

The BEGONIAN



AUGUST, 1970

Devoted to the Sheltered Garden

VOL. 37 NO. 8



Tuberous *Begonia*

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GENERAL OFFICES, dues, address changes, or magazines: Cliff Ebeling, Membership Secretary, 6157 Lime Avenue, Long Beach, California 90805

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Views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the Editors, the Society or its officers.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members:

This is the last time I will have the opportunity to "speak" to you as National President. The year has gone by very fast.

To say I have achieved everything that I had high hopes for would be untrue. Every President, I'm sure, has a goal in mind when they take office. To say that any President could retire from office and say that they had done everything that they had planned to do, would be ridiculous. We try very hard, but sometimes it is like swimming an obstacle course. My main thought was to please and give the members what they wanted to get out of the American Begonia Society. There were very few "President's Messages" this year, my reason was to give you, the members, more space for articles on *Begonias* and Shade Plants. I'm sure this is why you joined the A.B.S.

I'm very pleased to have been your President. I've met some wonderful people in person and by mail. Friendship is a wonderful thing, I shall cherish it all my life. I thank all the wonderful members that keep this Society going. My thanks to each Officer and Chairman who helped me in so many ways. I will always be happy to help the American Begonia Society in any way that I can.

Best wishes to all,
Vera L. Naumann, *National Pres.*

SHOW—GO—ROUND

Ola Amigos — We've struck gold in Ventura. Come up and take some home with you. Choose from over 90 (ninty) golden trophies. Refresh yourself in the cool atmosphere of the early California gardens next to the blue Pacific.

Enjoy a delicious prime rib dinner with friends who share your interest, mainly growing beautiful *Begonias*.

The "Happy Hour" will be from 6 to 7 p.m., enjoy a cup of Champagne punch mixed by our favorite mixologist, Mr. Everett Wright.

Your Hostess, President Vera Naumann hopes you will attend this happy occasion concluding another successful year in the American Begonia Society.

Circle August 15th and 16th on your calendar, bring your plants to Ventura and enjoy a mini vacation of fun.

Jan Dacayana,
Publicity Chairman

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* and companion plants;

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*.

BANQUET SPEAKER MR. PAT ANTONELLI

The American Begonia Society will be honored at the Banquet August 15th in Ventura by the presence as Speaker of Mr. Pat Antonelli of tuberous *Begonia* fame.

Mr. Antonelli is one of five brothers working in the *Begonia* gardens at Santa Cruz, California. Originally they worked with Mr. Vetterle in growing callas then *Begonias*. They started their own business thirty five years ago, specializing in tuberous *Begonias*. They grow a million seedlings a year which are shipped all over the United States, Canada and to many parts of the world.

Originally their seed was bought in England, later their hybridizing resulted in the large flowered hanging basket types. One of their notable achievements is the picotee tuberous hanging basket *Begonias*. Their most recent introductions is the ruffled picotee upright *Begonia*. For 1970 their introduction is the new multiflora type in shades of pink, rose, red yellow, apricot and picotee. The fields of seedlings start to bloom in July, continuing through October and are a beautiful sight with their flowers in all shades of the rainbow.

In addition to the five Antonelli brothers, Mr. Pat Antonelli's son is also active in the business along with a son in law, plus grandsons coming along. With so many "sons" you can expect bigger, better and more beautiful *Begonias* for a long time.

SHOW OF SHOWS

For the last several months the work being done by the Theodosia Burr Shepherd Branch members for the 38th Annual Begonia and Shade Plant Show to be held in Ventura August 15th and 16th has been tremendous.

Not only have the members of the hosting Branch been busy but so have many others in and around Ventura as well as in the Los Angeles area. It takes many hands to put on a National Show and I am deeply grateful to each and every one of the people working on the Show and to those who will be present at the Show working to make this a "Show of Shows".

Many Branches are working on plans for their individual Branch Garden Displays; individuals are working on displays of their own; patio types as well as educational tables and then there are those who are growing plants for the plant sale to be held at the Show.

The building we have this year is large and there is room for many exhibits. We urge all members who can to attend the Show, to bring their plants and enter the Show. This Show is yours. Be a part of it. I am very happy to be able to say **THANK YOU** to so many for their willingness to help, their long hours of work and for preparing a Show everyone will enjoy.

Join us. Come to the 38th Annual ABS Begonia and Shade Plant Show at the Ventura Fairgrounds.

Everett Wright,
A.B.S. Show Chairman

PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS

Be sure to tell them you saw their Ad in "The Begonian"

TUBEROUS BEGONIAS

by Mrs. S. A. Hassel, *Washington, Connecticut*

Begonia tuberhybrida or tuberous rooted *Begonias* as we know them today are the results of hybridization experiments dating back to 1868. Today these plants take many forms, from the pendulous types which are lovely in baskets, to the more sturdy, erect, large flowered varieties. *Begonia tuberhybridas* are summer flowering plants used principally for outdoor cultures, as specimen individual or bedding plants in gardens, on terraces or in porch or window boxes. It is in this category that we shall treat them.

Although tuberous rooted *Begonias* can be grown from seed or cuttings, the simplest method for the beginner is to purchase tubers from a reliable source. Shun "bargains" like the plague. The tubers should be round, firm, from one and a half to two and a half inches in diameter and show in their slightly concave upper surface two or three pink protuberances or "eyes". The price of good tubers average from fifty to seventy five cents apiece. When one considers that for this price, plus some care in culture, he gets a large and continuously flowering plant from June until killing frost, it is a good investment. Then too, with a small percentage of attrition, the tubers can be over-wintered and grown again the following years.

In February or March the tubers should be planted side by side in a flat of dampened peat moss. Fill the flat to within a half inch of the top with peat moss and soak the entire flat, moistening the wood too, for a couple of hours. Remove from the

water and allow to stand for twelve to twenty four hours, having first pressed out all the surplus water possible and also, thereby, firming the medium. Then with a deft twist sink each tuber, concave side up, up to its rim in the peat moss, leaving about two inches between tubers. Place the flat in a cool, light (not sunny) spot. Keep the peat moss moistened -- not wet!

After a month to six weeks the "eyes" should have sprouted and two to three good sized leaves should be flourishing on each stem. With care not to disturb the roots which have developed around each tuber, lift same and plant individually in bulb or azalea pots, using an approved *Begonia* mixture, covering each tuber one half to an inch. A good mixture is one third each of peat moss, leaf mold and perlite or sponge-rock or a good planter mix purchased at your local nursery.

At this stage, the pots of *Begonias* should be placed in a shady location and kept well watered and fertilized every ten days. After danger of frost, they can be placed outdoors in the garden. With the exception of the hanging baskets, the pots should be sunk up to their rims in peat filled porch or window boxes or in the ground. Some people prefer keeping the plants in individual pots to planting the tubers directly into the garden or planter for four reasons: 1. moisture and fertilization can be better controlled, 2. physical damage from burrowing animals like moles is minimized, 3.

(CONTINUED NEXT PAGE)

since blossoms appear in the direction to which leaves point, the plant can be turned to show off to the best advantage, 4. reduces the possibility of bacterial and fungal diseases.

Do not pinch the stems of the large-flowering upright types. The hanging varieties can be pinched lightly to increase branching but with a good stock tuber, this should not be necessary.

When blooms start to form and in order to get larger blossoms, the female buds (showing the pyramidal ovary at their bases) should be removed. Also, the plant should be carefully staked to prevent breaking from the weight of the blossoms or the force of rain and windstorms. The stems of all tuberous *Begonias* are very brittle and if one does break off, insert it one inch into the planter soil, water lightly and you will probably (if this is early season damage) have a dividend plant which will produce bloom for the late summer.

The majority of commercial growers advertise tuberous *Begonias* as shade-loving plants. In the short summers of the northern states, a sunny location is usually chosen and the plants require daily saturation of the soil in early morning and fertilizing every ten days with a 20-20-20-fertilizer. However, the climate in which you live determines the amount of sun or shade your plants require. Watering can be done later in the morning but care should be taken to avoid wetting the leaves when the sun is hot. Never water in the late afternoon.

After frost has killed the top growth of the plants (in late fall in most locations) dig up the tubers,

remove the pots from their summer home and place them in a cool, dry, dark cellar, garage or other sheltered spot. Allow the tops to dry off and then remove them. The tubers can be stored in a cool dry place right in their pots or packaged in a container of dry peat moss. To prevent rodent damage (as mice find tubers a very delectable tid-bit) place the tubers in a hardware cloth cage to prevent rodent raids. The tubers should be inspected every few weeks to insure against drying out with too much heat or freezing in a sudden cold spell.

In early February or March the tubers should be carefully cleaned off, removing any old dried roots or soil. Take care not to damage the "eyes" or any succulent roots from the previous year. Spray lightly with water to provide moisture and discard any soft or desiccated tubers. Now with the purchase of a few new tubers or many, if you've been bitten with a new hobby bug, you're all set to go again.

HAVE YOU A BEGONIA QUESTION?

Starting in the September issue, a new column will be inaugurated! If you have a question about the culture, propagation or any other questions pertaining to *Begonias*, please submit them to our new Questions and Answers Editor, Mrs. Ruth Pease, 8101 Vicksburg Ave., Los Angeles, California 90045.

BEGONIA 'ZEE BOWMAN'

A pretty little seedling of *B. boweri* is *B. 'Zee Bowman'*. This is one of the easiest to grow of the small leaved *Begonias*. It makes an excellent window-sill plant. The leaves are slightly star-shaped, green with silvery markings. If given the proper conditions it will remain compact and attractive. In the north window of my living room where it received very bright light *B. 'Zee Bowman'* started to bloom in February with pretty little pink flowers that held over a very long period. It never was fussy about soil mixes and I am sure the beginner would find it a most satisfactory *Begonia*

to grow. In my greenhouse it was happy on the west bench in winter but by March the leaves would fade as the sun became brighter and warmer. Then it was placed under a canopy where it was shaded for the summer. On an herb tray in front of a south window, which is shaded by a flowering crab-apple tree, *B. 'Zee Bowman'* is always a delight. It has been my experience that the green and silvery markings fade out under the warm white fluorescent

lights and the plant loses its crisp attractiveness. However, under the Gro-Lux lights the markings are quite pronounced and the little plant becomes most handsome. As my lights are 18 inches from the shelf *B. 'Zee Bowman'* does not bloom in this location but rhizome cuttings taken any time root very quickly. If the pot is placed in an attractive cache pot as pictured or in a stemmed compote it can be used as a table centerpiece when flowers are not available.

Elda Haring
Contributing Editor



B. 'Zee Bowman'
Photo by Walter J. Haring

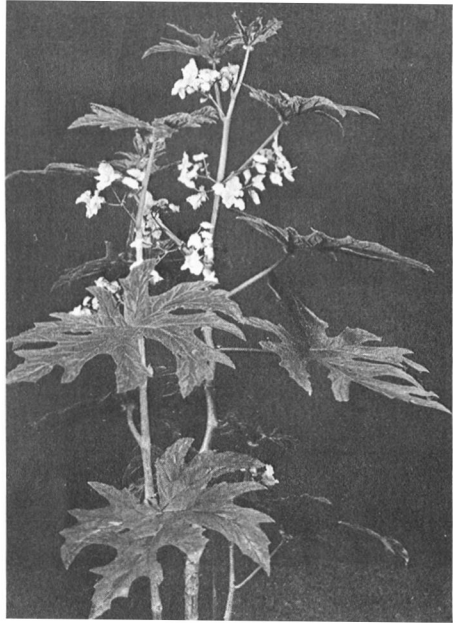
CLAYTON M. KELLY SEED FUND

Instructions —

BEGONIAS FROM SEED * SOWING AND GROWING.** Gives step by step — easy to follow instructions and encouragement for beginning seed growers. Price 25c.

No. 1 — *B. wollnyi* — Herzog

Species from Bolivia, seed were collected from a plant from the collection of the late Dr. Irmischer, Germany. Handsome *Begonia* with palmately lobed leaves, elegantly spotted with white (see picture). The flowers appear in winter; they are greenish white with pink petals. A very attractive combination. Price \$1.00 per pkt.



Begonia platanifolia Schott

Photo by J. Doorenbos



Begonia wollnyi Herzog

Photo by J. Doorenbos

No. 2 — *platanifolia* Schott

Often confused with *B. aconitifolia*. See picture for proper description and identification. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 3 — *ficicola* Irmischer

Tropical West Africa. First named as "fig-loving" from having first been discovered growing on a *Ficus*. Dwarf plant with plain green peltate leaves up to five inches long and bullate texture unlike that of *B. masoniana*. The flowers are bright yellow with a hint of orange on the back of petals. Seed scarce. *B. ficicola* is very difficult to grow and requires high humidity and almost no light. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

Please note: A few pkts. of *B. ficicola* have been sent as a substitute to some of the members on the East coast who have accused the Seed Fund of distributing rare seeds here in California. If you have re-

ceived a packet, please do not ask for a second one, we do not have them. Packets will contain only a very small amount so if you are willing to pay \$1.00 for less than a dozen seeds, that is what it will amount to. We can not do the impossible and by distributing small amounts, perhaps plants will be more evenly distributed, then more seeds will be readily available. Picture of *B. ficicola* appeared in January 1969 "The Begonian".

No. 4 — *B. masoniana* syn. *B. 'Iron Cross'*

Discovered by Mason in 1952. One of the most beautiful *Begonias* in cultivation. White-hairy, reddish stems and large, roundish, firm puckered leaves. Nile green, marked with contrasting bold pattern of brown-red in the form of a cross. Older leaves are overlaid with silver and covered bristly red and red ciliate. Waxy flowers are greenish-white with maroon bristles on back. Please note that *B. masoniana* is somewhat tempermental about germination. After waiting from three to six weeks you may have a few plants but eventually they will all germinate so don't lose patience and write me that you have no plants because plants will appear. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 5 — *scharfii* (*B. baageana*) Brazil

Lovely, rugged, white hairy plant with fibrous roots, ten inch and larger ovate leaves, brownish yellow-green with red veins, red beneath; pink flower clusters. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 6 — *B. 'Joe Hayden'* — *B. 'Reichenheimii'* x *B. mazae*

Large, dark-sheen star leaves with

bright cream spot at stem; red lining beneath gives reversible effect; dark color in little sun gives rise to nickname "Black *Begonia*". Vigorous rhizome creeps, divides, creates shapely plant. Red flower buds open white. Price 50c per pkt.

No. 7 — *heracleifolia* — Mexico

Pink flowered, robust star leaf, rhizomatous. Price 50c per pkt.

No. 8 — *B. sc semperflorens*

Mixed. From a friend in Sao Paulo, Brazil. All colors and types. Price 50c per pkt.

Correction: *Begonia* No. 9 in June "The Begonian" should be *B. 'Starfolia'*. A hybrid, *B. macdougallii* x *B. 'Carol Star'*, by Suzie Zug, California, still available at 50c per pkt.

The following Indian *Begonias* are still available: (for full description see "The Begonian" for June)

- B. sikkimensis* — rhizomatous \$1.00 per pkt.
- B. josephi* — Rose red flowers, distinctive. \$1.00 per pkt.
- B. roxburghii* — White flowers. \$1.00 per pkt.

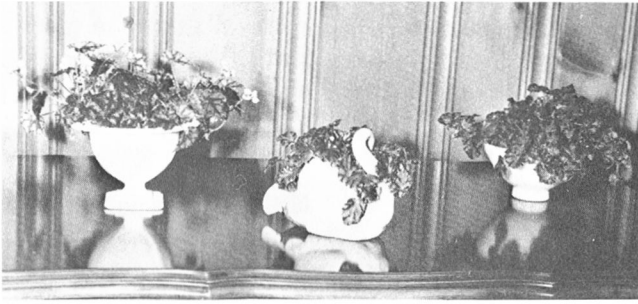
Send request for seeds to:

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

"THE BEGONIAN"
ADVERTISING RATES

	Once	Monthly
Full Page	\$30.00	\$25.00
Half Page	18.50	15.00
Quarter Page	10.00	8.50
Per Inch	3.00	2.50

MY FAVORITE MINIATURES



Begonias nigra marga, 'China Doll' and 'Bow Joe'

Photo by Walter J. Haring

Shown in the photograph are *Begonias nigra marga*, 'China Doll' and 'Bow Joe'. They are all easy to grow and are delightful to use in small, decorative containers. They will remain for many months in their cramped quarters and if conditions of light and temperature are suitable will reward you with sprays of charming blossoms. *B. nigra marga* has small green leaves with brown markings edged with tiny hairs. Leaves of *B. 'China Doll'* are similarly shaped but the markings are wider and reddish. *B. 'Bow Joe'* has Chocolate brown leaves. All are hybrids having *B. boweri* as one of the parents.

As I have pointed out before in these monthly articles, when using a closed container such as these, it is necessary to create a drainage area by using a small quantity of bird gravel mixed with crushed charcoal in the bottom of the container. Over this place a piece of paper towel to keep the soil mix from sifting into the drainage area. Then plant your small rooted plant as usual. This kind of container must be very carefully watered. Too much moisture will cause the roots to rot quickly; conversely if adequate moisture is not provided the

plant will not thrive. If you have over-watered and moisture stands on top of the soil, turn the container on its side for a few moments to allow excess water to drain. I give mine a very dilute feeding of one-quarter strength Rapid-Gro every five or six weeks when plants are sending up new leaves and shoots. This keeps them healthy but does not encourage them to grow to rapidly.

It is wise to root some of the rhizome or leaves so that when it is obvious that the plants have become too badly root bound you can remove them to clay or plastic pots and start over again with young plants for your container. The containers in the photograph hold the equivalent of the amount of soil in a 2½ inch flower pot.

Each of these varieties grow and bloom well near a very bright north window in my dining room. They are also most attractive if grown on a table near a sunny window and if you cannot provide good light for them they are just beautiful in a dark corner under the Gro-Lux table lamp kept burning at least 12 hours each day.

Elda Haring
Contributing Editor

ROUND ROBIN NOTES

Requests are coming in for flights, so interest is high in the Robins. For many it is a time of summering outside for their *Begonias*. Some of the specialty flights have a waiting list.

Mrs. Dorcas Resleff, Ridgefield, Washington finds the articles in "The Begonian" very helpful. She had a hard time growing rex *Begonias* in the house without having the leaves dry on the edges until she read the article on wick watering in the March issue. About the same time she read that rex *Begonias* do better in shallow containers so repotted some and they are doing well.

Miniature Begonias:

Marilyn Bettjer, Eastchester, N.Y. grows several *B. rotundifolia* in a shallow pot and they stay small for her. Helen Matsubu of Fruitland, Idaho finds that *B. listida* will grow well under her lights if she ignores it and waters about half as much as she waters her other *Begonias*. Elaine Wilkerson of Slaughter, Louisiana has grown *B. brooksii* (*plebja*) in a bubble bowl uncovered for a couple of years, grows it in dry soil. It was in bloom in April but Elaine reports that it is nearly always in bloom. It was cut back to the rhizome by the cold and would not have survived if it had not been in the bowl. Elaine has never fertilized it so it has poor soil and dry. She thinks many of the *Begonias* from Mexico like to be grown dry as that is the way she grows *B. kenworthyi* and *B. hydrocotylifolia*.

Bloom:

Helen had *B. 'Templini'* bloom for her under lights and was well pleased but the bloom did not last

very long and she felt that this was a lack of humidity.

Geraldine Daly of Coventry, Rhode Island reports that her *B. 'Sissonnii'* is a profuse bloomer, light pink and only blooms in fall and early winter. It grew about two feet high, well branched. She puts them in the garden where it is shaded during the summer and they start to bud up soon after being brought inside.

Seed:

Wanda Welch of Whittier, Calif. had fifty plants from *B. paranaensis*, she put twenty four in a terrarium under lights and the rest she put in a window. The ones in the terrarium doubled the size of those in the window. Wanda had twelve seedlings of *B. limmingbiana* x *B. 'Orange Rubra'* and were four inches high with bright green silver spotted angel wing leaves and looked like they would be basket plants. Wanda also has good germination on *B. 'Colorvision'* rex seed; she had one hundred and five seedlings from one pack, lost a lot but still had twenty left with four and five leaves.

Arline Peck of Pascoag, Rhode Island also reported germination on *B. limmingbiana* x *B. 'Orange Rubra'*, and had transplanted eighteen and had a few left. Arline reported she had more seedlings than she knew what to do with of *B. allichiana* and *B. plumieri*. She was also busy transplanting *B. olsoniae* x *listida* in late April. Ruth Wells of Midwest City, Oklahoma reported in mid June that she had germination on *B. engleri*, *B. 'orange Rubra'*, *B. paranaensis*, *B. richardsiana* x *dregei*, *B. macbethii* and *B. olsoniae*.

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THE KNICKERBOCKER BRANCH OF THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY, INC.

Invites you and your friends to join them at the

FIFTH ANNUAL EASTERN BEGONIA CONVENTION AND FLOWER SHOW

ISLAND INN MOTOR HOTEL
OLD COUNTRY ROAD
WESTBURY, LONG ISLAND, NEW YORK

PROGRAM

Thursday, September 17, 1970

7:00 – 10:00 p.m.

Show entries accepted.

8:30 p.m.

“Reminiscing” – the Early Eastern Conventions: by Mrs. Edna Stewart of the Western Pennsylvania Branch.

NOTE: Please bring your slides and pictures of previous conventions.

Friday, September 18

8:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Show entries accepted.

10:00 a.m.

Leave for Planting Fields Arboretum Tour

12:30 p.m.

Lunch at Planting Fields
“The Story of Planting Fields” by Dr. Gordon E. Jones, Director. “*Begonia* Research Projects” by Mr. Carl L’Hommedieu, A.B.S. Research Director.

3:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Flower Show open to public.

6:00 p.m.

Social Hour

7:00 p.m.

Dinner – Speaker: Professor H. Gilbert Harlow, Developer of the Harlow Hybrid Tuberous *Begonias*.

Saturday, September 19

10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Flower Show open to public.

10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Begonia Seminar – “Herbarium Specimens”: by Dr. Bernice G. Schubert, Curator; Arnold Arboretum.

12:00 noon

Lunch

1:30 – 2:45 p.m.

Begonia Seminar – “Rhizomatous *Begonias*” by Members of the William Penn Branch.

3:00 – 4:15 p.m.

Begonia Seminar – “Growing *Begonias* Under Lights” by Mrs. Orpha Fox of the Bessie Raymond Buxton Branch.

7:00 p.m.

Social Hour

8:00 p.m.

Awards Banquet – Guest of Honor and Speaker, Mrs. Belva Kusler, the originator of those wonderful Kusler Hybrids.

For complete information, including registration, reservation forms, show schedule and entry forms, write to Mrs. J. W. Todd, 25 East End Ave., N.Y., N.Y. 10028.

FIFTH ANNUAL EASTERN BEGONIA CONVENTION

The Eastern Begonia Convention, sponsored this year by the Knickerbocker Branch, will be at the Island Inn Motor Hotel, Westbury, Long Island, New York, September 17-19, 1970.

An outstanding program has been prepared for your education and enjoyment. Starting on Thursday night, with a relaxed and informal get-together, under the leadership of Mrs. Edna Stewart of Tarentum, Penn., we will have a pictorial review of the previous convention and be able to reminisce about the early days of the American Begonia Society. Edna Stewart, a member of the Western Pennsylvania Branch, was a Chairman of the first Eastern Begonia Convention and is a very active grower and hybridizer of *Begonias*.

On Friday morning, the trip to Planting Fields Arboretum, one of the Northeast's outstanding horticultural show places, will be of great interest. Gordon E. Jones, Director of Planting Fields will relate its history and our own Carl L'Hommedieu, of the A.B.S., Director of Research, will tell us about the *Begonia* research projects.

Our after-dinner speaker for Friday night is H. Gilbert Harlow, a Professor of Engineering at Union College in Schenectady, New York. He has spent more than twenty years in developing a new strain of tuberous *Begonias*, particularly adapted to the climate of the Northeastern United States, which have won many honors, including the highest award of the International Flower Show in New York.

Saturday's activities will start with the morning seminar, conduct-

ed by Dr. Bernice G. Schubert, the Curator of the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University. This will be a fascinating presentation about the importance, use and preparation of herbarium specimens.

At the first seminar, after lunch, a panel of members from the William Penn. Branch will discuss the culture of rhizomatous *Begonias*.

This will be followed by a presentation of "Growing Begonias Under Artificial Light" by Mrs. Orpha Fox of Dracut, Mass., a member of the Bessie Raymond Buxton Branch. For the past eleven years she has been growing more than 350 *Begonias* under fluorescent lights in her cellar, including many varieties grown from seed.

The culmination of these activities will be the address at the Awards Banquet by our guest of Honor, Mrs. Belva Kusler. We will learn of her experiences growing and hybridizing *Begonias* at her home in Frederic, Wisconsin. Her diligent work and conformace to very exacting standards has resulted in the introduction of 31 magnificent *Begonias*, the now famous Kusler Hybrids. Some of these that we have all admired are: B. 'Anna Christine', B. 'Dorothy Barton', B. 'Esther Albertine', B. 'Frances Lyons', B. 'Gigi Fleetham', B. 'Gwen Lowell', B. 'Lenore Olivier', B. 'Lil O'Neill', B. 'Margaret Stevens' and B. 'Sophie Cecile'.

There will be *Begonias* for sale during the convention.

Please register early; see page 163 of the July "The Begonian" for details on how to get the Flower Show Schedule, entry and registration forms.

BUBBLES AND BOWLES

by Chuck Tagg

There seems to be quite an interest in some of the *Begonias* which are usually grown in closed containers. One of my Round Robin comments was quoted in that column of a past "The Begonian" and a surprising number of letters provided me with lots of new ideas. Each of us develop some new ways of doing things and eventually find a way that is successful. Many others can profit from trying those new ways. Unfortunately, for some reason, these same methods just won't work for everyone. I hope some of the ideas included in this article will help some of you.

My experience with this group of plants has been broadening fast since I started to catch on with the first of them. One set of plants is comparatively hardy. Many grow them to perfection in a good glasshouse. Others use glass bubbles or terrariums for them, as not all of us have a better place. These include *Begonias herbacea*, *goegoensis*, *nurii*, 'Emerald Jewel' and 'Silver Jewel'. Another set is a bit more tender and seems to be grown in bowls most of the time. These are *Begonias pustulata*, *versicolor*, *rajah*, *imperialias* (and its varieties) and 'Meximperia'. There is another set I am still experimenting with and treat as the most tender. Someday I may have propagated enough spare plants to dare try to see how tough they really are. This set includes *Begonias griffithii*, *metachroa*, *cathayana*, *crispula* and *plumeri*. I have also heard of others who even grow rexes in glass containers. This is beyond my experience. It is not necessary here and I

don't have enough room for them in the house.

These plants are usually grown in either a glass bowl or a terrarium because that is one of the easiest ways to provide the humidity they need. Most of them are also temperature sensitive and enjoy the protection of house temperatures. Inside the house the air is quite often very dry. Even so, *B. herbacea* will do quite well in a bowl without a cover, although, of course, it needs water more often. The others in the "tough" group do best with some covering but might be happier with a crack left open for a bit of ventilation. The others prefer to be kept completely closed except when they are being worked on.

Saran plastic film, intended for wrapping food, will make an adequate cover. I prefer to have a piece of glass cut to cover the bowl. Sharp edges can be covered with transparent tape. This never blows off in a draft and I prefer the appearance.

Each grower has his own preferred mix, just as personal as his toothbrush. I have my own combination that does well for me outside, but for the bowl plants, I prefer straight brown sphagnum moss. These plants seem to prefer the never soggy, well aerated moss. Milled sphagnum is quite fine and has a tendency to pack. The green sphagnum moss, which is often used to line wire baskets, is quite likely to start growing again and destroy the appearance of the bowl. The coarse brown moss looks ugly when dry but after planting in it, the color and texture are quite pleasant.

At planting time, soak the moss thoroughly, submerge it for at least 15 minutes in a bucket of water and squeeze the air out of it several times under water. From then on never let it get quite dry or it is quite difficult to get wet again. With roots growing through it you can't squeeze the air out so well!

If you have a leaf to start with, wrap the moss around the petiole (leaf stem), then put it in a small pot (not over two inches in diameter). Wait until a new plant has started before putting it in a larger pot with more moss wrapped around it. If you are starting with an established plant, restrain the urge to give it a larger container until it has rooted through all the moss it already has. From a 3" square plastic pot you can move it to a 12" diameter bowl, keep the moss shallow in the bowl at first. To move a small plant to a terrarium, keep it in the pot for awhile. You can cover the pot with moss to hide it and the plant can be lifted for watering without disturbing its roots. As you use the moss from the bucket, squeeze most of the extra water out. Don't try to wring it dry but it shouldn't be dripping. The plant won't need more water for a long time and will have a chance to grow new roots in damp moss, not a saturated mess.

In a completely closed bowl these plants might not need water for several months. This is nice for those who travel a lot. As the moss starts to dry out it turns from dark brown to a light tan. As soon as you notice the color change, it is time to water. No matter how long it has been, don't do it any sooner. Too much water will kill these plants as quickly as any other kind. If you are fortunate enough to have good

water where you live, the stuff that comes from the tap is fine. Otherwise think of the investment you have made in the plant and bowl and buy distilled (or steam iron) water. The small cost is nothing compared to the pleasure of a really well grown plants.

Don't just add a little water, nearly cover the moss. The leaves don't mind getting wet (except, perhaps *B. crispula*). It is important to get all the moss thoroughly wet. Let the water stand for half an hour or so, then tip the bowl to one side and suck out the excess with a kitchen baster (it looks like a big medicine dropper). Remove all the water you can from the moss.

Any completely soluble dry powder type of fertilizer with a balanced set of ingredients will work fine. I don't use fish type because of the smell the next time the bowl is opened. For a dry type with a 20-20-20 (nitrogen-phosphate-potash) formula, use a quarter teaspoon to a gallon of water. For other types, use no more than an eighth of the recommended amount. Use this to soak the moss when you plant and use it each time you water the plant. If you notice scaly deposits on the surface of the moss, it is a sign of accumulated fertilizer. This can be cured by leaving the fertilizer out the next two or three times you water, then go back to using the fertilizer-water mixture recommended above.

The best way to judge the quality of light is by looking at the plant. If it is gangly and spindly, it needs more light. If the leaves hug the moss, are a bad color or are burned, it needs less light. The "tougher set" need the most light and *B. nurii*

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 188)

needs as much as an African Violet. For most, a single four foot fluorescent tube in a reflector, needs to be within six inches of the top of the plant. It is important to remember that if direct sunlight hits a closed bowl the temperature will rise rapidly and it takes only a few minutes to literally cook the plants. Protect the bowl from ANY direct sunlight.

Have fun. With all these instructions these plants seem hard to grow. Actually, they require carefully controlled conditions but the bowl provides nearly everything. Grooming is important. These plants will probably be on display in your proudest corner and will attract a lot of attention. Keep the glass clean, keep the algae off the moss (large tweezers help). Enjoy them, they're a marvelous conversation piece. A young engineer friend of mine even wants a sofa patterned after *B. versicolor*. He's single.

Finding the sources of these plants will be somewhat of a challenge. They are not fast, easy or cheap to propagate. Write the commercial growers who advertise in this magazine. If they don't have them, they may be able to put you on a waiting list. Remember that if you are sending an order, specify that you will not accept any substitutions as few commercial growers can maintain a supply to meet the demand.

DEADLINE for all material submitted for "The Begonian" is the 1st of the month preceeding the next months issue.

Tuberous Begonias:

Blaine Berden of Toronto, Canada increases his plants of tuberous *Begonias* by taking cuttings and rooting them, in doing this he forces his plants to send up shoots from below the soil. When they are large enough he cuts them off and roots them also. Blaine has nearly one thousand plants from seed this year, some of the seed he received from England. He attempted growing tuberous *Begonias* under lights this past winter from cuttings taken last fall. One made an attempt to flower but the bud dropped off just as it started to open. A seedling bloom got a little farther in opening but it dropped also.

Propagation:

Mae Blanton of Mesquite, Texas finds B. 'American Beauty' the easiest rex to propagate, every tiny wedge will grow into a plant.

Tape Robin???

John Yochum, 405 West State Street, Princeton, Indiana 47570 would like to start a Round Robin using recording tape instead of letters. If you are interested, write directly to John or your R. R. Director for answers to any question you might like to ask concerning it.

If you would like to join a flight, tell a little about how you grow *Begonias* and your wishes about flights you wish to join.

WRITE:

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

PLANT GROWTH AND MERISTEMATIC TISSUES

Regardless of the types of plants we are now growing or plan to grow, all have one basic feature that is common to every one of them. In all plants there are certain areas that have a terminal point or bud tip growth. Normally any plant which has roots, stems, leaves, leaf stems and branches present a structure in which we can easily recognize the growing tips or buds. The growing points of rhizomatous type plants and some succulents do not show their terminal growing areas in such an obvious manner.

Wherever we find a rapidly growing point or bud we sort of expect it to keep on doing just that and we also expect stems, leaves branches and other parts to form in the areas that are left behind as the tip advances away from them.

Plant physiologists call the tissue in the rapidly growing areas "meristematic" and they also say that plant tissue cells in the parts left behind "differentiate" into different types of structures which function as bark, pith, leaves, branches, etc. Thus nature has an extremely complex capability of changing itself structurally and chemically as it grows.

We take these things for granted and manipulate the process and structures to our needs. At almost any time we can take a few inches of the newest portion of a plant, such as a 2" tip of a fuchsia branch and stick the broken end into water, sand, peat moss, etc. and get a new plant. When the tip of the branch was still attached to the parent plant we could see no evidence or capabilities. But we must accept the fact that the plant tissue on a normal plant is not only differentiating or changing into an

older branch, it is also carrying certain reproductive capabilities along with these changing tissues. Some tissues such as those in or near the joints in the stems carry the reproductive capability for months or years but the changing or differentiation tends to become non-reversible with age in most cells.

Each type of plant carries a different set of these vegetative reproductive growth characteristics. We learn by experience which parts of each type of plant will grow new plants from cuttings. The new tips of fuchsias do this job of vegetative reproduction very easily. A young sprout on tuberous *Begonias* will also grow roots and the sprout itself continues to grow and become a mature plant. Sections of a rhizome or a leaf of a rhizomatous *Begonia* will grow new roots and stem. Leaves and leaf stems of Fuchsias, tuberous *Begonias* and many other shade plants do not retain this ability. Some parts may root but never grow new stems. The differentiation of some tissues often progresses so quickly and so far that it will not permit the regeneration of roots and tip buds.

Meristematic tissue, whether in their primary form in tip growth, in a secondary form in the lateral growth of bark, etc. or in the dormant or latent stages in joints, rhizomes and in some leaves, are one of nature's wonderful provisions. Let's explore and study more about these features. The chemical signals in plant tissues which nature sets into action when we take a cutting from our plants, are extremely interesting.

Herb Warrick,
Information Bulletin

ADDITIONAL TROPHIES

An additional \$150.00 has been donated to the trophy fund by the Greater Ventura Chamber of Commerce, co-sponsors with the Host Branch, Theodosia Burr Shepherd. Trophies will be awarded in:

Division R – Other Shade Plants

Class:

1. African Violets – either a. b. or c
3. Orchids
or
4. Bromeliads
5. Fuchsias
6. Vines and trailing plants
or
7. Asparagus
8. Bonsai
9. Shade plants not listed above

Division S – Collections of Other Shade Plants

Class:

1. Collection of African Violets
3. Collection of Orchids
or
4. Collection of Bromeliads
5. Collection of Fuchsias
6. Collection of Vines and Trailing Shade Plants
or
7. Collection of Asparagus
8. Collection of Bonsai
9. Collection of Ferns

Division T – Arrangements and Corsages

Classes:

- 1., 2., 3., 4., or 5.

Corsages

Classes:

7. or 8.

BEGONIA SHOW DATES

Are you vacationing in any of the areas of the *Begonia* Shows listed in the June, July and this issue of "The Begonian"? If you are, don't fail to include a *Begonia* Show on your itinerary. You'll be glad you did.

Editor

EASTSIDE BRANCH

August 14th and 15th – Annual *Begonia* and Shade Plant Show, "Carousel of Color". August 14th, 12:00–9:00 p.m. August 15th, 9:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m. Pavilion of the Crossroads Shopping Center, N.E. 8th & 156th Ave., N.E. Bellevue, Washington.

CONNECTICUT BRANCH

Begonia and Fern Show, August 22, 1:00–5:00 p.m. August 23, 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Pond House, Elizabeth Park, Hartford, Connecticut.

BESSIE RAYMOND BUXTON BRANCH

In cooperation with the President's Conference of the Garden Club Federation of Mass., Inc. September 11th, 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. Speaker: Dr. Harriet Creighton, "Plants Have Harmones Too".



AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY BOOKLETS

Point Scoring System for Judging
Begonias \$1.25

A Suggested Guide to Classification
of Begonias for Show Purposes \$1.50

ORDER FROM: Ruth Pease
8101 Vicksburg Ave.
Los Angeles, Calif. 90045

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

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

**Condensed Minutes of the National
Board of the American Begonia Society
June 22, 1970**

Meeting called to order at 8:00 p.m. President Vera Naumann presiding. After opening ceremonies 13 Officers and 8 Branch Directors answered roll call. Minutes of May meeting approved as corrected.

Treasurer: Balance on hand \$712.96

Advertising Manager: receipts \$41.55, outstanding \$90.00. Motion carried to write off as uncollectable \$20.00 unpaid ad of Gallardo Co.

Librarian: on hand \$184.25

Membership Secretary: 51 new members, 85 renewals, 2213 total membership. Funds deposited \$567.40

Editor: reported cost of printing post cards noting communications received, \$8.25 per 800. Motion carried to have cards printed.

Research Directors report read: \$238.00 in Research Fund, request from A. B. Roehrs Co. for photos of new Begonias not in Exotica, forward to Mr. L'Hommedieu.

Round Robins Director: report read, visited Missouri Botanical Gardens, reported display of propagation of Begonias from leaves.

Seed Fund: report read, Seed Culture Bulletins to be sold through A.B.S. Librarian

Judging Course Director: receipts of \$7.00, reported rules of New Introduction Division of the National Show might be violated by early publicity, release, distribution or sale.

Public Relations Director: South Seattle Branch's copy of Constitution and By-Laws replaced. Motion carried to issue a Charter to Salina County Branch of Kansas.

Schedule of the Eastern Begonia Convention and Show received and noted.

The President announced Regional Meeting in Glendale, July 26, 1:00 p.m. Annual reports to be given at Convention annual meeting.

Branch reports given, meeting adjourned 10:00 p.m.



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

Cliff Ebeling

6157 Lime Ave., Long Beach, Calif. 90805

MRS. HAZEL SWAIN

Miss Hazel Swain, sister of Mrs. Ruth Eppley and a member of the San Gabriel Valley Branch, passed away June 29, 1970. She was Librarian for the Branch in 1969 and served in various other capacities.

She was born in Connecticut in 1900 and has lived in California for the past twenty three years.

She was a member of the Ranchita Grange, number 654 for a number of years.

Her many friends in the San Gabriel Valley Branch join the Eppleys in mourning her loss.

MR. PETER FOLINO

Mr. Peter Folino of the San Gabriel Valley Branch passed away suddenly on June 6, 1970. He had been a member of the Branch for the past six years.

He was born in British Columbia 68 years ago and was retired from the Prudential Insurance Co. Mr. Folino was very active in Branch affairs and was also past President of the Temple City Camellia Society. He loved to grow plants and his hobby was growing prize Camellias and Azaleas.

His cheery greetings and warm smile will be missed by all his friends of the San Gabriel Valley Begonia Society.



**A. B. S.
LIBRARY
BOOKSTORE**

The following selection of books are
FOR SALE

- *Gesneriads And How To Grow Them. .\$.7.95
by Peggy Shultz
- *Rex Begonias As House Plants\$.1.00
by Virginia Withee
- *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.
- *Ferns We Grow by Sylvia\$.3.85
Leatherman and Dorothy Behrends
- The Begonian—Complete reprints . . .\$.6.00
of the four years 1934 to 1937
- Platycerium Fern Facts\$.4.95
by Wendy Franks
- The Begonian— 1968-1960 25c per issue
1959-1950 40c per issue
1949-1939 50c per issue
- *Begonian Binders\$.1.50
A.B.S. on the cover.
- *Pamphlet — Begonias From Seed —
Sowing and Growing25
- *Calif. residents, add 5% tax on these items.

Please include 50 cents to cover postage and handling.

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RHIZOMATOUS BEGONIAS \$1.00 each — Leaves 35c each

'Alfreana', 'Erythrophylla' (Beefsteak), 'Black Jewell', 'Brocade', 'Alice-Mac', 'Bow-Nigra', 'Bunchii', 'Carol Star', 'Cleopatra', 'Chantilly Lace', 'Decker's Select', 'Enchantment', 'Gi-Gi', 'Joe Hayden', 'Laguna', 'Merry Merry', 'Norah Bedson', 'Pebble Lane', 'Persian Brocade', 'Silver Star', 'Spaulding', 'Zadia', 'Zee Bowman', *masoniana* (Iron Cross), 'Aqua Marine', 'Catalina', 'Isley', 'Pearli'

RHIZOMATOUS BEGONIAS \$1.25 each

'Angie', 'Leo Rowan', 'Leslie Lynn', 'Missouri', 'Ricky Minter', *heracleifolia nigricans*, 'Randy', 'Roberta', 'Ricinifolia', 'Regency', 'Wilda', 'Vernon', 'Gay Star', 'Raspberry Parfait'.

FIBROUS BEGONIAS \$1.00 each

'Annabelle', 'Argenteo-Guttata', 'Bleeding Heart', 'Peach Leaf', *echinosepala*, 'Green Medora', 'Helen', 'Helena', *incarnata*, 'Jean Pernet', 'Medora', 'Spring Song', 'Sir Arthur', *acida*, 'Corbeille de Feu', 'Digswelliana', 'Thurstonii', 'Blue Lake', 'Gray Feather'

FIBROUS BEGONIAS \$1.25 each

'Otto Hacker', 'Elaine', 'Frances Lyons', 'Pinafore', 'Robinson's Peach', *coccinea rosea*, 'President Carnot', 'Sophie Cecile', 'Ross Swisher', 'John R.', 'Alasco', 'Nora Hanson', 'Tingley Mallet', 'Tempelina'

HAIRY FIBROUS BEGONIAS \$1.25 each

'Alto Scharff', 'Chocolate Soldier', 'Conbow', 'Credneri', 'Campenes', 'Dwarf Houghtonii', *Hugellii*, 'Margarita', 'Nelly Bly', *metallica*, *prunifolia*, 'Irene', 'Raphael'

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'Amy', 'American Beauty', 'Black King', 'Bertha McGregor', 'Blushing Ole', 'Cardoza Gardens', 'Crimson Glory', 'Cora Miller', 'Curly Stardust', 'Dottie', 'Evergreen', 'Fiesta', 'Fairy', 'Forty-Niner', 'Glory of St. Albans', 'Green Countess', 'Green Gold', 'Helen Lewis', 'Helen Teupel', 'Mikado', 'Jack Frost', 'Lillian', 'Les Matheson', 'Lucy Closson', 'Merry Christmas', 'Mountain Haze', 'Old Smokey', 'Peace', 'Shirt Sleeves', 'Sue Zug', 'Silver Lake', 'Sandy', 'Winter Gardens', 'White Lace', 'Venetian Red', 'Red Berry', 'Sir Roy Yewell', 'New Blue Bell', 'Purple Petticoat', 'Prince Charming'

Send 10c for a complete list of plants we grow.

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. Herbert Hurley, Secy.
11 Woodland Rd., Lexington, Mass. 02173

CONNECTICUT BRANCH

4th Sunday of each month
Nellie Radtke, Secy.
24 Cooper St.,
Norwich, Conn. 06360

DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS BRANCH

3rd Monday, 10 a.m., Members' Homes
Mrs. George W. Hopkins, Secy.
1619 S. Beckley Ave., Dallas, Texas 75224

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, Secy.
1801 Azalea Drive, Alhambra, Calif. 91801

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

2nd Friday, 10:00 a.m.
Garden Center, 1500 Herman Drive
Mrs. B. A. Russell, Secy.
5926 Jackwood
Houston, Texas 77036

INGLEWOOD BRANCH

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

KNICKERBOCKER BRANCH

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. Billie Lyles, Secy.
928 Calle Reale, Mesquite, Texas 95149

MIAMI BRANCH

4th Tuesday, 8:00 p.m.
Simpson Memorial Garden Center
Mrs. Ray Milliaman, Secy.
2211 S. W. 60th Court, Miami, Florida 33155

MISSOURI BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, 11 a.m.
Members' Homes
Kansas City, Mo.
Mrs. Lynne K. Wood, Secy.
626 W. Charles, Independence, 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. O. L. Simmons, Secy.
2611 Westhaven Drive
Anaheim, California 92804

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, Secy.
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. Juanita Spunaugle, Secy.
4248 Mantone Ave., Culver City, Calif. 90230

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. Margaret K. Elmore, Secy.
3935 McKenzie, Riverside, Calif. 92503

ROBINSON, ALFRED D. BRANCH

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

SACRAMENTO BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, 8:00 p.m., Garden Center
3300 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento, Calif.
Mrs. Dora Hale, Secy.
9770 Carmencito Ave., Sacramento, Calif. 95823

SAVE AUGUST 15-16 FOR THE
CONVENTION & SHOW

CALENDAR

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH

1st Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.
Garden Center, Golden Gate Park
9th Ave. and Lincoln Way
Mr. Allen Sweet, Secy.
303 La Serena Way, Sonoma, Calif. 95476

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. H. W. Condon, Secy.
9219 Stoyer Dr., Santee, Calif. 92071

SANTA BARBARA BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History
2559 Puesta Del Sol
Mrs. Helen Yost, Secy.
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
Mrs. Henry Flaherty
606 S. Third, 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
Sally Harding, Secy.
11632 1st Ave. S., Seattle, Wash. 98168

TARRANT COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Monday, 10:00 a.m., Members' Homes
Mrs. R. M. Bennison, Secy.
Rt. 2, Box 155, Dickinson, Texas 77539

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

August 6 — Whittier Branch, 7:30 p.m. Speaker, Jean Kerlin, "Fibrous *Begonias*, New and Old".

August 9 — San Gabriel Valley Branch, Pot-Luck meeting. Please call secretary for time and place.

August 11 — Glendale Branch, 8:00 p.m.

August 18 — Sacramento Branch, 8:00 p.m. Speaker, Clarence Hall, "Ferns and How to Grow Them".

August 24 — ABS Board meeting 8:00 p.m. — South Gate City Auditorium, 4900 Southern Avenue, South Gate, Calif. Meetings are always open to members.

September 3 — Whittier Branch, 7:30 p.m. Installation of Officers.

September 3 — Westchester Branch Annual Birthday Pot Luck, 6:30 p.m. Mr. Rudy Ziesenhenne, Speaker, "Rhizomatous and Fibrous *Begonia* Species".

DID YOU KNOW?

An excellent glossary of botanical terms was published, with sketches, illustrating the terms, in the 1964 "The Begonian"? This is a "must" article for the beginner and advanced grower alike. It was printed in "The Begonian" through the good auspices of Alfred Byrd Graf, Editor of *Exotica*.

The June 1964 issue may be purchased as a single copy through the Librarian. See the Library Book Store ad in this issue.

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