

JULY 28, 2024 MINUTES of Gainesville Bromeliad Society

New members were noted. Steve Provost introduced Kenneth Stokes from Tampa who brought a large variety of rare bromeliads. He discussed conditions for growing: air, light, and water emphasizing the need for quality water. Acid rain and Sahara dust both affect the growth of bromeliads (Saharan dust helps with nitrogen and phosphate). Air flow is important. Move plants in the winter to where you want them to end up to give them time to adjust. Most bromeliads prefer a pH of 5-7.

Business Meeting. Bob Stevens thanked Kenneth for bringing a large variety of plants. Nancy Mason had 3 plants for Show and Tell: a Guzmania 'superb', a Vriesea simplex and the bloom stalk from a Pitcarnia bergii. Nancy then pointed out the plants for the silent auction. Sandy Burnett also brought a plant for Show and Tell that was a cryptanthus with a small white bloom.

The June minutes were approved. Steve Provost went over the upcoming speakers who are listed on the website. In August, Greg Kolojeski will talk about Aechmea and in September David Johnston would present (no topic yet). In October there will be a visit to Keith and Susan Legg's home; November will be our holiday meeting and there is no meeting in December.

GBS will participate in the October 18-19 Fall Expo where we will have a table for selling plants. Anyone who wants to donate a potted plant is welcome. The plant needs to be in good shape and labeled with genus and species.

Sandy Burnett gave the Treasurer's report: \$2,634.47 in savings and \$1,284.03 in checking. Sandy then presented Nancy Mason with the "Crushed Pineapple" award for her years of participation in GBS. Nancy was also made a lifetime member.

The raffle began by calling new members first.

Meeting adjourned about 3:30 with 35 attendees