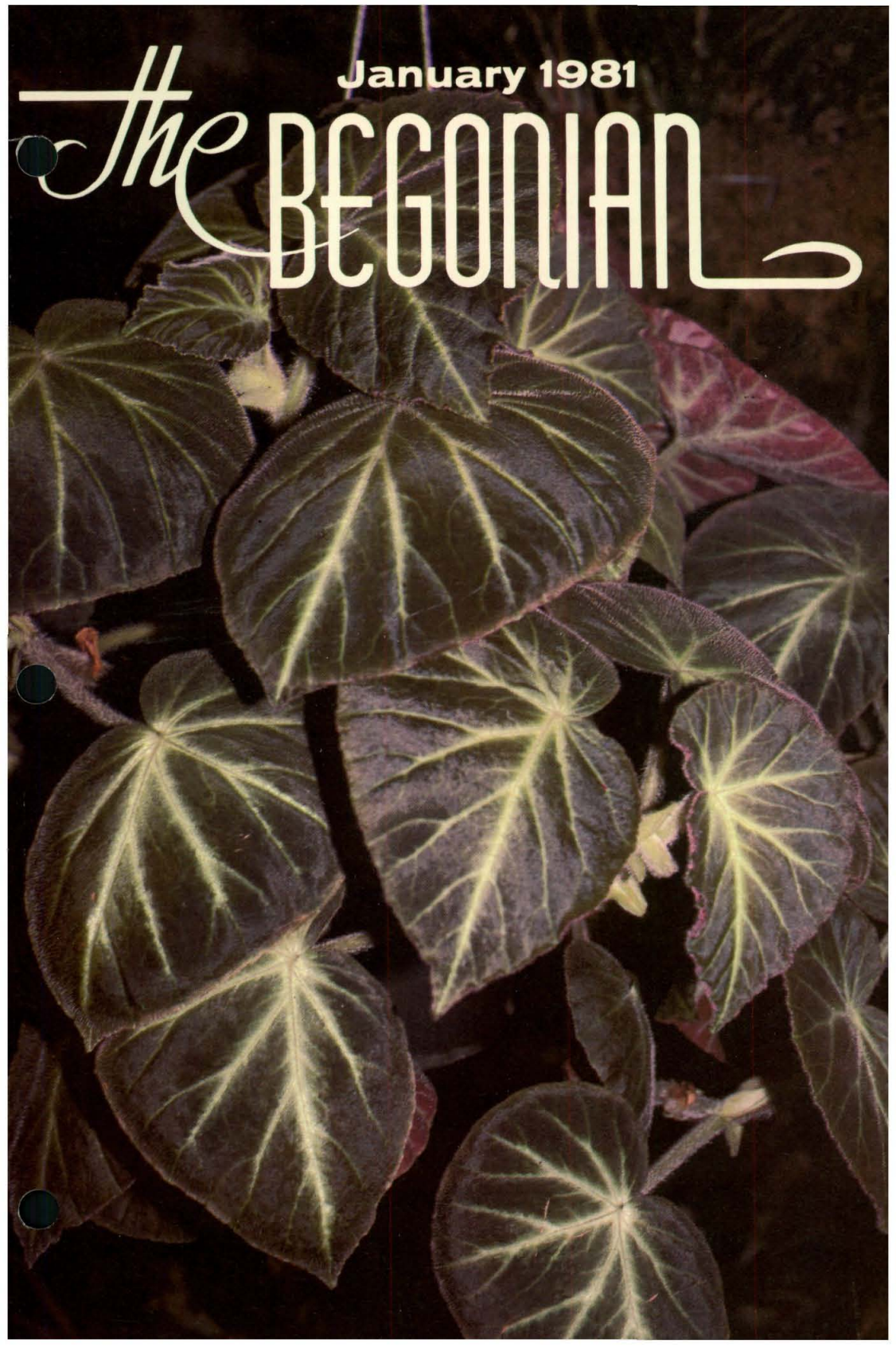


January 1981

The BEGONIAN



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AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

Founded January 1932 by Herbert P. Dyckman

Aims and purposes

- TO stimulate and promote interest in begonias and other shade-loving plants.
- TO encourage the introduction and development of new types of these plants.
- TO standardize the nomenclature of begonias.
- TO gather and publish information in regard to kinds, propagation and culture of begonias and companion plants.
- TO issue a bulletin which will be mailed to all members of the society.
- TO bring into friendly contact all who love and grow begonias.

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See inside back cover

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THE COVER: A Michael Kartuz hybrid formerly known as *B. 'Serlis'*, now being renamed *B. 'Caravan'*. International rules of nomenclature forbid deriving the name for a hybrid from the Latin names of its species parents. The earlier name "serlis" utilizes the first syllable of parents *B. sementacea* and *B. listida*. This lovely specimen of *B. 'Caravan'* was grown and photographed by Thelma O'Reilly. See Pat Morrison's article on begonia hybridizer Michael Kartuz, page 8.

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NOTES/ *From the editors*

'Twas two weeks before Christmas and all through the house not a creature was stirring—except for a co-editor trying to close the January issue.

Outside the temperature was dropping to 30 degrees for the fourth consecutive night. Inside, the other co-editor was snug in their bed because of a touch of the flu and a grueling week at her *other* job.

As for the unheated greenhouse, neither editor had the courage to look. Besides, *The Begonian* was all written and edited except for these few paragraphs.

Even though the weather was not very inspiring—at least not to a co-editor staring at his typewriter—the mail was.

Several more entries in the Classy Canes contest had arrived that day, one with unsolicited comments about *The Begonian* which cheered the co-editor.

But that wasn't a good subject for an editors' column. Who would want to read about it?

Comments on the contents of this issue? What's there to say?

The article on *B. fischeri* is com-

prehensive enough to qualify for any botanical journal. Yet Carrie and Jack chose to submit it here. For many, it will be heavy reading; but one of ABS' responsibilities is to record this kind of research so it becomes accessible to other researchers.

Most will find it hard to pass by the profile of Mike Kartuz with its marvelously meticulous illustrations of Mike's hybrids. A co-editor sometimes wishes for giant-sized pages to accommodate giant-sized drawings.

Dr. Doorenbos' short piece on an edible begonia? Fascinating.

The round robins are flying in all directions, as usual. There is a whole raft of new cultivars undergoing ABS registration. A healthy sign.

Some new officers in the directory of ABS branches. Lots of ABS services.

Even a good mixture of advertisers.

But the need for the moment is to finish off the editors' column so the issue can be sent off to the printer. Everything else is completed. But how to write a column when you can't think of a really great topic?

Easy.
—C.A. & K.B.

B. fischeri: widespread and widely variable

Carrie Karegeannes and Jack Golding

The begonia pictured so delightfully on the March 1979 *Begonian* cover, as *B. tovarensis* in its natural Costa Rica habitat, is one of the widespread, adaptable, and variable forms of *B. fischeri* Schrank (not to be confused with the *fischeri* of Otto & Dietrich, which has been renamed *B. dietrichiana*).

And *B. fischeri* Schrank has a long story.

Because it is so widespread, many only slightly varying forms were given separate names as different plant collectors discovered them at different times and places in early years. Since 1854, a number of botanists have agreed that the names belong to one species. They tended to disagree mostly on which name was the oldest and therefore correct.

ABS members also joined the act. Ten years ago a round robin study group began pursuit of information when the late Jay Neal in England wrote about a begonia she grew from seed labeled *B. parvifolia* (confusing because the name had been given to more than one begonia). From literature we exchanged, Jay thought it looked like a drawing of *B. tovarensis*, and she shared it with others in the robin. Immediately we wanted to know more. California member Thelma O'Reilly found a study in German by Edgar Irmscher that led to countless hours of deciphering. She ordered photos of type specimens. Carrie found other articles—and all of this led to

discussions with Dr. Lyman B. Smith of the Smithsonian Institution and Dr. Frans A. Stafleu of Utrecht. A few years later Jack Golding found a long-lost, vital clue. And so unfolded the tale.

In 1864, Alphonse de Candolle had written in his classic treatment of *Begonia*¹ that a number of names listed as separate species by J. F. Klotzsch in 1855² were so closely related that they no doubt should be united (as he had already mentioned in 1861). Among them were *B. tovarensis* Klotzsch and *B. parvifolia* Klotzsch. De Candolle did combine a few, but said he had insufficient material to complete the task, since many names were based on single, often incomplete herbarium specimens. So, left at that, these names were used separately down through the years. In 1937, for instance, Paul C. Standley continued to use the name *B. tovarensis* in *Flora of Costa Rica*.³

Lyman B. Smith and Bernice G. Schubert in 1946 noted the wide growing range and variability of *B. tovarensis* and combined *B. palustris* Benth. as a variety of it.⁴ And in 1950 they added 11 more names.⁵ While working on a series of Brazilian begonias they had been "faced with the problem of distinguishing the numerous species proposed by Klotzsch in the vicinity of his *B. tovarensis*" and had found the "variation in single plants so great" they were convinced these names represented "merely forms or at most varieties of a single species."

At the same time they found the name *B. tovarensis*, which they had been using for "this species covering practically all tropical America," was "far antedated by *B. patula* Haworth." The species appeared to be one of very

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few that had arisen in eastern Brazil and then spread far beyond.

Three years later, Irmischer in Germany published a detailed classification of the group of forms,⁶ regretting that de Candolle had not made the revision himself but had left the uncertainty standing. (Apparently Irmischer had missed Smith & Schubert's 1950 contribution.)

Irmischer had been sent a large number of specimens to classify, so he undertook the "urgently needed task." His study confirmed the opinions of de Candolle and Smith & Schubert that most of the group belonged to one species, but he gave *B. fischeri* Schrank as the oldest name instead of *B. patula*. He included *B. fischeri* var. *tovarensis* among the 13 varieties he recognized and made *B. parvifolia* a synonym of var. *palustris*.

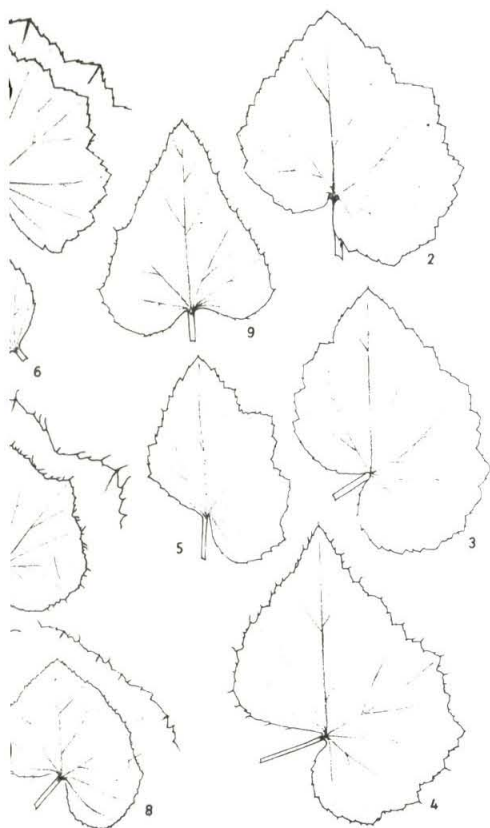
Irmischer thought that *B. fischeri* was published in 1817, two years earlier than the 1819 *B. patula*. The 1817 date was the date of only the first two parts of Franz Schrank's *Plantae Rariores*, however. Part 6 in volume 2, with *Begonia*, didn't appear until 1820—after *B. patula* was named.⁷

On such things hang the fate of many names!

In 1971, L. B. Smith and Ruth C. Smith published the combined group with *B. patula* as the name of the species.⁸ A beautiful color plate originally published by John Lindley in 1820 as *B. pauciflora* and taken as a synonym of *B. patula*⁹ was generously shared by Dr. Fred A. Barkley in the July 1977 *Begonian*. He followed the Smiths' published findings in his comment on the plate.

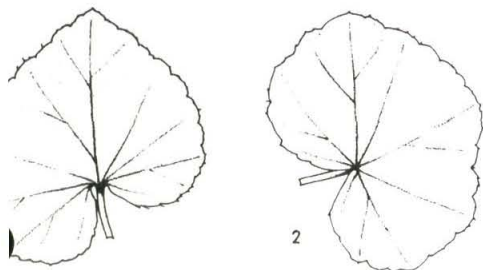
But, ironically, still another quirk of research reversed matters we all thought had been settled.

Jack Golding in 1974 happened on



Irmischer, *Botanische Jahrbücher* 76: plate 1 (1953): fig. 1, *B. fischeri* var. *tovarensis*; fig. 2, var. *fischeri*; fig. 3, var. *elata*; fig. 4, var. *brasiliensis*; fig. 5, var. *macroptera*; fig. 6, var. *ermanii*; fig. 7, var. *palustris*; fig. 8, *B. parvifolia* Kl. (= var. *palustris* Irmischer.).

Irmischer, plate 2: fig. 1, var. *moritziana*; fig. 2, var. *malvacea*.



an obscure note added to the back of the volume carrying Lindley's *pauciflora* plate: Haworth, who originally named *B. patula*, said it was not the same as Lindley's, after all!¹⁰

Apparently through more than a century, from de Candolle into the 1970s, botanists had missed this statement. They had accepted *B. patula* as the same as *B. pauciflora* and therefore—through *pauciflora*—the same as *B. fischeri*. With only Haworth's very brief description and no illustration or specimen of *B. patula*, we may not be able to identify what other plant it is, but Haworth said it was not our plant.

With *patula* removed from the running, *B. fischeri* is left as the earliest and therefore correct name, Dr. Smith agreed. Jack published an explanation in the December 1977 *Begonian*, pp. 328–29. Smith and Dieter Wasshausen cited the species as *B. fischeri* in their 1979 "Begonia of Ecuador."¹¹

Hence, through many steps in a century-long study, we arrive at the conclusion that the species is correctly *B. fischeri* Schrank. *B. tovarensis* on our March 1979 *Begonian* cover becomes *B. fischeri* var. *tovarensis* Irmsch.—and many botanists today find the differences so slight that they consider *tovarensis* and most of the others merely synonyms of *B. fischeri*.

Citations of *B. patula* and *B. fischeri* in past *Begonians* all refer to *B. fischeri*, including: April 1980, p. 113 (Seed Fund); March 1978, p. 80 (Seed Fund); June 1977, pp. 190–93 (*B. pauciflora* color plate); December 1977, p. 328–29 (explanation of name); December 1976, p. 330 (widespread in South America); April 1975, p. 87 (in Colombia, swamps or running water); December 1975, p. 301 (var. *tovarensis*, Seed Fund); February 1974, p. 48 (in Colombia); July 1974, p. 187 (in

Colombia); May 1972, p. 102 (var. *tovarensis*, chromosome no. 34).

The color photo titled *B. parviflora* in Isamu Misono, *Begonias* (1974), p. 97, should be spelled *B. parvifolia*, which Irmscher said was the same as *B. fischeri* var. *palustris*. The *Thompson Begonia Guide*, ed. 2, vol. 3 (1977), carries a photo of *B. fischeri* on p. R-14d.

A summary of *B. fischeri* and its forms follows.

Begonia

fischeri Schrank, Pl. Rar. Hort. Monac. 2 (6): pl. 59. May 1820; Irmscher, Bot. Jahrb. 26: 4-24, pl. 1 & 2. 1953; Golding, *Begonian* 44: 329. 1977.

patula Fischer ex Hornemann, Suppl. Hort. Bot. Hafn. 108. 1819. non Haworth 1819.

pauciflora Lindley, Bot. Reg. 6: pl. 471, app. p. CC. July, Dec. 1820; Golding, *Begonian* 44: 329. 1977.

obliqua Vellozo, Fl. Flum. Icon. 10: pl. 48. 1831; Fl. Flum. Descr. ed. 2 in Arch. Mus. Nac. Rio de Janeiro 5: 406. 1881; Smith & Schubert, J. Wash. Acad. Sci. 40 (8): 245. 1950. non Linnaeus 1753.

vellerea Klotzsch, *Begoniac.* 32. 1855; Smith & Smith, Fl. Ilus. Cat. 1 (Bego): 49. 1971.

fischeri var. *brasiliensis* (Klotzsch) Irmscher, Bot. Jahrb. 76: 24, pl. 1, f. 4. 1953; *brasiliensis* Klotzsch, *Begoniac.* 34. 1855; Smith & Schubert, Darwiniana 5: 110, pl. 15. 1941; J. Wash. Acad. Sci. 40 (8): 245. 1950.

fischeri var. *brevipilosa* Irmscher, Bot. Jahrb. 76: 24, 98. 1953.

fischeri var. *crenato-glabra* Irmscher, Bot. Jahrb. 76: 24, 98. 1953.

fischeri var. *crenulato-glabra* Irmscher, Bot. Jahrb. 76: 24, 99. 1953.

fischeri var. *elata* (Klotzsch) Irmscher, Bot. Jahrb. 76: 24, pl. 1, f. 3. 1953.

elata Klotzsch, *Begoniac.* 35. 1855; Smith & Schubert, J. Wash. Acad. Sci. 40 (8): 245. 1950.

fischeri var. *ermanii* (Klotzsch) Irmscher, Bot. Jahrb. 76: 24, pl. 1, f. 6. 1953.

ermanii Klotzsch, *Begoniac.* 35. 1885. [*as Ermani*]

uliginosa var. *ermanii* A. DC. in Mart. Fl. Bras. 4 (1): 347. 1861; Prodr. 15 (1): 302. 1864.

fischeri var. *fischeri*

fischeri var. *eufischeri* Irmscher, Bot.

Jahrb. 76: 24, 98, *pl. 1, f. 2.* 1953
fischeri var. *klugii* Irmscher, Bot. Jahrb. 76: 24, 99, *pl. 1, f. 9.* 1953.
fischeri var. *macroptera* (Klotzsch) Irmscher, Bot. Jahrb. 76: 24, *pl. 1, f. 5.* 1953.
villosa Gardner in Hooker, Lond. J. 1: 186. 1842. non Lindley 1829; A. DC. in Mart. Fl. Bras. 4 (1): 345. 1861, Prodr. 15 (1): 300. 1864.
macroptera Klotzsch, Begoniac. 34. 1855; A. DC. in Mart. Fl. Bras. 4 (1): 345. 1861; Prodr. 15 (1): 300. 1864.
macroptera var. *paludum* A. DC. in Mart. Fl. Bras. 4 (1): 346. 1861; Prodr. 15 (1): 301. 1864.
macroptera var. *pohliana* A. DC. in Mart. Fl. Bras. 4 (1): 346. 1861; Prodr. 15 (1): 301. 1864.? Irmscher, Bot. Jahrb. 76: 13, 14, 20. 1953.
pohliana Klotzsch, Begoniac. 33. 1855.
fischeri var. *malvacea* (Klotzsch) Irmscher Bot. Jahrb. 76: 24, *pl. 2, f. 2.* 1953.
malvacea Klotzsch, Begoniac. 33. 1855; A. DC. in Mart. Fl. Bras. 4 (1): 347. 1861; Prodr. 15 (1): 302. 1864.
fischeri var. *moritziana* (Klotzsch) Irmscher, Bot. Jahrb. 76: 24, *pl. 2, f. 1.* 1953.
moritziana Klotzsch, Begoniac. 31. 1855. non Kunth & Buché 1848; A. DC. Prodr. 15 (1): 303. 1864.
fischeri var. *palustris* (Bentham) Irmscher, Bot. Jahrb. 76: 24, *pl. 1, f. 7.* 1953.
paulustris Hartweg ex Bentham, Pl. Hartweg. 184. 1845; Smith & Schubert, *Caldasia* 4 (17): 89, *pl. 10.* 1946
parvifolia Klotzsch, Begoniac. 33. 1855; Smith & Schubert, J. Wash. Acad. Sci. 40 (8): 245. 1950; Irmscher, Bot. Jahrb. 76: 16, 20, *pl. 1, f. 8.* 1953 non Schott 1827.
fischeri var. *tovarensis* (Klotzsch) Irmscher, Bot. Jahrb. 76: 23, *pl. 1, f. 1.* 1953.
populifolia sensu Liebmann in Kjoeb. Vidensk. Meddel. 1852: 16. 1853; and Klotzsch, Begoniac. 30. 1855, non HBK 1825, non Schott 1827; A. DC. Prodr. 15 (1): 303. 1864; Smith & Schubert, *Caldasia* 4 (17): 88. 1946.
tovarensis Klotzsch, Begoniac. 31. 1855; A. DC. Prodr. 15 (1): 303. 1864; Smith & Schubert, *Caldasia* 4 (17): 88, *pl. 10.* 1946.
uliginosa Klotzsch, Begoniac. 35. 1955; A. DC. in Mart. Fl. Bras. 4 (1): 347. 1961; Prodr. 15 (1): 301. 1864; Smith & Schubert, J. Wash. Acad. Sci. 40 (8): 245. 1950; Irmscher, Bot. Jahrb. 76: 20. 1953.
tovarensis var. *ocanensis* A. DC. Prodr. 15 (1): 303. 1864; Smith & Schubert, *Caldasia* 4 (17): 88. 1946.

1. Alphonse de Candolle, *Prodromus Systematis Naturalis Regni Vegetabilis* 15(1): 300–04. 1864.

2. Johann F. Klotzsch, *Begoniaceen-Guttungen und Arten, Abb. Akad.*, Berlin: 30–36. 1855.
3. Paul C. Standley, *Begoniaceae in Flora of Costa Rica, Fieldiana, Botany* 18: 747–48. 1937.
4. Lyman B. Smith & Bernice G. Schubert, *The Begoniaceae of Colombia, Caldasia* 4(17): 88–90. 1946.
5. ———, *Journal of the Washington Academy of Sciences* 40 (8): 245. 1950.
6. E. Irmscher, *Botanische Jahrbücher* 76(1): 4–24 and plates 1 & 2. 1953.
7. Franz Schrank, *Plantae Rariores Horti Academici Monacensis* 2(6): plate 59. May 1820. Frans A. Stafleu, *Taxonomic Literature*, ed. 1: 433. 1967.
8. L. B. Smith & Ruth C. Smith, *Flora Illustrata Catarinense* 1 (Bego): 48–52, plate 48, figs. 6–9. 1971.
9. John Lindley in *Botanical Register* 6: plate 471. July 1820. Reproduced also in *Begonian* 44: 190–92. July 1977.
10. *Botanical Register* 6: Appendix, p. CC. 1820. Reproduced also in *Begonian* 44: 329. December 1977.
11. L. B. Smith & Dieter Wasshausen, "Begonia of Ecuador," *Phytologia* 44(4): 246. October 1979.

How *B. fischeri* got its right name

Jack Golding

Begonia patula Haworth, Pl. Succ. 100 (May 1819), was the name given to a plant introduced by Anderson and Otto from the Gardens of Berlin in 1811 and in cultivation at Loddiges Nursery in 1816.

Begonia patula Fischer ex Horne-mann was a plant with this name introduced into cultivation from the Gorenkano Garden in 1817.

Schrank, apparently aware of the earlier use of the name *B. patula* by Haworth for the plant known since 1811, decided the Haworth plant had priority and gave the new name *B. fischeri* to the plant known in the literature as *Begonia patula* Fischer.



B. 'Buttercup'

The hybrids of quiet Michael Kartuz

Pat Morrison

Very quietly, during the 20 years he has been in the mail-order plant business, Michael Kartuz has hybridized and introduced some of the most beautiful begonias we grow.

They have been introduced into his almost yearly catalogs and those of us who have ordered his hybrids previously are always looking for the newest ones. They grow well, bloom well, and hold up over the long haul, where some less carefully selected hybrids do not.

This writer has a *B. 'Ionic'* which must be at least seven or eight years old and, in spite of rendering a multitude of cuttings, the plant is always blooming and looking "show-ready."

For 19 of the 20 years, Michael lived and grew his plants in Wilmington,

Pat Morrison of 5305 S.W. Hamilton St., Portland, OR 97221, is devoted to begonias and other indoor plants, which until recently she sold mail order. Illustrator Pat Maley is ABS co-chairman of judging, owner of a large begonia collection, and a freelance artist who lives and works at 1471 E. Madison Ave., El Cajon, CA 92021.

Photo/Chuck Anderson



Michael Kartuz preens plants in his Vista, Calif., greenhouse.

Mass., a small, lovely New England village north of Boston, where the un-failing and warm hospitality of his family and home were almost more significant than his greenhouses. How, one imagined, did he ever manage to produce so many plants for his retail and mail-order business with only three smallish greenhouses and not much help?

After visiting California for ABS conventions and fighting winter cold, Michael decided that California seemed a logical place to continue his business. He found an almost perfect spot—Vista, Calif. Nestled in lovely, hilly San Diego County countryside, Vista is open to the cooling ocean

breezes which offer natural air conditioning. It also has Mabel Corwin, good friend and grower par excellence.

So Michael moved—with his delightful mother and his friend and partner, Patrick Worley. Michael and Patrick enjoyed getting winter tans while repairing the existing greenhouse and building another on the new property, which boasts a roomy and comfortable home. They were back in business by summer of 1980.

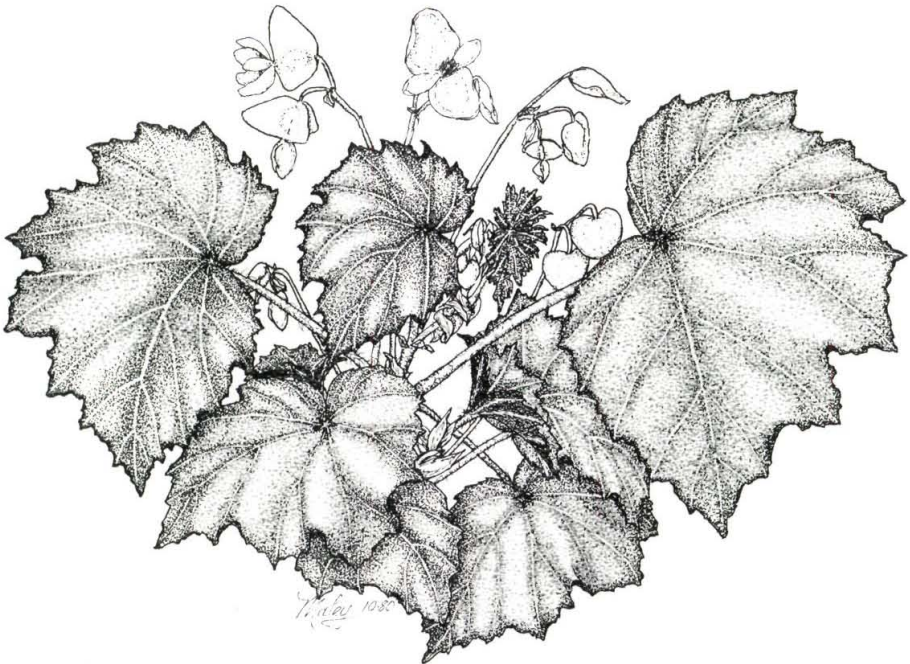
Choosing just a few of Michael's hybrids to describe is difficult, for every one is a winner. Here is a good selection, however, for windowsill, greenhouse, lathhouse or light garden.

One of the most popular is *B.* 'Buttercup', the only offspring I know of the extremely popular *B. prismatocarpa*, which was crossed with *B. ficala*. A terrarium or container subject with small, green, bubbly leaves and chrome yellow and orange flowers

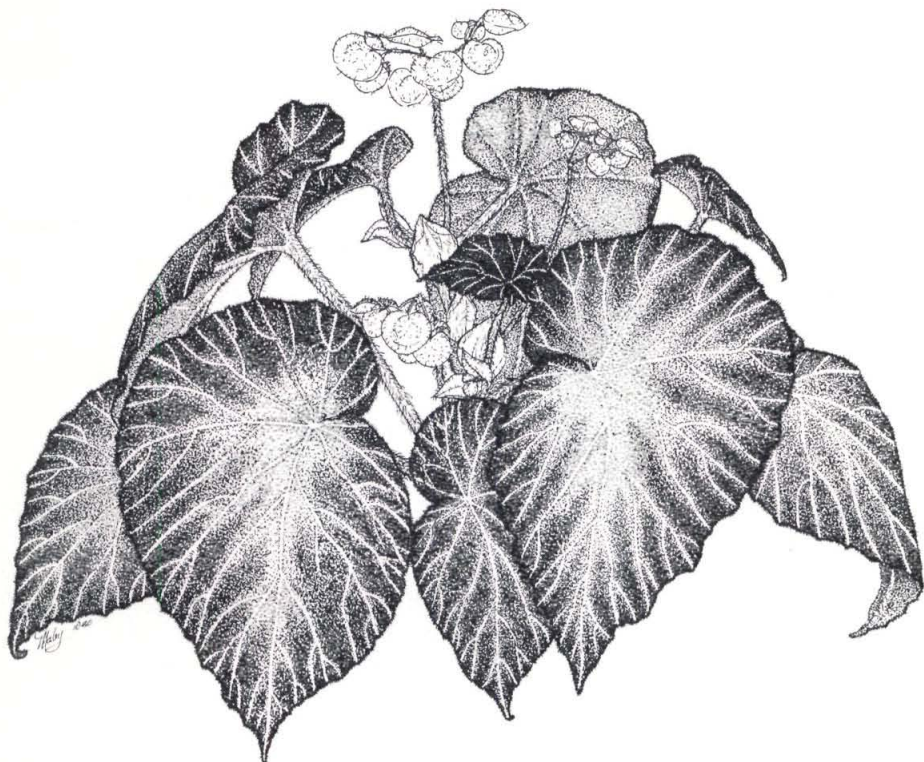
which are striped with red. If given good light it is almost everblooming and stays low and compact.

Need a small shrub-type begonia to fit in your light garden? *B.* 'Dresden Gold' is the answer and such a beauty it is. A cross between *B. olsoniae* x *B. dregei*, it has maple-shaped leaves with a bronzy cast and abundant pink flowers. I have found that too much light bleaches the leaves a bit, so it flourishes at the end of my light garden.

Thelma O'Reilly has properly praised Mike's 1976 introduction, *B.* 'Serlis', in *The Begonian*, Vol. 45, September 1978. (It has been renamed *B.* 'Caravan' and appears on the cover.) A cross between *B. sementacea* and *B. listida* and shrub-like, it remains low growing and semi-upright. In Southern California and in warm humid greenhouses, the leaves can reach 10 inches long by 5½ inches wide, but mine, under lights, has never reached



***B.* 'Dresden Gold'**



B. 'Caravan' (syn. B. 'Serlis' hort.)

those proportions. Lime green veins stand out on the deep green, woolly leaf surface. The flowers, which are abundant, are white with red hairs.

Thick-stemmed begonias are often not popular because of their growth habits and their all-too-often-difficult temperament. Mike solved this problem by crossing *B. carolineifolia* and *B. wollnyi* to produce *B. 'Star Frost'*, a lovely and easy thick-stemmed begonia. The leaves are star-shaped and deeply cut, and the light green color is spotted and dusted with silver. The flowers are said to be pink, but mine has never bloomed. I have never minded, for the habit of growth is so pleasing, although it gets a bit large for a light garden.

Named after an old friend, *B. 'Orpha C. Fox'* is a truly unusual canelike variety. The slate-green leaves are

heavily splashed with silver and make a lovely foil for the clear pink clusters of flowers. This is a seedling of *B. 'Hannah Serr'* ('Kentwood' x 'Lenore Olivier') and makes a beautiful basket or single specimen.

Michael has introduced but two rex begonias that are still listed—*B. 'Fireworks'* in 1976 and *B. 'Little Bandit'* more recently. 'Little Bandit' is a true miniature with the lovely colors of dark purple, rose and silver. 'Fireworks', whose parentage is *B. cathayana* x an unknown *B. rex* cultivar, is a larger, upright rex with gorgeous leaves of silver splashed with dark purple and pink. Pay attention to that *B. cathayana* heritage when growing this one and give it extra humidity and TLC. It's worth it!

I can't leave this listing without mentioning just a couple more of

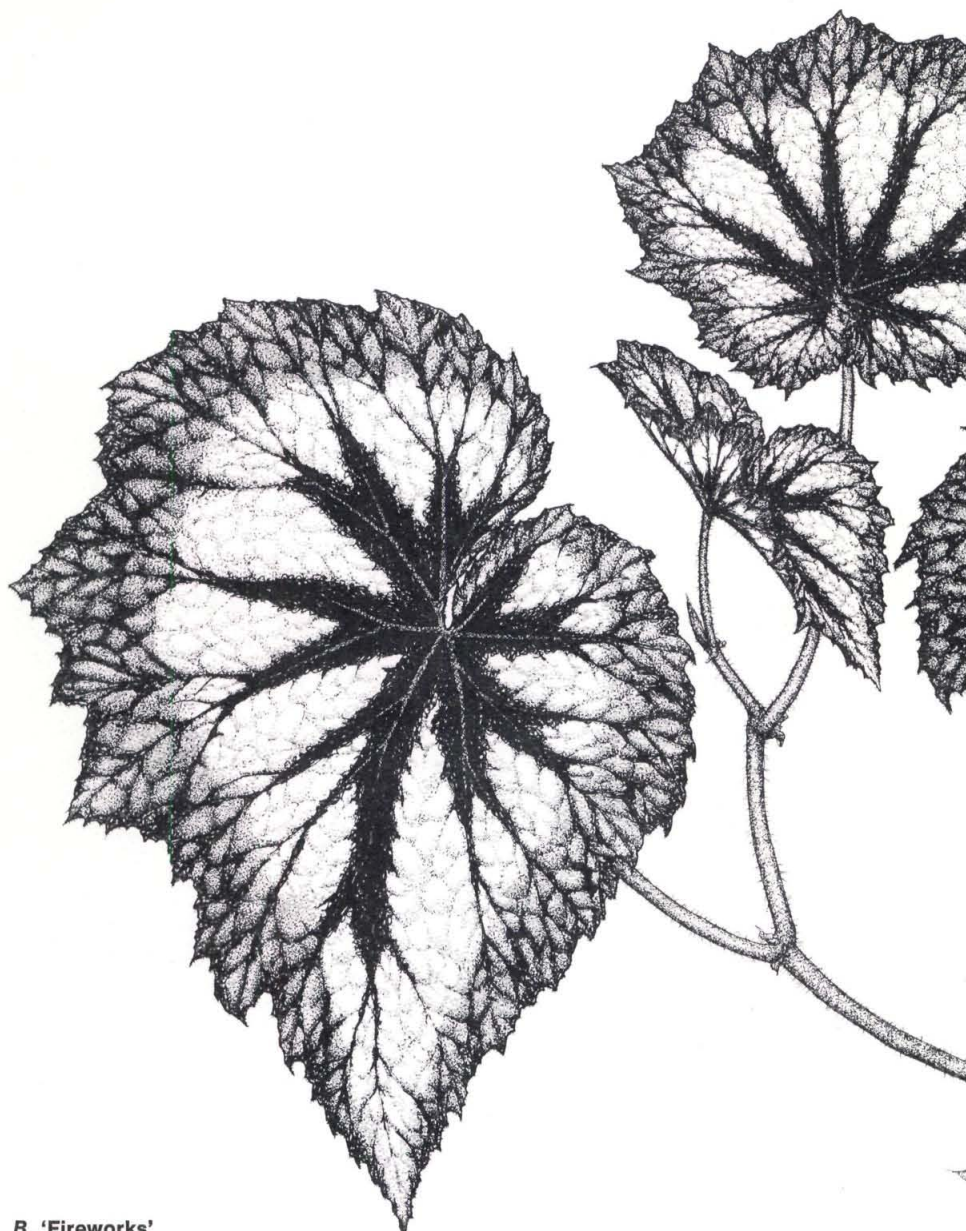
my favorites such as *B.* 'Mandarin Orange', which Michael listed for a long time simply as "an Orange Rubra hybrid." A much more amenable plant than *B.* 'Orange Rubra', it has dark, coppery leaves and large clusters of deep orange flowers. It makes an outstanding basket! Need a small cane?

Try *B.* 'Mathild'. The narrow, coppery leaves with many clusters of shell pink flowers show the heritage from *B.* 'Lenore Olivier'.

None of these begonias needs "special" care, except *B.* 'Buttercup', which needs the extra humidity of a container, and perhaps *B.* 'Fireworks' (re-



***B.* 'Star Frost'**



B. 'Fireworks'

member that *B. cathayana* parentage!). But, as with all begonias, watering must be carefully handled—particularly on very young plants when the roots are not established and can be easily “drowned.”

A loose, porous soil mix is desired and I use and recommend the 2-1-1

mix that Michael suggests in his catalog—a combination of sphagnum peat moss, vermiculite and perlite, with dolomite lime added according to the alkalinity (or acidity) of the water in your area. One tablespoon of lime to one gallon of mix is a safe amount. Some growers add orchid bark to

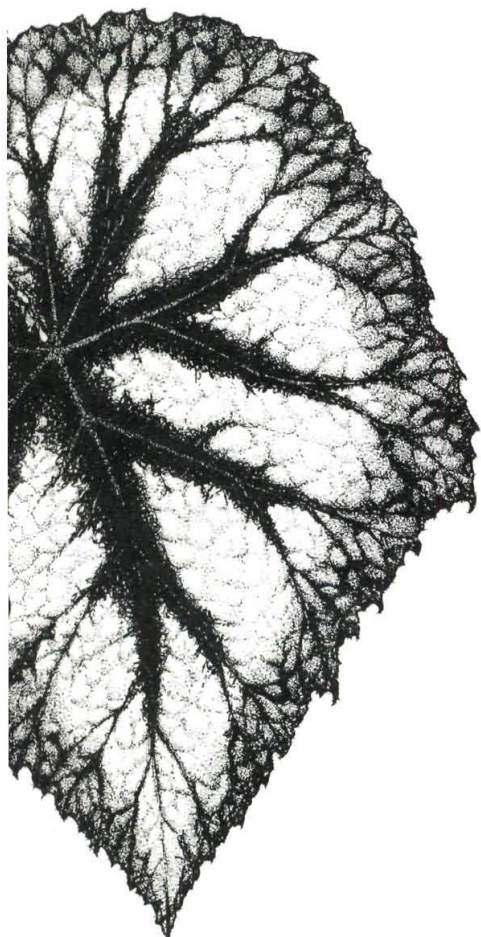
tilizer is often wise, alternating between a high-phosphorus fertilizer (higher middle number) and a balanced one—or use an organic fertilizer once in a while, but only in warm weather so it will work.

I grow my begonias in the greenhouse and under lights, but prefer the light garden except for larger plants. They are 8 to 12 inches from four eight-foot Gro-Lux Wide Spectrum tubes and I have never had any trouble with bleached leaves or burn, except for the aforementioned *B.* 'Dresden Gold'. This is a complaint of some growers, however, and I suggest you raise your humidity rather than raising the lights. Begonias need a great deal of light, but they also need humidity of at least 50 to 60% with good ventilation.

Increase your humidity by placing your plants on waterproof trays filled with pebbles or coarse sand and keep the trays half-filled with water. Misting helps temporarily, but you must have good ventilation to risk misting. In extreme cases, invest in a humidifier. If mildew should appear, spray immediately and regularly on leaves, stems and soil, with a fungicide.

Insects rarely strike begonias unless you have been careless about bringing in a host plant that has mealybug, scale, or some other critter. They do not "attract" insects like some other plants. I seldom, if ever, spray begonias, even for prevention—but it may be very different in your area. Consult other begonia growers about their favorite insecticides (some damage begonias irretrievably) or ask a nurseryman. Be careful whatever you use.

We can look forward to many more excellent hybrids from Michael Kartuz. His lovely new California home should be an inspiration!



make an even coarser mix.

Feed with a balanced fertilizer every time you water under lights—less often in the greenhouse or home window-sill—but only use 1/8 or 1/10 strength of what the package or bottle recommends or fertilize quarter-strength once a week. Changing brands of fer-

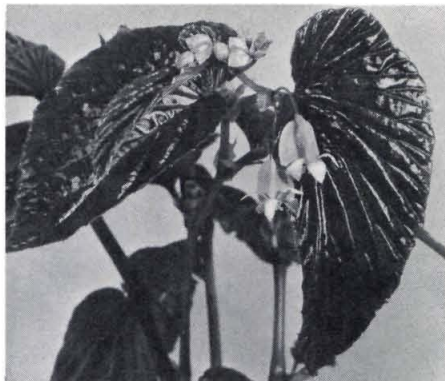
A begonia people grow as a vegetable

J. Doorenbos

Scott Hoover's article on begonias with medicinal properties in the September 1980 *Begonian* reminded me of the work of J. P. U. Zieck, who was employed by UNESCO, the United Nations agency, to look for plants used by the natives of Papua and New Guinea as vegetables, fruits, spices, herbs, and for all kinds of other purposes. As these people become Westernized, their wide knowledge of the plants surrounding them is rapidly being lost.

In the many years Mr. Zeick did this work he sent me a considerable number of species of *Begonia* and *Symbegonia*. Among these there was a begonia which was actually cultivated by the natives, its young shoots being eaten as a vegetable. Mr. Zieck collected this species in 1977 at the Kikori river in the Gulf Province of Papua, 4 miles north of Kikori at a village called Irimuku, where it grew on drier parts of the river bank in old gardens and secondary bush.

As grown by the Papuans this plant was 1 m. (3 ft.) high, and in our greenhouse it reaches the same height. Its stems are glabrous and succulent, light green except at the nodes which are red. The leaf stalks are also red and rather short (1.5-3.5 cm.) with a few scattered hairs at the top when young. The stipules are large (2.5-3.5 cm.), keeled, ovate, acute. The leaves are obliquely oval, acute, with a greatest length of 25 cm. (10 in.) and a greatest width of 12.5 cm. (5 in.), bright green



Photo/Reyer Jansen

Unidentified *Begonia* grown for food in Irimuku, Papua

and very shiny, with sunken veins which are red at the base. The underside of the leaf is lighter green with a few scattered hairs on the nerves.

The inflorescences are found at the top of the stems. They consist of a terminal male inflorescence and two female flowers in the axil of the uppermost leaf (sometimes, as in the shoot pictured, also in the axil of the second leaf from the top). These female flowers have already faded when the male flowers open. The 5 female tepals are green suffused with pink, oval in shape and very finely serrate. The male flowers have only two tepals, which are pink, broadly oval in outline, entire, and hairy at the back. The fruits are large with three truncate wings, one slightly broader than the others.

This species has not yet been identified. It does not match the description of any of the 49 New Guinean species of the section *Petermannia*. Perhaps this was only to be expected, as most of these species are from the northern part or from the mountain ranges of this vast island; apparently, the south has not been explored so intensively.

Please turn to page 17

Dr. Jan Doorenbos, an international authority on the genus Begonia, is professor of horticulture at Agricultural University, P.O. Box 30, 6700 AA, Wageningen, The Netherlands.

ROUND ROBINS/ *Tuberous species offer surprises*

Tuberous species have enjoyed much popularity among robin members. They can offer some surprises. Erich Steiniger, Ohio, reports: "*B. wollnyi* drops its leaves at the time of bloom. As soon as flowering is over, new leaves grow. A bit disconcerting to the uninitiated!"

Sue Rosiak, Delaware, explains this phenomenon: *B. wollnyi* blooms when a slight chill forces leaf drop. The blooms last a long time." She prefers to grow this species as a bonsai or rock planting.

Of course all those flowers inspire a great deal of pollen-dabbing. Experienced hybridizers offer tips for beginners.

Keith Mautino, California, cautions: "Don't mist pollinated flowers. Water isn't good for the pollen." Ruth Wills, Oklahoma, believes in making the most of what you have. She even tried using the pollen from dried and fallen flowers for hybridizing, and has ten pots of seedlings for her efforts!

While Ruth may have been short on flowers, busy Patrick Worley, California, is always short on time. So he keeps a notebook of hybridizing ideas, jotting them down as they come, and following them up when he has time to plan a careful hybridizing program.

Most of us are short on time when it comes to planting all the seed we've made or bought. Storage is a problem. Norman and Donna Bakewell, British Columbia, have had success with freezing *Tuberhybrida* seed. They store seed in the door shelf of their freezer,

and report viability after over three years. However, they warn that while this works for *Tuberhybrida*, it may not work for begonias of other types, which come from lower elevations with warmer climates.

Martin Johnson, California, supports their conclusions about *Tuberhybrida* by recounting that another hybridizer has frozen *Tuberhybrida* seed, and it retained viability for at least nine years.



Many people have trouble propagating and growing hairy begonias. Carolyn Collman, California, wrote:

Rooting and growing hairy begonias is a real problem for me. Rooting is more successful if all the hairs are rubbed off the stem. Most growers think the hairs prevent roots from forming. Also, a very loose mix is needed and I have thought that perlite alone might be a good medium.

Mallet cuttings root better for me than regular cuttings. I have also rooted cuttings in styrofoam cups—or clay pots would be good. These let the roots breathe and stay drier. My plants get almost to the wilting stage before I water. This is the only way I can keep them alive.



Diane Fries, California, buys plastic shoe boxes on sale two for a dollar. She uses them for propagating boxes.

She melts 6 holes in the bottom of the box and strings the wicks through the holes into the box below which is the reservoir. If the top box is too low she props it up with 4 plastic cups on the bottom. She uses vermiculite and perlite as a propagating mix.

Information about joining a robin—a packet of letters circulated among begonia lovers—is available from Mary Harbaugh, round robin director. Write to her at Rt. 4, Box 343, Shawano, WI 54166.

SEED FUND/ *This time, rare Hillebrandia sandwicensis*

Joy Porter, director, Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund

- JA 1 — *B. acaulis*: small tuberous, stemless species from New Guinea with roundly ovate leaves and pink flowers. Does best in contained atmosphere under lights 16 hrs. per day. Do not be alarmed if a large percentage of seedlings are albino—most will outgrow this. Supply limited. per pkt. 1.00
- JA 2 — *Hillebrandia sandwicensis*: A genus belonging to Begoniaceae and native to Hawaii. Tuberous with large white flowers borne on a 12-inch peduncle. Female flowers have partially inferior ovaries. M. L. MacIntyre's plant, which produced the seed, was blooming with five bloom stalks so heavy they had to be staked in mid-May. per pkt 1.00
- JA 3 — *B. sutherlandii*: Small tuberous species from Africa with orange flowers in summer. per pkt 1.00
- JA 4 — *B. parilis*: Thick-stemmed species from Brazil with narrow dark green leaves and white flowers in spring. Stems arch, making a full, shapely basket plant. per pkt. 1.00
- JA 5 — *B. vitifolia*: Another thick-stemmed species, but very different from JA 4. Grows like a small tree, blooming in early spring with large globes of tiny white flowers. Good for background and bonsai. per pkt. 1.00
- JA 6 — Mixed begonia seed containing species and hybrids. A good way to start a collection. per pkt. .50
- JA 7 — Open-pollinated semperflorens types containing *B.* 'Charm' (pink flowers) and *B.* 'Cinderella'. *B.* 'Charm' is a variegated-leaf mutation, and seedlings will vary. (See page 310, *The Begonian* November 1980.) . . . per pkt. .50
- JA 8 — An interesting cross: *B. grandis* ssp. *evansiana* (hardy tuberous species from China) pollinated by *B.* 'Danica Red' produced a robust, thick-stemmed plant with 5-inch lettuce-type leaves on a 24-inch plant with 2-inch rose flowers. This was used as pollen parent back onto *B. grandis* ssp. *evansiana*. per pkt. .50
- JA 9 — *B.* 'Torsa' bulbils: a *B. grandis* ssp. *evansiana* cross with leaves larger than the species. Keep dry until early spring. Plant shallowly, water well and place in a warm sunny area. Grow in filtered light. . . 3 bulbils for .50

If ordering JA 8, include 35 cents.

Send orders to Joy Porter, 9 Bayberry Lane, Framingham, MA 01701. Include self-addressed, stamped envelope or add 35 cents for padded, hand-cancelled package. Massachusetts residents add 5% sales tax. Checks and money orders should be made payable to: Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund. Foreign orders: U.S. funds only and add \$1.20 for postage.

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Box 165-4 Ozark, MO 65721

Begonias. Blue ribbon winners. Odd, Rare, Unusual. Price list available. Tropical Greenery, formerly Begonia Paradise Gar-

Mini-ads are \$1 per line per insertion with a minimum of \$4. A line is about 36 characters. Payment must accompany order. Send to Pam Mundell, advertising manager, 2324 Connie Dr., Sacramento, CA 95815.

dens, 22140 S.W. 152 Ave., Goulds, FL 33170. (305) 248-5529.

Pink Chaser, everblooming, deep pink basket; Raspberry Swirl, silver & pink spiral rex; China Curl, plum, black & silver spiral rex; 1 gift plant—\$12.00 prepaid. Catalog 35¢. Visitors welcome. Leslie & Winkey Woodriff, Fairyland Begonia & Lily Gardens, 1100-B Griffith Rd., McKinleyville, CA 95521.

The Buxton Branch of Massachusetts and the Edna Stewart Pittsburgh Branch each staged an early fall public show that generated massive interest in begonias by passers-by.

The Buxton show in October found Fred Ritzau winning the Beatrice Hadrell memorial cup for the best begonia with his *B. 'Wanda'* in a terrarium. Corliss Engle, who also is ABS research director, was sweepstakes winner.

Other winners: Corliss Engle, best cane-like, *B. 'Corliss Engle'*; Fred Ritzau, best shrub-like, *B. 'Crispie'*; Bob Pearlstein, best thick-stemmed, *B. 'Paul Bruant'*; Baba Lewis, best semperflorens type, *B. 'Charm'*; R. David Morrison, best rhizomatous, *B. 'Tiger Kitten'*; Jackie Limberakis, best Rex Cultorum, unnamed *B. rex* cultivar; Baba Lewis, best tuberous, *B. 'Nonstop'*; Corliss Engle, best trailing-scandant, unnamed cultivar; Fred Ritzau, best begonia in contained atmosphere, *B. 'Wanda'*; Fred Ritzau, best collection, *B. 'Libby Lee'*, *B. 'Heather Ann'*, *B. 'Robert Schatzer'*; Fred Ritzau, best mixed collection in contained atmosphere; Fred Ritzau, best begonia grown by novel method, *B. 'Lospe'*; Joy Porter, best begonia propagated by exhibitor, *B. hidalgensis* from seed.

At the Pittsburgh show in September, Marie Treat's *B. 'Orange Rubra'* won best in show, while Sue Colaizzi won the sweepstakes award.

Other results: Marie Treat, best cane-like, *B. 'Wayne Newton'*; Dale and Dorothy Stewart, best shrub-like, *B. 'Medora'*; Sue Colaizzi, best rhizomatous, *B. 'Roulette'*; Agnes Hodgson, best Rex Cultorum, *B. 'Fairy'*; Melissa Jones, best tuberous, *B. richardsiana*; Sue Colaizzi, best begonia in contained atmosphere, *B. 'Millie Thompson'*; Marie Treat, best begonia in hanging basket, *B. 'Orange Rubra'*; Sue

Colaizzi, best species, *B. nigritarium* (syn. *B. nurii* hort.); Frank Kerin, best begonia grown by professional, *B. 'Crestabruchii'*; Frank Gibala, best begonia grown by novel method, *B. convolvulacea*.

In memoriam

Kathy Brown

Kathy Brown, former ABS membership secretary and a charter member of the Garden Grove Branch, died last Nov. 15 after an illness of five months.

The branch conducted a short memorial service at the November meeting and has made a donation in her memory to the ABS research fund.

Kathy was membership secretary from October 1978 to February 1980. She also was secretary to her branch for the past four years.

More edible begonia

From page 14

I strongly suspect, therefore, that what we have here is yet another undescribed begonia.

I must confess I have not yet eaten this lush and appetizing-looking plant. What is worse is that I have not been able to distribute it to many other growers, mainly because I have been unable to obtain any seed. Like many New Guinean begonias, including the well-known *B. serratiflora*, this plant does not produce pollen under our conditions.

Board to meet Jan. 19

ABS directors will meet Monday, Jan. 19, at 7:30 p.m. at Fullerton Savings & Loan Assn., Anaheim, Calif.

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NEW CULTIVARS/ *Official international registrations*

Carrie Karegeannes and Thelma O'Reilly, nomenclature co-directors

In the citations of cultivar parents, the female (seed) parent is listed first.

Begonia 'Calcutta'

No. 799—*Begonia goegoensis* x *versicolor*
'Calcutta'

Rhizomatous. Pustular bullate, short-hairy, peltate leaves are deep green frosted silver-pink with 9 depressed golden veins, ovate to nearly round, $7\frac{1}{2}$ " x $5\frac{1}{2}$ ", with margin entire and ciliate. Petioles are 4" and red-hairy. Stipules are red-hairy and persistent. Pink flowers have red hairs on the backs of rounded tepals. Male flowers, with 4 tepals, measure $\frac{3}{4}$ "; female flowers have 5 tepals. Few-flowered cymes on 4" peduncles bloom intermittently throughout the year. *B.* 'Calcutta' is distinguished by its unusual, textured leaves and a thick rhizome. It prefers bubble or greenhouse and fluorescent- or subdued-light culture. Originated in 1977 by Patrick J. Worley, 1408 Sunset Drive, Vista, CA 92083; first bloomed in 1979; first distributed in 1980. First published in Kartuz Greenhouses catalog, 1980. Registered March 3, 1980.

Begonia 'Candy Apple'

No. 800—*Begonia hatacoa* (green form) x
'Beau Rouge' 'Candy Apple'

Rex Cultorum group; rhizomatous with erect stems. Unequally lanceolate 6" x $3\frac{1}{2}$ " leaves are shiny rose-red with deeper highlights, serrate margin, smooth and nearly glabrous surface, heavy texture, and 6 veins. Sparsely hairy petioles are $4\frac{1}{2}$ " long; persistent stipules are papery and pointed. Flowers, arranged in few-flowered cymes above the foliage on 5"

peduncles, are $1\frac{1}{4}$ " x $1\frac{1}{2}$ " and rose-pink with 4 male and 5 female rounded tepals and unequal ovary wings, blooming in fall, winter, and spring. *B.* 'Candy Apple' is distinguished by its upright growth, lanceolate leaf of heavy texture, and striking color. Originated in 1977 by Patrick J. Worley (address above); first bloomed in 1979; first distributed in 1980; first published in Kartuz Greenhouses catalog, 1980. Registered March 3, 1980.

Begonia 'Firmament'

No. 801—*Begonia dipetala* x 'Glory of St. Albans' 'Firmament'

Rex Cultorum group; rhizomatous with erect stems. Obliquely ovate, acuminate, 8" x 5" leaves are rose-pink-spotted on an ebony background and have 9 veins. The margin is serrate and the surface sparsely hairy, with a single red hair at the center of each spot. Petioles are 6" and moderately hairy; stipules are pointed, hairy, and deciduous. Everblooming, flesh-pink, 1" x $\frac{3}{4}$ " flowers, borne in a few-flowered cyme just above the foliage, have 4 male and 5 female rounded tepals and unequally winged ovaries. The 7" peduncle is sparsely hairy. *B.* 'Firmament' has a unique color pattern, enhanced by the black star effect of the main veins. Originated in 1978 by Patrick J. Worley (address above); first bloomed in 1979; first distributed in 1980; first published in Kartuz Greenhouses catalog, 1980. Registered March 3, 1980.

Begonia 'Heartthrob'

No. 802—*Begonia dipetala* x unnamed
rex seedling #23 'Heartthrob'

Rex Cultorum group; rhizomatous with erect stems. Obliquely ovate, acuminate leaves have a deep red, heart-shaped center with wide cream band and red edge. Measuring 7" x 5", they have a serrate margin, sparsely hairy surface, and 8 veins. Petioles are 5"; narrow, pointed stipules are deciduous. Everblooming, 1" x $\frac{3}{4}$ ", waxy red flowers have deeper red, waxy

Applications to register Begonia cultivars may be obtained from Thelma O'Reilly, 10942 Sunray Place, La Mesa, CA 92041. Each must be typed or printed in ink.

A \$2 check or money order payable to the American Begonia Society must accompany each completed application. Photos, drawings, and/or dried specimens to accompany applications are encouraged. ABS is the International Registration Authority for Begonia cultivar names.

ovaries and rounded tepals, 4 male and 5 female. The few-flowered cymes are borne on $4\frac{1}{2}$ " peduncles. This everblooming, vigorous, upright cultivar is also distinguished by the sheen of the leaf and ability to withstand both low and strong light conditions. Originated in 1977 by Patrick J. Worley (address above); first bloomed in 1978; first distributed in 1980; first published in Kartuz Greenhouses catalog, 1980. Registered March 3, 1980.

Begonia 'Maid Marion'

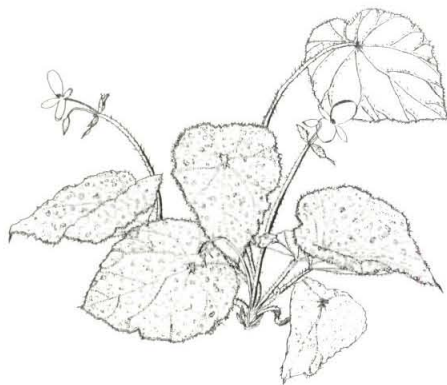
No. 803—*Begonia* unnamed *rex* cultivar x unnamed *rex* cultivar 'Maid Marion'

Rex Cultorum group; rhizomatous with erect stems. Double-spiraled, $7'' \times 5''$ leaves are deep rose, zoned with a wide cream zone and edged by a deep-rose zone. The cream zone follows around the two complete double spirals, producing an unusual effect. The margin is ciliate and finely serrulate, and the surface nearly glabrous, with 18 veins. Petioles are $7''$; stipules are persistent and papery. Flowers are two-toned, flesh pink and bright pink, with 4 rounded male tepals and 5 rounded, laterally recurved female tepals. Flowers are arranged in a cyme on a $4''$ hairy peduncle, blooming in fall and winter. Originated in 1977 by Patrick J. Worley (address above); first bloomed in 1979; first distributed in 1980. Registered March 3, 1980.

Begonia 'Gingersnap'

No. 804—*Begonia goegoensis* x *morelii* 'Gingersnap'

Rhizomatous with distinctive foliage.



B. 'Gingersnap'

Red-bronze leaves with yellow veins and small silver spots are peltate and nearly round. Measuring $3'' \times 2\frac{1}{2}''$, they are finely serrulate and lightly fluted, with glabrous surface and 7 veins. Petioles are $3\frac{1}{2}''$ to $4''$ long; stipules are deciduous. Flowers are pink. Males, with 2 round and 2 narrow tepals, measure $\frac{1}{2}'' \times \frac{3}{4}''$; females, with 5 rounded tepals, are $\frac{1}{2}'' \times \frac{1}{2}''$. The few-flowered cymes, on $3''$ peduncles, are everblooming. Dwarf, compact size, as well as silver spots on bronzy background and the everblooming habit, make this cultivar distinct. Originated in 1978 by Patrick J. Worley (address above); first bloomed in 1979; to be distributed in 1981. Registered March 3, 1980.

Begonia 'Petite Élégante'

No. 805—*Begonia* 'Alva Graham' x *hatacoa* 'Silver' 'Petite Élégante'

Shrub-like with bare leaves and $6''$ stems. Crisp, lanceolate, serrate, $2\frac{1}{2}'' \times 1''$ leaves are green with silvery nacreous bloom on the glabrous upper surface, green with the 8 veins showing red underneath. Petioles are $1\frac{1}{2}''$ long with fine sparse hairs; stipules are papery and deciduous. Flowers, $1''$ in diameter, are white with pink backs and 4 male and 5 female rounded tepals. The few-flowered cymes on $2''$ peduncles appear infrequently. *B.* 'Petite Élégante' is distinguished by its silvery bronze-blue sheen, slow growing habit, and crisp texture. Originated in 1974 by Patrick J. Worley (address above); first bloomed in 1976; first distributed in 1978; first published in Kartuz Greenhouses catalog, 1978. Registered March 3, 1980.

Begonia 'Petite Rouge'

No. 806—*Begonia* 'Alva Graham' x *hatacoa* (typical spotted form) 'Petite Rouge'

Shrub-like with bare leaves and $6''$ stems with short nodes. Lanceolate $2\frac{1}{2}'' \times 1''$ leaves are copper-red and green veins and deep red undersurface, serrate margin, moderately pustulate surface, and 6 depressed veins. Petioles are $1\frac{1}{2}''$ long with fine sparse hairs; stipules are papery, deciduous. Flowers are $1'' \times 1''$, white with pink backs and 4 male and 5 female rounded tepals. The infrequent few-flow-

Please turn to page 21

ASSOCIATED GROUPS/ *Visitors always welcome*

ALFRED D. ROBINSON BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 10:30 a.m.
Homes of members
June Rakestraw, Pres.
5458 Avenida Fiesta, La Jolla
CA 92037
Margaret Lee, Natl. Dir.

ASTRO BRANCH

Houston, Texas

BUXTON BRANCH

3rd Saturday, Mass. Bay
Community College,
50 Oakland St., Wellesley, Mass.
Percy Ehrlich, Pres.
66 Fessenden St., Newtonville,
MA 02160

Anthony P. Croce, Natl. Dir.

CENTRAL SAN JOAQUIN BRANCH

Dr. William Ireton, Pres.
1702 Camino Primavera,
Bakersfield, CA 93306
William Ireton, Natl. Dir.

CHEEKWOOD BRANCH

Homes of members
Pam Braun, Pres.
Rt. 6, Pinewood Rd.,
Franklin, TN 37064

CONNECTICUT BRANCH

4th Monday, Homes of members
Arline Peck, Pres.
Eagle Peak Rd., Pascoago, RI
02859

Priscilla Beck, Natl. Dir.

DENTON BRANCH

4th Wednesday, 10 a.m.
Homes of members
Mae Blanton, Pres.
118 Wildoak Dr., Lake
Dallas, TX 75065

Glennis Crouch, Natl. Dir.

DESERT BEGONIA BRANCH

Mary Church, Pres.
1090 E. Grant Rd.,
Tucson, AZ 85719
Barbara Rogers, Natl. Dir.

EAST BAY BRANCH

3rd Thursday, 7:45 p.m.
Northbrea Community Church,
Berkeley, Calif.
Susan Patrick, Pres.
27406 Grand View Ave.,
Hayward, CA 94542
Glen Maynard, Natl. Dir.

EASTERN NEW YORK BRANCH

Betty Pullar, Pres.
411 New Karner Rd., Albany, NY
12205
Betty Pullar, Natl. Dir.

EASTSIDE BEGONIA BRANCH

4th Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
590 116th Avenue N.E.,
Bellevue, Wash.
Dale Greer, Pres.
1704 212th Ave. S.E., Issaquah,
WA 98027
Shelton Fisher, Natl. Dir.

EDNA STEWART PITTSBURGH BRANCH

3rd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
Pittsburgh Civic
Garden Center
Suzanne Colaizzi, Pres.
115 Lillian Rd., Pittsburgh,
PA 15237
Frank Kerin, Natl. Dir.

ELSA FORT BRANCH

Helen Green, Pres.
2100 Hunter St., Cinnaminson,
NJ 08077
Gladys Cooper, Natl. Dir.

FRED A. BARKLEY BRANCH

1st Sunday, Homes of members
Dr. Fred A. Barkley, Pres.
104 E. Highland,
Tecumseh, OK 73475

This directory appears quarterly. If your branch listing is incomplete or inaccurate, please notify the secretary immediately and send a copy of your letter to the editors.

Dr. Jeffrey Black, Natl. Dir.

GARDEN GROVE BRANCH

3rd Thursday, 7:30 p.m., New
Community Meeting Center
11300 Stanford, Garden Grove,
CA 92643

Doug Frost, Pres.

10622 Teal, Garden
Grove, CA 92643

George Allison, Natl. Dir.

GLENDALE BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 8:00 p.m.
Glendale Federal S & L,
401 N. Brand, Glendale, Calif.
Darlene Fuentes, Pres.
2313 Hollister Ter., Glendale,
CA 91206

Dolores Fernandez, Natl. Dir.

GREATER CHICAGO AREA BRANCH

4th Sunday, except Dec., 2 p.m.
Oak Park Conservatory
561 Garfield, Oak Park, Ill.
Dan Haseltine, Pres.
6950 W. Nelson St., Chicago,
IL 60634

Paul Thomas, Natl. Dir.

GREATER CINCINNATI BRANCH

Verda Stull, Pres.
5 Burnham St., Cincinnati, OH
45218

Erich Steiniger, Natl. Dir.

HAMPTON BRANCH

2nd Monday, 7:45 p.m., Parrish
Memorial Hall, Southampton,
NY
Ed Thompson, Pres.
310-A Hill St., Southampton,
N.Y. 11968

Mary Burnaford, Natl. Dir.

HOUSTON TEXAS BRANCH

4th Monday, 1:00 p.m., Garden
Center, 1500 Herman Dr.,
Houston, Tex.
Mrs. B. A. Russell, Pres.
5926 Jackwood St., Houston
TX 77074

Gwen Brunka, Natl. Dir.

JACKSONVILLE BRANCH

3rd Monday, 7:30 p.m.
Agricultural Ctr.,
1010 North McDuff Ave.
Ann M. Helton, Pres.
334 Brunswick Rd.,
Jacksonville, FL 32216
Mary Harrell, Natl. Dir.

KNICKERBOCKER BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Horticultural Society of New
York
128 West 58th St., New York,
N.Y.

Howard Berg, Pres.

16 Highview Terr.,
New Canaan, CT 06840
Ed Grasheim, Natl. Dir.

LONG BEACH PARENT CHAPTER

2nd Sunday, 1:30 p.m., Great
Western S & L
6330 E. Spring St., Long Beach
Loretta Salzer, Pres.
4702 Ocana Ave., Lakewood,
CA 90713

Muriel Perz, Natl. Dir.

LONG ISLAND BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.
Planting Fields Arboretum
Oyster Bay, Long Island, N.Y.
Mrs. Martha Graham, Pres.
55 Duryea Rd., Melville,
NY 11746

Marie Donnelly, Natl. Dir.

MIAMI BRANCH

4th Tuesday, 8:00 p.m.
Simpson Memorial Garden
Center
55 South West 17th Road,
Miami, Florida

Charles J. Jaros, Pres.
2621 N.W. 23rd Court, Miami,
FL 33142
Charles J. Jaros, Natl. Dir.

MINNESOTA BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
Homes of members
Dorothea Lillestrand, Pres.
2100 W. 108th, Bloomington,
MN 55431

Pat Burdick, Natl. Dir.

MONTEREY BAY AREA BRANCH

4th Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.
New Monterey Neighborhood
Center
Lighthouse and Dickman Sts.,
New Monterey, Calif.

Jackie Davis, Pres.
170 Wingfoot Way, Aptos, CA
95003

Leslie Hatfield, Natl. Dir.

NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Mercury S&L
4140 Long Beach Blvd., Long
Beach

Edith Van Landingham, Pres.
6925 Lime Ave., Long Beach,
CA 90807

D. G. Sullinger, Natl. Dir.

ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Fullerton S & L, 2310 E. Lincoln
Ave., Anaheim
Norma Taylor, Pres.
1500 Glenn Circle, Placentia,
CA 92670

Cruz Sandoval, Natl. Dir.

PALM BEACHES BRANCH

2nd Monday, Home S & L
Opp. Palm Coast Plaza, W. Palm
Beach, Fla.
Mrs. Frances Hunter, Pres.
201 Potter Rd., W. Palm Beach,
FL 33405

Paul Lowe, Natl. Dir.

PALMETTO BRANCH

Lucille Peden, Pres.
4 Wildwood Dr., Greenville,
SC 29607
John McWhorter, Natl. Dir.

PALOMAR BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Vista Recreation Center
Ingebor Foo, Pres.
1050 Melrose Way,
Vista, CA 92083
Mabel Corwin, Natl. Dir.

POTOMAC BRANCH

4th Sunday, 2:00 p.m.,
National Arboretum
Blandensburg & R. Sts., N.E.,
Washington, D.C.
Maxine Zinman, Pres.
Rte 1, Box 73, Boyce, VA 22620
Carrie Karegeannes, Natl. Dir.

REDONDO AREA BRANCH

4th Friday, 7:30 p.m., R. H.
Dana School Cafeterium
135th St. and Aviation Blvd.
Hawthorne, Calif.
Evelyn Isaac, Pres.

2022 Bataan Rd., Redondo Beach, CA 90278
Diane Fries, Natl. Dir.
ROGER WILLIAMS BRANCH
3rd Monday night. Homes of members.
Arlene Peck, Pres. & Natl. Dir.
Eagle Peak Rd., RFD #1, Box 478, Pascoag, R.I. 02858

RUBIDOUX BRANCH
4th Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
West Riverside Memorial Auditorium
4393 Riverview Dr., Rubidoux
Claire Husted, Pres.
13597 Indiana, Corona, CA 91720
R. H. Terrell, Natl. Dir.

SACRAMENTO BRANCH
3rd Tuesday, 7:45 p.m., Garden Center
3330 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento, Calif.
Patricia Jochim, Pres.
7664 Madeline Way, Citrus Heights, CA 95610
Linda Luckett, Natl. Dir.

SALINE COUNTY BRANCH OF KANSAS
4th Monday, 1:30 p.m., Homes of members
Mrs. Sam Gilmore, Pres.
536 Crestwood Rd., Salina, KS 67401

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH
1st Wednesday, 8:00 p.m., Garden Center
Golden Gate Park, 9th Avenue and Lincoln Way
Omund Stromswold, Pres.
71 Ashton Ave., San Francisco, CA 94112
Susan Muller, Natl. Dir.

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH
2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Los Angeles State and County Arboretum
501 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, Calif.
Cecelia Grivich, Pres.
2808 S. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, CA 91006
Ellie Skinner, Natl. Dir.

SAN MIGUEL BRANCH
1st Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., Casa del Prado, Rm. 104, Balboa Park, San Diego
Pat Maley, Pres.
1471 E. Madison, El Cajon, CA 92021
Paul Lee, Natl. Dir.

SANTA BARBARA BRANCH
4th Saturday, 7:30 p.m.
Louise Lowry Davis Recreation Center
1232 De la Vina St.
Kathy Morehouse, Pres.
5410 Paseo Orlando, Santa Barbara, CA 93111
Kay Willis, Natl. Dir.

SANTA CLARA VALLEY BRANCH
3rd Thursday, 7:45 p.m.
Allstate Savings, Payne & Saratoga Aves., San Jose
Jackie Davis, Pres.
170 Wingfoot Way, Aptos, CA 95003
Mary Margaret Rafferty, Natl. Dir.

SEATTLE BRANCH
3rd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Bethany Lutheran Church, 7400 Woodlawn Ave., N.E.
Dorothy Williams, Pres.
21519 92nd Ave. W., Edmonds, WA 98020
Anton Soder, Natl. Dir.

SOUTH SEATTLE BRANCH
4th Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Wm. Moshier Field House
430 S. 156th St., Seattle
Joanne Slosser, Co-Pres.
16419 3rd Ave., S.W., Seattle, WA 98166
Bud Lueth, Co-Pres.
1302 Sixth Pl., N.E., Auburn, WA 98002
Shel Fisher, Natl. Dir.

SOUTHWEST REGIONAL ASSOCIATION
Robert Hamm, Dir.
3817 Jo Ann 15-D, Wichita Falls, TX 76306

TACONIC BRANCH
Mrs. John V. Steiner, Pres.

Bullet Hole Road, Mahopoc, NY 10541
Mrs. John V. Steiner, Natl. Dir.

TAMPA BAY AREA BRANCH
4th Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Seminole Garden Center, 5800 Central Ave., Tampa
Dora Lee Dorsey, Pres.
8110 N. Edison Ave., Tampa, FL 33604
Martin Grady, Natl. Dir.

THEODOSIA BURR SHEPHERD BRANCH
1st Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Senior Citizens Bldg., 420 Santa Clara St., Ventura, Calif.
Mary Stine, Pres.
5548 Rainier St., Ventura, CA 93003
Hattie Lee Keller, Natl. Dir.

WESTCHESTER BRANCH
1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Westchester Women's Club
8020 Alverstone St., Los Angeles
Arnold Krupnick, Pres.
11506 McDonald, Culver City, CA 90230
Clair Christensen, Natl. Dir.

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH
2nd Wednesday, 11 a.m.
Holiday Inn, Warrendale
Antonette Ponteri, Pres.
407 Canterbury Trail, Mars, PA 16046
Agnes Hodgson, Natl. Dir.

WHITTIER BRANCH
1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Palm Park Community Center
5703 South Palm Avenue, Whittier
Gertrude Blackstock, Pres.
15311 Elmbrook Drive, La Mirada, CA 90628
Dorothy Kosowsky, Natl. Dir.

WILLIAM PENN BRANCH
4th Tuesday, noon, Homes of members
Mrs. Herbert S. Webster, Pres.
"Millbridge" 13 Summit Dr., Bryn Mawr, PA 19010
Mrs. Lancelot Sims, Natl. Dir.

More new cultivars

From page 19

ered cymes are borne on 2" peduncles. This cultivar is easily recognized by its unusual leaf color, lanceolate leaves, and low habit. Originated in 1974 by Patrick J. Worley (address above); first bloomed in 1976; first distributed in 1980; first published in Kartuz Greenhouses catalog, 1980. Registered March 3, 1980.

Begonia 'Reflections'

No. 807—*Begonia* 'Glory of St. Albans' x unidentified Sumatra species 'Reflections'

Rex Cultorum group, with erect stem. Leaves are black with large, irregular, silvery-rose band; measure 4½" x 3¾"; and are obliquely ovate and acuminate with shallowly lobed margin, glabrous surface, and 8 veins. Glabrous petioles are 3½" long; stipules are papery and

persistent. Flowers, 1¼" in diameter, are medium pink with 4 male and 5 female rounded tepals and are arranged in a few-flowered cyme carried just above the foliage on a 3½" peduncle, blooming in fall and winter. Although color pattern is similar to the *B. rex* cv. 'Closson' sorts, it differs in its leaf size, compact and upright growth, and blooming qualities. Originated in 1973 by Patrick J. Worley (address above); first bloomed in 1975; first distributed in 1978; first published in Kartuz Greenhouses catalog, 1978. Registered March 3, 1980.

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THE BOARD / *Condensed minutes—ABS directors*

July 27, 1980

The treasurer's report, omitted from the May minutes, recorded: balance March 1 \$6,760.15; March income \$3,924.73; March expenditures \$3,565.32; balance April 1 \$6,589.56; April income \$3,924.27; expenditures \$3,455.50, balance April 30 \$7,058.28.

Treasurer Eleanor Calkins presented the current report: balance May 1 \$7,122.81; May income \$3,222.82; May expenditures \$811.76; balance June 1 \$9,533.87; June income \$2,455.01; June expenditures \$6,510.62; balance June 30 \$5,478.26.

Correspondence included a letter from the Southwest Region offering to host the 1982 ABS national convention and show in Oklahoma City in early October. President Gil Estrada reported some interest by Long Beach Parent Chapter in hosting the 1982 convention in Long Beach. It will be the golden anniversary and the society was founded in Long Beach. The editors offered on behalf of Santa Clara Valley Branch to host the 1982 convention in Santa Cruz in conjunction with the National Begonia Festival. No decision was reached.

Seed Fund chairman Joy Porter showed net sales of \$363.68. Former Seed Fund chairman Linda Miller closed her account with \$106.26.

The editors reported 600 copies of the July Begonia Handbook would be available for future new members of the society. A membership recruiting brochure was completed and will be distributed at the Long Beach show. Copies will be available to branches to distribute at shows. Donations from branches to cover costs will be accepted, but are not required. The pamphlets cost about 5 cents each to print. The membership list conversion was in process. The same firm that prints the magazine will maintain the computer list. As of July 30, the budgeted expenses for The Begonian were \$25,500 and the actual costs were \$25,850.

Katharine Alberti reported sales of \$637 for back issues of The Begonian and postal expenses of \$42.

The issue of paying the Round Robin director was brought from the table with the report of the finance committee that three members favored paying an amount equal to the compensation of the secretary, treasurer, and president, \$20 per month. Dorothy Kowsky moved that \$20 be paid for the remainder of the year and the matter be considered again at the time a new budget is prepared. Chuck Anderson seconded. Motion passed.

It was moved by Chuck Anderson and seconded by Marge Lee that \$100 be placed in the life membership fund to cover the life membership for the outgoing president. Motion passed. Thelma O'Reilly moved that \$30 be allotted for a gift for the outgoing president. Chuck Anderson seconded; motion passed.

The audit committee reported it had met and examined the records of the past two national shows and conventions (Sacramento and New York) and found them to be accurate. The board accepted the report, noting for the record that not all three members of the committee could be present at the auditing session.

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Gil Estrada sought approval for the following appointments: Chuck Anderson to head a committee to conduct a membership campaign and a committee to plan the long-range finances of the society; Douglas Frost to serve as business manager; Ralph Corwin to take over as slide librarian. Marge Lee moved approval. Eleanor Calkins seconded; motion passed.

Through a bequest, Sophie C. Filler, a former member of San Miguel Branch, donated some books and a complete set of Begonias to the society. Frances Estrada moved that the copy of the Buxton Check List be turned over to the nomenclature department for its use. Chuck Anderson seconded; motion passed.

—Phyllis Bates
Acting secretary

Annual membership meeting—September 6, 1980

The annual meeting of the American Begonia Society was convened in Long Beach, Calif. The aims and purposes were read by Frank Kerin of the Edna Stewart Pittsburg Branch.

Cultural certificates were presented by Convention and Show Chairwoman Jean Natter.

The treasurer submitted the following year-end report: total receipts and cash on hand \$43,067.31; total disbursements \$38,519.59; balance July 31 \$4,547.72. Savings accounts at American Savings and Loan are: life membership \$6,837.88; life membership auxiliary \$606.85; special account \$394.25; convention fund \$1,103.13, research \$1,014.53; catalog \$6,081.30.

The annual reports of committee chairmen and officers were received. Reports from branch representatives also were received.

The Santa Clara Valley Branch extended an invitation to host the 1982 convention and show in Santa Cruz, Calif. The Southwest Region extended an invitation to host the 1982 convention and show at Oklahoma City. A motion was made and passed that a mail ballot of all elected and appointed officers (including branch national directors) would decide the issue.

The ballot counting committee reported the results of fiscal 1980-81 officer elections: President, Gil Estrada 228 votes; President-Elect, Chuck Anderson 179 votes, Howard Berg 68 votes; First Vice President, Michael Kartuz 168 votes, Margaret Taylor 91 votes; Second Vice President, Joan Coulat 176 votes; Norma Taylor 82 votes; Treasurer, John Ingles Jr. 218 votes; Secretary, Arlene Davis 218 votes.

—Arlene Davis
Secretary

October 20, 1980

President Gil Estrada reported that the society had been audited by the Internal Revenue Service, but that a closing letter had not been received yet.

Treasurer's report: balance Aug. 1 \$4,547.72; August receipts \$2,808.12; August disbursements \$2,924.98; balance Sept. 1 \$4,430.86; September receipts \$3,706.84; September disbursements \$4,568.10; balance Sept. 30 \$3,569.60. The report was filed for audit.

Co-editor Chuck Anderson reported that the Curtis prints were purchased from the former printer with \$400 of the money earned from the sale of Philippine species at the recent convention. They will be printed in upcoming issues of the Begonian.

Gil presented names of persons to chair committees for 1980-81 [see inside front cover for complete list]. The appointments were approved.

A bill for \$109.28 was presented by Carlton L'Hommedieu for expenses relating to documenting unregistered cultivars between 1976-78. Approved.

The budget for 1980-81 was presented by Chuck Richardson. It was approved as submitted.

Correspondence from Branch Relations Director Evelyn Cronin indicated the Greater Rochester Branch has disbanded and should be deleted from the directory.

A request that the membership secretary be allowed to purchase a four-drawer file cabinet at cost of no more than \$100 was approved.

Chuck Anderson requested a one-time allocation of \$450 to conduct the membership campaign. Approved. Goal is 1,000 members.

—Arlene Davis
Secretary

ABS SERVICES

These services are available to all ABS members. For names and addresses of department heads and other officers, see inside front cover.

AT-LARGE MEMBERS—Services for members who don't belong to branches are handled by the members-at-large director. Contact him for details. If you are interested in finding a branch or starting one in your area, contact the branch relations director for help.

THE BEGONIAN—The monthly journal of the society publishes how-to articles, scientific information, and ABS news. Articles on a member's personal experiences with begonias are welcomed, as are black-and-white photos of begonias and color slides suitable for use on the cover. Contact the editors. Individual copies of *The Begonian* more than a year old are available from the back issue sales chairman (75 cents). A full year is \$6.50 for any year in the 1940s. \$5 for any year from 1950 through 1978. Back issues less than a year old are ordered from the membership secretary for \$1 each.

BOOKSTORE—Books on begonias and related subjects can be purchased mail-order from the bookstore librarian. Contact him for a list of books available. Include a stamped, self-addressed envelope. The bookstore also sells reproductions of antique begonia prints.

JUDGING DEPARTMENT—The judging department offers a course by mail with which you can learn to become an accredited begonia show judge. Also available are a booklet on point scoring, information on fuchsia and fern judging, and other requirements to become a judge.

LIBRARY—Books about begonias and gardening may be borrowed by mail from the lending library. Contact the librarian for a list of books and the procedure. Include a stamped self-addressed No. 10 envelope.

NOMENCLATURE—The nomenclature department monitors newly published findings on begonia names as well as handling official international registration of new begonia cultivars. Registrations are published in *The Begonian*.

RESEARCH—The research department conducts a Grow and Study project in which members experiment with various begonias and compile their findings. The department also has other activities, including the review of requests for ABS backing of outside projects. For details, contact a co-director.

ROUND ROBINS—Members exchange information about begonias and their culture through a packet of letters which circulates among a small group of growers. There are dozens of these packets—called flights—on many specialized subjects. To join one or more, contact the round robin director.

SEED FUND—The Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund offers seeds of begonia species and cultivars by mail. New offerings are listed in *The Begonian*. Donations of seed are encouraged. Please contact the Seed Fund Director.

SLIDE LIBRARY—A series of slide shows on begonias and begonia growing can be borrowed by mail for showing at meetings and seminars. New shows are under preparation. Contact the slide librarian for fee information.

SPEAKERS BUREAU—The speakers bureau maintains a directory of speakers on begonias and related subjects. Contact the director.

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