

# *The Begonian*

DEVOTED TO THE SHELTERED GARDENS

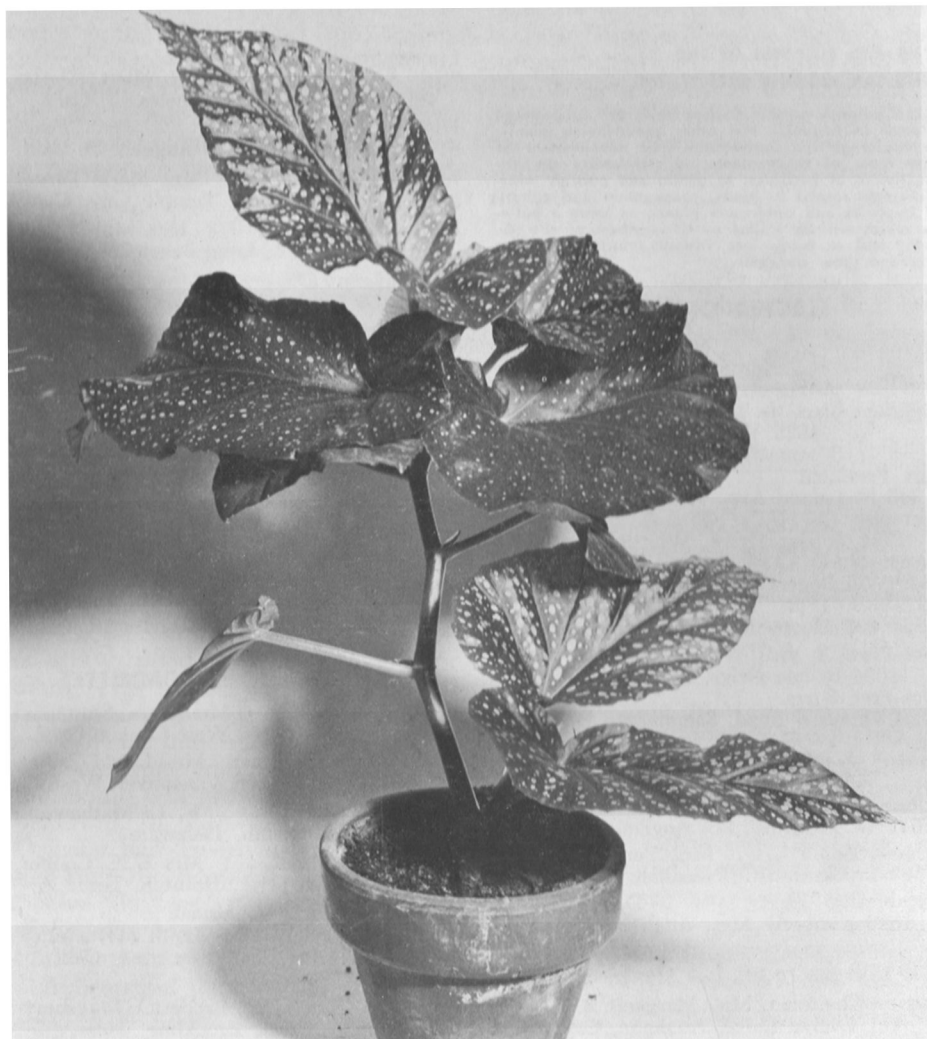
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## AIMS AND PURPOSES OF THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY, INC.

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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# BEGONIA CULTURE IN THE LOWER SOUTH

By FRANCES REID SENTER  
New Orleans, Louisiana

There are many problems confronting the growing of begonias in the deep South. This seems strange, since we have such high humidity and temperatures.

Certain types — the semperflorens, cane and heracleifolia — do well in selected locations. Others, the rhizomatous and rexes, must have extraordinary care to survive. The semperflorens and cane types grow magnificently in the open ground from March through October. They do best in semi-shade. These, regardless of variety, are locally called "wax begonias" and "angel wings". Before the first of November they should be potted up.

If they have grown too large for this, cuttings should be made for spring planting. A nice way to handle the semperflorens is to take the cuttings and arrange them in containers. Do not have the water more than one or two inches in depth. These will be attractive in the house for several weeks. When they begin to look unattractive, they will have developed good roots. These can then be potted up for spring planting.

The rhizomatous can also be grown in the open ground. In October, these should have a deep mulch of oak leaves, pine straw, shredded bagasse or straw, piled up twelve inches or more. The leaves will be killed by frost. About the first of March, pull most of this mulch away. New shoots will soon start coming up. Each year the clump will grow larger and more beautiful. In the winter of '62, New Orleans had freeze after freeze. At one time the temperature dropped to twelve degrees. Four large clumps of *Begonia heracleifolia* came through undamaged.

A beautiful plant of *Begonia* 'Erythrophylla Feasti' fell victim to the cold. This was not mulched, but was protected by a plastic tent. This was

ineffective. All begonias in this bed were lost including three year-old semperflorens and two *Begonia heracleifolia*.

Rex begonias can be grown in this climate, but they demand utmost care. In the winter greenhouse, they respond to the usual recommended care of warmth and humidity. By the middle of June, they must be placed beneath the benches in the greenhouses. Some will come through the summer this way, but many will be lost. A better way is to place them on a low table on the north side of the house. Protection from strong winds is necessary. They must be misted twice a day and the ground beneath the table dampened.

*Begonia* Rex 'Cleopatra' and *Begonia* 'Iron Cross' do especially well in this area. The beautiful Rex begonias offer a challenge to gardeners of the Gulf section. As we learn more of their likes and dislikes, we will be able to have more of these exquisite plants about us.

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## BEGONIA BOOSTED AS NATIONAL FLOWER

Should the United States Congress and the President designate a National Flower Emblem and, if so, what should it be?

This burning question was debated at a flower symposium conducted in connection with the New York International Flower Show, March 10, with Ruth Alampi, garden editor of the National Broadcasting Company, as moderator, and a number of flower champions presenting arguments for their favorites.

Mrs. Howard W. Dengler, Past President of the Knickerbocker Branch of the A.B.S., spoke for the semperflorens begonia.

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# YOUR TUBEROUS BEGONIAS – HOW ARE THEY DOING?

By ALTA WESTOVER  
*Seattle, Washington*

Spring is here. The plants you've been babying in the house should be set out in their permanent beds, and without a doubt – when you think of the brilliant blooms that will brighten your summer – the most important ones are your tuberous begonias. How are they doing? They should be coming along pretty fast by now, asking to be transplanted into more space.

It may be too cold outside for them yet – in some areas, anyway – and maybe you haven't room to keep them inside in pots. But, if their roots are spreading out in the flats, they should be growing in their regular soil mix and they should be transplanted. So, simply transfer them to flats again, this time flats of regular soil mix, and space them sufficiently far apart so they'll have room to grow. If they are too close together, you'll find them shooting upwards and you won't have the sturdy plants you want for your garden.

There are, perhaps, as many formulas for begonia soil as there are begonia growers. The main consideration, however, is the requirements of the plants. They want a soil that's rich and loose – loose enough so their roots can penetrate it easily – a soil with enough humus in it so it will retain moisture.

Like all eager gardeners, we've tried about every mix that came to our attention. Now we're back to the simplest of them all – basically the same mix we used years ago when we planted our first tuberous begonias. It is made up of three parts of leaf mold (or compost), one part of sand, and one part of enriched peat moss. (If desired, dehydrated cow manure can be used in place of the peat moss.) Begonias grow beautifully in this.

You must be careful not to plant them any deeper than they have been growing. We say we don't even "plant" ours; we simply set the growing tubers on the soil, just making sure no roots are exposed. And this applies to putting them in the bed outside, too. Too deep planting causes stem rot.

If you want to grow your begonias in pots all season long, be certain to use pots that are large enough. Seven-inch size is the minimum.

You have already chosen the protected spot where your begonias are to display their beauty. It would be a good idea to treat this bed now with some soil dust to kill chewing insects. Then, when it's warm enough, you can bring out your plants in safety. A week or so before putting them out permanently, if it's possible, set the begonias outside only during the day and bring them in at night. This will harden them off so there will be no danger that they'll suffer a setback when they're placed in their permanent location. If they get morning sun, put shingles (or equivalent) in front of them for the first few days; otherwise, the leaves may burn.

If your location is under trees, their branches should be at least ten feet from the ground, so there will be plenty of air circulation and light.

The begonias should be fifteen inches apart or more, and don't forget that tuberous begonias always bloom the way the leaves point. If you happen to get one in backward, though, don't worry. At any stage of its growth, you can lift the plant gently with a clump of dirt and turn it around, with no harm done.

Watering is important, but it can be overdone. Begonias like to be moist, but not soaking wet. Overhead



watering is OK if the sun doesn't hit the leaves while they're wet. If you use a sprinkler, watch that the blossoms don't become so heavy with water that they break off. Also, when using a sprinkler, watch to make sure sufficient water reaches the roots of the begonias. Sometimes lush foliage deflects the spray.

Your begonias will need feeding during the summer, but adopt a moderate schedule because all growers have a tendency to overfeed these plants. Actually, it's easy to feed begonias, if they're hungry, their leaves turn pale and sort of fold upward — like a cupped hand stretched out for food. If they're getting too much fertilizer, the leaves turn a dark blue-green shade and roll under along the edges. Some growers change in mid-season to a fertilizer using less nitrogen. We use a balanced liquid fertilizer at regular intervals all season long and seldom see either of these extremes in our begonias.

All tuberous begonias should be staked. Stakes have saved many beautiful begonias from destruction by wind, pets, and children. We learned an interesting thing one year. For a while we were having trouble with stem rot right at the bulb line. Our yard receives considerable breeze and, apparently, the constant "rocking" of the big plants damaged the stalks sufficiently to cause stem rot, although the wind wasn't strong enough to break off the plants completely. By staking all our begonias, we eliminated this problem entirely.

Speaking of stem rot — the most common cause of this trouble, next to planting too deeply, is damage done by falling leaves or blossom petals which come to rest against the stalks. Keep your plants clean and you'll find that rot will not start. If you cut leaves or blossoms, leave a couple of inches of stem on the plant. This stub will dry and drop off eventually, without injury to the main stalk, and you have eliminated another danger of damage.

By the way, don't be afraid to trim leaves off your begonias if the foliage is so thick it is hiding buds which are trying to push their way to the light. If you can't tuck an offending leaf behind the blossom, just cut it off so the blossoms will not be hidden.

Use your own judgement about cutting off the single (or female) blooms which appear on either side of the big, handsome, double flower. Many good growers are certain that taking off these single blooms makes the center bloom larger. We haven't been able to prove it. A season of experimenting left us with the conclusion that the bed of begonias with only double blooms was not nearly as colorful as the ones where all the singles were left on. Consequently, we do not take them off, because we like the added color.

Occasionally the petals fall from the single, female bloom, leaving the seed pod. Of course, any time a seed pod starts to mature, the plant does not bloom as much, so we DO remove any seed pods left on the plant. Otherwise, we enjoy the singles along with the magnificent double flowers.

Powdery mildew sometimes attacks tuberous begonias in late summer and fall. This is not the disaster it used to be, because now there are dusts and sprays to control and cure it. Products containing Karathane and Capryl are especially effective. Application when the plants are first set out is a good preventive.

If you don't use precautionary measures, then be sure to watch for signs of this disease and isolate an affected plant right away so it will

*(Continued on Page 107)*

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## COVER PICTURE

'Angel Wing', an upright, branching begonia, grown by Elizabeth Tourgee in Peace Dale, Rhode Island.

—Photo by Edward C. Hanson,  
*The Providence Journal.*

# NOTES ON THE GENUS ANTHURIUM

By ALEX D. HAWKES  
*The Tropical Gardener*

In the April issue of *The Begonian* I published the first of a proposed series of articles on the cultivated aroids, this one entitled "Notes on the Structure of *Philodendron*." The present notes on the equally important genus *Anthurium*, also of the Arum Family (Araceae) are intended to be of the same casual nature, and to serve as a short introduction to a study of this fascinating aggregation.

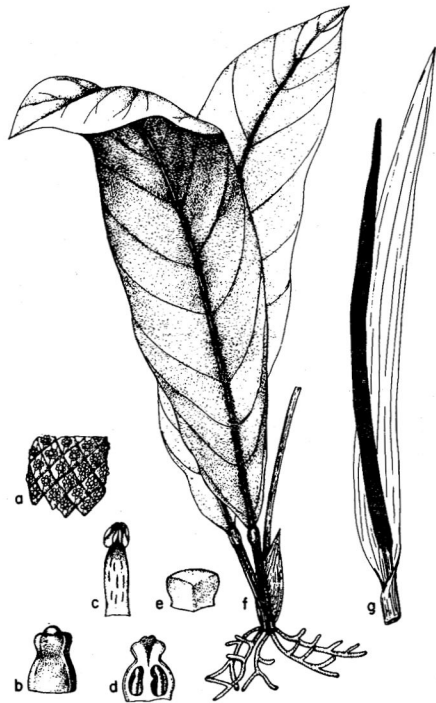
*Anthurium* (pronounced an-thoo-ree-um) is the largest genus of the Araceae, with considerably more than five hundred valid species now being known to science. Exclusively American in its distribution, the component members range from Cuba and Mexico all the way to Argentina, with perhaps the most extensive development occurring in Colombia and Ecuador.

A sizeable number of *Anthurium*s are—or have been in the past—present in cultivation, typically being grown under obscure and generally erroneous horticultural names which have long found favor with collectors, even though they are incorrect. Despite the great contemporary interest in this assemblage of aroids, botanically it stands in a state of confusion—a condition which regrettably prevails throughout virtually the entire Araceae at the present time! A series of impressively handsome hybrids has been made, but here again the precise scientific identity of many of the parents involved is open to doubt.

In their native haunts—most frequently in the lower, warmer, moister sectors of the countries they inhabit—the *Anthurium*s are most often found growing as epiphytes in the trees, where certain of them often take on much the aspects of prodigious "bird's-nests," the clumps of heavy foliage and exuberant roots weighing in certain instances as much as a man. Others, these usually less ponderous,

exhibit a distinct predilection for a moist, humusy soil in the torrid forests, while still others are seldom found anywhere save perched on rock-outcroppings as lithophytes. In certain tropical districts, *Anthurium*s of various species are extremely frequent, in extreme cases breaking off the branches of the trees which the arboreal species inhabit by sheer weight of their numbers.

Doubtless the most common member of the genus *Anthurium* in our gardens and greenhouses today is the Columbian *A. Andraeanum* (an-dray-ah-num), of which literally hundreds of "sports" and interspecific hybrids



*Anthurium crassinervium*. a, Portion of surface of spadix (x 3). b, Pistil (x 5). c, Stamen (x 5). d, Longitudinal section through ovary (x 5). e, Sepal (x 5). f, Habit (x 1/10). g, Flower with spathe and spadix (x 1/4).

are known at this time. This handsome aroid has also been interbred with great casualness with certain allied species, and the hybrid progeny of these *Anthurium* crosses is as a result very confused and typically misidentified in horticulture.

Accompanying this article, my readers will find an attractive illustration, showing one of the commoner of the "foliage-type" members of this genus, *Anthurium crassinervium* (kras-i-ner-vee-um). Some explanation of the figure is necessary for a full understanding of the intricacy of the various parts. The reader should, ideally, compare it with the figure in the last issue of *Philodendron Hoffmannii*. Especial attention should be paid to the structure of the "flower" — correctly the inflorescence — for in certain cases it is very difficult to tell, from cursory examination, whether a given plant in cultivation is an *Anthurium* or a *Philodendron*, without reference to the blossoming structures. Technically, this statement applies to the entire Araceae, since the majority of its component genera are based on divergencies in floral structure.

In our illustration, we see the very widespread *Anthurium crassinervium*. *a* of this figure shows a portion of the surface of the spadix, enlarged some 3 times. *b* shows the pistil of these perfect flowers (to be compared with the illustration of *Philodendron*, noting that the sexual parts of the latter occur separately from one another, a condition which does not prevail in *Anthurium*). *c* is a single stamen, enlarged 5 times. *d* shows a longitudinal section through the ovary, *e* is a sepal of a flower, and *f* shows the general habit of this heavy, robust *Anthurium*, about one-tenth natural dimensions. And, finally, *g* shows the complex flowering structure, with finger-like spadix subtended by the broad spathe, both shown about one-fourth natural size in our illustration.

*Anthurium crassinervium* (the name means "thick-nerved," and even a

moment's glance at the foliage will reveal the origin of this epithet) is among the most widely distributed of all the hundreds of different kinds of the genus, ranging as it does from the southern parts of Mexico and nearby British Honduras throughout Central America and well into the northwestern portions of the South American continent. It is a relatively frequent example of the genus in cultivation, sometimes being seen as *Anthurium Hookeri* or *A. Hugelii*, both of these names being correctly applied to other aroids.

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### NATIONAL FLOWER . . .

(Continued from Page 91)

"The begonia is a good national flower because it's so well known," Mrs. Dengler stated. "Everybody can grow begonias, the semperflorens variety. It's a year-round flower, ever-blooming, and within everyone's pocketbook."

Congress may not choose the begonia — or any other flower — for a national emblem. But through the efforts of Mrs. Dengler, public attention has been focused on begonias in newspaper publicity and television programs that will follow the symposium, promoting increased interest in begonias.

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### NEW LIBRARIAN APPOINTED

Mrs. Muriel Perz has been appointed A.B.S. Librarian, following the resignation of Mrs. Lola Fahey. All correspondence should be sent to:

Mrs. Muriel Perz,  
2141 West 29th Street,  
Long Beach 10, California

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PATRONIZE BEGONIAN  
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# WETTING AGENTS SAVE TIME AND WATER

By PEGGIE SCHULTZ

Have you ever watered a dry spot in the garden or a parched potted plant and wished there was some way to make the water soak in faster? Now there is a way. Science is giving us some substances that help soil absorb water in an unbelievably short time and hold it for a long time. These are called soil wetting agents or detergents.

Two of the fundamental factors in growing a good plant are: 1. The rate at which water displaces itself in the soil. 2. The availability and rate at which water and nutrients are used, evaluated in terms of soil moisture tensions. Detergent-treated soil reduces the surface and interfacial tensions of water. With tensions reduced, there water and nutrients can penetrate and become available, promoting better rooted, denser, and more uniformly healthy plants.

Do not confuse soil wetting agents with laundry detergents. The detergents made for household use may be toxic to plants. Not even all soil wetting agents can be used on all plants. However, I have discovered one non-ionic wetting agent (Aqua-GRO) which I have used on both the tenderest and the toughest plants with good results. Your county agent or your state university may have names of other perfectly safe brands.

This wetting agent is a colorless liquid. Add it to water, and then sprinkle, spray, or pour this solution over the soil before watering. It cuts watering time one-third to one-half. A quart costs less than five dollars and will treat four thousand square feet of soil.

Lawns treated with a wetting agent soak up water readily without puddling or runoff, and take forty per cent less time and water than untreated lawns. The uniform distribution of moisture prevents "hot spot"

accumulation of fertilizers, and promotes better all-around growth.

For compacted, thatched, or contoured lawn or turf areas, the manufacturer recommends eight ounces of wetting agent per one thousand square feet, applied at two-week intervals until good moisture movement and distribution are established. Once you get the soil so it soaks up water well, you can keep it in peak condition with spring and fall applications.

In seeding or sodding your lawn, a wetting agent will speed germination and rooting and help prevent erosion and seed washout. Treat sod after you lay it to make it knit faster.

Some other possible users are: around shrubs and trees, on landscaped banks, under eaves, and in places where mixed soil is in layers to improve water absorption.

The product I use cuts down watering on potted plants and flats filled with seeds or cuttings, even tender kinds like African violets and begonias. It can be mixed with fungicides, herbicides, insecticides, and soluble fertilizers.

For seeding flats or pots, wet the surface of the sterilized soil mixture with a solution of one ounce of soil detergent to one gallon of water an hour before sowing the seed. Water the containers thoroughly after treatment, and if flats or pots are covered with plastic or glass, they rarely need water again until they are ready for transplanting. Germination is usually higher, except for snapdragon seed, which is one annual I have found that should not be treated with Aqua-GRO, because the preparation retards its germination.

Treat rooted cuttings after you transplant them to pots, containers,

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**Knickerbocker Branch Display in International Flower Show.**

## **New York Flower Show Features World's Fair**

*By* DOROTHY DENGLER  
*Past President,  
Knickerbocker Branch, A.B.S.*

"World's Fair of Flowers" was the theme this year for the International Flower Show held March 7 to 15. Once more the Coliseum in New York was an exotic sight for eyes grown weary of seeing leafless trees and gardens bare of flowers. The long winter faded into the past as we saw this vast area covered with lovely gardens.

On the main floor stood a giant sphere — symbol of the fair — towering over an azalea exhibit that was breathtaking in its beauty. Across the path rhododendron made a background for sweet primula in colorful array. A lazy stream trickled over a rock garden, then came to rest in a quiet pool.

A Hawaiian garden with Oriental charm featured a small roadside stand with orchid leis for display. An all-white garden, composed of tulips, azaleas, and stock, had two white peacocks strutting arrogantly in the center, while around the corner sat a vivid parrot under a huge rubber tree.

The third floor was exceptional because of a garden completely made up of various species of heather and a striking display called "New Orleans at Christmas", which even had bright red poinsettias in its midst.

The amateur section, of course, was once more the area where the Knickerbocker Branch of the American Begonia Society had its exhibit. Beautifully staged as a begonia garden by James Wyrzten, it was given a special silver award.

The merit system was used for judging plants entered: Blue — 90-100; Red — 85-89; Yellow — 80-84; Green — 75-79; and White — 70-74. Plants judged over 95 were given an additional Tricolor Award for distinguished merit. One hundred three plants were judged. Many of our members brought plants to enhance our exhibit though not for competition.

Mrs. Margaret Sessa, Branch President, was once more our able show chairman. Her patience and sunny disposition smoothed out the problems encountered. Fourteen large hanging baskets brought much attention from the public viewers, while the dainty semps nestling around the fountains

*(Continued on Page 107)*



**Buxton Branch Display in New England Spring Flower Show.**

## **BUXTON BRANCH EXHIBITS IN SPRING SHOW**

*By MARGARET C. COMISKY  
Needlham, Massachusetts*

From March 14 through March 22, the Bessie Raymond Buxton Branch of the American Begonia Society took part in the annual New England Flower Show sponsored by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society. The general theme of this year's show was "Gardens for Outdoor Living". Within this framework, the begonia group developed, in 350 square feet, a terrace and summer garden featuring begonias.

Against a background of evergreens was a stucco wall with an iron gate. On each gatepost was a specimen of 'Florence Carroll' and at intervals atop the wall were fine specimens of 'Margery Daw', 'Alba Scandens', the charming *serratipetala*, 'Richmondensis', and 'Fuscomaculata'. Within, the corners were accented with euonymus *alatus*, euonymus *alatus compactus*, and euonymus *sarcoxie*.

Raised beds of begonias against the wall enclosed a graveled area in which were placed large pots of rex begonias and antique green garden furniture. A low border of *hedera*

*crenata* closed the front of the display.

Among the begonias in the border were 'Thurstoni', 'Nellie Bly', 'Tamo', *masoniana irmscher*, *sunderbruchi*, 'Beatrice Haddrell', 'Templini', *hispidula cuculifera*, *scharffi*, 'Leslie Lynn', *hemsleyana*, 'Mrs. Fred Scripps', 'Irene', 'Alzasco', 'Sophie Cecile', 'Bunchi', 'Brocade', 'Erythrophylla Helix', and others.

The exhibit scored 87 1/3% and was awarded a bronze medal and \$525 prize money.

The attendance at the show was over 90,000 and the 500 A.B.S. applications disappeared quickly. We hope that some fell on fertile ground.

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# Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund Flight

## No. 1 — *B. bradei*, Irmscher —

Brazil. Stems and both surfaces of the leaves are covered with a dense, velvety carpet. Under sides of leaves vividly, crimson, green above. Flowers are large and white; crimson hairs on outside surface of petals. \$1.00 per pkt.

## No. 2 — *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. 50 cents per pkt.

## No. 3 — *B. hugelli* —

Discovered by Riedel in Brazil. Medium, erect, few-branched, densely soft-hairy. Leaves ovate-pointed, shallowly lobed and toothed, green above, rose-red beneath and red-veined. Inflorescences large, loose; flowers large, white-bearded without. 50 cents per pkt.

## No. 4 — *B. hispida cuculifera* —

Lobed, downy-soft leaves with up-standing adventitious leaflets growing along the veins. White flowers. Good begonia not often seen. 50 cents per pkt.

## No. 5 — *B. 'Maphil'* —

Syn. *B. 'Cleopatra'* (*B. boweri* seedling). Beautiful basket begonia that



These begonias were grown by Mrs. Cullen, in Illinois, from seed obtained from the A.B.S. Seed Fund. Shown are: 'Maphil', Rex hybrid, picta, socotrana, epipsila, fernando-costae, listida, piliifera, pariles, cathayana.

has everything — good growing habits, can be restrained to pot or basket, eye-catching foliage, bright satin stars with vividly marked veins, artistically scattered between gold and chocolate-brown, and dainty sprays of baby-pink flowers. 35 cents per pkt.

## No. 6 — *B. Peony-flowered* —

Semperflorens type, mostly double, developing into large, round balls of great size that appear to be composed of a number of double blooms. Flowers on many plants are a mixture of petals and stamens in confusion, resembling a flower of informal, double peony. Colors are white, pale pink, bright pink, and several shades of red. Do not request a specific color, as they are mixed. 35 cents per pkt.

## No. 7 — *B. 'Prince Charming'* —

Semperflorens type, mostly double. Mr. Nave, hybridist, says this: "The semperflorens 'Prince Charming' is very fine. I thought the colors were exceptionally good and the degree of doubling most interesting." 50 cents per pkt.

## No. 8 — *B. 'Calla lily'* —

Semperflorens type. 35 cents per pkt.

Comment from a grower in South Carolina: "For the past three years I have been trying to start 'Calla lily' begonia seeds purchased from commercial seed houses, without getting even one seed to germinate. About two weeks ago I received my seed from you and sowed it the same day, using the same method as before, a flat filled with moist, sifted sphagnum moss placed in a started electric greenhouse under the new Plant/Lite. When I checked the flat this morning, it was indeed a thrill to see at least a hundred small green specks covering the sphagnum.

"I am pleased with my first purchase from the Seed Fund and am happy to be a new member of the American Begonia Society. The results obtained so far are worth the



small membership fee."

We hasten to add that not all of the plants will be 'Calla lily' type but, from past experience and information, a fair percentage will appear. Also, we can recommend the seed starter mentioned above; it is practically failure-proof.

#### **No. 9 — B. Rex —**

Germany. Seed from two different hybridists who have been famous for a long time for their beautiful rex begonias. Seed will germinate one hundred per cent in about twenty-one days. \$1.00 per pkt.

### **GREENHOUSE PLANTS**

#### **Smithianatha 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 for gloxinias. 35 cents per pkt.

#### **Sinningia speciosa, mixed —**

Tuberous plant, nearly stemless, with stalked, oblong-ovate, fleshy, white-velvety, fresh green leaves, crenate at margins. Shown, digitallis-like bell flowers, velvety violet-blue with lilac lobes. 25 cents per pkt.

#### **Sinningia pusilla —**

Miniature rosette only two inches high, of little, oval, puckered leaves, olive-green with brown veins, hugging the ground; slender stem bearing a quarter-inch attractive tubular flower with five spreading lobes, orchid-colored, with darker veins and lemon-yellow throat. According to expert information, seeds should be planted the same as rex begonias, but cover even closer, with plastic almost touching. One hundred per cent germination may be expected by this method but seed pan must be kept warm and moist. Check for mold. 35 cents per pkt.

#### **Sinningia coerules —**

Sorry — no description or information on this one. 25 cents per pkt.

#### **Fuchsia integrifolia —**

A friend in Brazil furnished seed with the information that it is a rare

and beautiful Brazil species not generally known in the United States. Will stand very hot summer without harm. Rampant growth; can be grown on a trellis. Beautiful flowers in late summer. Start seed in warm, protected location. Six seeds for 50 cents; or (half-packet) three seeds for 25 cents.

#### **Zyocactus truncatus delicatus —**

Upright habit, reluctant to branch, long dark green joints sharply toothed. With irregular white flowers delicately tinged pink. Blooms in November and December. 25 cents per pkt.

#### **Setcreasea striata —**

Southern Mexico. Vigorous little creeper hugging the ground, with succulent, triangular, clasping leaves, olive-green and lined with white stripes, deep purple beneath, arranged like shingles. Flowers white. 25 cents per pkt.

#### **Amaryllis striata var. fulgida —**

Flowers salmon, about six to seven inches in diameter. Does not go dormant and bulbs multiply rapidly. Nice display of green leaves even when not in bloom. Three seeds for 25 cents.

#### **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 in about 65 degrees heat, and small plants grow quickly if they are given small amounts of liquid fertilizer at frequent intervals. Our plants, from seed planted when we moved to Roseville, will bloom this year. Beautiful plants when not in bloom. Two seeds for 25 cents.

#### **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 — red berries in winter. Three seeds for 25 cents.

Please note: In about two months we will have seed of Anthurium an-

dreanum. Because of the short viability of anthurium seed, we are offering them well in advance so that they can be sent out immediately. Most of you know this beautiful plant, with its long-lobed, heart-shaped, green leaves and showy, coral-red puckered, cordate spathe. A friend in Florida has offered to furnish seeds of this exotic plant and we are happy to do the extra work that it will entail to mail them out while they are fresh. You may send your requests immediately and seeds will be mailed out as soon as we have them. Six seeds for 50 cents.

**FERN SPORES**

**Adiantum multiceptum** —

A tassel with wide-spreading ends on fronds. 35 cents per pkt.

**Adiantum tenerum rosetta** — x

A pretty fern with large rosettes on each end of frond. 35 cents per pkt.

**Adiantum affine** —

Pinnae has drooping habit. 35 cents per pkt.

**Adiantum roseum scutum** — y

Rosy pinnae. 35 cents per pkt.

**Adiantum lathomi** —

35 cents per pkt.

**Adiantum pubescens** —

35 cents per pkt.

**Playtycerium grande** —

Magnificent epiphyte with a regal crown of upright, spreading, sterile fronds of glossy, vivid green, the upper lobes doubly forked and staghorn-

like with dark venation. Pendulous, forked pairs of fertile fronds appear with age, holding between them the wedge-shaped disk bearing the sporangia. 35 cents per pkt.

**OTHER GENERA**

**Cassia alata** —

'Candle Tree'. Fast growing, quick-blooming shrub, having flowers (candle-like) of gold and yellow. Quite pretty. 25 cents per pkt.

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Seed Fund Administrator,  
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# Bumblin' Along With

From U. U. S. of Houston, Texas, comes this advice about begonias to grow in baskets:

"I find from experience that most of the cane type begonias will grow as basket plants with a little help. It is best to take tip cuttings from those that are growing in a drooping position and place them in baskets. They should continue to grow as basket plants."

Thank you, U. S. S., for your tip. I have heard also that begonias may be encouraged to make basket plants just as you do fuchsia plants, by attaching clothes-pins (snap type) to the tips of branches for added weight to encourage hanging until they are well trained, when they may be removed. Basket begonias are well loved and often help a grower with little room to add still another plant to his growing area.

W. G. McG. of Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, asks:

"Has anyone grown 'Superba-Azella' successfully? I obtained seed from the Seed Fund and have had nice plants but no bloom. I was surprised to find that they produce bulbs. Can they be grown as a tuberous type?"

Dear W. G. McG: First, 'Superba-Azella' is a cross of *aconitifolia* x 'Lucerna', which was made by Mrs. Eva Kenworthy Gray of San Diego in 1926, along with several other named 'Superbas' of the same cross: 'Superba Kathi', 'Superba Kenzii', 'Superba Lemorna', and others.

In her book, *Begonias and How to Grow Them*, Bessie Buxton says: "Most of this group are shy bloomers, but the leaves are unusually beautiful." This gives you a good hint regarding the reason you are having difficulty bringing your plants into

bloom. I have grown several 'Superba' seedlings and I have found that they must have plenty of light to get them to bloom. Those that I have grown in my patio in semi-shade have never bloomed; but one that I have on the north side of the house, where it receives reflected light from an all-white wall about ten feet away, blooms quite well. The leaves take on a beautiful red coloring in this additional light, while they remain green and spotted in the patio.

As to your plants being tuberous—I do not understand the "bulbs" you mention. I have read all the information I have been able to locate on both parents and the parents of 'Lucerna'. In the description of *B. aconitifolia* I find, "It is a tall, erect plant, the stems swollen at the base into an apparent bulb." This characteristic may be what you are referring to.

However, I believe your plants are primarily the cane type and should be treated accordingly. During the cold months, they will lose most of their leaves and rest, and spring into vigorous growth as soon as the weather warms. All cane types are heavy feeders. At the signs of new growth, food should be given and continued until their resting period again. Plenty of light and food should provide blooms, but since they are naturally "shy" bloomers, you will never be rewarded with blooms as you would with the free-flowering types.

Let us know your results later. We would all like to know if you are successful.

Another question from Mr. W. G. McG: "With *semperflorens* cuttings often I have some that refuse to grow in soil. They may remain green for a year or more in a sort of dormant

condition. Is there a way to break up this condition?"

Dear Mr. W. G. McG: *Sempervirens* cuttings should be easy to root and grow on. For good, healthy plants, cuttings should be taken from the base of the plant, which should be an older plant and a vigorous grower. Tip cuttings should be avoided because of the fact that they are likely to grow tall and will not branch, even though you pinch them out.

Many people root semps in water. After good, healthy root systems have developed, they can be potted in regular begonia mix in three-inch pots. However, semps need exceptionally good drainage whether they are in pots or in the ground, as too much moisture will rot them. They also need a great deal of light and will grow well in full sun. In fact, without full sun — except in the hottest weather — they will not bloom as they should. Also, semps are heavy feeders and need more fertilizer than other types of begonias.

If your semps are growing in the open ground and they are of a type you do not want to throw out, I suggest that you replant them carefully in an area where good drainage and plenty of sunlight are assured. Once they are rooted and show signs of new growth, start feeding them often. However, unless you cannot replace them easily, I suggest that you simply discard these reluctant begonias and start anew.

J. K. of Des Moines, Iowa, asks: "What is the best way to flat up baby ferns? Many months ago I purchased seed of the 'Bird's Nest' fern and now I have tiny ferns in my jar, but I am afraid to flat them up as I do my begonias. Do I plant them as I do begonia seedlings or do they take extra precautions. I would hate to lose them now."

Dear J. K.: I have found ferns to be tricky in transplanting. I have just finished transplanting the last of my jar of 'Bird's Nest' fern. In the past with other ferns, I have transplanted

the ferns from a whole jar into tiny pots and sometimes into flats, but I lost such a great percentage of them that now I do it differently.

I suggest that you prepare a flat deep enough so that you can cover it with glass or a plastic sheet arranged so that it does not touch the baby ferns. Then prick out the largest ferns in your jar and transplant them carefully into the flat. Give them a light sprinkling of B1. Cover them with the glass or plastic sheet and, if possible, put the flat where it will have the same conditions as the jar.

When these ferns have a good start, you can prepare another flat and again take the largest ferns out of the jar, or, of course, you can "flat" all of them at one time.

I take the largest ferns from the jar as I go along, for two reasons. The main reason is that, if conditions are not right and I lose the transplanted ferns, I still have a reserve in the jar. Many times I have lost ferns and begonias with the first transplanting, but have been able to save those left in the jar. The second reason is that I do not have sufficient time to get everything done that I should, and transplanting over a period of time gives me a breather.

If the little "Bird's Nests" are as much as an inch in height, they should grow in your flat without trouble. Once they have taken hold, you can remove the glass or plastic gradually, and when they have doubled in size, plant them in small clay or plastic pots. After planting them in pots, I put the pots together in a flat. I find that they like community life and respond better when they are not separated.

When transplanting other varieties of ferns, I often transplant small clumps of ferns into the flat — perhaps three to five ferns in a clump — and after they have grown on a bit, I then separate them and "reflat" them. Many times I have saved very tender ferns this way.

E. F. of Dallas, Texas, asks: "I have

heard that one can cut up a large tuber of a tuberous begonia and get additional plants. I have one large tuber that I have had good luck with and many friends would like to have plants. How do I cut it or divide it to produce plants for my friends?"

Dear E. F.: First allow your tuber to sprout. When you can see the eyes or buds, cut the tuber into as many parts as there are buds, being certain that there is one bud in each piece. Then heal over the cut portion of each piece with a light sprinkling of sulphur. Plant each piece as you would plant a whole tuber, being especially careful when watering, as tubers are more subject to rot after being cut.

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

Write to:

MRS. BEE OLSON  
*Research Director*  
13715 Cordary Avenue  
Hawthorne, California

## WETTING AGENTS . . .

*(Continued from Page 96)*

or beds, by wetting the soil surface lightly with the solution. In close pack transplant beds, a foliage treatment of one ounce of wetting agent in 12½ gallons of water keeps foliage dry and helps to reduce disease.

This soil detergent can be used directly on soil of all container-grown house, greenhouse, and patio plants. I've found it especially useful for hanging baskets. After the first treatment it is no longer necessary to take the basket down and dunk it each week. I just give it a daily watering with the hose and find the treated soil is so moisture-receptive that water penetrates right to the very center of the basket.

—Reprinted, by permission, from *Flower and Garden*.

## FERN AND SHADE PLANT SHOW MAY 16 AND 17

The Los Angeles Fern Society will present its first Fern and Shade Plant Show, in memory of Dr. W. Clyde Drummond, founder and President Emeritus of the Society, on May 16 and 17, at the Poinsettia Recreation Center, 7341 Willoughby Street, Hollywood, California.

There will be sixteen divisions, for ferns and other shade plants, including African violets, begonias, bromeliads, cycads, fuchsias, gloxinias, and orchids. Displays by other garden clubs, commercial exhibits, and an educational exhibit will be featured.

Entries are open to any growers — members or non-members. Non-members are invited to enter their plants.

Ribbons and trophies will be awarded, with a trophy for each division.

There will be a plant sale table and a snack bar. Door prizes will be given away — winners need not be present for major prizes, but must be there for smaller garden prizes.

The show will be open to the public from 1 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturdays, May 16, and from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday, May 17.

Admission will be 50 cents. Tickets may be purchased from A.B.S. Branches, and Branches will make 20% on tickets sold.

Proceeds from this show will be donated to the South Coast Botanical Gardens towards construction of a saran-cloth house.

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## ROUND ROBIN NEWS

The expanded Round Robin program is making notable advances. With the writing of this column on March 26, we have accomplished the following:

There are now four new Flights of seven members each. One independent Robin has been affiliated with the A.B.S. as Flight #6, with Ethel McKay of Port Orchard, Washington, as chairman. It has been built up from four to eight members. Four members have been added to Flight #5, of which Evelyn Hurley of Lexington, Massachusetts, is chairman. Daisy Austin of Anaheim, California, is chairman of Flight #7, and Carrie Karegeannes of Springfield, Virginia, is chairman of the new Flight #8. Flights #9 and #10 have just been sent on their way with Laura Buchholdt of Minneapolis, Minnesota, and Beryl Allen of Tampa, Florida, as the respective chairmen. Flight #11 is now being assembled.

You can see that these Robins really travel. Already, twenty states are represented. It is easy for anyone to be active in a Flight. Just write a short, newsy, and informative letter about your plants, then visit a little with the other members, put your letter in a packet, mail it, and sit back and relax. Uncle Sam does all the heavy work — that is, carrying your letter and the packet to the next member in your same Round Robin Flight.

Bee Olson, our A.B.S. Research Director, and I are already noticing items that we wish to put in our columns in *The Begonian*. Sometimes the new items do not need to be about plants to be interesting. We can get someone to turn them into plant news.

For example, our member, Mrs. Patricia Burdick of Savage, Minnesota, lives near the town where a manufacturing company produces the skin for the balloon-type communications satellite, Echo II. In her letter in

Flight #5, Mrs. Burdick included a 3-inch x 8-inch commercial sample of that skin. At that time her family had just been outside in 20 degrees below zero weather, watching the satellite as it passed over.

The sample was so light that its weight would not register on a sensitive postal scale. The printing on the sample said it had a total thickness of only .0007 of an inch.

I telephoned the Burdick family and was advised that this information is not in our national security "secret" classification. In fact, Mr. Burdick is a contracts administrator for the G. T. Schjeldahl Co. of Northfield, Minnesota, and he will send more data to me about this skin and other interesting laminates and products that this company produces.

Other than being a conversational item, you may ask what possible value this information can be to plant growers in the Round Robins or in the entire American Begonia Society.

Well — as I looked at the sample, which was made up of two layers of aluminum foil, one layer of Mylar plastic film, two layers of adhesive, one layer of black ink on the inside, and a thermal coating on the outside, I wondered whether Nature could do as well in the realm of tiny dimensions. Nature does — as I found in a little investigation that this question prompted me to make.

I got out my machinist's micrometer and my long-range, wide-angle microscope, which has a maximum magnifying power of about 60. I opened the micrometer to a gap of one-thousandth (.001) of an inch and laid it on the microscope table so the gap would show. I then set the magnification of the microscope to 40-power, and that one-thousandth of an inch appeared about as wide as the thickness of the back of an ordinary writing tablet does to our normal eyes.



Then I went into my wife's little greenhouse and also into mine and started measuring everything in sight. The petals of a *pelargonium echinatum* (cactus geranium) blossoms were .002 inch thick but they were made up of several layers of plant cells. The petals of *Begonia esipsila* and several others were about .007 inch thick. Leaves of a rubber plant, *ficus elastica*, average about .020 inch thick. Of course, leaves of some kalanchoes and other succulents are thick and go up to .250 inch or more.

To find the very tiny dimensions a person must go into the areas where pollen grains and fern spore are. Spore from the ordinary Hart's Tongue fern (*phyllitis scolopendrium*) are only about .0005 inch in diameter. This accounts for the dust or powder-like material around ferns at their fruiting time. Pollen grains of *Begonia echinosepala* average about .0003 inch. For these tiny dimensions I had to shake the spore and pollen into the microscope table and estimate their size in comparison to the .001 inch micrometer gap.

Plant physiology text books say that the stomata, which are pores for respiration and transpiration, on the underside of a *coccinea* begonia leaf average about .000008 inch across their openings. There are about 25,000 of these tiny openings scattered over a square inch of the lower surface of leaves on this begonia.

Thus it can be seen that Nature commonly uses dimensions in the outer portions of our plants which compare favorably with dimensions used in laminating the skin for the Echo II satellite. Internally, in plants, the dimensions of cells and their components become much more minute.

Another item of interest in the Robins this month was from Evelyn Hurley, chairman of Flights #1 through #5. She has noticed that some commercial growers can get tuberous begonias into full bloom in time for the Flower Show in Boston, Massachu-

setts, about the middle of March. She is trying to find out what their magic is. If anybody knows how this is done, please write to Bee Olson, our Research Director. Tuberous begonias have a pretty firm control for bloom later in the spring. Is it possible to change their schedule and still get a good quality bloom?

In a recent letter from Tru Peterson about Round Robins, I found that he designs automatic machinery as well as being the Editor of our *Begonian*. One intriguing job that he has done was the design of an automatic soil sterilizer and plant pot filler for a large-scale commercial grower. Automation is expanding, even in our gardening direction.

So you see — interesting news items come from everywhere that Round Robins can fly. If you want to be a Robin and go along on one of these Flights, be sure to send your request to me.

Now, especially to our men gardeners — we already have a total of eight men in the ten established Flights, but there is still plenty of room for you.

HERB WARRICK  
Round Robin Director  
6543 — 26th Ave., N.E.  
Seattle, Wash., 98115.

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## SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH PLANS FOR SHOW

The San Francisco Branch of the American Begonia Society will be one of sixteen flower societies co-operating to present the annual San Francisco Flower Show in Golden Gate Park, August 27 through 30.

Isadore C. Gold, a past president of the Branch, is the Publicity Director for the show.

### IN MEMORIAM

Mrs. Cecil (Ethel) Houdyshel, of La Verne, California, passed away on February 17, 1964.

She had been a member of the American Begonia Society for many years and was a past president of the Foothill Branch. At the time of her passing she was program chairman. Besides her interest in begonias, she was known as a commercial grower of African violets, with glass-houses in La Verne.

### FLOWER SHOW . . .

(Continued from Page 97)

received their share of admiration. Rhizomatous, rex cultorum, hairy fibrous, and canes were shown in all their glory.

Once more the show is over—we've given pleasure to others by sharing our plants and knowledge, and now we have another year to plan and grow and dream.

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## TUBEROUS BEGONIAS . . .

(Continued from Page 93)

not spread, since the harm of powdery mildew is that it is so contagious. If a begonia becomes heavily covered with mildew, cut it off at the base and burn the plant, but keep the tuber for next season, as this is an air-borne disease and does not affect the tuber.

It's a long time until fall again. Let's not concern ourselves with winter care now. It's a simple matter, anyway, of lifting the plants and letting them dry where they won't freeze and storing the dry bulbs until time to start them again in the spring.

Let's just enjoy ourselves until frost-time and appreciate again and again that nothing else brightens up a summer garden like brilliant tuberous begonias.



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AT NURSERIES AND GARDEN STORES

## FLORIDA PRISON WILL HOLD FLOWER SHOW

The educational department of the Florida State Prison will present the Fourth Annual Flower Show by the ornamental horticultural section of the school. Dates will be Thursday, May 21, Friday, May 22, and Saturday, May 23.

Hundreds of exhibits, showing the work that inmate students are doing in the rehabilitation program, will be on display at the club house across the highway from the prison. Entries include a variety of classifications, from specimen plants to arrangements and terrariums.

"Many of our begonias will be in the show," stated M. B. Jordan, acting Director of Education. "Your magazine is a wonderful help in our rehabilitation efforts."

The prison is located in Raiford, Florida.

## AFRICAN VIOLET SHOW IN LONG BEACH

The Long Beach African Violet Society will present its fourteenth annual show on May 25 and 26 at the Women's City Clubhouse, 1309 East Third Street, Long Beach, California.

"Maytime" will be the theme of the show, carried out in arrangements, artistic plantings, and stage decorations, under the direction of Mrs. Viola Wilson, show chairman.

Doors will be open from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Monday, the 25th, and from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Tuesday, the 26th.

Admission will be 35 cents.

## CALENDAR

May 7 — San Gabriel Valley Branch: Prof. O. A. Batchellor, head of the horticultural department at California State Polytechnic College, will talk and show slides on "Botanical Gardens and Arboreta in Europe and Their Comparisons". Note that the meeting this month will be on Thursday.

May 7 — Westchester Branch: "Shade Oddities" will be the subject discussed by Mrs. Jean Kerlin, guest speaker.

May 14 — Orange County Branch: Mrs. Mabel Corwin, A.B.S. President-Elect, will show colored slides and her topic will be "Begonias In My Garden".

May 16-17 — Fern and Shade Plant Show: 7341 Willoughby Street, Hollywood, California.

May 21 — Long Beach Parent Chapter: "Rock Mulching and Camellia Pruning" will be the subject of a talk by Mary Armstrong, of San Gabriel.

May 25-26 — African Violet Show: 1309 East Third Street, Long Beach, California.

May 27 — Glendale Branch: Dr. Robert E. Atkinson will be the speaker, sponsored by Kellogg Supply Co. The annual bazaar will open at 7 p.m.

June 4 — Westchester Branch: Mrs. Dorothy Behrends will speak on "Begonias and Companion Plants". This will be a pot-luck dinner meeting. Contact Frances Jean, OR 2-2193, or Ruth Pease, OR 7-5907, for further information.



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## COPY DEADLINE

All material for publication in THE BEGONIAN must be received by the Editor not later than the fifth of the month preceding month of publication.

## Report of National Board Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the National Board of the American Begonia Society, at the South Gate City Auditorium, met on March 23, 1964. Terry Olmsted, President, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Fourteen officers and nine Branch representatives answered roll call.

Carl Naumann, Past-President, requested that everyone raise lots of plant for the Society, because 3,500 to 4,000 plants will be needed to have a successful plant sale at the show next fall.

Howard Small, Vice-President, asked all Branch representatives to "talk up" the proposed raise in dues at their Branches.

Earl Budd, Treasurer, reported a balance on hand of \$843.41 in the general fund.

Daisy Austin, Membership Secretary, reported a distribution of 2356 copies of *The Begonian*.

Bee Olson, Research Director, exhibited a collection of beautiful croton leaves she had received from a grower in Colombia, to whom she had written requesting begonia seed for the Seed Fund. She stated that she had written more than seventy letters to growers in various countries, hoping to get new material for the Seed Fund.

Bee Olson was asked to get a report on the South east Botanic Gardens saran cloth building, which the American Begonia Society, with other clubs, is committed to support financially.

Ruby Budd, Advertising Manager, reported receipts of \$155.97 and accounts receivable of \$34.50.

The Round Robin Chairman, Herbert Warrick, of Seattle, has received much favorable response and the Round Robin program is progressing well, according to his telephone report to Mrs. Olmsted, President.

Edna Korts, Business Manager, told of her progress in locating past issues of *Begonian*, especially the 1940 series, stating that these are the issues that sell best.

She read a letter from the Japanese Begonia Society and displayed pictures of twenty-two Rex leaves which the Japanese society had sent, requesting identification. Acting on a motion by Mrs. Korts, the Board voted to grant a membership in the American Begonia Society to the Japanese Begonia Society, with a reciprocal agreement to exchange use of magazine articles. Mabel Corwin, President-Elect, agreed to answer the letter.

A letter from the Los Angeles Fern Society was read, inviting the American Begonia Society to place a display in its coming show on May 16 and 17.

Mr. Olmsted made a report on the convention banquet. It will be at the Elks Hall, 27 Huntington Drive, Arcadia, California. Deposits of \$25.00 to guarantee the hall and \$50.00 to the caterer, Mr. Roberts, were voted.

The following Branches were represented: Glendale, Inglewood, North Long Beach, Orange County, A. D. Robinson, San Gabriel Valley, San Miguel, and Whittier.

PEGGY McGRATH,  
*Secretary.*

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# 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. Katherine Alberfi, Cor. Secy.  
3322 Troy Drive, Hollywood, Calif., 90028

## 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 Belsor, 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.  
Maybelle L. Woods, Secy.  
604 S. Helena St.,  
Anaheim, California, 92805.

## 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.  
Opal Murray Ahern, Secy.  
1304 N. Poinsettia Ave., 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, 12 noon, 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  
Emma Engelbrecht, Secy.  
4562 Kensington Dr., San Diego 16, Calif.

**SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH**

1st Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.  
Garden Center, Golden Gate Park  
9th Ave. and Lincoln Way  
Lilian 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. Linkenhouer, Secy.  
11310 Holldan Way  
Houston, Texas, 77024

**WESTCHESTER BRANCH**

1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Westchester Women's Club  
8020 Alverton St., Los Angeles, Calif.  
Mrs. Walter W. Pease, Jr., Secy.  
8101 Vicksburg Ave., Los Angeles 48, Calif.

**WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH**

2nd Wednesday, 11:00 a.m., Homes of Members  
Mrs. Alex Nagy, Secy.  
R. D. #1, Box 305P, Altemoor Dr.  
Natrona Heights, Pa.

**WHITTIER BRANCH**

1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m.  
Palm Park Community Center, 1643 Floral Drive  
Mrs. Evelyn Shute, Cor. Secy.  
15344 E. Leffingwell Rd., 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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