

## JANUARY 2020 MINUTES OF GAINESVILLE BROMELIAD SOCIETY

Dr. Jack Putz from UF. His title, "Spanish Moss – Not Spanish and Certainly Not a Moss" covered tillandsia usneoides, a common tillandsia growing mostly in live oak and cypress. He discussed the color variation with grey being displayed in dry conditions and green in humid conditions. The color change is due to special hairs that change position depending upon moisture and open or close the plant to water release. Tillandsias photosynthesize similar to orchids and cactus – a palisade cell takes in CO<sub>2</sub> at night and stores it in maleate which gets converted back to CO<sub>2</sub> during the day for completion of photosynthesis.

Dr. Putz brought 3 books with him for sale.

### BUSINESS MEETING

Sandy called the business meeting to order at 3:20. The Treasurer reported \$4,837.40 in the treasury.

Sandy then thanked those who helped out on Collectors Day at the Museum. She mentioned that there will be a Flora and Fauna Festival on Saturday, February 8 – at the Entomology/Nematology bldg. 10am-4pm

She also announced the World Bromeliad Conference will be held June 10-13 with a plant sale beginning on Friday. The conference will be in Sarasota. Members should go to the Gainesville Bromeliad Society website at [www.gainesvillebromeliad.org](http://www.gainesvillebromeliad.org) for more information. Details of the conference were published in the October minutes of GBS.

Registration deadline for listing in the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies, Inc. is March 15. If you wish to be listed in the 2020 State Roster, you must pay your dues no later than the February meeting. Dues are \$20 for singles and \$25 for dual.

February's speaker will be Dr. Raiza Costillo who will talk about the Yucatan Bromeliads of the Mexican Landscape.

Name tags will no longer be handed out at the monthly meeting – each member should use the one given upon joining.