

# The BEGONIAN

*Devoted to the Sheltered Gardens*

BEGONIA  
VIAUDI



Photo by  
A. H. Gere



Courtesy of  
Helen K. Krauss



NOVEMBER  
1951



TWENTY-FIVE  
CENTS



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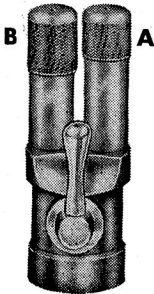


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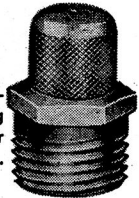


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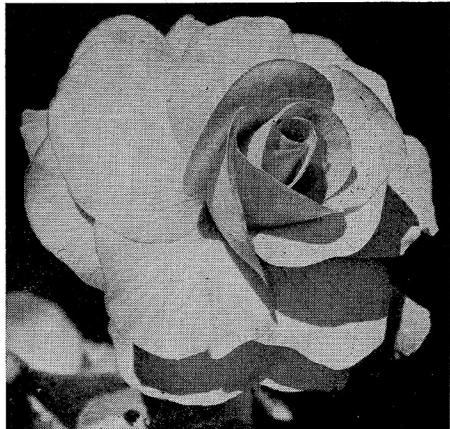
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*Alexander Sim Nursery Photo*

## **Prunifolia Rosea**

*(Pink-flowered variation of prunifolia)*

## Viaudi and Her Children

By Research Department

Mrs. Krauss' book tells us that 'Viaudi' is a cross of *B. x Duchartrei* x *B. x pictaviensis*. It was introduced by Bruant in France about 1867. I have never seen a plant of *B. x pictaviensis* but certainly this plant we are growing today does not take after the mother plant unless it gets the hairiness of the leaves from her. One can hardly believe that this small leaved plant had a mother whose leaves were so large. It is such a distinct plant in its own right that one can well see why it has survived for 10, these many years.

The leaves are 2" x 5", olive green on the surface, ovate-pointed, sometimes cupped. It has rather thick leaves for a hairy fibrous begonia, giving one the impression that they have been starched. The back of the leaf has a dull red flush, sometimes covering the entire surface of the leaf and other times letting the dull green of the leaf show through. The entire plant is covered with white hairs. The stems and petioles are the same dull red, some petioles showing the dull green underneath.

The whole plant is very stiff looking. It is a medium grower, often going to 3 feet or more. The flowers are medium in size, white, and I hope Mrs. Krauss will forgive me in varying the description of the hairs on the flowers. The plants growing out here are not white-bearded but the petals on the flowers have short, red, stiff hairs on them. The hairs appear so stiff that one would almost take them for spines.

Many years ago, it was discovered that *B. 'Viaudi'* made a good seed parent and a good many crosses have been made on it. Perhaps some of the better known plants are as follows:

*B. 'Neeley Gaddis'* produced by Mrs. Gray in 1922 (see Sept., 1943, *Begonian*).

*B. 'Pink Neeley Gaddis'* raised by Constance Bower in 1927 (see April, 1943, *Begonian*).

*B. x prunifolia* introduced by Mr. Robinson in 1922.

*B. 'Irene'* (*B. 'Viaudi'* x *B. Scharffiana*), another of Mrs. Gray's introductions. This begonia resembles *B. Scharffiana* in leaf size and coloring but differs from *B. Scharffiana* in having a squared side to the leaf. In other words *B. Scharffiana* has a leaf that is distinctly round, while *B. 'Irene'* gives one the impression of being a longer leaf, due to the fact that the leaf edge opposite the sinus is not rounded but comes down in a straighter line. I have often seen *B. 'Irene'* being sold as *B. Scharffiana*. It is unusually difficult to propagate.

*B. x rufida* is a cross of *B. 'Viaudi'* x *B. 'prunifolia'*. Introduced by Miss Bower in 1937. (See Dec., 1943, *Begonian*.)

### B. VESPERIA

*B. 'Vesperia'* syn. 'Improved Margaritae'. Raised by Mrs. Gray in 1937. This particular begonia has a much wider leaf than *B. x Margaritae* and is more lobed. The veins on the back of the leaf resemble those of *B. metallica* and perhaps that was the other parent. There is a slight flush of red on the back of the leaf near the sinus. Stems and petioles are reddish and the whole plant is covered with soft white hairs. In the ground the plant will grow to three or four feet. The plant is a good bloomer for me although the flowers are not as large as I would like them. The flowers are white, covered with pink hairs, and held upright. There is a distinct red ring around

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Alexander Sim Nursery Photo

## Vesperia (syn. Improved Margaritae)

the joints on the stems. On the flower petiole, this is reversed as there is a light green ring where the flower clusters branch.

### B. VIAUSCHARFF

B. 'Viauscharff,' also introduced by Mrs. Gray, in 1938, isn't too well known but is very worthwhile. My plant which I obtained from

Eastern sources is much like *B. x Viandi* in leaf coloring. The leaf itself measures about a half inch wider than *B. x Viandi* and is not quite as long. The plant itself is not as stiff looking as *B. x Viandi* and tends to arch more. It grows to about 3 feet in the ground. What makes it most outstanding in my garden is its

long blooming period. It has rather large white flowers. The male flower is two inches wide with two large white petals and two small. The female flowers have four large ruffled petals and one smaller. The ovaries are greenish but the *alas* are tinted pink. This is one of the *'Viaudi'* crosses that also retains the red stiff hairs on the back of the petals and ovaries. It has been an exceptionally good bloomer for me, especially during the winter time, when not many of the plants are in bloom.

For the sake of future collectors, mention should be made of another plant arising from this same cross. I have only recently seen it in Mrs. Calloway's garden. Mrs. Calloway has a good many of her Mother's original plants and it is interesting to note that Mrs. Gray saved a plant of this cross that has more of the *B. Scharffiana* look about it. The leaf itself seems to be a little smaller and more narrow than my plant of *B. 'Viauscharff'* and it has retained the plushiness of *B. Scharffiana* rather than the stiffness of *B. 'Viaudi'*. It has also retained the drooping habit of *B. Scharffiana* rather than the upright habit of *B. 'Viaudi'*. As in all crosses, variations will show up, especially those crosses where one parent is a hybrid and one a species. From all evidence at hand at the present time, the upright growing *B. 'Viauscharff'* was released to the trade but Mrs. Gray retained the one child of this

cross that especially appealed to her. As far as I know, this particular plant was never in trade channels and perhaps only a few friends have ever seen it.

#### NEWEST CROSS

The newest cross using *B. 'Viaudi'* as one of the parents is Mr. Ziesenne's introduction of *laetivirides* x *'Viaudi'*. This is the only time that I have seen a cross of *B. 'Viaudi'* using it as a male parent instead of a female parent. Perhaps now that the pollen on *B. 'Viaudi'* has proven good, we will have more plants using the pollen of *B. 'Viaudi'*. There is a very good picture of this cross in the July 1951 *Begonian*. My plant has the coloring and texture of the leaf of *B. laetivirides* with the shape of the leaf resembling *B. 'Viaudi'*. It seems to be more of an upright grower for me, perhaps taking this characteristic from the father. From the female parent one would imagine that it would make a good basket plant and perhaps some of the plants from this cross will show this drooping characteristic.

I have tried in this article to describe a few of the plants that have not already been written up in previous articles in back issues of the *Begonian*. *B. 'Viaudi'* is an outstanding plant in itself and her children have given us many variations in leaf form. Perhaps future hybridizing will bring us many more outstanding begonias.

## Your Editor

### BEGONIA NAMES

An x before a begonia name means it is a cross, not a species, and so do the single quotation marks around an unlatinized name or wherever another x might be confusing. Properly, latin names are reserved for species and their variations and customarily are often used for first generation hybrids (one species by another species), and should always appear in italics. Horticulturists recommend that English names be given to subsequent crosses and all the less distinct variations that arise in cultivation of species. The horticultural rule followed by *The Begonian* is that latin species and variety names deriving from persons be capitalized although Standardized Plant Names and some publications recommend that none of these take capitals. All names in English will be capitalized as proper nouns as customary. Because it is hardly satisfactory to add the 'x' before every hybrid, yet for clarity we would like to indicate which plants are hybrids, we will reserve the 'x' for latinized names if it does not confuse the sense. In other cases we will use the single quotation mark because they can thus indicate hybrids and also make all names of begonias stand out on the page for easier reference. In the past we have used

italics on all begonia names for the latter purpose, although it was manifestly incorrect to use italics except on the latinized names. We would prefer using a bold-face type as does Helen K. Krauss in her book, but technical printing difficulties make that impracticable. We hope this will help you in making clearer the begonia references.

### MOTHER PEARL

Mrs. Pearl Sanborn of Thetford Center, Vermont, writes a very interesting account of her latest begonia activities in which she states she had very good results in germinating some seed saved two or more years ago including some 'President Carnot,' either *Kellermani* or *peltata*, and *semperflorens* and *franconis* (1948), among others. This shows begonia seed given good care will often germinate even though old. Air-tight containers and a cool storage place are helpful in keeping seed in good condition.

### U.C.I.A. REPORT

Mr. John Ferguson's solution of the mildew problem (see page 245) is the result of the cooperation of one of our newest members, whose story you will read next month. When mildew invaded, the University experimented with the new fungicide, saving the plants at once.



View from Greenhouse Roof, Rancho del Cielo, Mexico

"Poncho" Presents

## *Begonia Ethel Irene*

By W. F. Harrison, El Limon, Mexico

(For a long time Mr. Harrison has been of great assistance to the Seed Fund and is better known to the Armchair Explorers as "Poncho.")

*Begonia* 'Ethel Irene' is a *Sutherlandi* seedling whose pollen parent may be *B. gracilis diversifolia* or *B. x lucerna*. It is a chance seedling that came up in a batch of *Sutherlandi* x tuberous seed germinated in April, 1949, and stayed green with foliage until new growth began in March, 1950. It first flowered the beginning of April and then bloomed steadily until the end of November, 1950. The picture was taken of the original plant on August 28th by W. B. Fox, N. C. State College, who is a botanist and came here to study the flora of the mountains.

'Ethel Irene' stayed semi-evergreen until growth began in March.

Semi-tuberous, she sends out a multitude of sprouts, mostly from the tuberous-like base. There are so many that a considerable amount of pruning out has to be done. They root

easily either directly from cuttings of sprout stems or the sprout with a part of the tuber attached. Late in the year the basal nodes swell up until some are a half inch in diameter.

The leaves are wider in proportion to their length than those of *B. Sutherlandi* (3 inches long by 2 inches wide) and are red at the sinus; they open bronze and change to dark green with lighter edge, are shallowly lobed but sharply and deeply dentate. The leaves stay on the plant until cool weather in winter when they begin gradually to fall. Underneath they are a lighter green with red veins. All stems, petioles, etc., are red maroon.

One staminate flower is produced on a  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch stem with a pistillate flower on each side but on  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch stems and then one or two more pistillate flowers on an extension of the main flower stem. The staminate flowers are four-petaled,  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch long by  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch wide, upper and lower petals, side petals narrow and shorter; i.e., upper and lower petals total  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches across and the width of the flower



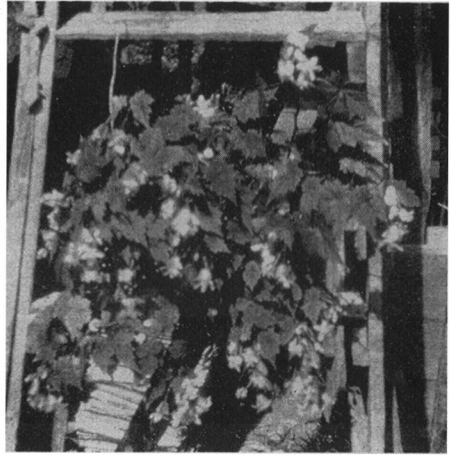
is 1 inch. It is medium rose pink in color, deeper rose pink on the reverse. They last about three days.

The pistillate flowers have five petals and are 1½ inches across, a little deeper in color with the reverse deep rose pink — also the ovaries. They last nearly indefinitely (2-3 weeks) before falling but refuse to set viable seed.

Cuttings taken in August will begin to bloom in November or December. It is easily grown, tolerates some morning sun, where it produces deeper colored foliage and flowers, but does well in light shade. One plant that I have here is 30 inches across, grown from a cutting taken in August, 1950. It is such a beautiful begonia that I have named it after my sister who came to visit me.

*(Mr. Harrison is registering his new hybrid with the A.B.S. to record priority on the name as well as properly identify his plant for future generations and perhaps some day living plant materials can be safely brought across*

*the border and then we may all be able to grow this new one.)*



**Begonia Ethel Irene**

## Mexico Yo Te Amo

*(Mexico, I Love You)*

The Convention and Flower Show was a busy time for your Skipper and for me, and feeling that I deserved another vacation, I took off via air for Mexico City on the 24th of September. I'm not quite content to be just another armchair explorer; I prefer to do some of the seed hunting myself. I had a most wonderful time but didn't bring you back even one begonia seed, and I am extremely sorry.

I visited many gardens and nurseries trying my best to find something new, but actually saw very little different from what we have had in our Seed Fund. One plantman said he had seventeen different begonia species, but I did not see any which we do not already have, but I did see many very colorful rex begonias. One florist who has been in business there since 1895 had a large display of cattleya hybrids in many colors, also a few native orchid species, but never before have I seen so many in bloom at one showing.

The Chapultepec Botanical Garden and greenhouses had nice plants, mostly palms and philodendrons. The superintendent was very pleasant and wants American friends to visit the Garden. Of course I came away from there with some seeds, but not of begonias. On a trip to Cuernavaca and Taxco I saw orchids and bromeliads growing in trees. This is a very tropical country and in the rainy season everything is very green and beautiful. Being

in a valley it is much warmer than Mexico City and many people own summer homes here; also there is an American Colony. The famous Borda Gardens are here, built by a silvermining millionaire, and the gardens were later used by Emperor Maximilian and Empress Carlotta as their gardens. There is a large pool for boats and, having every sign of being a beautiful garden but now neglected, it is still lovely. Further on is Taxco, the highlight of every "turista" to Mexico. The quaint cobblestone streets, the odd little shops, the old churches with the plazas, many colorful flowers in pots, all go to make this an attractive place to visit. Many of the native Indians are employed making silver jewelry, as the mines are nearby. It is here that I purchased a silver necklace for our skipper.

Other trips included Pueblo and Toluca, the Indian trading market where everyone buys at least one basket, so of course I had to buy one too.

Early in the morning I took a trip to Xochimilco for a ride in one of the flower bedecked canoes in the floating gardens with natives following in smaller canoes with all kinds of merchandise to sell. Many had flowers made into corsages selling for one to two pesos each. (A peso is about 11c in our money.) The charro orchestra rode along in a nearby canoe

*Turn to next page*

playing Mexican music to us. On the way back to the city I stopped to see the bull fights at a new arena. It is a very colorful affair with such a lot of ceremony and dress, but it isn't my idea of a sport. I did, however, manage to stay thru the killing of four bulls, but then felt somewhat better when I heard that the meat went to the charity institutions there.

My one regret is that I did not get to visit Fortin where orchids and gardenias grow profusely and where you can go swimming in a pool with gardenias floating on the water. My time was up and I had to go home with the airplane even though I would have preferred to spend at least another week.

Your Skipper's helper,

Maud Nichols.



## Armchair Explorers

November Newsletter

Dear Armchair Explorers: I'm up to my neck in correspondence these days, please forgive me if I don't get your letter answered as soon as you think I should. I shall get around to all the letters before long.

New seeds in are large size hybrid Amaryllis seeds from India at 50c per packet, *Philodendron Selloum*, 50c per packet and Staghorn fern spores, 25c.

I neglected to tell you last month that Carl Fisher of the Fisher's Begonia Gardens in Anaheim, California, has given me all their hybrid rex begonia seed to sell for them at 50c per packet.

Other kinds of begonia seed are coming in now but I am saving them up for spring distribution. Wait for the begonia list which will be in the January issue.

Mrs. Maud Nichols, who worked hard as usual with packaging your seed all year and helping with our booth at the Convention, left me at home and flew off to Mexico City. She did, however, bring me back a most beautiful silver necklace and ear rings which helps make up for not taking me with her. I had really thought she would find you some begonia seed, but see that she actually failed us this time. I asked her to write you a story of her trip and give me a chance to spend my time trying to answer your letters. So, adios for now,

Your skipper,

Florence Carrell.

# Ferns As Companion Plants to Begonias

Reported by Mrs. Ted Raebel, Portland Branch

Carl Starker, leading authority on flower arrangement in the Pacific Northwest, talked on this subject at the June meeting of the Portland Begonia Society.

Mr. Starker began by naming a few varieties that were native to the Northwest area as well as some he recently imported from England and Canada. Some of the most desirable natives were Maidenhair, for its ease of culture, as it may be divided in the Spring; Woods fern; Oak fern for its creeping habit; *polypodium*, or Licorice fern (the Latin is *vulgare*, meaning common), which has a strong licorice taste and is found growing on trees; and the *cheilanthes* for its grey green fronds and suitability to warm dry places.

Then there were several interesting ferns from England. Among those are the Lady ferns, liked for their endless variations in form—crested, double crested, and fringed—which are light green in color and die down in the fall. The *Dryopteris filix-mas* is evergreen and graceful with very handsome fronds. Bladder fern, *cystopteris bulbifera*, is interesting for its habit of producing bulblets at the base of the leaves. These are dropped and will reproduce new plants. *Polystichum* is interesting for its very strong growth and wide, shining fronds.

Some of these ferns may even make desirable house plants. The *polystichum lonchites*, or Holly fern, and the *cheilanthes* are liked for their grey green foliage and may be used with such plants as cacti in a dry collection.

As for culture in the garden, all ferns seem fairly easy to care for. They want considerable moisture. Some shade is necessary, preferably under trees or high shrubs. The *cheilanthes* are the exception and prefer warm, sunny places in the garden.

Mr. Starker told of using turkey peat around his Lady ferns and the Male ferns and they responded very well to this treatment. The Male ferns are evergreen and produce a fine crop of new fronds quite late in the season that carry over into the winter, making a fine showing in the winter garden. Another interesting fern is named Sensitive because it comes up so early in the spring and is often nipped by the frost, but recovers quickly. This fern is fine for corsage work. The New York fern is a rarity and is found only in protected areas in the state of New York. There is a \$500 fine for digging this fern.

Polyopdy fern is evergreen and runs along the ground.



## Q + A = Success

by Research Dept.

Rt. 1, 505 Hermes, Encinitas, Calif.

Question: From Pocatello, Idaho, comes a query about the goal to work for in hybridizing semperflorens begonias. The opinions expressed in the answer will be my own, but I feel sure that this member of the Begonia society would welcome correspondence with other hybridizers in this field. The name is Jessie L. Clark, 820 West Young Street, Pocatello, Idaho.

Answer: As you stated in your letter "semperflorens seem to be the 'most of which the least is mentioned.'" There are several reasons why the semperflorens are not talked about more. (In time we will find another branch of the family tree relegated to the attic for much the same reason and that is the rex branch.) It is true that we have the tall type, the short bushy type, the intermediate type, the type with green leaves and the type with brown leaves, but when it comes to the show-down they all have the same type flowers and the leaves are so much alike that a child would be able to recognize them for what they were. They have been so easily crossed and so many people have named them simply on the variation of coloring of the flowers. We've had no testing grounds where hybridizers may send their plants for judging and as a consequence there are so many duplications of plants that actual names have no meaning anymore. I think I worked up a list one time of the names of semperflorens and had some 300-odd names. For all the descriptions one could find, they could fall in any of the classes mentioned above and remain just a semperflorens with either a white, pink, or red flower, single or double, with either green or bronze foliage. It has been some years since I was interested in semperflorens as a class and perhaps some of the newer hybrids have some distinct characteristic that makes them outstanding. That I wouldn't know about. But as far as the whole class goes, the only *variations* that in my opinion rate a mention are the ball type flowered ones and the calla lily semperflorens.

Now as to the goal that I would like to see: How one is going to accomplish it, I can't say, but if semperflorens are ever going to be lifted out of the "bedding" class out here, they are going to have to be changed somewhat. So work towards giving a definite change to the leaf shape. Try for lobed leaves, long narrow leaves, plushy leaves—any shaped leaf that is a distinct variation from the class. Improve the ball type flower by removing a lot of the petals so that it will resemble the mul-

tiflora tuberous more. I don't believe that it's necessary to get a large flower because semperflorens as a general rule are prolific bloomers and there are fairly large flowered types available now but if one wants to work for larger flowers try for a double.

You, of course, are working against great odds when it comes to the semperflorens because they have such dominant characteristics. I can't have them around my place at all because during the course of the year I set many seed pods for the Seed Fund. One semperflorens can do more damage to that purpose than any other type of plant, because of the huge amounts of pollen they release. But the single flower's dominance has been broken once, so perhaps some cross will break the leaf-type dominance. Perhaps you can put the spray-type flower of the Christmas begonias on a semperflorens. As a class there is much that could be done and perhaps my suggestions are going to prove to be impossible. I fully realize that people living outside of Southern California receive a good deal of pleasure out of the semperflorens as a class because of their long blooming habit and ease of cultivation but we in Southern California are looking for something different that can't be picked up at any roadside stand by the flat full.

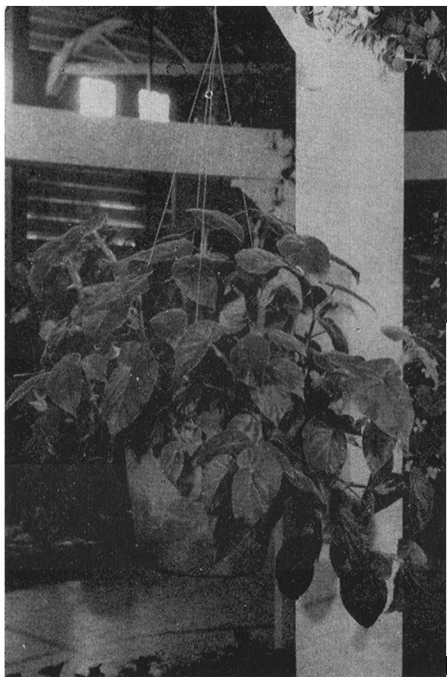
I know that I have incurred the ire of quite a few hybridizers because I turn such a jaundiced eye on their children, so it is in hopes that I will get in their good graces that I have set forth some ideals toward which to work. Create a plant for me that I can put out in my yard with pride and when visitors come to the house to inspect my many fibrous begonias they'll say "Who was the hybridizer that created that beautiful plant?" instead of my saying, "I picked up a flat of green and red leaved bedding plants over at the nursery and I think I'll put them out by the garage so I'll have a little color out there." If you can't break the leaf dominance then how about transferring some of the rex coloring to the leaf. Wouldn't a border of leaves colored like 'Abel Carriere' mixed with the purple leaves on some of the rexes be out of this world? I think so anyway.

### ROOTING CUTTINGS

Mrs. Gladys Nolan reported that at the Ventura meeting she had visited Mr. Rudolf Ziesenhenné spoke and suggested taking a lug box with good drainage in the bottom and making a deep bed of "sponge rock," placing cuttings in that, watering well, placing a glass over the top and not watering again and potting immediately when roots are no more than 1/2 inch long.

# The Halverson Story

By Marie Minter



K. Garrison Clarke Photo

**1950**

From the two photographs of the same plant (Begonia 'Alto-Scharff'), one can see just what can be accomplished in one year's time by good management and a genuine love of begonias. Mr. Lawrence Halverson first entered this plant at the San Gabriel show. Then he entered it in competition in the 1950 Convention. He was awarded a first in its class at that convention. This year he entered it again in competition at the 1951 Convention and this time he won the award for having the best plant in the show.

Mr. Halverson has spent a good deal of time pampering his special babies. I have visited his place and every plant shows the same good care. Regular feeding, careful pruning, and above all the regular turning of this particular basket plant were all combined to obtain one of the outstanding basket plants of the year.



S. Spaulding Photo

**1951**

B. 'Alto-Scharff' is a cross between *B. laetevirides* and *B. Scharffiana*. The name first appeared in Mr. Woodriff's catalog. At that time *B. laetevirides* was known and called *B. 'alto da serra.'* Both Mr. Ziesenhenné and Mr. Clark of D-Vista Gardens have this plant for those who wish to acquire it for their collections.

Before attempting to describe this plant I must say that all plants that are described by me are plants that are actually grown at this location. Therefore, some variation will show up in general coloring, size of leaves, etc. As with all crosses, there are minor variations that appear from time to time. One plant in a different location will appear less colorful, leaves will be smaller; perhaps the plant has never bloomed for someone else. All these things should be taken into consideration in trying to judge whether or not your plant is

the same one as mine. My plants are grown in the ground and we have a good deal of foggy weather; therefore my plant will have a more intense coloring in the leaves and, being grown in the ground, will obtain larger leaves than one grown in a pot.

At the present time the largest leaf on my plant of B. 'Alto-Scharff' measures  $3\frac{1}{2}$  x  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches. It is a soft dark green leaf covered with white hairs. The back of the leaf is a deep red also covered with short white hairs. The veins on the back of the leaf are quite prominent and a much brighter shade of red than the leaf surface. The red of the veins shows up on the surface of the leaf but, as the leaf has so many white hairs on it, this isn't evident unless one examines the leaf carefully. The edge of the leaf is very obscurely lobed, a little serrate and is colored red.

The leaf itself ends in a sharp, elongated point.

The stems and petioles are dark red, covered with white hairs. The plant grows to about two feet in the ground and spreads into a very bushy plant in time. The flowers are white. The unopened male flower has a flush of red on the back of the petals and the bud is covered with red hairs. The male flower has two large petals and two small. At the present time no female flowers are on my particular plant, so I cannot describe them.

This plant differs from the *laetivirides* x '*Viandi*' cross in having a much wider leaf, one that is softer looking, and one that has a long tail-like point. The recent picture printed in the Begonian of Mr. Ziesenhenne's *laetivirides* x '*Viandi*' cross and the picture printed of the B. 'Alto-Scharff' will point up the differences in the two plants.

## Powdery Mildew of Begonia

John Ferguson

Division of Plant Pathology

University of California, Los Angeles

Growers of begonias from Santa Barbara to San Diego, California, have been reporting this year a new disease, powdery mildew. A disease of this type was, however, reported in California in 1935 on tuberous begonias at Capitola. It has also been reported from Florida and North Carolina.

The fungus appears as a grey to white powdery coating of mycelium and spores on spots up to one-half inch diameter on the surface of leaves and stems. The most characteristic feature of the more severe infections is the necrotic reddish margin surrounding the white spot. The disease appears most conspicuously on basal leaves or on plants grown under conditions of partial shade.

The causal organism of this disease is a powdery mildew fungus. Only the asexual stage (*Oidium* sp. of the *Erysiphe polygoni* type) was found. Unlike many fungus infections, powdery mildews are severe under California climatic conditions. The spores are extremely small and airborne. Infection develops most readily under humid, shady conditions. The conditions of the summer of 1951 have been such that other powdery mildews (for example, that occurring on roses)

have been more destructive than usual.

Little is known of the relative susceptibility of different varieties of begonias, but the mildew has been seen on many of the popular varieties.

The fungicide, Iscothan, has given excellent control of powdery mildews on chrysanthemums, roses, and other plants. Limited tests on begonias indicate that it is also effective on this plant. A single thorough application of 3 ounces of Iscothan per 100 gallons of water with 5 ounces of spreader (DuPont Sticker Spreader or Triton B1956) gave good control with one spray application. Higher dosages gave control proportional to coverage and for this reason two sprays, spaced a week apart, are recommended. Complete coverage should be stressed, and the user is cautioned against using higher concentrates than 5 ounces per 100 gallons, although 8 ounces per 100 gallons showed no plant injury during the cool period of testing.

Due to the newness of this fungicide it is presently available only from Innis, Speiden and Company through their offices in New York and San Francisco, and their representatives.

### AFRICAN VIOLETS

#### LEAVES - PLANTS

The best of the older varieties  
and many new ones  
Write for list



#### ORCHARD NURSERY

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Lafayette, Calif.

### AUTOMATIC-WATERING PLANT GLASWICKS

4" wicks 7/32", 1/4", 3/8" diameter 15c each.  
Use 7/32" for 4" pot. Write for bulk prices.  
Humisite best soil bacterial activator.

#### JOHN P. TOBERMAN

5520 Auden

Houston 5, Texas

# Begonia Nomenclature -- An Invitation

By Wm. E. Walton, 1950 A.B.S. President

During the past decade there has been within our society a nucleus of interest in species and varieties of begonias. This has taken root and been well cultivated by the people who have had this mutual interest. Now we have a thoroughly integrated Nomenclature Department. There are many ways in which the development of this department is of concern to the membership.

## REGISTER

First, if you have a begonia that is new and you desire to establish its identity so that it will continue to be known under the name selected, you have only to list or register it with your Nomenclature Department.

## VOLUNTEER DESCRIPTIONS

Second, you can perform a service for the Nomenclature Department that will be of as much value to you as it will be to your Society. You can write to the Nomenclature Department, attn. Mr. H. M. Butterfield, 39 Giannini Hall, U. C., Berkeley, Calif., and obtain forms for the standardized description of begonias and fill these forms out completely and thoroughly. In so doing you will learn many of the identifying characteristics that are a part of each plant. When you have the forms completely filled out they are to be returned to the Nomenclature Department, where the committee will review them and compare them with forms for the same plant sent in by other people. Thus an accurate description of each plant will be developed. Soon the process will be reversed. A grower having a plant with which he is not familiar can accurately establish true identity by contacting the Nomenclature Department.

## VOLUNTEER TRANSCRIPTIONS

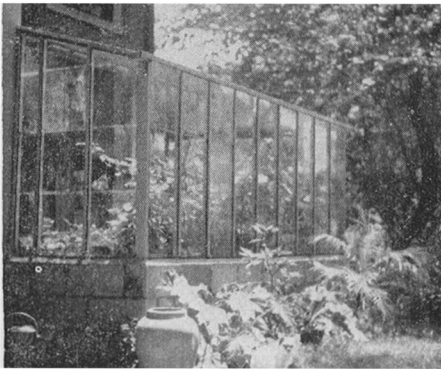
Third, there is great need for people to do the first step work outlined in the paragraph above. Many begonias have been described in different publications. These descriptions have to be transferred to the standardized form used by the Nomenclature Department. Here again, by offering to perform some of this transcribing work in your own home, you will learn many details of specific plant description that will aid you in knowing more about our fine subject.

## LEARN

Fourth, if you have a fairly good knowledge of begonias and want to learn the distinguishing characteristics of more begonias, you should definitely do some of this work.

Last, you should, in doing this work, be as accurate as possible, but if you do make mistakes it will not be too serious, for the Nomenclature Department, in developing the final description from several received on one plant, will not only note the differences in the descriptions, but will write back to you, asking you to re-check particular details. All discrepancies will not be errors because growing conditions, light and feeding programs, will cause variations in a given plant. When young, *MacDougalii* will have only eight leaves in the palmated structure, but when older it will often have ten leaves in this structure. Such characteristics as this will be properly catalogued as the record is developed. Much work must be done to clear and record these details.

Your participation will benefit your Society and you will broaden your knowledge of begonias. Let us hear from you soon.



Glass house of Amy V. Breshears, Missouri Branch, containing her nomenclature collection of 80-some varieties of Begonias.



## What Does It Mean to You?

When Mrs. Edith Humistan retired as president of the Whittier Branch recently, she was presented with our Society pin, pictured above, in appreciation of her services.

Mrs. Humistan said she valued this pin more than all the lodge pins she had because it stood for the begonias from which she had derived so much pleasure and satisfaction.

If you do not have your pin, you can easily obtain yours by sending \$3.32 to Mrs. Edna Korts, 3628 Revere Avenue, Los Angeles 39, California, today.

## Begonia Collecting As An Educational Hobby

*By Mrs. Dorothy Pierson Barton, Flint, Michigan*

Ridiculed by an ardent stamp collector, who deemed his hobby the only educational one, I started jotting down the reasons begonia collecting could be classed as an educational hobby and the avenues of study led into many fields of learning.

You beginners should first get a notebook for your self-education. Outline a course of study and, taking each part, glean from old botany text books, dictionary or encyclopedias all you can and fill in your outline gradually. Little by little you will find you are entering realms of botany, heredity and environment, pathology, chemistry, nomenclature and classifications, genetics, hydroponics, ecology and agronomy. What hobby educationally can offer you more!

You may think plant structure immaterial to collecting; yet how much more you understand it if basically you have an understanding of root systems, stem, leaves and flowers. Each of these demand minute details into which learning by reading equips you to delve deeper and wider for your scope. A botany text book can be borrowed from a school near you, if you cannot get to a library.

For instance, take begonia flowers on the tuberous varieties. Did you know each male terminal blossom has the two "wives"—which are simple and modest, while the male flower is large, gorgeously double, like camellias, roses or carnations? This same feature is true of most of our birds — the male being the colorful one in gorgeous plumage while his wife is demurely clad in somber hues better for protection while sitting on her nest of eggs.

Do you understand exactly how your fibrous rooted *semperflorens* absorb the food in solution from watered soil through osmosis into each tiny cell? This denser solution passes up into the tap root and then, by help of pressure and osmosis, these minerals are finally deposited in the leaves, which, by aid of sunlight, can utilize them with chlorophyll to make carbohydrates. If you place a strip of paper with adhesive over one part of a green leaf, shutting off the light to it, a matter of a few hours will turn that part yellow. This proves that the green coloring matter, chlorophyll, has to have light to do its work. This is just a beginning to the interesting information you can glean from an hour with a botany text.

To understand humidity for your begonias you must know how each pore in the leaves gives off vapor — transpiration — and how much healthier you are when your home contains plants.

The petiole holds the leaf to the stem and acts as a middle-man transporting the fluids from the stem out to the leaf blade which manufactures the foods and in turn carrying this food back to the stem and out to the flower stalks for development of the inflorescences and seed pods. What an important part this small petiole plays in the cycle of life to the plant!

Doesn't this lead you to study more? To learn plant diseases and pests and how to combat them? Try treating yourself to a free hour a day or even half an hour spent in study and prove how much richer your knowledge can quickly become. In this way your *begonias* will mean *education*.

Pelargonium growers will be interested to know that Mrs. Helen K. Krauss has practically completed her book on Pelargoniums. Mrs. Krauss is the author of "Begonias for American Homes and Gardens." She would like to obtain black-and-white photos of pelargoniums grown in California to use for illustrations in the book. If you have some, won't you please get in touch with her right away? The address is: Wynnewood Plaza, Wynnewood, Pa.

### GOLDEN MEMBERS

Long Beach Parent: In April two couples celebrated their golden wedding anniversaries — Mr. and Mrs. O. P. Palstine — now of Boye's Hot Springs, Sonoma County, California, and Mr. and Mrs. Hugh W. Hixon. (Mrs. Hixon has been National Historian).

### TRIBUTE

In memory of Mr. John L. Ryan, husband of our founder, the Sacramento Branch donated \$10.00 to the National Heart Society and \$100.00 to the Sacramento Garden Center Building Fund.—*Mrs. Leonard M. Flannigan.*

# Library Notes

It is not too early to begin thinking of the holidays ahead and the following books are in stock for gifts to those who enjoy plant information:

*BEGONIAS FOR AMERICAN HOMES AND GARDENS*, Helen K. Krauss, \$2.49; *BEGONIAS & HOW TO GROW THEM*, Bessie R. Buxton, \$2.75; *TUBEROUS BEGONIAS*, Worth Brown, \$2.75; *THE TUBEROUS BEGONIA*, A. G. Langdon, \$2.00; *HOW TO INCREASE PLANTS*, A. C. Hottes, \$3.00; *CAMELLIAS ILLUSTRATED*, M. L. Sharp, \$5.00; *ALL ABOUT AFRICAN VIOLETS*, Montague Free, \$3.50; *HOW TO GROW AFRICAN VIOLETS*, Carolyn Rector, \$1.35.

Your librarian will be only too glad to ship direct to any desired person if you care to forward a greeting card for enclosure with the book.

California members will kindly include 3% sales tax with their orders.

We have a supply on hand of the *GLOSSARY OF BOTANICAL TERMS* commonly used in range research which is issued by the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture which should prove of value to all members of study groups in the Society. These may be obtained thru the library for \$0.25 each post paid or from the Supt. of Documents at Washington, D. C., for \$0.20 each. These have been obtained for your convenience and are as valuable to the amateur as to the advanced student. Make use of them and iron out in your own mind some of those confusing botanical names and terms.

Copies of Mr. Free's new book *ALL ABOUT AFRICAN VIOLETS* have been added to the library for circulation to the membership.

*Gladys C. Nolan, Librarian.*



*Miller's Star*



Mr. & Mrs. P. J. Miller

## Do Christmas Shopping Early!

Why not put your favorite begonia plant on your cards this year? Mr. and Mrs. Miller's 1950 card is a real collector's item, isn't it? Begonia fans will never throw this card away!

And those gifts on your list:

How about a membership in the Society with all its privileges and pleasures for \$2.50.?

Or that good looking pin for a special friend who hasn't been able to get hers yet, at \$3.32?

Or one of the many books offered for sale by our Librarian?

Or some Seed Fund packets?

Or a prettily wrapped begonia from your own garden?

### AND

How about sitting down and making out a list of all the gifts you can give from the supplies of our advertisers? Fogger nozzles? Tubers? Companion plants? Glaswicks? Booklets? Rare begonias? Seeds? Fertilizer? How about that greenhouse your best girl's been wishing for?

**LET'S GIVE BEGONIA GIFTS IN 1951!**

## Round Robin Notes

*Mrs. R. E. Kartack, Wisconsin* — 'Manicata aureo' is a profuse bloomer — small flowers but graceful big sprays very showy. 'Marion' has darkest flowers of all; 'Green Star,' large pink blooms; 'Dark Star' also large, and deeper pink; 'Ella Keyes' smaller flowers but big sprays; *Popenoei* is not hairy like other rhizomatous but has brown fuzz all over, sort of like 'Woolly Bear.'

*Mrs. Leora Calmese, Kansas City, Mo.* — Wire baskets are hard to find. Substitute wire hen's nests, wooden pails cut off, shallow wooden boxes — painted soft green or covered with bark. These swung by chains are lovely. I have an old wire dish drainer lined with moss. 'Red Compta,' 'zebrina,' 'Grey Feather' make nice basket plants, and with 'Mrs. W. A. Wallow' in the center it's beautiful.





*Courtesy San Francisco Chronicle*

## San Francisco Wins Grand First Prize

At the City's annual flower show held in the rotunda of the City Hall, August 29th and 30th, this outstandingly lovely exhibit won the coveted prize for "Spectacular Arrangement" for the fourth consecutive year.

Besides this deserved win (and some additional ribbons) for the group exhibit, individual members made it a "Grand Slam." This year there was a decided increase of beginners who entered for the first time. The Sweepstakes Gold Cup for Beginners was won by Mrs. Virginia Lemos. In the amateur class Mrs. Hyacinth Smith won the sweepstakes gold cup, so now she has quite a collection. She has done a grand job. President Carl Meyer,

\* \* \* \* \*

### 1952?

That picture is just a taste of what the 1952 Convention and Show will be. Did you see last month's of Sacramento's winner? Let us start planning now to participate — not just

assisted ably by Mrs. Violet Roth and a host of vital aides did a yeoman job, under Art Mann as Show Chairman.

Now we are looking forward with great pleasure, together with the other Northern California Branches, to the 1952 Convention. Our branch held Open Gardens during the months of August and September, with 18 gardens open to the public, and the results from accepting donations for the first time far surpassed expectations. This money is to be placed in the 1952 Convention Fund, so you see we are already starting the ball to roll.

We all hope to see you in 1952.

*Paulyne A. Meyer, Secretary*

visit — participate! Let's plan to cooperate with the Northern Branches in every way possible. Make this Northern Convention a thing to remember. Plan your vacations for San Francisco this year.

### NEW OFFICERS

La Mesa Branch: President, Mrs. Peggy Owens; Vice-president, Mrs. Ione Blair; Treasurer, Mrs. Jessie Leak; Secretary, Mrs. G. W. McManus; Directors, Mrs. Edna Lowery, Mr. Osborn; National Director, Mrs. Edward Tweed.

### WINDOW SHOW

The Santa Barbara Branch arranged a display in the windows of a prominent flower store on a main street, showing only the finest of Begonias grown by our members.

*—Erika Weber.*



## Letter From England

By J. French, New Addington, Croydon

(Mrs. Florence Carrell, *Armchair Skipper*, received this interesting communication from Mr. French and we print it so all our readers may enjoy seeing his excellent display and pay homage to another fine horticulturist who is featuring Begonias in England.)

"On August 2nd I was asked to put on a display of plants at very short notice for our local Horticultural Society. I did so and caused quite a sensation. Such plants being rare in this country proved to be the high light of the show. The local press were quite flattering in their report and made a great play about the *B. rex*, etc., but I was rather disappointed at having no mention of the ferns as many were the pink adiantums and other rare species to this country. As you will note, the begonias and ferns were supported by fuchsias and coleus, also

a beautiful *Torenia* from Cochin China. I have been asked again to give another display this coming weekend, but I am afraid that they are not quite up to their best just now. August has been a really bad cold month and continuous rain. Plants in the greenhouse have suffered a great deal and bloom and foliage are dropping; the humidity has been far too great coupled with temperatures that have risen and fallen sharply in each 24 hours. However, I will do my best rather than let the Society down. In the last show I was presented with a certificate of merit for my non-competitive display and in the competition I won two firsts with *B. rex*, one plus extra and a large tuberous plant also a second. I hope to repeat this record.

28 Salcot Cres, New Addington,  
Croydon, Surrey, England."

*Antonelli Brothers*

**Begonia  
Gardens**

WRITE FOR CATALOGUE

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**BEGONIAS and SHADE PLANTS**

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# Sylvia Leatherman Speaks

At Inglewood's July meeting Sylvia Leatherman gave a lift to the many hopeful begonia growers present.

First she emphasized the use of humidity as an aid in growing many tropical plants in hot areas, noting that one Illinois lady told her she had 150 African Violets in the bathroom because they took so many hot showers the plants got the humidity they needed. She asked that, if you don't have success with a variety the first time, study its history and habitat and ask a lot of questions; then try it again!

Light, environment and growing conditions will change the colors of plants greatly. Don't arbitrarily state someone's plant is misnamed because it doesn't look exactly like yours. You may be fooled by the difference light, etc., have made between the two.

She highly praised the unidentified begonia carried under its collector's number, '242S' as having leaves up to 26 inches in diameter and a long blooming season of 4-to-5-foot blooming spikes.

In propagating she stated that if you want a bushy show plant of many of the rhizomatous types, when repotting cover the rhizome that lies on top of the soil lightly with sponge-rok and every eye will sprout, forming a very full plant, or you can carefully scoop off the tiny plants and multiply your collection.

She warned against repotting or otherwise disturbing rhizomes during fall and winter and early spring, saying that July, August and September were the best months for repotting

and propagation.

'Jessie' and 'Templini' struck from a leaf will produce 10 to 15 little plants in a mass and then you should pot the whole cluster as one and you will have a fine looking plant instead of many stringy single plants.

In rooting plants from leaf-and-petiole cuttings, she gets more than one plant from each by severing the first one and potting it and sticking the old leaf back in the rooting medium to sprout again and again.

To make wedge cuttings from *Begonia manicata aurea-maculata* you want a mature, firm leaf.

'Joe Hayden' is a strong grower. She got 45 plants from one leaf of this variety. The 'Stitch Leaf' begonia also propagates well from leaf-stem cuttings.

On the canes, leave at least a piece of a leaf on each cutting. Hairy stems hold water and rot, so rub the hairs off with your fingers before putting in the rooting medium. Keep your cuttings short if you want a good root system and a nice plant.

The distance between leaf nodes will help you tell if a plant has just come out of a glass house or was grown hard under lath. A very long internode shows it has grown fast in a glass house so don't put such a plant into lath or out-of-doors during the hot weather.

She uses Super-Destruxol Emulsion solution applied with a small soft paintbrush for mealy bug where there is just a small infestation or you have only a few plants.

## DALLAS COUNTY BLOSSOMS OUT

Yes, we have them, too — those lovely gardens straight out of picture books. July 5th we held our meeting at the home of Mrs. Glen H. Jones, where, after a brief business meeting, our ladies spread a picnic supper on the lawn.

A visit on this lawn is one to be long remembered. To one side is the spacious and well filled green house; just beyond this is the fish pond which is so artistically surrounded with ferns and other foliage plants. Around the remaining sections of the yard were deep borders of bright colored flowers and plants with multi-colored foliage. Overhead were soft lights, which made the scene most impressive.

Afterwards a round table discussion of begonias was led by Mr. Caudill, which was most helpful; and at a late hour our charming hostess presented each member with a lovely begonia plant as a parting token. —*Ruth Cook.*

## THE BEGONIA LEAF

Mention has been made of the San Diego Branch's mimeographed bulletin and now we have at hand a copy of the Sacramento Branch's called "The Begonia Leaf." It contains their meeting notice, various news items and requests for assistance on various projects such as the State Fair exhibit and the following paragraph under the heading "CULTURE," which will interest many of you:

"Tuberous begonias are not limited to the well known large flowered hybrids. Look for two less familiar types. *Begonia boliviensis* and the multiflora tuberous begonias. They are quite different and really easy to use in the garden. They grow more like regular garden plants. *B. boliviensis* grows upright. Its long branches reach a height of about three feet. Clustered on the branches are many five-petaled salmon-red flowers with yellow stamens. The leaves are long and pointed. You start and grow them just as you do the

*Turn to page 255*

# An Open Letter to the A. B. S.

Something new has been added. New President, new ideas. I thought it might be interesting to you members of the A.B.S. to pass along some of the many ideas that come our way, some of the affairs at the various branches we visit, so we might all become better acquainted. I believe it might help to give you a better insight into the organization to which you belong. Right here on this same spot each month we will try our level best to give you some of the views and news of what's going on in our Society. So "latch on," here we go!

First, let's get something off our chest. Being your National President I naturally will come in contact with many aches and pains and "gripes" too. I want to make my stand clear here and now. It is my aim to function with a hands off policy as far as the various branches of the A.B.S. are concerned, BUT, remember this, I will be on call whenever I am needed. If a problem springs up I shall be more than glad to sit down with you around your table and discuss it with you. The way I see it, a happy organization is a prosperous one. My aim with your help, is to keep it as happy and prosperous as possible.

In the next few months there are many things on the agenda we want to get into the mill. Perhaps of these our drive for new members is the most important. When an organization embarks on an undertaking with the potential of this drive, a number of important questions appear. First, what will the new member receive for the initial cost to join the Society? What are the advantages? Perhaps a thousand and one other questions will arise.

## MEMBERSHIP ADVANTAGES

Let's answer some of those questions because they inadvertently come up. I can think of no better way to begin than to point to our national publication, *The Begonian*. This magazine from month to month gives you the inside on how to grow begonias and other shade loving plants. The amateur and the professional combine to make this one of the outstanding sources of begonia information in the country today. *The Begonian* alone is well worth the original cost to join our Society. But read on, you have just begun. Our national Library is available to ALL members of our

organization. Our librarian, Mrs. Nolan, is more than glad to mail all available material to you any place in the country just for the asking. Take advantage of our Library; it's there for you. A short note on a penny post card might bring you the answer you have been searching for. Of course we must tuck in a word about our seed fund. Do you know seed is available to you from all over the world through the seed fund? A line to our seed fund chairman, Mrs. Carrell, will bring you information on availability of seed at the present time. Then of course there is our slide library. Colored slides from this library on begonias are mailed to any branch in the country just for the asking. A new member also has the privilege of joining the branch nearest him or her.

## ONE NEW MEMBER

The advantages are many, so fellow Begoniaties let's do our part to put this drive across. I definitely want to see every member of the A.B.S. bring in at least one new member in the next twelve months. This is all I am asking, just one.

A thought just occurred to me. Perhaps you have an idea as to how we can put this drive across; if you have, drop us a line. Let's put your idea to work. I am looking forward to lots of letters this year. I want to do the best job I can this year but I need your help—every one of you out there. This is your Society as well as mine. Nothing would please me more when Convention time rolls around than to see our membership pushing four thousand. I know, guys and gals, that sounds like a lot of new members but this old U.S.A. is a big country. In it there are a lot of people wanting to know as much as you do about growing begonias. Maybe it's your next door neighbor; maybe it's the gal across the street. Somewhere near you there is a prospective new member for the A.B.S. Your job is to find that person.

If this first epistle sounds like a sermon, please understand it has been on my heart for a long time.

Don't forget I'll be seeing you next month, same place, same station, with more of what's new around the A.B.S.

*Eal*

## CASA EDENA GARDENS

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Leaves Plants

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Small, interesting — flowers, gardening, bird and nature notes, poems, ads.

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## GARDEN GLEANINGS

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## Calendar of Coming Events

(Visitors are always welcome!)

### November 1st

*Orange County:* Mr. Chas. Fox of Anaheim will show pictures of "Flowers and Desert Cactus."

### November 3rd to 11th

*So. Calif. Fall Flower Show* at Pasadena; Pasadena Branch is entering a large display. Promises to be exceptional this year!

### November 8th

*Inglewood:* Mr. Sterling Tompkins of River Road Nursery, Fallbrook, will bring us up to date on "Camellias."

### November 19th

*Pasadena:* Learn how to decorate for Christmas under experts.

### November 27th

*Whittier:* Come, hear Mr. Joe Littlefield!

### November 28th

*Glendale:* Gladys Beirdneau, by request, is repeating the fine Christmas Decorations program she organized last year.

### December 6th

*Orange:* Christmas Party, with a tree and garden gift exchange. You're welcome!

### December 17th

*Pasadena:* BIG TURKEY DINNER at our regular meeting place. Get your reservation in early — \$1.25 per plate.

### December 26th

*Glendale:* Mr. Brooks will be back from his Mexico trip to speak on new Philodendrons.

### Jan. 25th — Feb. 16th, 1952

*Horticultural Society of N. Y.:* Garden Lovers Pilgrimage to California. All Begonians are invited to participate. Folders containing all details may be obtained from R. B. Farnham, Horticultural Society of New York, 157 West 58th Street, New York 19, N. Y.

### May — 1953

*Horticultural Society of N. Y.:* Also invites you to plan to join a similar pilgrimage to Holland, Belgium, France and England, including Holland's first indoor-outdoor exhibition since 1935 and the famous Chelsea Show in England, the azaleas in bloom in Belgium and famous formal gardens of France. We hope more than one of our members will be able to join this trek.



Begonia nigricans — 50c  
 Begonia pyramidalis — 50c  
 Begonia Saunderbrucki — 50c  
 Prices F.O.B. Santa Barbara

**RUDOLF ZIESENHENNE**  
 1130 N. Milpas St., Santa Barbara, Calif.

## MISSOURI'S SHOW

Our Missouri Branch gave Kansas City its first competitive begonia show. Newspaper reporters were full of praise for this new show.

Mrs. Lynne K. Wood of Independence won sweepstakes honors by only two vital points from Mrs. William Breshears. The educational exhibit under Mrs. Grover Calmese was a valuable aid in explaining begonia facts to the public and Mrs. Clark Taylor's home-made propagation box attracted great interest. Bright tuberous blooms and silvery rex leaves caught all eyes.

Ever see begonias in an old coffee grinder? Mrs. Ralph Seever won a blue ribbon with hers! Mrs. Breshears made a miniature rock garden that contained 50 plants.

Heartiest congratulations to the progressive Missouri Branch.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AS AMENDED BY THE ACTS OF MARCH 3, 1933, AND JULY 2, 1946 (Title 39, United States Code, Section 233)

Of The Begonian published monthly at Los Angeles, California, for October 1, 1951.

1. The names and address of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:

Publisher, American Begonia Society, 5110 Monte Bonita Drive, L. A. 41, Calif. Editor, Stanley Spaulding, 808 E. Mariposa Ave., El Segundo, Calif. Managing editor, None. Business Manager, Della MacLanahan, 4080 Tivoli Ave., Venice, Calif.

2. The owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, its name and address, as well as that of each individual member, must be given.)

American Begonia Society, 5110 Monte Bonita Drive, L. A. 41, Calif., President Calvin E. Trowbridge, 4435 3rd Ave., L. A. 43, Calif., President-elect, Mrs. Edna Korts, 3628 Revere Ave., L. A. 39, Calif., Treasurer, William Haskell, 1253 Amherst Ave., Los Angeles 52, Calif.

3. The known bondholders, mortgages, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are none so state.) Name address None.

4. Paragraphs 2 and 3 include, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting; also the statements in the two paragraphs show the affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner.

5. The average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the 12 months preceding the date shown above was: (This information is required from daily, weekly, semiweekly, and triweekly newspapers only.)

AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY  
 By Stanley Spaulding, Editor

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 8th day of October, 1951. (SEAL) John L. Edwards, Notary Public in and for the County of Los Angeles, State of California (My commission expires MARCH 21, 1954).

## Branch Meeting Dates and Places

### BELFLOWER BRANCH

1st Monday, Nov. 5, Dec. 3, 7:30 p.m.  
 I.O.O.F. Hall, Ardmore and Palm Sts.  
 Audrey Adams, Secy.  
 6139 Graywood Ave., Bellflower, Calif.

### CENTRAL FLORIDA BRANCH, ORLANDO, FLA.

1st Friday, Nov. 2, Dec. 7  
 Member's Homes  
 Mr. Ted Wolf, Secy.-Treas.  
 Rt. 19, Box 3700, Orlando, Fla.

### DALLAS COUNTY BRANCH, DALLAS, TEXAS

1st Thursday, Nov. 8, Dec. 6, 7:00 p.m.  
 Member's Residences  
 Mrs. Russell B. White, Secy.-Treas.  
 919 N. Clinton St., Dallas 11, Texas

### EAST BAY BRANCH

2nd Thursday, Nov. 8, 7:45 p.m.  
 Willard School, Ward St.  
 C. F. Jensen, Secy.  
 3720 Cerrito Ave., Richmond, Calif.

### EL MONTE COMMUNITY BRANCH

3rd Thursday, Nov. 15, 8:00 p.m.  
 Christian Church Fellowship Hall, 304 E. Valley  
 Mrs. Gladys Adams, Cor. Secy.  
 11215 E. Elliott Ave., El Monte, Calif.

### FOOTHILL BRANCH

1st Friday, Nov. 2, Dec. 7, 8:00 p.m.  
 Woman's Club House, 1003 Azusa Ave., Azusa  
 Gertrude M. Cooper, Cor. Secy.  
 340 W. Electric, Glendora, Calif.

### FORT ELSA BRANCH

1st Saturday, Nov. 3, Dec. 8  
 Mrs. Marion R. Thompson, Secy.  
 129 White Horse Pike, Magnolia, N. J.

### GLENDALE BRANCH

4th Wednesday, Nov. 28, 8:00 p.m.  
 Tuesday Afternoon Club, 400 N. Central Ave.  
 Mrs. D. H. Bradley, Cor. Secy.  
 1301 San Luis Rey Dr., Glendale 8, Calif.

### GRAY EVA KENWORTHY BRANCH

3rd Monday, Nov. 19, 7:30 p.m.  
 Community House, La Jolla  
 Tillie Center, Cor. Secy.  
 7356 Eads St., La Jolla, Calif.

### GRUENBAUM, MARGARET BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Nov. 27, 10:30 a.m.  
 Home of Members  
 Book Lunch 12:30, Program following  
 Mrs. Ernest Jones, Secy.  
 R.F.D., Willow Grove, Pa.

### HEART OF AMERICA BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, Nov. 13, 7:30 p.m.  
 Members' Residences  
 Mr. Homer Meek, Secy. Treas.  
 1306 N. 28th, Kansas City, Kans.

### HOLLYWOOD BRANCH

2nd Thursday, Nov. 8, 7:30 p.m.  
 Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd.  
 Mrs. Walter J. Butt, Cor. Secy.  
 861 S. Harvard, Los Angeles 5, Calif.

### HUB CITY BRANCH

3rd Monday, Nov. 19, 7:30 p.m.  
 Roosevelt High School Cafe  
 1200 E. Olive, Compton, Calif.  
 Mrs. Dorothy Sarson, Secy.  
 1108 E. Glencoe Ave., Compton 1, Calif.

### HUMBOLDT COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Monday, Nov. 12, 8:00 p.m.  
 Los Amigos Club, Loleta, Calif.  
 Miss Margaret Smith, Secy.  
 P. O. Box 635, Ferndale, Calif.

### INGLEWOOD BRANCH

2nd Thursday, Nov. 8, 8:00 p.m.  
 325 N. Hillcrest, Inglewood, Calif.  
 Virginia Smith, Secy.  
 1419 W. 104th St., Los Angeles 47, Calif.

### LA MESA BRANCH

2nd Monday, Nov. 12, 7:30 p.m.  
 Porter Park  
 Mrs. G. W. McManus, Secy.  
 7313 Princeton Ave., La Mesa, Calif.

### LONG BEACH PARENT CHAPTER

3rd Tuesday, Nov. 20, 7:30 p.m.  
 2255 Elm St., Long Beach, Calif.  
 Mrs. W. Cox, Secy.  
 3592 Lewis Ave., Long Beach 7, Calif.

### MIAMI, FLORIDA BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Nov. 27, 8:00 p.m.  
 Simpson Memorial Garden Center  
 Miss Elizabeth S. Hall, Secy.  
 2572 Trapp Ave., Miami 35, Fla.

### MISSOURI BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, Nov. 20, 12:30 p.m.  
 Amer. Legion Bldg., Linwood & Paseo,  
 Kansas City, Mo.  
 Mrs. Mona Ayers, Secy.  
 6655 Bellefontaine, Kansas City, Mo.

### NEW ENGLAND BRANCH

Mrs. Lester H. Fox, Secy.  
 170 Marsh Hill Road, Dracut, Mass.

### NEW YORK SUBURBAN BRANCH

Mrs. Dorothy F. Michaelson, Secy.-Treas.  
 P. O. Box 818, Denville, N. J.

### NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH

2nd Monday, Nov. 12, 7:30 p.m.  
 Houghton Park Club House  
 Harding & Atlantic, N. Long Beach  
 Mrs. Alberta Logue, Secy.  
 6050 Atlantic, Long Beach 5, Calif.

### ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

1st Thursday, Nov. 1, Dec. 6, 7:30 p.m.  
 Farm Bureau Hall, 353 S. Main St., Orange  
 Mrs. W. L. Everett, Secy.-Treas.  
 Rt. 2, Box 146, Orange, Calif.

### PASADENA BRANCH

3rd Monday, Nov. 19, 7:30 p.m.  
 Casita del Arroyo, 127 S. Arroyo Blvd., Pasadena  
 Mrs. Harold Benson, Secy.-Treas.  
 3180 No. Crestford Dr., Altadena, Calif.

### PETALUMA BRANCH

3rd Friday, Nov. 16, 8:00 p.m.  
 McKinley Rec. Center, Washington & Vallejo Sts.  
 Mrs. Hazel Chappell, Secy.  
 222 Bodega Ave., Petaluma, Calif.

### PHILOBEGONIA BRANCH

Mrs. Lillian Watts, Secy.  
 405 Cotswald Lane, Wynwood, Pa.

### PORTLAND OREGON BRANCH

4th Friday, Nov. 23, 8:00 p.m.  
 Journal Bldg. Aud., Front & Yamhill Sts.  
 Mrs. George Venner, Secy.  
 7604 S. E. Tolman, Portland 6, Oregon

### REDONDO AREA BRANCH

4th Friday, Nov. 23, 8:00 p.m.  
 2308 Rockefeller  
 Redondo Beach, Calif.  
 Mrs. Lucy A. Sault, Secy.  
 309 E. 220th St., Torrance, Calif.

### RIVERSIDE BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, Nov. 14, 7:30 p.m.  
 Members' Residences  
 Mrs. Zena L. Twomley, Secy.  
 7154 Magnolia Ave., Riverside, Calif.

### ROBINSON, ALFRED D. BRANCH

4th Friday, Nov. 23, 10:00 a.m.  
 Homes of Members  
 Mrs. J. J. Howarth, Secy.  
 4319 Del Mar Ave., San Diego 7, Calif.

### SACRAMENTO BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, Nov. 20, 8:00 p.m.  
 Garden Center, McKinley Park  
 Mrs. W. J. Holley, Secy.  
 2914 V St., Sacramento, Calif.

### SALEM, OREGON BRANCH

1st Tuesday, Nov. 6, Dec. 4  
 The Chapel, 685 Winter St., Salem  
 Mrs. Dan Scharf, Secy.  
 3460 N. Lancaster Dr., Salem, Ore.

### SAN DIEGO BRANCH

4th Monday, Nov. 26  
 Hard of Hearing Hall, Herbert & University  
 Mrs. Thomas Hofmann, Secy.  
 2327 33rd St., San Diego 4, Calif.

### SAN FERNANDO VALLEY BRANCH

2nd Monday, Nov. 12, 7:30 p.m.  
 Garden Center, 11134 Weddington, N. Hollywood  
 Mrs. Nel Schoenbrom, Secy.  
 7961 Balboa Blvd., Van Nuys, Calif.

### SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH

1st Wednesday, Nov. 7, Dec. 5, 7:30 p.m.  
 1641 Taraval St.  
 Mrs. William Meyer, Secy.  
 1422 27th Ave., San Francisco 22, Calif.

### SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH

4th Wednesday, Nov. 28, 8 p.m.  
 Masonic Temple, 506 S. Santa Anita Ave., Arcadia  
 Mrs. Hazel Snowden, Secy.  
 5956 N. Encinta Ave., Temple City, Calif.

### SANTA BARBARA BRANCH

2nd Thursday, Nov. 8, 7:30 p.m.  
 Rm. 5, Com. Center, 914 Santa Barbara St.  
 Mrs. Ada Schaefer, Secy.  
 1103 W. Micheltorena St., Santa Barbara, Calif.

**SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BRANCH**

1st Tuesday, Nov. 6, Dec. 4, 8:00 p.m.  
V.F.W. Hall, 311 Pacific Ave.  
Miss Hazelle E. Oxley, Secy.  
428 Davis St., Santa Cruz, Calif.

**SANTA MONICA BAY BRANCH**

2nd Friday, Nov. 9, 7:30 p.m.  
1130 Lincoln Blvd., 7th St. Entrance,  
Santa Monica  
Mrs. Edith King, Secy.  
2627 Corinth Ave., Los Angeles 64, Calif.

**SANTA PAULA BRANCH**

4th Thursday, Nov. 22, 6:30 p.m.  
Steckel Park  
Mrs. Beryl Ernsberger, Secy.  
621 Santa Paula St., Santa Paula, Calif.

**SEATTLE BRANCH**

3rd Tuesday, Nov. 20  
Members' Homes  
Mrs. James Fariss, Secy.  
17721 Bothell Way, Seattle 55, Wash.

**SHEPHERD, THEODOSIA BURR BRANCH**

1st Tuesday, Nov. 6, Dec. 4, 7:30 p.m.  
Alice Bartlett C. H., 902 E. Main, Ventura, Calif.  
Mr. Orville A. Rogers, Secy.  
126 S. Pacific Ave., Ventura, Calif.

**SO. ALAMEDA COUNTY BRANCH**

3rd Thursday, Nov. 15, 8:00 p.m.  
Faculty Cafeteria, High School, Hayward, Calif.  
Esther Krabach, Cor. Secy.  
8438 Fairview Lane, Hayward, Calif.

**SOUTHGATE BRANCH**

4th Tuesday, Nov. 27, 7:30 p.m.  
South Gate Municipal Aud., 4900 Southern  
Mrs. Juanita Pritchard, Secy.  
11150 Duncan Ave., Lynwood, Calif.

**TEXAS STATE BRANCH**

4th Friday, Nov. 23, 7:30 p.m.  
Members Homes  
Mrs. Fred M. Owens, Secy.-Treas.  
1312 Thomas Blvd., Port Arthur, Texas

**WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH**

2nd Wednesday, Nov. 14, 11:00 a.m.  
Homes of Members  
Mrs. John S. Schmucker, Secy.-Treas.  
Box 233, Brownsville, Pa.

**WESTERN RESERVE BRANCH, CLEVELAND, O.**

4th Wednesday, Nov. 28, 8:00 p.m.  
Garden Center, 10013 Detroit St.  
Cleveland, Ohio  
Mrs. Edward Lobser, Cor. Secy.  
25912 Westlake Rd., Bay Village, Ohio

**WHITTIER BRANCH**

4th Tuesday, Nov. 27, 7:30 p.m.  
Union High School, Room 19  
Lindley Ave. Entrance, Whittier, Calif.  
Mrs. Gretchen Bauchop, Secy.  
9741 S. Santa Fe Springs Rd., Whittier, Calif.

**CONDENSED MINUTES** meeting National Board, American Begonia Society, held in the City Hall, Los Angeles, Cal., with President Trowbridge presiding. Sept. 24th, 1951.

Meeting called to order at 7:45.

Salute to the Flag and Statement of Aims & Purposes of the Society.

Executive Board Members present: President Trowbridge, Moore, Haskell, Spaulding, Vice-Presidents Small, Terrell; Mesdames President-Elect Korts, Nolan, Slocum, Spaulding, Hartwell. Branches represented: El Monte, Whittier, Glendale, Hollywood, Santa Monica, Inglewood, South Gate, Redondo Beach Area, San Gabriel Valley, North Long Beach, Parent Branch, Riverside, Hub City.

Minutes of annual meeting read and accepted as read; acceptance of Constitution and By-laws of Portland, Ore., Branch.

President announced that hereafter Minutes of previous meeting would be read in open meeting.

Membership Fees: Lorenz was unable to be present but sent in report—since the annual meeting 69 new members; 130 renewals, sold 620 Cultural Bulletins and promised complete report next month. Editor Spaulding, Librarian Nolan, Vice-President Terrell read reports and on motion "reports accepted as read" and sent to Mrs. Williams for briefing in her mimeographed "Minutes" which is to be sent to all branches.

President Trowbridge announced his appointments as follows:

Vice-President, Mrs. J. R. Williams of Sacramento to fill unexpired term of Mrs. Korts, Historian not appointed as yet; Slide Librarian R. H.

Terrell; no Flower Show Chairman as yet; Director of Publicity (new office) Mrs. Dorothy Powell; Parliamentarian, Elinor Slocum of El Monte. (Balance of the officers remain the same.)

President stated he and his committee had met and prepared a budget for the coming year, which, after reading, motion was made to accept as submitted. **SO ORDERED.**

Editor urged "that we all try to increase the membership and the advertising so we can have a good margin to work on."

President appointed Mrs. Korts as Chairman (she to name her own committee members) to consider, and report at next meeting, on the 4 suggestions offered by Mr. Hackler, dealing with the handling of memberships, etc.

President reported that Mrs. Williams, at the annual meeting, had felt there should be closer contact with the branches and to this end had volunteered to send to each branch a mimeographed copy of the minutes of each meeting, and to include the pertinent items gleaned from the reports of the Executive Board members. Secretary instructed to send to Mrs. Williams promptly following the Board meeting a copy of Board actions and reports. On motion Mrs. Williams' offer was accepted gratefully. **SO ORDERED.**

President stated that at each meeting hereafter there would be a Suggestion Box, and suggestions from Branches and members would be welcomed and given serious consideration and cautioned that each suggestion be signed—suggestion, criticism or whatever you wish.

The matter of having more information for the beginners in each issue of the Begonian was discussed and Editor urged members to send in any information they could secure in this respect, stating he would be happy to have items for publication.

President urged branches to send to Mrs. Schwerdtfeger, immediately following their election, the full name, address, and phone number (if possible) of the newly elected officers. She will compile the information and make it available to National officers.

**BRANCH REPORTS**

El Monte—Last meeting Mr. Terrell was present; talked informally on Garden Pests and showed some of his slides. Glendale Branch—Mrs. Leatherman will talk on Ferns at our next meeting. Hollywood—Will have our election of new officers very soon. Hub City Branch—Have formed a study club and find it a very helpful thing. Mr. Terry our last speaker; Mr. Sherer this coming month. Inglewood—Had a fine meeting 2 weeks ago on Tuberous Begonias; Mr. Joe Littlefield will be our next speaker.

North Long Beach—Mrs. Jensen our speaker on Tuberous. Mr. Terrell was there, which we all appreciated. Long Beach Parent Branch—Our speaker was Mrs. Stephenson from England; talked on Flowers and Plants in England. Redondo Beach Area—Mr. A. W. Roberts our speaker Stp. 28th. We also discussed ways to increase our membership; would be glad to have any suggestions you have to offer. Riverside—Last speaker Dr. Jefferson from U.C.L.A. Very good program. We meet at the homes of the different members. Come visit us; contact me for the address of our next meeting place. San Gabriel Valley—Glen Hiatt our last speaker; showed slides on orchids. Sent. 26th, \$1.00 ham dinner. Mr. Ziesenne will be the speaker. Santa Monica—Mrs. Jensen was our last speaker and gave a very interesting talk. I recommend her highly as a speaker. South Gate—We are all amateurs and do enjoy our meetings. Mr. Schultz our next speaker. Mr. Hackler—Whittier Branch going along very well. Mrs. Jensen our speaker and very much enjoyed.

Suggestion was made that we have an exhibit at the entrance of every flower show—at least one begonia of each type, properly labeled. This would be educational and also might create considerable interest in begonias.

Gonda Hartwell, Sec.

**THE BEGONIA LEAF, cont. from page 251**

regular hybrids. Because this begonia grows tall and gives masses of a single color, it is ideal for a back-ground planting shrub. The plants will need staking." Edited by Ada Kelso, Publicity Director.

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### PRESERVATION OF THE COLOR AND SHAPE OF FLOWERS

On page 166 of the August, 1951, issue of The Begonian appears a very interesting short descriptive article about the work of Mrs. Karl Wihtol, Red Bank, N. J., in trying to preserve flowers and foliage in their natural color and shape.

Prof. Randolph C. Specht, of the University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, has worked out a system whereby this may be done by dehydrating the specimens so as to retain their natural shape, texture, and color and then preserving the dehydrated specimens in a protective film or by mounting them in transparent plastic. By this process specimens may be kept indefinitely for scientific study or display.

His findings and process has been published as Bulletin Series No. 40, December, 1950, and may be purchased for \$1.00 by addressing your order to Florida Engineering & Industrial Experiment Station, College of Engineering, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida.

This Bulletin should be a MUST in the li-

brary of every A. B. S. member for it opens up a very large field for those members experimentally minded. The method describes each step very explicitly and any member can very easily follow them. By this method small specimen plants can be preserved and sent to Mrs. Minter for identification, whereas IF you try to send live plants you run the risk of their being smashed or withered or frozen or destroyed by quarantine officials.

—John P. Toberman.

#### SEND A FRIEND A GIFT MEMBERSHIP IN THE A.B.S.

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| B. subvillosa    | B. species from Cuba<br>(holly-like leaf) |

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