



# Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society

July 2010

Vol. 12, No. 7

<http://www.tgcfersoc.org>

**Next Regular Meeting: Sunday, July 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 4th of July!

Hope you all had a fun holiday and took time to remember that we live in the greatest country ever created.

Our June meeting was a lot of fun. I trust everyone's working on their herbarium collection. Maybe next year we can have everyone bring theirs in for a show and tell segment at one of the meetings.

I hope everyone's as excited about this month's meeting as I am. Barbara Hoshizaki is a wonderful, gifted botanist and we are lucky to have her come speak to us about one of the group's favorite plants. Have your questions ready and if you have any *Platycerium* plants that you need to have identified, I'm sure she'll take the time to do that for us.

Don't forget the reception and potluck dinner for Barbara at our house Saturday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, at 4 PM. You will find additional information on the party in the June Minutes and maps to our house are attached.

Hope to see you all at the party on Saturday and the meeting on Sunday.

Donna



## A message from our Vice President:

What's in a Name....?

What's in a name? That which is called a fern, by any other name would be synonymous with Barbara Joe...original quote by Humorous Fernologist.

In May, we travelled to see the W.I.S.A.R.D. – Woodwardia, (*Dtyopteris*) *Intermedia*, *Selaginella*, *Adiantum*, (*Nephorolopis exaltata*) 'Roosevelt', *Dennstradtia* – Naud Burnett at Casa Flora in Dallas. Now we have a name which is synonymous with ferns-- Barbara Joe-- Just to say her name makes me want to put aside that pile of laundry and curl up with one of the books she has authored. By the way, I found her first book 'Fern Growers Manual' in a resale shop in Corpus Christi. I was so excited you would have thought I found a lost copy of the Declaration of Independence. I have not (yet) met Barbara in person, but have come to rely on her books for identification, information, and just because I like

books. Barbara Joe Hoshizaki will be here! In person! At OUR meeting!!!!

But wait! Shakespeare could have written another play where Barbara would not be talking to Romeo of roses and love from her balcony, but to students of pteridology, about the myriad of *Platyceriums* hanging in baskets, on boards, in trees; of slicing and dicing those fronds and looking under microscopes! Alas, fair fern friends, Shakespeare is long gone, but we will construct the play ourselves! Forget the balcony, forget Romeo (at least for now, I'm still looking for him), we will be her eager students.

This will be a hands-on meeting where we look at and learn how to tell one *platycerium* apart from another. We will have *Platycerium veichii* 'Lemoinei', or otherwise known as the French Staghorn Fern, for our plant of the month. Bring your loupe, bring a friend, but save the costumes for the Renaissance Festival!

See you at the meeting!

Submitted by: Jessica Sheldon, Vice President



## July's Program:

You are invited to enjoy a hands-on presentation with Barbara Joe Hoshizaki at our July 18th (Sunday) meeting. She will be discussing *Platycerium* identification. We will learn how to group *Platyceriums* in their species category: Malayan-Asiatic, African-American, and Javan-Australian. We will be working with cross-sections of rhizomes, the scales and hairs, the variations in the sporangia, and the variations in epidermis and frond cross-sections.

Those attending should plan on bringing a hand lens and tweezers to better participate in the program. This is a rare event, so please spread the word and invite anyone who has an interest in this topic. Be sure and bring your copy of the *Fern Growers Manual* for the author to sign for you!!! Barbara is one of the nicest, most gracious people I have ever met. She willingly shares her fern knowledge with all who are interested. This is a **Rare Opportunity** and should not be missed by any lover of ferns.

Submitted by: Darla Harris



### Up and Coming Attractions

July 18	Platynerium Identification by Barbara Joe Hoshizaki
August 15	Summer Party and Plant Exchange
September 19	Ferns from A-Z by Darla Harris
October 17	Open
November 21	Open
December 19	Holiday Party

We have many other possibilities and speakers being pursued for our Society. As always, suggestions for programs are always welcome so please let me know if you have any, especially for the open dates.

Submitted by: Jessica Sheldon, Vice President



### Dues:

If you haven't paid your dues for 2010, this is a reminder.

#### TGCFS 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.



### Help Wanted:

Don't forget, I need your help!!! What I need from each of you is the following information please!!

- A list of Garden Societies and clubs that you are a member of.
- A copy of your local community newspaper.
- The top five web sites you like to go to regarding plants and any others that you just like the layout, how information is accessed etc.
- The two or three nurseries you go to most often, including any local neighborhood type that others may not know about.
- Any Plant sales you go to that are private, like Jerry's Jungle.

Our goal this year is advertisement, increase membership, and preparing for our upcoming Auction next spring. I'm looking for any ideas that you have, or that you have seen, that work.

If you'd like to discuss or have any questions, please call me at 281-733-5564 or email me at [darla@fernplantation.com](mailto:darla@fernplantation.com). Thank you in advance for all your help.

Submitted by: Darla Harris, Marketing Chair



### Refreshments:

Refreshments for June were generously provided by:

Drinks:	Gary Woolridge
Dips & Chips:	Cecil Strange
Fruits/Veggies:	Cherie Lee
Desserts:	Larry Rucker
Service ware:	Cecil Strange

Refreshments for July will generously be furnished by:

Drinks:	Cecil Strange
Dips & Chips:	Martha Burg
Cheese & Crackers:	Cherie Lee
Chicken Salad:	Terri Dolney
Fruits:	Donna McGraw
Veggies:	Jessica Sheldon
Desserts:	Noreen Tolman
Service ware:	Cherie Lee

Please let Cecil know if you can help with the refreshments. Come out and enjoy some really delicious food!



### Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society Statement of Income & Expenses January 1, 2010 to June 30, 2010

#### INCOME

Membership dues	\$ 280.00
Raffle Income	189.00
Plant Re-imbusement	622.00
Miscellaneous	622.00
Petty Cash	317.34
Bank Interest	<u>1.52</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$2,031.86</b>

#### EXPENSES

Plants	\$ 701.42
Projects	230.65
Lecturer Fees	261.03
Lecturer Gifts	104.27
Miscellaneous	405.87
Outstanding Check	<u>103.92</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$1,807.16</b>

**Cash Balance 12-31-2009:** \$5,971.93

**Cash Balance 6-30-2010:** \$6,196.63

**2010 Net Income:** \$ 224.70

Submitted by: Terri Dolney, Treasurer



### 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.



**July Book Review**  
**By: Frank Lee**

“Fern Growers Manual”

by Barbara Joe Hoshizaki & Robbin C. Moran

Barbara was a professor of Botany at Los Angeles City College, Curator of Pteridophyta at the University of California at Los Angeles, and has been the President of the Los Angeles International Fern Society as well as honorary member of countless Fern Societies and horticultural instructions around the world. She wrote the first Fern Growers Manual in 1975 with its 250 pages and expounded on this book in 2001 with the help of Robbin Moran, with over 600 pages covering hundreds of ferns on how to grow and just as important, how to identify them. Our TGCFS library contains copies of both of these books. Anyone interested in growing hardy, semi hardy, or tropical ferns will find a wealth of information on this group of plants. These books provide detailed, useful advice on cultivation, identification, and landscaping for ferns in any region.



**2010 Officers and Committees:**

President:	Donna McGraw
Vice President:	Jessica Sheldon
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
Marketing:	Darla Harris
Web Master:	Malcolm McCorquodale
Newsletter:	Cherie Lee
Library:	Frank Lee
Raffles:	Patrick Hudnall
Hospitality:	Cecil Strange
Welcoming at Door:	Marcia Livingston



**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](mailto: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 August Newsletter is July 24, 2010.**

Cherie Lee, Editor, *TGCFS Newsletter*



**Minutes of General Meeting, June 20, 2010**  
**Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society**

A regular monthly meeting was held at the Houston Garden Center, Houston, Texas.

The meeting commenced at 2:30 PM with President, Donna McGraw calling the meeting to order.

**General Meeting:** Donna McGraw discussed the field trip to Casa Flora in Dallas for those who were not able to attend. A very informative tour of the facility and fern propagation process was given. Other fern lovers from Austin and Dallas also attended.

Additional news shared was that the Houston Garden Center would not be torn down until a new replacement building has been built.

**Upcoming Programs:** Vice-President Jessica Sheldon discussed the upcoming programs. July will be a presentation by Barbara Joe Hoshizaki on *Platyserium* Identification and August will be the pot luck summer party at Jessica's house with the plant exchange.

**Reception and Dinner for Barbara Joe Hoshizaki:** A cool, summer potluck dinner will be held at Donna and Monty McGraw's home on Saturday, July 17<sup>th</sup> starting at 4 PM. Please contact Cecil Strange at [c2strange@comcast.net](mailto:c2strange@comcast.net) or 281-481-3884 about what you plan to bring.

**Hospitality:** Chair Cecil Strange reminded everyone to please sign up for the July 17<sup>th</sup> dinner and to bring refreshments for the July or future meetings.

**Marketing:** Chair Darla Harris requested members bring her their local papers/newsletters from other societies and let her know their favorite top plant related websites they like to visit. The goal is to advertise our society to increase membership.

**Library:** Chair Frank Lee reminded all that the Library was open for checking out books and to please return books at the next meeting.

**Newsletter:** Editor Cherie Lee reminded members that the deadline for the July Newsletter is July 1<sup>st</sup> and the August Newsletter is July 24<sup>th</sup>.

**T-shirts:** Please see Darla Harris if you ordered a T-shirt or if you want to order a different style.

**Program:** Larry Rucker demonstrated and took us through the steps of putting together your own plant press. He had press kits prepared to make the job fast and simple. Way to go Larry.

Jessica Sheldon then demonstrated the art of gluing ferns to paper. Glue and paper were available for everyone who wanted to try their hand at fern gluing. In addition, Jessica had examples of other ways to preserve ferns including using acrylic floor wax, glycerin, and paint. Supplies were provided for everyone to try their hand at this technique as well.

Two ferns were available for purchase at cost: *Polypodium pseudoaureum* “Virginia Blue Fern” and *Microsorium scolopendria* “Wart/Kangaroo Fern”. Ted Richardson prepared plant data sheets for these two ferns for members to add to their notebooks.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:00 PM.

Submitted by: Cherie Lee, Secretary



**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.

**The Houston Orchid Society, Inc.**  
[www.houstonorchidsociety.org](http://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 August 5, 2010.

**Bromeliad Society/Houston Inc.**  
[www.bromeliadsocietyhouston.org](http://www.bromeliadsocietyhouston.org)  
Regular meetings are held the third Tuesday of every month at 7:30 PM at: The Houston Garden Center.  
Next regular meetings are July 20, 2010



**Distributing the plant presses**



**June 20, 2010 General Meeting**



**Larry Rucker – Instructor Extraordinaire**



**A happy student and proud owner of a new plant press**

**Jessica Sheldon – Artist Extraordinaire**



**Determination!**



**Success!**



**Concentration!**



Barbara Joe Hoshizaki Reception/Dinner July 17<sup>th</sup> 4 PM  
Donna and Monty McGraw's Home  
22026 Glenmont Estates Blvd., Magnolia, Texas 77355

