

# The Begonian

DEVOTED TO THE SHELTERED GARDENS

JANUARY, 1956

PRICE 25 CENTS

VOLUME XXIII, NUMBER 1

*Trailing Begonia scharffi* (*B. scharffi* x *B. scandens*) is a variety quite rare and out of the ordinary. This twelve year old begonia, owned and grown by Miss Mary F. Griffith, Haverford, Pa., was exhibited on the front porch of the home of Mrs. Marian DeCoursey, Paoli, Pa., where members of Eastern Branches gathered for the second annual begonia show and party sponsored by the William Penn Branch. Photo by Ralph Holtzizer, Darby, Pa.



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General Offices: Box 2544, Los Angeles 54, California. Annual Subscription, \$2.50  
Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office of Los Angeles, California, under the act of March 3, 1879.

For dues, address changes or magazines, write to Membership Secretary, Box 2544, Los Angeles 54, California. Branch members pay dues to branch.

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This Society shall be conducted on a non-profit basis, and its purpose shall be to stimulate interest in begonias and shade-loving plants; to encourage the introduction and development of new types of begonias and related plants; to gather and publish information in regard to the kinds, propagation and culture of begonias and other shade-loving plants, and to issue a bulletin which shall be mailed to all members in good standing.

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# Rex Begonias . . . Gardens of Ventura . . .

Rex begonias are some of the most beautiful foliage plants in the world. The original species are natives of the Himalayas where they grow in humid, shady places, such as in the crevices of rocks. The original plant named *B. rex*, (King of Begonias) by Putz, was found by J. Simons in Assam. Jean Linden introduced it in 1858, having brought it in among orchids at a London auction sale. It had heart-shaped, metallic blue-green leaves with a broad silvery white zone about an inch from the margin. It was stemless with an underground rhizome. It created considerable excitement at the time and within a few years had been crossed with other species. Soon countless hybrids appeared. As early as 1863, crosses with *B. Evansiana* were made originating the tall growing forms. Then in 1875, crosses with *B. imperialis* started the small-leaved forms. In 1884, *B. diadema* crosses gave the lobed leaf character. About 1895, *B. decora* blood was introduced, creating the new tones of red, violet and bronze, metallic reflections and great richness. In 1903, Sanders of St. Albans crossed *B. cathayana* with *B. rex* varieties, adding velvety richness to the group. From 1903 to 1930, crossing appears to have been confined to existing hybrids; but from 1935 onwards, a fresh break came with miniature *B. rex*, by using *B. dregei*, *B. weltoniensis*, etc. These are especially appealing to those with limited space. Our California begonia breeders are arranging so many more and newer morganatic matings, that one may expect "Rex" leaves on almost any sort of plant in a not too distant future.

The way to grow rex begonias does not change and the old background is much the same. If there is any secret in growing good begonias, it does not rely on some magic ingredients, but on following the principles of plant cultivation intelligently. "Green fingered" gardeners are not just lucky, but succeed because they grow their plants properly.

As few of us know instinctively what to do until we have had a wide experience, let's run over the basic principles as I do them.

COMPOST—Begonia soil mix by Rudolf Ziesenhenné.

POTTING—Rex are now near dormancy. Turn pots on side and protect from getting too wet. When plants come out of winter dormancy, they will show new growth. Then knock from pot, removing old soil gently.

(Continued on Page 9)

ED. NOTE: This is the first of a proposed series of articles by Mrs. Leatherman covering California gardens.

Ventura, according to my Spanish dictionary, means "luck or chance." Ventura is a small city located on the Pacific Ocean and nestled among hills. It is picturesque and the people living there are proud of their city. It is not luck or chance, but thought, love, ideas and work which create the outstanding gardens with beautiful plants. The abundance of flowers greeted one at every turn. The striking difference was characteristic of the gardens visited. The owners of the gardens each carried out his own ideas, and the monotonous sameness was missing. It was so pleasant and we waited with anticipation of what the next garden would bring. The beauty of the gardens and plants, and the friendliness of the people made our visit one we won't forget.

The owners of the gardens we visited had, the day before, brought many of their plants, along with their ribbons, home from the Ventura County Fair. They were busily engaged tucking their potted possessions back in their places. So many beautiful begonias and ferns that we wondered, "How do they know where they go?" Then we realized each one knew his plants, what the plant liked, and just where each one would be tucked. The ones liking more sun and light were placed in the section which received this light; others requiring more shade were tucked in the more shaded section.

After arriving home with my notes and my sketches (as usual, a woman's juggled mess), I wondered, "Is it fair to tell you of the gardens?" In one trip, one could not absorb all that was there. Please keep in mind that the following trips down the garden paths do not begin to cover all of the plants in these gardens. The plants that stood out in my mind, special ideas, lone sections, etc., are by no means complete.

The first view we obtained of the garden path we would take with Pearl and Weir Bauer was from a dining room window, this level being elevated above the garden. We viewed the garden and glancing out beyond, we could plainly see the blue of the Pacific Ocean, one of the reasons we find such a wealth of plant growth. The level garden had two cement block walls with a fluorescent tube roof. In the corner where the two walls met,

(Continued on Page 8)



ANTHURIUMS—From left to right, front row: 1. *Magnificum*; 2. *Cristallinum*; 3. *Colombia* species. Back row: 1. *Colombian* species; 2. *Padata Radiata*; 3. *Species*.

## Anthuriums for House Planters . . .

The use of tropical plants in homes, offices and public buildings has come into popular vogue within the last four years. Architects design dividing partitions using planter boxes with the tropical plants forming a lacy screen. The planter box may be found in front of a window where it will receive lots of light and ventilation, or in some recessed area with little light. The planter box containing a variety of plants always has posed a problem to indoor plant lovers. When the container, whether it be a permanent part of the house or a portable dish, is first planned by the amateur, the effect is most pleasing, for he has chosen plants which have the most unusual foliage with various leaf shapes and colorings. Low and behold the artistic creation in a few weeks! Some of the leaves are yellowing; this plant is rotting off at the roots; this plant is drooping while the others may

look very happy. What is wrong? I have watered the group of plants well and given them tender care. Yet in this answer may be found one of the causes of failure of a healthy group of closely confined plants. Most planters have no drainage and so in your great desire to give them plenty of water to retain the lush foliage, you actually have drowned the poor things by shutting off the air circulation at the roots. With the roots standing in soon-stagnant water, they can do nothing but rot off. Another cause of unsuccessful growing may be the medium in which the plants attempt to grow. The growing medium should be light and porous, yet contain a substance to retain moisture which will not become sour or break down rapidly. This medium also should be able to give humidity to the plants and provide food for growth and health. There are many good growing media on the market, but the one chosen MUST PROVIDE THE CONDI-

TION REQUIRED FOR THE WHOLE GROUP OF PLANTS IN ONE CONTAINER.

With these other factors being proper, the greatest and most important as in any garden, is the selection of a group of plants which LIKE THE SAME CONDITIONS OF LIGHT, HEAT AND MOISTURE. Do not select the plants for your own idea of beauty. Ask your nurseryman about the plants which would be suitable for growth under conditions which exist in your home or building. With a proper medium for the right collection of group plants growing in confined conditions, watering only when needed (usually when the top surface has become dry—not hard and crusty), and sufficient light, these plants should give great pleasure to the grower and lend artistic beauty to a home.

Here is where I, Louise Cramer, exit. You are now carried on by an expert grower, Marie Turner.

Anthuriums, the least known plant and yet so interesting, are ideal for house plants. They grow well either as specimen plants or in container plantings. This group of plants is not particular about light conditions, as they appear to do well in either light or dark settings. They do not tolerate a soggy, broken down soil, as the roots will rot. They do not like to be disturbed, so these plants should be planted in a container usually two sizes larger than normally used for planting, controlling the moisture with good drainage. When the roots climb above the pot, they should be covered with sphagnum moss instead of replanting.

Being mostly self-headers (plants which branch from the soil level), gives this group of plants an advantage over the popular philodendrons which climb extensively, or if self-heading, will grow themselves out of your home.

With these many points in their favor, it is surprising that they are not grown more extensively. All anthuriums, with the exception of *Andraeaenum*, will grow in the house and love it. *Andraeaenum* is the species which produces the waxy, brightly colored, flat flowers (spath flower) with upright spadix, which we see in the florist's window. This flower actually looks artificial, but its keeping qualities can not be surpassed. This plant is for warm, humid greenhouse culture. All anthuriums, no matter where grown, like lots of water in a well-drained soil and once a month feeding. They do not seem to be particular about the fertilizer used, nor about the growing medium. They do well in a begonia mix of equal parts leaf mold, peat, manure and gravel or volcanic rock.

These planter-type anthuriums are prized for their foliage only, as the blooms are very insignificant. They can be propagated by division or by seeds. The plant is usually quite old before it can carry a seedpod. The seeds MUST BE PLANTED WHILE STILL WET AND FRESH in order to germinate. If seed is dark and hard, it will not germinate. This FRESH seed should be laid on top of damp peat moss and covered with a piece of glass to retain humidity until a plant develops.

Perhaps one of the most outstanding in this group is *Magnificum* from Colombia. The leaves are heart-shaped and grow to 14 inches in length and 10 inches across. They are a dark velvety green with prominent white vein pattern. At the sinus, the veins form a raised circle from which they radiate. The leaves are very tough and leathery. This plant is in an air-conditioned office in Los Angeles. It has grown continually in the same pot with no feeding and weekly watering for four years. It has withstood the drying effects of air-conditioning, colder temperatures over weekends and no food. When reported recently, the fleshy roots the size of cooked macaroni, filled the pot and very little growing medium remained.

*Cristallinum* is also very showy. Its leaves are elongated heart-shaped to about 18 inches and 10 inches wide. It is olive green, which in light looks like the texture of taffeta, although the leaves are extremely leathery. It has an elongated white vein pattern. These veins appear to be covered with crystals. This effect gives this anthurium its name. New leaves are brown color. The petiole or stem of *Cristallinum* has three ridges on top of the stem and the rest of the stem is round, while the stem of *Magnificum* is all round.

*Padata Radiata*, from Mexico, is the finger anthurium because its palmate leaf resembles an outstretched hand. It is a fast grower, which lends itself easily to house conditions. It was grown from seed produced in Mexico, close to Guatemalan border. In 18 months after sowing the seed, the plant has attained a size requiring a 4 inch pot. The leaf, a shiny medium green, is held on a round stem.

The arrow-shaped leaf anthurium is another interesting species from Colombia. It is very hardy and will withstand both dryness or moisture. I acquired it because the rhizome was rotting. Being able to stop the rot, I grew this unusual plant with plain olive green leathery leaves which have no shading. There is a center vein and one on each inside edge of the arrow. These veins are depressed and of about the same leaf shade. The arrow

(Continued on Page 9)

# Camellias for Permanent Plantings . . .

Now's the ideal time to visit nurseries and study the different types of camellia blossoms. Learn about the growth habit of the varieties you are interested in planting. Some grow bushy and compact. Others are upright. Another group grows loosely, the branches arching out.

Plant them at east, west, or north exposures of the house or in a shrubbery border. If you favor one variety more than another, then plant two of the same kind. Set one out on the north side of the house where it is cool and shady. The other can be planted where it gets lots more sunlight. You'll happily discover the one in more light flowers possibly several weeks earlier than the same variety of one in the shade. The sunny, warm location hastens blooming. This combination staggered blooming of same variety of camellias prolongs the flowering season, supplying you with more of same favored kind of flowers.

Be sure to select varieties of camellias that bloom in three category blooming periods. Some varieties like Dai Kagura, Arajishi, and Pink Perfection start to bloom in October. Other varieties like Alba Plena, Debutante, Vedrine, blossom near mid-season. Col. Fiery, Purity, Ville de Nantes, and others are mid-season to late. Selection in each blooming season group extends the flowering season from October way into April.

Camellias can be set out any time of the year from containers. Those growing in the ground that need to be dug up and either moved to another location or planted into tubs or pots, should be moved when in bloom, or before they have finished flowering.

There are several soil mixtures one can prepare. A good mixture is one part of well moistened peat moss and two parts garden soil. Holes should be twice as wide and deep as size of root ball of plant. An easy way to provide drainage in heavy soil is to punch a hole with crow bar or post hole digger three feet down below bottom of the dug hole. Top of narrow hole should be three to four inches across, flush with bottom of the large hole. Fill narrow, deep hole with pea gravel. The mixed soil below bottom of root ball should be firmed. Top of ball of roots should set level or slightly above level of surrounding ground. A ring of soil, built around edge of hole where plant is set, catches and holds water. Plant should be thoroughly watered and kept moist first few days. Thereafter, water it as it needs water.

In the East, soil freezes and snow lies on the ground during the winter. As a consequence, camellias are not grown outdoors there. However, camellias may be grown in containers such as pots or tubs and kept in a greenhouse during the winter, with temperature controlled to about fifty degrees.

You'll have fun growing camellias in redwood tubs or clay pots. Soil in wood tubs doesn't dry out as fast as that in clay pots, therefore control the watering.

Container grown camellias can be moved around at will. Plants increase in size, furnish screening material or greenery for patio or porch during the summer. Late fall and winter plants supply you with lovely flowers. When they start to blossom, they can be placed in garden areas where color is needed during the damp depressing rainy days of winter. After you have had these plants for five years or more, plant them out in the garden. If no room is left for additional camellias, use them as gift plants. Maybe some friend is having an anniversary celebration, housewarming, or perhaps at last minute you still haven't found a Christmas gift for that dear friend of yours. Pick up one of your choice container grown camellias, put it in your car, and deliver that present personally. Sure, it's like tearing something dear out of your heart. But isn't that the true spirit of giving? Only, don't throw your back out of kilter when loading or unloading that camellia from your car, then have to go to an osteopath for several treatments!

You'll never go wrong if you plant some camellias. If planted right, cared for periodically, they truly are lifetime investment plants.

JOE LITTLEFIELD  
*Garden Consultant and Lecturer*


ED.: You'll never go wrong pertaining to additional gardening information if you watch KTLA, Channel 5, Sundays, 12:30 p.m., and listen to KXLA Fridays, 1:30 p.m., 1110 on radio dial, to "garden chats" programs.

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# Cattleya Orchids for Indoors or Greenhouse

Cattleyas and their allied hybrids are the most generally known and are possibly most universally grown by commercial growers and hobbyists. Although this beautiful tribe of plants is found only in Central and South America, it is interesting to recognize Nature's placement of each species in its separate locality. Many cattleyas including the bi-foliate types especially are found in Brazil from the provinces of Bahia, Sao Paulo and down to the Rio Grande. Other species, including the Easter flowering *C. Mossiae*, are found throughout a large portion of Venezuela, and then down the western side of the South American continent through Colombia and into Ecuador. The yellow *C. Dowiana aurea* is found mostly in Costa Rica, whereas the Christmas flowering *C. Trianae* grow profusely in the western sections of the Continent. Many of the smaller flowered types are found in Nicaragua and Honduras and up into Southern Mexico. This very wide range of latitude and climatic conditions suggests that hybrids developed from crossing these different species and mixed up with allied genera as Laelias, Brassavolas, and Sophronitis could be acclimated to almost any reasonable conditions such as a living room window or greenhouse.

## TEMPERATURE REQUIREMENTS

We may glean from the above information that cattleyas grow in various sections of tropical countries and thus are subjected to a warm, moist climate high up in the trees under a canopy of thinly leaved trees. Frequent rains and just as frequent strong breezes first moisten and then dry out the plants as they cling to the branches with long sponge-like roots. The minimum temperature generally is close to 60 degrees Fahrenheit at night and slightly warmer during the day. At this temperature in the tropics, naturally there is high humidity since there is no induced heat such as is necessary in the home or greenhouse to maintain this range. Thus, humidity is one of the most important factors to watch when creating an artificial climate. This humidity should be maintained at about 50 to 60 per cent minimum and even this is difficult when the enclosure is heated artificially. Automatic fog sprays under the bench or dampening of the floors at night helps to maintain the proper environment.

## LIGHT REQUIREMENTS

Filtered light through high trees in the

tropics suggests a greenhouse covered with lath slats or plastic screen or cheese cloth to cut down the burning intensity of the sun. This may be modified each season in relation to the angle of the sun and its intensity. Cattleyas require as strong light as they can stand without the leaves turning yellow or the plant dehydrating. This strong light develops large pseudo-bulbs, good roots, and better flowers. Just the reverse is true with the opposite conditions.

## WATERING REQUIREMENTS

*Each time a cattleya plant is watered it should be thoroughly soaked.* Any method of accomplishing this complete saturation from soaking for fifteen minutes in a pan of tepid water to pouring water on the top of the compost several times in succession is good. This leaches the unused chemicals from the compost and prevents a buildup of toxic materials. *The plant then should be allowed to dry out almost bone dry before repeating this procedure.* This will encourage a strong, healthy root growth. About every third time the plant needs water, substitute any balanced commercial powdered or liquid fertilizer and apply in liquid form in the same method as watering.

## INDOOR CULTURE

Many hobbyists with but one or a few plants, who do not wish to invest in a greenhouse, can grow the cattleya plants quite successfully near a window providing the above light, temperature, and watering requirements are followed. To maintain humidity, a deep tray or dish about eighteen inches in diameter filled with a porous material such as volcanic rock, charcoal, or pumice will serve the purpose. The evaporation of moisture from this material will add the humidity to the close environment of the plant without the necessity of having the entire room at a high humidity.

People are not born with a "green thumb." This can easily be developed by a sincere interest in the welfare of the particular plants being grown. This in itself will promote a keener observation and better understanding of plant care in relation to the particular place where the plants happen to be grown.

GLENN H. HIATT  
*Orchid Research*  
La Canada, California

# Try a Coconut . . . Gardens of Ventura

(Continued From Page 3)

Sometime ago I became interested in the possibility of using coconuts as house plants. The coconut is the only palm I know of that has a leaning trunk, which I feel will give any tropical collection a true tropical atmosphere.

Any reader who is not willing to give up a plant when it outgrows the room, might as well forget about coconuts. Unless, of course, you are willing to chop a good sized hole in your ceiling. Except for certain parts of Florida, the coconut will not survive our winters (including my dear alma mater, California).

The coconut is propagated by seed only, and as you probably have guessed, that thing you buy at the grocery is the seed. If you want to germinate it, don't start hammering on it or try to open it up, 'cause all you'll do is ruin it. Just take the old thing and stick it in wet sand, about 70 degrees, and leave the three eyes exposed. The important thing to remember is that it must be in the shade. Maybe you have wondered why it doesn't germinate in the ocean while it is drifting around the world. The reason is shade. After it is washed up on some beach, it is gradually covered with sand and if it stays covered for about six months, it will germinate.

The sprout will appear at the largest eye and the roots will appear at the same place. The white meat (endosperm) is the food supply for the plant until the roots can become "breadwinners." I don't know how long that will take, so don't remove the plant from the nut. The coconut is a Monocotyledon (having one seed leaf). The cotyledon (seed leaf) stays inside the coconut, digesting the endosperm.

My coconut has been in the seed bed about a month now, and already I can't help but give it hopeful glances as I putter in the greenhouse. Before planting, I wondered if it was worth the effort, knowing that eventually I shall have to destroy it. My small vocabulary can't begin to describe the satisfaction, the strength, and the understanding that is developed while nursing any fine specimen. Acquiring a feeling toward its thirst, food requirements, and habits makes it really hurt when you have to take it outside to die. There is a way so it doesn't hurt so much. I'm going to plant one each year and use them in a group planting. They will each be of a different height, and when the largest

was an artistic array of rock with a stream flowing to the pool below with gold fish enjoying life in a beautiful setting. Uneven slabs for stepping stones led to the edge of the pool. The topmost recesses and pockets were planted with *Nephrolepis Norwoodi*, the stiff curly "Boston Fern," the fronds gracefully arching over a red rock. There was the Leatherleaf Fern, the latest name being *Rumohra adaintiformis*, however it usually is found under *Polystichum capense* or *Polystichum adaintiformis*, occasionally *Asplenium capense*. The leathery texture with uneven cuts and sections, gradually forms a spear shaped leaf. It is one of the most desired ferns for flower arrangements as the fronds will last for three weeks. Along the stream in pockets between rocks, grew the Venus-Hair fern (*Adiantum capillus-Veneris*) creating a fragile effect that only maidenhair fern provide. Dropping to a lower recess we saw the stately "Black Trunk Tree Fern" (*Cyathea medullaris*). The black hairs on the fronds always intrigue one. Graceful *Microlepia spelunca* with fronds drooping over red and grey rocks provided a lovely setting for stately *B. lucerna*, dripping with its prominent deep pink clusters of flowers.

In a pocket, we saw a mass of carrot tops which we readily recognized as *Onychium Japonicum*, the "Carrot Fern." This provided a lovely background for *B. silver star*, a stunning effect with its silver leaves silhouetted by the red rock. The edge of the pool was bordered with the shining green leaves of *B. erythrophylla* (Beefsteak Begonia). Along the path in a setting of red rocks, we found *B. Washington Street* with the shining green peach shaped leaves and clusters of white flowers, *B. catalina* (*B. improved digswelliana* or *B. Lady Waterlow*), *B. Fred Brown*, *B. Bow-Nigra* and *B. caroliniaefolia* also were nestled behind rocks. *B. r. c. Scarlet O'Hara*, with its gaudy color blended in with the reds and greens. We could not linger longer as a full afternoon awaited us.

After some winding around, we drove up to the home of Hazel and Clyde Snodgrass.

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must go, there always will be another to take its place. Maybe the local bank, or other large building could use the large ones.

If you have grown everything else and you are looking for something different—try a coconut.

BOB OLIVER



A mass of rosy pink heralded a welcome, "Hazel's Front Porch." If you could know the begonia people in Ventura, their humorous wit along with their friendliness, you would readily know it was not the color of the porch. A *B. coccinea* (no one seems to know which one), standing seven feet tall, was a willowy, full plant with large clusters of startling pink flowers. The profusion of bloom almost hid the green leaves. The plant seemed to say to us, "Come to my garden path." The begonia people got bored explaining it had a name unknown, so it is now and has been for some time called "Hazel's Front Porch." We heeded its welcome for a visit. The visit was much too short to visualize by memory the collection of plants, mainly begonias and ferns. As we approached, we viewed fuchsias dripping flowers from all parts of the plants. The fuchsias growing like shrubs, six and seven feet tall, had tremendous width.

A charming rock wall built around an old wagon wheel was at one end of the garden path. The path traveled along solid walls and lath, with lath overhead. Along this path begonias were tucked in among ferns. There we saw *Woodwardia radicans* (the European Woodwardia), a fern that has always proved interesting, not only because of its coarse, bold, graceful beauty, but also because the ever intriguing buds which form on the tips of the fronds. The drooping frond touches the ground and a new plant grows from this bud, not to the degree that it will take the garden over. It usually needs a little encouragement as anchoring the frond to the ground, as for air layering. *Pteris argyraea*, the fern with the distinct whitish bands on the leaves; a six foot tall white *B. coccinea*, with a shower of white flowers, *B. undulata*, billowing with white flowers; *Pteris albo-linata*, the fern with the whitish stripe through the center of the leaves, and dainty *B. Richard Robinson*, with its leaves splashed with silver, were all cleverly arranged and growing in this section which carried out a green and white contrast . . . an effective idea. We found there the large leaved *B. 27S*, and the brown speckled green leaf of *B. page 13*, along with *B. New York Botanical Gardens No. 76221*, with its shining green leaves and brown markings. The latter two, being rather mixed up in so many people's minds, are distinguished by *B. page 13* being a rhizomatous begonia while *B. No. 76221* is a fibrous begonia.

This short story covers only a few of the plants along the garden path of Hazel and Clyde.

SYLVIA B. LEATHERMAN

## Rex Begonias . . .

(Continued From Page 3)

Cut off all old rhizomes; dust cut surface with sulphur; and repot. *Never overpot your rex begonias.* This causes waterlogging and soil sourness, which mean sudden death to a rex. Don't repot to a date or in a group, but repot when the plant's roots need it. Start with a small pot, say 4", and you will have to repot three or four times a season, always going to only one size larger. Sometime it may be necessary to pot to a smaller pot when you have a sickly plant with poor root development, or one overpotted and waterlogged.

WATERING—Again there is no set rule as to when to water your plants. When the soil is dry, a plant needs a THOROUGH watering, not just a hit-miss job. I also like to overhead spray during warm weather to keep the humidity up.

Rex begonias, although not the easiest to grow, will thrive in an *even temperature*, away from *drafts*, in complete shade or filtered sunlight. Never any direct sun. The rex retains its best color when grown in complete shade. Potted rex begonias must be turned one-fourth way around every week to make an outstanding show plant.

JOHN THIEBEN

—B—

## Anthuriums . . .

(Continued From Page 5)

points extend out about four inches from where the stem joins the leaf. This stem has a narrow double ridge on the flat topside of the stem, while the back is rounded.

There are two yet unidentified species from Colombia which are very desirable. One with an elliptic leaf (squeezed down circle) has not been bloomed here. It is leathery dull dark green leaved with a quite sharp but not prominent center vein of lighter green. There is a brown scurf on the rhizome. This plant is not a rank grower. The other species from this area has oblong heart shaped leaves. In Colombia where there is huge growth due to high humidity, a man had to use field glasses to see the bloom up in the air. This anthurium is light green with lighter green depressed veins.

The planter which becomes the topic of conversation must contain unusual plants which grow under conditions adverse to nature. Try anthuriums—the plant which all of your neighbors do not possess.

MARIE TURNER

# Identify Your Rex Begonias . . .

## Top Picture . . .

*Rex begonias grown under glass on spaced elevated steps.*

*Bottom row left to right:* ROBERT GEORGE—(medium) Upright, branching. Silver leaf, narrow, irregular green edge. Irregular points. PEARLI—(small) Soft green, overlaid with a pebbly silver. RUTH ANN WILLIAMS—(medium) Upright, branching. Long leaf, small green-black center. Tiny red-brown margin. Border irregular, bright green with a few silver spots. Mid-section silver-blue-green with pink casts. One leaf directly below MIKADO—(large) Silver leaf with lavender hues. Center deep purple shading out to bright purple and lavender. FORTYNINER—(medium) Spiral. Small bright green center. Mid-section silver-green, shining overcast with a rosy hue. Border bright green, silver spotted. Fine red hair-line edge. ROBERT GEORGE.

*Second row from bottom:* CURLY SILVER LAKE—(large) Spiral. Silver leaf with dark indented veins. Raised pebbly sections that are finely lined or etched with dark irregular lines. EL MONTE—(large) Spiral. Blue-silver with traces of pink. Border, irregular, green with silver spots. BERTHA MCGREGGOR—(medium) Upright, branching. Maple leaf type. Center deep maroon, slightly tinged red. Mid-section blue-green-silver. Irregular green border, spotted silver. NAVAJO—(large) Center deep maroon red shading to bright rosy red. Border silver, edge deep bright maroon red.

*Top row:* PETER PAN—(large) Center of deep green, shades out to bright green. Mid-section silver-green, edged with deep red and bright green, overlaid with silver spots. Stiff red hairs are sparsely scattered over the tops of the leaves. CURLY RAJAH—(large) Spiral. Dark center. Silver mid-section. Bright green border with silver spots. Fine red hair line edge. BERTHA MCGREGGOR. ESTHER BONER—(medium) Spiral. Silver leaf with a slate gray cast, fine, irregular lines and markings.

*Second row from top:* MULBERRY—(medium) Dark mulberry-red center and border. Mid-section of soft aqua-blue. MIDNIGHT—(large) Deep purple center and border. Band of bright blue-silver. Far right AUTUMN SEEDLING—(Lewis) (large) Dark red leaf with rosy casts, hues and markings.

## Bottom Picture . . .

*Rex begonias grown under lath with muslin, on spaced, elevated steps.*

*Bottom row left:* CRIMSON GLOW—(medium) Upright, branching. Center and edge have a crimson cast. Mid-section silver-green. Entire leaf has fine, irregular green markings. *Left, in back of* CRIMSON GLOW: PETER PAN. *To right:* MRS. CRANDALL—(medium) Silver, pebbly leaf, edges irregularly marked, black-green. SILVER SWEET—(medium) Upright, branching. Gun-metal silver with black-gray center and veinings. SEA NYMPH—(large) Dark green leaf with silver raised sections.

*Second row from top:* BRONZE QUEEN—(large) Bronzy deep red green leaf. PRESIDENT (President Carnot) (large) Dark leaf with silver raised sections. SMOG—(large) Spiral. Center very dark green, tinged red. Mid-section greenish silver. Edge dark red. Entire leaf is covered with predominate red hairs which give a reddish hue to the leaf. LESOUDI—(large) Center irregularly veined in dark greens, edges have a fine line of red. Border of dark green with tiny dots of silver. Balance of leaf is a medium green with a raised and blistered effect.

*Top row:* PETER PAN. MRS. MOON—(medium) Silver leaf, irregular center and edge dark green. LESOUDI. FIESTA—(large) Rounded leaf dark, almost black irregular center and border. Mid-section raised silver sections.

Leaf sizes given are the approximate diameter the normal gardener obtains. Following are the leaf sizes. The leaf sizes are in parentheses after the name of each variety. *Miniature* and *Small*—diameter up to 4 inches. *Medium*—diameter up to 7 in. *Large*—diameter up to 12 in.

SYLVIA LEATHERMAN



# Begonias Go to Washington . . .

The American Horticultural Council, Inc., held its tenth annual Congress in the Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D.C., October 26 to 29. The Council is composed of the outstanding organizations in the United States which are interested in horticulture, including the American Begonia Society. The writer was invited to put on an exhibit of begonias. Needless to say that she was rather thrilled. The good such an exhibit can do is beyond words. So to Tenbyten and to select the plants. I really had so little time that morning, but managed to gather together seventy-two worthy specimens. Loaded them into Henrietta (station wagon) and on the way to our capital about eleven A.M. The day was a beautiful one in October with the trees a real blaze of autumn glory in their laying away dress, for winter is on its way to us here in the East, and soon the trees will be just lovely branches and trunks against leaden skies or snow.

Folks who never have driven the streets of Washington have a real driving treat ahead of them when they visit the capital, for the city is a maze of streets starting and ending just no place to be found on the map. But we made it fine. Incidentally, the Shoreham Hotel is a place of real refinement and I was so pleased to exhibit in the Terrace Room, overlooking a beautiful rose garden, with the songs of the mocking birds coming in the open doors. My allotted space was right in the center of the room, where everyone could see the plants. They were staged on tables and right down the center I had three six-foot-tall plants, *B. venosa* in bloom, *B. 'Septum'* just dripping with clusters of apple blossom pink bloom, and *B. 'braemar'* with the deep red leaves. I took quite a number of the new hybrids—Louise Schwerdtfeger's *B. 'Helen Krauss'*, *B. 'Janet Kay'*, *B. 'Elodye'*, *B. 'Elsa Fort'*, *B. 'Alice Mac'* and *B. 'Mac Alice'*, all of which stood the heat of the room over two nights remarkably well, and came home looking very fine. Marie Turner gave me some lovely hybrids unnamed when I visited her, and so far have had no names for them, but they were just wonderful plants for exhibits, and were labeled "Turner Hybrids." Mr. Ziesenhenné's *B. 'Muriel Day'* and several of his early productions were very satisfactory and make very good plants to show. The Percy Merrys of Massachusetts have a new introduction, *B. 'Beatrice Hoddrell'*, which was particularly lovely. This new plant has the most

bewitching eyelashes, just like *B. 'Boweri'*, but unlike *B. 'Boweri'*, stands a lot of hard handling, change of temperature and light, and is not a bit fussy if it is moved from place to place. Had a lovely specimen of *B. 'Beatrice'*, filling a seven inch pot, and just dripping with the lovely green and brown leaves. When I visited our own Susie Zug, she gave me one of her very choice seedlings, *B. 'Thrush'*, and it now is a very large plant, and at exhibit time had seven large blooms on it. Ordinarily I do not let my rex bloom unless I want them to use in hybridizing, for my experience has been that they lose the beauty of leaves, for which I grow them, after having bloomed.

Then there were the old reliable standbys, the rhizomatous *B. 'Mrs. Townsend'*, *B. erythrophylla* (all three — plain, curled and crested), the three manicatas, *B. 'Fischer's ricinifolia'*, *B. 'Marian'*, *B. immense*, *B. 'John R.'*, *B. 'Lexington'*, *B. popenoei*, *B. 'Joe Hayden'*, and *B. fusco maculata*. The canes, *B. shasta*, pink and white, *B. 'Mrs. W. A. Wallow'*, *B. lobata variegata*, *B. medora*, a hybrid from New England they call *B. 'South Park'*, *B. albo-picta*, and a hybrid (which is a cross between *B. scharfi* and *B. 'Thurstoni'*) just filled with large pendulous pink bloom. Had about a dozen bright colored rex for fill-ins and for the first time showed some of my own hybrids, as yet not registered with the A.B.S. The ones which stood the hard treatment best were the miniature productions of the past few years, including *B. 'Beatrice Hoddrell'* and the rex. The rhizomatous were prone to have the stems dry and the leaves had no support back of them and hung down instead of standing erect. The hirsute type came out so sick, sad and sorry—just could not stand the change of atmosphere. *B. venosa* was perfect, but poor *B. 'Septum'* is almost de-leaved, while *B. 'braemar'* is rather droopy. I am giving this information so that those of you who are invited to exhibit your plants can be a little guided as to the best ones to stand up under adverse conditions.

Some time ago the A.B.S. sent out green and white plates to be used on our cars. For some time, Henrietta has had it on the rear bumper. Well, the day of the exhibit, no sign for the A.B.S., no time to have one printed, so the sign from the bumper came into the exhibit, and showed to all the visitors who were interested in begonias that the American Begonia Society was represented at

# Just a few Words Plant Oddities . . .

Just a few words of appreciation from a Canadian reader of *The Begonian* for the interesting articles and information given on growing shade plants and especially begonias.

How fortunate we are in being able to obtain so many varieties of unusual seeds at such moderate prices from the SEED FUND. When I undo one of the tiny seed folders, I think what a lot of careful and patient work goes into the packaging and distribution of the seeds.

This year among other seeds I received from the SEED FUND, *B. calla lily* I especially like. (I am having good luck with all of them.) The *B. calla lily* seeds I planted in two mediums—using two inch pots—filling one about half full of sifted leaf mold, I added a layer of fine peat moss in the other, I used leaf mold in the bottom half and vermiculite for the top layer. Scalding with boiling water, both pots and contents, I allowed them to cool before sowing the seed. I covered each pot with a small piece of glass and placed them on the sand in the propagating case in the greenhouse, leaving them alone until the small plants appeared. Since then I have watered them, only when the pots felt very light, by standing the pots in a little water for a few minutes. The seed germinated well in both pots. I have about thirty small plants and still have a little seed left, as I rarely use it all at once, so I can, if need be, try again. I often grow seeds in small glass jars, but have had better success with the *B. calla lily* seeds as outlined above.

It is most interesting to read in *The Begonian* of the methods used by other readers and the short question and answer column, I thought, was particularly good. So, thank you all—all who take so much trouble to make *The Begonian* such a welcome arrival each month.

GLADYS DAY  
Salmon Arm, Canada

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the Tenth Congress of the Council. And now the seventy-two are back again in their home in Tenbyten and the writer is still so proud and happy to have been a part of the Congress with the begonias which the American Begonia Society has made possible for her to have in such good condition that they may be exhibited.

MRS. ELSA FORT  
Eastern Chairman  
A.B.S. Public Relations

Plant oddities are the ones most interesting to me, and in the spring and fall I start a new one or two to keep my interest up the following season. Out of doors I have growing now *Apios tuberosa*, the Potato-Bean vine, which has interesting brownish-purple blooms, shaped like a bean blossom. It climbs readily, has narrow leaves, and spreads just enough so you can give the neighbors a start occasionally, from the potato-like tubers. It is hardy to below zero temperatures.

Another out-of-door plant we have enjoyed is the *Acidanthera Murielae*, which I have somewhere heard called the South American gladiola. We first noticed this plant in the seed catalog because of the similarity to my name. Its care and growth are the same as for glads, but the bloom is white with a brown or maroon blotch in the throat, is sweet scented, and more delicate. It is most effective when planted close together in a massed effect.

Indoors, I am always experimenting with unknown (to me) plants. This year's special is the pink polka-dot plant *Hypoestis sanguinolenta* which I raised from seed—a pretty plant inclined to get leggy at the slightest provocation. It needs a good deal of sunlight. The dark green heart-shaped leaves are liberally dotted with pin-head sized pink spots, and the flowers grow directly on the main stems of the plants with no stems of their own. Flowers are fuchsia colored, and last only a day or so. *Begonia Manda's woolly bear* is just beginning to show its fuzz, and my fall planting of the Kangaroo Paw, *Anigozanthos Manglesii*, is just poking through the dirt. I can hardly wait to see what it looks like.

Last year my special was the Prayer plant, *Maranta Kerchoveana*, whose leaves stand up straight when darkness comes, lie down flat when light surrounds them again. The dark wine spots on the leaves have given this plant another common name—rabbit tracks.

In order to have room for more new plants, I give my oddities away each year, to be auctioned off at the PTA annual auction. Other houseplant lovers like to have variety in their windows without the trouble of raising them from seed. We have no greenhouses close to our community.

MURRIELLE WILSON

—B—

ED. NOTE: Elsa Fort, who worked so diligently to put in the above begonia exhibit, may be seen in Tenbyten on cover of February 1955 issue of *The Begonian*.

# President's Column

TO ALL MEMBERS:

A department of great importance to our Society is the Membership department under the supervision of Jack MacLanahan, who is ably assisted by his wife, Della. These two are a good natured, jolly couple who always make your visit to them very enjoyable. They drive several miles at least once a week to collect the mail from the post office box. Arriving home, they open the mail and carefully record all new and renewal applications for membership in ledgers and on file cards, prepare mailing stencils, prepare and deposit in the bank all monies received, mail out magazines and do all the other necessary details to keep your membership in order. This limited description of the work involved in the Membership department falls far short of what Jack and Della are doing for you. Help them on this important task and assure yourself that your Begonian gets to you by sending in immediately any change of address.

School of Judges with Jean Kerlin in charge is a department that is designed to train and accredit judges for flower shows with emphasis on begonias. Classes are being prepared both for personal attendance and by mail; tests will be conducted; and cards issued to those passing. More and more recognition can be expected for Flower Show Judges carrying an A.B.S. Judges card because anyone attending these classes and passing the tests will be a qualified Begonia Judge. You will hear more about this activity from Jean in the near future.

Our Historian, just appointed, is Pearl Bauer and she will keep our activities properly recorded for posterity. I am sure that Pearl would appreciate any material you could send her about A.B.S. activities in your locale. Should your branch conduct or participate in a flower show, or take part in any local civic activity, send her pictures, publicity and a report so it can be recorded.

The Awards Committee with Edna Korts as chairman is responsible for making recommendations to the Board of persons to receive the various awards given by our Society. This committee is composed of two parts, one preparing a recommendation of a person based on a plant he has developed and a sub committee recommending a person on the basis of his personal effort to promote our Society. Actually, the rules to be observed in making these decisions are quite detailed and persons receiving the awards justly deserve them. Write to Edna Korts about these awards

if you know of someone who is a member and should receive special recognition for his work.

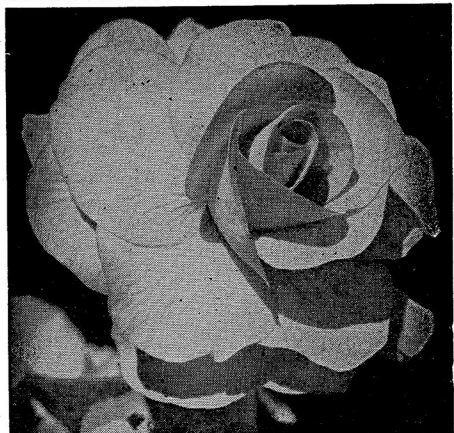
Editor, Louise Cramer. What can be said that is not evident in this very publication you are reading? The work she is doing is evident every month. The vast amount of correspondence required to get material together, the hours spent to arrange it, the proof reading and the corrections are behind the scenes work which is evidenced in the finished work, *The Begonian*. Sometimes letters are sent indicating unhappiness because an article or report did not get published. Quite often it arrived after the deadline date, which is so essential, and it could not be included in that issue, but if not too outdated, would be in the next issue. So be sure to mail your items to the editor EARLY. Write to her about your experience growing begonias and other shade plants and share your knowledge with other members through *The Begonian*.

JOE TAYLOR, *President*

—B—

## CORRECTION:

"Ferns, for Use in the Patio or Lathhouse," by Jack MacLanahan, Dec. 1955, page 271. Para. 4, line 7—Knock out the fern after soaking it THOROUGHLY. Para. 8, line 5 should read—and a 2" pot of bone meal for a 15" basket.



### The One and Only Pacific Strain of TUBEROUS BEGONIAS

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DEPT. "B," CAPITOLA, CALIFORNIA

## Members, Will You Help?!!!

The department which I head desires to help you. We plan two projects we feel are needed by our members. Each one of you make up a list of all the begonias you are growing. Members belonging to a branch send your lists through your branch. If you are a member at large, send your list directly to me. We need a complete list of all begonias grown to compile the following:

**BEGONIA GLOSSARY:** For universal use at flower shows, etc.

**BEGONIA SURVEY:** To establish a record of begonias grown by members; to gain knowledge of the ease or difficulty of the specific begonia in various districts.

We have been working on another project that so many of you want. We now have an Identification Garden and this is under the supervision of John Thieben. A permanent growing place will be established at Mr. Thieben's Garden. The purpose, to identify begonias for members of the A.B.S. Many members have requested the identity of a begonia they possess without a name. A leaf or small cutting is not sufficient to identify many begonias. In establishing the Identification Garden, strong cuttings or small plants may be grown on to a fully developed plant. A group of authorities will work with Mr. Thieben to establish the proper name.

### RULES AND REGULATIONS:

1. The person submitting a strong cutting or plant must be a member of the American Begonia Society.
2. Cuttings or plants must bear the proper inspection certificates. (Contact your local post office for specific instructions.) Cuttings or plants not bearing inspection certificates will be destroyed.
3. Cuttings or plants must be sent directly to Mr. Thieben and must bear the sender's full name and address.
4. Notify Mr. Thieben by letter when you send the plants or cuttings and enclose a self addressed envelope for your identification number. Upon arrival, your cutting or plant will be given a number and the number will be sent to you. The plant will carry this number until correctly identified. When the begonia is identified, the recipient will be notified as to name of the number your plant carried. If you send more than one cutting or plant at a time, place a different letter of the alphabet with each one. This in turn will prevent confusion and mixups. As: A—B— returned number A—21, B—22.

Safe shipping is necessary to assure good material to grow on. DO NOT ship during real hot weather or freezing weather. Cool weather is the most satisfactory time. Packing properly is important. Use sufficient damp sphagnum moss around base of the cutting or the root system. Wrap this part in heavy wax paper and tie securely. Wrap the entire plant or cutting in six or eight thicknesses of newspaper, rolling over and over, turn the bottom end in, turning the end in to get the exact length of the container will wedge the material in place. The newspaper will act at a buffer to shock and will wedge your material in solid. Use crumpled newspaper where more padding is needed. Pack in a strong carton. Pick it up and shake it from side to side and you can tell if there is any slipping. If you hear the material sliding or moving, more padding is necessary. For the safest shipping, have a "special delivery" or "special handling" stamp attached. All shipping expenses are to be paid by the shipper. Materials will not be returned and will remain in the Identification Garden for future use. Mr. Thieben is a busy man, so please do not expect him to carry on unnecessary correspondence. Be patient, as it will in many cases, take several months to identify your begonia properly. All material should be addressed: A.B.S. Identification Garden, Mr. John Thieben, 6409 Will Rogers St., Los Angeles 45, Calif.

Begonia Test Gardens are to be established at Botanical Gardens. We have a tentative set of rules and regulations and these will be formally formulated and approved in the near future. Any hybridizer desiring information regarding the testing of new hybrids may write to me for further information.

SYLVIA B. LEATHERMAN  
*Research Director*

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# Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund . . .

SPECIAL OFFER. 1. *B. 'Cinderella.'* New. Double pink semperflorens with dark foliage. During the past year we have had many requests for the above-mentioned begonia. After corresponding with every country in the world where begonias are grown, we have obtained a few seeds. In order that everyone may have a chance, please do not ask for more than one packet. We feel that this is the best contribution we have made to the Seed Fund thus far and are happy to offer these choice seeds at 50 cents for a small packet. Seeds should be sown carefully using a three-inch clay pot with well-drained material. Do not cover with soil. These plants are not to be confused with the hardy type semperflorens begonias as they are extra special and will make beautiful baskets or may be grown in pots. Keep pinched for compact plant.

2. SUPER OFFER. Rex begonias. These seeds of *Rex cultorum* are from a group of beautifully colored hybrids, spirals and dwarfs, and have been especially selected for their highly decorative leaves. Popular as potted house plants or grown outdoors where climate permits. They come to us from a famous specialist and are of a superior strain. 50 cents per packet. See cultural directions on Rexes.

3. We have received directly from South Africa a group of outstanding seeds of the semperflorens begonia. These are dwarf and miniature types and are ideal for the "window-sill watcher" and growers with limited space. No. 1. *B. 'Saga.'* Extra dwarf with small bright red flowers. No. 2. *B. 'Winter Romance.'* Miniature. Carmine flowers, green foliage. No. 3. *B. 'Loveliness.'* Miniature. Pictured in the Krauss book on begonias. Flesh pink with green foliage. Beautiful. No. 4. *B. 'Fairy Queen.'* Miniature. Foliage green. Flowers white(?). No. 5. *B. 'Matador.'* Miniature. Distinctive variety. No. 6. *B. 'Seashell.'* Medium to large. Beautiful white flowers, margined pink. The above selection may be purchased for \$1.25.

"Sight Unseen" begonia seeds still available. 10 packets for \$1.00. Varieties change each month.

Why not grow something different this spring? Listed below is a collection of outstanding seeds that will blend perfectly with begonias and other shade loving plants. Sow them now for spring and summer blooms. No. 1. *Calceolaria.* Not difficult to grow from seeds. In sowing, use loose sterilized material, no covering is necessary. When large enough

to handle, plant in small pots. This is a mixture of brilliant reds, yellows and intermediate shades in large heads. Plants are dwarf. No. 2. *Naegelia* (Temple bells). Art shades. Slender tubular flowers in shades of pink, red, orange and yellow; all with spotted throats. Very showy. Requires same culture as gloxinias. No. 3. *Achimenes.* Brightly colored, trumpet-like flowers in velvety tones of red, violet and white. Grown in pots or baskets. No. 4. *Fuchsia hybrida.* Choice mixture of single and double types. These seeds are from one of the finest collections in the country and will add beauty and color to your shade garden all summer long. The above seeds are the very best and freshest obtainable anywhere. If a few simple directions are followed, these plants will give months of color in your shade garden. Small packets 4 for \$1.00.

Seeds of other genera consist of the following: No. 1. *Agapanthus orientalis.* South Africa tuberous rooted herb of the lily family. Also known as Lily-of-the-Nile. Has tall stalks topped by a crown of beautiful blue. Leaves long, thick and evergreen. This plant is effectively used in the foreground with shrubs. No. 2. *Iris foetidissima.* Christmas iris. A shade loving evergreen species having insignificant flowers. However, the many seed pods which form after blooming burst open in the late summer and fall exposing gorgeous red seeds which retain their color indefinitely after they are picked and dried. Nice for flower arrangements. No. 3. *Arum italicum.* Green calla. Foliage lance-shaped. Silver veined. Flowers like parchment, cream through green. After flowering bright red berries form. Shade or semi-shade. No. 4. Olympic hybrids. Lily. Beautiful tall growing. Flowers vary in color from ivory white through soft green with deeper green and russet tints on outside of petals. No. 5. *Hemerocallis.* Day lily. Hand pollinated seeds. Colors range through the yellows, browns, and reds and will grow in any climate. After they are established, they are almost drought resistant. Nice for border or may be planted in drifts. No other plant gives so much with such little care. Truly a "lazy person's flower." Place seeds in refrigerator until ready to plant. A four-inch pot is suitable for planting and plants may remain in pot until they are ready to transplant, usually about three months. Place seedlings in a little high shade to favor the delicate color of blooms. No. 6. *Gloriosa*



## Sowing Rex Begonia Seeds

### *The Fisher Method*

1. Sift leaf mold through window screen, dampen.

2. Place about 1 1/2 inches in container. Use either:

- a. wide mouth jar on its side
- b. casserole
- c. ice box dish

3. Sift peat moss, *dampen*. Place approx. 1/4 inch layer over leaf mold.

4. Mixture must be damp, *not* wet.

5. Scatter seeds on surface, *sparingly*.

6. Cover container lightly. Place in shady position where temperature ranges around 65 to 75 degrees (on top of water heater or gas refrigerator). Germination is faster if temperature is never allowed to drop below 70 degrees. Keep container covered tightly so moisture may not escape.

7. Transplant seedlings any time after two or three true leaves appear and move in groups. A small flat is good for this purpose, so it may easily be watered by placing it in a pan containing 1 1/2 inches of lukewarm water. This is watering by absorption and does not disturb the roots.

8. Each transplanting will be the time to use coarser leaf mold.

9. In transplanting the begonias from the flat, separate each one and plant in 2 or 2 1/2 inch pots, after they become sufficiently established.

10. Sink the pots in flats containing dampened peat moss or dampened shavings, to insure against them becoming "dried out." It is fatal to seedlings to become "dried out."

11. Rex begonias like a growing medium of coarse leaf mold and small amount of crushed charcoal and bone meal, after they have been moved from the seedling flat.

12. Fertilize with a weak fertilizer in liquid form, *when* the plant is *growing*. Never fertilize a plant in a dry condition or a dormant plant. Rex begonias rest in the winter.

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*superba*. Tropical Africa and Asia. Glory-Lily. Tuberous rooted, showy vine about 10 feet high of the lily family. Mostly grown in greenhouses but may be grown outdoors in mild climates. Flowers yellow changing to red and petals appear to be twisted. Handsome plant. No. 7. Clivia. Belgian hybrid. Aristocrat of the amaryllis family. Leaves are wide strap-like, dark green. Flowers are large, of deep red-orange on tall, stiff stems. Requires

## A Packet of Fun . . .

I've had a very pleasant adventure with a packet of seed which I would like to share with you fellow "Begonians." The seed was labeled B, 'Black Stars' and was forwarded to me by our bountiful Mrs. Gee. I planted them in sterile medium (vermiculite) and with gentle bottom heat, they soon sprouted into little begonia seedlings. Eventually, it became clear that only a few were to be dark and the majority were bright apple green. So, hastily I wrote to Mrs. Gee about the phenomenon. She quickly and kindly let me know that they were hybrids and that some would resemble one parent and some the other.

So, time went by and I looked on my little begonia prodigies as two separate kinds. The little dark ones which strongly resembled B. 'Joe Hayden' and the green ones which seemed to be an apple green version of B. *Sunderbruchi*. The green leaf has cream veins and light and dark iridescent markings. That was how I looked on them until one evening when I was showing them to my husband (who is much more observant than I) noticed that there is considerable variation in the individual seedlings. They are all more or less star shaped. Some are deeply slashed, some only medium and are remindful of the maple leaf. One is so blocky that it looks like a square with points. On some, there is a faint scattering of brown dots. Some are the large economy size; some are wee-wees; and some are just medium in growth. I've grown them under lights, so there may be some difference when grown in daylight.

So, all this fun I have had with one small packet of seed from Mrs. Gee and there is still the bloom to look forward to. I hope that there will be considerable variation in that too, and I will be in for another period of pleasure that makes me glad to be alive when I wake up in the morning and I wish you the same.

PHYLLIS LAYTON

---

deep shade. Can be grown outdoors or in pots. No. 8. Hybrid Amaryllis. Seeds from the best American strain. Colors in red, coral and candy-stripe. All of the above are freshly collected seeds. Collection 8 packets for \$2.00 or any 5 for \$1.00.

MRS. FLORENCE GEE  
*Seed Fund Administrator*  
4316 Berryman Avenue  
Los Angeles 66, California

## School for ABS Judges

Members of the A.B.S. holding cards as Accredited Judges will receive in the mail a brief questionnaire which must be filled out and returned to Jean Kerlin, chairman of the School for Judges, prior to receiving their renewal cards. Information asked for in the questionnaire will become a part of the record of the judges and the shows they participated in during their tenure as a judge. It is understood that many Accredited Judges have not had the opportunity to act in their official capacity due to few Flower Shows in their area, no invitations to judge, or they no longer care to serve as an A.B.S. Accredited Begonia Judge. This questionnaire will determine these facts and their explanation.

The School for Judges, 1955-56 season, will be conducted for persons able to attend in the Southern California area at a designated time and place centrally located. Present plans are for concentrated study in three meetings to be held on consecutive dates. This personal course, to be augmented by written home study, will include active judging assignments in one of two of the leading Spring Flower Shows regularly conducted in Southern California. A written examination will follow.

For those desiring to take the Judges course by mail, lessons will be sent to the individual. Whenever possible, personal lectures will be given by authoritative personnel in your section and examinations will follow.

Registering for the 1953-54 begonia judging lectures, were many individuals not interested in becoming accredited judges. These people felt that this course would enhance their knowledge of shade plants, their pleasure in viewing Flower Shows, and their understanding of the preliminary preparation necessary for staging Flower Shows of spectacular beauty. These courses also assist anyone in preparing his own begonia plants for entry in competition. Branch show chairman or another designated officer of each branch should be assigned to take this course to further aid the branch in educating its members and guests.

It is not hard to study about begonias when one has a basic knowledge of the plants and their requirements, and an interest in indexing begonias in the various classifications. These courses are planned for pleasure as well as for study. Register for fun and knowledge in the A.B.S. sponsored School for Judges.

Registrations must be received on or before

## Round Robin Notes . . .

I would like to tell you about a letter I received from one of the members of a Robin.

She wrote to tell me she would be a little late mailing her Robin as she wished to hold it over for another day so that she may take it to her Garden Club and share the letters with the members in the club. She is interested in having them know how the Robins work and how the different members grew and cared for their plants.

I was so delighted with the letter and thought it such a good way to let other clubs know about the Robins and what they do, I wanted to share it with you. What do you think of the idea? From this kindly gesture, I received two new members.

There will be a new Hybridizing Robin to go on its first flight, but I need a few more members. If you are interested, just drop me a card.

MARIE REED  
*Round Robin Chairman*

January 31, 1956, accompanied by a fee of five dollars. Checks or money orders should be made payable to the American Begonia Society.

JEAN KERLIN, *School of Judging*  
3207 Perlita Ave., Los Angeles 39, Calif.

## Brown Bulb Ranch

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*Hanging Basket (Pendula fl. pl.)*  
*"Santa" Varieties*

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# Leaves From Our Begonia Branches

## EL MONTE

Wishes to extend a special invitation to our friends to our meeting of February 9, 7:30 P.M., Lions Clubhouse, 225 W. Garvey Blvd., Monterey Park. Jean Kerlin graciously accepted our plea to present in her very capable manner, "Begonia Nomenclature Made Easy."

The new officers elected for 1956 are: President, Sylvia Leatherman; Vice President, Charlette Gay; Secretary, Carolyn Edwards; Corresponding Secretary, William Edwards; Treasurer, Ruth Hickman; National Representative, Virginia Brandon; and Branch Representative, Lydia Nixon.

—B—

## MARGARET C. GRUENBAUM

Held its annual meeting and Sixteenth Birthday Party at the home of Mrs. Frank Oehrle of Hatboro, Pennsylvania on October 25 when we invited the Philobegonia Branch to luncheon.

In September the branch staged a non-competitive exhibition of begonias at the annual flower show of The Neighbors, Hatboro, Pa. The exhibition received much favorable comment and an invitation to exhibit at two clubs in 1956. There seems to be an evergrowing interest in begonias and our plant sales have been very profitable.

The following officers were elected for 1956: President, Mrs. Henry Schaffer; Vice President and National Representative, Mrs. Thomas J. Kilderry; Secretary, Mrs. W. Ernest Jones; Treasurer, Mrs. Julius Heinicke; and Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Adolph Belser.

—B—

## HAWKEYE STATE

Six members of our branch and two guests met at 12 o'clock for potluck lunch. After lunch, we drew numbered slips of paper for drawing of the slips sent by the Glendale Branch. We chose one slip at a time, then going on to the next number. Then back to the next round to choose our cutting. It was fun. Election of officers was held after our business meeting, then we discussed small leaved begonias, having a few to display, as *B. 'Boweri'* (from Glendale), *B. fuchsoides*, and *B. richardsiana*. I believe we all are interested in plants that do not need so much room.

*This branch was adopted by the Glendale Branch.—Ed.*

## HOLLYWOOD

Celebrates its 15th anniversary January 18 with a pot-luck supper, 6:30 P.M. at Plummer Park. All members are invited. Bring a covered dish and your own service. Cake and coffee will be served. Florence Gee, a fine horticulturist and A.B.S. Seed Fund Chairman, will discuss "The Winter Care of Fuchsias."

—B—

## MISSOURI

Mrs. Hattie Taylor gave the lesson on Hirsute type begonias. Hirsute means hairy, but not always hairy leaves. It's the hair on the bloom that puts these plants in this group. The first three plants of this type were discovered by Dr. Scharff and Mr. Haage of Haage and Schmidt. These three plants were named *B. Scharffiana*, *B. Schmidiana* and *B. Haageana*. By hybridizing, 59 varieties were developed. Twenty-five have white hair on their leaves. Thirty have dark green and are olive in color. Twenty-one have red undersides and twelve light green leaves. Many of this type grow to three feet and most of the flowers are shades of pink. This type of plant can stand more cold than some and needs less light. Mrs. Calmese furnished the following plants for the lesson: *B. 'Credneri'*, *B. 'Alleryi'*, *B. 'Nelly Bly'*, *B. 'Neeley Gaddis'*, *B. 'Alto Scharffi'*, *B. 'Margaritae'*. Smooth leaved hirsutes: *B. braemar*, *B. 'Conbow'*, *B. sanguinea*, *B. 'Druryi'*, *B. compta*, *B. 'Hattie Worden'*, *B. chiala*. Three new plants, Marie Turner's *B. 'd'Artagnon'*, Mr. Ziesenhenné's *B. 'Lady Vi'* and *B. 'Lillian Sloan'* from Cordoza Gardens. Mrs. Thoeman led the round table discussion on their growth and care.

Mrs. Calmese spoke on "Books for Winter Reading." The Missouri Branch is most fortunate in having a good library of its own and space to store our books in our club room. We have all *The Begonians* from 1938 to 1955; four books on Begonias — Gray, Buxton, Krauss and Bedson; also two on Tuberosus Begonias; one on Shrubs and Trees; several on house plants and the latest is Peggy Schultz' on "Growing Plants Under Artificial Lights."

Mrs. Breshears gave all her chairmen a leaf of her new hybrid, *B. 'Missouri'*.

The following officers were elected and installed: Pres., Mrs. Grover C. Calmese; V. Pres., Mrs. George Randell; Sec., Mrs. Hattie Taylor; Treas., Mrs. Glen Lucas; and Rep. Dir., Mrs. Victor Rackers.

## NEW ENGLAND

Our branch sponsored the annual begonia and house plant show at Natick, Mass. The auditorium of the Federal Savings Bank was filled with displays of begonias as well as unusual and interesting house plants of many kinds—African violets from Theodore Wallsten of Bolton, Mass., caladiums from the Dane Estate, Brookline, Mass., begonias not in general distribution brought by Elsa Fort of New Jersey, pelargoniums and rare house plants. First place winners were: Mrs. Merry—table arrangement and exhibit of begonias covering 50 square feet; Mrs. Greenlaw—large display of unusual and rare house plants; Mrs. Hutton—group of house grown begonias; Mrs. C. Ervin Ross of Maine—display of pelargoniums; Mr. Vincent I. Mason of Massachusetts—awarded Ernest K. Logee Memorial cup for the best rex of the show (a lovely Glory of St. Albans); Mrs. Greenlaw—awarded Beatrice Haddrell Memorial cup for the best begonia other than rex (well grown *B. Kenworthyii*); and Mrs. H. K. Gardiner of Marblehead, Massachusetts — awarded Bessie Buxton Silver Vase for her house grown plant, *B. 'Beatrice Haddrell.'* Judges were: Mrs. Elsa Fort of New Jersey, Mrs. Bessie Buxton, Mrs. Catherine Sheehan, Mr. Percy I. Merry and Mr. John Ellis of Massachusetts, and Mrs. Julia Nisbet of Connecticut. Chairman of the show was Mrs. Robert Bowser of Concord, Massachusetts, assisted by Mesdames E. W. Hutton, Catherine Sheehan, G. W. Greenlaw, P. I. Merry, Charles Dennison, John Vandermeer, Frederick Kingsbury, and Nancy Alvord.

Refreshments were served throughout the afternoon and evening to guests registered from four of the New England States. All took advantage of the opportunity to buy such sturdy, well grown plants as were offered for sale. *Several new members were gained for the Branch with encouragement that they, too, could grow as beautiful plants as were found on display.*

Officers for 1956 are: Pres., Mrs. Nancy Alvord; V. Pres., Mrs. Frederick Kingsbury; Sec., Mrs. Lester H. Fox; and Treas., Mrs. Charles H. Dennison.

The October meeting was held at the Arnold Arboretum as guests of Harvard University. We had members attending from Vermont, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Pennsylvania. The meeting was highlighted by the presentation of the Eva Kenworthy Gray plaque to Bessie Buxton, who in her acceptance speech spoke of her friendship with the late Eva Kenworthy Gray and said that she felt her old friend would be glad that she had been given this award. The begonia world has

lost a great personage (Bessie Buxton), but we of New England who were so close to her have lost a true friend. Her presence and sweet smile will be with us always.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest E. Martin of Danielson, Connecticut, were speakers for this meeting. Mrs. Martin showed some new and unusual begonias, giving hints on their culture, and Mr. Martin gave a most interesting talk on his very successful experiences in growing begonias in sphagnum moss rather than in soil, recommending this method very highly to the many window gardeners of this branch.

—B—

## PHILOBEGONIA

The members are so determined to keep a record of 100 per cent monthly meetings dates and a high attendance at all meetings, that they came through rain, wind, hail and floods to attend the meeting on "Grooming of our begonias for transference from our gardens to our homes for winter growing." Each member told just what methods worked best for her. In November, Mrs. Fort questioned members on her previous lecture (How to identify a begonia and what characteristics make it a begonia) to see how much information each had retained.

—B—

## SACRAMENTO

The newly elected officers of this Branch are: President, Mrs. J. R. Williams; Vice President, Mrs. C. E. Cronch; Secretary, Mrs. Gordon Long; and Treasurer, Mr. E. K. Schnauss. The newly elected Directors are: Publicity, Col. O. C. Wyman; plants, Mr. C. E. Cronch; and refreshments, Mrs. Vic M. Cambridge.

—B—

## DEADLINE

Material must be in editor's hand by January 5 for February issue.

BEST WISHES  
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from

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## SOUTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY

The Branch enjoyed a year successful financially; educationally with speakers on various plant subjects, demonstrations and colored slides. The patio meeting, and tour-picnic to the begonia gardens at Capitola were most enjoyable. The officers, installed at a turkey dinner party under the chairmanship of Mrs. Marie Reed, were: Pres., Vincent Peck; V. Pres., David Rosen; Rec. Sec., Jacques Dekker; Corr. Sec., Ted Vierra; Treas., Edward Kappler; and Dir. A.B.S., Mrs. Gwen Guerich.

—B—

## WILLIAM PENN

A begonia exhibit by the branch was placed in the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society's Chrysanthemum Show at Swarthmore College in November. With the co-operation of the Margaret C. Gruenbaum Branch, some 170 begonia plants were assembled, arranged, and named so effectively that the judges (chosen from the Philadelphia Chapter of the National Association of Gardeners) awarded to it not only a BLUE RIBBON, but also the coveted GREEN RIBBON of the Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania, as the best horticultural exhibit in the show. Expenses were paid from the cash award and the two branches shared equally in the remainder.

The group studied a begonia which was not named. Some called it *B. 'Alpha Gere'*, others *B. dichotoma*. Consultation with two authorities, Buxton and Krauss, established it as *B. dichotoma*, one of the parents of *B. 'Alpha Gere'*. The two are much alike in leaf color and shape, but the stout, upright stems, brown and warted, and the red sinus were the deciding factors. Descriptions of all parts of the plant were noted in the individual records, except the flowers. Since the plant was not in bloom, the books had to supply that information. Officers elected to serve for two years are: Pres., Miss Fannie McIlvain; V. Pres., Mrs. Channing Way; Sec.-Treas., Mrs. Ernest C. Drew; and Nat'l Rep., May T. Drew.

Mrs. Drew and Mrs. DeCoursey reported on the October New England Branch meeting (where the Eva Kenworthy Gray plaque was presented to Bessie Buxton) which they attended and their experiences trying to get home through flood devastated Connecticut.

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### KENNETH TERRY

2314 Harriman Lane, Redondo Beach, Cal.

## MINUTES, NATIONAL BOARD, NOV. 28

Meeting called to order at 7:35 p.m. by President Taylor, opened with Pledge of Allegiance to Flag and reading of Aims & Purposes of Society. Secretary and Treasurer's reports read and approved. Communications: From International Horticultural Congress asking Society to give consideration to future invitation to act as International Registration Authority for the genus Begonia. Several letters in regard to President's Expense Fund. Moved and seconded that we comply with the letter from Los Angeles Branch and a check retroactive to assuming office be given the President. Carried.

Librarian Sault given authority to purchase books as she sees fit.

Research Director Leatherman gave report with several recommendations. Moved and seconded that Leatherman continue working on Glossary and Survey of Begonias. Carried. Moved and seconded that recommendation by Leatherman to have an Identification Garden, to be in the care of John Thieben, be approved. Carried. Moved and seconded that Mrs. Leatherman be authorized to go ahead with test gardens, Mrs. Leatherman to draw up Rules & Regulations governing the Gardens. Carried.

Moved and seconded that a committee be appointed to study the Constitution and By-Laws and investigate the validity of them. Carried.

After much discussion on the subject, President Taylor stated that the Condensed Minutes were to go in the magazine as compiled by the secretary in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws.

Moved and seconded that the amendment to the Constitution of the American Begonia Hybridizers Branch be approved. Carried.

Moved and seconded that the \$82.00 in the Special Pin Fund be transferred to the General Fund. Carried.

President Taylor announced appointment of Pearl Bauer as Historian and Edna Korts, Chairman of Awards Committee.

Mrs. Leatherman reported 99 attending Regional Meeting and \$83.83 remitted to Treasurer from the meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10:10 p.m. to meet again January 23rd, 1956.

ARLINE STODDARD,  
National Secretary

## CALENDAR

- Dec. 25, 1955-Jan. 8, 1956—Christmas Flower Show, Garfield and Lincoln Park Conservatories, Chicago. Admission free.
- Jan. 10—Long Beach Parent Branch—23rd Birthday Anniversary, 7:30 p.m.
- Jan. 18—Hollywood Branch—15th anniversary. Potluck, 6:30, Plummer Park. "Winter Care of Fuchsias," Mrs. Gee.
- Jan. 25—Norvell Gillespie at the annual birthday dinner, San Gabriel Valley Branch. Dinner, 6:30 p.m.; meeting at 8:00 p.m. Make dinner reservations before Jan. 20.
- Feb. 9—El Monte Branch—7:30 p.m. "Begonia Nomenclature Made Easy"—Jean Kerlin.

# Branch Meeting Dates . . .

VISITORS ALWAYS WELCOME AT THESE MEETINGS

## AMERICAN BEGONIA

### HYBRIDIZERS BRANCH

Called Meetings Quarterly  
Mrs. Daisy L. Walker, Secy.-Treas.  
2425-A Silver Lake Blvd.,  
Los Angeles 39, Calif.

### BRITISH BRANCH

F. J. Bedson, Secy.  
Kent, England

### CENTRAL FLORIDA BRANCH

1st Friday, 10:00 a.m.  
Lounge, Florida Power Co.  
Winter Park, Florida  
Mrs. Lou Mankamyer  
20 Pershing Place, Orlando, Florida

### DALLAS COUNTY BRANCH, TEXAS

1st Thursday, 7:00 p.m.  
Members' Residences  
Mrs. Hal M. Mosekey, Cor. Secy.  
5544 Hillis Ave., Dallas 6, Texas

### EAST BAY BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:45 p.m.  
Willard School, Telegraph at Ward,  
Berkeley, California  
Mr. Stuart C. Smith, Secy.  
3147 Stanley Blvd., Lafayette, Calif.

### EL MONTE COMMUNITY BRANCH

2nd Thrsday  
Lions Clubhouse, 225 W. Garvey Blvd.  
Monterey Park, Calif.  
William Edwards, Cor. Secy.  
1886 San Pasqual, Pasadena, Calif.

### FOOTHILL BRANCH

3rd Thursday, 8:00 p.m.  
LaVerne Recreational Building,  
College Park, 2nd and D Streets,  
LaVerne, California  
Mrs. C. W. Hall, Cor. Secy.  
358 E. Arrow Hwy., Upland, Calif.

### FORT, ELSA BRANCH

1st Saturday, 2:30 p.m.  
Miss Lola Price, Secy.  
628 Beech Ave., Laurel Springs, N.J.

### GLENDALE BRANCH

4th Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.  
Tuesday Afternoon Club, 400 N. Central  
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Coe, Cor. Secy.  
28904 Cliffside Dr., Malibu, Calif.

### GRAY, EVA KENWORTHY BRANCH

3rd Monday, 7:30 p.m.  
Community House, La Jolla  
Mrs. Charles Calloway  
1311 Torrey Pines Rd., La Jolla, Calif.

### GRAY'S HARBOR BRANCH

2nd Monday, 8:00 p.m.  
Hoquiam Public Library, or  
Messingale and Rosenear Music Store  
Aberdeen, Washington  
Mrs. Jessie B. Hoyt, Secy.  
1013 Harding Road, Aberdeen, Wash.

### GRUENBAUM, MARGARET BRANCH

4th Tuesday, 10:30 a.m.  
Homes of Members  
Mrs. W. Ernest Jones, Secy.  
Welsh & Dresher Rds. Willow Grove, Pa.

### HAMSHIRE, TEXAS BRANCH

3rd Tuesday of each month  
Mrs. Peter DeYoung, Hamshire, Texas

### HAWKEYE STATE BRANCH

3rd Friday, Members' Homes  
Ruth Anderson, Secy.  
Underwood, Iowa

### HOLLYWOOD BRANCH

3rd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.  
Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd.  
Mrs. Helen Ehret Murphy, Secy.  
715 N. Genesee St., Los Angeles 46, Calif.

### HOUSTON, TEXAS BRANCH

2nd Friday, 10:00 a.m.  
Garden Center, Herman Park  
Mrs. Grant Herzog, Secy.  
12600 Broken Bough, Houston 24, Texas

### HUB CITY BRANCH

3rd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.  
Mrs. L. R. Kellogg, Secy.  
1120 E. 71st St., Long Beach, Calif.

### HUMBOLDT COUNTY BRANCH

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

### INGLEWOOD BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:45 p.m.  
325 North Hillcrest, Inglewood, Calif.  
Mrs. Pearl Parker, Secy.  
726 W. 81st St., Los Angeles 44, Calif.

### LONG BEACH PARENT BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.  
Fox Home at 2255 Elm Ave.  
Mrs. Alice Waldow, Secy.  
2175 Cedar Ave., Long Beach 5, Calif.

### LOS ANGELES BRANCH

4th Wednesday, Homes of Members  
Mrs. Mildred Dunham, Secy.  
914 Howard St., Venice, Calif.

### LOUISIANA CAPITAL BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:00 p.m.  
Homes of Members  
Mrs. R. L. Wilkenson, Secy.  
5764 Robertson Ave., Baton Rouge, La.

### MIAMI, FLORIDA BRANCH

4th Tuesday, 8:00 p.m.  
Simpson Memorial Garden Center  
Mrs. Vivian J. Ennesmer, Secy.  
1295 N. W. 54th St., Miami 42, Florida

### MISSOURI BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.  
Mrs. Hattie Taylor, Secy.  
P.O. Box 25, Raytown, Mo.

### NEW ENGLAND BRANCH

3rd Saturday, Homes of Members  
Mrs. Lester H. Fox, Secy.  
170 Marsh Hill Road, Dracut, Mass.

### OCEAN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY BRANCH

1st Tuesday, 12:30 p.m.  
Members' Homes  
Mrs. Selma Braun, Secy.  
37 Broad St., Apt. 4-D,  
Toms River, New Jersey

### ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.  
Grange Hall, 1 block south of center  
of Garden Grove, California  
Mrs. Maybelle Woods, Secy.  
604 South Helena St., Anaheim, Calif.

### PASADENA BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.  
Homes of Members  
Mrs. Alva Graham, Secy.  
515 El Centro St., South Pasadena, Calif.

### PHILOBEGONIA BRANCH

2nd Friday, Members' Homes  
Mrs. Robert York, Secy.  
3311 Fremont St., Camden, New Jersey

**PORTLAND, OREGON BRANCH**  
 4th Friday, 8:00 p.m.  
 Journal Building Auditorium,  
 Front and Yamhill Sts.  
 Mrs. Altermatt, Secy.  
 1104 S. E. 148th, Portland, Oregon

**RAYTOWN, MISSOURI BRANCH**  
 4th Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.  
 Homes of Members  
 Mrs. Mildred Schorr, Secy.-Treas.

**REDONDO BEACH AREA BRANCH**  
 4th Friday each month  
 2308 Rockefeller, Redondo Beach, Calif.  
 Mrs. Ella Cunningham, Secy.  
 2208 Vanderbilt Lane,  
 Redondo Beach, Calif.

**RIVERSIDE BRANCH**  
 2nd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.  
 Shamel Park, 3650 Arlington,  
 Riverside, California  
 Irene Springer, Secy.  
 3608 Rossmuir, Riverside, Calif.

**ROBINSON, ALFRED D. BRANCH**  
 3rd Friday, 10:30 a.m.  
 Homes of Members  
 Mrs. Merrel H. Taylor, Secy.  
 4285 Sierra Vista, San Diego 3, Calif.

**SACRAMENTO BRANCH**  
 3rd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.  
 Mrs. Gordon Long, Secy.  
 5416 Dana Way, Sacramento, Calif.

**SAN MIGUEL BRANCH**  
 2nd Monday  
 V.F.W. Hall at Imperial and Lincoln,  
 Lemon Grove, Calif.  
 Ida M. Barker, Secy.  
 7591 Central Ave., Lemon Grove, Calif.

**SAN DIEGO BRANCH**  
 4th Monday  
 Hard of Hearing Hall,  
 Herbert & University  
 Mrs. Lillian Lausted, Secy.  
 1504 Blaine Ave., San Diego 3, Calif.

**SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH**  
 1st Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.  
 Forest Lodge, 266 Laguna Honda Blvd.  
 Mrs. Louise Allmacher  
 1963 45th Ave., San Francisco, Calif.

**SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH**  
 4th Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.  
 Masonic Temple, 506 S. Santa Anita Ave.  
 Arcadia, California  
 Mrs. Calvin T. Adams, Secy.  
 911 N. Second Ave., Arcadia, California

**SANTA BARBARA BRANCH**  
 2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.  
 Girl Scout Clubhouse,  
 1838 San Andres St.  
 Seth C. Langdon, Secy.  
 1419 Quinientos, Santa Barbara, Calif.

**SEATTLE BRANCH**  
 3rd Tuesday, 7:45 p.m.  
 Trinity Parish House, 609 Eighth Ave.  
 Mrs. Wm. Stankman, Secy.  
 4116 15th Ave., Seattle, Wash.

**SHEPHERD, THEODOSIA BURR BR.**  
 1st Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.  
 Alice Bartlett C.H., 902 E. Main,  
 Ventura, Calif.  
 Mrs. Wilma Renshaw, Secy.  
 560 So. Coronado St., Ventura, Calif.

**SMOKEY VALLEY BRANCH**  
 3rd Tuesday of each month  
 Mrs. A. L. Romeiser, Secy.  
 1104 South Ninth St., Salina, Kansas

**SOUTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY BR.**  
 3rd Thursday, 8:00 p.m.  
 Cafeteria, High School, Hayward, Calif.  
 Bob Oliver, Cor. Secy.  
 333 Redbud Lane, Hayward, Calif.

**TALL CORN STATE BRANCH**  
 Mrs. Edna Monson, Secy.  
 South Taylor, Mason City, Iowa

**TEXAS STATE BRANCH**  
 1st Tuesday night in members' homes  
 Mrs. Leoma Caudle, Secy.  
 2822 8th St., Port Arthur, Texas

**TREASURE ISLAND BRANCH**  
 4th Friday  
 Miss Isabelle Sievert, Secy.  
 3912 Ave. "S," Galveston, Texas

**WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH**  
 2nd Wednesday, 11:00 a.m.  
 Homes of Members  
 Mrs. Joseph Rock, Cor. Secy.  
 Maplewood Ave., Wilkensburg, Pa.

**WHITTIER BRANCH**  
 1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m.  
 Palm Park Community Center,  
 1643 Floral Drive  
 Mrs. Edna M. Hill, Secy.  
 8408 S. Madison Ave., Whittier, Calif.

**WILLIAM PENN BRANCH**  
 3rd Tuesday, 2:00 p.m.  
 Homes of Members, Wallingford, Pa.  
 Mrs. Ernest C. Drew, Secy.-Treas.  
 635 Moreno Rd., Narbeth, Pa.

## CONTENTS

|                                                  |    |
|--------------------------------------------------|----|
| Rex Begonias .....                               | 3  |
| Gardens of Ventura .....                         | 3  |
| Anthuriums for House Planters .....              | 4  |
| Camellias for Permanent Plantings .....          | 6  |
| Cattleya Orchids for Indoors or Greenhouse ..... | 7  |
| Try a Coconut .....                              | 8  |
| Identify Your Rex Begonias .....                 | 10 |
| Begonias Go to Washington .....                  | 12 |
| Just a Few Words .....                           | 13 |
| Plant Oddities .....                             | 13 |
| Members, Will You Help?!! .....                  | 15 |
| Sowing Rex Begonia Seeds .....                   | 17 |
| A Packet of Fun .....                            | 17 |
| School for A.B.S. Judges .....                   | 18 |

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