have made.

As this is my last *President's Note* before turning over the gavel to our new President, I would like to take this time to thank each and every one of you for your help, support and dedication to our *Society*. You have made my job as president memorable. I could not have done it without YOU!

I would like to give a special thanks to Laura Lee for stepping up this year to take on the job of Vice President, our most difficult position, after Caroline had to step down unexpectedly; and to Jessica for working with Laura in a committee fashion. You Ladies have done an outstanding job this year! This job was made even more difficult on them because they both were new to our *Society* and did not initially have the “Fern Contacts” that others in the *Society* have. But they forged on and did a wonderful job. Willingness to take on such responsibility can only be applauded and ladies I take my hat off to both of you!

Thank you to my board members: Susan, Terry, Ted and Cecil; you have been great to work with! Your efforts and input has been invaluable.

Thank you to my committees: Mary for Membership, Jessica for hospitality, Jean on Raffle, Emma as Greeter, Patrick as Librarian (and now Frank), Malcolm on our web

page and Paul as the best editor on the *Newsletter* I could ask for.

Thank you to our members that went all out to put on some great presentations for our meetings this year. I have enjoyed them all and all are memorable, but the edible fern presentation has to be recorded as my favorite.

Thank you, Mary, for hosting our Fall Social, and Jessica for our upcoming Winter Party.

Along with our field trip to Moody Gardens, I think we had a good year. Thank you, Larry, Frank and Cherie for taking on the Membership drive at Moody Gardens! You three are the best!! All I ever had to do was ask and each of you just said yes, no matter what; you helped on everything I have ever asked of you. Words just cannot express my gratitude.

I want to thank everyone that contributed to the Raffle this year. For those that brought things in most often, e.g., Patrick, Larry, Frank and Cherie, Lulu, Helen, Jennifer, Laura, Malcolm, Jessica, Cecil, we owe you a huge debt of gratitude!! Your free giving spirit does not go unnoticed!!!

On a more personal note I would like to thank Walt and Carolyn Hesson and Barbara Joe Hoshizaki for being my mentors. Your suggestions and feedback were a source of great inspiration.

Now that that is all said and done, "**Let's Party!**" I look forward to seeing you at Jessica's for our end of the year party. More information follows later in this *Newsletter*. Don't forget the gift exchange. If you want to participate please bring one gift per person for an exchange. So, to you husbands and wives, if you both want something, you must both bring something. We will draw numbers and pick in that order. There will be no stealing of gifts, but if you find someone that wants to trade with you, that's fine.

It has been a pleasure being the President of the *Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society* these last four years. I will still be around, though; it's not like I'm going anywhere!!!!

Take care, and warmest wishes to each of you!!!

Darla



TGCFS Dues

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.

Members: - Spread the word – encourage someone you know to visit us - we always have room for more!



Officers and Committees for 2008:

- President: Darla Harris
- Vice President: Laura Lee
- Secretary: Terri Dolney
- Treasurer: Susan Peacock
- Board Members at Large: Ted Richardson & Cecil Strange, Jr.
- Membership Chair: Mary McConnell
- Newsletter: Paul Geiger
- Library: Frank Lee
- Raffles: Jean Keiser
- Hospitality: Jessica Sheldon
- Welcoming at Door: Emma Lee Payne

Refreshments

Thanks to Jean Richardson, Gary Wooldridge, Angie Casas, Marcia Livingston and Jessica for supplying the delicious refreshments at the meeting in November. Of course, it all comes together under the care and coordination of Jessica Sheldon.



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.



It's Winter Party Time!!!

Jessica will be our hostess for our Winter Party. Her address and telephone numbers are listed in the header of this Newsletter. If you haven't signed up for a dish to bring, please let her know by calling or e-mail her at: jscooking@aol.com. If she doesn't answer the telephone, just leave a message and she'll get back to you. Or, if you want to surprise everyone, just bring your favorite dish.

A "vicinity" map is shown below. A detailed map with driving instructions created by Jessica is attached.

Jessica advises she will turn on the spa, so if you are feeling brave and adventurous (no kidding, here) bring your swim suit and towels.



Did You Know?

Our Newsletters are posted on our web site, generally around the same time they are mailed. So, if you misplace your Newsletter or feel you haven't received it (yet), just log on to the web site (see link in header, page 1).

