

Begonia 'Hannah Serr' Photo by Gene Daniels, Black Star Monthly Publication of the American Begonia Society, Inc.



Founded by Herbert P. Dyckman January, 1932

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TUBEROUS BEGONIAS

by Charlotte Ann Gould

Shy brittle heads That hang so hugely on your stalk Shadowed by silver-hairy leaves, I lift your face And find a beauty there Which has alarmed my thoughts. Color of sunsets -Red that sinks to quiet rose, Shrimp peel and cinnamon hue, Wet green into a yellow rim, And glowing orange of an autumn moon; Color of South Seas -Where brilliance cries And sings whimsical Color of dreams and sky, Of childrens' cheeks and hair and throats And the pure white of coconut meat: You are too strong to be sweet, Too exquisite to be gay – Firm and fragile, brittle; beautiful! Being perfect, you would have been unbearable except God understood and kept one thing from

you -

The fragrance of a flower!

NEW COLUMN LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Editors of "The Begonian" are inviting members to write into a new column entitled "Letters to the Editor".

Send us your comments, good or bad, about articles that appear or you would like to see appear. If you have additional information concerning a subject written about, let us hear about it.

COVER STORY

Begonia 'Hannah Serr' is an intermediate cane with nodes close together, giving the plant a compact look. The leaves are of the Superba type 9" x 5", with notched wavy margins tending to curve at the tips. The leaves are green with green veining. It blooms from February to April with numerous clusters of coral pink flowers which are large, fragrant and showy. The flowers are tucked in close to the leaf nodes with as many as 50 blooms in one cluster.

This *Begonia* was a new introduction in the 1968 Convention Show and won the Herbert P. Dyckman Perpetual Award for the most distinctive new fibrous *Begonia*, the Edna Korts Perpetual Trophy for the best cane, the Effie Chapman Challenge Cup for the best fibrous *Begonia* and the ABS Cultural Award for the best fibrous. It was registered October 17, 1969 and described in "The Begonian" for February 1970, page 36.

If you have a question send it along and possibly one of our readers can help you.

Let us hear about your questions, suggestions, advice and complaints.

AIMS AND PURPOSES OF THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY, INC.

The purpose of this Society shall be: To stimulate and 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.

REX BEGONIA 'PEACE'

by Elda Haring, Greenwich, Connecticut

Rex Begonias are 'everybody's favorite' but because of the many problems in growing them Begonia enthusiasts have become discouraged and do not attempt to grow them. There are some varieties that I find difficult but others seem as easy to grow as the "semps". B. 'Peace' is one of these. The one in the photo has leaves 8 to 12 inches long. The wide leaves taper to a point and are silvery overlaid with pink, becoming deep rosy red in very bright light or under fluorescent lights. Mine grows vigorously through the spring and summer becoming quite large by fall. Any potting mix seems to be satisfactory and in fact it grows as well in a soiless mix as it does in my favorite potting mix. When it is putting out new shoots and leaves I feed it once a week with ¹/₄ strength Plant Marvel alternating with fish emulsion. B. 'Peace' produces extra large flowers of deep rose and unlike some Rex growers, I like to see the blooms and do not remove them.

Usually, about November when the weather in our part of the country starts to become chilly and grey, I permit this *Begonia* to rest by not giving it any more fertilizer and watering only enough to prevent wilting. In March, I tap the plant out of its pot and if the root ball (CONTINUED)



Rex Begonia 'Peace' Photo by Walter J. Haring

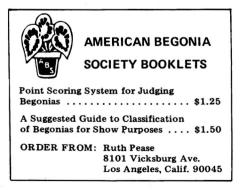
comes out intact, it is placed in the next size pot. However if roots have not penetrated to the bottom of the pot I rub some soil from the bottom of the root ball and replant in the same size pot.

The firm, crisp leaves of B. 'Peace' do not rot or mold as easily as some of the softer leaved varieties, thus making it a valuable one to use where weather can be hot and humid. It never seems to have a tendency to leaf and stem rot as some Begonias do. I recently saw a gorgeous plant the size of my own at an African Violet show in Miami. Florida. B. 'Peace' can withstand fluctuations in temperatures from quite warm to quite chilly. If you have given up trying to grow Rexes, try again with this one. You'll be glad you did.

NOTICE

"Mrs. Joseph W. (Toppy) Todd of New York City has been appointed General Chairman for the Fifth Annual Eastern Begonian Convention.

The Knickerbocker Branch is the host for the Convention and Flower Show which will be held September 17th thru the 19th, 1970 at the Island Inn Motel, Westbury, L.I., New York."



FUCHSIA SOCIETY SHOW

An invitation is extended to all to attend the California National Fuchsia Society's 16th Annual Fuchsia and Shade Plant Show:

"GARDEN WONDERLAND" Agriculture Building-Orange County Fairgrounds Newport Blvd. and Fair Drive Costa Mesa, California Friday, June 26 – 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, June 27 – 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday, June 28 – 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The title of the 1970 Show says it all. Loving Tender Care, Knowledge and Determination add up to plants more beautiful than you can imagine. Many new ideas develop each year as various groups and individuals work and plan their displays and entries for competition. New Fuchsia introductions and old favorites abound. Education. Entertainment, Gifts and Gadgets, Snack Bar and Commercial Exhibits plus Prizes. Hours of complete and unforgettable pleasure awaits you in "GARDEN WONDERLAND".

Show Publicity Chairman C.N.F.S.

ATTENTION! BRANCHES

There are many *Begonia* Shows or Shows in which Branches are displaying *Begonias* taking place in the near future. Please send in the place, the date and the time so that vacationers may plan to attend these Shows.

The Editors would like to publicize these show notices in "The Begonian".

SPEAKING OF SHOW SCHEDULES

by Ruth Pease, Judging Course Director

Show chairmen often think of planning for the next year's show as early as the week after closing their last! They and their committees have a very exacting, yet stimulating job preparing and seeing a show through from the planning stage to its completion.

One question asked has been: "Why are there so few classes in the Tuberous Begonia Division in the National Show Schedules?" Our National Show Schedule printed in "The Begonian" has indicated few classes in this division. Show personnel "think" through their schedules very carefully, being guided by records of the number of entries in their shows each year. The National Show for the past few years has either been in locations where members did not grow many tuberous Begonias or there was a lack of enough entries to warrent additional classes in this division due to the date of the show itself. Tuberous Begonias were past their prime and no longer considered by the growers to be show material.

Show chairmen in San Francisco, Seattle, Sacramento, Ventura as well as those in Westchester and down the Southern California Coast, usually plan the dates of their shows to coincide with the time tuberous *Begonias* are at their best.

Consideration must also be given to shows where these plants are not usually entered in abundance. This is where the expense of purchasing additional embossed ribbons must be considered. Not only the ribbons, but the space to be alloted to displays, hoped-for-entires, entry sheets to be prepared for them, and the division and class cards to be placed. These are only a few of the behindthe-scenes problems that are discussed many many times by show committees.

In recent years two show schedules have been prepared and published in "The Begonian". The schedule in the July 1968 Begonian could be adapted to any Begonia and Shade **Plant Show** by taking what is needed in a particular area and realizing the approximate number of plants which may be entered in the show. Show chairmen will find this schedule flexible and valuable as a guide in preparing their own show schedules in their own areas. An All-Begonia Show schedule was published in the July 1969 issue of "The Begonian". In this schedule only a portion of the tuberous division which appears in the approved outline for classifications of Begonias was needed due to the time of year for the National Show and its location. A more detailed breakdown for the Tuberous Begonia Division can be found in the outline contained in the A.B.S. publication, "A suggested Guide to Classification of Begonias for Show Purposes," which may be used by show chairmen in preparing their show schedules.

An interesting and enjoyable way to learn to prepare show schedules, classification, judging, grooming and point-scoring of *Begonias* is to have small shows at meetings in your Branches with membership participation. This is now being done very successfully in some of our Branches. These shows may be competitive or (CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE AT BOTTOM)

WICK WATERING

by Oldrich Otypka, *Minneapolis, Minnesota* (CONTINUED FROM MARCH ISSUE)

Besides Begonias, the number of plants from different plant families that were tested on wick were: Aeschynanthus 'Black Pagoda', Ap*belandra squarrosa* (Zebra Plant), Bougainvillea Barbara Karst and California Gold, Browallia, Clerodendrum thompsonae. Coleus, Columneas 'Cornelian' and 'Early Bird', Chrysanthemums, Dieffenbachia picta, Dracaenea marginata (gracilis), Ervatamia coronaria, Gynura tomentosa (Velvet Plant), Hibiscus rosasinensis (Chinese Hibiscus), Impatiens sultani, Iresine (blood leaf), Lantana montevidensis (trailing lantana), Maranta erythroneura, Neomarica (twelve apostle plant), Pentas, Philodendron, Plectranthus oertendahlii, Poinsettia, Rhoeo discolor (Moses in Cradle), Saintpaulia (African Violet), Setcreasea purpurea, Spathiphyllum 'Mauna Loa' and Syngonium podophyllum. In addition - just for curiosity - also tested were Epipbyllum (orchid cactus) and a Geranium. It was expected that the orchid cactus would die within a few weeks and that the Geranium would adjust to the higher moisture content in the soil. The results were just the contrary to the expectations: Epipbyllum cactus grows nicely, being on wick for five months, using little water. The trailing Geranium looked so sickly

non-competitive or they may be for the purpose of study alone.

You will learn there is even more pleasure to be enjoyed in having *Begonias* as a hobby if you will also participate in this type of activity.



Begonia 'Bow Chancee' Photo by Aldrich Otypka

and poor that it had to be discarded after six weeks.

The variety of plants mentioned above performed very well on wickwatering, but there were some exceptions; the Bougainvilleas bloomed several times in the five month test period but produced fewer flowers than before, especially 'Barbara Karst'; Lantana montevidensis stopped blooming after several weeks, when it was removed from the wick it resumed blooming after four weeks. The Poinsettia was another surprise. Euphorbias, when not in bloom, are to be kept dry. From among twelve plants I selected a White Poinsettia and put it on wick in July. It grew nicely and it was (CONTINUED)

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the first Poinsettia to start blooming. African Violets – that was a little different story. When I asked my wife to let me have two Saintpaulias for testing, she refused. She was convinced that these plants have to be kept dry. After some haggling, I promised to buy her some new hybrids if the plants she gave me for testing were ruined. She gave me two plants which she could write-off as a loss. (The poorest ones from her collection.) few months later, on wick-watering, they were not the poorest ones any more. They grew larger and bloomed better than the rest of her Saintpaulias.

The primary reason why I started wick watering was to reduce the time consuming chore of watering. The wick did the trick! The time required for watering was reduced to one third or about half an hour a day in the hottest weather. The next step was to find out how many days a plant can go without adding water to the reservoir. Since there is a difference in consumption of water by a plant on a hot day and on a cool day, the test which would reveal the difference had to run over an extended period of time. The test was started on August 12, 1969 and terminated on November 30, This selection of months 1969. offered the periods of time when the highest temperature in the garden room was from 86 degrees to 93 degrees. For a period of three weeks in August – September and three weeks in November when the highest temperature in the garden room was 70 degrees to 74 degrees.

The data was daily recorded on charts. This data was: highest temperature outdoors and indoors; sky clear, partly cloudy or cloudy; operation of evaporative cooler (blower); and date of watering. Seventeen plants were selected for the test originally. Recorded on the chart was: plant name; plant size; pot size and size of watering reservoir (25, 50 or 100 cubic inches).

Something should be said also about the garden room in which the plants for the test were located. It is a lean-to type enclosure, thirty feet long and sixteen feet wide with tinted plexiglass roof (light reduction 21%). The long wall oriented to the south is clear glass. The west wall is concrete block and the east wall is a glass sliding door separating the garden room from the family room. It is not a greenhouse, it is rather a conservatory and sitting room with narrow ground flower beds along the long walls. The plants are also located on shelves, tables, floor and in hanging baskets. Summer shading is all indoors. The glass wall is shaded with a fiberglass curtain and the roof is shaded with translucent plastic which is drawn from roller shades located at one end of the roof. The temperature in the summer is held down with the help of an evaporator cooler which blows air inside (cooled down by evaporation of water) at the rate of 2,250 cubic feet per The temperature in the minute. winter is held at 70 degrees during the day and at 60 degrees at night. The humidity is maintained by an evaporator type humidifier.

It should be noted that evaporation of water by a plant is regulated by several factors; temperature, humidity, size of plant and movement of air. Therefore on hot summer days with the temperature at 90 to 93 degrees and the blower (CONTINUED)

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moving large quantities of air across the room; a plant needs more water than on a cool day when indoor temperature is 70 degrees and the blower not operating. This was reflected in the test on African Violets. The average size plant in a 4" pot had a 25 cubic inch reservoir. On the hot days in August – September the reservoir had to be filled once in nine days. In November the reservoir had to be filled once in twelve days. The Coleus plant (average size plant 17" x 15" and 19" high in 7" pot and 50 cubic inch reservoir) had to have water added once in three days in the summer. The same plant in November needed water once in six days, although the same plant grew much larger. How the size of a plant affects water consumption can be shown on Begonia 'Ricinifolia'. At the beginning of the test it was a rather small plant 17" x 15" and 8" high in a 7" pot with a 50 cubic inch reservoir. In the summer water was needed every 5 to 6 days. When this Begonia reached dimensions of 45" x 37" and 13" high in November, water had to be added every 4 to 5 days. A similar pattern was encountered on all other plants which were tested.

One more question can be asked: how does wick watering affect the growth of plants? The answer to that can be provided by the use of a control plant. Two plants of the same species (or hybrid) are selected, preferably plants of the same size. One is put on wick, the other given water as needed. The size of the plants is recorded monthly and both are kept in the same room. This test was made only with *Rhoeo discolor* (Moses in Cradle). At the beginning of the test the plant on wick had dimensions 20" x 14" and 15" high. At the end of the test it measured 28" x 25" and 17" high. The control plant was of smaller dimensions: 13" x 11" and 8" high and grew to a size of 18" x 15" and 8" high. Similar growth was measured on leaves of *Dieffenbachia*. Before putting on wick-watering, the plant had a maximum size leaf of 5³/₄" wide and 10" long. In four months on wick-watering, the size of the leaves averaged 7" - 8" wide and 15" long. A similar affect was confirmed visually on other plants.

It can be said with A. B. Graf that "wick watering is a great boon to plants" for those plants which are suitable for this type of watering. To find which plants are suitable, many other plants have to be tested. Additional testing will help growers who may decide to use time and effort-saving wick watering.

CLAYTON M. KELLY SEED FUND

Instructions—"Begonias From Seed-Sowing and Growing" gives step by step easy-to-follow instructions and encouragement for beginning seed growers. Price 25 cents per copy.

No. 1 – B. paulensis

Brazil. Although this *Begonia* was discovered in Brazil many years ago, it is not common in cultivation. It was first grown in this country by Louise Schwerdtfeger from seed brought from Germany.

Leaves are medium green, shiny, and peltate; distinctly striking with its ivory-colored sinus or eye, from which radiate the main veins. The

radial veins are joined by cross veins which form a circle, giving an interesting spider-web effect. Each spiderweb section is covered with short white hairs, but on the underside of the leaf the hairs are red, showing up distinctly on an apple-green background. The leaf petiole is light green, covered with pinkish hairs, and a small collar of red hairs at leaf petiole junction. Flowers are 1¹/₂ to 2 inches in diameter and are white inside. B. paulensis is a magnificent plant to challenge the imagination of collectors of rare and beautiful Begonias.

Easily grown from seed, the young plants require protection until they are ready for three inch pots. Overwatering is dangerous. Keep seedlings in a humid, sheltered location, moist but not wet, with plenty of light and look forward to plants that will fill a ten-inch pot. The beautiful foliage and lovely flowers, whose large petals are backed with long maroon hairs, held high above the plant, will be a delight to see. Grows well in any good *Begonia* soil and can be grown well in pure sphagnum moss. In any case it is a good feeder and prefers a cool house to a heated greenhouse. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

It has taken many months to acquire seed of this beautiful *Begonia* but it is always a pleasure to bring you seed of such a beautiful and outstanding plant as B. *paulensis*.

No. 2 – B. pringlei

Mexico. The name given here is the correct one for what has become known as B. *schulziana*. The (CONTINUED)



Begonia pringlei Photo by J. Doorenbos

present species comes from Mexico. The true B. *schulziana* comes from Haiti and is not in cultivation. See picture. The above information is from the collector and is correct and authentic. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 3 – B. olsoniae syn B. vellozoana Brade

Brazil. Herbaceous, eight to twelve inches tall. Stems short, oblique, up to 3¹/₄ inches long, rooting at the stipules. Leaves oblique, broadly ovate suborbicular, cordate, with a closed basal sinus, palmately eightnerved, four to five inches long, five to eight inches broad, hispid-pilose on both surfaces, with small frimbiate scales on the nerves beneath, green above, with a whitish zone on the veins, paler below and occasionally reddish. Flowers are whitish, sometimes the outer rosy. B. olson*iae* is considered one of the most beautiful Begonias in cultivation and is said to rival B. masoniana in beauty. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 4 – B. diadema

Borneo. Medium, bushy, smooth; branches frequently angle off from thickened red joints and if near the soil, will send out roots; leaves deeply lobed, more so than B. *deliciosa*, dark olive-green, heavily gray-spotted, red beneath; flowers large, pink. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 5 – B. xanthina

India. Rhizomatous with ovate leaves, unequally cordate. Flowers of medium size and conspicuously yellow. Capsule has unequal wings, one very much elongated. One of the best India *Begonias*. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 6 – B. listida

Brazil. Leaves are narrow, double-

pointed, hairy, with light green bands down the center. When young, leaves resemble those of the ivy, but later, change. Upright branching habit of easy culture. Flowers are white with red hairs on back, almost two inches across. Seed some times slow to germinate. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 7 – B. odorata

Seed were sent from Brazil with following description – "Trailing habit, fragrant flowers". Price 50 cents per pkt.

No. 8 – **'Fuscomaculata'** (B. *beracleifolia* x B. *strigillosa*)

Sometimes called B. 'Rubellina' and means "brown spotted". Has gray-green star shaped leaves, lightly chocolate-spotted, drooping on long stems. Flowers pinkish white. Price 50 cents per pkt.

No. 9 – B. cinnabarina

Tuberous species. Upright type with large vermillion flowers. Price 50 cents per pkt.

No. 10 – B. pearcei

Tuberous species. Fairly widely grown today, which contributed yellow flowers and brown-shaded leaves to early modern hybrids. Price 50 cents per pkt.

No. 11 – B. veitchii

Tuberous species. Not seen often today; large vermillion flowers. Price 50 cents per pkt.

The last three *Begonias* mentioned are the ancestors of modern summer-blooming tuberous hybrids. Some are not generally available and are true exotics with cultural idiosyncrasies which are difficult to

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE AT BOTTOM)

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ROUND ROBIN NOTES

Robins are full of notes on propagating by cuttings, growing from seed, pollinizing, and the culture of *Begonias*.

B. itaguassuense:

This Brazilian species makes "a terrific plant", writes Jane Neal of England. She had heard it is a variety of B. acetosa: if so, it seemed an improvement of the species proper, for B. acetosa is rather sprawling, she finds. B. itaguassuense fills a seven-inch pot and the red-green reversible leaves stand so close the stems touch. Selfed, the seeds were quite fertile. Elaine Wilderson in Baton Rouge described her plant as having soft velvety leaves, roundish, with red backs and dark green-red top surfaces. (She remembered B. acetosa as being green-leaved.) Arline Peck of Pascoag, Rhode Island, agreed it was a beautiful plant.

B. tomentosa:

The bloom on B. tomentosa is so distinctive that it may be used in identification, Chuck Tagg of Fullerton, California, noted. Male blooms

satisfy. A few of this type are available and amenable.

FREE seed – MIXED only, contains rhizomatous, canes and others. Please do not ask to have them packaged separately. They are MIX-ED. Please send postage if seed from the regular list are not requested.

> Mrs. Florence Gee Seed Fund Administrator 234 Birch Street Roseville, California 95678

are entirely white. Before opening, the backs of the petals are thickly covered with dense white hair, so that blooms look like one-thirdinch puff balls. After opening, they are still all white, even when the plant is grown in enough sun to sunburn the leaves. The female flowers are the same, except that the ovary changes the puff-ball shape of the buds. (Descriptions of a pink-tinged B. tomentosa may belong to B. tomentosa variety meyeri, synonym B. eriocaulis. Knowles and Wescott described B. meyeri as having petals with a pink blush.)

B. richardsiana:

Chuck also reported on this South African semi-tuberous "Maple Leaf" species. About November B. *richardsiana* begins "to go to pot". It rests (not completely dormant) during the winter for him, was about finished blooming by mid-November this year and was beginning to sprawl more than usual. He expected it to begin dropping leaves fast very shortly.

Upright B. sutherlandii

Jane reported that some four years ago a stiffly upright version of this usually trailing or hanging South African tuberous species was shown at a Royal Horticultural Society Show. She and another National Begonia Society member spent a long time over it, seeing only one difference from the usual B. *sutherlandii* -- a stout stiff stem. They wanted to find out more about its origin, but failed to catch the owner.

B. boweri hybrids:

To hybrids of the dainty Mexican (CONTINUED ON PAGE 89)

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SPECIAL BEGONIA INDEX

In this section of the Index, a word in parenthesis indicates a misspelled name or a reference to a preferred synonym or the true name. The spelling of species names are orthographically corrected according to the rules of the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature (1966). Otherwise, the Buxton Check List is the authority. Orthography by Jack Golding

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"Eyelah Begonia" described in recent "Begonians" and in Robin Letters, Chuck added several from the Buxton Check List: B. 'Nibowcans', a cross of 'Bow-Nigra' x B. beraclefolia nigricans; B. 'Golden Sheen', a cross of B. boweri x B. 'Joe Hayden'; B. 'Terry O', B. boweri x B. mazae; and B. 'Zee Bowman', B. boweri x ?.

Upright rex cultivars

Names of some rex hybrids that grow upright rather than creeping, yet are different from the more cane-like crosses of cane x rex, were contributed by Chuck in a robin discussion of classification for shows: B. 'Cathlyana', B. 'Fire-Flush', B. 'Curly Fireflush', B. 'Frances Kay', B. 'Lavender Glow', B. 'Louise Lackey', B. 'Prince Charming', and B. 'Spider Web'.

B. filipes:

Elizabeth Mercier of the Canal Zone has shared seed of this *Begonia*, she says it is a real miniature Begonia with tiny leaves and tiny seed pods, she warns the flowers are even She has seen plants no smaller. higher than her thumb with tiny little blooms on them. Elizabeth had one plant that was fifteen inches high growing on a bit of rotten wood and quite full of leaves. Apparently they do not like rich soil but do like a humid atmosphere. She writes she doesn't know how they survive because they just disappear completely for two or three months.

Rex:

Several members of No. 50 flight have been experimenting with their small rex plants when they come up from leaves or seeds and find that if the little plants are first potted in fertilized unmilled sphagnum moss, there is little chance of damp-off. They seem to start growing at once. When the plants have a good start in the sphagnum moss, they are then potted up in potting mix. Lois Covey of Tarpon Springs, Florida wrote how she grows rex successfully. She built up a bed about eighteen inches from the ground at the base of two cabbage palm trees, filled it with good rich soil and mostly peat moss, also mixed some fine wood shaving in it to keep the peat moss from getting too packed and solid. "The rex loved it! Heavy foliage of the palms kept off heavy rains in summer and they stood our winter cold without covering or being heated." She was surprised at how much cold they withstood. Her other large Begonias outdoors get nipped every winter but always come up again from roots, they are two-three feet high.

Mildew:

Lucille Peck of Union City, Michigan reports that if two teaspoons of sulphur in a plastic cap is set on top of the ballast of a flourescent light fixture, it helps to keep down mildew on your plants and there is no odor. She also says if sulphur is added to the potting mix of a plant subject to mildew it will help keep it down.

Growing under Lights:

A. A. Samuelson, of Richland, Washington has been experimenting with materials upon which to set potted plants for humidity. He has a number of metal trays an inch or so deep in which he laid slats of wood of various thickness, threeeights to three-fourths inches with widths of two to four inches. These slats were laid one-half inch apart. Water to half the thickness of the slats was kept in the trays. The slats became soaked and the pots were set on these slats and cared for as normally they should be in a lighted frame. The choice of wood species would seem to favor the soft and absorbant woods like gum, mahogany, poplar etc. He thinks this is beneficial to his plants as it is a makeshift simulation of the tropical underfooting that Begonias like.

Unusual:

Rosetta White of Newton, Kansas reports she has a table of plants which upon touching the leaves of the plants with her arm, she receives a shock. She does not get the shock when she touches the plants with her hands. The plants on this table grew much better and faster than plants she sets on her shelves. To experiment to see if it was the electric shock that helped her plants to grow, she removed the plants that had been growing on the table and replaced them with other plants that were having a hard time getting started to grow. She placed these plants with plenty of space between and in just a few weeks since she had placed the plants on this table, the plants have grown to fill up the space between the pots and overlapping each other.

Seedlings:

Yvonne Wells of Mesquite, Texas reports on her B. 'Lenore Olivier' seedlings: One is growing just great. She sprinkled worm peat around them and watered with her fish pond water. One is completely silver, one is silver with a dark pink edge that is ruffled. The biggest one has finally taken on the B. 'Lenore Olivier' leaf. The other two are just typical angel wing so far but are starting to grow. Worm peat perked up her B. *subnummularifolia* seedlings.

Ferns:

Members of one fern flight are identifying ferns with drawings, pictures of ferns at the Metropolitan Flower Show were enclosed for all to see. They are studying the culture of ferns, growing from spores and identifying sporlings. One member had made hanging baskets from gallon milk and bleach jugs to replace wire baskets that were expensive. They were also growing ferns on boards.

If you would like to join a flight, be sure to tell me about how you grow *Begonias*, your main interest in *Begonias* and your choice of flights.

Anita Sickmon Round Robin Director Route 2, Box 99 Cheney, Kansas 67025

NOTICE

"The Knickerbocker Branch will have an exhibit of *Begonias* at the new headquarters of the Horticultural Society of New York, 128 West 58th St., New York City, from March 30, 1970 through April 10, 1970".

FOR BEGINNERS ONLY

by Anna Anderson

So you have acquired your first *Begonia!* How do you grow it? It depends on what "kind" it is and where you live. There are, in general, five "kinds" of *Begonias*. There are the cane, hirsute (hairy), rhizomatous, rex and the tuberous. It helps to ask when you get your plant as to which category it belongs.

The cane type have smooth stems and leaves and grow mostly upright but a few trail and are grown in baskets. They have flowers in drooping clusters from white, pink, to red.

The hirsute ones grow much the same way and are usually much more "hardy" then the canes. The flowers are white or pink. They have hairs on the stems, leaves and on the outside of the flower petals.

The rhizomatous *Begonias* have a stalk that creeps horizontally over the surface of the soil (sometimes the stalk grows upright). The leaves can be either smooth or have short bristly hairs. Their flowers are white or pink.

The rexes have stalks that grow either upright or horizontally but are characterized by their brilliantly colored leaves. Their flowers are pink.

The tuberous *Begonias* grow from a tuber underneath the soil and have flowers in all the shades of the rainbow.

Tubers and rhizomes are not roots but part of the stems or stalks. Rhizomes are true stems because they have nodes and internodes, flower and leaf stems that arise directly from the rhizome. A tuber is an enlarged fleshy compacted underground stem. Rhizomes are usually cylindrical. They are swollen with the stored starches, sugar and water needed to preserve the plant during adverse growing periods in the wilds for use when growing conditions are more favorable.

The species *Begonias* are generally harder to grow and require more "know how" so let us assume you have purchased or been given a cultivated one. One that is a cross between two species, (a hybrid), or one that is a cross between two hybrids or a cross between a hybrid and a species, (a cultivar).

Begonias require maximum light but not direct sunlight with the exception of very early morning or very late afternoon sun. They prefer a moist and humid atmosphere and need a loose soil mixture so when you water your plant it will drain off rather quickly. Begonias require food the same as you do so don't forget to fertilize every two weeks with a well balanced liquid fertilizer diluted half strength of the recommended dosage on the label. Don't forget that the original species from which all *Begonias* derive were discovered in warm semi-tropical Begonias thrive best in locations. temperatures between 50 degrees and 75 degrees. Some will tolerate a wider range but that depends on what "kind" it is and the amount of protection and other growing conditions.

Begonias all have different blooming and dormant seasons. The cane and hirsute types are dormant in our North American winters, blooming time varies from spring to mid-(CONTINUED)

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summer into late fall. The rhizomatous type slow down their growth during the hot months, coming into bloom in very early spring and starting new growth.

The rex *Begonias* are the most beautiful during the summer months, producing their bloom from July on into late fall, resting during the winter months and starting new growth in the spring.

The tuberous are started from tubers in February or March or purchased as established plants from nurseries later in the season after they have started to bloom. Their blooming season is summer till fall. At the first touch of frost they drop their flowers, leaves and stalks and the tubers should be stored in a dry place until their growing cycle begins again in spring.

For some reason it is usually best if you repot your new plant. If you don't already have a favorite loose soil mix you can purchase one from either a store Garden Section or a nursery. If the root ball fills the present pot, a pot of the next larger size is needed. Put a piece of screen over the hole in the bottom of the pot, add gravel or broken crockery and fill around the plant with the potting mix. Water the plant thoroughly and then don't water again until the soil feels dry on the surface. A solution of Vitamin B-1 will help to prevent shock. This also may be purchased in a garden supply section of a store or nursery.

The A.B.S. Librarian is listed under Appointed Officers on the inside front page of "The Begonian". All it takes is .50 cents for postage and handling and a request to her to receive the loan of any of the following books that give more information on the various types of *Begonias* and more detailed information on their cultural requirements.

Buxton – "Begonias and How to Grow Them"

Krauss – "Begonias for American Homes and Gardens"

Brilmayer - "All About Begonias"

BEGONIAS ARE HARDIER THAN WE THINK

by Phyllis Wright, N. W. Editor

Last fall when I was trying desperately to make more room in the greenhouse, I decided to do away with some large plants in order to make room for all of the "extras" I had purchased at the *Begonia* shows plant tables.

I set a large plant of B. 'Green Gold' (which is not a favorite of mine) outside for the time being. This plant was set near a large cedar tree, but was not completely protected. Late in November, after two hard frosts which killed the geraniums and hardy calla lillies, I noticed the plant still had received no damage to speak of. I still didn't care for the plant so I ignored it, or at least, tried to. I have to admit this was done with a lot of guilty conscience.

Three weeks ago I was doing some repotting and was in need of a six inch pot, I decided to dump the plant of B. 'Green Gold' and use the pot, but low and behold, when I went to get the plant it still had several large leaves that were quite healthy, also several new pink shoots coming from the rhizome. With (CONTINUED)

The Begonian

the determination this plant had put forth, I decided to call it the "winner", so I brought it inside, cut back the damaged leaves and some of the rhizome, lossened the soil, put a good sprinkling of soil dust all around the edge of the pot and watered it in well with good warm water, set it on the bench and it took off and is growing as though it had always received T. L. C.

I certainly do not recommend this treatment for any of the tender plants, but this does prove that many of these plants will stand neglect and still come through in pretty good shape.

I will try very hard to make amends to B. 'Green Gold' by giving it lots of extra T. L. C. Because the plant is a good grower it will probably shame me a step further by winning a blue ribbon at our Seattle Begonia Show in July.

CHECK THE FACTS

by Jack Golding, *Kearny, New Jersey*

Recently in a local newspaper article about "Christmas" *Begonias* it was stated that these winterflowering *Begonias* were "a descendant of B. *socotrana*, a native of the hot, sandy island of Socotra in the Indian Ocean". My first reaction was -- how wonderful! I must get some of them, a *Begonia* that could grow in such an environment would be an ideal house plant.

But I was disappointed when I checked and found the recommended growing conditions for the winterflowering *Begonias*. They require it cool, (70 degrees day and 60 degrees nights), soil constantly moist, but not soggy, humid atmosphere and draft free but with fresh air. So, how could the *Begonia* that required these conditions grow on a hot, dry, sandy island? In fact, I don't know of any *Begonias* that could grow in that environment.

Checking my references I found that L. H. Bailey, Dr. A. D. Houghton, Bessie Buxton, Helen K. Krauss, all described the Island of Socotra practically the same as above.

Seeking further in the Encyclopedia Britannica I located this description of Socotra; "The climate is torrid, with rain brought by the northeast monsoon in the cool season from November to March. The hot season is relieved in June, July and August by the high winds of the southwest monsoon. The daily range of the temperature of the coast area is 65 degrees to 85 degrees F and may reach 95 degrees, and on the mountains (3500 ft.) from 52 degrees to 72 degrees F". . .

Also, in the January 1941 issue of "The Begonian" I found the following by the Dean of Begonia growers, Alfred D. Robinson, now deceased, and I quote; "Socotra is an island in the Indian Ocean, 150 miles from the nearest point in Africa and 220 miles from Arabia and a mere 600 miles from the Red Sea. Quoting from my authority, "The surface consists for the most part of a tableland and low plains skirt the northern and southern shores. All the streams with the exception of a few rivulets are dry at a certain season; but rain-water is collected in reservoirs, and in most parts water can be obtained by digging a few feet below the surface. Owing to the somewhat unfertile character of the soil, most of the (CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE AT BOTTOM)

Volume 37 • April 1970

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the **Board of The American Begonia Society** February 23, 1970

The regular meeting of the Board of the American Begonia Society was called to order by Vera Naumann at 8:20 p.m. on February 23, 1970 in the South Gate Auditorium. Walter Pease led the Pledge of Allegience. Pearl Benell read the Aims and Purposes. Fifteen officers and twelve Branch Repre-sentatives answered roll call. Walter Barnett reported receipts \$1,191.37; disbursements \$1,007.78; leaving a balance in General Funds \$1,005.07. The Seed Culture Bulletin Fund has \$2.45. Balance on hand as of February 18, 1970 is \$1,007.52 The Minutes of the January meeting were read and approved as corrected. Anne Rose reported Advertising receipts \$55.00; unpaid accounts \$67.50. She was pleased to amounce three new ads for the April

\$55.00; unpaid accounts \$67.50. She was pleased to announce three new ads for the April Begonian. Wendy Franks has offered her new book on Platyceriums to ABS for sale and will give 25% discount. The Librarian was asked to make arrangements to secure the books. Anne further reported that her supply of stationery will soon need to be replenished. She was asked to shop for prices in several places in order to get the best deal possible. Ruth Pease reported that the Judges Course, Classification Book and Point Scoring Book will

districts are more adapted for pasture than for agriculture, but grain, fruits and vegetables are grown in the eastern districts."

Another authority says: "There are several well wooded mountains rising to 4500 feet with fertile valleys between the ranges and belts of rich soil along the coast. The climate is moist and warm, but healthy."

Therefore, considering its growing characteristics apparently B. socotrana, the ancestor of our winter-blooming Begonias, came from the mountains of the Island of Socotra, growing during the cool and moist winter months, and probably dormant during the hotter summer months.

Unfortunately, misinformation is sometimes transmitted from author to author, as in this case. Think about what you read. Is it logical? If not, question it.

be reviewed in the May-June issue of Golden Gardens. The printed lists of ABS Judges are ready. The cost was \$26.12 for 100 copies.

be reviewed in the May—June issue of Golden Gardens. The printed lists of ABS Judges are ready. The cost was \$26.12 for 100 copies. Ruth Pease recommended and made a motion to amend the present Judges Course as follows: A Sophomore Judge is one who has completed any ABS Judges Course or has a valid ABS Judges card but has less than 25 points. This motion was seconded by Pearl Benell and carried. Ruth also made a second motion that: In order to be an accredited ABS Judge, a person must have taken the present ABS Judges Course, any previous ABS Judging course or possess a valid ABS Judging card and fil application with the current ABS Director of the Judges Course. This motion was seconded the purpose of these ammendments is to give us assurance of having better qualified Begonia Judges but at the same time we will not be discontinuing our offer to those Nationally Accredited Judges to be listed with our Society. Lydia Austin reported that the book from England on Tuberous Begonias will cost \$7.80 plus postage and will sell for \$11.40. The Board approved the purchase of 10 books to start with. Mrs. Austin also reported that she has requests for the Buxton Check List but has no more. There is a great need for the list to be revised and brought up to date but there are no funds available for the purpose. Mrs. Naumann asked the Branch Representatives to take the matter up with their Branches. If there is sufficient interest, we will explore possible wasy to secure the necessary funds. The Secretary read the Round Robin report that 5 flights had come through; 8 requests received and five flights revised. Walte Barnett reported for the Seed Fund Director; Sales were \$75.00. The Side Librarian reported the Seed Fund Director; Sales were \$75.00. The Side Librarian teported for the Seed Fund Director; Sules to the Library. Martha Rader, Public Relations Director, re-ported 15 letters written and two Branches visit-ed 57 new members, renewals 153; total mem-bers in good standing as of February 18, 1970– 2.128. Begonian

mens to the Arnold Arboretum. She has been working with other members of the committee, trying to acquire more information about con-fused Begonia species. Mrs. Margaret Taylor, Parlimentarian, brought up the matter that the News Letter should not be called the Official Publication according to the By-Laws. Gene Daniels stated that he has already decided to delete those words. Gene Daniels stated that he has received favorable letters and comments. A letter from the Gabriel Branch reported that her Branch wants to be on record as opposing. Mrs. Naumann nominated the following to be the Nominating Committee: Mabel Corwin, Pearl Parker and Anne Rose. Motion made by Pearl Benell, seconded by Everett Wright, to accept the nominations, carried. Mabel Anderson, Editor, reported that the cost of printing "The Begonian" has been raised to \$600.00 per month due to increases in labor and material costs. Ann Rose expressed thanks to Gene Daniels from the Whittier Branch for their pictures

In labor and material costs. Ann Rose expressed thanks to Gene Daniels from the Whittier Branch for their pictures. A motion was made by Mabel Anderson, seconded by Walter Pease, to approve the \$75.00 advance deposit to the Flower Show and Convention Caterer. This will be deducted from the Show Fund. Motion carried. After the Branch reports, the meeting ad-journed at 10:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Irene Grannell, Secv.

ABOUT THE NEWS LETTER

"Rocking the Begonia Boat" is the name of a "news letter" edited by Gene Daniels, Box 83, Camarillo, Calif. 93010. It is currently being sent to Branches but Members at Large may receive the publication by sending \$1.00 and six self addressed labels or large envelopes to Mr. Daniels.

Mr. Daniels says that the purpose of the news letter is to "open communications" between Branches, Members at Large, and the National Board.

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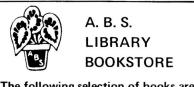


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IN MEMORIUM

They are not lost who find the light of sun and stars and God.

Grace Reed had been an active member in the Theodosia Burr Shepherd Branch for many years. She loved plants and grew many from seed. She loved to share her plants with others. Mrs. Reed had been ill for over three years, most of the time she was bed-ridden, she passed away January 31, 1970.



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*All About Begonias\$5.95 by Bernice Brilmayer		
*So Say The Experts\$2.00 by Ruth Pease		
Classification Guide Compiled by\$1.25 the Westchester Branch, A.B.S.		
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CONNECTICUT BRANCH

4th Sunday of each month Mrs. Peggy E. Fratus, Secy. 1363 Boston Post Road Old Saybrook, Conn. 06475

DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS BRANCH

3rd Monday, 10 a.m., Members' Homes Mrs. Mae Blanton, Secy. Rt. 1, Box 558, Mesquite, Texas 75149

EAST BAY BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:45 p.m., Willard School Telegraph at Stuart, Berkeley, Calif. Charles Badcock, Secy. 2325 Esmond, Richmond, Calif. 94804

EASTSIDE BRANCH

4th Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. Natural Gas Co. Bldg Crossroads Shopping Center, Bellevue, Wash. Edith Lange, Secy. 9905 Belfair Lane, Bellevue, Wash. 98004

EL MONTE COMMUNITY BRANCH

3rd Friday, Members' Homes Mrs. Gladys Mattuket 314 N. Rural Drive, Monterey Park, Calif. 91754

FOOTHILL BRANCH

3rd Thursday, 8:00 p.m. First Methodist Church, Marshall Hall 3205 D Street, La Verne, Calif. Mrs. Madge Borden, Secy. 602 North Angelino, Azusa, Calif. 91740

FORT, ELSA BRANCH

1st Saturday, 1:00 p.m. Miss Lola Price, Secy. 628 Beach Ave., Laurel Springs, N.J. 08044

GLENDALE BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 8:00 p.m. Glendale Federal Savings, 401 N. Brand Mrs. Frances Perkins, Secy. 3712 Revere Ave., Los Angeles, Calif. 90039

GREATER BATON ROUGE BRANCH

Mrs. Charles H. Smith, Secy 4177 Flannery Rd., Baton Rouge, La. 70814 HOUSTON TEXAS BRANCH

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Mrs. E. H. Claggett, Secy. 4415 Austin Houston, Texas 77004

INGLEWOOD BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. Western Federal Savings Bldg. 355 E. Manchester Blvd., Inglewood, Calif. Lola Somes, Secy. 4849 W. 130th St., Hawthorne, Calif. 90250

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3rd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. McAlpin Hotel, New York City Mrs. Philip Sarna, Secy. 37 East 30th St., New York 10016

LONG BEACH PARENT CHAPTER 2nd Sunday, 1:30 p.m. Glendale Fed. Sav. & Loan Bldg. 5535 Stearns St. Cor. Bellflower, Long Beach, Calif.

Mrs. Bernita McClanahan, Secy. 1020 Poppy Ave., Compton, Calif. 90221

LOUISIANA CAPITAL BRANCH

1st Friday, Sear's Garden Center 6201 Florida St., Baton Rouge Mrs. Wilma Simpson, Secy 3105 Belmont St., Baton Rouge, La. 70808

MESQUITE BRANCH

Mrs. Loretta Gibbons, Secy. 3209 Hula Dr., Mesquite, Texas 75149

MIAMI BRANCH 4th Tuesday, 8:00 p.m. Simpson Memorial Garden Center Miss Rosamond Meriweather, Secy. 1552 Plascentia Ave., Coral Gables, Fla. 33134

MISSOURI BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, 11 a.m. Members' Homes Kansas City, Mo. Mrs. Lynne K. Wood, Secy. 626 W. Charles, Independance, Missouri 64055

NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m American Legion Post No. 560 East 59th and Orange, Long Beach Ruth Hurd, Secy. 2942 Sawyer St., Long Beach, Calif. 90805

ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Garden Grove Grange Hall, Century and Taft Sts. Garden Grove, Calif. Mrs. William M. Hastings, Secy. 621 Orchard St. Corona del Mar. Calif. 92625

PHILOBEGONIA BRANCH

2nd Friday, Members' Homes Mrs. Anne Stiles, Secy East Delaware Trail, R. D. No. 2, Medford, N.J. 08055

PORTLAND BRANCH

Mrs. Lavene Jenkins, Secv. 9920 S. W. 53rd Ave., Portland, Oregon 97219

REDONDO AREA BRANCH

4th Friday, 7:30 p.m. R. H. Dana School Cafetorium 135th St. and Aviation Blvd., Hawthorne, Calif. Mrs. Dora Aaron, Secy. 4820 W. 135th, Hawthorne, Calif. 90250

RHODE ISLAND BRANCH

1st Saturday, Homes of Members Mrs. Robert Northup, Secy. 555 Kingstown Road, Peace Dale, R.I. 02883

RIVERSIDE BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. **Dales Recreation Center** 3936 Chestnut St., Riverside, Calif. Mrs. Tim Smith, Secy. 8631 Clearview Pl., Riverside, Calif. 92509

ROBINSON, ALFRED D. BRANCH

3rd Friday, 12 noon, Homes of Members Constance D. Bower, Corr. Secy. 1609 W. Lewis St., San Diego, Calif. 92103

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SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH 1st Wednesday, 8:00 p.m. Garden Center, Golden Gate Park 9th Ave. and Lincoln Way Mr. Allen Sweet, Secy 139 Beverly St., San Francisco, Calif. 94132 SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH 2nd Friday, 8:00 p.m. Los Angeles State and County Arboretum 501 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, Calif. Mrs. Virginia Barnett, Secy. 1213 Mullender Ave., West Covina, Calif. 91790 SAN MIGUEL BRANCH 2nd Wednesday, Porter Hall 7:30 p.m. University & La Mesa Blvd., La Mesa Mrs. Margaret Lee, Secy. 1852 31st St., San Diego, Calif. 92102 SANTA BARBARA BRANCH 2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History 2559 Puesta Del Sol Mrs. Helen Yost, Secv 888 La Milpita Rd., Santa Barbara, Calif. 93105 SEATTLE BRANCH 3rd Tuesday, 7:45 p.m., Loyal Heights Field House 21st Ave., N.W. and N.W. 77th St. Virginia Level, Secy 13770 1st Avenue N.E., Seattle, Wash. 98125 SHEPHERD, THEODOSIA BURR BRANCH 1st Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. Y.M.C.A. Bldg., 5200 Telegraph Rd., Ventura, Calif. David Dichter, Secy. 3280 San Luis St., Ventura, California 93003 SMOKY VALLEY BRANCH 4th Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Members' Homes Miss Verna Fowler, Pres. 920 Sheridan, Salina, Kansas 67401 SOUTH CAROLINA BRANCH Mrs. Leonard Thomas 333 Harrow Dr., Columbia, S. C. 292910 SOUTH SEATTLE BRANCH 4th Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Wm. Moshier Field House 430 So. 156th Burien Mrs. Arthur Johnson 12216 8th South, Seattle, Wash. 98168 TARRANT COUNTY BRANCH 2nd Monday, 10:00 a.m., Members' Homes Mrs. F. E. Mahler, Secy. 1815 Sixth Ave., Forth Worth, Texas 76110 TEXAS STATE BRANCH 4th Thursday, Sabine National Bank Bldg. Port Arthur, Texas Mrs. R. J. Wilson, Secy. 4620 Evergreen St., Port Arthur, Texas 77640 TEXASTAR BRANCH 3rd Thursday, 10 a.m., Garden Center 1500 Herman Dr., Houston, Texas Mrs. V. O. Harman, Secy. 306 Cody, Houston, Texas 77009 WESTCHESTER BRANCH 1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Westchester Women's Club 8020 Alverstone St., Los Angeles, Calif. Barbara Mack, Secy 424 Oregon St., El Segundo, Calif. 90245 WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH 2nd Wednesday, 11:00 a.m. every other month Pittsburg Garden Center, 1059 Shady Ave., Pittsburg, Pa. Mrs. Irene Fediaczko, Secy. 125 Arlington Ave., Butler, Pa. 16001 WHITTIER BRANCH 1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Palm Park Community Center 5703 S. Palm Ave., Whittier Phyllis Ferguson, Secy. 10722 Wiatt Way, La Habra, Calif. 90631

WILLIAM PENN BRANCH 4th Tuesday, Noon, Homes of Members Mrs. Murdock Davis, Secy. 256 Broughton Lane, Villanova, Pa. 19085

CALENDAR

April 2 – Westchester Branch 7:30 p.m. Speaker, Mr. William Paylen, "Bromeliad Culture".

April 8 – Inglewood Branch, Speaker – Sylvia Leatherman, "Spring is Beauty" (Begonias and Ferns) 7:30 p.m.

April 9 – Orange County Branch, 6:30 Pot Luck, Speaker, Rudy Ziesenhenne.

April 13 – Glendale Branch Meeting, 7:30 p.m.

April 21 – Seattle Branch, Regular Meeting, Loyal Heights Recreation Center, Seattle, Wash., 7:00 p.m.

April 21 – Sacramento Branch 8:00 p.m. Panel Discussion on Begonias and Companion plants for the July show.

April 24—Redondo Area Branch, Speaker, Walter Pease, "Tuberous Begonias".

April 27 – ABS Board, 8:00 p.m., South Gate City Auditorium, 4900 Southern Ave., South Gate, Calif. Meetings are always open to members.

May 7 – Westchester Branch 7:30 p.m., Speaker – Mr. Pat Antonelli, "Tuberous Begonias".

May 7 – Whittier Branch, 7:30 p.m., Speaker – Vera Naumann, "Grooming Your Plants".

May 22 – Redondo Area Branch Speaker, Ed Sherer, Gesneriads.

Please contribute Slides of Begonias to the A.B.S. Slide Library.

A subscription to "The Begonian" would make a nice Birthday gift or a Gift for any occasion.



The revised Membership Roster is off the press. Order your copy from the Membership Secretary. \$1.25

Pearl Benell 10331 S. Colima Rd., Whittier, Calif. 90604

Volume 37 • April 1970

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