



# Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society

January 2009

Vol. 11, No. 01

<http://www.tgcfersoc.org>

**Next Regular Meeting: Sunday, January 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:

Happy New Year Everyone!

I hope everyone had an enjoyable time with friends and family this holiday season. The club's Holiday Party was fun as usual, many thanks to our wonderful hospitality hostess, Jessica Sheldon.

We're starting the new year off with a new meeting format. I hope this experiment will provide you with entertainment and a little learning along the way.

#### The new meeting schedule will be:

Greeting & brief business report - hopefully 5 to 10 minutes

30 minute Mini-workshop

15 minute break for snacks/buy plants/raffle tickets

Regular Program

Plant Raffle

Clean up after yourself

Dinner with the group (more about this later)

Larry Rucker has graciously agreed to be chairman of the new Special Projects Committee. One of their main duties will be to present the Mini-workshop part of our meeting. I'm sure we all agree that when it comes to hands on projects, Larry's our guru. Since he's still recovering from his Christmas bout with pneumonia, Sharon Banister will be presenting our first Mini-workshop. We've had spore identification and sowing demos and articles enough that you should be able to do it in your sleep but if you are still having difficulty, just ask and we'll be happy to help. Sharon is going to show us the next step in fern growing after you have prothalia covering your peat pellet. This will be a hands-on workshop where you'll actually plant some prothalia in a nursery container and take it home with you. I'm sure Larry will have a show and tell sometime in the future to allow you brag about your babies, so take good care of them.

The program this month will be a special request from one of our members - **How to Tell the Different Fern Families Apart**. I promise it will be entertaining as well as educational.

We have some great programs lined up for this year including one on creating microclimates for your fern garden and one about identifying the different Platyceriums and their cultivars and just wait till you see what Larry has lined up for us in his Mini-workshops.

Monty and I usually go out to eat after the meetings and we've found the nearby Luby's to be a good choice in restaurants. We'd like to extend an invitation to all of you to join us – Dutch treat, of course. If you can't make it after every

meeting, come when you can. Luby's is reasonably priced, the service is fast and the food (at this one) is good. It will be a good time to socialize and maybe talk about your ferns or fern problems.

**Dues are due!** Please make sure Mary McConnell has your dues and any update to your address, telephone numbers, email, etc. She will be forwarding this information to our *Newsletter* editor for correct mailing.

I'm looking forward to seeing you all on Sunday.

Donna



### DUES ARE DUE

If you haven't paid your dues for 2009 yet, this is a reminder – **please don't forget!**

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:

President:	Donna McGraw
Vice President:	Sarah 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





### 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); **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!



### January Refreshments:

Refreshments for our next meeting will be furnished by:

Jessica, Cherie Lee and Marcia Livingston: Drinks,

Desserts, Snacks and Service Ware

Mary McConnell: Veggies/Fruits

Come out and enjoy some really good and delicious food!



## Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society Statement of Income & Expenses January 01, 2008 to December 31, 2008

### INCOME

Membership Dues:	\$620.00
Sale of Plants:	\$0.00
Raffle Income:	\$423.00
Sale of Books:	\$13.00
Interest Income:	\$10.24
Outstanding Checks:	\$0.61
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$1,066.85</b>

### EXPENSES

Program Expenses -- Materials:	\$767.31
Program Expenses -- Lecturer:	\$0.00
Member Education:	\$0.00
Field Trip Expense:	\$0.00
Newsletter:	\$201.58
Cost of Plants Sold:	\$278.35
Facility Charges:	\$31.10
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$1,278.34</b>

### CHECKING ACCOUNT

Deposits:	\$1,056.00
Checks Written:	\$1,278.06
Bank Charges:	\$0.00
Interest Income:	10.85

**Cash Balance, December 31, 2008: \$7,420.73**

### NET INCOME:

Cash Balance, December 31, 2007:	\$7,420.73
Cash Balance, January 1, 2008:	\$7,631.94

**2008 Net Income: - (\$211.21)**



### 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.