

The Begonian

DEVOTED TO THE SHELTERED GARDENS

MARCH, 1964

PRICE 25 CENTS

VOLUME XXXI NUMBER 3



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General Offices, Dues, Address Changes or Magazines:
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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 Anaheim, 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 introduction 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.

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THE NEW ROUND ROBIN PROGRAM

Where-oh-where have the Robins gone?

They are right where you are if you have time to look for them. We are talking about Round Robins among letter-writing friends — not about birds.

Why aren't there more than six or seven flights, of about ten members each, in action now in the American Begonia Society? We don't really know. We suspect that you folks haven't happened to read or hear about them, although Round Robin Flights have flown for years in the American Begonia Society.

It doesn't matter whether you are a young citizen or a senior citizen, man or woman, commercial or non-commercial, amateur or expert — you have missed something in your plant-growing life if you have never been in a Round Robin letter writing group, which is called a Flight.

Corresponding in a letter package with about ten other plant-growing friends scattered over the nation or the whole world is a rewarding experience. This visiting by letter is a wonderful supplement to our *Begonian* magazine, and you really come to appreciate what others are doing with their plants. You read of troubles that you thought you were fighting alone. You learn of gimmicks that others have developed for plant culture. You discover that there are climatic conditions you never dreamed other growers must endure.

The Round Robin program is being expanded immediately and any or all of you can participate in it right from the start. Just write to me, the Round Robin Director.

My job as Director is to set up Round Robin Flights of about ten

members each. These flights could be classified by types of plant interests or by experience levels — whether you are amateurs, general growers, commercial, non-commercial, hybridizers, or experts in special fields. There are many possible classifications of flights. Further study is needed to determine the best arrangements. At the present time the existing flights are arranged on a "general interest" basis. This is a valuable arrangement because beginners can question the experts and the experts can help others and also get ideas for more advanced work and study. New ideas and problems for exploration arise in the most unexpected places.

For this new program we would appreciate receiving inquiries from all who would like to participate. Any member who cannot be active in a Society Branch is especially encouraged to join a flight.

From the experienced and expert members, we need volunteers to assume the chairmanships of these Round Robin Flights. Each chairman will be a regular corresponding member of his flight, besides keeping a check on the packages of letters written by the group.

A Round Robin Flight operates in this manner. Each package contains a list of every member in the flight and the package is mailed in rotation to each member on the list. As each member receives the package, he (or she) removes his old letter and puts in a new letter, and then mails the entire package to the next member on the list. At the same time, he mails a card or note to the flight chairman. Thus, the flight chairman knows at all times where the letters are.

Again, we wish to repeat that these letters contain marvelous bits of cultural wisdom, experience with the

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COVER PICTURE

Begonia 'Thrush'. See story on page 44.

—Photo by BELVA NELSON KUSHER.

THRUSH, ELSIE FREY'S BEAUTIFUL BIRD

By BELVA NELSON KUSLER
Frederic, Wisconsin



The author with friend Jimmy Valentine

'Thrush' can be classed as another of the all-around good begonias for house culture. It is a hybrid of Elsie Frey's, produced in 1948 by crossing the species, *dregei*, with an unidentified rex cross. I note that it is listed as a miniature rex, but it lacks the rex temperament in its amenability to house conditions.

Several years ago a friend of mine gave me a small plant of 'Thrush'. She had been experimenting with raising a collection of small rhizomatous and miniature rex hybrids under house conditions. Some varieties did not become acclimated and languished or died, while others performed very well. 'Thrush' was one of the latter.

It is an upright rhizomatous, medium in size. It grows rapidly, but it can be kept in shape by cutting off the tallest stems, resulting in an increase of new growth, particularly at its base. The chatoyant leaves have several rather shallow, pointed lobes, the leaf-edge being shaply serrate with small white bristles. Sparse

white hairs are scattered on the upper leaf surface, on the veins on the underleaf, and a few on the red petioles. The veins are raised, lightly tinted red, with a red sinus. The leaf is olive-green (reddish underneath) with lavender-silver dots and speckles, growing more numerous in the area of the veins. All the stems of the plant are deep red, with small, linear markings. The stipules are red, pointed, and persistent. All the new growth is deep maroon-red.

Outside of its beauty, the feature that moves me to recommend 'Thrush' to you, is its ever-blooming quality. The flowers are produced

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Begonia 'Thrush'

—Photos by Belva Nelson Kusler

PROPAGATION BY LEAF AND STEM CUTTINGS

By HAZEL M. HARMON
Sudbury, Massachusetts

If you are interested in the propagation of begonias — really interested — then proceed knowingly, cautiously, and carefully.

As an amateur, this is my way, under home conditions only, not in a greenhouse.

First, know the plants you want to propagate. Learn their likes and dislikes, the problems they are likely to present, their dormant periods, and also the type of cutting for which each plant is best suited. While cuttings can be made from all begonias, if too many are made, the appearance of the plants will be spoiled. But if leaf cuttings are possible, as in rex or rhizomatous begonias, the plants will not be disfigured. Unwanted plants can be used for experimental cuttings. Making cuttings in different ways and subjecting them to different methods and conditions will provide much needed experience for the time when you wish to grow a valuable cutting.

When should cuttings be made, what time of year? Usually, cuttings can be made at any time, but then again this will depend on the individual plant. Cuttings must be made when the plant is putting out new growth, not when it is in dormancy. Usually, a plant which has been held back will root very quickly. Cuttings are more likely to rot in very hot weather.

Where on the plant should a cutting be made? A flowering stem is not good for a cutting unless there is a leaf bud or two on the cutting, itself. A cutting of soft growth has a tendency to rot, and if the growth is very hard, it may take a long time. If there is growth at the base of the plant, a proper cutting may be selected there. If you are making a

leaf cutting, choose a mature leaf, neither too old nor too young. Many times I have made very tiny cuttings of poor quality from leaves which were about spent, but sometimes this is the best you can do.

How do you take your cuttings — pinch them, break them, or cut them with a pair of scissors? Any one of these methods can cause a cutting to rot, because the ends of the cutting have been bruised. To make a clean cut that is not bruised, use a very sharp knife or razor blade.

How do you root cuttings? There are several ways. I usually start mine in water — at least I let the cuttings stay in water for a day or so. The reason I like to put them in water is that I feel I have more control over them and can see just what they are doing. For instance, now and then a stem cutting or a leaf cutting — especially the latter — will decide to get limp and wither. If this happens, I rinse it in warm water once or twice a day. The water must not be treated chemically; rain water is best.

The minute there is evidence of a root, I put it in vermiculite (zonalite) or a mixture of zonalite and potting soil.

I believe the more accepted method is to put cuttings in damp zonalite, perlite, or any suitable medium, and cover them with plastic to insure high humidity. Cuttings should have light but not sun.

From my experience the past year, I have found that fluorescent light keeps cuttings in better health and speeds the rooting process. I like a temperature of about seventy degrees. Recently I took two leaf cuttings from a rex begonia, put them

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THINKING ABOUT TUBEROUS BEGONIAS?

By ALTA WESTOVER
Seattle, Washington

You're the one I want to talk to — you, dreaming there about your summer garden and thinking, "Gosh, tuberous begonias would be terrific in that north bed, but do I know enough to grow them?"

Instead of being confused by the conflicting how-to's you've heard, think of the needs of these gorgeous plants, and start from there.

Do you have the right garden location? They need light but not direct, hot sun. In the Pacific Northwest, where we live, many of our plants are in direct sunshine until eleven o'clock in the morning, and some of them get the late afternoon sun, too, and thrive on it. But if your sun is hot all day, protect the plants from it all times. Still, they must have light — too much shade will cause them to grow lanky and drop their blooms. So choose a good location. A lath-house, of course, is ideal.

Now that you know you have a good spot for them when they're ready for the garden, go out and buy some tubers (most of us call them bulbs) and get them started. This is the time.

When you buy your tubers, remember that they are sold by size and quality, but their size does not affect the size of the flowers. It *does* affect the size of the plant — the bigger the bulb, the bigger the plant — but large flowers will come on even the smallest plant. California growers produce the finest tubers in the world, so, if you want the largest flowers, the most magnificent colors, make sure you buy American-grown tubers.

You will find the bulbs sorted by types, the most popular of the upright plants being Rose Form, Ruffled, and Picotee. There are other types, but these three produce the

best growth of plants and blossoms and you'll be delighted with them.

As its name implies, the Rose Form has flowers like huge roses. The Ruffled blossom is a full flower with every petal ruffled. The Picotee is a rose form with each petal edged in a darker color and this type comes in "shades" of red, rose, pink, salmon, and apricot. It is truly showy.

You can buy bulbs for hanging baskets, too. The flowers on these are not as large as on upright plants, but the profusion of blooms more than makes up for the small size — and no other hanging plant is more brilliant.

While you are buying bulbs, don't overlook the Multifloras. In the Northwest, particularly, Multiflora tuberous begonias are becoming real popular — used as border plants, in window boxes where we don't want the plants to grow too tall, and in mass plantings where a big splash of color is required. The blooms are small — about the size of a quarter, most of them — but the plants grow low and bushy and never stop blooming all summer, with the bright little flowers crowding each other to show through the foliage in bursts of red or yellow or orange. They stand more sun and heat than the large-flowered varieties, too, and in good humusy soil, with proper watering, will grow in full sun in our area.

Now you have your bulbs. You're anxious to get them growing. But think of their needs: they shouldn't be planted in the outdoor bed until the nights warm up. When is that? In the Northwest it's usually June 1st before the night temperatures rise above 45 degrees. So, if it's the same for you, don't start your bulbs too early. Maybe the 15th of March is about right.

Take into consideration the warmth of the room where you will start



You can have blooms like these.

—Photo by Alta Westover

them. If you're using the dining room table, say, they're going to grow faster and you can wait until the first of April to start them there. Too much heat — especially if they don't get enough light — will make the plants grow leggy.

A cool place — 60, 65 degrees, or so — with good light, is much more satisfactory. March 1st — or even earlier — wouldn't be too soon to start them in conditions like this, because they'll grow so much slower.

Now you need a container and some starting medium. For the container, we prefer a flat, but you can use a pot or a cut-down milk carton — something at least three inches deep, that you can fix so there is good drainage.

For the starting medium, get some real leaf mold if you can. We have experimented for years with various mixtures for starting our tubers and, without a doubt, leaf mold works the best. Coarse, as it comes from the woods, is perfect. You can have success sometimes with sand, sand and peat moss mixed, straight peat moss (but this gets soggy SO easily), vermiculite, or leaf mold, preferably oak or alder.

You will hear some growers say

that you should wait until the little pink sprouts show on the tubers before you plant them at all. This is not necessary. There is nothing wrong, exactly, with lining the bulbs along your window sill — dry — until the sprouts show, and then planting them — except that sometimes the sun will come out suddenly and, the first thing you know, the sprouts are burned off. This sets the plants back considerably, and we think you're better off just to plant the bulbs, sprouted or not.

So, dampen your leaf mold and set your bulbs, rounded side down, into it. Space them a couple of inches if you're using a flat. Cover them with about a half-inch more leaf mold, set them in the window, and don't water them again until the leaf mold looks dry on top. Then keep them moist but not real wet.

The reason for burying the bulbs is so roots will grow on the tops as well as on the sides and bottoms. The more roots a plant has, the healthier it should be, of course. However, if you find it is necessary to use something other than leaf mold as a starting medium, *do not cover your bulbs*. Leave that little

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HIT AND MISS TUBE-HOUSE

By RUBY MAE BUDD
Los Angeles, California

The last of our sun-loving flowers are gone. Raised beds of roses facing the west have bowed down to the ever-loving shade plants. Where the roses once bloomed, showing off their beauty, now stands a tube-house which shelters begonias, fuchsias, and ferns from the cold winds of the elements.

This tube-house is the latest addition in a program which really began four years ago when we — my husband, Earle, and I — joined the Westchester Branch of the American Begonia Society. At that time we knew nothing about begonias, but after attending the meetings and hearing excellent speakers we learned the requirements of begonias.

Then we built a fiberglass greenhouse behind the garage. The greenhouse, 9 feet wide by 20 feet long, has the garage as one wall, a cement block wall on two sides, and a fiberglass wall with a door on the front. It has served its purpose well, especially for my hybridizing and growing seeds and seedlings, which I am most interested in. But soon many begonias became too large, and although I could move them outside

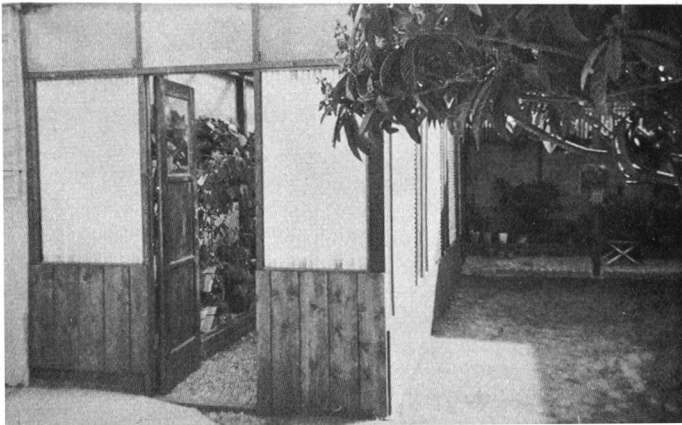
under lath during the summer, the windy weather in winter was too much for them.

The new tube-house was not built from a plan. When we started to build a shelter, we did not have the least idea what materials we would use after the frame was constructed.

First, my husband, Earle, set 4x4 redwood posts in cement, spaced 6 feet apart to match the lath house around the rest of the yard. On these posts, the frames were built 9 feet wide from the garage, 9 feet high, and 29 feet long. The skeleton of the roof was made with 2x4 beams every 6 feet, with 2x3 strips between them. We ordered the lumber practically piece by piece until we decided just what we were going to do.

It was my job to paint all the lumber with redwood finish before it was used. When we had built the lath house, I had to climb up a ladder to paint 1x2 strips on the roof. I figured that this was for the birds, so this time I painted the lumber before it was put in place.

When the framework on the tube-house was completed, we were really stopped. We knew that fiberglass



Entrance to Tube-house is on one end.
Rear door opens on walk shown in background.

would be too hot as a covering in summer, so we visited different gardens to get ideas. Finally we settled for discarded fluorescent tubes.

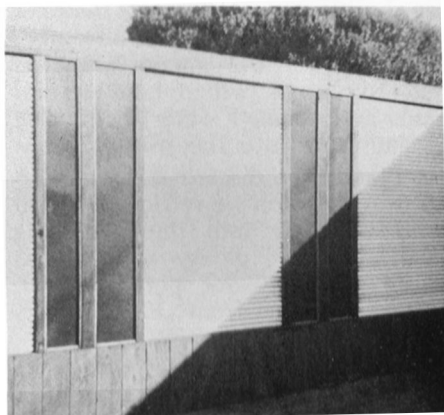
I went to the Fluorescent Tube Service, which advertises regularly in *The Begonian*. I found them to be most co-operative — in fact, it was a pleasure to do business with them. As they had an over-supply of 4-foot tubes, they gave us all we needed at a very reasonable cost.

But it turned out that the cost was a little more because, after I had loaded the trunk and the rear seat of the car and was on my way home, a red traffic light turned against me. Not wanting the tubes in the rear seat down on my head, I tried to make a slow stop and finally came to a stop in the middle of the intersection. Just my luck that an officer saw me. He wasn't listening to my explanation as he wrote out the ticket — the first I have ever received for going through a stop light. The \$12 that the ticket cost, added to the actual cost of the tubes, still totalled only one-sixteenth the cost of fiberglass.

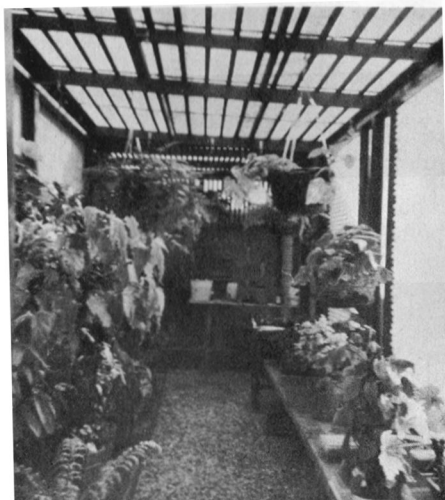
The next question — how were we going to put four-foot tubes in a space six feet long? We started to figure, and found the answer — green fiberglass panels on each side of the tubes. Because we wanted something solid at the base, we made another trip to the lumber yard and bought 1x8 siding. After painting it with linseed oil and redwood stain, we made a panel effect 18 inches high around the bottom of the tube-house.

Then — what to put on the roof? The measurements were such that we couldn't use the tubes without a lot of rebuilding, so we put 1x2 strips 6 inches apart and plastic-covered aluminum screen over them. The screen is wind-proof and practically water-proof, and it has turned out very satisfactory.

For the front door, we used an old door removed from the inside of the



Horizontal tubes between fiberglass panels make attractive wall design.



Interior with Begonias, work table in background.
—Photos by the author.

house years ago, and the rear door is an old screen door.

The next step was the inside. On the ground we put four inches of gravel, which throws out humidity but still drains well, so we are not walking in wet dirt after watering. Earle built a bench 28 inches wide and 24 inches high, covered with $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch screen. Wire mesh is excellent on benches for potted plants, pro-

viding good drainage. This bench was built along the wall built of tubes. On the other side of the tube-house, against the garage wall, he built five steps which hold several plants and, when I water them, they do not drain into the plants below.

A florist shop discarded a wrought-iron stand, which we retrieved, and it fitted perfectly into the remaining space along the garage wall. It has twenty-five rings for potted plants, ranging in size from 10-inch pots down to 4-inch pots.

Several revolving hooks for hanging baskets were attached to roof beams, while 2x3's along the garage wall support wall-pockets.

The picture shows the pull-down table that Earle made for me. It is 3 feet wide and 4 feet long. It is hinged so that, when I get through working on it, I just fold it up and hook it to the side of the wall until I want to use it again.

This new tube-house extends all the way to the greenhouse and now I have one complete covered and sheltered area consisting of the tube-house, 9 feet wide x 29 feet long, extended into the greenhouse, which is 9 feet wide x 20 feet long.

We feel that this hit and miss tube-house turned out to be an improvement to our landscape at a reasonable cost and different from the usual tube-houses. All we have to do now is wait to see if anything will grow after all this work. I hope that I have shown the happiness and thrill of week-end building and gardening. When husband and wife enjoy the same things and work together — that is one of the most cherished blessings.

PATRONIZE
BEGONIAN
ADVERTISERS

WINDOW SILL BESTS

BY AUGUSTA PASCHALL
Merchantville, New Jersey

I looked at the thermometer — it was ten degrees, with promises of snow. And today the Philobegonia Branch of the American Begonia Society was having a showing of our "window sill bests". (Here in the east we become window sill gardeners in the winter.)

Looking over my window sills for a "best", I could not help feeling a surge of pride in my collection this year. With just a little care on my part, nature had heaped bountiful rewards.

An 'Erythrophylla' looked wonderful, but it could not be wrapped sufficiently well to protect it from the cold. It was too large. And Begonia 'Margery Daw', with her graceful, hanging branches and blooms, was lovely, but it, too, would present a wrapping problem.

But there was 'Silver Star', beautifully rounded, for I keep turning it toward the sun. Yes — it would do. And so, marked for identification, checked for a real clean pot and no dead leaves, now it could compete.

Before starting for the meeting, I took a walk around the garden, now fast asleep — or so it seemed — but beautiful, too, with the symmetry of bare branches. Still though it seemed, I knew things were not still. Underneath the ground, nature was beginning to swell the bulbs, little by little. In only three months' time, they would be a blaze of glory. The sap was stirring in the trees, too. It seemed I could hear it.

But — off to the begonia meeting.

The results were amazing for house-grown begonias. There was a beauty — B. 'Ricky Minter' — you could hardly believe it came from a heated home. Only Sally DeCou could do it. Cecily Bailey had a B. 'Sir Percy', so lush and lovely. I sighed

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Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund Flight

No. 1 — B. Rex —

Germany. We have just received seed from Germany and our experience has been that germination will be almost one hundred per cent, which will take place in about three weeks. Plants are not as large as some of the American-grown, but they are colorful and very interesting. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 2 — B. 'Prince Charming' —

Not a rex. This is the double semperflorens type from our friend in Australia. Mr. Nave, hybridist, says this: "The semperflorens 'Prince Charming' is very fine. I thought the colors were exceptionally fine and the degree of doubling was most interesting." Price 50 cents per pkt.

Comment —

A few months ago we offered the above but, because they were described as semperflodens, they were turned down. (To many begonia growers, semperflorens is a naughty word.) We held the seed for more than two months, wondering what to do with it, when the Warricks called from Seattle and requested the seed, which was sent to him immediately. They had seen some of the plants that had been grown from 'Prince Charming' seed and thought they were outstanding.

When this information appeared later in *The Begonian*, a situation developed — mostly from the members in eastern states, who complained that they were not being given a chance to purchase seeds and the Seed Fund was favoring California members. Now this is far from being true and we wish to settle this once and for all. California members have access to many nurseries and begonia specialists where growing plants in all the popular varieties may be purchased for a nominal fee. Therefore, very few buy seed. In the case of the above-mentioned, no one wanted the seed or was willing to try it un-

til it proved to be something special.

The sad situation is that there is just not enough seed to supply the demand, and it will not improve unless some of the members who have the plants and the know-how come forward with a little assistance. I can not do it all alone and must depend on the few who are willing to contribute seed when possible.

In past years we have obtained seeds from several foreign countries, but now, because of various conditions, this has been changed and most of the time our letters are not answered. If the Seed Fund is to remain active, A.B.S. members will have to come forward with seed.

No. 3 — B. 'Peony-flowered' —

This is another semperflorens type developed by our friend in Australia. There is not much information at present, but we hope to have something definite in the very near future. 35 cents per pkt.

No. 4 — B. Brazil species —

Not identified. Heavy grower, branching at the base, short branches along the stalk. Male flowers are heavily hairy and beautiful. Leaves large to 12 inches, white, hairy. 25 cents per pkt.

No. 5 — B. 'Credneri' —

(*B. scharffi* x *B. metallica*) Syn. B. 'Hairy Thurstoni'. Medium, bushy; leaves ovate-pointed, olive-green, soft white-hairy, red beneath. Flowers large, pink, pink-bearded without. 25 cents per pkt.

No. 6 — B. *Tuberosa floribunda* mixed —

A new and very choice development produced by crossing the giant double with the multiflora class. Large double flowers on thrifty plants bloom profusely in beds or in pots. 25 cents per pkt.

No. 7 — B. 'Galaxy' —

F1 hybrid semperflorens. Dark bronze leaves on each of the several varieties give depth and contrast to

the individual pot plant or when planted in the open garden. Uniform, free-flowering, dome-shaped, six-inch plants. 35 cents per pkt.

No. 8 — *B. schmidiana* —

Brazil. Branching plant, with small, hairy, green leaves, red-lined at the indented veins, red below. Continuous bloomer, pale pink flowers. Good basket plant. 25 cents per pkt.

No. 9 — *B. 'Derby'* —

Heterosis semperflorens. New from Germany. Produces salmon-rose flowers, green foliage. Was given award last summer at the International Horticultural Show in Hamburg, Germany. 35 cents per pkt.

No. 10 — *B. 'Gin'* —

Heterosis semperflorens. New from Germany. Also received award at Hamburg. Produces dark rose flowers, bronze foliage. 35 cents per pkt.

No. 11 — *B. 'Wiskey'* —

Heterosis semperflorens. New from Germany. Also received award at Hamburg. Produces white flowers, bronze foliage. 35 cents per pkt.

(The names of the last three begonias listed above are those given by the originator).

No. 12 — *B. 'Ball Deep Rose'* —

In winter the color is a deep rosy red, which gradually fades to a luminous pink during warm weather. Fine bedding or pot plants. Outstanding. 35 cents per pkt.

CLOSE-OUT SALE

Each year we try to offer a seed bargain sale for members who like to grow plants for garden clubs or to increase their own collection. This is a wonderful opportunity to grow choice plants at a very small price. All are grown easily and will afford much pleasure to those who grow them.

✓ No. 1 — *B. popenoei* — Rhizomatous type.

No. 2 — *B. rotundifolia* — Small, rhizomatous.

✓ No. 3 — *B. bartonea* — syn. *B. 'Winter Jewel'*. Small.

✓ No. 4 — *B. metallica* — Medium, cane type.

No. 5 — *B. boliviensis*—Tuberous, outdoor type. Unusual blooms; orange-red

No. 6 — *B. 'Rossi'* — Cane type, with large cluster of red blooms.

✓ No. 7 — *B. epipsila* — Good basket type.

No. 8 — *B.* Cane type — Spotted leaves; pink flowers.

✓ No. 9 — *B.* Rhizomatous — Mixed. Many good rhizomatous types.

✓ No. 10 — *B. pustulata* — Choice, rhizomatous.

✓ No. 11 — *B. kenworthyi* — Choice begonia, with ivy, gray-green leaves.

No. 12 — *B. 'Chocolate Soldier'* — Medium growth. Chocolate-spotted leaves.

No. 13 — *B. 'Cinderella'* — Semperflorens, with large, double, fluffy centers.

No. 14 — *B. echinosepala* — Small leaves; white flowers.

No. 15 — *B. leptotricha* — Brown fuzz on shiny green leaves; white flowers.

No. 16 — *B.* Brazil species.

✓ No. 17 — *Gloxinia* — Mixed colors.

✓ No. 18 — *Coleus* — All the popular color combinations.

No. 19 — *Kalanchoe* — Orange flowers.

✓ No. 20 — *B. 'Lucerna'* — Cane type; pink flowers.

Price: All twenty packets for \$2.00. Select any ten for \$1.00. Please do not request fewer than ten packets.

Comment from New York:

"Instructions for planting begonia seeds usually say something about being patient in waiting for germination, but they never say how patient. *B. cathayana* seed planted January 12, 1963, had not germinated by the middle of April, so I ordered another packet on April 21. The first packet

started germinating about June 15, about five months after planting. Because of the rush of business and sickness, I did not get the second packet planted until August 9. Those started germinating October 25.

"*B. froebeli*, planted at the same time, germinated October 5. *Kohleria lindeniana*, planted March 30, showed up on May 7, but most of them were not visible until June 10. Until this summer, I did not realize that one had to be that patient."

Comment from South Australia:

"I am having a good deal of success with seed you have sent me and I am most grateful to the Seed Fund. This is the only way I can increase my collection. I get terrific satisfaction from growing plants from seeds, plants that I cannot buy in this country. I think that nothing could keep our interest and enthusiasm alive more than adding to our collection by this method."

MRS. FLORENCE GEE,
Seed Fund Administrator,
234 Birch Street,
Roseville, California, 95678.

PROPAGATION . . .

(Continued from Page 45)

in damp zonalite (not wet), covered the container with plastic, and then placed under a Gro-Lux lamp. In forty-five days they had grown good root systems and had sent up plants three inches high.

When I wish to root African violet leaves, I cut them, let them stand until the cuts are healed over, and then I proceed exactly as I did with the rex begonia leaves. Woody cuttings from such plants as camellia, gardenia, azalia, and others take a longer time to root. I dip the cut ends of these in a hormone rooting powder, such as Rootone, then place them in a pot of rooting medium, cover them with a plastic bag, and forget them for a while.

Then there is another method, which I use for geranium cuttings.

Take the cuttings, let them stand two to four hours, dip them in a hormone rooting powder, and put them in a three-inch pot containing a light porous potting soil. I treat them exactly as I would a small geranium plant in a small pot, and keep them not too wet or too dry.

Caring for and growing plants is not unlike caring for an infant. Do all you can to insure comfort and happiness; then wait, and be very patient. To me, growing plants from cuttings is a fascinating and rewarding experience.

THRUSH . . .

(Continued from Page 44)

steadily throughout the year — luscious, rich, rose-pink, a lovely color to complement the rest of the plant. The male blossoms open with two large, two small, petals, and a fluffy ball of yellow stamens. The females are all-over pink, five-petalled, with a prominent deep yellow pistillate structure. The pedicels are long, erect, emerging from behind the leaves.

'Thrush' grows and blossoms well in sunny south, east, or west windows. I plant it in the same soil mix as all the rest of my begonias. It roots quickly from cuttings, or pieces of rhizome. I have not tried reproducing from a leaf as the abundance of growth provides a plentiful supply of material for propagation. The plant, when cut back quickly, puts out new growth from the base. It is vigorous, sturdy, and requires no special conditions of care. It is the sort of plant you can give to almost anyone with the assurance that it will perform satisfactorily for him.

Best of all, 'Thrush' is beautiful, and completely feminine.

PATRONIZE BEGONIAN
ADVERTISERS

Bumblin' Along With

From Mrs. A.R.C. of P.P., California:

"I have a Rex which keeps getting flower spikes on it but the blossoms rot off. The leaves do not rot. What could be wrong?"

Dear Mrs. A.R.C.: In *Die Begonien*, by Karl Albert Fotsch, I find: "The cause of this disease (falling off of flowers) is considered to be too much dryness. The leaves evaporate more water than the roots can supply; consequently the petals die during the period of growth before the flowers have fully developed."

Further comments on 'Queen Anne's Lace', from E. F. of Merchantville, New Jersey:

"In the December issue of *The Begonian* you stated that Mrs. Iola Hall advised that the pink 'Queen Anne's Lace' was probably Pink Yarrow. I think this is incorrect. Yarrow belongs to the *Achillea* family, and 'Queen Anne's Lace' to the *Carrot* or *Umbelliferae* family. They are in no way related nor do they resemble each other in any way. There is a pink 'Queen Anne's Lace' which is grown in some of the meadows here in the east. It is wild and not obtainable from seed firms. I do not know if it will come true from seed, not having tried it. The shade of pink is very light, almost lavender, not reddish as in Yarrow. I am inclined to believe that the earth it is found in may have something to do with the color."

Thank you, E. F., for your comments. They are greatly appreciated.

H. E. C. of Orange, California asks:

"I have a problem I would like answered. I raise rex begonias, mostly seedlings. I have several hundred in all sizes. When they go dormant, I

set them aside, keeping them on the dry side. After a rest, I put them out to start again. Upon examining them, I find that many have developed a dry rot, some of them on just the end, and many clear down to the roots. I pinch off the rotted end, dust it, put a glass jar on it, and many will be O.K.

"I have been told this starts from a fungus. I compost the used soil, mixing it with leaf mold, fertilizer, etc., and age it for some time. Leaf mold develops a form of fungus in its rotting process. Could this be the cause? I have several dozen I have potted in sphagnum moss only — no soil — just experimenting. So far, I like the looks of the plants in moss. Could this be the answer? What am I doing wrong? What would you suggest?"

Dear Mr. H. E. C.: It is my belief that most rex growers have this problem. I know that I do. Under ideal conditions, rexes are grown easily — but to provide the ideal conditions all twelve months of the year is extremely difficult. I have spent a great deal of time reading on your problem, but no authority that I have access to states a direct answer to your question.

Rot is caused by fungus and bacteria. Most authorities agree that it starts when conditions are too hot, humid, and moist. It would seem then that perhaps this fungus growth had a chance to start a little before the plant was started on its rest period.

It is perhaps the most difficult time of all times to determine what is best for our rexes when their dormancy begins. For one thing, all rexes do not go dormant at the same

time. In *Les Begonias*, Charles Chevalier tells us of the various crosses and their desire to go dormant, but states that the cross of B. Rex x discolor grows well all year under proper conditions. Also, he states that B. Rex x subpeltata is much more tender than other crosses and much more subject to rot. Since we do not know the parentage of most of our rexes, it is difficult to determine just what the proper care is for each individual plant, except by experimenting, ourselves.

I had an opportunity to discuss your problem with a member who has had many years' experience as a nursery grower. She states that she has had this problem as well as the rest of us. However, her general care of rexes is always to cut away at least half of the old root systems when repotting, breaking away old rhizomes, and planting the rhizomes deeper into the soil than they had been at the previous planting. She felt that by continually cutting away older and perhaps weaker parts of the plants, she had less trouble with rot.

Of course, we all know that the healthier the plant, the less subject to rot it will be at the time of dormancy. Plants which are not at the height of their growth might be segregated and watched more closely — also a light dusting of the rhizome might help to correct the situation.

Authorities also state that too much nitrogen feeding causes lush growth with such a watery stem that it is much more subject to rot. This might also be a contributing factor. This suggests that, in our feeding of rexes, as we approach the dormant season our food should contain less nitrogen than in the springtime.

With a rare rex or one which you are particularly fond of, it would be advisable to make leaf cuttings when your rex is at its prime and start young plants, so that you will not

lose them should the parent plant die.

I have printed your letter in its entirety because I am certain it is of universal interest — especially your method of saving a goodly portion of your rexes in which rot has started but has not completely destroyed the plants. This may benefit others in saving a percentage rather than assigning them all to the trash barrel.

One thing I note is that you compost the "used" soil. Unless you sterilize this used soil completely, I do not feel that it is wise to use it. Many of our troubles remain in the soil to be passed along, and the ability of these pests to live over long periods and through all conditions makes it very probable that they might be in your soil when you plant anew. Leaf mold is a great trouble source if it is not sterilized, and this could contribute to your trouble.

I note that you are trying sphagnum moss as a planting medium and that you already like the results. As you probably read in a previous column, we have a member in Australia who used sphagnum moss on a good portion of his plants with wonderful results, especially *B. paulensis* and *B. goegoensis*. Please let us know later what your results are using sphagnum — just don't forget that there is no natural food in sphagnum and the plant must be fed. Please write to us again.

Mrs. A.W.S. of Medford, New Jersey, asks:

"I am very much interested in finding out all about *B. serratipetala*. Will you advise me where I can look up information covering this begonia — its parents, offspring, etc.?"

Dear Mrs. A. W. S: I have checked through my reference material and find that it is listed in *Buxton's Check List* as a species, having been found in New Guinea in 1913. Bernice Brilmayer also lists it as a species found in New Guinea. It is

pictured and described in *Exotica III*.

Several months ago I received an inquiry from a member, asking about growing conditions for this begonia. He had purchased his plant from the east and had been advised that it should be kept on the cool side and he thought it came from Australia. However, since it is a species from New Guinea, it would seem advisable to keep it in more tropical conditions unless, of course, it was found growing on one of the high points of the island. This member was having difficulty in growing his, having the leaves drop off. He found that he could start a cutting but that it would not live long. Checking back with the nursery he found that it, too, was having difficulty with the plant. It may be that it has a dormant period and loses its leaves as our canes do.

Our member went on to state that it resembled 'Argentea-guttata' and this, at least for me, drops its leaves quite badly during the winter months.

Just recently I learned that Mr. Herb Warrick of Seattle has been growing this begonia successfully for some time — so successfully, in fact, that he has been able to give slips to friends and they, too, have been growing them successfully. I have forwarded your question to Mr. Warrick and have asked him if he would pass on information as to his methods of growing this begonia. From all reports, it is worth every effort to grow.

Mrs. J. L. of Orem, Utah, asks:

"I would like to know — does shipping packets of seed during the winter months to freezing climates affect begonia seed? I am anxious to grow more begonias from seed, and would like to get started right away."

Dear Mrs. J. L.: I have been unable to locate any written authority that states that freezing affects seed in any way. I have checked with several local growers and all are of

the opinion that freezing would not harm seed. I did find one reference that stated seed did not germinate in a particular instance and, in listing possible reasons, they did state that the seed might have been kept too long in extreme cold.

However, I am of the opinion that there is very little to worry about in having seed sent during the winter months — even in cold climates. From our Seed Fund you will receive your seed nicely done up into individual packets, and the packets covered with a good layer of cotton, then placed in another small envelope, and then in the mailing envelope. With all this insulation, I am certain they could withstand anything except extremely rough handling.

Good luck in your seed planting.

This department has one purpose — to help all members, whatever your problems, wherever you live. Write to:

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AT NURSERIES AND GARDEN STORES

AFRICAN VIOLET SHOW APRIL 10 AND 11

"Jewels of California" will be the theme of the tenth annual African Violet Show which will open to the public on April 10 and 11 at the Professional Women's Clubhouse, 820 Java Street, one block east of South La Brea near Arbor Vitae Street, in Inglewood. The event will be sponsored by the African Violet Society of Inglewood.

African violets introduced by California hybridizers will be featured. There will also be a new classification for 1962 and 1963 varieties, in addition to the regular 39 classifications. Outstanding plants, chosen for perfection of form and color of blooms, will be exhibited.

Prize-winning plants will receive trophies, including *Sweepstakes*, Queen of the Show, Princess of the Show, Council Award, and Novice Award. A trophy will also be given for the best African violet exhibited by a member who grows fewer than twenty-five plants in the home.

There will be a good selection of plants on sale, as well as pots, fertilizers, soil mixes, insecticides, and other supplies.

A snack bar will offer homemade refreshments.

Mrs. Dorothy Powell, show chairman, is in charge of show preparations.

The show will be open Friday from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission will be 35 cents.

MARIE PETERSON
Publicity Chairman

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PLAN EARLIER DELIVERY

In response to many requests, I will try to have *The Begonian* ready for mailing earlier each month. To do this, I must have your co-operation.

All material to be published — articles, notices, pictures, etc. — should be in my hands by the first of the month preceding month of issue. For example, by April first I should have all material for the May magazine. When it is not possible to meet this deadline, a few special items can be accepted as late as the fifth, but no later.

—Editor.

PATRONIZE BEGONIAN ADVERTISERS

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LIFELINE OF THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

By RUBY MAE BUDD

After learning recently that more than half of the members of the American Begonia Society are members-at-large, this fact got me to thinking. Many of these members-at-large are begonia lovers who live in rural areas throughout the country, who never have the opportunity to hear the speakers that are heard by members in the various Branches of the Society. They want to learn about the culture, seed growing, hybridizing, and care of begonias and shade plants, but they must depend on the only source of information that is available to them as members — monthly issues of *The Begonian*.

I urge all of you to sit down and write about your begonias or other shade plants. Tell our Editor, Tru Peterson, about your favorites and how you grow them. Don't think that you can't write. Just put your thoughts down and the Editor will rewrite them for publication. The feeling of satisfaction that you will have and the praise from your fellow-members will more than compensate for the little time it takes to write an article.

The officers of the American Begonia Society who consent to work for the interests of the Society need help from all members to make the magazine a better publication; so that it will be full of valuable information each month, and members will tell their friends about it, and they, too, will want to become members.

All the officers of the A.B.S. are important and the Society could not exist without each one — but, in my estimation, the Lifeline of the whole organization is the Editor.

Support our Editor. Good editors are hard to find, especially when they are doing all this work on a very small expense account, donating many hours and days of their time.

To all members all over the country — north, south, east, and west — let's all do our share for a better and bigger *Begonian*. Let's smother our Editor with articles and let him know that the members appreciate his efforts.

WINDOW SILL BESTS . . .

(Continued from Page 50)

with envy. There were so many good window sill bests.

Our lesson, planned by Elsa Fort, was on the subject, "Food of Plants". We learned about the amazing uses of green leaves and how they provide the food for their own plants — and not only for their own plants but for other plants and for animals, including ourselves.

Snowflakes were beginning to fall, so we rewrapped our begonias to insure no penetration of cold, and hurried home through the snow.

As I entered my home, a rush of warm air greeted me. How cozy and comfortable it seemed! I deposited 'Silver Star' back on its window sill, and could not help giving a loving touch to all the begonias as they and I gazed out on the snow-white world.

The flowering *semperflorens* and Christmas begonias, with their beautiful colors, seemed to smile up at me. I smiled back happily.

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ROUND ROBIN . . .

(Continued from Page 43)

enviroments, ideas for propagation, hybridizing, etc. To get this wonderful information into *The Begonian* would be a master stroke because then it would be available to everyone.

Accordingly, our President has asked that all flights be routed through the Research Director and the Round Robin Director. Then the interesting items of information and the questions can be studied and the results forwarded to our Editor for inclusion in the appropriate Research and Round Robin columns in *The Begonian*. You will be notified when an item from you is selected for publication. We know you will be proud when you see it in print.

Let's all try out this splendid program. You get so much for so little cost. The postage on your flight of letters is usually 15 or 20 cents for each cycle. Of course, as members of each flight get better acquainted, the letters get longer and pictures and seeds creep into the packages and the postage sometimes climbs to 30 to 40 cents per cycle. However, since it takes about three months for a flight to reach everyone on its list, the cost per month is a mere pittance compared to the value of the wonderful things that you learn.

Try it once and you will bless that old A.B.S. You will look forward to the return of every flight. You will

read all of the letters eagerly, remove your old letters and add your new ones, then send the packages on again. You will sigh and smile, and wish that you could actually visit your Round Robin friends as easily as your letter does.

HERBERT H. WARRICK
Round Robin Director
6543 26th Avenue, N. E.
Seattle, Washington, 98115.

NEWSLETTERS HELP

Since last September, I have received newsletters and bulletins from nine Branches of the American Begonia Society, giving information about their activities, to be included in the history of the Society. These Branches are: Glendale, Inglewood, Knickerbocker, Orange County, Sacramento, San Gabriel, San Francisco, Seattle, and Westchester.

I want to thank these Branches for their co-operation, with the hope that they will continue and other Branches will send their bulletins or letters telling of their affairs.

RUTH PEASE,
A. B. S. Historian

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DO WE WANT A BETTER BEGONIAN?

Of course we do. It is the backbone of our society. It is essential if we wish to continue our organization.

We want a better *Begonian*, one that we can look forward to receiving each month. But, as you read in last month's issue, we are operating at a loss, and this cannot continue for long.

We must continue our Society.

We must have a better *Begonian*.

We must have \$4.00 membership dues.

Let us support this proposal for \$4.00 membership dues.

Watch for a ballot soon in *The Begonian*. Then vote.

—HOWARD SMALL,
Vice-President.

TUBEROUS BEGONIAS . . .

(Continued from Page 47)

hollow in the top exposed so you can see that no water collects there. This is what rots your bulbs before they get a chance to grow — and only leaf mold drains well enough so the entire bulbs can be buried in it.

If a feathery mold appears on your flat, this is because of too much watering or not enough air circulation. This often happens when milk cartons are used and the bulbs are not near enough to the top rims so air can reach them.

If your plants grow up too weak or too pale, you know that they're receiving too much heat or not enough light or both. Sometimes one will seem to go completely out of control and you find yourself looking at a twelve-inch spindly stalk that you know will never make a pretty plant. You can cut this back and it will grow out bushy and attractive, but, of course, blooms will be delayed and this plant will be a month or so behind the others.

At this stage, we don't feed our begonias. We just watch the bulbs come to life with fascination, as we

know you will do, once you start them growing. When the plants have two or three leaves, they should be transplanted to a regular growing soil and held for transplanting to their permanent location when the weather is warm enough.

But until then, learn how different each begonia can be. Bulbs of the same size will grow at different rates of speed — have leaves of individual character. In fact, you'll find that tuberous begonias are about as human as any plants can be — no two alike.

About the author: Alta Westover is a member of the Seattle Branch of the A.B.S. and editor of "Begonia Chatter", monthly bulletin of that group. She and her husband, Don, operate the Westover Greenhouse, which specializes in begonias and fuchsias. What she writes is based on experience.

—Editor.

IN MEMORIAM

C. B. (Doc) Houghton of Long Beach, California, passed away February 10, 1964. A horticulturist, consultant, and lecturer for many years, his talks at meetings of A.B.S. Branches and other groups were always full of life, being enlightening as well as entertaining.

He will be missed by his many friends in the A.B.S.

* * *

Will the many members and friends in the American Begonia Society accept my deepest thanks for the many messages and thoughts of hope and cheer sent to my dear husband during his last illness.

—MINNIE C. HOUGHTON.

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REPORT OF NATIONAL BOARD MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the National Board of the American Begonia Society was called to order by the President, Mrs. Terry Olmsted, at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, January 27, 1964. Twenty seven members of the Board answered roll call.

The President announced the resignation of Mrs. Leona Cooper because of illness. Earle Budd was appointed to fill the term of the office of Treasurer.

Clarence Hall resigned as Round Robin Director because of other commitments, and Herbert H. Warrick, of Seattle, Washington, accepted appointment to this office.

The Treasurer, Earle, Budd, read the financial report, which showed a balance of \$694.64.

The Advertising Manager, Ruby Budd, reported receipts of \$115.80 and accounts receivable of \$124.50.

The Membership Secretary, Daisy Austin, reported 372 new and renewal memberships from November 18 to January 18.

Mrs. Edna Korts displayed a bound volume of *Begonians*, a sample from a bindery which has submitted a price of \$2.00 per volume to bind the books in lots of fifty or more. Each volume will consist of twelve issues. On motion made by Carl Naumann, Mrs. Korts was authorized to order fifty volumes bound at this price.

Mrs. Korts turned over to the Treasurer a check for \$80.54, which she had received from Sweden for a complete set of bound *Begonians*.

The revolving fund for convention use was originally \$500, with \$25.00 to be added annually. On a motion by Bert Slatter, Show Chairman, \$25.00 was added to the fund for this year and an additional \$25.00 for last year. This convention fund is kept in a separate account.

Howard Small, Vice-President, moved that the American Begonia Society renew membership in the California Arboretum Foundation, and this motion was approved.

Carl Naumann, Past President, reported that the convention books had been audited and found to be correct.

President Terry Olmsted announced that a committee of five persons had investigated the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum in Arcadia as a possible site for the 1964 convention and show. Acting on a motion by Howard Small, the Board voted that the convention and show be held at this site if, in the opinion of the committee of five persons plus the Show Chairman, it is found to be suitable.

Mrs. Elsie Joyce, for the Glendale Branch, invited the Board to meet in the Glendale

Federal Savings Building on Sunday, July 26, at 1:30 p.m., for a regional meeting. The invitation was accepted.

Branches answering roll call were: Glendale, Inglewood, Long Beach Parent Chapter, North Long Beach, Orange County, San Gabriel Valley, Westchester, and Whittier.

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

PEGGY McGRATH,
Secretary.

CALENDAR

March 5 — Whittier Branch: Mrs. Mabel Gutridge, of Los Angeles, will give the do's and don't of growing newly-started African violets into beautiful, healthy, blooming plants. The public is invited.

March 7-15 — 47th International Flower Show, New York Coliseum.

March 12 — Orange County Branch: Tony Todaro, one of our members who has beautiful plants, will talk on "Grooming Begonias for Show Plants".

March 13 — San Gabriel Valley Branch: James Griffin, of the Ornamental Horticulture Department of California State Polytechnic College, will speak on the subject, "Plant Life in Hawaii", illustrating his talk with colored slides. In main lecture hall of the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum.

March 14-22 — New England Spring Flower Show, sponsored by Massachusetts Horticultural Society Wonderland Park, Revere.

March 25 — Glendale Branch: Jean Kerlin, of Altadena, will speak on "Begonias".

April 7 — Inglewood Branch: Annual Presidents Dinner — food by Knott's Berry Farm — \$2.75 per person. Guest speaker will be Maria Wilkes.

April 9 — Orange County Branch: Dorothy Behrends will be the guest speaker, on "Bromeliads and Other Shade Plants".

April 10-11 — African Violet Show, 820 Java Street, Inglewood, Calif.

Branch Directory

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AT THESE MEETINGS

BRITISH BRANCH

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

BUXTON, BESSIE RAYMOND BRANCH

3rd Saturday, Homes of Members
Mrs. Daniel L. Comiskey, Secy.
64 High Rock St., Needham, Mass., 02192

DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS BRANCH

3rd Monday, 10 a.m., Member's Homes
Mrs. George Wilkins, Secy.
3625 N. Fitzhugh St., Dallas, 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
Daisy Morrow, Secy.
2821 Musgrove Ave., El Monte, Calif.

FOOTHILL BRANCH

3rd Thursday, 8:00 p.m.
La Verne Community Bldg.
2039 Third St., La Verne
Mrs. Isabel A. Hall, Secy.
358 E. Arrow Hwy., Upland, 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
Mrs. Ethel Arbuckle, Secy.
5932 Seville Ave., Huntington Park, Calif.

GRAY, EVA KENWORTHY BRANCH

2nd Saturday, 1:30 p.m. (except Dec. & Jan.)
Seacoast Hall, 3rd and E St., Encinitas, Calif.
Mrs. Alice E. Roberts, Secy.
523 Hermes Ave., Encinitas, 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 Belsler, Corr. Secy.
Welsh and Veree Rd., Philadelphia, Pa.

HOLLYWOOD BRANCH

Meetings temporarily suspended.
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.
12601 Broken Bough, Memorial Station
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

1st Tuesday, 7:45 p.m., American Legion Hall
3208 West 85th St., Inglewood, Calif.
Mrs. Frances Jean, Secy.
8212 Reading Ave., Los Angeles 45, Calif.

KNICKERBOCKER BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Library, Horticultural Society of N.Y.
157 West 58th St., New York
Mrs. Phyllis Cherot, Secy.
115-44 194th St.,
St. Albans 12, N. Y.

LONG BEACH PARENT CHAPTER

3rd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Linden Hall
208 Linden Ave., Long Beach, Calif.
Mrs. Mabel Gage, Secy.
3214 Delmar Ave., Long Beach 7, Calif.

LOUISIANA CAPITAL BRANCH

1st Friday, Capitol Room
1701 Main St., Baton Rouge
Mrs. Elaine Wilkerson, Secy.
5764 Robertson Ave., Baton Rouge 5, 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, 11 a.m.
Member's Homes
Kansas City, Mo.
Miss Nina Austin, Secy.
1104 Askew St., Kansas City 27, Mo.

NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH

3rd Friday, 7:30 p.m.
3901 Atlantic Ave., Long Beach
Mrs. Rebecca Anthony, Secy.
153 Ellis St., Long Beach, Calif.

ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Garden Grove Grange Hall, Century and Taft Sts.
Garden Grove, Calif.
Jack N. Schumann, Secy.
13382 Laux Circle, Garden Grove, Calif.

PASADENA BRANCH

Meetings on Call, Homes of Members
Col. C. M. Gale, Secy.
2176 N. Roosevelt Ave., Altadena, Calif.

PHILOBEGONIA BRANCH

2nd Friday, Members' Homes
Mrs. Anne W. Stiles, Secy.
R.D. No. 2, Box 43B, E. Delaware Trail,
Medford, N. J.

REDONDO AREA BRANCH

4th Friday each Month
Lincoln School Recreation Center
Ernest and Vail Sts., Redondo Beach, Calif.
Mrs. Margaret Buell, Secy.
1441 - 21st St., Manhattan Beach, Calif.

RHODE ISLAND BRANCH

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

RIVERSIDE BRANCH

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

ROBINSON, ALFRED D. BRANCH

3rd Friday, 10:30 a.m., Homes of Members
 Constance D. Bower, Corr. Secy.
 1609 W. Lewis St., San Diego 3, Calif.

SACRAMENTO BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, 8:00 p.m., Garden Center
 3300 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento, Calif.
 Elmer A. Thomas, Secy.
 913 Sonoma Way, Sacramento 22, Calif.

SAN DIEGO BRANCH

4th Monday, Barbour Hall
 2717 University Ave., San Diego
 Leah Jones, Secy.
 3734 - 40th St., San Diego 5, Calif.

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH

1st Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.
 Garden Center, Golden Gate Park
 9th Ave. and Lincoln Way
 Lillian A. Beach, Secy.
 3006 Castro St., San Francisco 12, Calif.

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH

2nd Friday, 8:00 p.m.
 Los Angeles State and County Arboretum
 501 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, Calif.
 Mrs. William (Polly) Eilau, Secy.
 469 West Norman St., Arcadia, Calif.

SAN MIGUEL BRANCH

1st Wednesday, Youth Center, Lemon Grove, Calif.
 Mrs. Lucille Williams, Secy.
 1261 Concord St., El Cajon, Calif.

SANTA BARBARA BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 8:00 p.m.
 Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History
 2559 Puesta Del Sol
 Elnora Schmidt, Secy.
 3346 Calle Cita, Santa Barbara, Calif.

SEATTLE BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, 7:45 p.m.
 Loyal Heights Field House,
 21st Ave., N. W. and N. W. 77th St.
 Mrs. Janice W. Barnette, Secy.
 2735 N. E. 53rd St., Seattle, Wash., 98105.

SHEPHERD, THEODOSIA BURR BRANCH

1st Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
 Alice Barlett, C.H., 902 E. Main, Ventura, Calif.
 Mrs. Clermont Morris, Secy.
 538 Jones St., Ventura, Calif.

SMOKY VALLEY RANCH

3rd Thursday of each Month
 Mrs. Lyle L. Melvin, Secy.
 833 E. Jewell Avenue, Salina, Kansas

SOUTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY BRANCH

3rd Thursday, 8:00 p.m.
 Lorenzo Manor School
 18250 Bengal Ave., Hayward, Calif.
 Jack Dunaway, Secy.
 1650 Plaza Dr., San Leandro, Calif.

TALL CORN STATE BRANCH

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

TARRANT COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Monday, 10:00 a.m.
 Members' Homes
 Mrs. F. E. Mahler, Secy.
 1815 Sixth Ave., Fort Worth, Texas

TEXAS STATE BRANCH

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

TEXASTAR BRANCH

3rd Thursday, 10 a.m., Garden Center
 1500 Herman Dr., Houston, Texas
 Mrs. J. L. Linkenhover, Secy.
 11310 Holiday Way,
 Houston, Texas, 77024

WESTCHESTER BRANCH

1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Westchester Women's Club
 8020 Alverston St., Los Angeles, Calif.
 Mrs. Walter W. Pease, Jr., Secy.
 8101 Vicksburg Ave., Los Angeles 45, 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. Ernest C. Drew, Secy.
 635 Moreno Rd., Narberth, Pa.



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