

March/April, 1993

*The* BEGONIAN



# The BEGONIAN

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*Publication of the American Begonia Society*

## **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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## COVER PHOTOS

**Front:** Mary Bucholtz of Jacksonville, Florida took this romantic close-up of the male flowers of *B. solananthera*, a fragrant trailing-scandent species discovered in Brazil in 1859.

**Back:** Jan Goodwin of Blackwood, South Australia, photographed her stunning *B. serratifetala*, one of the exotic shrub-like species from Papua New Guinea. Photo courtesy of **Begonia Australis**.

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B. 'Charles Jaros'  
shrub-like  
*B. hatacoa* x *B. deliciosa*,  
hybridized by Paul Lowe  
drawing by Kit Jeans Mounger  
from the  
Begonia Book of Days

### Quick!

**Check your mailing label!  
If it reads 3/93 or 4/93,  
your membership is about  
to expire.**

**Please renew! We don't  
want to lose you!**

# Five Months

## Make a Big Difference in Florida



above - the scene that greeted Helene Jaros and her son Charles on their return from the ABS Convention: their shade house flattened by Hurricane Andrew, with begonias crushed underneath



left and below: happy & healthy again, the Jaros' revived begonias are thriving in their rebuilt home



Photos by Charles Jaros

# **“Begonias - The Greatest Show on Earth”**

by Charles Jaros

Begonias, our favorite plants, will be under the “Big Top” at Don Shula’s Hotel and Golf Club, the site of the 1993 American Begonia Society Convention and Show May 6-9. Your hosts, the Miami Branch, promise you a fun-filled weekend of tours, special events, seminars, and Begonias, Begonias, and more Begonias.

Our hotel is located in Miami Lakes, Florida, a 15-20 minute drive north of Miami International Airport. Here you will find a quiet upper class suburb away from the hustle and bustle of downtown.

Right across the street from the hotel are cows grazing in the field! They represent what used to be Graham Dairy Farm. But it’s not all country. Over 70 shops and restaurants are available to conventioners just by stepping out the hotel doors. Golf, tennis, racquetball, basketball, and all health facilities are on site for hotel guests. Many of these activities are complimentary, including free greens use for golfing guests.

The seminars will be exceptional, and international in scope. Speakers are Roberto Brin from Panama; Hugh McLauchlan from Scotland; Dr. William Klein, Curator of Fairchild Tropical Gardens; Marilyn Goldstein, ABS Seed fund Director; Bruce Pearson from Tropical World Nursery - plus more. Jean-Marc Chaintron from Garancieres, France, President of Socotra, is to be our Banquet speaker. He has been studying begonias for 30 years.

Tours will include Fairchild Tropical Gardens, Daisy Farm Nursery, Milton Piedra Fern Haven, Flamingo Botanical Gardens, Tropical World Nursery, Gene Joyner’s Tropical Treasures, and a view of the one and only Florida Everglades by airboat. Plus an after-convention tour that Sylvia Ben will tell you about on page 43.

The latest in begonia fashions will be shown at our exclusive Begonia Fashion Show on Thursday evening, May 6. Many of these fashions will be available later through the Boutique. Not only fashion, but begonias will be highlighted during the fashion show. An auction of some outstanding plants will follow.

A major Arts & Crafts Show will be open during the weekend on Miami Lakes’ Main Street, and time has been set aside on Saturday afternoon for you to enjoy it. To find Main Street, just step outside the hotel.

Plan to spend a few extra days in South Florida. The hotel will be honoring convention rates of \$79 (single, double, triple, quad) and \$114 for suites a few days before and after the convention.

Visit the beautiful Florida Keys and Key West: a 3 hour drive. While in Key West visit Ernest Hemingway’s residence; ride the Conch Train; see Harry Truman’s Key West White House; view the treasures found in sunken Spanish galleons from centuries ago; stroll down Duval Street, where quaint shops and restaurants surround you. Enjoy the most beautiful sunset in the world at Mallory Square.

Take a 2 hour drive to the Florida West Coast. Visit Thomas Edison’s summer home in Ft. Myers. Go to the islands of Sanibel and Captiva, with the world’s best shelling beaches.

Visit the beautiful beaches of Ft. Lauderdale-Hollywood, only a 30 minute drive; or, 90 minutes away, find Palm Beach and famous Worth Avenue, hangout of the rich and famous.

In Miami visit Vizcaya Museum and Gardens, an Italian Renaissance-style

palace lavishly furnished with European antiques and works of art from the 15th to 19th century. Vizcaya was built during the boom of the 1920's by John Deering, founder of International Harvester. Enjoy Parrot Jungle and Gardens: see tropical birds amongst botanical gardens. Laugh at the Miami Seaquarium, marine biology center and home of Flipper, the porpoise; observe sea life on display.

In the Art Deco District of South Beach, Miami Beach, the roaring 20's are back; featured are unique 1920's hotels and outdoor cafes. Shop at Bayside Marketplace on the water in downtown Miami, with shops, restaurants, boutiques stocked from around the world. Stroll down trendy Coconut Grove.

All this and more awaits you in South Florida. Rental cars are available at the hotel. The weather in May is warm and tropical. It's a good time to visit; you'll beat the extra high heat and humidity of July and August. Bring comfortable, loose clothes (natural fabrics are best), and good walking shoes. You may want a light jacket or sweater for indoor air-conditioning.

So much to do, so much fun, so many beautiful begonias, so many wonderful friends! Come join us for "Begonias - The Greatest Show on Earth"!

**Y**es,

there will be a Boutique at the National Convention in Miami! We plan to have jewelry, porcelain, and clothing. All begonia crafts and art are welcome. The maker receives 80% of the sales price, ABS receives 20%. Please send your craft, well boxed, to:

Nan Scoble  
209 SE 21 St.  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33316

**Q**uestions?

Call Nan at (305) 522-3730

## Cuttings, Checks

Donations of cuttings or checks made out to ABS '93 and designated for the plant sale will be welcomed with joy! Please send to:

Plant Sale Chair Anne Fergis  
6815 SW 101st St.  
Miami, FL 33156

## Trophy Fund Donations

Division Trophies, Ribbons, and Rosettes will be needed to make the 1993 American Begonia Society Convention, "Begonias - The Greatest Show on Earth", a resounding success.

The Miami Branch is requesting donations to the Trophy Fund. Fifty dollars (\$50) will sponsor a Division Trophy; any donations will be appreciated. Branches and individuals are encouraged to participate. Make checks payable to ABS '93 and send to:

Helene Jaros,  
Awards Chairman  
2621 N. W. 23 Court  
Miami, FL 33142

***Thanks for your help!***

## **Post Convention Tour: Space & Begonias**

Hi, my name is Sylvia Ben - and this is my first time writing an article for our national magazine. I'm in charge of planning the tours for the 1993 ABS Convention in Miami, Florida, and Charles Jaros has asked me to plan a post-convention tour.

I have scheduled a very unusual tour of 3 days and 2 nights: a visit to the Kennedy Space Center and Walt Disney World in Orlando. The tour will be May 10-12, 1993.

Our first stop will be the Kennedy Space Center. A 2 hour bus tour of the launch complex 39, with highlights to include a camera stop near the massive Vehicle Assembly Building; Space Shuttle launch pads A & B; and an authentic Saturn V Moon Rocket.

We'll have lunch, on your own, at the Orbit Cafeteria, which features a menu of broasted chicken, fish basket, and pork and beef sandwich baskets.

At the IMAX Theater we will have a chance to see two spectacular movies shown on a screen 5 1/2 stories tall. "The Dream is Alive" shows a NASA astronaut living and working in space and "The Blue Planet" takes an environmental view of the Earth from a vantage point 200 miles high. (In the event of a tight time schedule, we may be able to see only one of these films.) There are many other exciting things to do at the Space Center if time allows.

At Walt Disney World, we have planned one day to visit a theme park. On the other day we attend a backstage planting ideas seminar, and tour their private facility.

This tour will give you the opportunity to see and visit the behind-the-scenes horticultural support at the 120 acre Walt Disney World Nursery and Tree Farm, where the "landscape magic" begins. We will see ongoing operations, learn the philosophies behind the facility, and review specialty procedures such as topiary artwork, hanging basket production, and, of course, some special emphasis on BEGONIAS. A Disney horticulturist will accompany us as our guide.

A luncheon and seminar at a Disney World Hotel, with a guest speaker from the nursery staff speaking on BEGONIAS, will conclude our tour.

More details are in your Convention packet. Please enroll early. Space is limited to a maximum of 50 participants, and many local members are anxious to attend (I plan to be one of them!).

*For more information, please contact Sylvia Ben, 2808 N. 46 AVE. E-551, Hollywood, FL 33021; phone is (305)964-3828.*

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# Fairchild Tropical Garden

## Before and After Hurricane Andrew

by Mary Collins

Fairchild Tropical Garden is an 83 acre botanical garden located approximately a half mile inland from Biscayne Bay in the southern part of Coral Gables, Florida. The Garden, which was designed by William Lyman Phillips, was dedicated in March, 1938. Major collections include palms, cycads, and flowering trees, shrubs, and vines representing 194 plant families. The palm collection includes about 650 species. The cycads, a primitive group of plants from the New World as well as Old World, number over 110 species, many of which are endangered.

The staff of about 35 includes horticulturists, botanists, taxonomists, curators, and plant biologists. In addition, we have about 150 active volunteers who regularly work in various areas of the Garden. Our research center has laboratories, a herbarium, reference library, and classrooms. Currently there are scientists involved in five major areas of research:

1. Studying relationships between wood structure and water movement in vine stems.
2. Constructing a computer database for trees in Miami. This will allow a beginner to identify a local tree or shrub using the computer.
3. Studying the endangered species of Chinese cycads, *Cycas*, and the West Indian species of coontie, *Zamia*. Using molecular techniques to clarify the genetic relationships between species and populations.
4. Writing a modern Flora of Florida (assisting others in this).
5. Studying the taxonomy of Brazilian palms, especially *Syagrus*.

Both Harvard and the University of Florida teach graduate-level summer courses on tropical botany at Fairchild. Florida

International University also has an agreement with our research staff to use facilities and staff for teaching and research.

We have a conservatory, the Rare Plant House, which houses plants that are extremely sensitive to cold. Rare palms and little known representatives of tropical families such as begonias are grown in this area, which can be heated during extremely cold weather.

### THE HURRICANE

Hurricane Andrew hit on August 24, 1992. Travel during the first 48 hours after the storm was nearly impossible. Recovery operations were begun on August 26, when staff members made their way to the Garden and convened an impromptu strategy session, also attended by Georgia Tasker, the Miami Herald's garden editor. As a result, an article about our need for volunteers appeared in the following Friday's paper while local radio stations broadcast numerous pleas for volunteer assistance.

Joseph Oppe, Curator of the Mounts Botanical Garden in West Palm Beach, began contacting gardens and other institutions to garner support on a level only large organizations could provide. Little did we know, isolated as we were with only one phone line working occasionally, that hundreds of individuals all over Florida and beyond were preparing to respond to our needs.

Scientists from throughout the world came to gather information and material from the storm-damaged plants. Plant biologists from Missouri Botanical Garden collected material for DNA analysis. Scientists from New York Botanic Garden collected palm samples (trunks, leaves, fruits, and roots) and herbarium vouchers



for the National Cancer Institute's survey of anti-AIDS compounds. Dr. James Aronson, from the Centre d'Ecologie Fonctionnelle et Evolutive (Montpellier, France), came to evaluate damage to collections and advise the staff on renewal and restoration. Scientists evaluated the cycad collection and collected palm buds from split, fallen specimens. Plant biologists from the Royal Botanic Gardens (Kew, England), collected wood samples from roots and branches of uprooted trees and vines. Dr. Rolf Borchert from the University of Kansas observed the flushing of new leaves and flowers in plants that were defoliated. We wanted as much information as possible to be extracted from the wake of Hurricane Andrew.

During the restoration process, over 500 volunteers worked at the Garden. The work to be done was difficult, heavy and hot. The leaf canopy had been blown away; there was no relief from the blazing sun and the brutal heat. Volunteers who arrived full of energy left hours later, bedraggled and exhausted.

Many volunteers from out of town camped out in our Corbin Education Building and took cold showers in an outdoor stall built by volunteers and festooned with palm fronds. It was about three weeks before electricity was restored; in the meantime, generators provided power for the most crucial areas. Daily lunches were provided for all staff and volunteers. The food and fellowship was often the high point of the day, especially for weary staff members who had lost their homes. Daily staff meetings were held for nearly a month to discuss what had been accomplished that day and what the next day's priorities would be.

Staff members and volunteers formed assessment teams to evaluate the collection, determining which plants could be saved and which were damaged beyond hope. Those plants which could be saved were prioritized in a classic triage operation. Those that could not be saved were also

evaluated. We were determined to extract information from fallen trees, as well as salvaging wood for both scientists and wood collectors.

Led by the staff and experienced volunteers, crews armed with chain saws and teams of brush pullers fanned out to remove the huge piles of fallen branches and trees from the plants beneath them. As quickly as possible, the uncovered plants were righted, staked, and watered.

In the nursery and Rare Plant House, staff and volunteers picked up glass and jagged pieces of metal and fiberglass that had formed the roofs of these structures. Most of the plants underneath the fallen roof of the the Rare Plant House had to be removed and replanted after a new temporary shade cover for the conservatory building was put into place. A few of the tallest plants were crushed when the roof fell.

We had a sale of logs and an auction of cut boards from the fallen tropical hardwood trees. This sale and auction, which netted \$32,000.00, was the result of weeks of collecting logs just ahead of the chain saw crews.

We had a crane in the Garden for five weeks righting fallen trees and palms. We had a crew of men, for nearly three months, using bobcats and backhoes to clean up the huge piles of debris and remove large stumps. There were groups of volunteers in the Rainforest, groups in the palmetum, teams in the flowering tree section, others in the Bahamas collection. The Garden was full of hardworking people focused on their particular assignments.

We were able to open the Garden on Saturday, October 3, just six weeks after Hurricane Andrew unleashed his fury upon Dade County. On the evening of October 3, we had a reunion of and party for the volunteers who had worked in the restoration of the Garden.

There is an area of the Garden that was left in "as-is" condition. The hurricane exhibit plot will have trails and interpretive signs explaining the damage resulting from the hurricane and the plants' way of recovering from the storm.

### THE FUTURE

The Education Department is expanding, with teacher training programs, student day programs, and horticultural therapy seminars. The adult continuing education program will proceed with an increase in both number and type of classes offered.

In a series of Hurricane Sessions panels of specialists in landscape maintenance, horticulture, nursery management, landscape architecture, fruit production, palms, flowering trees, forestry, and natural areas management answered gardening questions from homeowners. The sessions attracted more than 150 people over a three week period. In response to this interest by the community, we will be offering "Gardening Sessions" twice a year, spring and fall.

At this time, early January, the debris has been removed, the Garden has received plentiful rains during December and January, and the future looks bright. Many of the righted plants have produced an abundance of lush new growth, giving some shade for the first time since the hurricane.

The Garden did suffer the loss of a great amount of plant material. We hope to replace the losses with plants from wild collected, documented sources to upgrade the collections.

Plans for rebuilding will include improvements and expansion. There is hope for further cooperation between the Garden and various plant societies.

Fairchild Tropical Garden is alive and well, growing and improving, in spite of Hurricane Andrew. There is a full calendar of plant shows and sales beginning in February and continuing through mid-June, with additional shows in the fall. We encourage people to come see the Garden, its collections, and special events. We look forward to meeting the members of the American Begonia Society at the Convention in May.



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## In the News...

**Frank Green**, president of Buxton Branch, wrote a two-part article entitled "Begonias Overlooked by Commercial Growers", published in the Sept.-Oct. and Nov.-Dec. 1992 issues of The Plantsman.

**Begonias!** In the Winter, 1992 issue of HousePlant: Reiger Begonias were listed as one of "The Twelve plants of Christmas", and were the basis of a guest column by George Elbert in the magazine's "Foliage Plants A to Z" series.

Okay, so Elbert pronounces it "Bay-gó-nee-a"; it was a still nice write-up of our favorite plant, with cultural information and a luscious photo of an eight-year old *B. aconitifolia* grown as a bonsai.

One interesting bit of historical information: Elbert, who lives in New York City, relates that begonias were very popular during the 1960's and 70's, but began dying from "fungal diseases and unidentified causes... generally presumed to result from increasing air pollution." They are still easy to grow outside the city, he reports.

LAURAY of SALISBURY Begonias, Gesneriads, Orchids Cacti & Succulents 432 Undermountain Road, Rt. 41 Salisbury, CT 06068 203-435-2263 Usually open daily, 10 am - 5 pm 1993 Catalog \$2.00
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# Legacy of Cane Begonias

by Michael J. Kartuz

Over 330 species and cultivars of cane begonias are in cultivation today.

Most cane-like begonia species originated in Brazil. Earliest records of cane-like species date from 1800 to 1820. Three species, *B. maculata*, *B. undulata*, and *B. coccinea*, were used extensively in the development of early cane-like hybrids after 1900. (I believe what is called *B. coccinea* in the literature is similar to *B. macduffieana*, and may possibly be the same plant.)

*B. aconitifolia*, introduced in Europe in 1892, is important in the development of the Superba types by hybridizer Eva Kenworthy Gray. Another species used in the creation of Superba types is *B. sceptrum*, introduced in England in 1884. Superba types are characterized by palmately lobed leaves often splashed with silver. Examples: *B. 'Sophie Cecile'*, *B. 'Pink Jade'*, *B. 'Lana'*, etc.

*B. lubbersii* is a spreading, rather difficult species with very large greenish-white fragrant flowers and narrow, double pointed deep green leaves. It was found, accidentally, on an imported tree fern in 1880 by Louis Lubbers, Curator at the Botanical Gardens of Brussels. It was not introduced into the United States until 1957. Some *lubbersii* hybrids are *B. 'Barbara Anne'*, *B. 'Apollo'*, *B. 'Cosie'*.

Some of the earliest hybrids, *B. 'President Carnot'*, developed by Crozy of Lyon, France in 1890, and *B. 'Lucerna'*, developed in Switzerland in 1892 by Wettstein, are still grown, and have been used extensively in hybridizing.

The earliest known hybridizer of cane begonias in this country was Mrs. Theodosia Burr Shepherd, who worked in the 1920's

and 30's. Two of her introductions are *B. 'Pink Rubra'* and *B. 'Flammarion.'*

In my opinion, one of the most important cane species for hybridizing is *B. dichroa*, which is responsible for imparting its brilliant color and compact habit to progeny such as *B. 'Orange Rubra'*, *B. 'Hawaiian Sunset'*, *B. 'Mandarin Orange'*, and *B. 'Amaterasu'*. Its heritage can also be seen in *B. 'Lenore Olivier'*, *B. 'Anna Christine'*, *B. 'West Newton'*, and *B. 'Coral Chimes'*.

In addition to the above, cane begonias have been hybridized with unrelated begonia species such as *B. dregei*, giving us varieties like *B. 'Dorothy Barton'*, *B. 'Frances Lyons'*, and *B. 'Lois Burks'*.

*B. hydrocotylifolia* was used extensively by Belva Kusler, who crossed it with *B. 'Lenore Olivier'* to give us *B. 'Posy Wahl'* and *B. 'Clara Elizabeth'*. Belva Kusler also used *B. goeensis* with *B. 'Lenore Olivier'* to produce *B. 'Margaret Stevens'* and *B. 'Freda Stevens'*.

*B. 'Tingley Mallet'* and others of the "Mallet" types were used by Kusler to create *B. 'Grace Lucas'* and *B. 'Miyo Berger'*. Mallet types in general, while classified as Cane-like, should be, in my opinion, in a group by themselves, or "Shrub-like, Distinctive Foliage", as they are in no way related to canes and are mostly derived from species native to Indochina. They are more closely related to Rex begonias and have similar cultural requirements.

There are also some begonias that could be considered canes but are classified as shrub-like: *B. 'Argenteo-guttata'* (1881), *B. 'Medora'* (1826), *B. 'Dancing Girl'* (1949).



B. 'Lois Burks'

Photo by Don Miller

Here is a list of some of my favorite cane-like begonias:

Tall - 'Alice N', 'Hannah Serr', 'Jumbo Jet', 'Lana', *maculata*, 'Silvermist', 'Sophie Cecile'  
Intermediate - 'Amaterasu', 'Jeanne Fleetham', 'Marguerite DeCola'. 'Rubric', 'Spotty', 'Torch'

Dwarf - 'Anna Christine', 'Coral Chimes', 'Kathleen Meyer', 'Mandarin Orange', 'Mathild', 'Tom's Fantasy'



*In this article award-winning hybridizer Michael J. Kartuz summarized his seminar at the 1992 ABS Convention in Anaheim. His address is Kartuz Greenhouses, 1408 Sunset Dr., Vista, CA 92083.*

## IN MEMORY

It was with deep sadness we learned **Dora Hale** passed away a few days before Christmas.

She and her husband Bob joined ABS in 1958. He passed away in the mid-seventies.

Dora was a Life Member, and a Senior Judge who judged many national shows. A past President of Sacramento Branch, she held many offices and chairmanships in the branch. - Betty Tillotson

**Zephaniah "Zeph" Ballmer** died in November, 1992. A man of many interests, his careers included teacher, research chemist, and psychologist. His avocations were varied also: gardening, stamps, and model railroads. An active grower and hybridizer of begonias, he was a long-time member of Rubidoux Branch and edited their newsletter, the Rubidoux Begonia Gazette, for many years. He will be greatly missed. Our deepest sympathy to his family.



Billie & Don Asmussens' B. 'Chameleon'  
photo by Don Miller

## Newcomers from the Southwest Region

Don Miller's seminar on SWR newcomers - begonias hybridized by SWR members - was a stunning visual treat.

Beginning by paying homage to old favorites such as Mae Blanton's Begonias 'Flo'Belle Moseley' and 'Essie Hunt', Kit Jeans Mounger's 'Nancy Cummings' and 'Blue Jeans', Flo'Belle Moseley's 'Flo'Belle's Fatty', and Dorothy Caviness' 'Juanita Jewel', 'Lots of Dots', and her swirled-leaf cane 'Kathlyn Calvert', Don went on to introduce sixty new cultivars by hybridizers Billie & Don Asmussen, Barbara & Naron Stewart, John Howell, and Dorothy Caviness.

For good measure, he added slides of two new begonias by Lyla Kilpatrick of Australia - explaining that, yes, she is a member of SWR (and besides, she lives in southwest Australia).

Most of the hybrids featured were canelike and rhizomatous, the types that do well in warmer, drier climates.

Of special interest was a cross by Naron "Stew" Stewart described by Don as the most beautiful begonia in the world, and his personal favorite: it has been named B. 'Don Miller'.

The newcomers were greeted quite enthusiastically by the audience, many of whom indicated a willingness to entertain these new begonia acquaintances in their greenhouses.



# Semperflorens: The "Cinderella" Begonias

by Liz Richards

I have been growing the semps for only two years, so I wouldn't exactly call myself an expert. Actually, the reason I joined the society was to learn more about the semps. It was therefore quite a surprise to discover that they are the Cinderella among begonias: some members even look on them with contempt and scorn. Having seen all those other beautiful begonias that are on display at meetings, I have to agree, reluctantly of course, that the semp doesn't quite measure up.

However, I'd still like to say a few kind words in their defense. The facts are that as a flowering plant, grown out in the garden, the semp is just in a class all its own. It's really such a rewarding and useful plant! It has numerous advantages over other annuals and perennials: semps flower practically non-stop; there is no need for deadheading; they are not quite as thirsty as other flowers. Besides, there are not too many other plants that grow in such a wide range of aspects - from shade to full sun. They are not even too fussy about soils - some of my semps are thriving in garden beds that contain quite a bit of clay.

The reason I got hooked on semps was that I needed a border plant, in fact lots of border plants. In our garden we have over 100 metres of concrete edging, and I just needed something to soften the harsh look of all that cement. I was looking for something colorful, something with a longer lifespan than ordinary annuals. Naturally, it also had to be something not too expensive.

The humble semp turned out to be the perfect solution, with the bonus that I can propagate them myself. I have to admit, though, that there is no great challenge in doing that! If I can grow them, anybody can.

There is nothing like learning from your own mistakes. I quickly found out that you can't expect lush new plants from scrawny cuttings. Also, too much fertilizer too soon is not very helpful at all.

I usually root my cuttings out in the garden in protected areas. This is really a lazy way of doing it, as it doesn't require a special effort to look after them. They get water and fertilizer with all the rest.

Last year Elsie Paton kindly gave me a B. 'Charm', and twelve months later I have over 60 of them flourishing out in the garden. They seem to be extremely easy to root. I have noticed, though, that their root system is not quite as dense as that of other semps. They get uprooted easily during strong winds.

I found that one quick way of multiplying plants is to take one healthy specimen, about six months old, and divide it into four or six parts, depending on its size, and hey, presto! four months later you have lots of fully grown begonias. I resorted to this system when I needed 40 semps of the one color for along our footpath - it worked out very well.

Semps are very forgiving. Sometimes I move them two or three times, providing they are not too old. Of course, after transplanting they require their regular fix of liquid fertilizer (fish emulsion, nitrosol, whatever) more than ever.

When the semps start to look thin and scraggy I find it's time for a trim followed by application of liquid fertilizer. It's amazing how quickly they recover! They are usually covered with blooms again within a month. Of course it takes a lot longer if you prune

them during winter. I usually cut my semps back at least twice. To do it a third time I reckon you are pushing your luck.

Anyway, after they have been growing out in the garden for ten to twelve months, exposed to the elements plus the creepies and crawlies, they are usually past their prime. It's much easier to pull them out and start with fresh plants. No doubt you can imagine that in the meantime lots of self-seeded seedlings are popping up everywhere. So I will never be short of a fresh supply.

About fertilizing. To start the young plants off I give them an application of Osmocote or Nutricote, followed by fortnightly feeding of liquid fertilizer until they are well established. Then I ease off and let the plants fend for themselves.

About watering. During our extremely dry conditions the semps get watered three times a week by sprinkler, along with the rest of our vegetation. The semps (other than B. 'Charm') seem to be able to withstand the strong winds very well and look

none the worse for wear. In comparison, my impatiens suffer considerably and require a lot more hand watering.

Unfortunately, there is the problem with the dreaded mildew. The semps seem very susceptible to it. I spray with Bayleton about every fortnight; it doesn't seem to be 100% effective, due no doubt to the fact that it is impossible for the spray to reach underneath the leaves, where most of the mildew thrives. However, I have a lot more success keeping B. 'Charm' clean. This must be because of its much more open growing habit. I try to spray very early in the morning, so as not to antagonize the bees. Bees simply love the flowers of the semps.

The humble semps might be the underdogs of begonia life, but there will always be a place for them in my garden.

*This article comes to us from the Queensland Begonia Society Newsletter of November, 1992. Liz Richards, her husband Gordon, and their semps won "Grand Champion Garden" in 1992 in the Wynnum Manly Garden Club Competition.*

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## *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.

# Semperflorens: Nature's Landscaping



Semperflorens species *B. fischeri*, photographed in Brazil's Serra do Mar by Jacques Jangoux



# Semperflorens:

*If you grow semperflorens outside in a hot climate, read this and the next page before visiting your garden center for bedding plants...*

## The 1992 Bronze-leaved Begonia Trial

by Kregg Bodily

Dr. Steve George, Extension Horticulturist for Texas A&M University, requested that the Fort Worth Botanic Garden participate in a trial to evaluate twenty varieties of bronze-leaved semperflorens begonias for summer performance and ability to "rebound" from the heat when cooler autumn weather came along.

Small peat-potted begonias were planted on April 21, 1992; hailed upon at the end of April (this was not a planned feature of the experiment!); fertilized once in June; and otherwise left to the normal conditions of a raised bed in the Trial Garden. Evaluations for overall appearance, earliness and amount of flowering, and resistance to heat, drought, insects, and disease were taken on May 5, June 26, August 24, and October 16. The average score for each variety, based on 10 as best and 1 as poorest, was as follows:

- 8.25: 'Bingo Rose', 'Bingo Red'
- 7.50: 'Olympia Red'
- 7.25: 'Bingo Salmon', 'Ambassador Rose'
- 6.25: 'Bingo Pink'
- 4.50: 'Rio Scarlet', 'Vision Red'
- 4.00: 'Oasis Rose', 'Oasis Scarlet'
- 3.75: 'Expresso White', 'Expresso Rose', 'Oasis White'
- 3.25: 'Gin', 'Expresso Pink'
- 2.75: 'Expresso Scarlet', 'Ambassador Soft Pink', 'Vodka'
- 2.50: 'Ambassador White'
- 2.25: 'Ambassador Scarlet'

To give a more accurate assessment of the varieties than would be gained from the numbers only, the following observations are given:

'Bingo Pink', 'Bingo Rose', 'Bingo Red', 'Bingo Salmon', 'Olympia Red', and 'Ambassador Rose' were by far the best overall begonia varieties and essentially equal as summer performers. All others were poor summer performers; and of those, 'Oasis Rose' and 'Expresso Pink' were consistent in their poor performance throughout the entire planting period.

Those who have grown 'Gin' and 'Vodka' may find their poor performance a surprise. This only proves that "one experiment the truth doth not establish!"

*Kregg Bodily is in charge of the Production Greenhouses and Trial Gardens at the Fort Worth Botanic Garden.*



# Semperflorens: 1991 Trial in San Antonio

An experiment in San Antonio in 1991 tested for heat tolerance among named varieties of bedding semperflorens. The plants tested were grown from seed planted in January and set out in April and May. Osmocote was used as a pre-planting fertilizer for the April planting; plants were not irrigated.

The experiment determined that the single most important factor in survival was setting the plants out as early as possible, so that they were established before the hottest temperature begins. Also seen as beneficial were preparation of planting beds and giving some shade during the day.

Here's how 14 varieties did in the survival test at the San Antonio Botanic Center:

- 19 medium-size, blooming: 'Expresso Rose'
- 18 large: 'Bingo Rose'
- 16 large, blooming: 'All-Around Rose'
- 15 small: 'Bingo Pink'
- 14 small: 'Expresso White'
- 12 small: 'Vodka'
- 10 small: 'Rio Scarlet'
- 2 remnants: 'Oasis White'
- 1 remnant: 'Bingo Red', 'Vision Red'
- 0: 'Bingo Salmon', 'Expresso Scarlet', 'German Chocolate Red', 'Oasis Scarlet'

*Excerpted from a Bexar County Extension Office publication.*

*Thank you! to John Howell for sending it in.*

## Prepare your flower bed early!

Please bear in mind that these were tests of toughness, with no coddling for the participating begonias. Survival, disease resistance, and bloom will be much better in gardens that are watered and fertilized on a regular basis.

If summer is a time of travel, using the really tough semperflorens may give you a beautiful garden on your return...If you can locate named varieties.

Consider also using semperflorens species: they've had centuries (maybe eons) of survival during neglect.

### The Indoor Gardening Society of America, Inc. Dept. B

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# Have a Fling this Spring!

Fort Worth, Texas reflects the sophistication of a major urban center while retaining the mystical wide-open spaces of America's west. Here is the site of our 1993 Southwest Region Get-Together, "Begonia Spring Fling," to be held at Green Oaks Inn.

The Green Oaks Inn is conveniently located right on Interstate 30. Directly across the street from the hotel is an 18 hole golf course. Within a short drive (or a mile and a half walk) is Ridgmar Mall, with over 100 stores - including Neiman Marcus - providing everything from little things you forgot to bring to one-hour photo development, a place to mail packages, several restaurants, a cafeteria, fast food places, and sophisticated shopping. TGI Friday's bistro is among the eating establishments across from the mall, and there's a multi-screen cinema too.

Take Interstate 30 a few miles east, turn north on University Drive, and you'll come to the Fort Worth Botanic Garden, with its large begonia collection, library, and species bank. The Botanic Garden also has a Japanese Garden, perennial garden, trial garden (see page 53 for a begonia trial conducted last year), rose garden, native cactus display, color gardens, woodland trails, gift shops, and "the Gardens" restaurant. Trinity Park, across University Drive to the east, offers playgrounds, a duck pond, and miles of walking/jogging trails along the Trinity River. Following University to the south will take you to the Fort Worth Zoo and Log Cabin Village; University north leads to Casa Manana theater.



Northwest of the Garden is Fort Worth's Cultural District, encompassing the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History, an exciting place for children of all ages with inter-active displays, travelling exhibits, a western town, a planetarium, the Omni Theater with its 180 degree projection, and a small cafeteria; and three art museums: the Kimbell Museum, the Amon Carter Museum, and the Museum of Modern Art. The Kimbell has an elegant lunchroom featuring soups, salads, fresh baked loaves of bread, and sinful desserts; both the Kimbell and the Carter have outstanding book stores, and film series on weekends. If you like salad bars, be sure to try the Back Porch restaurant across the street from the Kimbell on Camp Bowie; they've also got soups, sandwiches, pizza by the slice, and desserts including home-made ice cream.

Downtown Fort Worth offers its famous Water Gardens and the Convention Center, both easily located off Interstate 30.

North lies Sundance Square, surrounded by fancy hotels, boutiques, and

restaurants in restored turn of the century buildings; the Sid Richardson collection of Remington & Russell western art; and the Caravan of Dreams with a first floor nightclub, second floor theater, and third floor geodesic dome greenhouse with a collection of cacti and succulents from all over the world, many of them rare and endangered. (If you'd like to see the collection, please make a note on your registration form. There is a \$2 admission fee. ABS member Eve Fox is curator, and will try to work out meeting you there.) Also of horticultural interest in the Sundance Square area is the Botanical Research Institute of Texas herbarium and botanical library, with a complete collection of Curtis Botanical Magazine (now Kew Magazine).

Be sure to notice Fort Worth's illuminated skyline! It's especially pretty from the top of the Caravan, and from the front porch of the Amon Carter Museum.

For history buffs or just for fun are the renown Fort Worth Stockyards, with shops, bars, restaurants sporting a western motif. The Cattleman's Steakhouse & Star Cafe are excellent beef purveyors; nearby is the Stockyards Hotel, lovingly restored to its turn-of-the-century origins. Billy Bob's, billed as the world's largest 'honkytonk', includes a rodeo!

Tour #1 on Saturday afternoon will take you via Tarantula Railroad's 1896 steam engine to the Stockyards (yes, boots and stetsons will be on sale in the shops) and then on to the Botanic Garden. Tour #2 will go to the Botanic Garden only.

The Cultural District, downtown, and the Stockyards area are all accessible by foot; Fort Worth has trails connecting almost every part of the city. Horse-drawn carriages are available for rent on weekend evenings.

The north central Texas area has more to offer: 40 miles to the southwest on highway 377, the town of Granbury boasts an 18th century Opera House, now home

to an acclaimed theatre troupe; and antique shops, craft shops, bakeries, and several fine eateries. Nearby is Dinosaur Valley State Park, with footprints made eons ago in what is now the Paluxy River, and Fossil Rim Wildlife Center, where endangered cheetahs, rhinos, and other species are bred; both offer great vistas of the northern Texas Hill Country, and Fossil Rim has tours, a terrific gift shop, a rainforest greenhouse (with begonias), and a small restaurant. With luck, your drive will be brightened by fields blanketed with Texas wildflowers.

Head east - still on Interstate 30 - to Arlington and Six Flags amusement park, the House of Wax, and Ripley's Believe It or Not Museum in Grand Prairie; Arlington is also home to the Texas Rangers, and baseball season will have started. Keep going east and you'll arrive in Dallas, home to North Haven Gardens, the nursery with the largest begonia collection in the southwest. To get there, just follow Interstate 30 east from the hotel, take US 75 (Central Expressway) north to the Forest Lane exit, go under Central & back to the south on the access road to Northaven Road, and go west a few blocks.

All of this is within 40 miles of Green Oaks Inn. There's more to see, but we want you to come on down and discover Texas for yourself instead of just reading about it. Packets go out to Southwest Region members the first week in February; if you're not a member but would like to come, drop a note to Get-Together Chair Barbara Hamilton, 268 Shoreline Drive, Azle, TX 76020. Azle's near Fort Worth, and near the 3500 acre Fort Worth Nature Center, miles of trails through hills and prairie and wetlands, a herd of buffalo, great birding, and a good gift shop... but we promised to stop. Any questions? Need a map or two? Special requests? Just write and let us know!

more "odd things begonias do"



The original B. U168 is on the right, with the new green-leaved plant on the left. The smaller bronzed leaves on the green plant come from a shoot from below the soil.

## B. U168 Turns Green

### 3. U168

*Polillo, Philippines. Imported by Martin Johnson, 1985. Shrub-like. Stems slender, slightly swollen at nodes, green turning corky with age. Leaf blades olive green flushed bronze with silvery splattered areas and sparsely scattered hairs above, glabrous and red below, ovate, acute, obliquely cordate, palmately 5-lobed, 2 1/2"-3" x 1 3/4", marginally serrate, ciliate. Petioles pale red, glabrous, 3/4". Stipules green, setiferous, keeled, quickly drying, persistent, 1/2"-3/4". No record of B. U168 flowering in cultivation. Widely distributed by cuttings. Needs protection from cold and overwatering during winter months when it goes semi-dormant.*

Description by Thelma O'Reilly, **begonian**, March-April 1991

Volume 60 March-April 1993

Text and photo by Don Miller

I was running through the greenhouse at North Haven Gardens, looking for a red passion vine a customer had requested. I told my customer I would check our growing area, and was doing just that when out of the corner of my eye I saw something strange. There was an old stock plant of B. U168, and growing from one of the stems were green leaves and white flowers.

I stopped to look at it more closely. Yes, B. U168 had sported - or had it reverted back to its original form? It was blooming, small white flowers. I must take a picture of this, I thought. Then back to reality: a customer was waiting for that red passion vine.

Well, it was spring, and never enough time to do what you want. I did get back a few days later, and cut the green-leaved branch off and rooted it. The green leaves got larger and larger. Now they measure 8 1/2" x 4" to 5". This new leaf is olive

green, sparsely hairy, ovate, and the leaf margin is doubly serrate. The back of the leaf is sparsely hairy and has a slight red-dish tint.

Nor was this the last of B. U168's surprises. As the green-leaved plant grew, a branch came up from the soil with leaves that were slightly bronzed and had a little silver in them, bearing only a very slight resemblance to the original B. U168 leaf. These smaller slightly bronzed leaves measure 4"-5" x 2 1/2"-3".

I can't wait to see what happens next. This is an important clue to the true identity of this striking unidentified begonia.

If anyone has any other information about the begonia, please let me know. Thelma O'Reilly, director of the U# project for the Nomenclature Department, would also like to hear from you. Her address is 10942 Sunray Place, La Mesa, CA 91941.

*Horticulturist Don Miller lives and grows prize-winning begonias at 1010 Mt. Auburn, Dallas, TX 75223.*



## Coming Events

**March 4-7: Dallas Area Branch** will have a booth at the Dallas Home & Garden Show, Market Hall in Dallas.

**March 13-21: Knickerbocker Branch** will have a booth at the New York Flower Show at Pier 92, 51st St. & the Hudson River.

**March 25-28: Matthaei Botanical Gardens** at the University of Michigan 4th annual Ann Arbor Flower & Garden Show, "Walk on the Wild Side". Over 200 exhibits, including landscaping for wildlife; lectures, demonstrations, plant society displays, Marketplace, refreshments. 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. Thurs-Sat., 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sun. \$7 adults, \$3 children 12 & under. For more information call (313) 998-7002.

**April 3-4: Barkley Branch Show & Sale, "Begonias-Oklahoma Style"**, at Will Rogers Garden Center, Oklahoma City.

**April 16-18: Southwest Region Get-Together, "Begonia Spring Fling"** at Green Oaks Inn, Fort Worth, Texas. Mae Blanton Branch is sponsoring. Packets went out to members the first week in February. Non-members welcome! For a packet, write Chairman Barbara Hamilton, 268 Shoreline Dr., Azle, TX 76020.

**April 17-18: Pinellas County Branch Show & Sale** at the Bay Area Outlet Mall.

**April 30-May 1: Jacksonville Branch Annual Show & Sale**, Roosevelt Mall, Roosevelt Blvd. (US 17) at San Juan Ave.

*Deadline for next issue is March 15*

### **May 6-9: 1993 American Begonia Society Convention, "Begonias - The Greatest Show on Earth"**

Don Shula Inn & Golf Resort, Miami Lakes, Florida. Miami Branch is host. Packets are out! Contact Chairman Charles Jaros, 2621 NW 23rd Ct., Miami, FL 33142 if yours doesn't arrive.

# BULLETIN BOARD

ABS News



## Elections Coming

The ABS Board has appointed the following Nominating Committee for the 1993 elections:

Elda Regimbal, Chair  
3117 San Juan Dr.  
Fullerton, CA 92635

Russ Richardson  
1854 Chancery Lane  
Chamblee, GA 30341

Joan Coulat  
4111 De Paul Court  
Sacramento, CA 95821

Contact any of them to volunteer for a spot on the ticket or to make a recommendation. They would very much like to hear from you!

The proposed slate of officers will be presented to the Board by **April 3**. Additional nominations may be put on the ballot by petition, signed by at least 15 members of ABS and received by the secretary by **May 3**.

Ballots will be mailed by **June 17**, and must be returned by **July 21**. Ballots will be counted on **July 22**.

*ABS will be a much better organization if you participate.*

## Attention, Branch Officers

Please check your listing in the *Directory* on page 65 and send corrections to the Editor - who should be, but alas is not, psychic.

## March 26

is the deadline for nominations for ABS' top three awards. See the **Begonian**, May-June 1992, for criteria for nominees and a list of previous winners.

To submit a nomination, send your candidate's name and the reasons for your nomination to Awards Chairman Thelma O'Reilly, 10942 Sunray Place, La Mesa, CA 91941.

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## MAL

### Newsletter

The latest Members-at-Large newsletter, the first put out by new MAL Director Thelma McRae, has hit the mailboxes, and a delightful issue it is. Guest columnists include past MAL Director Thelma O'Reilly, writing on B. 'Dainty Spray'; Jeffrey Stuart (NY), Marie Harrell (TX), Carl Walker, Jr. (NC), and Ruth Davis (CA). McRae herself tells of her exciting trip to England (and Kew Gardens), Scotland, and Paris, where she met new friends in the Begonia Society of France.

Members at Large may join the MAL Committee by sending a stamped, self-addressed legal-size envelope (or 3 stamped envelopes in one for the same 29 cent stamp) to Thelma McRae, 5471 S. Libby Rd. #15, Paradise, CA 95969.

## Judges' Corner

Judges planning to attend the ABS Convention in Miami are urged to contact Judging Chair Maxine Zinman, Rt. 1, Box 73, Boyce, VA 22620.

# Conservation News

## Buying a Piece of the Preservation Action

Would you like to own a BIG piece of rainforest? A whole acre? A square mile? Two programs allow you to participate in protecting the rainforest in a personal way:

For \$35, you can "Adopt an Acre" through the **Nature Conservancy**. You'll get: an honorary deed telling you where your protected acre is, plus reports from local managers telling you what's happening on your acre. Nature Conservancy acts in partnership with local conservation organizations in Latin America; they're currently involved in protecting 35 million acres, all chosen for biodiversity.

To participate, write the Nature Conservancy, 18815 N. Lynn St., Arlington, VA 22209, or call 1 (800) 628-6860.

The **World Wildlife Fund** offers a similar program aimed at the pristine rainforests of Papua New Guinea. Costs to help out in the "Guardian of the Rain Forest" program are amazingly low: \$16.67 to protect one square mile; \$50.01 for 3 square miles, \$83.35 for 5, - just keep multiplying that \$16.67 per square mile.

Papua New Guinea is home to over 11,000 *known* plant species. New Guinea begonias include shrub-like, distinctive foliage *Begonias brevirimosa* and *serratipetala*,; B. U057; and *Symbegonias fulvo-villosa*, *sanguinea*, U012, and U013.

Contact World Wildlife Fund at 1250 Twenty-fourth St. NW, Washington DC 20037 or call 1 (202) 293-4800 for more information.

Both organizations do more than just buy land: they inventory species, conduct research, educate and train local workers in conservation and "sustainable harvest" techniques (and pay them a living wage), encourage responsible eco-tourism. Researchers just might find new begonia species. Either protection plan would make a great gift for a conservation-minded friend.

One warning: you'll receive requests for more money. But neither organization has descended into telemarketing, and at least it's for a worthwhile cause.

## Conservation Fact:

One mature tree consumes an average of 13 pounds of carbon dioxide per year. One acre of trees can absorb over two and a half tons of carbon dioxide a year.

## Species Bank Update:

The Begonia Species Bank at the Fort Worth Botanic Garden has 400+ begonia species (not including dormant tuberous species).

## Species Listing Project:

The ABS Conservation Department maintains a list of Begonia species in cultivation. As rainforests die around the world, the list serves to let us know which species are to be found in cultivation (and thus not endangered) and which are seriously in danger of extinction - or perhaps lost already.

ABS members growing species are urged to send their species list to Kingsley Langenberg, 2141 Bonnie Brook Lane, Waukegan, IL 66087.



## Quote:

"To see, one must deny the ego and humble himself in front of Mother Nature." - C. DuBack, quoted in the [Palomar Planter](#)



# ROUND ROBIN NOTES

Virginia Hamann, Round Robin Director

## #9, Growing under Lights:

Sent out June 11, 1992, this Robin made it all the way through its flight by Sept. 11. That is great "flying time!"

Rhodora Buss (IA) mentioned that viable-looking seed did not germinate. Mae Blanton (TX) suggested that seeds can be dormant at certain times of the year. They will wait until growing conditions are right - maybe a wait of several weeks or months. Hang on to those seed trays, folks, don't toss them out too soon!

Daniel Haseltine (IL) uses capillary matting under some of his lights to keep humidity up and temperatures down.

Mary Bucholtz (FL) told how her Branch was given a plant they called "Taiwan species." It was a cutting sent them from Taiwan. A cutting of the same plant given to Millie Thompson in 1979 was researched and years later *B. maculata* was re-introduced into cultivation. *B. maculata* has been discussed in several robins; its history is most interesting.

## #82, General Culture:

Tamsin Boardman (TX) tells us that anti-transpirants (also known as anti-dessicants) such as Sun Shield and Wilt-Pruf may be the answer to guarding against mildew. (See the May-June issue of Organic Gardening for a discussion of the research.) She also told of a potting soil called Vital Earth, made from landfill wastes; the company has formulas for azaleas, potted plants, topsoil, compost, and mulch. All of the processes for creating the mixes were explained during a recent garden club field trip. Imagine piles and piles of wonderful smelling soil, all made from garbage! And not a fly in sight.

Mabel Corwin (CA) enjoyed having the tour groups during the ABS Convention. Her main concern was keeping her plants in peak condition for the visitors. Asked for advice on growing, she tells us "you each have to do your own thing" as all growing

conditions are not the same. For example, orchid bark in a mix works for her, but perhaps not for someone else. That is the challenge and fun of growing begonias!

## #25, Midwest Growers:

*Did you know that there are three Minnesotans and six Iowans in the ABS membership? Just enough for a Robin - if anyone is interested, let me know. I have three people signed up already for Midwest Growers II.*

Wind, cooler temperatures, and rain made for traumatic growing outdoors - for the growers, that is: the begonias did very well. Rhodora Buss (IA), tired of picking up her big canes, moved them into an entry way or on to her back porch. Plenty of light and ventilation made for happy plants.

Begonias 'Small Change' and 'Five & Dime' - are they the same plants with different names, or two plants that are very similar? Members have discussed them at length.

Helen Clements (IL) had fun at county fairs winning lots of blue ribbons on her plants and Championship ribbons on woodcarving and plants.

Mary McClelland (NE) has discovered two natural fertilizers made out of corn by-products, Natures and Magnagrow. She reports large blooms and no mildew problems since using these. Another good use for a Midwest product - Corn.

Members were busy last fall getting plants indoors, as winter weather was just around the corner. Marvin Kahr (IA) keeps geraniums over winter by pulling the plants and storing them barerooted in the basement. They revive in spring when watered and repotted.

## #20, Photography:

Members enclose pictures taken of plants and vacation spots. Each member comments on the photos, and gives advice on lighting, or the lens to use. Beatrice

Huckeried van der Laan enclosed pictures of her home in the Netherlands, and a lovely fisherwoman on vacation.

**#42, Terrariums:**

Mae Blanton (TX) enclosed her booklet on planting and growing terrariums (available through the ABS Bookstore). Among the plants that members are using in plantings are *Begonias versicolor*, *acaulis*, *metachroa*, and Buttercup. Esther Nagelberg (FL) grows *B. bartonea* 'Winter Jewel' in her containers.

Lillian Oberlies (KY) cautions members to keep their terrariums cool in summer, out of direct sunlight, and to avoid wet soil during the winter months.

**#8, Tuberous:**

Storage of tubers for winter was the topic discussed. Ken Mackey (NZ) covers

tubers with old potting soil. Marvin Kahr (IA) puts tubers in pail or box and forgets them until spring! To avoid their sprouting too soon, he covers them with a rug to keep them in the dark.

Howard Siebold (WA) suggests that, if the storage area is heated, low humidity be maintained using a porous material that can be kept damp. The tubers should not be so wet they rot; check them every four weeks. If rotting does occur, cut the rotten spot away with a melon ball cutter, and dust the wound with sulphur.

*Interested in joining a Robin? Drop me a line. If a flight is full, I can start another one.*

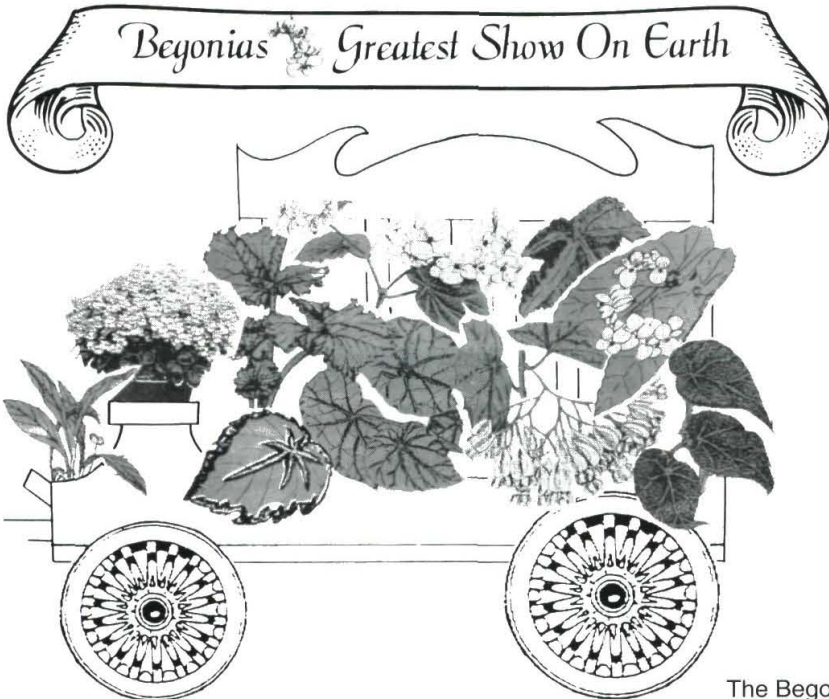
Virginia Hamann  
Rt. 1, Box 10  
Chester, IA 52134

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## 61st American Begonia Society Convention

Hosted by the Miami Branch

May 6-9, 1993





# AROUND ABS

## Notes from our Newsletters

Happy Birthday! To all of us, really, as Long Beach Parent Chapter celebrated its - and ABS' - 61st birthday with cake, festivities, and Rudy Ziesenhenne as guest speaker.

Also celebrating were San Francisco Branch, 54 years old and going strong; Alfred D. Robinson Branch, just 50 this year; and Monterey Area Branch (a mere youngster), 22 in February.

Another celebration - New Year - has come and gone, but the resolutions linger on, we hope. Resolved in the Begoniac, newsletter of Potomac Branch:

"Grow a large variety of begonias for the 1993 show. Learn more about begonias - culture and care. Recruit more members for the Begonia Society."

Another project Potomac is tackling is earning more money for the branch treasury. Their program in January included a speaker on fund-raising for charitable purposes.

If you like a good thriller, you'll enjoy this from editor Herbert Bloom of the San Francisco Begonian:

"January sixth, cold, pouring rain, very dark, windy and a thoroughly miserable weather night, but there were twenty-four hardy souls gathered for a meeting.

"No, not the start of a stark murder mystery, just a description of our January meeting. Just before the meeting broke up, the heavens opened up with a deluge..."

Their speaker for the evening was author/radio personality/gardener Albert Wilson, who drove in from out of town through the storm with samples of shrubs and trees for a talk on landscaping. Mr. Wilson is a young man of 93! Perhaps there is a mystery after all: how can we all retain the zest, energy, and stamina of Albert Wilson?

Several branches work with local gardens and parks in establishing begonia beds: Astro with Mercer Arboretum, Miami with Fairchild, Southwest Region with Fort Worth Botanic Garden, to name a few. Now Fort Lauderdale Branch is saying "think Flamingo": members are putting in a begonia garden at Flamingo Botanic Gardens - they may finish up in time for their work to be viewed by Conventioneers in May.

Julie Kort, editor of the Rubidoux Begonia Gazette, found a silver lining in a must-do chore. As she reported last November:

"A very necessary undertaking, started this summer and continuing (ad infinitum), is labeling. What I happily discovered is that in the very tedious process of looking up each and every plant, a wealth of information comes alive. I've staked half a dozen awkward plants, moved some into brighter light, repotted, experimented, etc. A small plant of B. 'Argenteo-guttata' sulking at the beginning of the season actually caught up with a much larger plant after several months in a terrarium. They are now together in a protected, moist area, and it's hard to tell which is which!"

Discussions of begonia pests usually center on mealy bugs. But editor Barbara Berg of Knickerbocker News had bigger pests attack her garden: neighborhood cats. She found a remedy in a magazine (unnamed in the newsletter):

"mix 1 quart of water, 1 large garlic bulb, 1 teaspoon cayenne pepper, 1 teaspoon onion powder in a blender and process well. Sprinkle around flowers and vegetables."

Actually, the recipe sounds like a good soup starter - but not, apparently, for cats.

Do you think the thick-stemmed begonias are homely? This article from the Pinellas County [Shadehouse](#) may change your mind:

Plant of the Month for January is B. 'Chuck Jaros', a hybrid thick-stemmed type originated by Paul Lowe and named after the popular Miami begonia enthusiast.

'Chuck Jaros', being thick-stemmed, needs some special care. Most thick-stemmed varieties appreciate a certain dryness at the roots, never to have excess moisture to accumulate, or they may rot. They also appreciate some bright sunlight during the day, not too intense but enough to maintain the dryness they so crave. Most have thick leaves, which enable the plant to handle the sunlight without burning.

'Chuck Jaros' definitely shows the characteristics of one of its parents, *B. reniformis*. The leaves are apple green with beautiful pleats running through them. This creates a nice textured effect both to the touch and to the eyes. The plant can get

quite tall (some of mine have reached four feet) but will require stakes to prevent the lanky stems from toppling over. If pinched or cut frequently, they can be kept more compact and bulky so they may not need staking.

This is one hombre that can be depended on to bloom. During the winter months, each stem tip shoots up beautiful, pure white spikes that contrast neatly with the foliage. Mine are now in full bloom and are among the showiest plants in the yard or greenhouse.

'Chuck Jaros' is quite easy to propagate, as stem cuttings root readily. If a few cuttings are stuck together, you can have a nice small plant quickly and without much effort - as long as they are allowed to dry out between waterings.

I think everyone should have this plant in his collection. It is an easy grower, requires little care, and offers rewards for both the beginner and the advanced grower.

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## Quote:

apropos April 15th: "Fixed Income" is what's left over after the car is fixed, the roof is fixed, the plumbing is fixed, etc., etc., etc. - San Francisco [Begonian](#)

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## Southwest Region Get-Together 1993

***Y'all come!***

If you just can't make it, participate anyway: artistic entries and educational exhibits may be sent to Show Chair Don Miller, 1010 Mt. Auburn, Dallas, TX 75223. Please enclose return postage.

# DIRECTORY OF BEGONIA SOCIETIES

## INTERNATIONAL SOCIETIES

### Australia

#### Association of Australian Begonia Societies

Kevin Handreck, Pres.  
2 Birdwood St.  
Netherby 5062

#### Associated Societies:

##### Begonia Society of Western Australia, Inc.

Lyla Kilpatrick, Pres.  
Lot 44 Canns Rd.  
Bedfordale 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

##### Victorian Begonia Society, Inc.

Philip Wright, Pres.  
74 Railway Place  
Macedon 3440

### 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 M11100NQ, 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  
Crystal Zook, Pres.  
526 San Elijo St.  
San Diego, CA 92106

##### East Bay

3rd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.  
Northbrae Com. 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 Friday, 12:30 p.m.  
 Apollo Neighborhood Center  
 Apollo Park  
 12458 Rives Ave.  
 South Downey  
 Vivian Hill, Pres.  
 5133 Ashworth St.  
 Lakewood, CA 90712

**Monterey Bay Area**

4th Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.  
 Monterey Senior Cntr,  
 Lighthouse & Dickman Sts.  
 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  
 Mabel Corwin, Pres.  
 1119 Loma Vista Way  
 Vista, CA 92084

**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.  
 Auditorium  
 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  
 Rudolf Ziesennehenne,  
 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**

Evelyn Isaac, Pres.  
 2022 Bataan Rd.  
 Redondo Beach, CA  
 90278

**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  
 Sylvia Ben, Pres.  
 2808 N. 46th Ave. #E551  
 Hollywood, FL 33021

**Jacksonville**

3rd Monday, 7:30 p.m.  
 Garden Club  
 1005 Riverside Ave.  
 Jacksonville  
 Ruby Young, Pres.  
 231 Tallulah Ave.  
 Jacksonville, FL 32208

**Miami**

4th Tuesday, 8 p.m.  
 Simpson Garden Center  
 55 SW 17th Rd.  
 Miami  
 Alma Crawford, Pres.  
 14250 Madison St.  
 Miami, FL 33176

**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  
 Bob Koehler, Pres.  
 5300 48th Terrace N.  
 St. Petersburg, FL 33709

**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**

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

**MINNESOTA**

Minnesota  
 no information

**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  
 Jim Jolly, Pres.  
 300 N. Hickory Lane  
 Moore, OK 73160

**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**

no information

**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.  
 Northaven Gardens  
 7700 North Haven 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 let us know of  
 updates and corrections.

*Minnesota -  
 Rhode Island -  
 are you out there?*



# ABS BOOKSTORE

## BOOK LIST

### **The Begonia Book**

Eva Kenworthy Gray. Softback. \$5.00

### **Begonia**

Hikari. In Japanese; no translation. 32 pgs. color photos. Softcover. \$13.00

**The BEGONIAN: Earliest Issues.** Jan. 1934-June, 1938. \$25.00

**BEGONIAN Index, 1941-1989.**

Pat Williams. \$8.50.

### **Begonias**

Uemura, a Green and Flower Book. 131 pages, 171 pictures. In Japanese; pictures have English titles. \$13.00

### **Begonias**

Bill Wall. 44 color photographs. Softback. \$8.50

### **Begonias: A Complete Guide**

Eric Caterall. Hardback only. \$40.00

### **Catalog of Registered Cultivars**

Lists 100 first registered cultivars of the genus begonia. Softback. \$4.50

### **Growing Begonias**

Eric Caterall. 132 pages, 16 color photos, 154 b/w photos, 22 line drawings. Softback. \$19.00

### **Hyakka Begonia**

In Japanese; no translation. 112 pages, 64 pages color photos. Softcover. \$20.00

### **Les Begonias**

Charles Chevalier. English trans. by Alva Graham. Softback. \$6.00

### **Potting Mixes**

Kevin Handreck et al. 48 pages. Softback. \$8.00

### **Terrariums for Begonias**

Mae Blanton. \$1.50

### **Tips for Begonia Beginners**

Dorothy Patrick, ill. Kit Jeans Mounger. \$3.50

## LISTS

### **Unidentified Begonia Listing**

Thelma O'Reilly. 11 pages. \$1.50

**1993 ABS Membership Roster** \$7.50

## PAMPHLETS

### **Begonias from Seed**

4 pages. \$.50

**Constitution & By-Laws, ABS** \$1.50

### **Culture of Begonias**

12 pages. \$.75

### **Curtis Botanical Magazine Reprints**

Antique color prints of begonias reproduced from the Curtis Botanical Magazine of the 1800's. 6" x 9" prints suitable for framing. Set of 8 \$6.00

### **Epidermal Outgrowths in Begonia.**

Harriet B. Creighton. 16 pages. \$1.00

### **Guidelines for National Conventions and Annual Shows**

Thelma O'Reilly. \$3.00

### **Other items:**

Notebook Binders

Each \$7.00; 4 or more, \$ 6.75 each

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To order, make check, money order, or bank draft in US funds payable to ABS Bookstore. Texas residents add 7 3/4% sales tax. Prices include shipping within USA; foreign order add 20% postage.

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USA



## 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 1993 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.

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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.

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

**HOUSEPLANT MAGAZINE** - Enjoy indoor gardening, travel, humor, hydroponics, tips for better growing, and information about your favorite houseplants - all in one delightful, full-color magazine. 1993 Discount subscription rate to ABS members. One year for four issues \$15.95 US/\$19.95 Canada & Mexico/\$24.95 overseas. Sample copy \$3.50 US/\$4.50 Canada & Mexico/\$5.50 overseas. US Funds drawn on US Bank only. For VISA/MC orders call 1(800)892-7594; or mail to **HOUSEPLANT MAGAZINE**, PO Box 1638-BS, Elkins, West Virginia 26241-1638.



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### Elected Officers

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 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....Claire Frontera  
 3131 Patriot Lane, Sacramento, CA 95827  
 Book Store.....Anita Ruthenberg  
 1016 W. Arlington Ave., Fort Worth, TX 76110  
 Branch Relations.....Douglas Hahn  
 7736 Stonehill Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45230  
 Business Manager.....Dale Elmlade  
 3418 McKibbon, St. John, MO 63114-4324

Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund....Marilyn Goldstein  
 1001 Diplomat Parkway, Hollywood FL 33091  
 Conservation Committee  
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 718 Henderson Rd., Williamstown, MA 01267  
 Administrator.....Bruce C. Boardman  
 Box 69, Bluff Dale, TX 76433  
 Convention Advisor.....Elda Regimbal  
 3117 San Juan Dr., Fullerton, CA 92635  
 Convention Chairman.....Charles Jaros  
 2621 NW 23rd Court, Miami, FL 33142  
 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.....Thelma McRae  
 5471 S. Libby Rd. #15, Paradise CA 95969  
 Nomenclature.....Carrie Karegeannes  
 3916 Lake Blvd., Annandale, VA 22003  
 Parliamentary.....Margaret Lee  
 1852 31st St., San Diego, CA 92102  
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 1854 Chancery Lane, Chamblee, GA 30341  
 Research.....Houston Knight  
 13455 Hadley St., Whittier, CA 90601  
 Research Librarian.....Stephen Coppins  
 30 Mygatt St., Binghamton NY 13905  
 Round Robin.....Virginia Hamann  
 Rt. 1, Box 10., Chester, IA 52134  
 Slide Library  
 Co-Chairman.....Daniel Haseltine  
 6950 W. Nelson St., Chicago, IL 60634  
 Co-Chairman.....Charles Jaros  
 2621 NW 23rd Court, Miami, FL 33142

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### OPENINGS: BEGONIAN EDITOR, HORTICULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

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### BEGONIAN STAFF

Editor: Tamsin Boardman, P.O. Box 69, Bluff Dale, TX 76433 (817) 728-3485  
 Nomenclature Editor: Jack Golding  
 Editorial Associates: Phyllis Bates, Bruce C. Boardman, Kit Mounger, Mary Weinberg  
 Advertising Staff:  
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 Display Ads, Ann Salisbury, P.O. Box 504, Tonkawa, OK 74653  
 Plant Society Ads, Wanda Macnair, 177 Hancock St., Cambridge, MA 02139  
 For subscription, dues, circulation inquiries contact John Ingles, Jr. 157 Monument,  
 Rio Dell, CA 95562-1617 95562116171617



## **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  
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Address correction requested

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