

September/October, 1992

The BEGONIAN



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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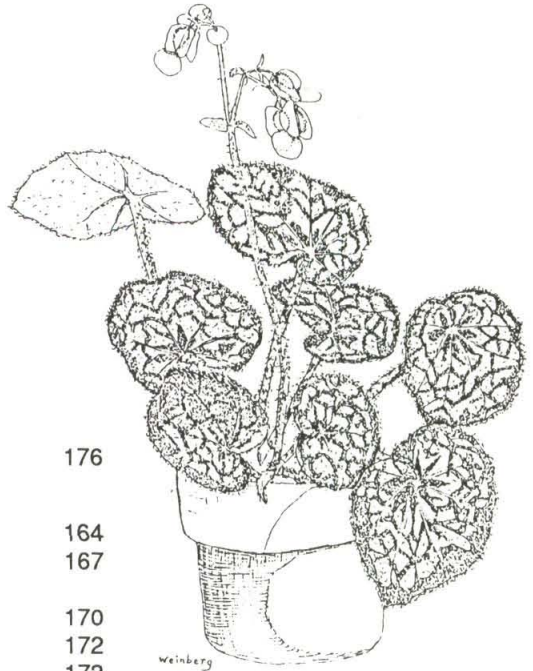
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COVER PHOTOS: Tuberous Begonias are pride of the garden in the Pacific Northwest. These were photographed at Butchart Gardens, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, by Tamsin Boardman

Front - tuberhybrida in mixed planting, in sun part of the day

Back - tuberhybrida in shade



B. 'Merry-Go-Round'
drawing by Mary Weinberg

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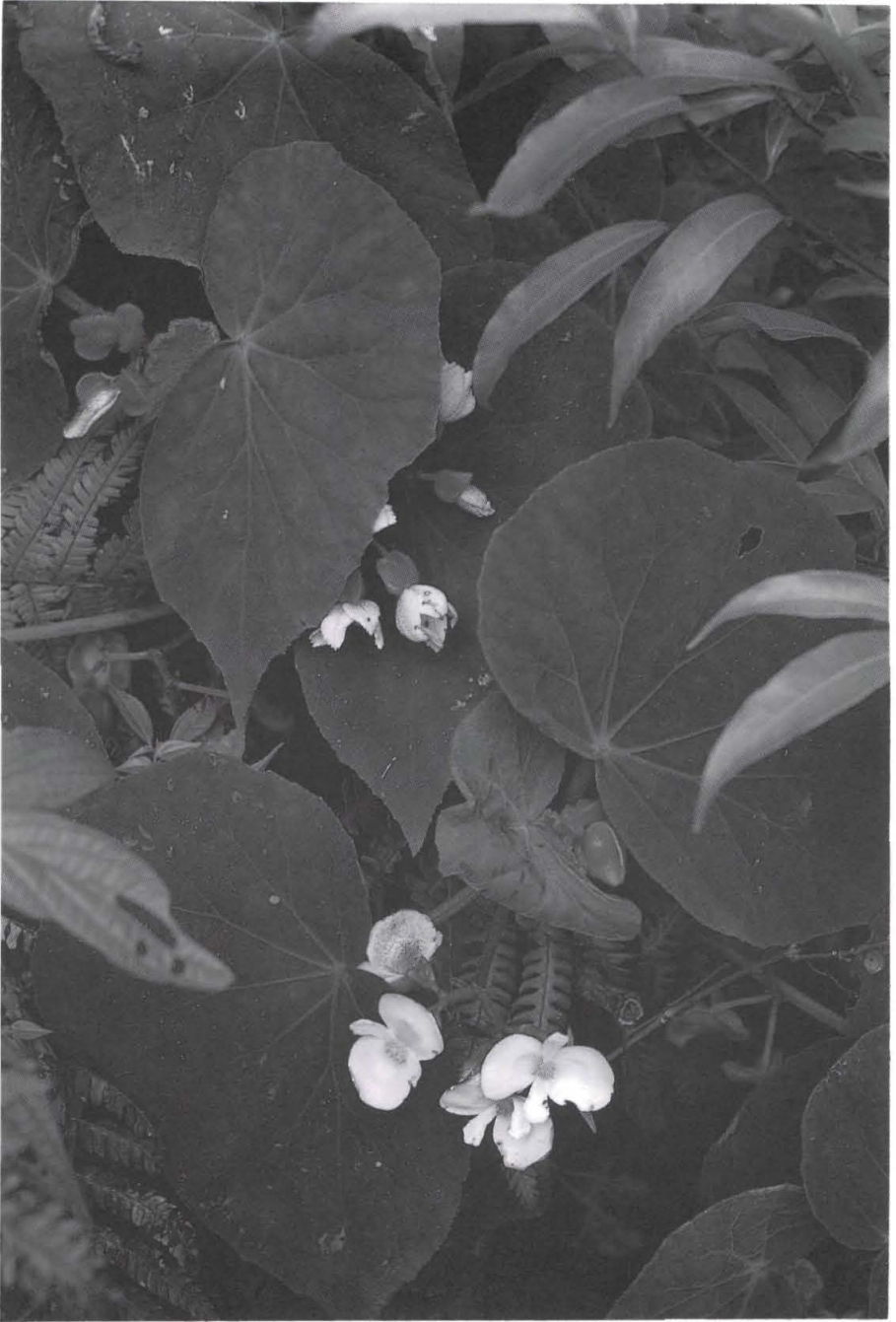
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Quick! Check!

If your mailing label says 9/92 or 10/92 your ABS membership is about to expire.

Please renew - we don't want to lose you!



This beautiful begonia has large white flowers with red hair underneath the tepals. It was found at an exposed site on rocks at the edge of a deactivated limestone quarry.

BEGONIAS IN THE SERRA DO MAR

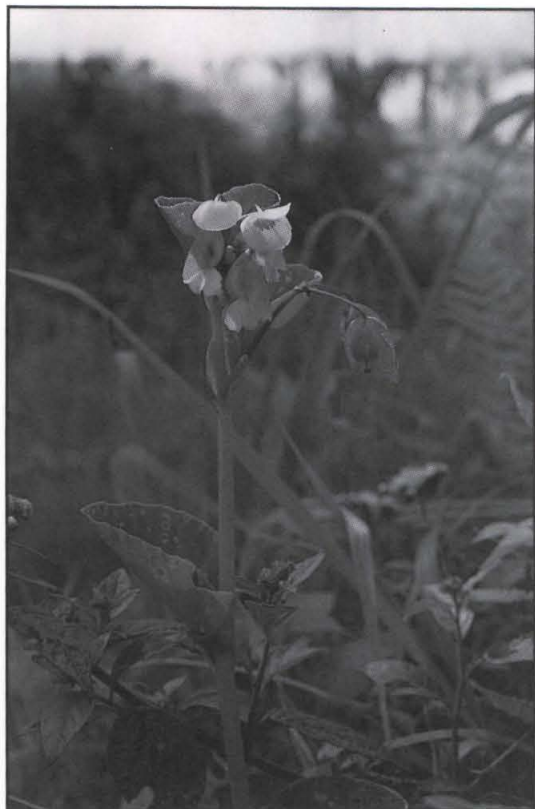
SÃO PAULO STATE, BRAZIL

Photographs and Text by Jacques Jangoux

Part 2



In November, 1991, Jacques Jangoux travelled to Brazil's State of São Paulo, one of the richest begonia regions in the world. The photographs here were taken at Fazenda Intervaes ("Between the Valleys") reserve, which is open to the public.



Left:

B. cucullata is ruderal (a plant that thrives in habitat disturbed by man). A leggy plant with glabrous leaves and small pink flowers, it was found at a grassy, wet roadside. *B. cucullata* is one of the ancestors of the *Semperflorens* cultivars.

Below:

This beautiful begonia with compound leaves is a juvenile plant, difficult to identify. Adult, sterile plants were over 2 m. (6 ft.) tall. It belongs to the group that includes *B. digitata*, *B. luxurians*, etc.

Dr. Dieter Wasshausen has identified it as *B. incisoserrata*.



Some Begonias of Malaysia

Part 2



by Kevin Handreck

After our first *Begonia* at Niah Cave in Sarawak, our next stop was Gunung Mulu National Park. It is reached from Miri by a full day of travel on river craft including diesel-powered boats shaped like aircraft fuselages that travel at 52 knots. The Park is tucked into a corner of Sarawak to the south-east of Brunei. The altitude of most of the Park is only 100-200 meters, but there are mountains (notably Gunung Mulu and Gunung Api) that rise to a couple of thousand meters. Once again we did not do the difficult walks to get to those mountains; but it did not matter, because in our first day of walking, to Deer Cave, we saw six *Begonia* species. WOW!

In one place whole limestone scree slopes and rock faces were covered with begonias. One had large leaves that were so covered with hairs that they felt like velvet. They were much more velvety than *B. listada* or *B. tomentosa*. In dull light they were a bright green, but with more light they were a golden yellow.

Another species had iridescent green/blue leaves - an adaptation to the very dark conditions on the forest floor where it was growing. It was actually growing in wet soil that clearly at times was totally flooded. This was quite different from the habitat of all but one of the other begonias we saw,

which were very much restricted to well drained sites. We did notice that this low-growing species was growing in mounds of humus that were somewhat raised above the general level of the soil, so maybe that gave it the oxygen its roots needed, and maybe the length of time of each flooding of the area is quite short.

The next two days produced about four further species. One, which we think is the begonia known in cultivation as *B. conipila*, has small patterned leaves that are highly pustulate. We saw only one plant high up on limestone rocks in the cool air blowing out of a cave called Wind Cave. Nearby there was a seedling of some other species. This is the only name we have for the Sarawak begonias, because most of them have yet to be named.

After returning to Miri, we flew to Kota Kinabulu in Sabah. This was to be a base camp for a visit to Gunung Kinabulu National Park. Gunung Kinabulu is the highest mountain in southeast Asia, with a height of 4120 meters. We managed to climb to accommodation huts at 3200 meters. We were not accustomed to the low oxygen content of the air at this altitude, and so did not attempt the last part of the climb. Instead, we slowly meandered back down the mountain to spend more time looking at the several begonias we had seen on the way up. A few have been named, and we know we saw *B. burbridgei*, *B. beryllae*, and *B. kinabaluensis*. This last begonia was named only last year by Martin Sands of Kew Gardens.

The next day we saw at least four other species growing in the garden established at Park Headquarters, and also another one down near the Liwagu River, a walk of an hour or so from the lodging area. One of these is rhizomatous with large hairy light-green leaves and densely hairy petioles. It was growing right down near fast-flowing water.

The walk up the mountain passes through a number of vegetation zones, ranging from oak forest at Park Headquarters at 1500 meters, through moss forest of various types, to the windswept *Rhododendron* and *Leptospermum* thickets further up. The rock of the last 800 or so meters to the top is steep and without soil, so except for tiny pockets is without vegetation.

After returning to Kota Kinabulu we took a full day to fly to Sandakan, mainly to visit the Orang Utan ("man of the forest") rehabilitation center at Sepalok. These primates have the intelligence of a 4-5 year old human. One of them singled out our leader and held his hand, obviously recognizing him from a lengthy visit about one year before.

The last two days of the Parks tour were spent in and around Kota Kinabulu. The other tour members flew off, and Eleanor and I picked up a car for four days of private exploring.

We went to another part of Gunung Kinabulu Park, and saw two to three more species on the two hour walk to Langanan Falls. Then we drove to Tenom, about 140 kilometers to the south. Part of the journey was through dense cloud, and then through such a severe tropical downpour that we could not see the edge of the road and had to stop.

At Tenom we stayed at the Orchid Center, situated on an agricultural research station. We were guided to some mountain streams in the nearby Crocker Range National Park, and saw four more species there. One was *B. cauliflora*, named last year by Sands. Its flowers come out from its stem rather than from leaf nodes, hence its specific name, meaning "stem-flower".

That was a real thrill to see, and some compensation for the trek: this trek took 4 1/2 hours, and was along very rough jungle trails that rose from 200 to over 1000 meters. The jungle was hot, sticky, and full of

leeches. I dragged six from my legs as I pulled off my socks after returning. Of course by then they were full of blood - about 10 ml. of mine.

Back at the Orchid Center we saw a further four species that had been collected from parts of Sabah that we could not visit because of remoteness. These included a couple of variants of *B. cauliflora* (or are they different species?), *B. erythrogyna* (meaning "red fruit") and *B. amphioxus* (meaning "sharp at both ends" - it has leaves shaped somewhat like those of *B. lubbersii* and *B. listada*, but without hairs).

After this rich feast of begonias we returned to Kota Kinabulu for a flight to Kuala Lumpur, and a further four days of exploring by car.

Kevin Handreck's series of articles on his trip to National Parks in Malaysia come to us from **Begonia Australis**, journal of the Association of Australian Begonia Societies. Part 1 appeared in the May-June issue; watch for Part 3 in Nov.-Dec.

If Malaysian begonias intrigue you, see also "Begonias in the National Parks of Malaysia" by Jacques Jangoux, **Begonian** July-August 1990.



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IN MEMORY

Lillian Grace Steinhaus of Seal Beach, California, died May 27, 1992. Born in Nebraska on April 8, 1899, she was a member of Eastern Star and was for many years a very active member of San Gabriel Branch.

George McCormick died on the 30th of June. He was 83. He had been ill since January of this year but was still active on his program of hybridization and indeed was looking forward to an appearance in August on a popular television horticultural program to talk about his favorite subject - begonias.

Without doubt George has been the most successful hybridizer of top quality tuberous begonias in Scotland and possibly the world, with a long list of named begonias to his credit, all of which are in great demand by growers and exhibitors. George was looking forward to the introduction in August of his latest two seedlings, which he flowered last year and which he rated very highly; on the day before he died he left instructions that one of these be named Mose Fadeem. George will be sadly missed by all who knew him. - Hugh McLauchlan

Carol Spediacci, former Sacramento Branch member and three times President of San Francisco Branch, passed away. Our sympathy to her husband, Red, and their family.

Quote:

"Roads betook themselves into the forest, like great serpents, devouring as they went. And one day, behold the forest was gone."

Liberty Hyde Bailey, quoted in the Palomar Planter

more "odd things begonias do"



One of Annette Boree's B. 'Sugar Moon' stipule-leaves, photographed by Phil Seiden.

Stipules = Leaves

by Annette Boree

One of the characteristics that distinguish begonias is that leaves develop within a sheath called a stipule. Stipules vary widely - some are large, some small; some drop off quickly, some persist; some are thick, some thin - but all bring forth the leaf, right down there at the node. At least, that's the way it usually works...

Early in the winter of 1991-1992 my plant of B. 'Sugar Moon' (an unregistered cane seedling of B. 'Jim Wyrzten' raised by Walter Dworkin of Westbury, NY) began putting out leaves on the *ends* of its stipules.

I have read the article by Thelma O'Reilly "Report on Phyllomania Adventitious Growths" in the **Begonian**, July 1972, as well as articles by Mose Fadeem ("the Little Martian", 'The Little Martian Chronicles") among others. There are informal lists of places where adventitious

growths have appeared, but no one ever mentioned growth on the stipules.

At first I didn't realize what I was looking at. I was trying to shape up the plant as a show specimen, and all I knew was that every other leaf seemed too small and faced the wrong direction. I flicked them off.

Usually the stipules on 'Sugar Moon' stay green and fresh for a long time down the length of the canes. In this case, however, after a while the tip of the stipules began to elongate and twist, as if somebody had twirled the tip between his fingers; and then this fine point began to thicken slowly and elongate more and more; then it flattened and turned dark green like a regular leaf.

In contrast to a leaf that is emanating from the leaf axil or node, these "stipule

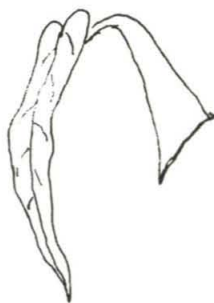
drawings are life size



Stipule tip
starting to elongate



Back view of
adventitious leaf



Front view

leaves" flap back and forth because the stipule is paper thin.

After a while the "stipule leaf" can get quite large. The largest one was about four inches long when it broke off by accident. So far the others are smaller. I don't know if they will continue to grow indefinitely until they become too heavy for the stipule to support.

I called Millie Thompson to ask if she had ever seen such a phenomenon and she had not. "Take a picture," she advised, "it may never do it again." I asked Phil Seiden, a member of the Brooklyn-Queens-Nassau Branch, to bring his camera to the next branch meeting, which he did. Jack Golding was the featured speaker at that meeting. As soon as they saw the plant, both Phil and Jack reached for their cameras.

B. 'Sugar Moon' has huge dark green exaggerated wing-shaped leaves and heavenly white flowers. Sometimes in good light the flowers have a faint halo of pink. 'Sugar Moon' is one of the most floriferous canes I have ever grown. Each cane often flaunts eight umbels of huge flowers, and the canes bend from the weight of them. I like to grow it in a large hanging basket and look up at the tumbling masses of blossom.

B. 'Sugar Moon' is a chance seedling of B. 'Jim Wyrzten', which in turn is a chance seedling of 'B. Esther Albertine'. The parents of 'Esther Albertine' are *B. sceptrum* and B. 'Lenore Olivier'. 'Lenore Olivier' is *B. dichroa* by B. 'Elaine', and 'Elaine' is a B. 'Lucerna' seedling. In the known background of this plant, is there any plant that is mutation-prone in any way? My greenhouse is kept rather cold in the winter, 50° at night, but no other plants have "freaked out" or protested (except with botrytis and dropped bottom leaves).

I have given cuttings of this plant to Logee's to see if they like it as much as I do. I've also given cuttings to B-Q-N Branch members Phil Seiden, Lee Calchman, and Walter Dworkin. So far their plants have not done anything unusual.

Postscript: When I put 'Sugar Moon' outside for the summer the difference in temperature and humidity has wrecked the adventitious growth. Most "stipule leaves" fell off, and the stipules themselves are drying up quickly and falling off, as most cane stipules do.

Annette Boree, a member of Brooklyn-Queens-Nassau Branch, lives at 8 Brown Road, Great Neck, NY 11024.



and more "odd things begonias do"



B. metachroa, grown & photographed by Ed Bates; if you look carefully, you'll see a second adventitious plantlet to the upper right

Meanwhile, across the continent in Encinitas, California, Ed Bates noticed adventitious plantlets on the leaves of one of his plants of *B. metachroa*. The parent plant has been kept in a closed terrarium, but outdoors, all winter.

The photograph above was taken April 27, 1992. The plant has since declined a bit in warmer summer weather, but the plantlets cling on.

Quote:

"Spare the Clippers and Spoil the Plant."

Begonias, Begorra! Orange County Branch newsletter

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Fun and Friendly Folks in Houston

by Barbara Nuñez

Wow! We were bowled over by the Southwest Region Get-Together in Houston. From the minute we stepped off the shuttle bus from Hobby Airport into the hotel, we were transported into another world - a world of wonderful begonias. Tom Keepin greeted us - only one of his many duties. He was everywhere doing everything. However, he was assisted ably by the Astro Branch and Houston Satellite Branch. Helen Spiers has done a terrific job organizing the Houston Satellite Branch and spreading good will throughout the Get-together. She even recruited the hotel's sales manager as a new member! Now that is dedication.

As we left the shuttle bus, we immediately saw in front of the hotel the globe of the world covered with begonias. Then we stepped inside and saw a display of the gorgeous hybrids of the Asmussens. Those familiar with the Southwest Region may be aware of Don & Billie Asmussen's crosses, but we had never seen them. They are simply gorgeous and "knocked our socks off," as they say. Virginia Kettler has taken on the task of collecting the Asmussen hybrids, and wants to grow all of them. She is a marvelous grower - plus a super person. (See page 175 for a photo of part of her display of Asmussen hybrids.)

I must add that in Houston we met a lot of super people from all over the country, which added immensely to our trip.

We then turned around to register and found begonias everywhere. The hotel had allowed Astro and Houston Satellite Branches free rein to create a natural habitat for sub-tropical plants, including begonias. Simply delightful. And, of course, begonias were everywhere one looked - in pots in the lobby, at the registration desk, (a lovely 'Lois Burks', which made me drool), in flower arrangements using begonias with the native ginger flower.

Individual rooms did not have begonias in them - at least until the plant sale opening, after which they began to appear in large quantities in participants' rooms. The maids were overheard to say they had never seen so many plants in guests' rooms. They were amazed. One of the van drivers purchased a hanging basket, and was asking guests as he drove them to the airport for tips on care.

Another magnificent display was a table of hybrids that Barbara and Naron ("Stew") Stewart have done. (There is a photograph of part of their display on page 175.) Barbara has been a member for four years or so, but Stew is a relative newcomer: two years. One would never know it from the plants they have created. Stew concentrates on cane crosses and Barbara specializes in rhizomatous types. I urged them to register their creations - they are too beautiful not to be available.

Barbara explained how her husband became interested in begonias. She would read begonia books at night in bed - Millie and Ed Thompson's book - and Stew would peek over to see what she was reading. Then he would say, "Let me see that book for a minute..." He began working with *B. convolvulacea*, which he calls the cucumber begonia because of its leaves; then he said, "What if I cross this plant with that one?" And he was off.

I loved talking to both the Stewarts. They are warm, friendly people who love to grow begonias. It was fun listening to how Stew decides what names he will use. One of his beautiful canes he wants to call Barbara Jean after his wife. It has a dark glossy green leaf with deep red blossoms. It is a compact plant, and one I would love to grow. He named another 'Paper Doll' because the leaves were thin, like paper, and it was beginning to have pink blooms.

Perhaps most fascinating was his description of the evolution of the plant that won Best in Show, *B. crassicaulis*. The original plant had died back. However, it had set seed and on the advice of Kit Mounger he planted the seeds and had 100 little plants come up. He gave away many of them, but kept one. It grew upright, but was leaning, with roots appearing on the side. He repotted it, laying it down so that the end away from the growing tip was right up against the pot. When it outgrew that pot, he purchased a \$7 oval clay pot (complaining about the cost) and put *B. crassicaulis* in flat (again with the non-growing end against the side). Once the tip reached the opposite end, he pinched it; then "eleven little puppies", as he referred to the new growth stems, came up. The result was spectacular.

The show was magnificent, with many stunning plants. A *B. listada* was full, well-shaped, healthy, lovely; it is unusual to see this difficult plant grown so large and yet so well. Then there was a hanging basket of *B. 'Tiny Gem'* that was huge. It was full of new growth, and was at least three feet in height with lots of beautiful blooms. Another one I liked was *B. 'Lois Burks'*. I saw a delightful *B. 'Green Goddess'* - I could go on and on.

Judging with Thelma O'Reilly was a learning experience for me, and a great thrill. She is so knowledgeable. One of her expressions about a plant was "It does not look happy!" I could not have agreed more.

The banquet Saturday evening was decorated with blue balloons with silver stars, making everything very festive. Food was outstanding all weekend, and the banquet was no exception: salad bar, ham, roast beef, and fried catfish.

The rain had been coming down all day Friday and Saturday, and, despite our positive thinking, it rained and rained and rained for the tour Sunday morning. We gallantly boarded the buses for Mercer

Arboretum, an outstanding garden. A few brave, foolish souls toured the garden with its lily ponds, day lily beds, native Texas plants, perennials, natural plantings of begonias and sub-tropical gardens, and more. I returned like a drowned rat, my dress, etc., soaked through - but I have many pleasant memories of the grounds! After seeing the ginger flowers in the hotel lobby, it was nice to see the ginger plant growing naturally.

From the gardens we boarded the buses to go to Tom Keepin's home, where we were again overwhelmed with the beauty of the garden. Branch members greeted us with fans decorated with begonias - a nice touch (they had expected hot weather). Box lunches of fried chicken, black-eyed peas, cole slaw, and cornbread were provided and we dined in house, garden, greenhouse, wherever. The finale was an ice cream bar in the kitchen: bowls of ice cream and choices of toppings. Yummy.

Barbara Nuñez is ABS Convention Advisor, and chaired the 1991 Convention in Alexandria, Virginia. Her address is 6025 Greeley Blvd., Springfield, VA 22152.

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Photos by Eleanor Calkins

Below: A few of the Asmussen hybrids grown and exhibited by Virginia Kettler



Above: One of the tables of Stewart hybrids,
grown and exhibited by Naron (Stew) & Barbara Stewart

Report from Pinellas County

by Risa Young

The Pinellas County Branch held its fourth annual show May 10-12, as part of a 12 society gathering of horticultural splendor.

It was a thrill to have ABS accredited judges at our show! We were very excited when we found out that Helene Jaros, Charles Jaros, Sylvia Ben, and April Foster would be judging. We learned so much from them, as did the Garden Club judges who worked with them. Sincere thanks to Helene, Charles, Sylvia, and April for coming to our show and for taking the time to critique both the plants and the show, and to our member Dale Sena, who was responsible for getting ABS judges.

Jacksonville Branch rented a van, and came over to see the show - as they have done for the past three years.

This was the first year we held our show at the Bay Area Outlet Mall, and we had a beautiful area in the center of the Mall with natural light shining down on our entries from skylights in the roof.

We had 108 entries. Best of Show went to Wylie Summerlin's *B. echinosepala*. Bill O'Geary won Sweepstakes over some tough competition - everyone who entered won a Division trophy! All in all, it was a great show, one we won't forget for a long, long, time.

It's hard to believe our branch is only 3 1/2 years old. We have been very lucky to have a core of very active members who work hard at putting on shows and displays and getting the public interested in begonias. So far this year, we have participated in a plant fair at the University of South Florida's campus in Tampa, had displays in the Florida State and Pinellas County Fairs, and mounted various displays and sales in the malls in addition to our show Mothers' Day. We have sold close to \$4,000 in plants since the fall, and feel good about sharing our love and knowledge of begonias.

Risa Young is Branch Relations Director for Pinellas County Branch. Her address is 7811 1st Ave. South, St. Petersburg FL

CORRECTIONS

Perhaps it's because of crossing the international date line. Once again your editor has messed up on news from Australia. Two corrections have come in regarding the last issue - thank you to Mr. P. J. B. Henderson for calling these to our attention:

In the July-August 1992 issue, pages 132 and 141, we credited show winners for The Association of Australian Begonia Societies Convention. The convention featured a display, not a judged show; the winners listed were for the Queensland Begonia Society Show, held at Mt. Coot-Tha Botanical Gardens in Brisbane in Feb-

ruary. (For a report on that show from the show chair's point of view, see next page.)

In the same issue, page 143, we credited Australian Broadcasting Company with the program "Burke's Backyard", which featured Elsie Paton and her garden. The program is on a rival commercial channel. Comments Mr. Henderson, Queensland Begonia Society Secretary, "We were lucky enough to get on two separate rival channels at the one time! (Both broadcasting throughout Australia.)"

Sincere apologies to our friends Down Under for the mistakes. I'll try to check my notes more carefully in the future.

Not all shows run smoothly. Storms and floods graced the Southwest Region Get-Together in Texas, earthquakes kept down attendance at Orange County Branch Show in California. Show chairmen worry all over the world...



Bernard Yorke's B. 'Yorke Nocturne' took first in "Local Old Hybrid"
photo by Averill Thompson

MT. COOT-THA SHOW

22-23 February, 1992, Brisbane, Australia

There were many anxious moments for our members on Friday, the day before our show commenced. Will the rain ever stop? Who can blame people for not venturing out if the appalling weather conditions continue on Saturday? What will we do if no one comes to the Show? We were all asking ourselves these questions, but the heavens smiled on us, and although overcast, it had stopped raining by Saturday morning, and we had only two showers during the whole weekend. Unfortunately, the roads cut by flood waters made it impossible for some members and friends to be with us. What a show they missed!

by June McBride

A team of willing workers braved the rain on Friday and set up the auditorium and outdoor area for our opening on Saturday. Judging was duly done - congratulations to all our winners and entrants.

When I arrived on Saturday morning, I thought our display near the entrance was just beautiful, and a credit to those who participated in it in any way. And, what about the thousands (yes, thousands!) of plants for sale! The whole hall and courtyard were bursting at the seams.

However, I wish we had been enthusiastic about entering the competition sections. Quite frankly, the benches looked a bit bare. I have to confess that I was one person who did not enter a plant, my thinking being that my plants were not in showbench condition. I have resolved, therefore, next year to enter a few of my best plants, showbench condition or not, and would urge you all to make this resolution also. If we each were to enter even two plants next year, our showbenches would be groaning.

An encouragement for us all, I think, was the fact that second prize in the thick-stemmed section went to a small begonia 'Caravan' with only three large leaves. But winning aside, we are there to try to promote our beloved begonias and put on a show, so next year let's really concentrate on showing as well as selling.

Gripes aside now, and on with the pleasantries. A small queue was waiting for the doors to open on Saturday at 9:30, and it wasn't long before the cash registers starting ticking over. We were run off our feet at one stage and then worked steadily throughout the whole two days. What terrific growers we have - so many really beautiful plants were bought up eagerly.

Mt. Coot-Tha Botanical Gardens are situated at the foot of Mt. Coot-Tha on the outskirts of Brisbane in Australia's State of Queensland. Attractions there include a rainforest walk, scented gardens, a Japanese garden, dry climate garden, geodesic dome greenhouse, gift shop, and a restaurant overlooking the site. According to *The Official Brisbane Visitors Guide*: "Coot-Tha" comes from the Aboriginal word "kuta", which means "mountain of dark native honey."

You may be interested in some comments made by people passing through the sales area:

"I've especially come today to get a plant I couldn't get last year" (B. 'Christmas Candy')

"The plants I bought here last year are doing well."

"Suppose I'll manage to kill these." (Directed to info. desk for cultural notes)

"I never knew there were so many varieties."

"I love begonias. How do I join your club?" (Directed to info. desk)

"I'm so thrilled. I won this plant when I came in the door, What a great start to the day!"

"Is there anywhere I can leave my plants - I want to go round again and make sure I haven't missed anything!" (Directed to holding area)

"Where can I buy more plants like these - I never see them in nurseries?" (Quite surprised to learn we have trade table at meetings; directed to info. desk for membership)

"What a pity you only have one show a year." (My aching feet did not take too kindly to this statements, and the person who made it was not directed anywhere!)

And this comment when sitting at the table having morning tea: "It's so nice to be able to sit here and have a reasonably priced cuppa and scones."

There seems to be a certain bonding between people who are working together for a common goal. New friendships are made, old ones are strengthened, and it was wonderful to see some new faces amongst our workers.

Thank you, everyone, for a wonderful weekend, and although my aching feet would say otherwise, I look forward to doing it all again. Roll on, February, 1993!

Show Chair June McBride also organizes the Trade Table at the Queensland Begonia Society meetings.



Book Review

Tamsin Boardman reviews

Studies in Begoniaceae III

Wageningen Agricultural University Papers 91.4
1992

edited by J. J. F. E. de Wilde

Soft cover, 6 5/8" x 9 5/8"

151 pages

4 pages color plates,

32 pages black & white with 6-7 photos per page

16 pages botanical drawings

\$43 US, plus postage

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Wageningen Agricultural University in the Netherlands has published four volumes in its Studies in Begoniaceae series, the first and second appearing in 1983 and 1985, respectively, both edited by J. J. F. E. de Wilde of the Department of Plant Taxonomy. March 1992 saw the publication of number III, also edited by de Wilde, and IV, by J.C. Arends. All are available in the U.S. from the address above.

Three papers appear in the volume reviewed here. The first is entitled "Seed micromorphology of the genus *Begonia* in Africa: Taxonomic and Ecological implications." Authors are A. De Lange & F. Bouman of the Hugo de Vries-Laboratory at the University of Amsterdam. Seeds of 143 African begonia species (107 from continental Africa, 36 from Madagascar and nearby islands) were studied by scanning electron microscopy. Descriptions of the seeds point out distinctive characteristics of each, some of these clearly visible in the accompanying photos. Study of the seeds confirms some traditional groupings into sections, and refutes others: for example, the authors suggest that findings argue against the separation of sections *Augustia*, *Sexalaria*, and *Rostrobegonia*. Also discussed are seed

dispersal techniques and comparisons with begonia seeds from other continents.

The remaining two papers are by M.S.M. Sosef of the Department of Plant Taxonomy-Herbarium Vadense at Wageningen. "Seven new *Begonia* species from Gabon" describes seven rhizomatous begonias (five of them with the yellow-hued flowers for which West Africa is famed), along with botanical drawings, range maps, habitat notes, and color photographs of each.

"New species of *Begonia* in Africa and their relevance to the study of glacial rain forest refuges" suggests that study of the species can lead "to a better understanding of the spectacular changes in the vegetation which took place during glacial periods." One of the more interesting suggestions is that, during glaciation, montane rain forests may have actually expanded their range, as territory previously too hot for their inhabitants became cooler. The paper on rain forest refuges, interesting in itself, is followed by descriptions of another eight new species of *Begonia* - all with rhizomes, seven with yellow flowers - accompanied by botanical drawings, range maps, habitat description.

The Studies in Begoniaceae series is written for the serious scholar and student, and makes for challenging reading for an amateur. The attempt is rewarded, however, with a greater understanding not only of *Begonia* species and how they survive in diverse habitat conditions, but also of how botanists work - of what it is they are arguing about when they discuss classification, and whether two species are really one, and why it takes them so long to reach their decisions. The begonias themselves are, of course, the main attraction. We'll all hope to see these new African charmers in cultivation soon.



Darn Bugs

by Barry Mann

Now there's antidotes for snakebite
and cures for common cold
with vaccines for most virus
to be sure we all grow old
but of this you may be certain
one disease has no such drug
you're a goner once you're bitten
by the DARN BEGONIA BUG.

Now it lurks in some folks' gardens
and it slowly builds a snare
for the unsuspecting victims
who might wander to its lair
and it lies in wait to get you
doesn't even make a sound
as you wander through its garden
pausing oft to look around

When you spy a plant that pleases
saying "there's a plant I like"
should that plant be a begonia
then the bug is bound to strike
so you continue on undaunted
for you didn't feel a pain
till you find some more begonias
and that bug will strike again

Now he'll keep on striking at you
as you go home at day's end
till your thirst for more begonias
slowly sends you "round the bend"
till as the bug's unfortunate victim
you spend your life in endless quest
searching for some new begonia
one that's different from the rest

This disease it shows no symptom
not a fever, nor a rash
you just go all round the country
spending all your hard-earned cash
buying every new begonia
your collection just to add
oft you'll wonder why you do it
but the feeling isn't bad

So don't worry 'bout your problems
'cause there's others bitten too
going round in endless circles
"Garden Gypsies" just like you
no, don't think you're going batty
just your shoulders give a shrug
for you're just another victim
of that DARN BEGONIA BUG.

Begonia lover/poet Barry Mann is Convention Chair for the 1995 Convention of the Association of Australian Begonia Societies in Brisbane. His address is 49-51 Goddards Road, Yamanto 4305, Queensland, Australia.

Don't miss



See Coming Events, page 184

SPOTLIGHT ON:

B. ficicola

by Mary Weinberg

B. ficicola was discovered by James Dundas, a forestry officer, on December 6, 1946 at the base of Ekumbe Ndeme waterfall on the Meme River in Nigeria. It was found growing on a ficus. Dr. Edgar Irmischer, Professor of Botany at the Hohenheim Agricultural College, published the original citation in 1954 in Botanische Jahrbucher, and chose the name *ficicola* (feye-sik'-oh-luh), meaning fig-loving.

B. ficicola is in the section Scutobegonia, and has 34 chromosomes. It is classified as rhizomatous, distinctive foliage, unusual foliage/unusual coloring, medium-leaved. Flowers are yellow, sometimes tinged with red.

It is necessary to grow *B. ficicola* in an enclosed environment unless you can maintain humidity of at least 70%. I have grown this begonia for many years, and find it easy to grow. My plant produces blooms spring, summer, and fall, only giving up in the very cold winter.

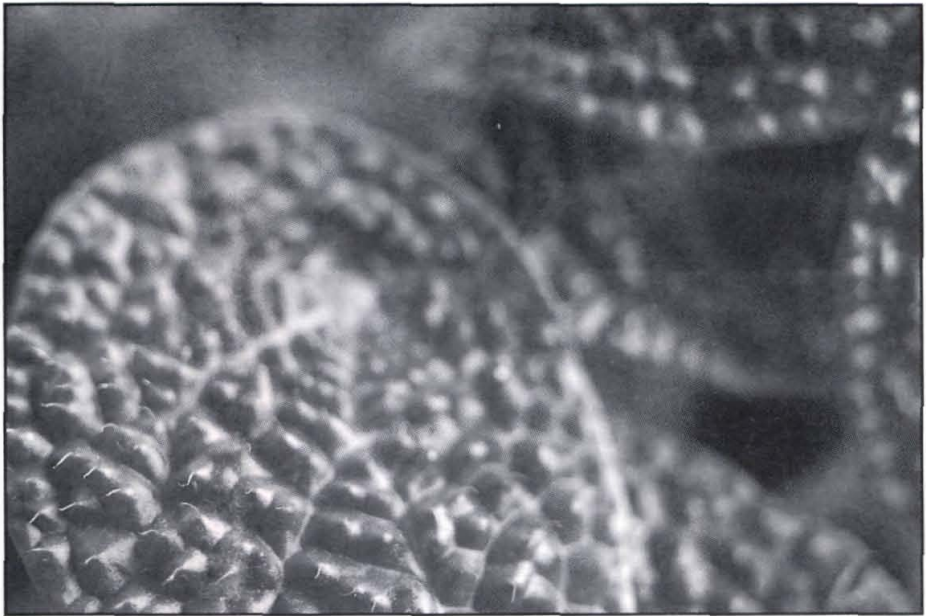
B. ficicola is also easy to self-pollinate, but a problem arises in trying to retrieve the seed. If you wait until the seed pod is fully ripened, the seeds become cemented within the pod, making them almost impossible to remove. According to Michael Kartuz, the seed should be removed from the pod just as the tip of the pod becomes brown.

CULTURE

Growing Medium: I like to use long grain sphagnum moss and perlite mix in terrariums. My recipe is:

1. use 5 parts sphagnum moss to 1 part perlite
2. soak the moss in hot water (15 minutes should be sufficient)
3. squeeze all excess moisture from the moss
4. cut moss in pieces 1 to 2 inches long
5. mix in the perlite
6. place about 1/2 inch of perlite at the bottom of the container before putting in the mix
7. center the plant in the container (this is an important point in judging closed containers)

After planting your container, leave the top partially open for one or two days; this will allow excess moisture to evaporate from the top of the growing medium, and there will be less chance of mildew or root-rot. If too much moisture still remains when the top is completely closed, I would suggest leaving a small air vent until the condition clears up.



distinctive leaves of *B. ficicola*

Light: *B. ficicola* likes bright indirect light. Do not put your container in the sun, as you can cook your plant. If leaves start to yellow, your plant is getting too much light. This is one of the begonias the Thompsons recommend growing under fluorescent lights.

Water: If the growing medium appears dry and there is no condensation on the walls of the container, trickle a small amount of warm water into the container (a baster can also be used).

This article first appeared in the Chicago Begonian.
Mary Weinberg lives at 1527 W. Highland Ave., Chicago, IL 60660.

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BULLETIN BOARD

ABS News

Appointments:

Thelma McRae as Members at Large Director

Joan Coulat, to Awards Committee

Cynthia Bishop, as Mini-Ads Manager for the **Begonian**

Members At Large: New Director, and a newsletter to come!

Well, folks, it appears you have a new director, Thelma McRae of Paradise, California. Do hope you all can deal with a laid-back, second generation Californian! I know what the other 49 states think about us; however, I'm a reasonably nice, straight, middle-aged lady who's had a love affair with begonias for over fifteen years.

You must be cautioned that I'm no expert, but make up for my lack of knowledge with much enthusiasm and willingness to learn. I expect this job to be as rewarding to me as to you; we have a large number of experts to help, and will call upon them to do so.

You should also be aware of the ABS network. In March of this year I spent two weeks in the states of Yucatán and Chiapas in Mexico, planning on visiting the sites of the Mayan civilization. In the last issue of the **Begonian** you'll have read about the shocking delight of finding begonias in the wild. When I got home I told my friends about the begonia discovery, and they said, "Gee, that's nice." But I wanted someone to know what an enlightenment this was for me, someone who would really mean, "GEE THAT'S NICE!"

So when I received my dues notice from John Ingles, I sent him a note, knowing he would appreciate my momentous dis-

covery. Well...John wrote Tamsin Boardman, editor of the **Begonian**; Tamsin wrote and asked me to write about the trip; I sent Tamsin a trip description; Tamsin told Carol Notaras, ABS President; and Carol phoned me and asked if I'd be the MAL Director. Watch it, or they'll get you too!

I expect to send the first newsletter in October. September will be dedicated to a first trip to the British Isles (Zowee!) and, yes, I'll visit as many gardens and begonia growers as possible. Contributions to the first newsletter will be sincerely welcome - please write, or you'll find it filled with my own ramblings! My address is 5471 South Libby Road, No. 15, Paradise, CA 95969.

Hope to meet some of you at the Convention in August - I'll be the short, chubby "motor-mouth" with a political button (you'll have to attend to find out my candidate).
- Thelma

The Members At Large Committee is designed to contact ABS members who live too far from other members to join a branch, and works on projects by mail. To receive the MAL newsletter and join the Members At Large Committee, send Thelma a stamped, self-addressed, legal-size envelope.

IN THE NEWS...

The January-March issue of Economic Botany, journal of the Society for Economic Botany, published an article by **Dr. Joseph E. Laferrière** of the Dept. of Botany, Washington State University, listing uses of begonias as food and medicine - and an amazingly long list it is. *B. glabra*, for example, has antitumor and antibacterial properties.

Begonias are winners, and not only for ABS members. Best in Show for Horticulture at the Horticultural Society of New York's 1992 Flower Show was a *B. luxurians* entered by Greentree Estate of Manhasset, Long Island.

"Begonias are vehicles for local hybridizer's philosophies on life" was the title for an article in The Laker in Frederic, Wisconsin, and hybridizer **Belva Kusler** was the subject. The article by Julie Hustvet covered begonias and the fascination they hold for Kusler, stories about her hybrids, photos of some of her begonias, and a report on her recent activities on behalf of abused children. Kusler's interests come together in a current endeavor: she is propagating plants to be used by children in a science class ecology project.

Tovah Martin and **Elvin McDonald** are contributing writers for a new quarterly magazine, Houseplant. The summer issue featured Tovah on begonias.

Bernard Yorke and his begonia hybrids are featured in Australia's Your Garden magazine.

Coming Events

April 3-Oct. 12: Ameri-Flora '92

International Floral & Garden Exposition, Franklin Park, Columbus, Ohio. United States' first international floral event, commemorating the Christopher Columbus Quincentennial.

August 19-23: American Begonia Society Convention 1992, "Captivating Canes", will be held at the Inn of the Park, Anaheim, California, with the Orange County Branch as hosts.

September 12-13: Sacramento Branch annual show, "Begonias - A Gift of the New World", at Shepard Garden & Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento, California.

October 2-4: Potomac Branch Annual Show, at the National arboretum.

November 14: Mae Blanton Branch sale at the Christmas Gala at the Community Center, Denton, Texas: begonias, baked goods, crafts.

1993

March 13-21: New York Flower Show at Pier 92, 51st St. & the Hudson River. Theme is "Gardens For our Future". Watch for prize-winning booth by Knickerbocker Branch.

April 16-18: Southwest Region Get-Together "Begonia Spring Fling" in Fort Worth, Texas, at Green Oaks Inn. Mae Blanton Branch is sponsoring.

May 6-9, 1993

American Begonia Society Convention "Begonias -

The Greatest Show on Earth"

at Don Shula Inn & Golf Resort, Miami Lakes, Florida. Miami Branch is host.

Deadline for next issue is September 15

CONSERVATION NEWS

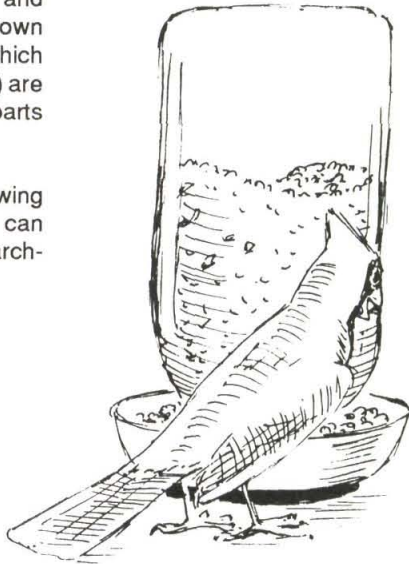
Species Listing Project: Time to Update

As part of the effort to keep begonia species alive in cultivation, the ABS Conservation Department maintains a list of species grown by ABS members. Reports have also come in from Australia, Belgium, and Canada.

The list is only useful if it is current. Kingsley Langenberg updates the list every November. NOW is the time to update your species list, and send it to King at 2141 Bonnie Brook Lane, Waukegan, IL 66087.

Branches, consider making this a branch project. One member serving as co-ordinator can visit other members and help construct a census of species grown by your branch. It is helpful to know which species (and which horticultural types) are being grown successfully in different parts of the country.

Last year members reported growing 229 species - let's see how many we can add to that number (see **Begonian**, March-April 1992 for 1992 list).



Quote:

"Birds are my insecticides, birds and lizards. I encourage birds with water dish and wild bird seed, and have only occasionally been hassled with pests." - Joy Burke, quoted in the Newsletter of the Queensland Begonia Society, Australia

Drought Resistant Plants for Southern California Gardeners

"Water-wise Plants of Quail Botanical Gardens", a pamphlet directing a self-guided tour of 200 drought resistant plants in the Gardens, is a new brochure available free at the Gardens.

Home-Brew Recipe:

Mix 1-2 ounces of fish emulsion, 1/2 - 1 ounce seaweed, 1/2 ounce Epsom salts, 1/2 ounce apple cider vinegar, 1 gallon of water. Use as foliar feed every two weeks.



ROUND ROBIN NOTES

Virginia Hamann, Round Robin Director

Potting up begonias for summering in greenhouses and lath houses has been the topic of many of the Flights. Cutting back the larger canes and using the cuttings for propagation have been discussed.

#13, Canes:

Cynthia Bishop (CA) sticks coleus cuttings in rooting water with her begonia cuttings; the coleus promote root growth by providing hormones.

#16, Eastern General:

Mildred Swyka (DE) believes begonias grow better in a slightly acid soil. If the soil smells too acid she sweetens it with a Tablespoon of lime in a gallon of water. Elaine Ayers (OH) has been busy putting her begonias and cuttings into the lath house for summer. She has experimented with using coarse vermiculite as a propagating mix and it is working for her. Mary Ellen Taback (VA) is finding semperflorens begonias coming up from seed outdoors after the mild winter. Her walking trail of 8 miles sounds like great fun, as the spring and summer foliage and wildflowers make walking a pleasure.

#18, Canes:

Jane Hays (CO) does not recommend using Ortho bug bombs in the plant room four days prior to entertaining company! The residue of oil covered her plants as well as furniture in the room. (She did get everything cleaned up and her guests did not know the hassle she had been through.)

Squirrels create problems by digging in pots of begonias set outside. Carolyn Collman (CA) suggests sprinkling bone meal around the plants. She also suggests using water-based Orthene on plants as bug control rather than oil-based products. Cynthia Bishop (CA) and Vanessa Young (NY) were welcomed as new members.

#30, Rex:

Dennis Christianson (OR) is pleased with his seedling of B. 'Black Knight', a two-year old plant that is producing mature leaf colors of dark purple with a banding of white spots. "Splash" has strong silver markings, green background and red edge; the silver markings splash out to points against the green background.

Russ Richardson (GA) uses a product called Talstar for white fly and spider mite control.

#25, Midwest Growers II:

Mary McClelland (NE) shared pictures of the Southwest Region Get-Together in Houston.

#53, Rhizomatous:

Risa Young (FL) likes to underpot her rhizomatous begonias, as the hair roots won't suffocate if over-watered or dried out. She likes to keep her plants evenly moist for best results.

#22/51, Propagation, Growing from Seed:

Since this Robin was combined "new" friends were welcomed. Weather is still a problem, with hail and broken panes of glass in greenhouses. Mag-Amp and Osmocote were discussed as additives to soil. Osmocote 14-14-14 is a slow release fertilizer that provides nutrients with each watering.

Mary Simon (OH) lets her seedlings stay in the starting tray longer. It keeps them from going into transplant shock. Mary is also putting her cuttings into baggies to avoid mildew problems. Rhodora Buss (IA) uses a light mix for seeding. She uses it for her transplants, too. Spritzing her young plants with a light solution of fertilizer gives them an extra boost.

Brad Thompson (CA) is constructing a plant room that will accommodate all of his growing needs. He recommends growing under lights to all new growers - his plants are flourishing. H. Alton Lee (FL) is busy propagating both begonias and gesneriads, and grows under lights for best results.

#15, Cold Climate Greenhouses:

'Verspenen' is what Beatrice Huckriede Van der Laan (Netherlands) does with her seedlings when she separates and pots up individually. With seed from the Seed Fund, she has 30 new begonia species x 100! She uses bottom heat, and checks daily for drying out - she finds watching her seedlings daily until germination is complete an enjoyable task. As the seedlings grow she 'verspeens' them.

Whether members live in Texas, Ohio, or the Netherlands, everyone is happily striving to grow begonias.

#30 Southwest Growers:

New Zealand moss is once again mentioned by members. Because it is heavier than sphagnum, it must be squeezed carefully after wetting so that it will not be too wet for starting cuttings and leaves. Glennis Crouch (TX) likes to use it in her terrariums.

Martha Curry (TX) has a plant of *B. U074* that has filled a 12" terrarium and is covered with pink blooms. Although it is a trailing-scandent, it does best for her in a container.

Cynthia Bishop (CA) sprays her entire greenhouse with Karathane once in the spring, and has no mildew problems for the season. She enjoys hybridizing, and tells of her lovely young rex plants, unusual trailers, and a miniature, a cross of *B. bowerae* and its offspring 'Apache'. Her husband named it "Curly Q." Her description of this plant makes a begonia lover drool!

There are so many great growing tips in the Round Robins it is hard to decide what to include and what to leave out!

I am including a list of Robins that have openings. The asterisks denote the number of vacancies in each Robin. The maximum number of members is 8, the minimum 4. If you write in for a Robin after the maximum number of members is met, another Robin will be formed.

- #4 Windowsill Growers & #23 Canes (combined) *
- #5 Hybridizing & Breeding*
- #8 Tuberous ***
- #9 Growing under Lights **
- #14 Semperflorens**
- #15 Cold Climate Greenhouses**
- #16 Eastern General***
- #20 Photography***
- #30 Rex*
- #31 Southwest Growers*
- #33 Hybridizing*
- #53 Rhizomatous*
- #54 Research*
- #55 Species****

Remember, a Robin is a friendly exchange of letters between begonia-loving people. If you have never been in a Round Robin, join! It will give growing begonias a whole new outlook, especially if you have no local branch.

Virginia Hamann
Rt. 1, Box 10
Chester, IA 52134

Quote:

"What a man needs for gardening is a cast-iron back with a hinge in it."
C.D. Warner, quoted in the South Bay Begonia Leaflet

CLAYTON M. KELLY SEED FUND NOTES

September-October 1992
Diana H. Gould, Seed Fund Director

The 1992 Convention Listing is now ready and will be mailed free of charge with all seed orders, or it may be requested by sending a self-addressed stamped legal-size envelope to the Seed Fund Director.

Germination times for this issue's selections range from 8 to 65 days, so please be patient. Also, please note a new feature: starting with this issue the percent of germination will be noted with each species.

The Seed Fund thanks **Cynthia Bishop, Roberto Brin, Michele Cole, Jackie Davis, Lynda Goldsmith, Jan Goodwin, Jake Hafer, John Howell, Doug Jensen, Eiichii Kawamata, Evie McDuff, Karan Myers, Joy Porter, Phil Seiden, Lloyd Van Epps, Elmer Wagner**, our anonymous donors, and the international exchanges for making this offering possible.

NOTES ON SEEDS OFFERED

Rhizomatous

B. carrieae (Mexico; 90%) has spectacular velvety-textured large medium-green lobed puckered leaves; stems and petioles are a lighter green, and

flowers are white. *B. crassicaulis* (Guatemala; 90%) will go into a state of semi-dormancy during the winter months, losing all of its heavily incised medium-green leaves. Its white flowers will appear before the new leaves. *B. deliciosa* (Borneo; 75%) is classified as upright, rhizomes joined at or below the soil level. Its leaves are of medium size and their color is somewhat brownish-green with white spots; it produces light-pink, fragrant flowers in spring. *B. gehrtii* (Brazil; 80%) has very distinctive foliage with large medium-green puckered leaves, paler green stems and petioles, and large white flowers. It does require higher humidity, and in some areas needs terrarium care. *B. glandulosa* (Mexico; 90%) has medium-thick, waxy, dark-green leaves with deep maroon to black veins, reverse tinged with red, measuring 5-7" x 4-5 1/2". Petioles are light green. Greenish-white flowers appear in late winter (see **Nomenclature Notes**, below). *B. hydrocotylifolia* (Mexico; 90%) has small, medium-green leaves, a creeping growth pattern, and rose-pink flowers. *B. lyman-smithii* (Mexico; 90%) has dark green ovate leaves with somewhat sunken veins and a very hairy texture with

an abundance of tiny white hairs covering its surface. Its reverse is a light green with pronounced veining and somewhat rough texture. Petioles are pale green, also covered with an abundance of tiny white hairs. Flowers are pink.

Shrub-like

B. acida (Brazil; 50%) is a compact grower with distinctive foliage and white flowers. It requires terrarium care and a great deal of attention and patience!

B. acutifolia (Caribbean; 90%) has small bare green leaves on pale green petioles, and profuse white flowers tinted with deep pink. *B. alicia-clarkiae* (Mexico; 90%) has distinctive foliage and sparse, very beautiful white flowers. It is known to be difficult to grow to maturity. *B. castaneifolia* (Brazil; 50%) has leaves that are dark green with a silvery midrib; undersides are pale green. Stems are somewhat woody, growth pattern is upright, and it does not seem to require staking. Its eye-catching appearance is quiet elegance. *B. fernandocostae* (Brazil; 70%) has wide, hairy medium-green leaves and white flowers. *B. foliosa* var. *putzeysiana* (Colombia; 90%) is very similar in appearance to *foliosa*, with small, medium-green leaves, but its leaves

are waxy. *B. fuchsoides* (Venezuela-Colombia; 70%) has small medium-green bare leaves and red-orange flowers. *B. odeteiantha* (Brazil; 50%) is a very strikingly elegant plant with narrow dark green leaves with red undersides, apple-green stems, and white flowers. *B. U008* (90%) is an old favorite with small round medium-green hairy leaves and flowers that turn rose-colored in strong light; it is probably so popular because of its ease in growing.

Trailing-scandent

B. loranthoides (Tropical Africa; 50%) is an epiphyte with medium-sized thick and leathery dark green leaves with red reverse, woody stems, pink petioles, and pink-tinted white flowers. It will lapse into dormancy during winter. *B. U167* (Panama; 50%) is thought to be a variety of *B. glabra*. It has medium-green waxy leaves, green stems, deep red petioles, and pinkish-red flowers.

Thick-stemmed

B. dipetala (India; 90%) has hairy medium-sized green leaves and fragrant white flowers. *B. multinervia* (Central America; 50%) has large medium-green leaves and pink flowers that bloom in winter. *B. U115* (Central America; 90%) requires higher humidity, has medium-green leaves with red undersides, reddish stems and petioles, and reddish-pink flowers. Although it is thought to be *B. multinervia*,



B. dipetala
drawing by
Mary Weinberg

many growers have found substantial differences between the two species.

Cane-like

B. coccinea (Brazil; 70%) is intermediate in height, with dark green leaves and no leaf markings, and coral-red flowers. *B. lubbersii* (Brazil; 60%) is a low-growing cane with medium-green leaves and fragrant white flowers.

Tuberous

B. brevibracteata (Malawi; 50%) grows 30-90 cm. tall, has a glabrous stem, is sparingly branched, has leaf blades ovate acute to acuminate and margins distinctly serrate with flowers that are white or pale pink.

Nomenclature Notes

B. glandulosa (of which *B. dayi* and *B. hidalgensis* are synonyms) should not be confused with *B. pinetorum*, a separate species not offered in this issue (see article, with photos of both, **Begonian** March-April 1990, pp. 62-63).

CONGRATULATIONS!

This issue has NO
unclassified or
undescribed offerings!

CLAYTON M. KELLY SEED FUND LISTING

The Seed Fund is a service to members only. It is a privilege of your membership.

All packets of species seed are \$1 each, and all packets of hybrid seed are 50c each; a pamphlet on growing from seed is 25c. All orders must be accompanied by check or money order payable ONLY in US funds to **The Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund.**

Costs of mailing:

U.S. only: 1-12 packets, 99c; 13-24, \$1.35; 25-36, \$1.71; 37-48 (2 cans), \$2.30; 49-60, \$2.66.

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Mexico only: 1-12 packets, \$1.15; 13-24, \$1.51; 25-36, \$1.87; 37-48 (2 cans), \$2.50; 49-60, \$2.81.

All other international mail: 1-12 packets, \$1.85; 13-24, \$2.68; 25-36, \$3.68; 37-48, \$4.68; 49-60, \$5.68.

Two sets of planter dishes, in U.S. only: \$1.20; two sets & 1-12 packets, \$1.80; & 13-24, \$2.40; & 25-36, \$3; & 37-48, \$3.60; & 49-60, \$4.20.

These mailing costs include the costs of postage, mailers, and glasine seed envelopes.

California residents please add 7 3/4% sales tax.

Please send your order with payment to:

Ms. Diana H. Gould
9278 Mapleview Way
Elk Grove CA 95758

U.S.A.

Species Seed

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- B. alice-clarkiae*
- B. brevibracteata**
- B. carrieae*
- B. castaneifolia**
- B. coccinea*
- B. crassicaulis*
- B. deliciosa*
- B. dipetala*
- B. fernando-costae*
- B. foliosa* var. *putzeysiana*
- B. fuchsoides*
- B. gehrtii*
- B. glandulosa*
- B. hydrocotylifolia*
- B. loranthoides**
- B. lubbersii*
- B. lyman-smithii*
- B. multinervia*
- B. odeteiantha**
- B. U008
- B. U115
- B. U167



B. hydrocotylifolia

by Mary Weinberg

*extremely limited supply

Hybrid Seed

50c per packet

- mixed canes
- mixed rex
- mixed rhizomatous
- mixed semperflorens
- mixed semp. 'Frillies'
- mixed shrubs
- mixed trailers
- mixed tuberhybridus
- mixed Mickey Meyer selections



AROUND ABS

Notes from our Newsletters

Who among us hasn't wished for a magic wand? Or Samantha's twitching nose from the television program "Bewitched"? Magic would be required to visit all the ABS branches and enjoy their tempting program and show and tour offerings. Here, for example, are a few picks a magician could have shared this summer:

Sales: not only for the fabulous begonias available, but to visit the places: who could resist "Magic Gardens", where East Bay held its sale?

Tours: Miami Branch visited Georgia Humphrey's; East Bay toured Mary & Bob Skell's garden; San Miguel went to Weidner's Begonias, where they dug their own in fields of tuberous begonias; Dallas Area Branch went to Anita Ruthenberg's charming cottage garden, and, a month later, to Doug McKemie's - he's big on water gardens as well as begonias. In the northeast, members visited Logee's, in Florida they went to Daisy Farm and Selby Gardens, and all of southern California, it seems, has visited Mabel & Ralph Corwin's garden! (That's one tour many of us will get to take during the 1992 Convention, and we'll hope to share some photos with you in the next issue.)

Food: no mention of gatherings of begonia enthusiasts would be complete without food. Our imaginary magician would be definitely rotund if he were able to get to every meeting! Special notice has to go to South Bay Branch, which publishes a "Cook's Corner" of recipes in each newsletter: Chocolate Chunk Pecan Brownies, for example.

Programs: oh, to have been in Miami July 28. Member-artists Wanda Cochran and Nan Scoble-Burbles did a workshop on "Creating your own Begonia Outfit." They helped branch members design and make shirts, pants, skirts, aprons, all deco-

rated with our favorite plant. Maybe they'll start a new national trend.

More trend-setter information: begonia bonsai is coming on strong. Mike Golub spoke to Palomar, Don Miller to Dallas Area, Cynthia Ritchie to Mae Blanton - all on the art of bonsai, as applied to begonias.

Snails are sometimes a problem when begonias summer outdoors. Here's a synopsis of what Billie Kyle told members of Alfred D. Robinson Branch on how to control them:

Chemical methods

Toxic baits, the most popular, contain methaldehyde. Apply in late afternoon or evening, two or three times at two or three week intervals.

Non-chemical methods:

Sanitation: Remove debris in which snails may hide such as boards, stones, unnecessary foliage.

Barriers: vertical copper screen

Hand-picking: time-consuming, but very effective.

Traps: Boards raised about 1 inch from ground have proved effective as have flower pots. Don't forget to remove the snails daily.

GOOD LUCK!

If you decide to use toxics, please heed the caution issued by Leslie Hatfield, editor of the Monterey Bay Area Branch newsletter: "with the changing formulations of some of our pesticides...you must read the entire label as instructions for use have changed with the new ingredients. There are new ways of protection stated, and also new ways of combating effects of accidental ingestion or spilling. So, please, please, dear friends, read all the label and be safe rather than sorry." The label will also tell you how to dispose of the container safely.

**"If you're given a lemon,
make lemonade"
department:**

Helen Spiers, president of our newest branch, Satellite, broke twenty bones in her right hand and wrist. Not only did the accident not slow her down - but she's got her physical therapists coming around to her house for begonia cuttings!

Moral: begonia lovers are to be found everywhere.

There's a heart-warming aspect to the accident: Satellite members have been going over to Helen's and helping with all kinds of tasks, including caring for her large collection of begonias.

Moral: begonia people are the nicest of all!

Inside Information

A reliable source¹ has leaked the following information about the treats in store for ABS members in Miami next spring: the hotel is surrounded by gardens and a golf course; there will be a tour to Fairchild Tropical Gardens and a brand-new begonia species garden there; and a visit to Daisy Farm (see the **Begonian**, July-August 1991 to find out why we want to visit daisies); members are cooking up a reprise of their delightful 1985 cookbook, "What to Eat While Talking About Begonias"...

But how will they top their program on "How Not to Grow a Begonia"?² Stay tuned for the answer!

¹the Miabegonia, edited by Charles Jaros, who also happens to be Convention Chair for 1993
²available from the ABS Slide Library



NEW in the ABS BOOKSTORE

from Japan:
BEGONIA by Hikari. Offered last year to ABS Branch Libraries; now available in sufficient quantity to offer to members. Similar in size and appearance to the Green and Flower Book; no translation available. 32 pages color photographs. Softcover. \$13.

HYAKKA BEGONIA by Hakari. English subtitle: HOW TO CULTIVATE DIFFERENT KINDS OF BEGONIAS. Text in Japanese; no translation available. 112 pages, 64 pages color photographs. Softcover. \$20

from England:
BEGONIAS: THE COMPLETE GUIDE, a second book by Eric Catterall. Covers semperflorens, canes, rhizomatous, rex, semi-tuberous, as well as tuberous; and culture, hybridizing, more. Appendices list sources, organizations. Available in September. Hardback only. \$40.

To order, make check, money order, or bank draft in US funds payable to ABS BOOKSTORE. Texas residents add 7 1/2% sales tax. Prices include shipping within the USA. Foreign orders please add 20% postage.

ANITA RUTHENBERG
1016 ARLINGTON AVE.
FORT WORTH, TX 76110

DIRECTORY OF BEGONIA SOCIETIES

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETIES

Australia

Association of Australian Begonia Societies

Kevin Handreck, Pres.

2 Birdwood St.

Netherby 5062, South Australia

Associated Societies:

Begonia Society of Western Australia, Inc.

Lyla Kilpatrick, Pres.

Lot 44 Canns Rd.

Bedforddale WA 6112

New South Wales Begonia Society, Inc.

Jean Whitten, Pres.

15 Carlo Close

Kincumber 2250 NSW

Queensland Begonia Society

Elsie Paton, Pres.

35 Daisy Road

Manly West 4179

Queensland, Australia

South Australian Begonia Society

Ted Williams, Pres.

P.O. Box 116

Stirling 5152, South Australia

Victorian Begonia Society, Inc.

Philip Wright, Pres.

74 Railway Place

Macedon 3440, Victoria

Belgium

Societe Belge du Begonia

Piron Gilles, Pres.

Chemin de Lancre, 4

B-4970 Coo, Belgium

Canada

British Columbia Fuchsia & Begonia Society

Lorna Herchenson, Pres.

2402 Swinburne Ave.

North Vancouver B.C.

V7H1L2

England & Wales

The National Begonia Society

Dr. Eric Caterall

3 Gladstone Rd., Dorridge

Solihull, W. Midlands B93 8BX

France

Assoc. Francoise de Amateurs de Begonias

Mme. Annie Danancher

editor, le petit bégo-fil

11 Rue Myrha

Paris 75018

Japan

Japan Begonia Society

Mr. Tatsuo Suzuki, Pres.

2-1-11 Yakumo 2-Chome

Maguro-Ku

Tokyo 152

Scotland

Scottish Begonia Society

c/- 260 Bellfield Rd.

Coalburn, Lanarkshire

Scotland M11 100NQ, UK



AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

REGIONAL GROUPS

Eastern Region

Maxine Zinman, Director

Rt. 1, Box 73

Boyce, VA 22620

Southwest Region

Gene Salisbury, Director

P.O. Box 504

Tonkawa, OK 74653

BRANCHES

CALIFORNIA

Alfred D. Robinson

2nd Tuesday, 10:30 a.m.

Homes of members

Edalee Harwell, Pres.

1055 Benecia St.

San Diego, CA 92117

East Bay

3rd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.

Northbrae Community Church

941 Alameda

Berkeley

Rich Bishop, Pres.

1404 Cypress

Berkeley, CA 94703

Garden Grove

1st Wed., 7:30 p.m.

12860 Euclid St.

Garden Grove

Ed Vogel, Pres.

9811 Oma Place

Garden Grove, CA 92641

Long Beach Parent Chapter

3rd Thursday, 1:00 p.m.
 Huntingdon Nat'l. Bank
 9025 Artesia Blvd.
 Bellflower
 Gil Estrada Pres.
 7914 Springer St.
 Downey, CA 90242

Monterey Bay Area

4th Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
 Monterey Senior Cntr,
 Lighthouse & Dickman
 Monterey
 (no meeting June, Aug.)
 William Schramm, Pres.
 17 Calera Canyon
 Salinas, CA 93908

Orange County

2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
 Fullerton S & L
 2310 E. Lincoln Ave.
 Anaheim
 Anne Jones, Pres.
 11357 Darcy St.
 Santa Fe Springs, CA
 90670

Palomar

2nd Sunday, 2 p.m.
 Quail Botanical Gardens
 230 Quail Gardens Dr.
 Encinitas
 Cay Yelverton, Pres.
 650 Rancho Santa Fe Rd.#43
 San Marcos, CA 92069

Palos Verdes

1st Mon., 7:30 p.m.
 S. Coast Botanic Garden
 Brad Thompson, Pres.
 715 W. 220th #45
 Torrance, CA 90502

Rubidoux

4th Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
 W. Riverside Mem. Audtrm.
 4393 Riverview Dr.
 Terry Hicks, Pres.
 4243 Kathy Ave.
 Riverside, CA 92509

Sacramento

3rd Tuesday, 7:15 p.m.
 Garden Center
 3330 McKinley Blvd.
 Sacramento
 Siegfried Hoffman, Pres.
 10 Stampede Ct.
 Sacramento, CA 95834

San Francisco

1st Wednesday, 8 p.m.
 Garden Center
 Golden Gate Park,
 9th Ave. & Lincoln Way
 Susan Muller, Pres.
 124 St. Charles Ave.
 San Francisco, CA 94132

San Gabriel Valley

2nd Tuesday, 7:45 p.m.
 Los Angeles State &
 County Arboretum
 301 N. Baldwin Ave.
 Arcadia
 Kenneth Dahlquist, Pres.
 696 E. McKinley Ave.
 Pomona, CA 91767

San Miguel

4th Saturday
 Members' Homes
 Thelma O'Reilly, Pres.
 10942 Sunray Place
 La Mesa, CA 91941

Santa Barbara

4th Sunday, 2:30 p.m.
 The Cottage
 1130 N. Milpas St.
 Santa Barbara
 Rudolph Ziesenhenné,
 Pres.
 (address same as above)

Santa Clara Valley

3rd Thursday, 7:45 p.m.
 Rm 2, Kirk Com. Cntr.
 1601 Foxworthy Ave.
 San Jose
 Jackie Davis, Pres.
 170 Wingfoot Way
 Aptos, CA 95003

South Bay

2nd Friday, 7:30 p.m.
 Dana School Cafetorium
 135th & Aviation
 Hawthorne, CA
 Al Palacios, Pres.
 16216 S. Grevillea Ave.
 Lawndale, CA 90260

Theodosia Burr Shepherd

1st Monday, 7:30 p.m.
 American Commercial
 Bank
 6401 Telephone Rd.
 Ventura
 Pam Hantgin, Pres.
 94 N. Santa Rosa St.
 Ventura, CA 93001

Westchester

1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
 Univ. Christian Church
 5831 Centinella Ave.
 Stephanie Snyder, Pres.
 6035 South Croft Ave.
 Los Angeles, CA 90056

Whittier

1st Friday, 7 p.m.
 Room 1, Civic Center
 7630 Washington Ave.
 Whittier
 Beverly Hitz, Pres.
 205 E. Maple St.
 Ontario, CA 91961

CONNECTICUT**Connecticut**

4th Monday
 homes of members
 Priscilla Beck, Dir.
 312 Shewville Rd.
 Ledyard, CT 06339

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
AREA****Potomac**

4th Sunday, 2 p.m.
 Green Spring Farm Park
 4601 Green Spring Rd.
 Alexandria, VA
 Johanna Zinn, Pres.
 4407 Jensen Place
 Fairfax, VA 22032

FLORIDA**Fort Lauderdale Area**

1st Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
 3245 College Ave.
 Davie, FL
 Nan Scoble-Burbles,
 Pres.
 209 SE 21st St.
 Fort Lauderdale, FL
 33316

Jacksonville

3rd Monday, 7:30 p.m.
 Garden Club
 1005 Riverside Ave.
 Jacksonville
 Ed Harrell, Pres.
 1628 Broward Rd.
 Jacksonville, FL 32218

Miami

4th Tuesday, 8 p.m.
Simpson Garden Center
55 SW 17th Rd.
Miami
Edythe Ropeik, Pres.
6110 SW 93rd Ave.
Miami, FL 33173

Palm Beaches

2nd Monday
Horticultural Center
531 N. Military Trail
Charles Jaros, N. Dir.,
2621 NW 23rd Ct.
Miami, FL 33142

Pinellas County

3rd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Fellowship Hall, Church of
Christ
6045 Park Blvd.
Pinellas Park
William O'Geary, Pres.
10968 105th Ave. North
Largo, FL 34648

Tampa Bay Area

3rd Wed., 7 p.m.
Members Homes
Dora Lee Dorsey, Pres.
8110 N. Edison Ave.
Tampa, FL 33604

GEORGIA**Greater Atlanta**

2nd Sunday, 3 p.m.
odd-numbered months
Atlanta Botanical Garden
Russ Richardson, Pres.
1854 Chancery Lane
Chamblee, GA 30341

ILLINOIS**Greater Chicago**

4th Sunday, 1:30 p.m.
Oak Park Conservatory
Earth Shelter
621 Garfield St.
Chicago
Daniel Paulson, Pres.
6339 S. Kenneth Ave.
Chicago, IL 60629

MASSACHUSETTS**Bessie Buxton**

Call for meeting info.
Frank Green, Pres.
102 Richardson Rd.
Ashby, MA 01431

MINNESOTA**Minnesota**

2nd Wed., 7:30 p.m.
Homes of members

NEW JERSEY**Elsa Fort**

Helen Green, Pres.
2100 Hunter St.
Cinnaminson, NJ 08077

NEW YORK**Knickerbocker**

2nd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.
(except July & Aug.)
Hort. Society of NY
128 W. 58th St.
New York

Vanessa Young, Pres.
2975 Bainbridge Ave
Bronx, NY 10458

Brooklyn-Queens-Nassau

3rd Sunday, 1:30 p.m.
Designatronics
21-01 Jericho Tpke.
New Hyde Park, NY
Walter Dworkin, Pres.
8 Rugby Rd.
Westbury, NY 11590

OHIO**Greater Cincinnati**

Douglas Hahn, Pres.
7736 Stonehill Dr.
Cincinnati, OH 45230

OKLAHOMA**Fred A. Barkley**

3rd Sunday, 2:30 p.m.
Will Rogers Garden Cntr.
3400 NW 36th St.
Oklahoma City
Diane Horne, Pres.
3601 Oakhurst
Midwest City, OK 73110

PENNSYLVANIA**Edna Stewart Pittsburgh**

3rd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
Pittsburgh Garden Center
Melissa Jones, Nat'l Dir.
5220 Beeler St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15217

William Penn

4th Tuesday, noon
Homes of members
Mrs. Jacques Le Roux,
Pres.
Dove Lake House
Gladwyne, PA 19035

RHODE ISLAND**Roger Williams**

3rd Monday night
Homes of members
Arlene Peck, Pres.
Eagle Peak Rd., R 1,
Box 478
Pascoag, RI 02859

TEXAS**Alamo**

3rd Saturday
Homes of members
John Howell, Pres.
129 Trillium
San Antonio, TX 78213

Astro

2nd Sunday, 2 p.m.
Terrace United Methodist
1203 Wirt Rd., Houston
Tom Keepin, Pres.
4513 Randwick Dr.
Houston, TX 77092

Dallas Area

3rd Thursday, 7:00 p.m.
North Haven Gardens
7700 Northaven Rd.
Dallas
Pam Lee, Pres.
1424 Holcomb Rd.
Dallas, TX 75217

Mae Blanton

4th Wed., 10:30 a.m.
Homes of members
Martha Curry, Pres.
P.O. Box 1232
Weatherford, TX 76026

Satellite

4th Tuesday
League City Bank & Trust
League City
Helen Spiers, Pres.
1423 Laskey
Houston TX 77034

THANK YOU!

to all Branch Officers who
sent updated information for
this Directory. Please check
your Branch listing and keep
us current.

BEGONIAN MINI-ADS

Mini-ads are a service to our members. The charge is \$1 per line per insertion with a minimum of \$4. Payment must accompany order. Make checks payable to ABS and mail to:

Cynthia Bishop
4150 Auburn-Folsom Rd.
Loomis, CA 95650
(916) 652-7311

BEGONIA CUTTINGS AND PLANTS.

Send \$2 for expanded 1992 list. Kay's Greenhouses, 207 W. Southcross, San Antonio, TX 78221.

SOUTHWEST REGION, ABS: *Annual Get-Together*, show, sale; newsletter. Membership \$7, family \$10. Send to Marie Harrell, Rt. 3, Box 689, Elgin, TX 78621.

"VICKI'S EXOTIC PLANTS" Beautiful Begonias, Episcias, and Hoyas. Large variety of each. Please send \$1 for list to 522 Vista Park Dr., Eagle Point, OR 97524.

BEGONIAS, FERNS, SHADE PLANTS.

We are now open to provide you with quality plants...Come visit. Send \$1 for plant list. Golden Hills Nursery (Cynthia Bishop), 4150 Auburn-Folsom Rd., Loomis CA 95650; (916) 652-7311.

BEGONIAS: THE COMPLETE REFERENCE GUIDE

by Mildred L. and Edward J. Thompson. 884 pages, 850 illustrations (165 in color). Culture, classification, and history. \$20.00 to ABS members. To order autographed copies write: THE THOMPSONS, P.O. Drawer PP, Southampton, NY 11968. BEGONIAS: 1984 UPDATE \$6.75. Prices include shipping. Foreign orders \$5 additional for shipping via Surface Mail.

RARE DISTINCTIVE BEGONIAS. Sym. U012, *bogneri*, U089, ex-Kew, etc. Send SASE for list. USA only. BILL VOSS, 3805 Louise Ave., Chantilly, VA 22021.

Begonias, Episcias, and Hoyas. Cuttings only. Send \$1 for list to B & K Tropicals, Dept. B, P.O. Box 28182, Kenneth City, FL 33709.

BEGONIAS, Texas' newest hybrids. 'Faded Love', 'New Moon', 'Kitty Twitty', 'Puffy Pop' and many more. Send \$2 for complete list. Stew's Greenhouses, HC 52, Box 2307, Bulverde, TX 78163 (512) 980-9439.

FLUORESCENT PLANT STAND. Hand-made construction in American hardwoods. Adjustable shelf. Four tube lighting. Comes fully assembled. \$159.00 plus shipping. Free brochure. J. F. Designs, 13 Elm St., Brookline, MA 02146 (617) 731-2754.

BEGONIAS. Unrooted cuttings. New, exclusive Symbegonia hybrids. New species, new hybrids, and old favorites. SASE legal size for new list. Paul Lowe, 5741 Dewberry Way, West Palm Beach FL 33415.

BEGONIAS, hundreds of varieties. 1993 season list \$2. Robert Hamm, P.O. Box 161361, Sacramento, CA 95816. Wholesale collections available.

Pacific Horticulture

The color illustrated quarterly

for keen gardeners

\$12 a year

(\$14 Canada & Mexico,

\$16 elsewhere)

P.O. Box, 485, Berkeley, CA 94701

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

June 6, 1992

The Board of Directors Meeting of the American Begonia Society was held on June 6, 1992 at the home of Rudolf Ziesenhenné, 1130 North Milpas, Santa Barbara, California.

Fourteen members were present. Parliamentarian Margaret Lee waived the requirement for a quorum.

President Notaras called the meeting to order at 1:45 p.m.

Margaret Lee read the Aims & Purposes. Minutes were approved after corrections.

Treasurer's Report, as of May 31, 1992: checking accounts, \$2,800.61; savings accounts, \$41,657.63, for a total of \$44,458.24. Eleanor Calkins stated that there might be changes for May because not all reports were in.

Correspondence:

A letter from Leora Fuentes suggested that donations could be made in memory of past members of ABS, and that ABS could be made beneficiary of a will.

Committee Reports:

Judging - Margaret Lee reported that Maxine Zinman has the Judging Courses and they will be sent out. Margaret Lee was reimbursed \$636.26 for printing of Cultural Certificates and postage; a box of Cultural Certificates was sent to Maxine Zinman.

Publications - Cynthia Bishop was appointed as Mini-Ads Manager for the *Begonian*.

Awards - Joan Coulat was appointed to the Awards Committee.

Members at Large - Thelma McRae was appointed Members At Large Director.

Bookstore - Anita Ruthenberg reported \$18.66 cash on hand. The Board voted to reimburse Anita \$285 she advanced to the Bookstore.

Seed Fund - Check for \$306.71 was received.

Advertising - Board voted to continue with advertising. Revision of "Fourteen Reasons to Join ABS" will be taken up at the Convention.

Nomenclature - Joy Porter will work with the Nomenclature Committee. The Committee's report is available to interested members from the Secretary.

Ballots - Ingeborg Foo will print the ballots.

Convention 1992 - Donations of \$1015 for show trophies and \$815 for plant sale have been received. There will be a boutique.

Round Robins - Virginia Hamann processed 10 Robins in April and 14 in May. She has restarted 7 Robins. Expenses for April and May were \$45.20.

Membership - 83 Life Members, 139 institutions, 1435 dues-paying members.

Next Board Meeting will be on Friday, August 21, 1992 at 5:30 p.m. during the National Convention.

Meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ingeborg Foo,
Secretary

Note: Minutes are condensed because of space limitations. Any members may request a copy of the complete Minutes from the Secretary. A stamped, self-addressed envelope would be appreciated.



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Artesia, CA 90701



THE AMERICAN IVY SOCIETY

is the International Registration Authority for *Hedera*; provides sources for new & unusual ivies; publishes *Ivy Journal* three times a year with reports on research, hardiness testing, life-sized photos of ivies. Memberships: General \$15; Institutional \$25; Commercial \$50. Information: The American Ivy Society, P.O. Box 520, West Carrollton, OH 45449-0520.



Elected Officers

President.....Carol Notaras
 2567 Green St., San Francisco, CA 94123
 Past President.....Jeannette Gilbertson
 410 JoAnn Circle, Vista, CA 92084
 First Vice-President.....Gene Salisbury
 P.O. Box 504, Tonkawa, OK 74653
 Second Vice-President...Millie Thompson
 P.O. Drawer PP, Southampton, NY 11968
 Third Vice-President.....Mary Bucholtz
 2411 Hendricks Ave., Jacksonville, FL32207
 Secretary.....Ingeborg Foo
 1050 Melrose Way, Vista, CA 92083
 Treasurer.....Eleanor Calkins
 910 Fern St., Escondido, CA 92027

Appointed Chairmen & Directors

Audit Committee
 Ed Bates
 P.O. Box 230502, Encinitas, CA 92023-0502
 Ralph Corwin
 1119 Loma Vista Way, Vista CA 92084
 Awards.....Thelma O'Reilly
 10942 Sunray Place, La Mesa CA 91941
 Ballot Counting.....Ronnie Nevins
 1913 Aspen Circle, Fullerton, CA 92635
Begonian, Back Issues.....Betty Tillotson
 3912 Wildrose Way, Sacramento, CA 05826
 Book Store.....Anita Ruthenberg
 1016 W. Arlington Ave., Fort Worth, TX 76110
 Branch Relations.....Douglas Hahn
 7736 Stonehill Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45230

OPENINGS:

Horticultural Correspondent;
 Research Librarian.
Begonian staff: Editor; Advertising
 Manager.
 Contact President to volunteer.

Business Manager.....Dale Elmblade
 3418 McKibbon, St. John, MO 63114-4324
 Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund.....Diana Gould
 9278 Mapleview Way, Elk Grove, CA 95758
 Conservation Committee
 Director.....Scott Hoover
 718 Henderson Rd., Williamstown, MA 01267
 Administrator.....Bruce C. Boardman
 Box 249, Roanoke, TX 76262
 Convention Advisor.....Barbara Nunes
 6025 Greeley Blvd., Springfield, VA 22152
 1992 Convention Chairmen
 Chairman.....Elda Regimbal
 3117 San Juan Dr., Fullerton, CA 92635
 Co-chairmen...Mary Sakamoto
 Brad Thompson
 Historian...Norma Pfrunder
 3484 Jefferson St., Riverside, CA 92504
 Judging.....Maxine Zinman
 Rt. 1, Box 73, Boyce, VA 22620
 Long-Range Planning.....Kay Tucker
 207 W. Southcross, San Antonio, TX 78221
 Members At Large Director.....Thelma McRae
 5471 S. Libby Rd. #15, Paradise, CA 95969
 Nomenclature.....Carrie Karegeannes
 3916 Lake Blvd., Annandale, VA 22003
 Parliamentarian.....Margaret Lee
 1852 31st St., San Diego, CA 92102
 Public Relations/Special Advertising
 Russ Richardson
 1854 Chancery Lane, Chamblee, GA 30341
 Research.....Houston Knight
 13455 Hadley St., Whittier, CA 90601
 Round Robin.....Virginia Hamann
 Rt. 1, Box 10 Chester IA 52134
 Show Entries/Classification.....Tim Last
 437 Prospect Ave. #15, Brooklyn, NY 11215
 Slide Library
 Co-Chairman.....Daniel Haseltine
 6950 W. Nelson St., Chicago, IL 60634
 Co-Chairman.....Charles Jaros
 2621 NW 23rd Court, Miami, FL 33142

BEGONIAN STAFF

Editor: Tamsin Boardman, Box 249, Roanoke, TX 76262 (817) 481-4305, 481-2169
 Nomenclature Editor: Jack Golding
 Editorial Associates: Phyllis Bates, Bruce C. Boardman, Kit Mounger, Mary Weinberg
 Mini-Ads: Cynthia Bishop, 4150 Auburn-Folsom Rd., Loomis CA95659
 For subscription, dues, circulation inquiries contact John Ingles, Jr. 157 Monument,
 Rio Dell, CA 95562-1617



Help Available from ABS

These services are available to all ABS members. For names and addresses of department heads, see preceding page. Please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope when you write.

At-Large Members

Members who do not belong to branches are represented at board meetings by the Members-at-large director. MAL committee works on projects by mail.

Bookstore

Books about Begonias and back issues of the **Begonian**.

Horticultural Correspondent

Prompt assistance with questions pertaining to growing begonias.

Judging Dept.

Certifies accredited judges through judging schools and correspondence course.

Nomenclature Dept.

Monitors newly published findings on *Begonia* names. Handles official international registrations of new *Begonia* cultivars and publishes these registrations. Gathers information about and assigns numbers to unidentified species.

Research Department

Works on problems relating to begonia culture.

Round Robins

Members exchange information about begonias and their culture through packets of letters which circulate among a small group of growers. There are dozens of these packets, called flights, on many specialized subjects.

Seed Fund

The Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund offers seeds of begonia species and cultivars by mail. New acquisitions are discussed in the **Begonian**.

Slide Library

List of programs available from Slide Librarian.

Member Input Opportunities

Conservation Department

wants lists of species grown by members.

Nomenclature Department

wants photos and information on "U" numbers members are growing from seed.

Research Department

solicits suggestions on projects and participation in research.

Seed Fund

seeks donations of seed.

Slide Library

requests individual slides of begonias as well as complete slide programs.

**See also "Openings", preceding page.
Participate. You can make a difference.**



American Begonia Society

157 Monument
Rio Dell, CA 95562-1617

Address correction requested

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