

MAY 28, 2023 MINUTES OF GAINESVILLE BROMELIAD SOCIETY

The meeting was held at the Millhopper Branch of the Alachua County Library. Tom Wolfe talked about “Cold Hardy Bromeliads”. He said that many species of bromeliads (but especially *Aechmea*) are cold hardy but that local factors also play a role. Microclimates arising from low spots will produce much colder conditions. Also to be considered is wind protection (use frost cloth), high humidity (produces frost) duration (2-3 hours ok but 24 or greater hours can kill), hanging baskets are more susceptible than in-ground plants. Some of the *Aechmea* particularly cold hardy are *Ae. recurvata*, *calyculata*, *nudicalis*, *gamosepala*, and *distichantha*. Other genera that are cold hardy are *Quesnelia* (all) and the *Dyckias*. Meeting attendees also received a written list of “Cold Sensitivity of Some Bromeliads” and a list of “Accepted Bromeliaceae Names.”

Nancy Mason brought two plants: one a *Quesnelia* Tim Plowman (in flower) and *Tillandsia concolor*.

The business meeting began at 3:05 with the Treasurer’s report: \$1,264.54 In checking and \$2,631.40 in savings.

GBS donated \$75 to the upcoming July Florida Council Extravaganza to be held on July 28-29 in West Palm Beach. Registration is \$ 150.00. Speakers will be Chester Skotak from Costa Rica, David Shiigi from Hawaii, and Eloise Beach from Apopka.

The minutes from the April meeting were approved.

Sandy indicated that if anyone needed nametags to contact her.

Sandy is chair this year for the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies. The Council is sponsoring an auction on Saturday night to support the Society and Sandy asked if anyone had a spectacular plant to donate it – she would like 3.

The Bromeliad Society International publishes a journal that can be obtained from Sandy and they have a website open to all at “bsi.org”.

Bob Stevens suggested that in the near future GBS should go to the Wilmot Gardens to retag and replace some of their bromeliads. More later.

Meeting adjourned at 3:20 with a head count of 35 (36 signed in).

