



Meeting: November 11, 2017

Attendance: 14 members and 2 guests

Treasurer's report: \$5878 + \$586 cash for a total of \$6464. 21 members have paid their dues. We now have 5 new members

Discussion: Our president had a previous engagement, Vice President Jorge Nazario led this meeting.

We honor all of our veterans this Veteran's Day.

There will be no workshop in November due to the holidays. The next meeting will be December 9 at Adam's nursery. This will be instructions regarding the making of slabs. Guest Artist will be Ronn Miller.

The annual holiday party will be December 17 at Ben Agresta's house and gardens. There will be a silent auction and a live auction. Bring your best trees for Trophies for Best large, Best medium, Best small and people's choice.

The proposed budget, by-laws and guidelines were voted upon and approved by the membership.

This month's guest artist is Hiram Macias from Miami. He gave an excellent presentation and demonstration on Neea

Hiram stated that it takes approximately 5-6 years to develop a nice silhouette. Neas have virtually no pests, and prefer full sun. Most mature neas are obtained from Puerto Rico, and propagation is from seeds, cuttings and air layers.

He recommends not letting the wire cut in and feed monthly with a balanced fertilizer and micronutrients. Neas tend to grow faster with an increase in humidity. The leaf color varies with the area in Puerto Rico that they were collected.

Hiram recommends repotting in the spring when the temperature is above 70 degrees, using a soilless mix and SuperThrive. He says to use cut paste on larger wounds, as they heal slowly. Topiary trimming in the growing stage is acceptable to increase branching.

He uses Biogold fertilizer for mame and shohin, Miracle Gro and Dyna Gro for others. Hiram states that he has had some problems with the new formulation of Osmocote.

