

Monthly Publication of the American Begonia Society



Founded by Herbert P. Dyckman January, 1932

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Dues, address changes, or magazines:

- 8302 Kittyhawk Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90045
- Subscription: \$5.00 per year. Foreign (Mexico and Canada) \$5.50. U.S. (Mexico and Canada) 1st Class \$8.00. Overseas Air Mail \$17.00. Pay in U.S. currency only. Single back issues 75¢.

Second Class Postage Paid at Los Angeles, California

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AIMS AND PURPOSES OF THE American begonia society

The purpose of this Society shall be:

- TO stimulate and promote interest in Begonia and other shade-loving plants;
- TO encourage the introduction and development of new types of these plants;
- TO standardize the nomenclature of Begonia;
- TO gather and publish information in regard to kinds, propagation and culture of *Begonia* 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 Begonia.

THE BEGONIAN STAFF

- Co-EditorsEdgar and Phyllis Bates P. O. Box 82109, San Diego, CA 92138 Phone (714) 436-1419.
- Advertising ManagerMabel Corwin 1119 Loma Vista Way, Vista, Ca. 92083 (714) 727-0693
- Advertising Accounts ManagerEsther Passet 2123 Dracena St., Bakersfield, CA 93304

CirculationJacqueline Garinger 8302 Kittyhawk Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90045

Contributing Editors

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Per Inch	10.00
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COVER PHOTO

Begonia herbacea, grown and photographed by Joe Bond, Panama. See related article starting on page 116.

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BEGONIA RESARCH AND IDENTIFICATION Part I — Four Brazilian Species

Begonia attenuata Begonia depauperata Begonia herbacea Begonia velloziana

From a lecture by Carrie Karegeannes, a member of the ABS Research Committee, at the Eastern Regional Convention in Pittsburgh, September 1976.

These four species frequently have been confused with one another. They have numerous characteristics in common: the rather narrow lance or knife blade shape of the leaves, the small rhizome which is often well hidden by the foliage, the epiphytic nature of the plants, even the closeness of the leaf color. All of them were found in the nineteenth century in the natural state in Brazil and were sent back to Europe to be identified as a part of that great effort to search out and classify the plants of the world. The names of the begonias with the botanists and dates of the original description are: *Begonia attenuata* A. de Candolle, 1861; *Begonia depauperata* Schott, 1827 (synonym *B. rhizocarpa* Fischer, 1861); *Begonia herbacea* Vellozo, 1831; and *Begonia velloziana* Walpers, 1843.

The problems that exist today are caused by the early difficulties in communication and the lack of sufficient information to make proper identifi-

(Continued on Page 120)



Begonia attenuata A. DC. Two spotted leaves of B. vellozana show on the soil also. Photo by Peter Karegeannes



Begonia herbacea Vell.



Begonia herbacea with long-necked female flower in foreground and male on peduncle behind. Note leaf blade narrowing to run down along the petiole. Photos on this page by Jack Golding

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Begonia attenuata A.DC.

Some botanists in the past have considered *B. attenuata* a variety of *B. herbacea*. Dr. Irmscher preferred to keep them as two separate species, although closely related.



Leaf pressed from C. Karegeannes plant; petiole longer (type photo and also this plant has some long, some short). Solid deep green.



Leaf pressed from a plant grown by an ABS member. Petiole is shorter, but is described as variable in the species. Leaves solid deep green, no spots.

Both these plants were acquired under the label *B. herbacea*. Leaf shape and size fit *B. attenuata*, however.



From photo of type specimen collected by Sellow in Brazil. Leaf tip and base tapering in almost the same way. Acute, wedge-shaped base stops at narrow petiole instead of continuing down along it in a wide margin. (Dried petiole appears even narrower than in live plant.)

Begonia herbacea Vellozo



From Vellozo's original drawing of 1831, much reduced. Leaf tissue runs down gradually along each side of the petiole; blade is wider toward the top.



Pressed leaf from plant grown by an ABS member; sometimes labeled *B. rhizocarpa* (but see next page). Some leaves are more nearly entire. Leaf tissue runs down along each side of the petiole, with no clear division between blade and petiole. The same plant will have all-green or spotted leaves according to the light it grows in — as descriptions state.

The unusual, white flowers of *B. attenuata* and *B. herbacea* are similar: female sitting by itself in shaggy bracts on the rhizome, with long beak separating ovary from tepals; males in small clusters on short stalks. In fact, the whole group (Section *Trachelocarpus*) is named for the female flower. Members of the group produce glandular secretions like white sugar crystals on the leaves.

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Also in Section Trachelocarpus:



(Continued from Page 116)

cations. Carrie Karegeannes has been collecting information about these plants, searching through begonia literature, growing plants from various sources, looking at pictures of plants which have been sent to her and carrying on a lengthy correspondence in order to clear the matter. She presented to the Eastern Convention slides and drawings so that anyone who has any of these plants can compare the distinguishing characteristics and make a judgment as to the correctness of his labeling.

On the cover of the *Begonian* in January 1974 is a picture of a member of this group of plants. From the information and sketches pre-

Begonia velloziana Walpers

From original drawing of *B. repens* Vellozo (which Walpers renamed *B. vellozi*ana because the name repens already belonged to another species). Believed to be back in cultivation after many years. The plant tentatively so identified has an always thickly white-dotted leaf, of lighter green and thinner texture than attenuata's, a wedge-shaped base, and fine, thickly-set, red cilia (hairs) running around the margin and down both sides of the petiole.

sented here, it becomes evident that the true identification of the plant is *B. attenuata*. It is an example of the mix-ups which we are trying to straighten out here. Dorothy Porter grew a lovely plant which she believed to be *B. herbacea*. With the additional information available it is now possible to give it the correct name, *B. attenuata*. This does not detract a whit from the good cultural advice she gave. Obviously the plant was thriving under her care and is an excellent specimen. (Jan. 1974, page 4)

In the same issue there is an article about *B. herbacea* by Rudolf Ziesenhenne which refers to the same photograph. What he wrote about *herbacea* is correct but the reference to the cover photo is not justified now.

The present cover shows a plant grown by Joe Bond which he acquired under another name, *B. rhizocarpa*. It seems most probable that the plant is actually *B. herbacea*. He grows it under the same conditions as one would grow epiphytic orchids (not in the soil, but attached to limbs and bark of trees or among rocks in tropical and subtropical climates.)

The need to change the names of these plants does not reflect on the persons who have either distributed or grown them under other names. The accumulation of information from numerous sources has helped to make more positive identifications.

In studying these materials, Carrie Karegeannes discovered that the earliest name applied to *Begonia rhizocarpa* was *depauperata*, which is now given here as the valid name with the other as a synomyn. In a separate letter she wrote: "I surely hate to have to go back to the name *depauperata*, when we all know the other one; but, alas, it is the oldest one . . . Even Dr. Smith and Dr. Doorenbos* can't understand why *rhizocarpa* has been used all this time."

The reader may wish to go back to another article on this subject in the January, 1974 issue on page 20, where she gives additional descriptive material.

*Dr. Lyman B. Smith, Botanist Emeritus, Smithsonian Institution and Dr. Jan Doorenbos, Professor, Department of Horticulture, Agricultural University at Wagengingen.

A section of a botanical key including some of the species discussed. Translation by Rudolf Ziesenhenne from E. Irmscher, Bot. Jahrb. (1953).

Summary of the Species in Section Trachelocarpus

- 1. Leaves bare.
 - 2. Leaf blade on the base obtuse-blunt; Male infloresence shorter than the leaves.

B. depauperata (syn. B. rhizocarpa Fisch.)

- 2'. Leaf blade on the base acute-angled narrowing.
 - 3. Tepals bare.
 - 4. Leaf stem not ciliate-toothed, pinnate: blade on both ends nearly in the same way acuminate.

B. attenuata (K1.) A. DC.

- 4'. Leafstem fringed-toothed, pinnate. B. herhacea Vell.
 - 5. Blade obovate-lanceolate.

variety typica Irmsch.

5'. Blade oblong-elliptical.

variety ellipticifolia Irmsch.

3'. Female tepals ciliate and toothed.

B. angraensis Brade.

1'. Leaves hairy on both sides: female tepals ciliate-toothed. P_{i} fully setulos. Brade

B. fulvo-setulosa Brade.

THE BEGONIA OR THE LADY? By Eleanor Hollis, Porterville, California

My title refers to the begonia that was named for my friend and is a parody on "The Lady or the Tiger" which is a short story some of you may recall. In the story the hero is asked to open one of two doors: behind one is a ferocious tiger, behind the other his lady love. The author leaves it up to the reader to guess just what was behind the door that the hero opened. I am in somewhat of the same quandry as I cannot think of my friend, Barbara Neptune, without also thinking of B. 'Barbara Neptune'. This begonia was hybridized and named for her by Gordon Lepisto. The friendship between Gordon and Barbara was one of great depth and it covered several years. There was a great deal of letter writing, plants and mementos exchanged, phone calls, and, as I observed, a few squabbles, but these were always resolved.

She was, and is, a remarkable woman, coming from brave and resourceful Alsace - Lorraine farmers who immigrated to Northern California and settled in the Mount Shasta region. Family diaries tell of the famous Mt. Shasta eruption as well as highly successful farming, building and business enterprises. In Barbara's youth, this family resourcefulness exhibited itself in an idea she had and carried out. She decided to see the whole of the United States on her own and literally worked her way across this country by using her nursing skill.

Now that she has reached a very pleasant age in life, being neither too



Barbara Neptune

young nor too old, she enjoys herself growing beautiful plants and caring for her adorable pets. Barbara used to collect tropical birds and canaries but she has branched into many other avenues. She came to begonias by the idea of trying "one of each" of the house plants, starting with a single fern. As she couldn't find books with pictures, she felt the only way to satisfy her curiosity was to order one of each plant and grow it herself. It was the miniature angel wing begonia, B. 'Medora', that converted Barbara into a begonia-lover. All begonia lovers know the thrill one feels when he is dedicated to the quest for beauty that finds fruition and satisfaction when working with one's plants. Her collection has contained as many as four hundred



Begonia 'Barbara Neptune'

plants at one time and she usually keeps about fifty varieties.

Barbara became somewhat discouraged because she has no greenhouse — raising tropicals in our area means keen attention to humidity — and resorted to terrariums and various types of containers, with great inventiveness. She is currently exploring rare tropicals and finds many of them respond to regular house conditions. Barbara is now active with the Central San Joaquin Branch and shares



Photos by the author.

her talents and knowledge as program chairman.

The pleasure of sharing knowledge and understanding of begonias brought about Begonia 'Barbara Neptune' as Gordon Lepisto with his great skill and talent and generous nature dedicated a lovely rex begonia to Barbara. The plant is exquisitely beautiful. It is warm, it is shimmering, graceful, delicate, with a lovely substance to the leaves and a glowing vigor. I wonder just whom I am describing, the begonia or the lady?

Note: Barbara Neptune and Gordon Lepisto never met in person.

Gordon Lepisto Collectors

If you are interested in a serious manner in writing about, collecting and preserving Gordon Lepisto hybrids, please get in touch with me. Eleanor Hollis, 548 E. Mill Ave., Porterville, CA 93257.

BEGONIA BOOKSELF

By Ruth Pease, Los Angeles, CA

As an instructor teaching horticulture in the Los Angeles adult school system, I read and study any and all books on the subject. The information gained together with personal growing experiences helps to make classes interesting for my students as well as for myself. As "new" information becomes available, we, too, grow.

The past several months I have read many books to review for the readers of the *Begonian*. It has been difficult to pinpoint any one book which would seem to be better than another to review on its own merits. Let me explain.

I have found some writers interviewed actual growers and then have taken their notes and made interpretations of their own. Two plants will be named, but the descriptions printed have been mismatched. There are those who have excellent photographs or line drawings to add to the interest of their books, but the information has not always been accurate. No one is perfect.

Photographs are sometimes incorrectly captioned, and those of us who know the plants being discussed can readily see the errors; however, those of you who may be newcomers to the wonderful hobby of growing begonias and other plants will put credence into what you read as the correct names and perhaps change your own plant labels to coincide! I urge you to look further. Check out several sources and hope they haven't *all* used the same reference material. Inconsistencies include begonia names spelled two ways in the same book.

I feel that in order to get the most out of the many publications on growing plants that we must resort to reading more than one on any given subject. Keep in mind that growers who write books are eager to pass on their information to you, but they may be growing plants in different environments than your own. Plants noted as miniature or dwarf in size may be found in other reference books as being medium or large-leaved. By comparing the information, then going back to various authorities of different plant organizations, using their personal growing experiences and knowledge to aid you, you will become better informed. Without pinpointing errors found in any one publication, I list the following for you to check out in your local libraries, bookstores, and society libraries or purchase them and get the good that is in them. There is much to be gained from each.

I am happy to say that I have enjoyed reading through these books and will use them myself in my own research and as aids for my classes, but I will be making corrections (simple as they are) to give my students the information that will benefit them most.

Greenhouse Gardening by Sunset

Fern Grower's Manual by Barbara Joe Hoshizaki (excellent book — many have wished for even more photographs)

Begonias by Jack Kramer

(Continued on Page 135)

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SEMPS FOR GARDEN DECORATION

By Elda Haring, Flat Rock, NC

Although semperflorens begonias have been a favorite house plant for many years, it has been only in the past decade that home gardeners have discovered their value as garden decoration. At our former home in Connecticut we used them near our patio to give color and beauty to an area under the light shade of old apple trees, where we enjoyed them even after the first light frosts in autumn, for they survived until nighttime temperatures stayed below freezing for several hours.

Some years ago when visiting our friend Mike Kartuz, owner of Kartuz Greenhouses in Massachusetts, from whom we have obtained so many fine begonias and gesneriads we saw semps combined with annuals to provide a most delightful and unusual effect. On the south side of the house, shaded from the western sun by large trees was a stunning border of Celosia plumosa 'Forest Fire' faced with 'Rose Perfection' semps and the blue Lobellia erinus. On the east a bed of brightly colored coleus with 'Cinderella' semps and an edging of pale yellow dwarf marigolds was a visual delight. Around a birdbath pool, the beauty of B. 'Christmas Candle' with waxy green leaves and red flowers was enhanced by a broad band of white alyssum.

Many bedding plant growers who supply flats and packs of annuals to garden nurseries now are offering named varieties of semps. As they flower nicely in bright light with but little sun, semps are favorites to combine with impatiens and coleus both of which do well in light shade. Happily we have learned that these versatile begonias can be used in a number of places where they receive six hours or more of sun to create beautiful color combinations in the garden. As an added bonus some of them can be cut back and potted in late summer to add color to our windows during the winter months. They are excellent color companions to such favorites as geraniums, petunias, the various dusty millers, celosia, lobelia, ageratum, marigolds, salvia, verbena and others.

My young neighbor who has had little flower gardening experience, last season combined semps, impatiens and dwarf bedding dahlias to create a spot of all season color to be viewed from her patio. A friend with a screened porch overlooking a planting of rhododendron and azaleas under large oaks, where some color was needed in the summer months, put in a wide border of *B*. 'Linda' combined with ageratum 'Heavenly Blue' and it was indeed a heavenly combination.

When we moved to North Carolina and planted a new 125 foot mixed flower border, the perennials were small and bloom sparse, but along about mid-June, too late in this area to find bedding plants for sale, we were fortunate enough to find a supplier who had two dozen 4 inch pots of *B*. 'Danica' left over which he sold to us for a pittance. Placed toward the front of the border, their red leaves and flowers added glowing color and later in the season with seed-sown marigold Moonshot and



Cluster formed by a single plant of semperflorens cultivar, F_1 hybrid, Begonia 'Viva', a dwarf plant with white blossoms, green foliage. Photo courtesy of George J. Ball Company, Chicago.

Blue Midge ageratum these semps helped to sustain color throughout the first summer in our new garden.

In most northern areas semps do well in full sun provided they are kept well supplied with moisture in times of drought. However, in the mid to upper South, leaves of the white flowered ones will often scorch if subjected to prolonged hot sun. At the front foundation of our house we use a double row of B. 'Derby' whose blush pink flowers edged with rose look so well against the pink brick of the house. Although this area receives full sun from noon to sundown B. 'Derby' never looks untidy nor do the leaves suffer damage from strong sun. They furnish continual bloom from late May to October frosts.

I am told that semps do not survive in very hot and humid summers in the deep south but in many such areas where frosts or freezes seldom occur they are used successfully for winter color in the garden. According to the Sunset Book *Color In Your Garden* semps are used at Disneyland for late spring and early summer bloom in combination with petunias, marigolds, salvia, ageratum, gloriosa daisy, dwarf dahlias and penstemon. For color all year, *B.* 'Richmondensis' which one sees used so delightfully in California, is used along with alyssum and chrysanthemums.

I know that some of our most experienced hobbyists who own large collections of begonias grow them out of doors during the summer months placing them in such a way that they have a decorative begonia garden. I hope that many of our readers who want color in their gardens and grow many beautiful annuals and perennials will try using the delightful semps in combination with other flowers, for they can be used in formal as well as informal settings. If you have the facilities you can grow your own from seed; if not, you will find at garden nurseries many varieties and colors to suit vour garden scheme.

REGISTRATION OF BEGONIA CULTIVARS

NOTE: The American Begonia Society is the International Registration Authority for cultivars of the genus *Begonia*. Information regarding registration may be obtained from ABS Nomenclature Director Rudolf Ziesenhenne, 1130 N. Milpas St., Santa Barbara, CA 93103.

No. 559 — Begonia (B. conchifolia 'Zip' X 'Bow-Nigra') 'Zippy'

Rhizomatous, originated by Bob Cole, The Plant Shop's Botanical Gardens, 18007 Topham Street, Reseda, CA 91335 in 1973 and distributed first in 1975, this plant has semipeltate leaves, green with a black underlay, and pale-green veins, and a bright red spot in center; 4 x 4"; margin undulated; texture smooth and shiny; 8-veined; petioles 6-8"; flowers pink. Tested by Paul Lee, San Diego. Registered September 3, 1976.

No. 560 — Begonia (B. conchifolia 'Zip' X B. 'Bow-Nigra') 'Zippo'

Distinguished by its hardy succulence, this rhizomatous begonia was originated by Bob Cole, The Plant Shop's Botanical Gardens (address above) in 1973, first bloomed and distributed in 1975. Semi-peltate, heart-shaped leaves are bright green with black-brown stitching on the margins, veins (7) are light green with a bright-red center; $3 \times 5''$; margin a little irregular; texture smooth; petioles 8''. Flowers in spring, pink, 3/4'', four petaled on 10'' stem; tested by Paul Lee, San Diego. Registered September 3, 1976. No. 561 — Begonia (B. conchifolia 'Zip' X B. 'Bow-Nigra') 'Zipper'

Originated in 1973 by Bob Cole, (address above) and first bloomed and distributed in 1975, this rhizomatous plant has pointed heartshaped leaves, brown-black with a green central area, 9 green nerves, and a red dot in center; 3x5'', margin slightly undulated; texture smooth and shiny; 7'' petioles, lightly hairy. Flowers in Spring, pink. Registered September 3, 1976.

No. 562 — Begonia (B. conchifolia 'Zip' X B. bowerae) var. nigramarga 'White Bellybutton'

Green peltate leaves, black edging, white center-dot, characterize this rhizomatous begonia originated by Bob Cole (address above) in 1973. First bloomed in spring 1975 with pinkish white flowers. The 3 x 21/2''leaves have a slightly serrate and hairy margin; texture is smooth and shiny; 9-nerved; petioles 5-8'', some hair. Distributed 1976. Registered Sept. 3, 1976.

No. 563 — Begonia (B. conchifolia 'Zip' X B. bowerae) 'Red Bellybutton'

This rhizomatous begonia was originated by Bob Cole (address above) in 1973, first bloomed in 1975 and first distributed in 1976. The leaves are light green with dark stitching at edge, semi-peltate with a red center dot, $2 \ge 3''$, margin slightly serrate, texture smooth, shiny, nerves 9, petioles 6-8''; flowers in spring, pinkish white. Registered Sept. 3, 1976.

No. 564 — Begonia (B. conchifolia 'Zip' X B. 'Cleopatra') 'Glen Lewis'

Developed in 1973, first bloomed in 1975, and first distributed in 1976, this rhizomatous plant has semi-oak leaf leaves, dark brown with green veins, red at outer edge, $5 \ge 6''$, smooth texture, 9-nerved; flowers are pinkish white. Originated by Glen Lewis, The Plant Shop Botanical Gardens, address above. Registered September 3, 1976.

No. 565 — Begonia (B. conchifolia 'Zip' X B. 'Dainty Lady') 'Hutspa'

Originated by Glen Lewis, address above, rhizomatous, with 3 x 4" peltate, roundish-cupped leaves, green with black edge, pink center spot, texture smooth, shiny, 8-nerved, petioles 6-8", this plant was developed in 1973 and was first distributed in 1976, not having flowered. Registered September 3, 1976.

No. 566[°]— Begonia (B. macdougalli var. purpurea X unknown) 'William Cook'

With stem erect, rhizome jointed at or below soil, this begonia was originated by Bob Cole, The Plant Shop Botanical Garden, address above, in 1974; it has not yet bloomed, but was first distributed in 1976. The leaves are palmate, 6-lobed, reddish underside, silver with green around veins above; margin cut and serrated, texture smooth, 7-nerved, petioles 12". Registered Sept. 3, 1976.

No. 567 — Begonia (B. macdougalli var. purpurea X unknown) 'Billiam'

Rhizome-like, stem erect, this plant has leaves silver-white with green veining and suffusion, reddish underside, maple-leaf shaped, up to 6", margin serrated, texture smooth, 7nerved, 8" petioles; flowers chartreuse, $\frac{3}{4}$ ", in spring on 8" stems. Originated in 1974 by Bob Cole, address above, first bloomed in 1975, and first distributed in 1976. Registered Sept. 3, 1976.



CLAYTON M. KELLY SEED FUND

By Pearl Benell, Seed Fund Drector

My 1-B. acida. Shrub-like, hairy leafed, compact plant. Large seersucker puckered leaves of apple green. Flowers in spring, dainty white on stems standing well above the foliage. A beautiful plant . . .

per pkt. \$.50

My 2 — B. 'B.G.H. Ben'. An unidentified species. Low growing bush type. Naturally symmetrical, olive green on top of leaves and red beneath. Plant has much basal growth. Flowers white . . .

per pkt. 1.00

- My 3—B. costello. Rhizomatous, similar to B. acetosa, but leaves are larger and light green on both sides. A sturdy grower with white flowers. per pkt. .50
- My 4-B. 'Hawaiian Sunset'. A slender cane type. Light green, medium size angel wing type leaves. Makes a nice basket or wall pocket plant with orange colored clusters of flowers. per pkt. 1.00
- My 5—*B. subvillosa*, syn *leptotricha*. The underside of the leaves is covered with appressed brown hairs. Blooms profusely all year beginning when the plant is still small. Doesn't want to be kept too wet. per pkt. .50
- My 6-B. ludwigii. Fibrous, upright, stem short and thick. Leaves hairy, star shaped, with silver tipped points. Flowers are white.

per pkt. 1.00

- My 7—*B. mollicaulis:* a 1957 species from tropical Africa. Shrub-like with velvety, oval leaves, green over and under. Stems are juicy. Very easy grower to 2 ft. high, but does not branch easily. Flowers are white or pinkish. per pkt. 1.00
- My 8 *B. schmidtiana:* fibrous species from Brazil. It grows to 12 inches with a bushy habit. Handsome olive green foliage. Prolific bloomer with flowers of white or pinkish cast. An easy grower and popular in most collections. per pkt. .50
- My 9 B. wollnyi: a semi-tuberous with some tubers up to 5 inches across.
 Winter blooming with pinkish white flowers on medium clusters.
 Sparsely branched stems. Leaves with purple veins and silver splotches, toothed margins. Leaves on new growth only.

per pkt. .50

- My 10 B. 'Kew species': an unidentified species collected by Anderson in Sarawak in 1965. A rhizomatous with leaves marked with large round light blotches. It belongs to the section Petermannia. Female flowers are white, male blooms have a crimson blotch at the base. An article and picture appeared in the September 1976 issue. per pkt. 1.00
- My 11 Mixed rex varieties. This is a repeat of one of our most popular offers. We have a fresh supply of these. Plants are red, greens

and many have curls, some double curls. You'll be amazed at the results. per pkt. 1.00, 3 pkts. for 2.00

My 12 — Mixed begonias. This is a collection of seeds of which there was not enough to offer individually and seeds that have spilled in envelopes or while being packeted. This will produce prize plants.

per pkt. .50, 3 pkts. 1.00

NOTICE: Due to the huge demand and short supply of some seeds, we recommend that when ordering you list alternatives. Do not order from lists that are more than 4 months old. Seeds are reoffered when new supplies are received. You will have other opportunities.

Calif. residents, please add 6% sales tax. All customers, please send a selfaddressed, stamped envelope, and make all checks or money orders payable: Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund. Mail to: Mrs. Linda Miller, P.O. Box 227, Gardena, CA 90247.

RESEARCH REPORT

M. Carleton L'Hommedieu, Research Director

Financial Report

Balance on hand January 24, 1977	415.20
Receipts:	
Seed Fund, \$45.19, \$35.16	80.35
Mr. and Mrs. Ziesenhenne, in memory of Gladys Dyckman	
and Dr. Eckardt	20.00
N. Long Beach Branch, in memory of Mrs. Dyckman	5.00
Garden Grove Begonia Society	25.00
Sacramento Branch	46.00
Balance on hand, March 28, 1977	591.55

GROWING UNDER LIGHTS

By Linda Luckett, Sacramento Branch From the Sacramento Begonia Leaf

One day, much to my dismay, I discovered that my sourdough starter had very quietly died. After the necessary arrangements, I proceeded to make a new one, very carefully measuring my ingredients and placing in my oven where the light was left on to provide warmth. At the end of five days, I had nothing to show for my work but a jar of goo.

I then removed half of the mixture and replaced it with fresh ingredients and back into the oven it went. It was three days later that I desperately needed to use the oven and the jar of goo was placed on the plant shelf under the Gro-lux lights. It was forgotten until the next morning.

When I discovered its whereabouts, I was amazed to see the jar full of bubbles with an aroma that brought tears to my eyes. For you who haven't tried growing under lights — it really works. I've had good success with begonias, too!

ROUND ROBIN NOTES Debi Miller, Round Robin Director Mabel Corwin, Round Robin Compiler

The response to the article about the Round Robins in the February issue was so good that Debi Miller was able to start two new flights. There is still time for you to be included. Just write and let us know your interests.

Planting Seeds

Several Robins have been comparing notes on growing from seeds. Velvia Fleming, North Carolina, uses plastic bleach bottles, cut down, for propagation. She plants seeds, encloses each bottle in a plastic bag, and hangs them under light fixtures. Ruby Ross, Alabama, plants seeds in gallon milk jugs. She heats an old knife; then it will slice the top right off. A hot poker will melt drainage holes. (Be careful not to breathe the fumes when melting plastic.) She also uses plastic bags for covering the seed "pans". Doris Resleff, Washington, dusts the seed pan with Captan, a fungicide, before and after scattering the seeds. Jack Anderson, Illinois, is switching from the soilless mix he has been using for seed to a 50-50 mixture of perlite and vermiculite. He puts seed pans on heat under lights. Luceal Hurst, Missouri, uses tweezers and a toothpick to prick out the first seedlings.

Wick Watering

Clara Tuoto, California, has most of her plants wicked. She uses strips of pantyhose for wicks. The wider the strip, the more water is carried up to the plant. She wets the strip thoroughly, then uses a tiny stick to poke through the bottom hole of the pot until the strip draped over the end of the stick comes out the top of the mix. Then she takes out the stick, pulls down the end of the strip gently until it is even with the top of the mix. She places the pot with about 8 inches of the wick hanging free, on top of a plastic container of water with a lid snapped on. The wick goes through a dime-sized hole in the lid. From then on all she has to do is watch the water level in the lower container and add more water as needed.

Cuttings

Clara uses a clear plastic glass to start cuttings. She puts in 1 inch of mix, inserts cuttings, moistens, inverts another glass over and tapes them together for a mini-greenhouse.

Luceal Hurst was given some cuttings by a friend when she was traveling. They put the cuttings in a plastic bag and watered lightly with a clothes sprinkling bottle. She carried them in the car for a week, taking them into the motel room each night. They were in good condition when she arrived home.

Growing Under Lights

Patrick Worley, Minnesota, grows most of his plants on shelving under lights. He uses a combination of cool white and warm white tubes. The plants are placed 6 inches to 3 feet from the lights. He finds the color of the rexes is enhanced by lower light levels. Each shelf has a step arrangement 9 inches wide and 6 inches tall for plants that are lower growing or that need more light. This also serves to display the plants much better and to keep him from missing them when he waters. The height of the step can sometimes mean the difference between success and failure with some of the more demanding plants. It takes experimentation each time he gets a new plant to find the most suitable location.

B. 'Silver Jewel'

Some people have trouble with *B*. 'Silver Jewel'. Nancy Cummins, Kentucky, offered this means of recognizing the source of trouble. This plant requires high humidity, so it should be grown in a bubble or bowl in most locations. Brown edges on the leaves indicate that the humidity is too low. Brown spots on the leaf surface which turn into holes are caused by the formation of water droplets on the bowl surface which then drop onto the leaves. In this case the humidity level in the bowl is too high and the bowl should be allowed to dry somewhat.

If you are interested in belonging to one or more of the Round Robins write to:

> Debi Miller 919 Hickory View Circle Camarillo, CA 93010

OUT OF PRINT & DISCOUNT BOTANICAL — BOOKS Begonia - Cacti - Bromeliads - Gesneriads Send for Free Catalogue H. LAWRENCE FERGUSON P. O. Box 5129, Ocean Park Station Santa Monica, Calif. 90405

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Robert B. Hamm

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BALLET VIOLETS

These beautiful heavy blooming violets will be available in the varieties below for shipment in early October.

Abbey - a beautiful NEW white.

Dolly — NEW — a fabulous blue and white bicolor.

Rachael - New - blue with white edge

Erica - a glowing red/violet, ruffled flowers.

Lisa — a brilliant pink with large ruffled flowers.

Marta — lovely orchid, ruffled flowers.

Ballets: \$2.50 ea. 3/\$7.25, 6 or more \$2.25 each.

RIEGER BEGONIAS

Four new varieties, available for shipment about 1 August.

Schwabenland Gold — apricot orange flowers, light green foliage.

Aphrodite Cherry Red — Double dark red azalea type flowers.

Aphrodite Joy — Double Pink, ruffled flowers.

Aphrodite Lavender — Lavender double flowers.

Also still available: Schwabenland Red Crispa, Pink Crispa and Brown's Golden Gelbe, plus Aphrodite Twinkles, Limelight and Peach. See April Begonian for Descriptions.

Riegers: \$2.50 each. 4 or more \$2.25 ea.

Ballets in violet pots with saucers, Riegers in 3" pot, both in bud or bloom. Add \$2.00 postage and packing. Sent U.P.S. If no one is home during the day request Parcel Post but we do not guarantee Parcel Post. Air Mail by request, add 25¢ per plant. TEXAS residents add sales tax. NOTE: Both of the above plants are patented: Propagation Prohibited.

BELATED BOUQUETS

By Thelma O'Reilly, 1976 Show Committee

Begonia Heritage, the A.B.S. National Convention and Flower Show, has come and gone. Beauty and hardwork alone could not have created the 1976 winner; another ingredient, financial success, was a must. Due to the all out efforts of Plant Sales Chairman, Gene Daniels, his committee headed by Lori and Walt Hansen and those generous supportive branches who rallied to Gene's "Operation Grand Donation" by contributing plants for the Show Plant Sales, Begonia Heritage was the largest financial sucess in A.B.S. Convention and Flower Show History.

Gene Daniels, Plant Sales Chairman, reported that three Branches donated a combined total of one thousand plants, which was far beyond the call of duty. Let's take a look to see the make-up of Theodosia Burr Shepherd, Glendale and Garden Grove Branches which answered Gene's call for help with such overwhelming cooperation.

The motivators behind the formation of Theodosia Burr Shepherd Branch in 1937 were Mr. and Mrs. Herman Weitz. Mrs. Shepherd of Ventura was honored because she published the first begonia seed catalog in California and was the hybridizer of several begonias. The Branch remained active through the years, participating in local flower shows and furthering the hobby of growing and showing begonias at every opportunity. Many commendable endeavors include horticulture scholarships to deserving Ventura High School students, an evergreen grove planting in Foster Park honoring dedicated member, Hazel Snodgrass, and the beginning of a new grove as a Bi-Centennial commemoration. It has been my privilege to enjoy the hospitality of this friendly branch on numerous occasions. Their warmth and cooperation to guests, new members and each other is unforgettable. The Marines call it "Espirit de Corps".

Glendale was organized in 1940. Annette Lorenz, a charter member, has been the "spearhead" for their continuous success. Recently, while visiting the beautiful tropical garden of Annette's son, Elmer, I had the pleasure of viewing her lovely begonia collection which glowed with T.L.C. The A.B.S. credits five national presidents to Glendale, Harold Hart, Frank Moore, Edna Korts, Clarence Hall and Chuck Richardson. This shows the caliber of their membership. Their successful response to "Operation Grand Donation" was due to live wire President, Tom Wood, his wife, Jean and an enthusiastic First Vice-President. Nathan Randall and his wife. Hester.

The Garden Grove Branch was organized by Doug and Goldie Frost in 1973. The original twenty-seven charter members have increased to over sixty. This Branch is dedicated to novices and youth. Their response to Gene's plea was tremendous, nearly five hundred plants! With this kind of membership cooperation it is obvious Garden Grove will continue to build their ladder of strength and success. Now, a few words about Gene Daniels who organized and engineered "Grand Operation Donation" and the 1976 Show Plant Sales. This dynamic man has outstanding talents as a grower, trophy winner and hybridizer of begonias as well as being a nationally known professional photographer. We are extremely grateful for all of the hours of work he donated from his busy schedule to carry "Operation Grand Donation" and the 1976 Show Plant Sales to such dizzying heights of success.



The Indoor Light Gardening Society of America, Inc., Dept. B, 128 West 58th St., New York, New York 10019. Dues \$5.00. Bi-monthly magazine; light garden; up-to-date, informative; seed fund; round robins; chapters.

BEGONIA BOOKSHELF

(Continued from Page 125)

Thompson Begonia Guide by Mildred and Ed Thompson The Miracle Houseplants (The

Gesneriad Family) by Virginia and George Elbert

So you see I have not actually been idle these last few months. I hope you will take time to seek out these publications and to use them because there is much to learn from each, but remember to compare notes. This is something I advise my students to do, even to seeking information from their local plant shops and nurseries. Check out more than one. Compare. Then get in and learn by growing plants and observing them. This, after all, is the best way to learn. More, next time . . .



Volume 44 • May 1977

Mini-Ads

The rate for advertising in this column is \$1 per line (about 36 characters) with a minimum charge of \$4. Payment for the ad must accompany order. Direct questions, copy, and checks to the Advertising Manager, Mabel Corwin.

- Begonias, Gesneriads, miniature terrarium plants, tropicals, Catalog \$1. Kartuz Greenhouses, 92 Chestnut St., Wilmington, MA 01887. Phone (617) 658-9017
- Violets Begonias Episcias Cuttings only. Send stamp for list. Wilson's Greenhouse, Route 1 Box 165-4 Ozark, MO 65721
- Begonias, oldies, collectors items, new hybrids, 20¢ for list, Stamps ok. Rainbow Begonia Gardens, Box 991, Westminster, CA 92683.
- Bolduc's Greenhill Nursery—Exotic and hardy ferns. Send self-addressed stamped envelope for list. 2131 Vallejo Street, St. Helena, CA 94574
- Begonias Blue Ribbon Winners. Many varieties. Retail only. Price list 35¢ or stamps. John Sousa, Begonia Paradise Nursery, Rte 1, Box 94, Bear Creek, NC 27207.
- Plant Workshop. Begonias, gesneriads, foliage plants. Send 13¢ stamp for descriptive catalog of over 100 varieties. Rt. 4, Box 10, Everett, PA 15537.
- Rhizomatous Begonias, miniature African Violets, Episcias, Columneas, miniature Sinningias and unusual houseplants. List 35¢. Bombadils, 2126 E. Locust, Milwaukee, WI 53211. (414) 332-6260.
- The Plant Shop's Botanical Gardens Visitors welcome Wed. thru Sun. 10-6 88 page rare plant catalog \$1.00 18007 Topham St., B, Reseda, CA 91335. (213) 881-4831
- The Thompson Begonia Guide, Second Edition, Volume III (over 400 pages) is now in distribution. Volume III has more than 700 black and white photos (250 "how-to" photos in Culture of Begonia section and more than 445 photos of individual begonias in the Pictorial Review section). Volume I (295 pages) and Volume II (290 pages), second edition and revision sheets for Volumes I, II, and III, first edition are being distributed. To order and for further information write to E. & M. Thompson, P.O. Drawer PP, Southhampton, N.Y. 11968.

- Paul P. Lowe Begonias. I am in no way connected with Begonia Paradise Gardens in Bear Creek, NC and will be back in business under by own name in the near future. P.O. Box 692, Silver City, NC 27344.
- **BEGONIAS.** Featuring Wally Wagner hybrids, gesneriads, miniatures for light gardens. List 35¢ Pat Morrison/Jim Heffner, 3505 S.W. Hamilton St., Portland, OR 97221.
- Rare Plant Seeds A monthly list of rare plant seeds from around the world. 8½ x 11 monthly list shows common and botanical names, descriptions, seed sowing instructions, price. One dollar per year. Rare Seeds, 3987 Cascade Highway, Silverton, OR 97381.
- Old World Myrtle Tree houseplant in $2\frac{1}{2}$ " pot \$2.00 postpaid. Reino Hurme, RFD Box 261, High Bridge, WI 54846

ABS Stationery

Those ABS Branch and National officers who need supplies of official stationery should order it directly from the Business Manager.

Bill Walton

P. O. Box 4048 Torrance, CA 90510

Judging Course

Walter Barnett will conduct a series of classes covering the ABS Judging Course. The classes will begin at 7:30 p.m. May 10 and will be held in the Lecture Hall at the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum. This is a good opportunity to learn the elements of judging begonias and how to handle begonia plants. Mr. Barnett has judged many shows and has a wealth of knowledge to impart. The San Gabriel Branch invites all Southern Californian hobbyists to participate. There has not been a judging class offered in the area for some time, so these sessions fill a real need.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY March 28, 1977

President Charles Richardson called the meeting to order at 7:40 P.M., in the regular meeting room of the South Gate Auditorium. After the flag salute, Naomi Richardson read the Alme and Purposes.

The minutes of the February meeting were read and approved. Mr. Nathan Randall was called on as first Vice-President. He is also Director of the Speakers Bureau.

Treasurer, Gil Estrada, gave the report for February, showing receipts of \$2,767.60, and disbursements of \$2,832.97, leaving a balance of \$2,229.08. For the March 18th report, he showed receipts of \$2,296.86, disbursements of \$2,563.56, and a balance of \$1,962.38. These expenses include color covers for the Begonian, stationery, and insurance that The \$300.00 withdrawn from the Catalog fund be placed in the special account. Passed. Mr. Walton made a motion, that the Finance Committee determine the amount of the Life Membership account, and establish an account until the present certificate of account matures so we can have the true balance on record. Passed.

Gil Estrada, as show treasurer, requested to withdraw \$1,100.00 from the Show Fund, \$500.00 now and more as required and not to exceed \$1,100.00, according to show needs. Passed.

The secretary read correspondence. Discussion of replacing slides for the Slide Library, resulting in a decision for the secretary to write to Joe Bond asking him what the cost would be to replace damaged slides; also to ask who was responsible for the damage. Representatives were asked to request branches to have all slides returned to the Slide Librarian along with the program pertaining to them.

The secretary read the report from Carlton L'Hommedieu. He asked for a decision of the Board as to what he is to do about the work he has done. A motion was made, by Walter Barnett that Mr. L'Hommedieu consolidate and finish the work that he started to do. The motion passed unanimously.

The secretary presented two charters for Mrs. Cronin. One was the Eastern New York Branch, New York State; the other was the Palmetto State Branch, South Carolina. Both were welcomed by the Board.

Lydia Austin's letter was read, saying

she would be able to keep the Library until after the Convention. She also said Elda Haring's book will be available the following week.

The Membership Secretary reported 167 new members, 326 memberships processed. The receipts were \$1,149.57, expenses of \$139.30. It was noted that we had 40 new members as a result of the article written for the New York Times by Mildred Thompson. There are 4,192 members in good standing March 10th.

Mr. Walton has been composing a cover letter to the branches about their tax status, and he will be sending them out to the branches.

Margaret Ziesenhenne is still working on the establishing of the non-profit classification to entitle donors a tax-exemption for gifts to the American Begonia Society.

Nomenclature Director, Rudy Ziesenhenne, read a letter asking if American Begonia Society would relinquish the registration of semperflorens to a German organization. The reply was negative.

Marge Lee reported selling one judging course, one classification, and one point scoring book. There are many sending in their lessons, and the number of judges should soon be increased.

According to Ed Bates, the Index should be in the May issue.

The seed fund had a total of \$381.42 in receipts, expenses of \$69.57, leaving a total of \$311.85 in sales for the month.

Doug Frost, Show Chairman, requested the Representatives ask the Branches to let the show committee know as soon as possible about the number of plants each can furnish for the plant sales at the show. The next committee meeting will be April 24th at the Inn at the Park.

Mr. Randall reported that he had been going to the various meetings and was adding new names to the speakers list, so program chairmen this next year should have new ones to draw from for interesting meetings.

President Richardson noted that Mr. Terrell of Riverside, Ca. has been on the Board for 25 years.

After the Branch reports, the meeting adjourned at 9:45.

Respectfully submitted, Virginia J. Barnett, secretary



BRANCH DIRECTORY

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AT THESE MEETINGS

BUXTON BRANCH 3rd Saturday, Homes of Members Simon Malkin 19 Kernwood St., Malden, MA 02148

CENTRAL SAN JOAQUIN BRANCH Irene Cabibi, Secy. 685 W. Morton Ave., Porterville, CA 93257

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

EAST BAY BRANCH 3rd Thursday, 7:45 p.m. Northbrea Community Church, Berkeley, Ca. Julia M. Huwe, Secy 743 Albemarle St., El Cerrito, CA 94530

EASTERN NEW YORK BRANCH Ila Hallowell, Secy 297 Second St., Albany, NY 12206

EASTSIDE BRANCH 4th Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. 590 116th Avenue N.E., Bellevue, Washington Douglas Hart, Secy 6005 121st S.E., Bellevue, WA 98006

EDNA STEWART PITTSBURGH BRANCH 3rd Wednesday, 8:00 p.m. Phipps Conservatory Laverta F. O'Leary, Secy 176 Plymouth St., Pittsburgh, PA 15211

EL MONTE COMMUNITY BRANCH 3rd Friday, Members' Homes Mrs. Gladys Máttuket, Secy. 1801 Azalea Drive, Alhambra, Calif. 91801

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

GARDEN GROVE BRANCH 3rd Thursday, 7:30 p.m. New Community Meeting Center 11300 Stanford, Garden Grove, Ca. Kathy Brown, Secy 10692 Bolsa, Apt. 14, Garden Grove, CA 92643

GERALDINE DALY BEGONIA BRANCH 1st Saturday, Homes of Members Mrs. Arline G. Peck, Secy. Eagle Peak Road, Pascoag, R.I. 02859

GLENDALE BRANCH 2nd Tuesday, 8:00 p.m. Glendale Federal Savings, 401 N. Brand Connie Vanderlip, Secy 12936 Winthrop. Granada Hills, CA 91344

GORDON LEPISTO BRANCH Pat Burdick, Secy 1910 Skyline Dr., Burnsville, MN 55337

GREATER CHICAGO AREA BRANCH 3rd Sunday each mo. except July, Aug., Dec., 2 p.m. Oak Park Conservatory 561 Garfield, Oak Park, IL. Barbara Berg, Secy. 17 Oak Ridge Lane, Barrington, IL 60010

GREATER CINCINNATI BRANCH Nancy Cummins, Secy 584 Garner Dr., Covington, KY 41015 GREATER ROCHESTER BRANCH

Third Sunday, Members' homes Mrs. George Mavis, Secy. 2744 Ridgeway Ave., Rochester, NY 14626

HAMPTON BRANCH 2nd Monday, 7:45 p.m. Parrish Memorial Hall Southampton, NY Patricia Thompson, Secy. P. O. Drawer PP, Southampton, NY 11968 HOUSTON TEXAS BRANCH 4th Monday, 1:00 p.m., Garden Center 1500 Herman Dr., Houston, Texas Mrs. George LeBlanc, Secy. 9310 Fairdale, TX 77063 JACKSONVILLE BRANCH 2nd Saturday, 1:00 p.m. Members' homes Ann M. Helton, Pres. 334 Brunswick Rd., Jacksonville, FL 32216 KNICKERBOCKER BRANCH 2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. Horticultural Society of New York 128 West 58th St., New York Samantha G. Langer, Secy. 361 East 50th Street New York, NY 10022 LONG BEACH PARENT CHAPTER 2nd Sunday, 1:30 p.m., Community Room Great Western S & L, 6300 E. Spring St., Long Beach Joan Krellenberg, Secy. 2025 Rutgers Ave., Long Beach, CA 90815 LONG ISLAND BRANCH 2nd Wednesday, 8:00 p.m. Planting Fields Arboretum Joan Shilkret, Secy. 118-55 234 Street, Cambria Heights, NY 11411 MESQUITE BRANCH Ist Tuesday, 10:30 a.m., Members homes Mrs. Mae Blanton, Secy. 118 Wildoak Drive, Lake Dallas, Texas 75065 MIAMI BRANCH 4th Tuesday, 8:00 p.m. Simpson Memorial Garden Center 55 South West 17th Road, Miami, Florida Laura May Smith, Secy. 6950 S. W. 97 Ave., Miami, FL 33173 MISSOURI BRANCH 3rd 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. Cherrie Waldo, Secy. 2874 Congress Rd., Pebble Beach, CA 93953 NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH 2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. Mercury Savings and Loan Assn. 4140 Long Beach Blvd., Long Beach Mrs. W. B. Seymour, Secy. 4811 Gundry Ave., Long Beach, CA 90807 ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH 2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m. First Christian Church, 1130 E. Walnut Street, Orange, California Mrs. Dorothy Porter, Secy. 19151 Lomita Ave., Orange, CA 92669 PALMETTO BRANCH

Arlene Waynick, Secy 100 Dexter Dr., Taylors, SC 29687

The Begonian

PALOMAR BRANCH 2nd Monday, 7:30 p.m. Oceanside Savings, 249 S. Indiana St., Vista, CA Ingebor Foo, Secy. 1050 Melrose Way, Vista, CA 92083

PORTLAND BRANCH Mrs. Otelia Klobas, Secy. 35330 S.E. Dunn Rd., Boring, Ore. 97002

POTOMAC BRANCH 4th Sunday, 2:00 p.m., Falls Church Recreation Cntr., Great Falls & Little Falls Sts. Falls Church, VA. Alberta L. Cooke, Segy. 1930 Kennady Dr., Apt. T-1 McLean, VA 22101

REDONDO AREA BRANCH 4th Friday, 7:30 p.m. R. H. Dana School Cafetorium 135th St. and Aviation Bivd., Hawthorne, Calif. Mrs. Evelyn M. Isaac, Secy 2022 Bataan Rd., Redondo Beach, CA 90278

ROBINSON, ALFRED D. BRANCH 2nd Tuesday, 10:30 A.M. Homes of Members Lois K. Donahue, Seoy. 3251 Innuit Ave., Sen Diego, CA 92117

RUBIDOUX BRANCH 4th Thursday, 7:30 p.m., West Riverelde Mem. Hell 4393 Riverview Dr., Rubidoux, CA Mrs. Dorothy Ansevics, Secy 4063 Opal St., Riverside, CA 92509

SACRAMENTO BRANCH 3rd Tuesday, 8:00 p.m., Garden Center 3300 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento, Calif. Sandra Graves, Secy 9 Rosemead Circle, Sacramento, CA 95831

SALINE COUNTY BRANCH OF KANSAS 4th Monday, 1:30 p.m., Homes of Members Pauline Eaton, Secy. R.R. #3, Salina, KS 67401

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH Ist Wednesday, 8:00 p.m., Garden Center Golden Gate Park, 9th Avenue and Lincoln Way Mrs. Kathy Donlin, Secy. c/o 230 Jones St., #302, San Francisco, CA 94102

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH 2nd Tuesday, 7:30 P.M. Los Angeles State and County Arboretum 501 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, Callf. Mrs. Evelyn M. Anderson, Secy. 450 Scholl Dr., Glendale, CA 91206

SAN MIGUEL BRANCH 1st Wednesday, 7:30 P.M. Casa del Prado (Rm. 104) Balboa Park, San Diego Ruth Gilbert, Secy 4122 Mt. Bigelow Way, San Diego, CA 92117

SANTA BARBARA BRANCH 4th Saturday, 7:30 p.m. Louise Lowry Davis Recreation Center 1232 De la Vina St. Mrs. Erica Price, Secy. 5940 Mandarin Ave., Goleta, CA 93017

SANTA CLARA VALLEY BRANCH 3rd Thursday, 8:00 p.m. Security S & L Bldg. Fremont and Mary Aves. Sunnyvale, CA Mrs. Elizabeth K. Sayers, Secy. 369 Ridge Vista Ave., San Jose, Ca. 95127

SEATTLE BRANCH 3rd Tuesday, 7:00 P.M. Bethany Lutheran Church, 7400 Woodlawn Ave., N.E. Sue Stice, Secretary 6823 19th Ave. N.E., Seattle, Wa. 98115 SHEPHERD, THEODOSIA BURR BRANCH Iat Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. Senior Citizens Bidg., 420 Santa Clara St. Ventura, CA Diane Penney, Seoy. 2802 Petit, Camarillo, CA 93010
 SOUTH SEATTLE BRANCH 4th Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Wm. Moshler Field House 430 South 156th Burlen Helen Herbord, Seoy 17859 S.E. 196th Drive, Renton, WA 98055
 TAMPA BAY AREA BRANCH 3rd Saturday, 1:00 p.m. University of So. Fiorida, Student Chapel Bidg. Mrs. Mary Breit, Seoy. 2315 N. 'A'' St., Tampa, FL 33609
 TARANT COUNTY BRANCH 2nd Monday, 10:00 a.m., Bank of Fort Worth Mrs. Richard Eills, Seoy. 2117 Hillorest, Ft. Worth, Texas 76107
 WESTCHESTER BRANCH 2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Citizens S&L Assoc. 5347 Sepulveda Bivd., Culver City, Ca. Barbara Mack, Seoy. 424 Oregon St., El Segundo, CA 90245
 WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH 2nd Wednesday 11:00 a.m. every month North Wils, Pittsburgh, Pa. Eleanor Siee, Pres. 211 Arlington Ave., Butler, PA 16001
 WHITTER BRANCH 1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Palm Park Community Room North Hills, Pittsburgh, Pa. Eleanor Siee, Pres. 211 Arlington Ave., Butler, PA 16001
 WHITTER BRANCH 1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Palm Park Community Center 5703 South Palm Avenue, Whittier Gertrude Blackstock, Secy. 15311 Elmbrook Drive, La Mirada, CA 90638
 WILLIAM PENN BRANCH 4th Tuesday, Noon Homes of Members Mrs. Murdoch Davis, Sec'y. 256 Broughton Ln., Villanova, PA 19085

Note to branch secretaries: please promptly notify the editors of changes in meeting place, date, and changes in secretary's name and address.

Paul Lowe to Reopen Buisness

Paul Lowe of Mt. Vernon Springs, NC, will soon be active in his business with a large supply of begonias including many of his own hybrids. His_recent illness forced him to reduce his stock and to limit his activities greatly. He is now restocking his nursery and will soon be able to supply customer requests. He promises to have some new hybrids of his as well as many old favorites. Two of his recently registered varieties are *B*. 'Dado' and *B*. 'Helene Jaros'.

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