

DEVOTED TO THE SHELTERED GARDENS

April, 1962

PRICE 25 CENTS

VOLUME XXIX, NUMBER 4



Monthly Publication of the American Begonia Society, Inc.

^{The} Begonian

Founded by Herbert P. Dyckman January, 1932

. N. Trumond Peterson, 1641 W. 125th St., Los Angeles 47, Calif. Editor Advertising Manager Ruby M. Budd, 6440 Will Rogers St., Los Angeles 45, Calif.

Copyright 1962 by the American Begonia Society, Inc.—Affiliated with The American Horticultural Society, The American Horticultural Council, and The Los Angeles State and County Arboretum.

General Offices, Dues, Address Changes or Magazines:

Dorotha Waddington, Membership Secretary, 1135 N. Kenter Ave., Los Angeles 49, Calif. Annual Subscription, \$2.50. Branch members pay dues to branch. Foreign rate, including Canada \$3.00. Air mail rate within U.S. \$4.50.

Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office of Los Angeles, California, under the act of March 3. 1879.

AIMS AND PURPOSES OF THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY, INC.

The purpose of this Society shall be: to promote interest in begonias and other shade-loving plants; to encourage the intro-duction and development of new types of these plants; to standardize the nomenclature of begonias; to gather and publish information in regard to kinds, propagation and culture of begonias and companion plants; to issue a bulletin which will be mailed to all members of the Society; and to bring into friendly contact all who love and grow begonias.

ELECTED OFFICERS

President . George A. Schlanert 13611 Wheeler Pl., Santa Ana, Calif.

President-Elect . . . Carl E. Naumann 652 W. Bennett Ave., Glendora, Calif.

Past President . . . Mrs. Edna L. Korts 3628 Revere Ave., Los Angeles 39, Calif. Secretary . . Mrs. Margaret B. Taylor

111 Evelyn Drive, Anaheim, Calif.

Treasurer Earle E. Budd 6440 Will Rogers St., Los Angeles 45, Calif.

Vice-Pres. 1 yr. A. Roy Joyce 1435 Coronado Ter., Los Angeles 26, Calif.

Vice-Pres. 2 yrs. Esther Long 5416 Dana Way, Sacramento 22, Calif.

Vice-Pres. 3 yrs. . . Mrs. Ernest C. Drew 635 Moreno Rd., Narberth, Penna.

APPOINTED OFFICERS

litor . . . N. Trumond Peterson 1641 W. 125th St., Los Angeles 47, Calif. Editor Membership Secretary . Dorotha Waddington 1135 N. Kenter Ave., Los Angeles 49, Cailf. Advertising Manager Ruby M. Budd 6440 Will Rogers St., Los Angeles 45, Calif.

Awards Committee Jean 3262 Olive St., Altadena, Calif. Jean Kerlin

Flower Show Chairman Albert J. (Bert) Slatter 4600 Sixth Ave., Los Angeles 43, Calif.

Historian . . . Ruth Pease

8101 Vicksburg Ave., Los Angeles 45, Calif.

Identification Garden . . . John Thieben 6409 Will Rogers St., Los Angeles 45, Calif.

Librarian . . . Mrs. Lucy A. Sault 58 Dapplegray Lane, Rolling Hills Estate, Calif.

Nomenclature Director . Mrs. Alva Graham 258 Pearl St., Pasadena, Calif.

Parliamentarian . . . Mrs. Minn Slatter 4600 Sixth Ave., Los Angeles 43, Calif.

- Research Bea Olson 13715 Cordary St., Hawthorne, Calif.
- Round Robin Chairman . Mrs. H. E. Hurley 11 Woodland Road, Lexington, Mass.
- School of Judging . . Mrs. Edna L. Korts 3628 Revere Ave., Los Angeles 39, Calif.

Seed Fund Mrs. Florence Gee 234 Birch Street, Roseville, Calif.

Slide Librarian and Speakers' Bureau Roy Joyce 1435 Coronado Ter., Los Angeles 26, Calif.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Public Relations Director . Mrs. Ethel Arbuckle 5932 Seville Ave., Huntington Park, Calif.

- Northwestern Chairman . Mrs. David Talbot 6209 Riverside Drive, Vancouver, Wash.
- Eastern Chairman . . . F. L. Mathewson Montchanin, Delaware

Southern Chairman . . . Mrs. C. E. Cooper 716 Chelsea Blvd., Houston, Texas

No. California Chairman Mrs. John H. Smith (Hyacinth) 2479 29th Ave., San Francisco 16, Calif.

Northeastern Chairman

Mrs. Frederick Kingsbury 225 Lee Street, Brookline, Mass.

National Board meets 4th Monday, 7:30, p.m., South Gate City Auditorium, 4900 Southern Ave.

Growing Begonias from Seed

By LOUISE SCHWERDTFEGER Santa Barbara, California

BEGONIA SEED

The seed of begonias is extremely fine and a very small amount is used when planting. The seed should be sown sparingly and evenly to assure space for the individual seedlings. It is so minute that it should never be covered with soil or pressed into the medium. It requires constant moisture through both the germination and growing periods.

GERMINATION

The period of germination varies according to the type of begonia. Under normal conditions, semperflorens and tuberous begonias germinate in from five to ten days; fibrous and rhizomatous begonias in from five to fifteen days depending upon the species or variety; rexes take longer, from seven to twentyone days.

Constant moisture and little variation in temperature are essential. Bottom heat is not necessary if the temperature can be kept between 60 and 75 degrees.

Begonia seeds have been known to germinate long after the normal period of germination has passed, so keep the container undisturbed, under proper growing conditions until there is no hope whatever.

PLANTING TIME

Tuberous begonia seed should be planted in January, February, or early March, as they have a definite growing cycle.

Semperflorens can be planted at any time of year.

Hardy fibrous or rhizomatous begonia seed can be planted during any month, but the slower-growing types only if favorable conditions can be provided for the young seedlings during the cold of winter. Otherwise, plant the seed in the late fall, winter, or early spring so that the young plants can become established during the summer.

Rex begonias are of the slow-growing

rhizomatous and should be planted accordingly.

SOWING MEDIUM

A reliable medium which contains food for the seedlings, tends to hold moisture, and is porous is essential. A recommended mixture is one part welldecomposed leafmold, one part ground sphagnum moss or finely sifted peat moss, and one part washed sharp sand, thoroughly mixed and sifted through a $\frac{1}{4}$ inch screen.

Sterilize the medium by baking in an oven for two hours at 180° F. A great deal of heat is not necessary — only enough to kill all foreign matter.

The medium can be moistened before or after sterilizing, preferably before, but must be reasonably moist and cool before sowing the seed. Use rain water, bottled water, or water saved from refrigerator defrosting for moisture when preparing the soil.

SANITATION

Any of the following containers may be used successfully: Containers with good drainage that require bottom watering, such as a shallow flat or pan, or a low clay pot as used for ferns or bulbs.

Containers that absorb moisture, as a porous brick set in a pan of water, a wick-fed pot, a clay pot set in wet sand, a large clay pot with a small porous pot, whose drainage hole has been sealed to retain water, placed in the center.

Closed containers without drainage, as a casserole with a glass cover, a glass ice-

(Continued on Page 72)

COVER PICTURE

The deep pink flowers of Begonia 'Bo-Peep', a double semperflorens, are in vivid contrast to its dark foliage.

-Photo by Bernice Brilmayer

Judging Begonias

As recommended by DOROTHY S. BEHRENDS Encinitas, California

In attempting to judge begonias, the first thing a judge should do is the same as in judging any other specialized plant: read the schedule prior to going to the show. (I am assuming that the Judges Chairman has mailed a schedule to each judge.)

Some schedules are well defined, to the point of separating the many classes. On the other hand, in areas where begonias are difficult to raise, the schedules are often short or even inadequate, such as: Tuberous, Wax, and Fancy Leaves. These may accommodate shows in some areas, but usually are far short of being adequate for Southern California.

Basically, there are four definite classes and, in turn, these are usually defined to a degree by root and structural classification. Let us first consider the basic four: tuberous, fibrous, rhizomatous, and rex begonias.

As you may have suspected, begonias are primarily classified as to root structure.

In the tuberous class, there are the large-flowered types and, in turn, several forms in that particular class, such as: picotee, carnation, rose, camellia, pendulous, etc. Then there are the so-called species, such as: B. ventura, B. davisi, B. sutherlandi, etc. Then there are the multiflora types, producing myriads of comparatively small flowers, usually threefourths to one inch in diameter. The "foliage" type in this class is rather limited to date to include: B. philodendroides, B. plebeja, B. 'White Feather', etc. Even though the latter three begonias produce flowers, these flowers are not the outstanding beauty of the plants. All these begonias have tuberous roots of one shape or another and are to be placed in the Tuberous Begonia Division. But it is very difficult for a judge when they must be judged against one another, rather than be given classes by themselves.

That is why the responsibility must rest with the Schedule Committee, in antic pating the possible entries. If a schedule is ill-defined, it will often-times discourage an exhibitor from entering a specimen which is possibly distinctive and worthwhile to a flower show.

The fibrous rooted begonias also have a remarkable collection of "types". These are usually separated by the leaf construction; for instance, smooth, hairy, downy, peltate, etc.

Among the most easily grown and probably the most colorful, from the standpoint of a long succession of flowers, are the semperflorens begonias. These are variously called wax, semps, and bedding begonias. Unfortunately, very few are brought to flower shows in Southern California, but are always an added attraction when they are included. They make magnificent wall or hanging container specimens, as well as individual potted specimens.

Here again, the Schedule Committee will need to anticipate the number and types of entries to be expected. The double-flowering types should not have to compete with the single types. The unusual and sometimes considered "difficult" types, such as the calla lily, should not compete with the forementioned. Let each stand on its own merits, in its own class.

Another type of fibrous rooted begonia is the "cane stemmed", that often has procumbent juvenile growth and then produces lovely, long, straight stalks with nodes resembling bamboo. The *coccineas* (commonly called Angel Wing),' the 'Superbas', B. 'Lucerna', etc., are in this class. Any begonias sending erect stalks skyward, directly from the soil, displaying bamboo-like nodes, are often called "cane stemmed" begonias.

Then there is the branching, fibrous, rooted begonia. This type is very popular. It is usually staked as, otherwise, the winds or heavy rains are likely to flatten the plant. The trip to the show will certainly disturb the plant, so it is better to stake it as it grows, rather than just before the show. A judge can easily detect recent staking, because the foliage is often turned inward, which would not be the case if the plant grew staked. Inconspicuous staking is not judged against a plant; but leaves unnaturally turned inward will detract in close competition.

The hairy-leaf begonia will also have hairs on the flowers. Actually, the hirsute (also called hairy or scaled) begonia is so determined because of these hairs on the flowers. But all begonias with "hairs" on the flowers do not have "hair" on the leaves. Rather confusing, eh?

Usually, begonias with heavy hair on the leaves are placed in the same class. Competition seems to be more fair. Again, these begonias usually branch, and staking is recommended unless the plant prefers to grow in a procumbent manner.

The "downy-leaf" begonias, such as *B. incana, B. peltata,* etc., are quite succulent in nature and are usually heavy in leaf texture.

So the branching begonias may have hairy, downy, or smooth leaves. Again, it is up to the Schedule Committee to determine the need of defining these separate classes.

A well grown, mature, fibrous rooted begonia usually produces basal offshoots that add shape and beauty to the specimen. It is still considered one plant and should be considered as conforming to the schedule when it calls for a specimen.

The rhizomatous begonias are quite varied in structural classification. There is the creeping and the erect growing rhizomatous. If a rhizomatous begonia has been left to grow in the same container for several years, there will be several rhizomes in the container, all originating from the one original plant. This is considered one plant and is admissible as a specimen plant. It has never been divided and has merely produced offshoots, making it a more beautiful specimen. This is especially true of the creeping types, such as B. 'Erythrophylla', as well as the erect rhizomatous types, such as B. 'Vershaffelti'.

Rex begonias usually are considered rhizomatous begonias, but they are placed in a separate class because hybridizers have crossed some tall branching begonias with them and produced some excellent hybrids, that are confusing to the Entries Clerks at times. This is solved easily by the Schedule Committee's including enough classifications to handle all types.

Begonias are expected to be uniform in growth habit, of a good, healthy color (depending on variety), of good substance, in flower if the variety blooms at that time of year, and with all old or damaged foliage removed. They should be in clean containers, not over-potted, and properly labeled. Never come to the show bearing insects or diseases.

The more difficult-to-raise begonias rate higher than easy-to-grow varieties of comparable size. Tuberous begonias blooming out of season rate very high. A tuberous begonia plant, with flowers, will rate higher than separate blooms. The reason? Insects, mildew, or even an accident could damage a large portion of a plant, which means a great many points would be deducted; while a separate blossom could mean (but not necessarily) that the plant was not fit to bring to the show, but the flower was undamaged and lovely.

Whether we like it or not, most judging is comparative judging. Scoring scales are very noble and are used occasionally when a close tie is found to exist. Judges are usually limited in time to accomplish their tasks, and it is unrealistic to expect them to scale score many entries. The scale has been found to settle a tie amicably in many cases; therefore, it is useful for reference.

Some entries in one flower show will win blue ribbons that would not place third in another show. This is not to be considered against the show. Judges may harm the good will of exhibitors in a community by being so-called "tough (Continued on Page 73)

How Long Can A Begonia Live?

By May T. Drew

Narberth, Pennsylvania

About two hundred years ago, Horace Walpole invented a useful word, serendipity, which means finding something valuable while seeking something else. It expresses a common experience in searching the back files of *The Begonian*. There one picks up useful information as well as stimulating ideas.

One bit that has stimulated me from time to time is to be found in an article by Marjory Wihtol, of New Jersey, published on page 84 of the April, 1954, issue, in which she inquired about the longevity of begonias, hoping to stir up enough interest among fellow growers to produce a series of comments. As I recall, she got only one!

My first reaction was to repeat to myself a remembered remark of Mrs. Krauss, that many begonias attain their best the third year and decline thereafter. Later, as I came across this question repeatedly, I began to think about it and to inquire of other enthusiasts. This grew into a theory not yet well tested by experience.

Before starting any inquiry, one must define one's terms. Just what do we mean when we ask how long a begonia plant can live? Indeed, what do we mean by a plant?

Strictly speaking, in the case of a begonia successively propagated vegetatively (by cuttings or layering) every piece is a part of the original plant. Thus, since B. 'Erythrophylla' was hybridized in 1849, your 'Beefsteak' could be said to be 113 years old! However, to be sensible, we must ask how long an individual specimen can survive. Again are we to ask how long an individual plant can drag out a miserable, unsightly existence? Here, too, let us use common sense and ask how long a begonia can be kept healthy and attractive, and by what means.

Furthermore, we need to specify what begonias we are considering, for different kinds behave differently in this way, as well as in other ways. Mrs. Krauss called *B. franconis* and *B. hirtella* "of annual habit". The *Buxton Check List* places *B. modesta* in that same category. Many of us find that some kinds, e.g. *B. schmidtiana* and *B. mollicaulis* (subvillosa), tend to be biennial, even when raised from seed.

During two years of inquiry on this question of age, I have found almost no one, except Mrs. Wihtol, who has kept accurate records. Everyone depends on memory and association, which are, at best, treacherous. Some claims are unbelievable. When someone says of a perfect specimen of 'Argentea Guttata', "This Angel-wing must be fifty years old, for it belonged to my mother," you can be sure that this hybrid, which tends to grow leggy with age, must have been renewed by cuttings many times. One person says airily of a handsome 'Erythrophylla', "I have had that one for years eight or more. It always sits right there on the piano and I never do anything to it." Some people try to remember age by referral to definite occurrences, removal to a new house, or entry into a Branch of the American Begonia Society.

Here are some estimated ages from various sources:

B. 'Erythrophylla' (several individuals) — nine to fifteen years.

B. 'Fischer's Ricinifolia' (several individuals) — nine to fifteen years.

Unnamed Rex — nine years.

Of those I consulted, only one person had records to substantiate her report. She is a good grower and a methodical person. Her oldest plant, *B. scharffi*, is sixteen years old. Next come 'Lucerna', 'Silver Star' *manicata*, 'Erythrophylla', and, miraculously, 'Calla Lily', all eight to nine years old. All were acquired 'as (Continued on Page 74)

BEGONIA FAVORITES

By BERNICE BRILMAYER

BEGONIA 'DI-ANNA'

A long-time favorite angel wing (cane type) begonia, developed by Mrs. Annie C. Robinson in 1938, with B. Annie Laurie' and *B. dichroa* as the parents. The plant in the photograph is actually an offspring of the original plant purchased from Mrs. Robinson in August, 1939.

Its moderate size makes Begonia 'Dianna' particularly suitable for indoor growing; it seldom reaches three feet in height and can be kept even lower by regular pinching and pruning. The typically wing-shaped leaves are fresh green spotted with silver; the flowers, salmon to orange. Like other cane-type begonias, this may drop its lower leaves if it is kept too moist. It needs sunlight for full flowering, at intervals all year.



Begonia 'Di-Anna'



Jensen's Seedling

JENSEN'S SEEDLING

This miniature-tree-like begonia is Mrs. Wynona Jensen's seedling from a cross of *Begonia dregei* x *B. macbethi*. It shows the influence of both parents in the maple-shaped leaves, which are light green overcast with a bronzy tint. When the seedling was very small, the leaves were heavily spotted with silver.



BERNICE BRILMAYER

February 18, 1962

The Begonia Lady isn't here any more. If she could know that this is being written, she'd say, "Don't spend time on me — go water those begonias."

She commuted from Connecticut to New York City every day to her copywriting job. She maintained her home, cooked, sewed. She raised two daughters and a son. She read, she wrote, she gardened with busy, dirty hands. She shared what she had and what she knew.

Of the moments God allotted to her here, she never wasted one. She was good, and I wish I had told her so.

- Elaine Cherry

Bernice Brilmayer has left an enduring impression on the American Begonia Society.

In September, 1959, she accepted the assignment as Eastern Editor for *The Begonian*, although she already had enough work to challenge any ordinary woman — her family, her full-time job as advertising copy-writer, writing articles for several magazines, writing and publishing her books *All About Begonias* and *All About Vines and Hanging Plants*, and a third book on miniature plants which she was unable to complete.

She had contributed before to *The Begonian*, but this new job offered an opportunity — not for personal prestige or glory — but for giving greater help to fellow begonia growers. She was a practical gardener with experience and she had much to give.

She persuaded other growers to write. She promoted a series of articles on begonia personalities. Month after month she produced her "Begonia Basics", besides many other articles on begonias and their culture, using her skill as a photographer to illustrate them. Always she wrote in a spirit of friendly helpfulness, claiming no superior knowledge, asking no special plaudits.

In her last letter to me, her greatest concern was the fact that her illness had compelled her to forego "Begonia Basics" for two months. "I'm sorry to let you down," she said.

Such a woman was Bernice Brilmayer. She will be missed — not so much because she gave so much work for the Society, but because she gave so much of herself. She was a sincere friend.

N. TRUMOND PETERSON Editor

CINERARIAS FOR SHADE

Cinerarias are natural subjects for shade garden planting, although many gardeners think of them only as florists' pot plants with a high price tag.

While cinerarias make excellent pot plants for a cool room, they are even more useful in the garden. They are deceptively sturdy. In contrast to their fragile appearance, once well established, they are able to overcome freezes that will kill off all top growth, periods of drouth that will destroy their sturdierlooking cousins, and inadvertent chopping of the root structure.

Of course, they do not thrive on abuse, but rather, will respond generously to good care, which means a shady location, a soil prepared with one-third to onehalf good organic humus, a monthly feeding with an acid liquid fertilizer, little or no cultivation, generous amounts of water, and control of slugs, snails, ants, aphids, white fly, red spider, and leaf miner.

Single plants will fill out a square foot of bed space. By selecting a few sturdy plants, it is possible to grow potted cinerarias in the open garden. Plants should be set into three-inch pots which are then sunken into the ground. When plants become root-bound, they should be transplanted to four-inch pots and later to five-inch pots. The larger containers should be set only part way into the soil. The potting mixture should be at least one-half humus to insure a light mixtures and good drainage.

Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund Flight

No. 1—B. vellozoana, Brade—

Brazil. Herbaceous, eight to twelve inches tall. Stems short, oblique, up to $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, rooting at the stipules. Leaves oblique, broadly ovate suborbicular, cordate, with a closed basal sinus, palmately eight-nerved, four to five inches long, five to eight inches broad, hispidpilose on both surfaces, with small frimbiate scales on the nerves beneath, green above, with a whitish zone on the veins, paler below and occasionally reddish. Flowers are whitish, sometimes the outer rosy. *B. vellozoana* is considered one of the most beautiful begonias in recent years and is said to rival *B. masoniana* in beauty. Supply limited. \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 2—B. nelumbiifolia—

Large; rhizomes thick, ascending; leaves roundish, peltate, not unlike a lily pad, smooth, green. Flowers white or pinktinged in tall, erect cymes. Effectievly grown outdoors where climate permits. 25 cents per pkt.

No. 3—B. acetosa, Vell.—

Low-growing for the size of its leaves. Petioles to a foot or more in length and almost as broad, obliquely heart-shaped, with rounded basal lobes, green, hairy beneath. Axillary inflorescences to a foot and a half tall. Many-flowered, showy. 50 cents per pkt.

No. 4—B. macdougalli—

Discovered in Mexico by MacDougall and introduced by Ziesenhenne. Creeping rhizomatous stem with long, reddish petioles; palmately compound, leaves of seven to ten stalked segments, the outer side sickle-shaped, bronzy-green, red beneath, and with toothed margins. Stately, unusual plant not often seen. 50 cents per pkt.

No. 5-B. epipsila-

Brazil. Thick, shiny, leathery, green leaves coated with red-brown wool underneath. Low growing; makes a good basket. Many white flowers. Winner of the President's Challenge Trophy for the best begonia in the 1961 show. 25 cents per pkt.

No. 6—B. 'Ricinifolia'—

Robust rhizomatous variety, castor bean-like leaves. New leaves rusty red. Large, deep pink flowers. 25 cents perpkt.

No. 7—B. manicata crispa—

All green leaves with crested edge and characteristic collar of red around stem. 25 cents per pkt.

No. 8—B. maculata, Raddi—

Syn. *B. argyrostigma.* Brazil. The first with spotted leaves to be introduced in Europe. Habit of growth is tall, erect; stems cane - like; leaves long - ovate, pointed, the larger basal lobes squared rather than rounded, green, silver-spotted; inflorescence short, few-flowered. Flowers large, pendulous, soft pink. 25 cents per pkt.

No. 9—B. 'Bow-Nigra'—

(B. boweri x B. heracleifolia nigricans) Star-shaped leaves of dark green with showy light green center. Flowers white to pink. 25 cents per pkt.

No. 10-B. 'Honduras'-

Entirely different type than previously offered. Plant is smaller, with white blooms. Not offered before by the Seed Fund. 25 cents per pkt.

No. 11—B. Rex—German—

Seeds have been so popular we have decided to offer them again for the special benefit of those who could not get them from last offer. New seed from Germany. 50 cents per pkt.

No. 12—B. 'Galaxy'—

 F_1 hybrid semperflorens. Holland. A mixture of several F_1 hybrids, namely: rose, pink, red, and white 'Comet'. The originator has asked for a report on tests made from seed and we hope someone will cooperate and send information to the Seed Fund. All are semi-dwarf and hardy in almost any climate. 25 cents per pkt.

No. 13-B. BC 57-

 F_1 hybrid semperflorens. Holland. Semidwarf, pure white flowers, dark leaves. Not yet named. 25 cents per pkt.

No. 14—B. 'Organdy'—

Novelty by Benary. Mixture of F1 hybrids representing an entirely new strain. It contains ten different varieties in all shades from pure white, delicate pink, rose, carmine, and bright dark scarlet. In their dwarf, compact character, they correspond well to the long-time favorite, 'Tausendschoen'. All are F1 hybrids and the heterosis effect assures their abundancy of flowers, their vigorous and healthy growth, their heat and rain resistance and long lasting qualities. B. 'Organdy' has been awarded an Honorable Mention and special award by the American Begonia Society. 25 cents per pkt.

No. 15—B. 'Stuttgart'—

 F_1 hybrid semperflorens. Bright pink flowers, rich bronze foliage. Well suited for borders and bedding purposes. 25 cents per pkt.

No garden lover can afford to be without semperflorens begonias for masses of color in beds, borders, or pots. Better varieties, including the new F1 hybrids, are keeping this versatile plant close to the top of the list as an all-around shade or semi-shade plant. The stronger growing varieties, especially the F_1 hybrids, make excellent bedding plants even in full sun. Seed should be sown in spring for summer blooming. Follow our suggestion and get several packets for the beautification of your garden this spring. You will be amply rewarded and your efforts will be almost nil. They are easily grown. Seeds will germinate in about two weeks.

GREENHOUSE PLANTS

Smithiantha hybrids—

Art shades. Dwarf pot plants with gloxinia-like leaves and clusters of slender, tubular flowers in shades of pink, red, yellow, and orange; all with spotted throats. Same culture as gloxinias. 35 cents per pkt.

Browallia speciosa—

South America. Moderately tender, they are valued for their rich blue flowers. Seedlings should be hardened off before planting outdoors. If they can't be given a warm, sheltered location outdoors, they should be treated as greenhouse plants. Use sand and peat as a growing medium. 25 cents per pkt.

Coleus-

Happy news for all who missed out on the coleus seed from Louisiana. We have them again. Not too many, however. 25 cents per pkt.

Clivia—

Belgian hybrids. Amaryllidaceae. Beautiful, bulb-like plant with fleshy roots, with long, waxy, dark green, strap-like arching leaves. Broad, bell-shaped, erect, orange-red flowers, in stiff umbels. Seeds germinate readily with about 65 degrees heat. Mature plants should be grown in deep shade to prevent burning and fading from sun. Three seeds for 25 cents.

Cissus discolor-

Java. Most beautiful, tropical tendril climber, with thin, angled, dark red veins and petioles. Strikingly colored, oblongcordate, quilted leaves to six inches long, the sunken network of veins moss-green, with elevated ridges painted shimmering silver, and the center variegated violet and red-purple with velvet sheen; toothed margin and reverse glowing maroon. Choice. 50 cents per pkt.

Rohdea japonica—

Japan. Extremely durable, modest plant with thick rhizomes; basal rosette of oblanceolate, arching, channeled or plaited thick-leathery leaves, densely arranged somewhat in two ranks, matte green. White flowers aroid-like. Fruit a red berry. Three seeds for 25 cents.

Nephrolepsis-

'Sword fern'. Tufted plant with simple pinnate, rather stiff, fresh green fronds, which can continue to grow in length indefinitely, and bearing sori beneath; the root stock sending out threadlike runners which produce buds, giving rise to new plants. 25 cents per pkt.

Unknown fern-

Another good fern but not known to us. Found growing near Santa Cruz, California. Shady, moist location. About three feet high and resembles a tree fern. 25 cents per pkt.

THE BEGONIAN

OTHER GENERA

Crinum moorei—

Pink. Bulbous plant with strap-like leaves and showy, lily-like flowers in umbels. Easily grown in semi-shade. Large seeds may be started indoors on the window sill with no soil. Interesting to watch. Two large seeds for 25 cents.

Chrysalidocarpus lutescens—

Areca. 'Butterfly Palm'. Slender, graceful, yellowish stems, forming an attractive clump, with pinnate foliage nearly to the base, narrow, papery, the pinnae glossy yellow-green and well spaced on yellow, willowy, furrowed stalks. Fruit violet-black. Seeds are very hard and should be soaked before planting. Germination is slow. 25 cents per pkt.

Request-

We are finding it very difficult to keep the Seed Fund in operation, due to the lack of seed. If anyone has seed of begonias, shade plants, small shrubs, or greenhouse plants, please contact us. We need your help.

> MRS. FLORENCE GEE Seed Fund Administrator 234 Birch Street Roseville, California

LABEL PLANTS FROM LEFT

Clear and accurate labeling of plants is important, especially when you are marking flats of small seedlings or beds of small plants. Without such labeling, you have no way of knowing, when the plants grow larger, what you planted in the beginning.

Obviously, you can't tie a label to each tiny plant. Therefore, most gardeners label plants by rows; sometimes marking the first row of a group, sometimes marking the last row, and then they forget at which end they started, and confusion results.

To avoid mistakes, follow this simple rule: always place the label to the left of the row or group it names. You read from left to right, so the rule is easy to remember.

AZALEAS — LEGEND AND FACT

Once upon a time, according to a charming legend of Old Japan, Niningi, grandson of the Sun Goddess Anaratsu, came down from heaven to found the Empire of Japan. He alighted on the slopes of Mt. Kirishima, and from this spot sprang the ancestors of the loveliest of all azaleas.

Today, after many generations, the traveler who visits Mt. Kirishima, in the southern part of Japan, may feast his eyes on the myriad magic progeny of Amaratsu.

Over a century ago, a lone wayfarer became enthralled with their beauty and lovingly carried some of them to his home town, Kurume, and from these were developed the Kurume azaleas.

These charming flowers will satisfy the most exacting lover of color, be he a disciple of the pastel cult or a follower of the resplendent. He may choose those bearing blossoms large or small, single or double. They may be white, shell pink, salmon, flame, red, peach-pink, cerise, magenta, orchid, or wood-violet. The blooms persist from January to April.

After years of experimenting with various proportions of peat, leaf-mold, and light sandy soil in order to insure perfect drainage and the very necessary acid condition, it has been found that they attain their greatest splendor when planted in pure peat which has been soaked thoroughly before putting into the ground.

It is important to remember that they require a location affording shade or filtered sunlight, although not necessarily a protected one, as they enjoy a brisk wind. Consistent and liberal watering is essential during the blooming period.

BEGONIAS — FUCHSIAS — FERNS and other varieties of shade plants

PATIO PLANTS 4036 Moore Street (South of Washington Blvd.) Venice, Los Angeles 66, Calif.

71

GROWING FROM SEED . . .

(Continued from Page 63)

box dish with a closed fitted lid, or a sealed bottle (large mouth preferred).

Containers should have even tops in order to keep them closely covered with panes of glass to retain moisture.

PREPARATION

Only about $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 inches of medium is necessary for growing the seed. A deep container can be partially filled with coarse sand or other porous substance. Place the medium in the container, leaving about $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches of space at the top. Level off without packing. Cover the surface smoothly with about 1/8 inch of finely sifted peat moss that has been moistened. Wooden containers and clay pots should be soaked thoroughly before using.

SOWING

The seed is sown directly on the surface of the moss. An easy method is to place the seed on a sheet of smooth paper that has a crease made on one side, hold the paper with the creased side down, and tip it slightly over the container and the seed should roll slowly from the paper. By moving the paper around over the container, the seed should be distributed evenly. *Do not cover* the seed or press down into the medium.

CARE OF SEEDS

After sowing, cover an open container with a pane of glass; if brick is used, with a Ball jar; a closed container should be fitted with a lid, and a bottle or jar sealed.

Set the container in a warm room away from strong light until germination has taken place; then place it where it will receive plenty of light but no direct sunshine. Turn the container occasionally for even growth.

It is extremely important that the soil mixture *never* becomes dry or too wet. Use rain water, bottled water, or defrosting water that has had the chill removed. Top watering will encourage dampingoff and is not necessary.

For bottom watering set the container

in a shallow pan of water until moisture is evident on the surface. When using a container that relies on absorption, see that the reservoir is kept filled. A closed container should be checked about every two or three weeks and if moisture is needed add a few drops around the sides. A sealed container need not be opened until time for transplanting.

If a container is placed in the greenhouse it should be in a location where rain or water will not flood it.

THE SEEDLINGS

The seedlings must never be allowed to become too wet or too dry. As soon as they have developed the third leaf they should be pricked out carefully and planted about an inch apart in shallow, unfertilized, sterile medium similar to the sowing medium; tuberous and semperflorens should be set two inches apart. They should be kept covered with glass the first few days after transplanting, then gradually given more air as they grow. (Place a wooden wedge under the glass.) They should be given as much light as possible without direct sunshine. Use bottom watering until they are established.

Most begonias should be transplanted again into a growing mixture of leafmold and sand and placed twenty-five to a flat. When the roots have been established and the seedlings are putting on new growth, they can safely be given a mild fertilizer. When they begin to fill the flat they can be potted up according to their size in a regular potting mixture.

Rex seedlings should be kept protected until after their second transplanting. They require a longer time to become established than other types.

-From The Begonian, April, 1958.

Gloxinias—African Violets—Begonias Varieties which thrive under fluorescent light 1962 Plant List free on request

> 92 Chestnut Street Wilmington, Massachusetts

72

TUBER PLANTING

By NORVELL GILLESPIE Vagabond Gardener

Pat Antonelli reports that in just the last three years commercial growers of tuberous begonias have made two important switches over their former method of starting the dormant tubers each spring.

They've discovered that because peat moss holds too much water (equal to 90 per cent of its own weight) the oldfashioned "starting" mix was subject to overwatering. This, in turn, led to rot. Now these growers substitute a coarse mix which will not pack and become soggy. Unscreened leaf mold, redwood soil mix, fir bark, etc., are preferred to peat.

Another old stystem is being discarded, too. Growers formerly planted the tuber so the top of the tuber stuck up high — completely out of the rooting medium — and exposed to the air. Now they've learned that it's better to *completely bury* the tuber, covering it with a half-inch of the rooting medium. What results is a much larger root system, since roots form on all sides of the tuber. Previously they formed only on the base and part way up the sides.

In the light of this new knowledge, remember these tips when starting begonia tubers for the '62 season.

Tuber Planting: When the pink "eyes" on begonia tubers begin to sprout it's time to start off tubers in flats. If there's a tendency to overwater your plants, use a coarse material such as leaf mold or fir bark as a potting medium instead of peat. Peat moss can still be used, but only if you lighten it with perlite or coarse sand. And, of course, water with a light hand. (The danger with peat is that it retains *too much* water. Then, when a soggy condition develops, rot may develop in the tubers.)

Fill the wooden nursery flat (or a shallow box) with the potting medium. Space the tubers about three inches apart on top of the medium, allowing enough space between the tubers for root de-

velopment. Then carefully plant the tubers so they are covered with a half-inch covering of the potting medium.

After planting, water the medium well. Then, during the rooting period, keep the potting medium evenly moist. But remember — don't let it get *soggy wet* or you may rot the tubers. Keep the flat in a spot where it will get good light, but no direct rays from the sun. Warm (65 to 75°) temperatures help speed up growth. That's where a greenhouse helps.

When the top growth is two or three inches tall, move the plants outdoors or shift to pots.

JUDGING BEGONIAS . . .

(Continued from Page 65) judges" to raise the standard of the show. That was not the reason out-of-district judges were invited to judge. They were invited to judge the entries as brought to the show by the people who had spent months, or even longer, growing the flowers and plants to share the beauty with the entire community. All of this effort is usually gratis, and should be appreciated as such, as are the judges' efforts.

If the exhibitors brought entries to the show to compete for cash prizes, the judges should be instructed by the Judges Chairman to tighten up on their judging, which might raise the standard of the show the next year.

It is impossible to define the task of judging begonias in this concentrated space, but as with all judging of anything — be it gems, minerals, dogs, cats, ferns, roses, or begonias — judges must know the subject before attempting to pass judgment fairly. Most important judges should remember to be kind to the exhibitors, or there may not be a show to judge next year.

Belva Kusler's New Hybrid Begonias — Gigi Fleetham, Jeanne Fleetham, Laura Engelbert, Lenore Olivier, Sophie Cecile, Anna Christine CATALOG 25¢

TROPICAL PARADISE GREENHOUSE 8825 West 79th Street Overland Park, Kansas

HOW LONG . . .

(Continued from Page 66)

mature or, at least, rooted plants, not cuttings.

In discussing the means by which she reached such longevity, she said that she has, year by year, moved her plants to successively larger pots until some are in ten-inch containers. She has used little fertilizer, good garden soil, rather sandy, and well furnished with humus.

This brings me to my theory, which was inspired by the sight of a huge and beautiful specimen of *B. nigricans* growing in the ground bed of a very old greenhouse. Comparing it with my pitiful thing in an eight-inch bulb-pan made me wonder if root room might be one factor in long life as well as good health.

I reasoned that possibly a begonia in its natural habitat might live as indefinitely as do our toughest perennials, barring accident or disease. This would seem most likely in the case of the rhizomatous species, which might be able to spread out, rooting progressively in new soil.

QUALITY BEGONIA SEEDS & FERN SPORE

Send self-addressed stamped envelope for current seed list

Begonias Slanted Toward The Beginner Second edition. Well illustrated book dealing with begonia sources, propagation, cultivation, name pronunciation. Plastic bound. \$3.00 (add 12¢ sales tax in Calif.)

> Dorothy S. Behrends 442 Orpheus Ave., Encinitas, Calif.

Has any member of the American Begonia Society who can watch begonias in nature or who can grow them outof-doors made any observations to sustain or contradict this theory?

Here in the Northeast, where outdoor culture is limited to four months out of the year, the best one can do is to move to larger and larger pots. I made a beginning several times with my strongest Hirsutes. Unfortunately, a seven-inch standard pot full of begonia is almost more than I can lift. At this time (February, 1962) I have, in a seven-inch pot, a healthy specimen of *B. scharffi* which I received as a cutting in June, 1955, not quite seven years ago. As long as I kept six inches as my maximum pot size, three to five years was my best age record.

How long can a begonia plant live? This question seems to be a good project for the Research Committee or for some strong-armed male.

Meanwhile, friends, please liven the pages of *The Begonian* with your experiences and your comments.

4	ARAGRO FISH CONCENTRATE
	ESPECIALLY GOOD ON
	SHADE PLANTS
	NO BURNING OR ODOR
	Recommended and Sold by
	JENSEN'S GARDENS
	9515 E. FLOWER AVENUE
	BELLFLOWER, CALIF.
We f	eature African Violets and Begonias
	NO MAIL ORDERS

Buxton Check List of Begonias

The Buxton Check List of Begonias is a "must" for hybridizers to check on previously registered names, and is a valuable reference book for identification and origin.

Send check or money order for \$6.00 (in California add 24 cents sales tax) to:

MRS. LUCY A. SAULT, Librarian 58 DAPPLEGRAY LANE ROLLING HILLS ESTATE, CALIF.

LESSONS HALF PRICE

Mimeographed copies of the lectures given last year to the judging classes, sponsored jointly by the American Begonia Society and the California National Fuchsia Society, may now be obtained for half the regular price. They are on standard size, good paper, punched for filing in a binder.

Write or phone: Mrs. Edna L. Korts, Chairman of Judging Class, 3628 Revere Avenue, Los Angeles 39, California.

RHODE ISLAND SHOW

The annual Begonia and Other Plant Show, presented by the Rhode Island Branch of the American Begonia Society, will be held on June 23 and 24 at Daly's Gardens, Route 3, Coventry, Rhode Island. The show will feature the theme "The More the Merrier."

Prizes will be awarded in all classes. The Virginia Withee annual Silver Trophy will be awarded for best in the show by members, and there will be an award for best in the show by non-members.

Of special interest will be two classes: 1. Sub-teens, 2. Teens.

"Last year we had several entries from the younger generation, and they were excited to receive awards for their efforts. Again this year we invite them to show off their talents. Special awards will be given to them," said Virginia Withee, President.

Mrs. Florence Tibbetts, of East Greenwich, and Mrs. Geraldine Daly, of Coventry, will be Co-Chairmen.

LONG BEACH BEGONIAS IN HOBBY SHOW

The Long Beach Parent Chapter of the American Begonia Society will have a display booth of begonias in the Hobby Show at the Long Beach Municipal Auditorium May 10 to 13. The show will be open to the public 12 noon to 10 p.m. daily except Sunday, when doors will close at 9 p.m. There will be no admission charge.

NEWS REQUESTED BY HISTORIAN

Ruth Pease, American Begonia Society Historian, has requested that Branches send her copies of their newsletters, yearbooks, and write-ups of shows and special events, as well as pertinent clippings from magazines and newspapers. Photographs will also be appreciated. This material will be used in the A.B.S. Historian's Book.

Send to: Mrs. Ruth Pease, 8101 Vicksburg Avenue, Los Angeles 45, California.

BUY, BORROW, BEG, STEAL

As an amateur begonia grower trying to find new and different kinds, I've run into a brick wall here in Pampa. No one that I've found has anything except the more common Begonias 'Angel Wing' and 'Feasti'.

So I'm putting out an "alert" for any small plants or leaves — anything that will grow into a begonia. If any A.B.S. members have any extra (if you ever can), I would appreciate your letting me know how much and what kind.

I'm growing some from seed, but it's a pretty slow way to get very many in a collection.

> IRENE NEWSOM 617 N. Dwight Pampa, Texas

PATRONIZE BEGONIAN ADVERTISERS



FIESTA DEL FLORES

The South Coast Botanic Garden Foundation will present Fiesta del Flores on May 25-26-27 at the Del Amo Shopping Center, Hawthorne and Sepulveda Boulevards, Torrance, California.

All clubs, societies, specialty groups, and individuals are invited to participate. There will be no entry fee or admission. For programs and rules, send requests to South Coast Botanic Garden Foundation, Inc., 1037 Second Street, Hermosa Beach, California.

EVERYTHING IS GONE

In the wake of hurricane "Carla" everything is gone. I lost my thirty thousand wax begonia seedlings, two thousand zonal geraniums, and two thousand Martha Washingtons. I had sixty different colors in sultanas.

Have any members of the American Begonia Society cuttings that they can spare for me?

MRS. EDNA KIESEWETTER 344 Landa Street New Braunfels, Texas



CALENDAR

- April 5 Westchester Branch: "Begonias and Begonia Hybridizing" will be the subject of a talk by Don Horton, guest speaker.
- April 5 Whittier Branch: Mrs. Mabel Corwin will talk on "Begonia Basics and New Varieties".
- April 10 Knickerbocker Branch: Charles A. Lewis, Horticulturist of Sterling Forest Gardens, will lecture on "The Culture of Tuberous Begonias". An added feature on the program will be a film by the Belgian Begonia Growers Association, "Fairyland of Flowers".
- April 12 Inglewood Branch: Rudolf Ziesenhenne will speak on "The Rex" at the fourteenth annual Presidents Dinner. Mexican decor, swiss steak plus trimmings, from Little Joe's caterers. Call AX 2-2509 or PL 1-8401 for reservations by April 8.
- April 12 Orange County Branch: Wynona Jensen, of Jensen's Gardens in Bellflower, will be guest speaker. Her topic will be "Begonia Culture".
- April 27 Redondo Beach Area Branch: Bert Slatter will speak on the subject "Mysteries of Plant Life and General Culture". Jitney pot-luck dinner — 5¢ and 10¢ servings — to help a depleted treasury. Also an Easter Hat parade with judges and prizes for best, most artistic, funniest, and a booby prize.
- April 28-29 First Louisiana Festival of Roses at Hodges Gardens, Many, Louisiana.
- May 3 Westchester Branch: Howard Carrington, national orchid judge, will show slides and speak on "Cymbidiums and Their Culture".

May 10-13 — Hobby Show in Long Beach Municipal Auditorium, Long Beach, California.

June 23-24 — Rhode Island Branch: Begonia and Other Shade Plant Show, Daly's Gardens, Route 3, Coventry, Rhode Island.

MINUTES OF NATIONAL BOARD MEETING

A meeting of the National Board of the American Begonia Society was held February 12, 1962, combining the regular January and February meetings. The meeting was called to order at 7:45 p.m. by President George A. Schlanert.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mrs. Gertrude White.

The Aims and Purposes of the Society were read by President-Elect Carl Naumann.

Seventeen officers, chairmen and representatives responded to roll call.

President reported attending many Branch meetings during the past three months. Six pins have been sold. A telephone call from Mr. Warrick in Seattle reported the Branch there doing very well. A visitor from Japan, Mr. Naito, who is very interested in begonias, was entertained.

President-Elect Carl Naumann reported visiting the Ventura, Whittier, Glendale, and Hollywood Branches. It was encouraging to note the projects of the Branches for the good of the National Society.

Past President Edna Korts presented a bill of \$72.44 for Comprehensive and Auto Liability Insurance. Mrs. Korts moved and Mrs. Parker seconded a motion this bill be paid. Motion carried.

Mrs. Korts suggested an inventory of material held by the Membership Secretary be on file.

A letter to Mrs. Gee from Houston, Texas, was read. Also a letter to Mrs. Korts from Texas described the damage to gardens by hurricane "Carla".

hurricane "Carla". \$27.00 was submitted from the sale of bound books. An order from Vancouver, B. C., was received for a complete set of the bound books. This order Mrs. Korts will endeavor to fill. Copies of *The Begonian* for the 1940 years are difficult to obtain.

Vice President Roy Joyce reported the use of two sets of slides. A \$40.03 refund from the Judging School account was submitted. Treasurer Earle Budd reported as follows:

Treasurer Earle Budd reported as follows: balance \$977.02; receipts \$1959.64; disbursements \$1513.52; balance \$1423.14.

A motion was made by Mrs. Korts, seconded by Mr. Naumann, authorizing the purchase of the Adressograph. Motion carried.

Membership Secretary Dorotha Waddington reported as follows: new members 54; renewals 181; monies received \$597.50; expenses \$23.57; number of *Begonians* mailed 2218.

A used Addressograph was purchased for \$365.00, plus \$14.00 tax, with orginial guarantee. Orginial price \$889.20.

The Knickerbocker Branch requested one thousand cultural brochures for which they will remit \$75.00. Mrs. Kingsbury requested organization brochures for use at the Massachusetts Horticultural Show. Mrs. Arbuckle, Public Relations Director, will take care of this matter.

A new supply of the cultural brochures is needed. Mrs. Korts moved that the customary amount be ordered. Seconded by Mrs. Waddington. Carried. Mrs. Waddington asked that any change of

Mrs. Waddington asked that any change of address be sent immediately as amount of return postage is increasing, the past month being \$2.50.

The reports of the Seed Fund Chairman, Florence Gee, were read. The report for the past month was as follows: income \$93,48; expenses \$18.48; amount submitted to treasurer \$75.00; balance in revolving fund \$100.00.

Report of Advertising Manager, Ruby Budd: income \$39.20; accounts receivable \$88.00.

Historian Ruth Pease requested any Year Books or other material be sent her. She commented on excellent Year Book of Glendale Branch.

Mrs. Korts reported on Judging School. Requests from the east have been received for some of the lectures. Lectures may be obtained at half price or 50¢ per copy.

John Theiben reported for the Indentification Garden. Members of the Westchester Branch are bringing plants for identification and any other Branch may request this service from the committee.

Mr. Theiben reported attending the December meeting of the South Coast Botanic Gardens Foundation. They desire to know how much space the American Begonia Society will require. It was decided the committee should investigate and report to the Board.

A flower show, Fiesta del Flores, May 24-26-27, at the DelAmo Shopping Center, Hawthorne Blvd. and Sepulveda Avenue, was announced. This will be a benefit for the South Coast Botanic Garden Foundation.

The following Branches reported: Glendale, Inglewood, Long Beach Parent Chapter, San Gabriel, Westchester, and Whittier.

Gabriel, Westchester, and Whittier. Mrs. Pearl Parker, Representative of the Inglewood Branch, submitted a \$100.00 check, the result of the Branch's Addressograph project. This was accepted with grateful appreciation.

A letter from Florence Gee, Seed Fund Chairman, regarding the seed fund interests was read.

A letter from the Massachusetts Horticultural Society requested the use of the American Begonia Society judging scale. Mrs. Korts will reply with the necessary material.

The first meeting of the Convention Committee is called for February 26th at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Dorotha Waddington.

> MARGARET B. TAYLOR Secretary.

PATRONIZE BEGONIAN ADVERTISERS

Branch Directory

VISITORS ALWAYS WELCOME AT THESE MEETINGS

BRITISH BRANCH

F. J. Bedson, Secy., Kent, England

BUXTON, BESSIE RAYMOND BRANCH

3rd Saturday, Homes of Members Miss Cynthia Webber, Secy. 5 Hillside, Ave., Bedford, Mass.

DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS BRANCH

3rd Thursday, 7:00 p.m., Members' Residences C. Sikkelee, Corr. Secy. 3603 La Joya Dr., Dallas 20, Texas

EAST BAY BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:45 p.m., Willard School Telegraph at Ward, Berkeley, California Miss Dorothy F. Osburn, Secy. 5015 Cochrane Ave., Oakland 18, Calif.

EL MONTE COMMUNITY BRANCH

3rd Friday, Members' Homes Miss Lenore Schroeder, Secy. 1828 So. 7th St., Alhambra, Calif.

FOOTHILL BRANCH

3rd Thursday, 8:00 p.m. La Verne Community Bldg. 2039 Third St., La Verne Mrs. Arma J. Shull, Secy. 313 W. 2nd St., San Dimas, Calif.

FORT, ELSA BRANCH

1st Saturday, 1:30 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 Ruth Worcester, Secy. 336 West Ave., 43, Los Angeles 4, 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. Adolph Belser, Corr. Secy. Welsh and Veree Rd., Philadelphia, Pa.

HOLLYWOOD BRANCH

3rd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd. Mrs. Georgina Barton, Secy. 2821 Herkimer St., Los Angeles 39, Calif.

HOUSTON, TEXAS BRANCH

2nd Friday, 10:00 a.m. Garden Center, 1500 Herman Drive Mrs. Grant Herzog, Secy. 12600 Broken Bough, Houston 24, Texas

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., Inglewood Women's Club 325 North Hillcrest, Inglewood, Calif. Mrs. Elsye M. Willick, Secy. 13214 Merkel Ave., Paramount, Calif.

KNICKERBROCKER BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 8:00 p.m. Library, Horticultural Society of N.Y. 157 West 58th St., New York Murray D. Morrison, Secy. 2109 Matthews Ave., New York 62, N.Y.

LONE STAR BRANCH

3rd Monday, Members' Homes, 10 a.m. Mrs. M. F. Scribner, Corr. Secy. 1422 Marfa, Dallas 16, Texas

LONG BEACH PARENT CHAPTER

3rd Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Linden Hall 208 Linden Ave., Long Beach, Calif. Mrs. Ralph Eikema, Secy. 2071 Oregon Ave., Long Beach, Calif.

LOUSIANA CAPITAL BRANCH

1st Friday, Homes of Members Mrs. Thomas D. Day, Secy. 4056 Hollywood St., Baton Rouge, La.

MIAMI, FLORIDA BRANCH

4th Tuesday, 8:00 p.m. Simpson Memorial Garden Center Mrs. Ray Rosengren, Secy. 5530 N.W. 21 Ave., Miami, Fla.

MISSOURI BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, 1 p.m. World War Memorial Bldg., Linwood and Paseo Kansas City, Mo. Mrs. R. H. Hyatt, Secy. 6812 Hunter St., Raytown 33, Mo.

ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

and Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Garden Grove Grange Hall, Century and Taft Sts. Garden Grove, Calif. Daisy G. Austin, Secy. 1510 Kimberly Ave., Anaheim, Calif.

PASADENA BRANCH

Meetings on Call, Homes of Members Col. C. M. Gale, Secy. 40 N. San Rafael, Pasadena 2, Calif.

PHILOBEGONIA BRANCH

2nd Friday, Members' Homes Mrs. J. Perry Long, Secy. 6532 E. Cedar Ave., Merchantville, N.J.

REDONDO BEACH AREA BRANCH

4th Friday each Month 2308 Rockefeller, Redondo Beach, Calif. Mrs. Alice Martin, Secy. 640 West 141st St., Hawthorne, Calif.

RHODE ISLAND BRANCH 1st Saturday, Homes of Members Miss Ruth Harrington, Secy. 372 Lloyd Ave., Providence, R.I.

RIVERSIDE BRANCH

af the second

2nd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., Shamel Park 3650 Arlington, Riverside, Calif. Mrs. Lillian Maddox, Secy. 7172 Mt. Vernon St., Riverside, Calif.

ROBINSON, AFRED D. BRANCH 3rd Friday, 10:30 a.m., Homes of Members Constance D. Bower, Corr. Secy. 2413—K St., San Diego 2, Calif.

SACRAMENTO BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, 8:00 p.m., Garden Center 3330 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento, Calif. Edward Reuter, Secy. 933 Sonoma Way, Sacramento 19, Calif.

SAN DIEGO BRANCH

4th Monday, Barbour Hall 2717 University Ave., San Diego Leah Jones, Secy. 120 Upas St., San Diego 3, Calif.

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH

N FRANCISCO BRANCH 1st Wednesday, 8:00 p.m. Garden Center, Golden Gate Park 9th Ave. & Lincoln Way James C. Miller, Sccy. 1962 - 18th Ave., San Francisco 16, Calif.

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH
2nd Friday, 8:00 p.m.
Los Angeles State & County Arboretum
501 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, Calif.
Ruth Eppley, Secy.
4858 Willard St., Rosemead, Calif.

SAN MIGUEL BRANCH Ist Wednesday, Youth Center, Lemon Grove, Calif. Mrs. Lloyd Clark, Secy. 2252 Vulner Ct., San Diego, Calif.

SANTA BARBARA BRANCH 2nd Thursday, 8:00 p.m. Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History 2559 Puesta Del Sol Elnora Schmidt, Secy. 3846 Calle Cita, Santa Barbara, Calif.

SEATTLE BRANCH 3rd Tuesday, 7:45 p.m. Meeting locations will vary; call the secretary at SUnset 2-2234 Miss Bernice Moore, Secy. 2842 West 59th St., Seattle 7, Wash.

SHEPHERD, THEODOSIA BURR BRANCH

PHERD, INECOUSIA BURN BRAINCH 1st Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. Alice Bartlett, C.H., 902 E. Main, Ventura, Calif. Mrs. Cora Lemmon, Secy. 316 Moorpark Ave., Moorpark, Calif.

SMOKY VALLEY BRANCH

3rd Thursday of each Month Mrs. Robert Nease, Secy. 410 South Phillips, Salina, Kansas

SOUTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY BRANCH

3rd Thursday, 8:00 p.m. Strowbridge School Multi-Purpose Rm. 21400 Bedford Dr., Hayward, Calif. Mrs. Evangeline Muller, Cor. Secy. 36937 Cherry St., Newark, Calif.

TALL CORN STATE BRANCH

Mrs. Edna Monson, Secy. South Taylor, Mason City, Iowa

TARRANT COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Monday, 10:00 a.m. Homes of Members, Ft. Worth, Texas Mrs. Olin S. Hughes, Secy. 2306 Market St., Ft. Worth, Texas

TEXAS STATE BRANCH

1st Tuesday Night in Members' Homes E. Weaver, 1325 Thomas Blvd., Port Arthur, Texas

WESTCHESTER BRANCH

1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Westchester Women's Club, 8020 Alverstone St., Los Angeles, Calif. Mrs. Ann Hyland, Secy. 6446 Will Rogers St., Los Angeles 45, Calif.

WEST VALLEY BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Orcutt Playground Clubhouse 21816 Lanark St., Canoga Park, Calif. Joseph Janatka, Secy. 18641 Casandra, Tarzana, Calif.

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, 11:00 a.m., Homes of Members Mrs. A. S. Lash, Secy. 1228 Oklahoma Drive, Pittsburgh 16, Pa.

WHITTIER BRANCH

1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Palm Park Community Center, 1643 Floral Drive Anne L. Rose, Secy. 1255 Ramona Dr., Whittier, Calif.

WILLIAM PENN BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, 2:00 p.m., Homes of Members Mrs. Griscom Bettle, Jr., Secy. 331 Station Road, Wynnewood, Pa.

BEGONIANS

Nicely Bound Volumes of 1940 to 1959

\$3.50 for each year's volume

Make Check Payable To American Begonia Society

Mail order to

MRS. EDNA L. KORTS

3626 Revere Ave., Los Angeles 39, Calif.



AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY INSIGNIA PIN for Begonia Society Members

PRICE \$3.00

SEND YOUR ORDER TO: GEORGE A. SCHLANERT 13611 Wheeler Place Santa Ana, Calif.

1135 N. Kenter Ave. Los Angeles 49, Calif. Return Requested

> GRO-LUX LAMPS — all sizes BLACK-LIGHT DISCARDED TUBES FOR PATIOS AND TUBE-HOUSES

> > Fixtures and Lamps — All sizes For Residence or Business

Aluarescent Jule Service

10824 S. Broadway

Los Angeles 61, Calif. 1100

Phone PLymouth 6-1100

SPOONIT FLOWER FOOD Send Post Card for Information and Sample PLANTSMITH

Box 818 Palo Alto 2, Calif.

BEGONIAS, GERANIUMS, EXOTICS NEW catalogue with color, 25c

LOGEE'S GREENHOUSES

(Est. 1892) Danielson, Connecticut SPRING BEGONIA PRICE LIST NOW READY

RUDOLF ZIESENHENNE

1130 N. Milpas St., Santa Barbara, Calif.

Begonias, Ferns, Fuchsias, Cacti, Succulents, Ivies, Geraniums, Herbs

> UNUSUAL HOUSE AND CONSERVATORY PLANTS

1961-62 Illustrated catalog 25¢. List free. MERRY GARDENS CAMDEN, MAINE

THE BEGONIAN