

AUGUST, 1972

Devoted to the Sheltered Garden

VOL. 39, NO. 8



Monthly Publication of the American Begonia Society, Inc.



Founded by Herbert P. Dyckman January, 1932

Copyright 1972 by the American Begonia Society, Inc.

GENERAL OFFICES

GENERAL OFFICES: dues, address changes, or magazines: 10331 South Colima Road, Whittier, California 90604

Subscription: \$4.00 per year. Foreign (Mexico and Canada) \$4.50. U.S. (Mexico and Canada) 1st Class \$6.00. Foreign 1st Class \$8.00. U.S. Air Mail \$7.00. Pay in US. currency only.

Second Class Postage paid at Whittier, California.

ELECTED OFFICERS

- President......Mrs. Margaret B. Taylor 111 Evelyn Drive, Anaheim, Calif. 92805
- President-Elect.....John W. Provine 2317 S. Third Ave., Arcadia, Calif. 91006
- Past President......Mrs. Pearl Benell 10331 S. Colima Road, Whittier, Calif. 90604
- Secretary......Mrs. Irene Grannell 1431 Coronado Terrace, Los Angeles, Calif. 90026
- Treasurer..... 1213 S. Mullender Ave., W. Covina, Calif. 91790
- Vice-President 1 year.....Charles A. Richardson 5444 Hartwick Street, Los Angeles, Calif. 90041
- Vice President 2 years......Mrs. Helen Matsubu Route 1, Box 120, Fruitland, Idaho 83619

Vice-President 3 years.....Jack Golding 47 Clinton Avenue, Kearny, New Jersey 07032

BEGONIAN STAFF

-N. Trumond Peterson Editor.... 12247 S. Grevillea Ave., Hawthorne, Calif. 90250
- Co-ordinating Editor.....Gene Daniels Box 83, Camarillo, Calif. 93010
- Contributing Editors......Mrs. Elda Haring Mrs. Helen Matsubu, Mrs. Hertha Benjamin, Mrs. Phyllis Wright
- Advertising Manager.......Miss Anne L. Rose 14036 E. Ramona Dr., Whittier, Calif. 90605
- Circulation Manager......Mrs. Pearl Benell 10331 S. Colima Road, Whittier, Calif. 90604

APPOINTED OFFICERS

- Awards Chairman......Mrs. Hazel Snodgrass 265 North Walnut Drive, Ventura, Calif. 93003
- Business Manager......Mrs. Virginia Barnett 1213 S. Mullender Avenue, W. Covina, Ca. 91790
-Mrs. Beth I. Bath Historian..... 2161 S.E. Mesa Drive, Santa Ana, Calif. 92707

- Judging Course Director......Mrs. Ruth Pease 8101 Vicksburg Avenue, Los Angeles, Calif. 90045
- Librarian......Mrs. Lydia Austin 15329 Eastwood Avenue, Lawndale, Calif. 90260
- Membership Secretary......Mrs. Mildred LeComte 1949 S. Manchester Bvd., Space 21 Anaheim, Calif. 92802
- Membership Promotion.....John Robinson 215 Bethel, Ventura, Calif. 93003
- Nomenclature Director.....Rudolf Ziesenhenne 1130 N. Milpas, Santa Barbara, Calif. 93103
- Parliamentarian.....Mrs. Margaret Ziesenhenne 1130 N. Milpas, Santa Barbara, Calif. 93103
- Research Director.....M. Carleton L'Hommedieu 370 Locust Ave., Oakdale, L.I., N.Y. 11769
- Round Robin Director......Mrs. Anita Sickman Route 2, Box 99, Cheney, Kansas 67025
- Seed Fund Administrator......Mrs. Florence Gee 234 Birch Street, Roseville, Calif. 95678
- Show Chairman......Mrs. Cecelia Grivich 2808 S. Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia, Calif. 91006
- Slide Librarian......Mrs. Katharine Alberti 3322 Troy Drive, Hollywood, Calif. 90028
- Public Relations Director......Wallace W. Wagner 530 S. Barnett Street, Anaheim, Calif. 92805
- Northwestern P. R. Chairman.....Mrs. Eleanor Fariss 17721 Bothell Way, Seattle, Wash. 98155
- Northern Calif. P. R. Chairman....Mrs. John H. Smith 2479 29th Avenue, San Francisco, Calif. 94116
- Northeastern P. R. Chmn.....Mrs. Raymond C. Cronin 88 Ledgeways, Wellesley, Mass. 02181
- New Zealand P. R. Chairman......Don Stephenson 56 Mortimer Terrace, Willington, C2, N. Z.

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

ACROSS THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

While thinking about what I could write this month to interest you, a lovely letter arrived which gave me just the right message.

This year is the 40th anniversary of the founding of the American Begonia Society. The Society was founded by Herbert P. Dyckman of Long Beach, California, in January, 1932. My letter was from Mrs. Dyckman.

Mrs. Dyckman is a gracious lady in her eighties, which, I am sure, she does not mind my telling you. She honors us each year by being present at our convention banquet. Mrs. Dyckman was so pleased with **The Begonian** and its colored cover she just had to write and tell me. She spoke lovingly of Mr. Dyckman and how pleased he would be regarding the things the Society has accomplished since he has been gone. She told of his early interest in begonias and of their association with Alfred D. Robinson and the many Sundays spent in his garden and library. She also told of study with Dr. Everetts at the New York Botanical Gardens. These are just a very few of the beginnings of the Society.

The Editor of 'Shady News', the news letter of the Eastside Branch of the Society at Bellevue, Washington, draws the attention of their members to the fact that the Sociey was founded in 1932 and also that the Aims and Purposes are printed each month in **The Begonian**. Also that they are read at each Executive Board meeting. She suggests we take time to read them. Perhaps even members of long standing have not read them recently. They are worth reading, thinking about and living up to.

> Margaret B. Taylor President

COVER PICTURE

Unfortunately, July's cover picture was incorrectly labeled *B. versicolor*. It was B. 'Purple Petticoats'.

The cover on this issue is *B. versicolor*. 'Purple Petticoats' is described

on page 168 by Margaret M. Lee.

Versicolor was grown by Nettie Daniels. 'Purple Petticoats' was grown by Lee and Lillian Steinhaus. Both photos are by Gene Daniels.

ROUND ROBIN NOTES

Many things are being discussed in flights: insecticides, nematodes, mildew, hours of light for bloom, how to keep a begonia small, where to find an unusual begonia, lath-house growing, or where to find a begonia that was mentioned in *The Begonian* in the 1950s.

Geraldine Daly of Rhode Island wrote telling that she grows several pots of tomatoes among her begonias in her greenhouse to detect the presence of gas fumes. She also found that any aphids or white fly would be on one of the tomato plants and she could get rid of them before they spread all through the greenhouse.

For mildew, John Yochum of Indiana uses sublimated sulphur, which comes in a plastic jar with a metal screw lid, in which he punches holes. He sprinkles the sulphur on the leaves. He does not wait until he gets mildew to sprinkle it.

Edna Stewart of Pennsylvania uses dusting sulphur in the aisles of her greenhouse as a preventive against

(Continued on Page 182)

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*.

PURPLE PETTICOATS

By Margaret M. Lee

'Purple Petticoats' is the first rex cultorum begonia to receive the Alfred D. Robinson Memorial Medal. This medal was awarded in 1968 for the best plant released for distribution for the period from 1958 to 1963.

The parents of 'Purple Petticoats' were quite outstanding, but were never named. There were hundreds of sister seedlings grown from the same seed pod that produced this plant, and, as with all rexes, all of them are different to a greater or lesser degree. Quite a few of the seedlings were worthy of names, in the grower's opinion, but there were so very many of them that it would have been almost impossible for a big commercial grower to have kept all of them, let alone a small hobby grower, and a large number of them were disposed of in one way or another.

As the plants were thinned out there were certain ones that were kept because of their differing characteristics, and it was at this point that they were beginning to be designated by name except for "that purple-edged frilly one." No name for it seemed appropriate until quite sometime later when it just occurred that 'Purple Petticoats' was the *only* title that would fit it at all.

Since it was a favorite seedling, it was watched carefully for any change in appearance for the next three years, and when no change occurred, it was propagated by leaf cuttings to obtain more identical plants (as a precaution against the loss of the parent plant—and also because it is

enjoyable to propagate plants).

One of the most enjoyable facets of growing plants is the sharing with others, and B. r. c. 'Purple Petticoats' was first distributed in this manner in 1963. The originator shared it with a friend by the gift of a small plant grown from the original. This friend shared it with another friend, and so it went. Somewhere during a period of time it came into the hands of commercial nursery people and entered into the trade to enjoy a wider distribution.

The first time it was entered into competition at the annual show of the American Begonia Society in 1964 it was judged to be the best plant entered and was awarded the President's Trophy for the "best begonia in the show." This performance was repeated a few years later when it was entered by a different person. It has never failed to win an award in any show in which it was entered. The American Begonia Society certificates for cultural perfection have also been awarded to those who have entered this plant.

B. r. c. 'Purple Petticoats' was originated by Peter P. Lee of San Diego, California, and was registered in January of 1968 with the American Begonia Society as #249.

This plant is not too difficult to propogate but it can be a little trying to keep it growing to its best. It does not like to have the foliage wet, and seems to prefer a slightly drier growing medium than the other varieties of the rex cultorum type.

(Continued on Page 180)

THE LOVELY BEGONIA SEMPERFLORENS

By Phyllis Wright Contributing Editor

I remember so well as a child how no window garden was complete without "Wax Begonias" as they were called in those days. How these plants did thrive in the kitchen window, where the tea kettle sang merrily on the back of the old coal cook stove. This, along with the delicious smell of freshly baked bread, is a memory that still lingers on.

These plants bloomed the year around. As I remember, they were all pink. There was always a glass of rooted cuttings to pass on to those who wanted them.

These beauties are still among my favorite plants. They are easy to propagate either from seed or from cuttings. I use a plastic shoe box filled with dampened vermiculite. The tiny seed is sprinkled on top of this. With a glass lid for covering, the box is then placed about four inches under the flourescent lights. In about six days the tiny plants begin to show. They come up so thick I feel they should be thinned, but I fear I will discard some that are really different, so they continue to grow.

When the plantlets get two leaves they are transplanted carefully into a flat of good soil, which is made up of sterilized leaf mold with just a little sand added. The flat is then watered with a B_1 solution to reduce shock, covered with a glass lid, and placed back under the lights until the plantlets become established. Then they are moved to a spot where they get good light and not much sun.

These small plants will grow quite rapidly. They will then go into 2-inch pots. I use a loose, rich soil, 3 parts sterilized and well decomposed leaf mold and 1 part coarse builder's sand. This mix seems to be to their liking and they soon become nice healthy plants. I pinch out the tops to encourage basal growth, this encourages compact plants. They are fed each time they are watered with quarter-strength fertilizer. When the plants are mature I switch to half-strength and this is given once a week. I use Rapidgro. I make certain the soil is damp before the plants are fed.

Semps are quite easy to propagate from cuttings. I have found from experience that, in order to be sure of a good plant, I take the small side shoots rather than the tip growth. Some of the plants will grow very well but seem to go straight up and send out no side growth. On examining these plants, I find that there is no new growth at all at the base of the plants. No amount of pinching seems to induce any side growth. This does not happen on all tip cuttings, so it is just as easy to take the side shoots and be sure of good plants.

I still like the old pink Semp, but there are so many lovely new ones to choose from. The S. 'White Christmas', with its bright green foliage and clusters of pure white double blooms, is a good compact plant if it is shaped a little during the early stages of growth. This is my favorite white one.

'Christmas Candle' is similar to this one with the exception of the deep red to bright red double blossoms, depending on the amount of light it receives. When this plant is set outdoors in a shaded spot, it is a sight to see.

'Indian Maid' has glossy bronze foliage, and the single rose blooms are held on a single stem high above the plant. It requires early pinching to insure a compact plant. It shows off well when it is planted outdoors in a border. It will take more sun than the rest.

'Joan Strong' has glossy bronze foliage with clear pink double blossoms. I have seen 12-inch pots of this plant in our shows.

'Red Wonder' is also a compact grower. It gets to be about 8 inches high and is constantly covered with red blooms.

'Scarletta' is a dwarf, compact plant with apple-green leaves and bright red blossoms, another good border plant for the shaded garden where the complete plant turns a bright red. This always receives a lot of comment.

The 'Cinderellas' are a little different in appearance. The centers are large, fluffy balls of buttercup yellow. They are compact, always in bloom, and come in pinks, white, and red.

The 'Butterfly' Semp. is a tall grower, with large, round, applegreen leaves. The flowers will measure 2 to 3 inches and the bright yellow stamens are large and fluffy. They come in red, pink, and white. These are easy to start from seed. Some of the seed I planted in January has already produced plants 22 inches high. These must be pinched constantly or there is no room for them; they grow that fast.

The Calla Lily begonias come in a class all their own. While they are difficult to start from cuttings and use the same soil mix as the others, some extra care must be taken. They will not take as much water as other begonias, so it is a good rule to let them become quite dry between waterings. Care should be taken not to spill water on the leaves or they will rot off. They are a bit more prone to mildew than the others, so should have plenty of space around them.

My favorite among these is B. 'Charm', with its round, ivory-white leaves splotched with dark green and yellow. Large clusters of delicate pink flowers make this a very showy plant.

I am certain there are many more varieties, but these are the ones I am growing at this time. To my knowledge, there are not many plants that are as easy to grow and that give the year-around pleasure that these little beauties do. Try some of the new varieties. There is a new adventure awaiting you.

CHROMOSOME CORRECTION

In the May issue of *The Begonian* the list of Chromosome Numbers contained two errors in spelling, which have been pointed out by M. Carleton L'Hommedieu.

On page 101, in the right hand column, the sixth line under *Asiatic Species*, the correct spelling should be Sphenantera.

On page 102, left hand column, in the fourteenth line, the correct spelling should be acerifolia.

TUBEROUS BEGONIAS, THE ETHEL REID WAY PART 4

By Gene Daniels Co-ordinating Editor

The growing techniques of Ethel Reid outlined in the preceding three articles have been very detailed and many people, including myself, tend to try part of them and forget about the rest. This is a natural inclination, but I must tell you that, at least in my own case, this has been proved a mistake.

Upon writing these articles, I realized that I had not been applying water in the heavy quantities she suggests. This year I deliberately followed each specification given by her, and I have better growth in my tubers than ever before.

I urge you, especially the beginners, to do your utmost to follow all the specifics of culture outlined by Ethel. If you want to experiment with your own ideas, that is fine; but keep a test group of plants and prove to yourself which is best.

This will be the last in the initial series of articles on the Ethel Reid way of growing hybrid tuberous begonias. If interest warrants it, there could be more next year, so please write and give me your thoughts.

This month we will cover growing tuberous cuttings, hybridizing, and wintering your choice tubers.

Speaking of choice tubers — regardless of what you have read here or elsewhere, it is Mrs. Reid's belief that the finest plants are mature tubers from three to ten years old. Seedlings will give fine plants and in very rare cases they may be genetically superior to the older plants, but they never put out the growth, the number of flowers, the size of flowers, or the general vigor of the mature tubers. There may be some areas of the country where the growing season is not long enough to mature a quality tuber, but in Ethel's garden a seedling plant is conspicuous among the grand old-timers with their huge growth.

With September and its shorter days just around the corner, the colorful begonias will be starting to stretch to find more light. Some can grow three feet or more in height at this time, and there is an inherent danger of breakage because of this. It is a good idea to check to be certain that stakes are tall enough, and that ties are secure but loose enough for the plants to continue their growth. A tall, heavy plant should be tied at three to five points up the stalk to spread the weight and prevent stem damage. Frequently more than one stake is necessary. Pots that are on the ground can often be braced advantageously by pushing a heavy stake in the ground behind the pot and then tying the original stake to the new one.

During the late season the tuber is building up in size, which means a finer plant next year. The flowers will be getting somewhat smaller, the doubling of the males will start to disappear, and stamens with ripe pollen will begin to show.

If you want to try one of the more interesting aspects of tuberous begonias, October is the time to do a bit of hybridizing. To accomplish anything at all in this vein, it is essential that you have been observing all the traits of the finer plants throughout the growing season, so that your new seed will contain desirable genes and thus produce fine seedlings. Late in the year these plants may not look as good as other plants that are getting showy, but by hybridizing with choice early-flowering plants the offspring should give the same fine early growth. The selection of your hybridizing stock is even more important than the selection of the field-grown tubers described in the July issue.

For the amateur, it is best to try only one or two crosses, so that a reasonable number of seedlings can be grown and a choice selection made from them.

You will discover that usually every seed from one seed pod will give a different-colored flower. They may be variations or they may be entirely different colors.

Usually it is not necessary to isolate the female plant completely as long as vigorous tuberous species are not grown within ten feet of the mother plant. The pollen from these have a tendency to spread and could give you seed that would produce all single blooms. The small female bloom, with the ovary that grows to the side of each large male blossom, should be dusted lightly with the pollen-bearing stamens of the male flower. This is accomplished best by breaking off the male flower and then removing all petals to leave the stamens protruding. Of the crosses made, you can expect about 25 per cent or less to produce ripe seed in about two months from the time of the pollinating.

The above instructions on hybridizing are rather general, as the purpose of these articles has been to teach the culture of fine plants. But I urge you to try it; it is easy and very enjoyable.

In the June issue of *The Begonian* you learned how to make cuttings of tuberous begonias. During the first year only, these cuttings have a much greater tendency to produce pollen than the mother plant. Consequently, if you want to make a specific cross and pollen is not available from your stud plant, using pollen from a cutting of this stud will give the same results and is a method used widely in commercial hybridizing.

It is easy to get the cuttings to root, but sometimes troubles develop before the tubers sprout the following year. The cuttings root best when they are started only two inches apart in a flat of pure leaf mold. As soon as new growth is really obvious and small root balls have developed, they should be put into the regular leaf mold and sand mixture in six-inch pots. This is usually in July. If they are especially large, the pots can be eight inches. They are then handled exactly like full sized plants with normal fertilizing and watering. But they should always be left in the pots throughout the winter as the tubers are forming late in the year and they tend to shrivel if removed. It is wise to moisten the soil occassionally during the winter this first year.

The late season and winter storage of specimen plants is much misunderstood and is extremely important. Ethel's system is to continue to water as the plants require it, gradually

(Continued on Page 180)

BUBBLES, BANGLES, AND BEGONIAS

By Gene Daniels

The big National Convention and Flower Show must have me so excited that I twisted the above three "B's" in my article in the June issue. Suddenly I discover that "Bangles" is not just a word. I'm still not too sure just what a Bangle is, but I do know for sure that The Bangles will be out in force at the convention banquet.

They tell me you really can't dunk a Bangle, but by the end of the evening you probably will want to. But in force they will be—The Bangles at the banquet. Where and when: Three Oaks Restaurant, 2612 Honolulu Avenue, Montrose. Saturday, Sept. 2nd. Happy hour 6:30-7:30. Prime rib dinner \$5.50.

The show itself may be more sedate, but it is looming as the biggest one yet. Have you noticed that the mighty *Los Angeles Times* has done a major begonia story in its Sunday magazine in connection with our shows for the past two years? Watch for another one this year. If a paper of this magnitude recognizes our show as one of the outstanding events of the year, maybe some of you skeptical members ought to take another look.

A particularly fine time to view the show in comfort will be at the special show preview on Friday evening from 6 to 8:30, open to members and their guests only. Some, if not all, of the plant sale tables will be open, giving you first crack at some really rare begonias. It will be a good opportunity to meet some of the people whom you know only through the pages of *The Begonian*. It will also be a good time to bring in a few of your extra plants for our plant sale table and help the A.B.S. and your fellow growers.

You exhibitors—and I know there are a lot of you—remember the entry time has been changed this year. Competitive entries will be accepted only on Thursday, August 31, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

But regardless of whether you are an exhibitor, a viewer, or a Bangle, Labor Day week-end is the big one! September 2 and 3, at Glendale College, 1500 N. Verdugo Road, Glendale, California.

EASTERN CONVENTION SET FOR PITTSBURGH

The seventh annual Eastern Begonia Convention will be held September 28, 29, and 30, at Webster Hall Motor Hotel, 4415 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Since the place that was previously announced proved unavailable, it was necessary to change both time and place.

The Western Pennsylvania Branch of the American Begonia Society will be host for the event. Mrs. Joseph DeCroo is Branch president.

Besides a colorful begonia show, the convention program will include workshops, demonstrations, and lectures by a number of well-known authorities. Also scheduled are luncheons, social hours, dinner, and an awards banquet.

Mrs. Edna M. Stewart is Convention Chairman. For more detailed information, write to her at R.D. #2 Box 491, Tarentum, Pa. 15084.

BEGONIA SHOWS QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

By Ruth Pease Judging Course Director

Question: I have grown begonias for several years but have not entered plants in the A.B.S. Annual Show. I plan to enter this year. Should I enter as a Novice Grower? What do I do when I register my plants at the show?

Answer: You have the option of entering in the Novice Grower's Begonia Division and competing with others who are entering the Annual Show for the first time this year or entering as a Grower and competing with other Growers for awards in the various Begonia Divisions.

As a Novice Grower you compete only for the Theodosia Burr Shepherd Branch award for the Best Begonia Grown by a Novice Grower. You will not be eligible for the Best Entry in the Show since it may be a begonia, and the rules state the Novice Grower is eligible for the Theodosia Burr Shepherd Branch trophy only.

If you are twenty-years old or younger you may enter in the Student's Division.

If it is your first time to enter the Annual Show you may wish to compete in the Novice Grower's Division. If you have entered before this year, you may wish to compete as a Grower.

Question: What should I do when I bring my plants to the show?

Answer: Before you come to the show read the current show schedule and rules published in the July Begonian. Then select the plants you want to enter and classify them according to the divisions and classes in the schedule. The examples of plant names included with the classes will help you and having a copy of the A.B.S. publication "A suggested Guide to Classification of Begonias for Show Purposes" will also be helpful.

List your entries by division, class, and name of your entry. To determine the size of rhizomatous begonia leaves, measure the largest dimension of the majority of the leaves on your plant and place your entry in the appropriate class in the rhizomatous division.

When you enter the show room set your plants to one side and register with the Registration Chairman. You will be given an exhibitor's entry number which will become your identification for all your entries in the show, and an entry slip to be completed. Then the Classification Chairman will check the entry slip and the plants themselves, making sure you have classified correctly, assisting if you do not know the proper classification for your entry. You will then be asked to complete your entry tags, listing your exhibitor's entry number, the division, class, and name of your entry. These tags will have to be placed on your plants and the Placement Chairman will then place your entries. Exhibitors place their collections only after the Placement Chairman has shown them where these are to go. The exhibitor is given credit for the arrangement of his collection.

All effort is made to place entries carefully and to their best advantage. Placement Chairmen do not like to move entries more than necessary.

Question: I have recently been elected to the position of Show Chairman for my Branch. Can you give me any suggestions?

Answer: You indicated in your letter that your show will be held in 1973 so you will have time to observe other shows in your area, to ask questions of the show personnel in these shows. You may be able to borrow a copy of the handbook published by the Federated Garden Clubs or locate a book in a local library. Unfortunately, we do not have a show handbook for the A.B.S. We are still in the process of improving our system of judging, classification, and preparing our Annual Shows.

You and your members will also have to decide whether or not you want to have a competitive or noncompetitive show. When you decide what type of show you will have we will be happy to work with you.

Question: Do the judges and clerks know the names of the exhibitors during judging?

Answer: No, they know only exhibitors' entry numbers. It is their only means of identification during judging. Judges and clerks are in-, structed not to reveal an exhibitor's name during judging if they recognize an entry. A judge may disqualify himself from judging an entry if he feels he cannot do so objectively. He may feel he cannot judge fairly if he recognizes the entry.

Question: What do the clerks do during judging?

Answer: Clerks working with the judges are very important. They are there to assist, to serve the judges and exhibitors alike. One clerk has a clipboard with the entries to be judged in each class of a division. He or she advises the judges how many entries are to be judged. The next clerk will write on the exhibitor's entry tags the awards given by the judges. Judges give awards only when merited. They may request the clerk to make a helpful notation on the exhibitor's entry tag. The next clerk follows and places the appropriate ribbon on the correct entry. Clerks are instructed not to have personal conversations during judging, not to distract the judges in any way, to be observant, helpful, and courteous. If they recognize an entry, they are not to indicate this in any way to the judges.

Clerks must be efficient, making their notations correctly, being certain all the entries have been located and given consideration by the judges.

Several readers have written to me saying they are enjoying this column. We invite your questions. Write to Ruth Pease, 8101 Vicksburg Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90045.



CLAYTON M. KELLY SEED FUND

No. 1-B. naumoniensis

Direct import from New Guinea. An easy-growing species which flowers continuously with bright pink flowers. (See photo.) Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 2-B. domingensis

Numerous small flowers, white with crimson centers, with a curious spicy smell. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 3-B. rosaeflora

One of the major ancestors of the hybrid tuberous begonias. It has huge pink flowers, often two inches across or more. Direct import from Peru. As far as we know, it has not been in cultivation for a century. (See photo.) Price 1.00 per pkt. No. 4—B. villipetiola

One of the numerous rhizomatous species of the Gireoudia section, and certainly not the least attractive. It bears clusters of white flowers on long hairy stems. (See photo.) Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 5-B. involucrata

Costa Rica. The name is in reference to the ring of bracts around the flowers. Oval, green leaves of fine velvet are divided by depressed veins. New shoots from the base keep the plant bushy. Unusually tight clusters of white flowers. Keep out of hot sun. Soil should be dryish. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 6-B. decora

'Elegant'. Coveted species with sweet-scented white flowers, and plushy brown-green leaves sharply etched with light veins. Grows in terrariums. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 7-manicata aureo-maculata

Characteristic collar of red hairs around stem; green leaves blotched



B. naumoniensis

with cream and yellow. The following information came with the seed: pollinated by hand; no other plants around it in bloom; germination good and seedlings seem to be true to name. Plant is rhizomatous and can be used as a hanging type. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 8—B. kenworthyi

Mexico. Leaves textured, shaped, and veined like ivy, but more gray or powder-blue than green. Prefers more sun and less water than the average. When resting after bloom, keep warm and dry until new growth appears. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 9-B. acida

Brazil. Large, seersucker-puckered leaves of apple-green are green but seem angled by a suggestion of points where veins run out to the edge. Spring flowers are dainty white on stems standing well above foliage. Prefers steady warmth and humidity. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 10-B. 'Zip'

Seed came with this name from England. We have no way of know-



B. rosaeflora



B. villipetiola

ing what they are as there was no information whatever. Price 50 cents per pkt.

Greenhouse Plants:

Streptocarpus hybrids

Fringed, orchid-like flowers four to five inches across in shades of pink, red, blue, and other colors. Good pot plant. Price 50 cents per pkt.

Free Seed

A friend in England sent seed of rhizomatous begonia hybrids. Please send postage if other seed is not requested. Please do not ask to have free seed identified. We do not know what it is.

Send request for seed to:

Mrs. Florence Gee Seed Fund Administrator 34 Birch Street Roseville, Calif. 95678

HYDROPONIC CHEMICAL CO. ADDS TO FACTORY

The Hydropnic Chemical Company, Inc., which does a world-wide business in home and garden products, has started construction on a modern addition to its Copley, Ohio, plant. According to James D. Oatts, president, this is the third major addition since he founded the business 35 years ago. He says the new structure will provide a 50% increase in manufacturing and storage capacity.

The best known products of Hydroponic Chemical Company are HYPONeX Plant Food, for liquid feeding of house plants, lawns, and gardens. They are widely distributed in all 50 states of the United States and in 21 foreign countries. Nearly a hundred other home and garden products are also marketed by the firm.

REGISTRATION OF BEGONIA CULTIVARS

Note: The American Begonia Society is the International Registration Authority for the genus Begonia. Information and forms for registering your hybrids may be obtained from Rudolf Ziesenhenne, Nomenclature Director, 1130 N. Milpas St., Santa Barbara, California 93103.

No. 305—Begonia ('Bow-Nigra' x 'Maphil') 'Lowe's Pet'

Originated by Paul P. Lowe in 1969, first blooming in 1970 and distributed in 1971, this star-leaved rhizomatous begonia has roughhairy, eyelashed leaves one and a half to two inches, chartreuse marked with brown; flowers pink. Available at Lowe's Nursery, 23045 S.W. 123 Rd., Goulds, Fla. 33170. Registered Feb. 9, 1972.

No. 306—Begonia ('Ricinfolia' x unknown) 'Lowe's Ricinifolia'

A star-leaved rhizomatous begonia originated by Paul P. Lowe, Goulds, Fla., in 1968, first bloomed in 1969, and distributed in 1970. The greenbronze leaves 5-7 inches, have green veins and are red underside. Flowers in spring, pink. Available at Lowe's Nursery, address above. Registered Feb. 9, 1972.

No. 307—Begonia ('Sunderbruchii' x fusca) 'Lowe Star'

Developed by Paul P. Lowe, Goulds, Fla., in 1968, bloomed 1969, and distributed 1970, this deeply-cut star-leaved rhizomatous begonia has satiny-textured, bright-green leaves which are marked with brown, 4 to 6 inches. Pink blooms spring and summer. Available at Lowe's Nursery, address above. Registered Feb. 9, 1972.

No. 308—Begonia ('Bow-Chancee' x unknown) 'Paulo'

A star-leaved rhizomatous begonia developed in 1969, bloomed in 1970, and distributed in 1971 by Paul P. Lowe, Goulds, Fla. Leaves 11/4 to 2 inches, margin eyelashed, veins blackish, green. Pink flowers in spring. Available at Lowe's Nursery, address above. Registered Feb. 9, 1972.

No. 309—Begonia (pustulata x imperialis) 'Brown Jewel'

A plain-leaved rhizomatous developed by Paul P. Lowe, Goulds, Fla., in 1969, bloomed 1970, and distributed in 1970, this plant has rounded leaves, 2 to 3 inches, plushy-textured, brownish-green, splashed-silver, with green veins and petioles. Blooms various seasons, white. Available at Lowe's Nursery, address above. Registered Feb. 9, 1972.

No. 310—Begonia ('Black Beauty' x dayi) 'Jannali'

This rhizomatous begonia with star and pointed leaves was originated by Mickey Meyer, Yuppara St., Tathra, New South Wales, Australia, in 1969 and first bloomed in 1971. The apple-green leaves, 4-5 inches, are thick and smooth, margin red, and veins, petioles and stipules a paler green. Flowers spring and summer, small, pale pink on stems up to 10 inches. Available in Australia from Mrs. P. Setford, Leeside Ferneries, Mildara, Victoria. Registered Feb. 15, 1972.

No. 311—Begonia ('Black Beauty' x dayi) 'Nooroo'

Developed in 1969 and first bloomed in 1971 by Mickey Meyer, Yuppara St., Tathra, New South Wales, Australia, this star rhizomatous begonia has 3-5 inch leaves, shaded brown and apple green, smooth, with margin toothed and finely haired. Growth is upright, and plant blooms in spring and summer, pale pink, on 10-12 inch stems. Available in Australia from Mrs. P. Setford, address above. Registered February 15, 1972.

No. 312—Begonia ('Black Beauty' x dayi) 'Numeralla'

Tall stems, pale-pink with red edged blossoms and vivid red undersides of leaves make this plant outstanding. Originated by Mickey Meyer of Tathra, N.S.W., Australia, in 1969, it bloomed in 1971 and is being propagated by Mrs: P. Setford, address above. The leaves are slightly starred, thick and smooth, up to 5 inches. Blooms spring and summer, stems to 15 inches. Registered Feb. 15, 1972.

No. 313—Begonia ('Black Beauty' x dayi) 'Elanora'

Described by Mrs. P. Setford, propagator of this and Nos. 310-312, as in her opinion the best of the four, this slightly starred and pointed leaved rhizomatous begonia was developed in 1969 by Mickey Meyer of Tatha, N.S.W., Australia. It first blomed in 1970 with small pale pink flowers appearing on 10-12 inch stems in spring and summer. The leaves are pine green with smudgy black margin and veins; 4-61/2 inches. Available at Leeside Ferneries, Mildura, Victoria, Australia. Registered February 15, 1972.

SEPT. 2 & 3 MEET THE BANGLES

HUMIDITY

By E. A. McWhorter Columbia, S.C.

Humidity is as important as the other requirements for growing begonias. Humidity is something that many people who start growing begonias overlook. I feel that, along with temperature, light, and watering, it is the most important. If the humidity is not maintained at a rather high level, above 50%, the plant has a tendency to become brown and dry along the leaf edges. This effect is almost always caused by low humidity, especially in the early spring.

This is a crucial time because the weather is so changeable and the plants can easily dry out. In the winter, my greenhouse is almost like a rain forest. The humidity is usually above 70%. I find the condensation that forms on the ceiling, even though it occasionally causes some leaf damage, beneficial from the standpoint of humidity and well worth the small damage.

In helping to correct the low humidity problem at the crucial time in early spring, I suggest use of a vaporizer, which will emit a fine spray in the air without wetting the plants. Also you may use a superfine mist nozzle, which can be purchased from a local garden shop. This nozzle fits on the end of a regular water hose. You may have to spray with this nozzle several times a day, whereas with the vaporizer you will get a constant flow of damp, moist air.

I have grown rex and rhizomatous begonias under lights very success-

fully until springtime; then I could never keep the humidity up satisfactorily. A vaporizer works well here, but unfortunately the moisture will cause mildew to form on the furniture and other items in the room. Of course, there are some begonias which will withstand fairly low humidity.

I do not relate this experience to discourage growing begonias under artificial light. I merely want to warn about the difficulty which may occur when you are trying to grow fine specimen plants.

TUBEROUS . . .

(Continued from Page 172)

spacing the waterings a little farther apart in late November and December. Fertilizing is continued semiweekly until the middle of October. She advises spraying heavily for mildew in the late season as it can get out of hand easily. It is imperative to keep the plants clean of fallen blooms and stalks, or rot which can kill the tuber can set in. Plants continue to receive water until all leaves are gone and most of the stems have lost their color and disintegrated. A little judgment must be used at this point because not all plants react identically at the end of their growth.

A plant in a pot is allowed to dry out thoroughly and the stem will break away clean of natural causes or it will remain attached and slowly dry up. The longer there is green growth and stem, the more the tuber is developing. When the final remnant of stem finally falls off on its own (never break it off) check to be certain the base area of the stem on the tuber itself is dry. At this point the best storage method is to leave the tuber in the pot until about February 1, when it should be removed and cleaned up. This method is very space-consuming because of the large number of pots, so Ethel removes most of her tubers. She still likes to leave them in pots every two or three years to help them firm up.

Tubers should be removed after the open scars from fallen stems have dried up thoroughly. If a short piece of stem persists in hanging on to a tuber, the tuber is left in the pot until it finally gives up the ghost and lets go. The tubers are washed thoroughly and set in full sun for two days to dry. They are then stored in shallow cardboard boxes so they do not touch each other, and kept in a cool, dry, fairly dark area. They should be checked periodically for damage by bugs or mice.

This is the Ethel Reid way. It is not the only way to grow fine tuberous begonias, but it is a successful way. It is the method of a very gracious lady, and an energetic one. It is the story of a perfectionist. It is Ethel Reid.

PETTICOATS . . .

(Continued from Page 168)

How to grow this plant in your own particular location is something that has to be learned, as the methods which produce results for one grower may result in something entirely different for another, as each situation in each grower's garden is different, and each grower's method is different.

RESEARCH REPORT

Carrie Karengeannes has been of help to numerous people with research questions relative to the literature and herbarium of the begonia. Recently she has been helping a person to identify species that had been collected in Costa Rica. She is very helpful to anyone who is trying to identify any species that may be in the U.S. National Herbarium

Earlier in the year she copied all the varieties of species of begonia listed in the Gray Herbarium Card Catalog for Mr. Ziesenhenne to help him check out the names for the A.B.S. Begonia Catalog. Carrie is also continuing to work with others on the list and descriptions from Latin, German, and French for the Robin members.

Mac MacIntyre made a visit to Glasgow to see the curator, Mr. Curtis. Mac was able to give him several species that he did not have. Mr. Curtis receives a lot of begonias from Wageningen in Holland and also from L. Maurice Mason of B. masoniana fame. Since Mac is friendly with Brian Langdon of the Blackmore and Langdon family, he sent me a copy of The Tuberous Begonia. Mac gives much praise to the book, saying that it has many beautiful drawings and 28 full page plates of modern doubles. Evidently it is one " of the most complete books on the tuberous begonia.

Thelma O'Reilly has written an article for *The Begonian* which is a "Report on Adventitious Growth." She was working on this project, among many others, while she was with the Research Department. We are grateful for the report and hope that she will be back with us when she has regained her health.

Recently I received a letter from Mr. Leslie Woodriff of the Woodriffs, growers of tuberous begonias in California. He was interested in my report in *The Begonian* concerning tissue culture that is being researched at Cornell University. He is interested in the rapid method of propagating begonias. Even though this project may seem highly technical to most of our growers, it is one that will be of benefit because it will mean more plants will be available for less money.

As I have said before, there has been little research with begonias in this country, so when the request for a grant came from Cornell University, we should have been in a position to aid them even though we are committed to another project. We should have had a continuous fund available in the Research Department for any worthwhile project that will be of help to us.

Everything seems to be going smoothly with the Research Fund Project. When the Research Fund was first granted to Rutgers University, it was understood that the Research Department was to supply all the plants needed. James Wyrtzen, of Wyrtzen Exotic Plants, and the Research Director supplied Dr. Moser of Rutgers with enough plants to get the preliminary work on the project started. Recently Dr. Moser reported that he has received begonia cuttings from Jack Golding, Anita Sickmon, and Yvonne Wells of the Mesquite, Texas, Branch. All this cooperation has been gratifying.

> M. Carleton L'Hommedieu Research Director

ROUND ROBIN . . .

(Continued from Page 167)

mildew. She uses vapona strips to get rid of white fly which appear.

Flossie Smith of New York writes that she has used vinegar for mildew. She used one teaspoonful to two quarts of water to spray the leaves. One plant had mold on the stems so she dipped a piece of cotton in the vinegar solution and wiped the stems. The plant dropped most of its leaves but she saved it.

Luceal Hurst of Missouri has found a new way of propagating begonia leaves. She puts crushed styrofoam in plastc boxes (she buys fresh strawberries in them) and sets them in a tray of water with Miracle Grow. The leaves root in a week to ten days.

Mrs. Casey Marchlewicz of Illinois enclosed pictures of her landscaped bowls and they were beautiful, certainly an inspiration to other growers to try something new.

Ann Bello of New York has found that begonias do quite well in colored glass bottles as well as bowls or terrariums. She has tried using light green bottles and also amber glass. The begonias in them grew very fast. Ann prefers the large brandy snifters and fish tanks over all other containers. She feels that they can be arranged uniquely. If plastic bowls are used, the water drains out if they are overwatered and this is an advantage. But shiny glass bowls cannot be beat for beauty. Ann does not use any soil in her closed container growing, just perlite, vermiculite, and sphagnum moss.

Priscilla Beck of Connecticut has

been growing *B. ficicola* for some time and in April it was growing vigorously with no signs of flowering. She had moved it to the fluorescent lights to give it a fourteen-hour day. *B. rajah* was blooming there.

Olive Lever of New Zealand reports that she has a *B. sudjanae* growing in a six-by-six case and it was touching the top. She reports that this begonia looks more like *B. goegoensis* than true *B. sudjanae*. Other growers have reported that *B. sudjanae* seedlings had a goegoensis look.

Elizabeth "Flip" Schmid of Tennessee reports that she has a conversation-piece—a Saxifrage Sarmentosa 'Magic Carpet' growing on a feather rock set in a bubble bowl.

Gil Long of New York reported right after Easter that *B. bradei* and B. 'Crispie' have grown right out of their bowl. *B. lubbersii* is still small. *B. hydrocotylifolia*, in a cube in a northeast window, had four lovely pink male flowers with two petals that lasted two weeks.

In one flight Gil enclosed a copy of the *Knickie News* which listed Cornell Bulletin #74, "A guide to safe pest control around the home", published by the New York State College for Agriculture, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York. Price 25 cents. Many growers are finding sensitivity to pesticides and need information along this line.

If you wish to be a part of these round robin flights, tell how you grow begonias and what flights you wish to join. Write to:

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



A.B.S. LIBRARY BOOKSTORE

The following selection of books are FOR SALE

- *Gesneriads And How To Grow Them. \$7.95 by Peggy Schulz
- *Rex Begonias As House Plants \$1.00 by Virginia Withee
- *So Say The Experts \$2.00 by Ruth Pease
- Classification Guide Compiled by ... \$1.25 the Westchester Branch, A.B.S.
- *Platycerium Fern Facts \$4.95 by Wendy Franks
- *The Tuberus Begonia \$10.80 by Brian Langdon
 - The Begonian—Complete reprints ... \$6.00 Jan. 1934 through June 1938

The Begonian- 1960-1969 25c per issue 1950-1959 40c per issue 1940-1949 50c per issue

There is a limited number of 1940-1949 issues but will fill each order to the best of my ability.

*Calif. residents, add 5% tax on these items.

Please include 50 cents to cover postage

Send your orders to:

MRS. LYDIA AUSTIN 15329 Eastwood Avenue Lawndale, California 90260



The revised Membership Roster is off the press. Order your copy from the Membership Secretary. \$1.50

BEGONIAS — PLANTS AND LEAVES Rex and rhizomatous Send for list — 10¢ E. A. McWHORTER 2010 Rockland Road Columbia, South Carolina 29210







INVITATION TO JOIN

You are cordially invited to join with others who enjoy growing Gloxinias and other Gesneriads on windowsills, in greenhouses, and under fluorescent lights. The Society, a nonprofit membership organization, was founded in 1951 and has grown to include members in every state, in Canada and in many other countries.

The Society publishes *The Gloxinian*, The Magazine for Gesneriad Growers, bimonthly—it contains information about all Gesneriads except Saintpaulia; the INTERNATIONAL GESNERIAD REGISTER; a Cultural Handbook; other bonuses. It sponsors Research; privileges of membership include an Annual Convention and Judged Flower Show with Awards, Round Robins, local Chapters, a Seed Fund, and Library of Slides and Books.

Dues are \$5.00 per year (Includes \$4.50 for subscription.)

Each NEW MEMBER receives two free back issues of *The Gloxinian*, a packet of choice Gesneriad seeds, a Cultural Handbook, a Membership Card, and all issues of *The Gloxinian* for the current calendar year.

Make CHECK or M. O. payable to AMERICAN GLOXINIA and GESNERIAD SOCIETY.

Mrs. J. Wm. Rowe Memb. Sec'y Dept. B72 P. O. Box 174 New Milford, Ct. 06776



AFRICAN VIOLETS and other GESNERIADS LIST 16¢ COMPLETE SUPPLY LISTING ALSO Mail order address: Box 16203, San Francisco, Calif. 94116 WEST COAST GESNERIADS — 564-0346 VISIT OUR STORE AT 3804 NORIEGA ST., SAN FRANCISCO

MRS. BERT ROUTH

Louisburg, Missouri 65685

RHIZOMATOUS BEGONIAS

\$1.00 each—Leaves 35¢ Erythrophylla (Beeksteak) Argenteo Guttata 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 Persian Brocade Silver Star Spaulding Zaida Zee Bowman masoniana (Iron Cross) Aqua Marine Catalina Illsley pearlii

RHIZOMATOUS BEGONIAS

\$1.25 each Angie Leo Rowan Leslie Lynn Missouri heracleifolia nigricans Randy Roberta Ricinifolia Regency Vernon Gay Star Rasberry Parfait

FIBROUS BEGONIAS

\$1.00 each Annabelle Bleeding Heart Peach Leaf echinosepala Green Medora Helen Helena incarnata Jean Pernet Medora Spring Song Sir Arthur acida Corbeille de feu Digswelliana Thurstoni Blue Lake Grey Feather

FIBROUS BEGONIAS \$1.25 each

Otto Hacker Elaine Frances Lyons Pinafore Robinson's Peach coccinea rosea Nora Hanson Tingley Mallet

HAIRY FIBROUS BEGONIAS

\$1.25 each Chocolate Soldier Conbow Credneri Dwarf Houghtoni hugellii Margarita Nelly Bly metallica prunifolia Raythel

REX BEGONIAS \$1.00 each

Amy Bertha McGregor Cora Miller Evergreen Fiesta Fairy Forty Niner Green Countess Green Gold Helen Teupel Jack Frost Lillian Les Matheson Lucy Clossom Merry Christmas Mountain Haze Old Smokey Peace Sue Zug Silver Lake Sandv White Lace Venetian Red Red Berry New Blue Bell Purple Petticoats Leaves 35¢ or 3 for \$1.00

\$1.25 each American Beauty Black King Blushing Ole Crimson Glory Curly Stardust Dottie Mikado Prince Charming Shirt Sleeves Sir Roy Yewell Winter Garden Leaves 40¢ each

\$1.50 each Glory of St. Albans Helen Lewis Leaves 40¢ each

8 Begonias, my choice — postpaid \$7.00 Fresh cane cuttings — $\frac{1}{2}$ price of plant Leaves of \$1.00 plants - 35¢ or 3 for \$1.00 Leaves of \$1.25 & up plants - 40¢

TERMS: Cash, Check or Money Order, no C.O.D. Postage prepaid on orders of \$15.00 or over, Insured and Special Handling.

\$1.35 for postage and packing for all orders under \$15.00 (\$1.50 West of Rockies and East of Mississippi River). Missouri residents please add 3% sales tax. Special Delivery 65¢

SEND 10¢ FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF PLANTS WE GROW

REPORT OF MONTHLY MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors of the American Begonia Society met on May 22, 1972, in the South Gate Auditorium, with 14 officers and 11 representatives present.

The treasurer reported receipts of \$1,277.75; disbursements of \$817.49; with a balance on hand of \$1,359.51.

The membership secretary reported 86 new members, 124 renewals, and a total membership of 2,083.

The circulation manager reported 2,749 **Begonians** distributed, at a cost of \$24.75 for mailing.

The advertising manager reported \$52.50 receipts.

The judging course director reported receipts of \$96.75 for publications sold, and expenses of \$37.16.

The research director's report was read. The Knickerbocker Branch has offered to help obtain plants needed by Rutgers Unlversity for research. Members of the Round Robins are also helping.

A letter from the ConnectIcut Branch, recommending an increase in dues to \$5.00, was read. A letter from the Sacramento Branch, opposing any Increase, was read.

The business manager reported that the stencils for the roster are completed and asked for volunteers for a work party to collate the sheets after they have been mimeographed.

The president mentioned that many nice letters have been received expressing patience and sympathy with our problems concerning **The Begonian**, especially the delays caused by the Post Office.

The representative of the San Miguel Branch reported that they are willing to drop their requirements for a plant to win their trophy to 85 points instead of the 90 points requested last month.

The representative of the North Long Beach Branch made a motion that an index be included in each issue of **The Begonian.** The motion passed.

The representative of the Riverside Branch announced the discontinuance of that Branch, and asked that a complimentary subscription to **The Begonian** be sent to Jurupa Mountain Cultural Center. The Riverside Branch has donated its back numbers of **The Begonian** and other books to the Center.

: aje aje

On June 26 the Board of Directors met in the South Gate Auditorium, with 13 officers and 9 representatives present.

A letter from Mary Hazel Drummond was read, thanking Kandid Litho for the beautiful color cover on the May issue of **The Begonian**.

The treasurer reported receipts of \$897.75; disbursements of \$991.17; and a balance of \$1,266.09.

The membership secetary reported a total membership of 2,147.

The judging course director reported receiving many requests for Point Scoring and Classification books as a result of a talk by Elda Haring; several inquiries about how to put on a show.

The co-chairman of the show committee reported that plans are progressing well.

The president expressed appeciation to Everett Wright for putting in the display in the Fuchsia Show, with the help of Mr. Pauliny. The display won a trophy.

Mr. Pauliny. The display won a trophy. The treasurer thanked those who had put together the new roster. It was voted to pay the typist \$1.00 for each stencil (total \$61.00). It was also voted to charge \$1.50 for the roster.

The president spoke of the death of Bert Slatter, a past-president of the A.B.S. and appointed Mr. Wright to send flowers to his family.

Irene Grannell Secretary





4111 - 242nd St., Walteria, Calif. 90505

TUBEROUS BEGONIAS

COMPLETE SELECTION OF BEGONIAS AND SHADE PLANTS

FUCHSIAS-CAMELLIAS-FERNS OPEN DAILY

Complete Nursery & Garden Supply Shop 11/2 Miles E. of Redondo Beach Hi-Way 101

BRANCH DIRECTORY

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AT THESE MEETINGS

BUXTON BRANCH 3rd Saturday, Homes of Members Mrs. Hebert Hurley, Secy. 11 Woodland Rd., Lexington, Mass. 02173

CONNECTICUT BRANCH 4th Sunday of each month Mrs. Priscella Beck, Secy. R D No. 1, Box 121, Mystic, Conn. 06355

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. Miss Carol E. Orpin, Secy. 428 Norvell Street EI Cerrito, Calif. 94530

EASTSIDE BRANCH 4th Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. 590 116th Avenue N.E., Bellevue, Washington Grace Fisher, Secy. 770 Monroe Ave. N.E., Renton, Wash. 98055

EL MONTE COMMUNITY BRANCH 3rd Friday, Members' Homes Mrs. Gladys Máttuket, 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. Mr. Robert I. Wilson, Secy. 544 Fountain Drive Mira Loma, Calif. 91752

FORT, ELSA BRANCH Ist 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. Katharine Alberti, Secy. 3322 Troy Drive, Hollywood, Calif. 90068

GREATER BATON ROUGE BRANCH Mrs. John H. McKay, Secy. 5116 Baton Rouge Ave., Baton Rouge, La. 70805

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

KNICKERBOCKER BRANCH 2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. Horticultural Society of N.Y. 128 West 58th St., New York Miss Margaret Huger, Secy. 505 East 82nd St. New York, N.Y. 10028

LONG BEACH PARENT CHAPTER 3rd Sunday, 1:30 p.m. Great Western Savings and Loan Bldg. 6300 East Spring St., Long Beach, Calif. Mrs. Paul E. Powell, Secy. 3031 Shakespear Dr., Los Alamitos, Calif. 90720

LOUISIANA CAPITAL BRANCH 1st Friday, Sear's Garden Center 6201 Florida St., Baton Rouge Mrs. Johnnie L. Tanner, Secy. 1962 Cederdale, 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. Marie Evans, Secy. 610 63rd Drive, Hialea, Florida 33012 MISSOURI BRANCH Srd Friday, 11 a.m., Member's Homes Kansas City, Mo. Mrs. Glenn Lucas, Secy. Kansas City, Mo. 64109 MONTEREY BAY AREA BRANCH 4th Wednesday, 8:00 p.m. Lighthouse and Dickman Sts., New Monterey, Calif. Frederick Bell, Jr., Secy. P.O. Box 527, Pebble Beach, Calif. 93953 NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH 1st Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. 525 Ocean Blvd., Long Beach Barbara Welty, Secy. 4741 Hazelbrook Long Beach, Calif. 90808 **ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH** ANGE COUNTY BRANCH 2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Lions Club, Walnut St. and Garden Grove Blvd. Garden Grove, Calif. Mrs. R. L. Nevins, Secy. 1913 Aspen Cicle, Fullerton, Calif. 92631 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. Margaret Buell, Secy. 18500 Mansel Street Bedende, Baesto Calif. 00278 Redondo Beach, Calif. 90278 RHODE ISLAND BRANCH 1st Saturday, Homes of Members Miss Marcella Flynn, Secy. 7 Fairfield Ave., East Providence, Rhode Island 02914 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. Betty Tillotson, Secy. 3912 Wildrose Way Sacramento, Calif. 95826 SALINE COUNTY BRANCH OF KANSAS 4th Monday, 2:00 p.m., Homes of Members Mrs. Wayne Smith, Secy. 1823 Highland, Salina, Kansas 67401

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH 1st Wednesday, 8:00 p.m., Garden Center Golden Gate Park, 9th Avenue and Lincoln Way Mrs. Louise Eby, Secy. 1137 Hillside Blvd. So. San Francisco, Calif. 94080

The Begonian

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH 2nd Friday, 8:00 p.m. Los Angeles State and County Arboretum 501 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, Calif. Mabel Anderson, Secy. 16609 Cypress St., Covina, Calif. 91722

SAN MIGUEL BRANCH 2nd Wednesday, Porter Hall, 7:30 p.m. University & La Mesa Blvd., La Mesa Mrs. George Bayse, Sr., Secy. 2347 Langmuir St., San Diego, Calif. 92111

SANTA BARBARA BRANCH 2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History 2559 Puesta Del Sol Miss Gladys M. Grant, Socy. 460 Mountain Dr., Santa Barbara, Calif. 93103

SANTA CLARA VALLEY BRANCH 3rd Thursday, 8 p.m. Member's Home Elisabeth Sayers, Secy. 369 Ridge Vista Ave. San Jose, Calif. 95127

SEATTLE BRANCH 3rd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. Calvary Lutheran Church 7002 23rd Ave., N.W. Mary Sanderman, Secy. 13045 37th N.E., Seattle, Wn. 98128

SHEPHERD, THEODOSIA BURR BRANCH Ist Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. Y.M.C.A. Bidg., 5200 Telegraph Rd., Ventura, Calif. Mrs. Bernie Crosby, Secy. 231 Bethel St. Ventura, Calif. 93003

SMOKY VALLEY BRANCH 4th Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Members' Homes Mrs. Henry Flaherty 606 South Third, Salina, Kansas 67401

SOUTH SEATTLE BRANCH 4th Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Wm. Moshler Field House 430 South 156th Burien Sally Harding, Secy. 11632 1st Ave. S., Seattle, Washington 08168

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 Ist 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 Ct., 1059 Shady Ave., Pittsburg, Pa. Mrs. Irene Fediacko, Secy. 125 Arlington Ave., Butler, Pa. 16001

WHITTIER BRANCH 1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Palm Park Community Center 5703 South Palm Avenue, Whittier Miss Anne Rose, Secy. 14036 Ramona Drive, Whittier, Calif. 90605

WILLIAM PENN BRANCH 4th Tuesday, Noon Homes of Members Mrs. Stuart J. Bracken, Secy. 727 Mt. Moro Rd., Villanova, Pa. 19085

Volume 39 • August, 1972

CALENDAR

August 13—Theodosia Burr Shepherd Branch (Ventura, California): Annual garden tour—Sunday afternoon. Maps will be available at 526 Jones Street or 1817 Thompson Boulevard, in Ventura.

August 24-27 — San Francisco County Fair Flower Show at the Hall of Flowers, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco.

August 25 — Redondo Area Branch: Members will show their plants and judges will speak.

Aug. 26—San Gabriel Valley Branch: Vi's Luau at 6446 Trelawney in Temple City. Delicious food and extraordinary atmosphere for only \$6.00 per person. No-host social hour at 7:00 p.m. Dinner at 8:00 p.m. Promises to be an eventful evening. For reservations call: Mrs. Steinhaus at 287-5082 or Mrs. Grivich at 446-6222.

September 7—Westchester Branch: Rudolf Ziesenhenne will be the speaker, following a birthday potluck dinner. Entree and dessert will be furnished by the Branch.

All materials for publication — articles, notices, photographs — should be sent to the Editor, preferably five weeks before date of publication. Deadline is the first of the month preceding month of publication.

Advertising copy and inquiries should be sent to the Advertising Manager.



SECOND CLASS MAIL American Begonia Society 10331 South Colima Road Whittier, California 90604

> Gloxinias-African Violets-Begonias Varieties which thrive under fluorescent light New Catalog-25c KARTUZ GREENHOUSES

> Dept. B-92 Chestnut Street Wilmington, Massachusetts 01887

BEGONIAS

Many varieties of *Begonias* listed. Rex, Rhizomatous, Cane, and Rare, including B. Versicolor Price list – 10c

MRS. ROSETTA WHITE 1602 N.W. Third St., Abilene, Kansas 67410

BEGONIAS & PLATYCERIUMS

REX BEGONIA SEED - \$1.00 per pkt.

RUDOLF ZIESENHENNE

1130 North Milpas Street SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA 93103

SPOONIT FLOWER FOOD

Send Post Card for Information and Sample

PLANTSMITH Box 818 Palo Alto, Calif. 94302

LOWE'S NURSERY

Rex, Rhizomatous, Angel Wing, Miniatures and other odd and rare Begonias including many new hybrids. BROMELIADS and ORCHIDS Wholesale & Retail New price list 10¢

23045 S. W. 123 Rd., Goulds, Florida 33170

ANTONELLI BROTHERS 2545 Capitola Road SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA 95060

36-page color catalog 25 cents

AFRICAN VIOLETS - BEGONIAS - EPISCIAS Fresh cut Violet Leaves—25¢ Episcia Stolens—30¢ Begonia Cuttings—40¢; Plants—\$1.00 FREE PRICE LIST WILSON'S GREENHOUSE OZARK, MISSOURI 65721

GREEN HILLS NURSERY

Exotic & Hardy Ferns Open Saturdays and Sundays 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. or by appointment

2131 Vallejo Street St. Helena, Calif. 94574 Mrs. E. Bolduc

BEGONIAS, CERANIUMS, EXOTICS FERNS, OXALIS, CACTI, HERBS

New 75th anniversary catalog, with more color—50c

LOGEE'S GREENHOUSES

55 North Street, Danielson, Connecticut 06239

GRO-LUX LAMPS—BLACK LIGHT All sizes of lamps and fixtures for residence or business.

FLUORESCENT TUBE SERVICE 13107 S. Broadway, Los Angeles, Calif. 90061 Phone (213) 321-6900

The Begonian