

# The BEGONIAN

*Devoted to the Sheltered Gardens*



TUBEROUS  
BEGONIA  
GIANT



Dorothy Powell Photo



Taken at '52 Convention



MAY  
1953



TWENTY-FIVE  
CENTS



VOL. XX  
No. 5



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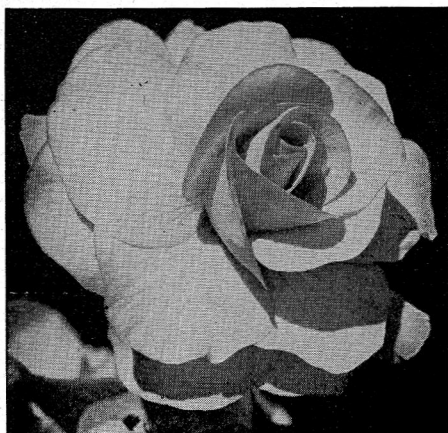
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The next Board meeting of the American Begonia Society will be held in the Los Angeles City Hall, Room 1305, 7:30 p.m., May 25, 1953. Use Main St. elevator. Park lower garage, south entrance on Main Street.

\* Annual Dues—Two Dollars Fifty Cents.  
\* Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office of Los Angeles, California, under the act of March 3rd, 1879.

\* Business Office—1633 Golden Gate Ave., Los Angeles 26, Calif.

# The BEGONIAN

MAY —

## THE PINK MONTH

Consider the miracle of each new pink-tinged leaf unfolding—

Each fragile blossom brightly the bees embolding.

## The Genus *Begonia* in Cuba

By Brother Alain, Herbario De La Salle, Vedado, Habana, Cuba\*

In the writing of the Flora of Cuba, I had the opportunity to work on the Cuban Begoniaceae, and to study the different species of *Begonia* in Cuba. Besides the material at Herbario De La Salle, Havana, I have examined the Baker Herbarium, at Santiago de Las Vegas, the Herbarium of the New York Botanical Garden, the Gray Herbarium and the Herbarium of the Arnold Arboretum. I am much indebted for the help in my work for the Flora of Cuba, to the officials of all named Herbaria, and chiefly to the valuable help received from the Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, by means of a fellowship, which enabled me to work at the New York Botanical Garden.

I have listed 11 species of *Begonia* in Cuba; the leaves of the Cuban species are rather small and inconspicuous, as are also the flowers. Nevertheless, there are several species worthy of culture, though some of them are quite hard to find. One of our *Begonias*, *B. glabra*, climbs on trees, always in mountains of middle elevation. *Begonia wrightiana* and *B. towarensis* have rather large leaves, but the latter has been collected only once in Oriente province, by Charles Wright, perhaps from cultivated plants. The nicest Cuban species are *B. Cowellii* and *B. Ekmanii*, very rare plants;

the first one has been collected only twice, and the second is known only from the type collection.

Eight out of our eleven species are endemic in Cuba; one is common to Cuba and Jamaica, and two others are common in tropical America; *B. towarensis* has been collected only once in the Antilles, and may be from a cultivated plant.

In the following systematic treatment, I include a key for the Cuban species, followed by the references and notes for each species. When it is known, the type locality is given.

### KEY TO THE CUBAN SPECIES

Climbing vine .....1.—*B. glabra*.  
Erect or ascending herbs, or low depressed plants.

Stipules entire, commonly mucronate.

Petiole 3.5-8 cm. long.

Petiole lateral in the leaves; stipules 10-14 mm. long .....2.—*B. Wrightiana*.

Petiole basal in the leaves; stipules 4-5 mm. long .....3.—*B. libanensis*.

Petiole 0.5-2 cm. long.

Leaves incise-dentate, teeth acute.

Leaf-margins ciliate; stipules mostly 1 cm. long; adult stem black and smooth. 4.—*B. obliqua*.

Leaf-margins glabrous; stipules 6-8 mm. long; adult stem grayish and papillose. 5.—*B. maestrensis*.



Leaves crenate-dentate, with obtuse teeth, or sub-entire.

Leaves oblong-lanceolate to lanceolate, petiole basal or somewhat lateral in the leaves.

Leaves crenate-dentate; peduncle of male flowers short, pilose. 6.—*B. cubincola*.

Leaves sub-entire; peduncle of male flowers long, glabrous. 7.—*B. cubensis*.

Leaves cordate-ovate to sub-orbicular; petiole lateral. 8.—*B. lomensis*.

Stipules pectinate-ciliate.

Erect plants, up to 1 m. high, roots not tuberous ..... 9.—*B. tovarensis*.

Low herbs, up to 30 cm. high, roots tuberous

Adult leaves deeply lobed, glabrous.

10.—*B. Cowellii*.

Adult leaves orbicular, crenate, pilose.

11.—*B. Ekmanii*.

1.—*B. glabra* Aubl. Pl. Guian. 2: 916. 1775.

*B. scandens* Sw. Prodr. 86. 1788.

Mountain woodlands, on trees and rocks, Las Villas and Pinar del Rio; Jamaica, Trinidad; continental tropical America.

2.—*B. Wrightiana* A. DC. Ann. Sci. Nat. IV. 11: 123. 1859.

*B. rotundifolia* Griseb. Cat. 117. 1866, not Lam.

Shaded rocks and waysides, Oriente. Endemic.

Leaves 6-12 cm. long; plants up to 1 m. high. Would probably be a nice cultivated plant.

3.—*B. libanensis* Urb., in Fedde, Repert. XXI: 217. 1925.

Type locality: Oriente, near Guantanamo, Monte Libanon, Ekman 15819. Endemic. Known only from the type collection.

4.—*B. obliqua* L. Sp. Pl. 1056. 1753.

*B. acutifolia* Jacq. Coll. 1: 128. 1786.

*B. acuminata* Dryand. in Trans. Linn. Soc. 1: 166. 1791.

Mountain woodlands, cliffs and ravines, Oriente, Las Villas; Jamaica.

5.—*B. maestrensis* Urb., in Fedde, Repert. XXI: 216. 1925.

Type locality: Oriente, Sierra Maestra, between Río Yara and Río Plata, 1050 m. alt., Ekman 14255. Endemic.

Known only from the type collection.

6.—*B. cubincola* A. DC. Ann. Sci. Nat. IV. II: 124. 1859.

Mountain woodlands, Oriente. Endemic.

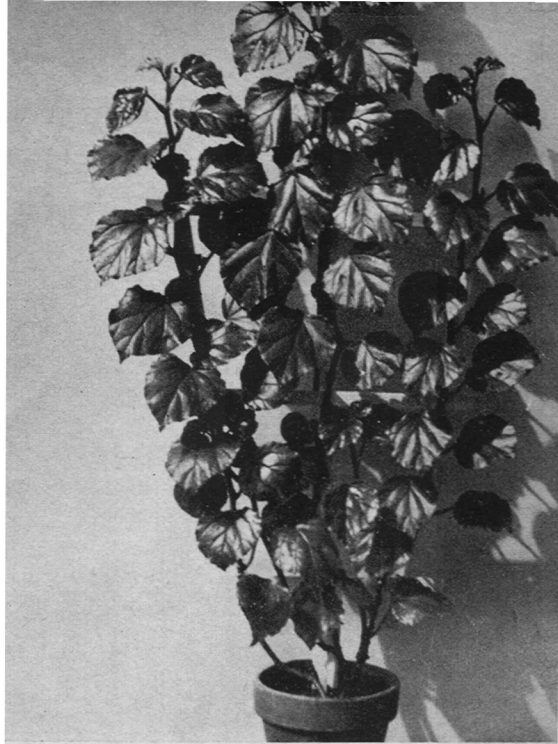
Quite common on the slopes of Sierra Maestra, between 800 and 1500 meters altitude.

7.—*B. cubensis* Hassk. Hort. Begor. Descr. Ed. 2, 342. 1838.

*B. lindemiana* A. DC. Ann. Sci. Nat. IV. II: 124. 1859.

Mountain woodlands, Sierra Maestra, Oriente. Endemic. Found at the same places as the anterior species.

8.—*B. lomensis* Britt. & Wils., in Bull. Torrey Club 50: 43. 1923.



*Begonia glabra* — young, staked plant.

Type locality: Loma Regino, Turquino Region, Sierra Maestra, Oriente, Leon 10731.

Seems to grow only on the higher parts of the Cuban mountains (above 2,000 meters).

9.—*B. tovarensis* Klotzsch. Begon. 31. 1855. Collected by Charles Wright in Oriente (No. 2629); Mexico to Colombia and Venezuela.

10.—*B. Cowellii* Nash, Addisonia 1: 9. 1916. Type locality: Between wet rocks, near Ensenada de Mora, Oriente. Endemic. This rare and nice plant has been found again by us at the type locality (*Alain & Chrysogone* 1072, and has made well in cultivation; it has tuberous roots, and seems to lose part of its leaves during two or three months each year.

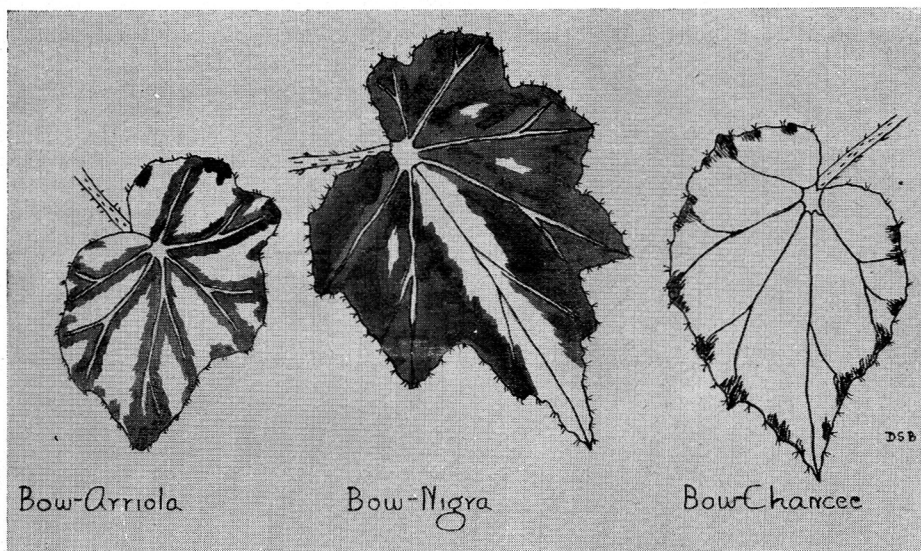
11.—*B. Ekmanii* Houghton, in Contr. Gray Herb. 154: 23. 1945.

Type locality: On shaded rocks, Arroyo Bayajá, Sierra Maestra, Oriente, alt. 200-400 m., Ekman 14700.

Very nice small plant, but known only from the type collection.

Of course, these are only the native Cuban *Begonias*, as the cultivated ones are very numerous, and may be found in any Horticulture manual.

(\*Brother Alain's work has been sent to the A.B.S. through the courtesy of the Cuban Society of Botany, Dra. Alvarez Estrada, Secretary. He is assisting botanist Brother Leon in the preparation of the latter's great *Flora of Cuba*, two volumes of which have been published.)



## Mac Lanahan's Bow Trio

By Dorothy S. Behrends, Los Angeles, Calif.

Three new, beautiful and unusual begonias have proved to be exceptionally desirable and are herewith presented.

As is so often the case, hybrids and cultivars are sturdier and more beautiful than their species parents.

Begonia 'Bow-Arriola' will become a "must" for every window-gardener. When this plant is grown on a shelf in a window (without direct sunlight), it immediately becomes an admired subject, because the light allows the pattern in the leaf to be seen to advantage.

*B. Boweri* and one of the variations of "C-42" are the proud parents of this cross. The leaves are mottled, tri-color; it has a creeping rhizome. A porous totem pole is recommended for support, as this will make a handsome climbing specimen. The fern-wood totem poles have proved satisfactory.

The begonia is named in honor of Gus Arriola, the creator of the lovable *GORDO* comic strip. Mr. Arriola "grew up" in Los Angeles, but gave the Santa Barbara Begonia Branch clever publicity in his strip of December 1, 1950, and is now singularly

proud to be so honored by Della MacLanahan.

Begonia 'Bow-Chancee' had a planned parentage, but, as it appears that bees arrived first, Mrs. MacLanahan decided to name this begonia accordingly. The leaves are a bright chartreuse-green having the chocolate-brown, irregular markings on the margins, typical of its parent, *B. Boweri*. Its wavy margins also contain the 'eyelash' hairs of its parent. This begonia also makes a handsome climbing specimen when given proper support.

Begonia 'Bow-Nigra' is also becoming a favorite with all persons fortunate enough to have it. The sparsely hairy surface of the leaves are a chatoyant black-green with a chartreuse-green stripe from the stem-end of the leaf to the tip.

These begonias may be termed semi-dwarf, are extremely heavy bloomers during the late winter and are considered very desirable plants, especially recommended where growing space is limited.

Grow these begonias on the damp side, not the wet *or* the dry. D.S.B.

## House Plant "Know How"

*Mrs. Alice C. Hutton of West Concord, Massachusetts, sets forth some of her "dirty thumb" wisdom which has made her plants a joy to herself and her visitors.*

A successful houseplant grower is always asked, "How do you do it?" This is a question such a houseplant grower has heard over and over again. Even a person who grows good houseplants is interested in hearing how someone else does it. Here in Massachusetts, where I live, the problem is greater because we are limited by the time our houseplants can be left outside due to frost.

I always recall what a retail greenhouse grower of houseplants said to me. "Some people who come in here to purchase a houseplant want one that blooms all the time, doesn't require any care, and will grow anywhere." His conclusion was, "They don't want a houseplant; they want a magician." How true he is, as houseplants do require care.

I have never seen an article on houseplants in any newspaper or magazine which I have failed to read.

This is how I grow my plants. I put all my plants except African Violets out under the trees about the 30th of May. I then start to repot, and, about July 15, I start slips of plants, such as Patient Lucy (*Impatiens*), *Coleus*, Mother of a Thousand (*Tolmiea*), *Semperflorens Begonias* and *Geraniums*. I have an old iron sink filled with sharp gravel in which I root them.

My potting soil is from the garden, and I sift it through a coarse sieve. I then add about 1/3 peat moss, and I put "Vigoro" in each pot as I pot the plant. Our soil here on this hill would be considered on the sandy side. For my ivies, begonias, and ferns I add some leaf mould.

I always wash and scald my clay pots before putting new plants in them. I then put the new plants I have started and the freshly repotted ones back under the trees. I plant my large *Coleus* and Patient Lucy plants directly in the ground all around the house. I also do the same with geraniums. Whenever anyone wants a slip, I cut it off

at a joint from these plants. I even put my calla lily begonias outside and divide the old plants and start new ones. They seem to do fine outside under a shrub, which in turn grows under a tree. I imagine, if we had an unusually rainy spell, I would bring them inside to dry out so they wouldn't rot. My *Rexes* do beautifully outside, and I hate to have to bring them in, as they don't do as well inside the house, due to the fact that they lose quite a few of their leaves; so I usually put them on a shelf in the cellar window. I then let them more or less rest and then water once or twice a week.

Watering is very important. When my plants are outside, I water them all over with a hose,—every day unless it rains. I usually do it in the late afternoon after the sun has gone off the plants. When I bring my plants into the house for the winter, I use lukewarm water whenever I water them.

Around the first of September I start taking in the plants that I have repotted and the newly slipped ones. By bringing them in early I can adjust them to the temperature of the house before all my windows have to be closed and the heat put on. These I water every day for a while, watching carefully to see that they aren't over-watered.

I pot all my plants in clay pots, then set them in glazed containers. They don't seem to dry out as quickly this way. Of course, when my plants are outside, I take them out of the glazed containers. My plants that are in a very sunny room, I wash off under the sink spray about every three weeks.

I fertilize with Atlas fish oil now, when I think of it, but no oftener than every three weeks. I find that by watching my plants carefully, you can see signs of mealy bugs or aphids, scale, etc., before they get on all the plants. I immediately throw out any plant with mealy bug on it, but I seldom have to do this because I watch my plants.

I try to give my plants the requirements

(Turn to Next Page)

experts say they need, but I find conditions vary, and so I experiment. I find my African Violets can stand sunny windows until February. I can hold *semperflorens* begonias from blooming by putting them in a north window. In February I shift the African Violets over to the northwest and my begonias to the east and have bloom on both windowsills. I find that Ivies like to be cool and, to be free of red spider, have to be sprayed with cold water every two weeks, the same as Patient Lucy. My Rosary Plant gets along very well with little light and plenty of water, although this watering is not what is prescribed for this plant.

My advice is to experiment with different methods if the plant isn't doing well. If it is getting along fine, leave it alone.

I'm always interested in how someone else grows plants, so I am ready to try new methods and ideas, particularly if my method isn't working well.

I try to air the room in which I keep my plants about once a week.

I have glass shelves in all my windows to which they can be attached. I purchased these at Breck's as they cut them any length you want. They are also easy to keep clean.

Here are the plants I have in one of my windows, in January: a hanging copper pot holds a lovely Rabbit Foot Fern. Below, near the edge of my sill where it gets little light, is, first, a *Kellermani*, which seems to require a lot of water as this window sill is over a radiator. This plant seems to grow out of bounds even though I keep pinching it back. Next is a bronze-leaved *Semperflorens* covered with bloom and also growing very bushy. Then, a tricolor *maranta* is also doing well, but requires a lot of water. My next is a huge 'Calla' Begonia grown from seed last spring. I purchased these seeds from the "Skipper" of the Seed Fund. It has much larger leaves than my other Callas and grows much taller. Next is a plain green-leaved Pink Semp., then, in order: a lovely 'Curley Locks', A 'Pink-Spotted Lucerna', a Cactus, a Succulent, and then another 'Calla' Begonia, a Cactus, another Pink Semp., 'Camellia' Begonia, Calico Plant, 'New Hampshire' Begonia (which is also large, although started from a slip in July), an African Violet, Coleus, another 'Calla' Begonia. In partial shade because it is at the end of the sill shelf is a Mrs. Townsend Begonia, also grown from a slip. As you can see, this is quite a variety for one window.

People say I have a green thumb, but I maintain it is a dirty one, because you can't keep your hands clean if you watch and care for your plants.

Whenever I cut a slip off a plant in the house because it is getting too tall, I put it in water to root for my next visitor who is looking for that particular plant.

In this part of New England our house-

plants could not survive outside except for about three months, so our houseplant culture must be inside for the rest of the nine months.

I have no greenhouse or lath house, but I do enjoy my plants. This year my husband is getting a cold frame ready for me. Someday I hope to own a greenhouse, but, in the meantime, I'm still enjoying plants and gaining experience.

I particularly like "Joe Hayden" and the 'Calla' Begonias. I find the *semperflorens* begonias the easiest to grow. I have no trouble growing 'Calla' begonias, although I have heard that they are temperamental.

I'm a member of the New England Branch of the American Begonia Society and have gleaned many good suggestions and ideas from their meetings and also excellent matter from "The Begonian."

## In Memoriam

Hollywood Branch's oldest member, Mrs. Callan, will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Inglewood Branch has expressed its sorrow at the passing of Mr. Carl Marshall of Gardena.

We all offer our sympathy to the bereaved.

Begonia Mazae, mature plant. Award winner at 1950 Convention.

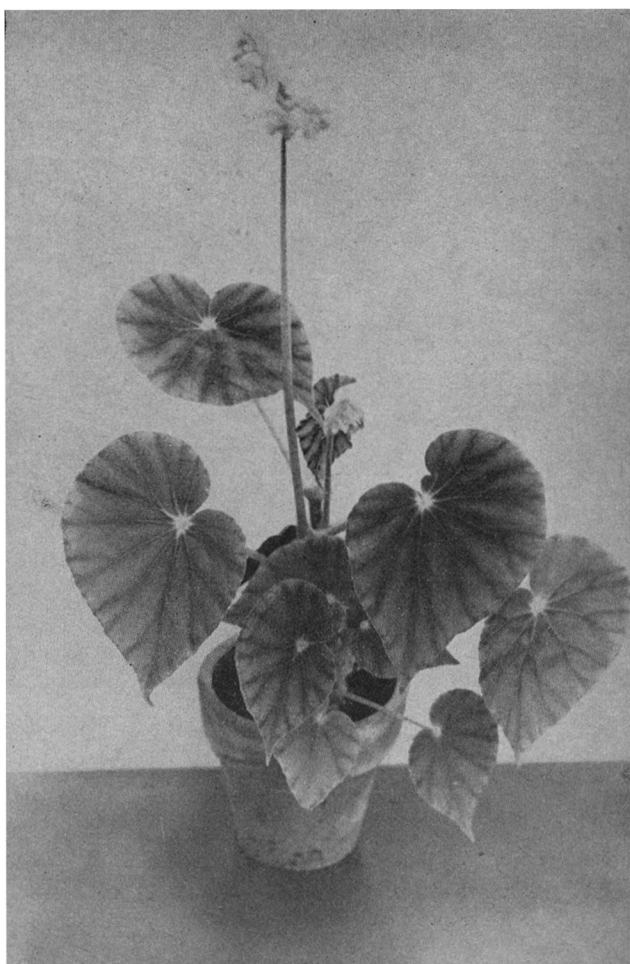
—Photo by K. Garrison Clarke



# Begonia Mazae

By Marie Minter,

Encinitas, California



Cut Courtesy American Horticultural Society—Photo by Rudolf Ziesenhenné  
*Begonia Mazae*, young blooming plant.

Six years ago Mr. Ziesenhenné introduced to the begonia growers a wonderful small-leaved basket plant that has proven delightful, not only to the people who grow plants in their homes, but to those of us who have the advantage of year round growing outdoors. It has also proven very popular with amateur and professional hybridizers as well.

The plant itself is very bushy, sending up many slender stems in a year's growth. The leaves are round, pointed at the tip and a bronzy-green in color. The markings on the veins are a deep brown and toward the edge of the leaf this same coloring forms a solid V-shaped edge all around the leaf. The underside of the leaf is a very deep red, and, if one has this plant in the correct light, this red shines through the leaf, adding much to the attractiveness of the plant. The sinus is white and very pronounced.

This plant seems to be a mid-winter bloomer in the East, but it has bloomed for me off and on all year, with sprays of

flowers held well above the foliage.

There have been many crosses with *B. Mazae* as one of the parents. Perhaps the best known of these has been *B. x Joe Hayden* with its star-shaped bronze leaves.

Eastern growers have been advised to grow this plant in partial sun by one of our best growers back there. In protected gardens, a spot that is warm will be to the plant's best advantage. It does not tolerate wet feet, so caution should be given as to well-drained soil. Baskets of this plant seem to do better here than plants grown in pots. However this is not a fast rule, as many plants have been grown very successfully either way, depending on the location.

The dark-leaved *Mazae* is just what its name implies. The deep brown coloring between the veins is more pronounced over the surface of the leaf, giving the plant a deeper coloring. Either plant is easily propagated from seeds, cuttings or leaves.



# A.B.S. Past President Now Author

*By Mary Adele Jenks, Hollywood Branch*

Mrs. Mary Hazel Drummond, author of the new book, "Styling Corsages with Garden Flowers" has been honored at recent affairs complimenting her upon its publication. The Hollywood Branch topped its big dinner with a huge cake decorated in her honor.

The Los Angeles Flora Study Club presented a tea in her honor at the home of Mrs. Mabel DeVoe Jacoby of Hollywood, who was co-hostess with her neighbor, Mrs. Elsie Palmer Payne. Mrs. Payne displayed paintings of the dramatic Southwest by her late husband, Edgar Alwin Payne. Mrs. Payne, also a painter was a founder member of both the Laguna Art Association and the Women Painters of the West. Mrs. Jacoby, who has traveled in most of the countries of the world and makes a hobby of color photography and travel lectures, showed some of her slides of the same colorful Southwest.

Mrs. Drummond, who was our national A.B.S. president in 1947-48, was also president of the Los Angeles Flora Study Club for three years. She has given generously of her talent in floral decoration to numerous clubs up and down the California coast, talking and demonstrating the art of corsage-making, always with requests for more information in printed form. Articles published in several magazines, such as Flower Grower and The Begonian (see 1949, p. 128), only stimulated more curiosity as to her techniques—hence this book which approaches an old subject from a garden-fresh viewpoint.



**MARY HAZEL DRUMMOND**

**Author of  
"Styling Corsages with Garden Flowers"  
(Macmillan)**

The foreword was written by Vernon T. Stoutemeyer, Ph. D., Chairman, Division of Floriculture and Ornamental Horticulture, College of Agriculture, University of California, from which we quote:

"This one is different because of the thoroughness and detail in the treatment of a specialized field of the subject. The text is augmented by a series of pen drawings which will undoubtedly save the reader much time in grasping the principles involved.

"The viewpoint is thoroughly modern, and the book should be helpful not only to the amateur horticulturist but also to the professional designer in search of new ideas." (From "Styling Corsages with Garden Flowers" by Mary Hazel Drummond, drawings by Lani, published by MacMillan Co., New York.)

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## My Method of Growing Tuberous Begonias and Other

By E. C. Hambrook, Calgary, Canada

I'm enclosing a sketch of the miniature greenhouse used by and built by myself for growing tender seedlings in the regular greenhouse or conservatory or even a basement. As you will see by sketch it has its own heating system of small lights on the ridge-pole of the roof. Two small lights will heat it in most houses or in a basement.

In the bottom of the miniature I place one and a half inches of Vermiculite to hold moisture. The heat from the lights draws the moisture up through the soil in flats, which have copper screen wire bottoms, thus allowing the moisture to be distributed evenly and surely to the germinating seeds and seedlings. I do not water until plants are showing nice leaves and nearly all seeds have germinated. Then I use a small atomizer with warm water slightly enriched by manure water to spray the plants on top. They seem to love the moisture on the leaves.

When they have two fair-sized leaves I transplant them by using a reading glass to help see them and a tooth-pick for the transplanting tool, which is moistened by drawing it across the lip. This causes the little plants to adhere to it so they may be lifted to the new small flat and be placed in even rows about an inch apart each way.

When they have four or so good-sized leaves I pot them in separate small pots to be potted on again once more into the pots in which they are to bloom and produce tubers. Tuberous Begonia seeds start to germinate after about six days for me in the miniature.

My mixture for seedlings is composed of equal parts of leaf-mould and loam plus old rotted cow manure, with a little bird-gravel added. I do not sterilize the mixture, but when it is in the flats I pour hot water over to moisten, and when cooled to just warm I scatter the seeds on top of the medium, then cover with a piece of paper until germination.

The important thing in my method is the good moisture and heat control. The water-tight pan in the bottom to hold Vermiculite and water for the humidity works very well. The copper screen-bottom flats, with a small slat to keep them up off the wet Vermiculite, prevent mold from forming, especially since it is not necessary to water from above until after germination. Temperature is kept very evenly at 75 degrees F. for the first ten days or so.

I do hope this may benefit someone having difficulty in caring for Begonia seeds and seedlings.

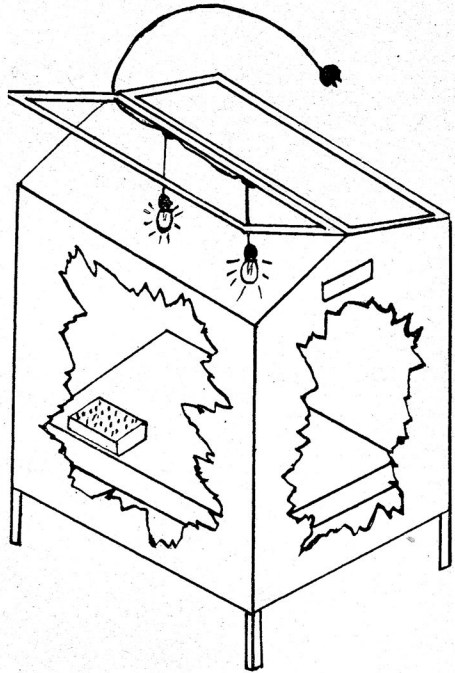


Diagram of Mr. Hambrook's Begonia Starting Box. (Sides partly obliterated to show interior.)

*Palos Verdes*

**Begonia Farm**

4024 Pacific Coast Hi-way, WALTERIA, Calif.

### **TUBEROUS BEGONIAS**

Complete Selections of  
BEGONIAS and SHADE PLANTS

Fuchsias — Camellias

Open Every Day

Complete Nursery & Garden Supply Shop

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Newest Introductions

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Also many other late varieties

### **BEDDING PLANTS — ALL KINDS.**

Grower to You—Save up to 50%

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### **BEDDING BEGONIAS**

Large Artistic Redwood Hanging Baskets, \$1.35

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### **Sunset Plant Growers**

6556 N. Temple City Blvd. W. Arcadia, Calif.

## Northwestern Notes . . .

By W. Othar Hillery, Bellevue Washington\*

May is an anxious month in the begonia garden in the Pacific Northwest. The warm days are coaxing us to put our young plants out of doors, yet the ground is cold and the danger of frost is not over.

Of course, the beds were replenished with organic fertilizer last fall so that it might be broken down during the winter and stored in the soil for summer use. If the beds and borders were properly prepared they are built up five or six inches above the ground level in order that the excess water from our heavy rains can easily escape. While the tuberous begonias require high humidity at all times, the plants will not tolerate wet, soggy soil. Too much moisture may cause stem rot and dropping of the buds.

About May first the beds should be cleaned of any weeds and a top dressing of leaf-mold, rotted manure, bone-meal or fish meal scattered over the ground and dug in to a depth of four or five inches. Leave the ground "in the rough" until time to set the plants out, then put the soil in good cultivated condition. Make sure that the soil is rich, loose and friable, so that it will not pack from heavy rains or bake in dry weather. Do not try to grow begonias unless you are willing to prepare a proper place for them and give them some attention. It is not a hobby for the weekend gardener or to leave in the care of a neighbor while on a summer vacation.

Our own dormant tubers, and the number one Pacific grown tubers purchased last January, were "started" in February in order to have sturdy plants ready to be placed in the beds by May 20th. If revived properly and developed slowly the plants should be stocky with a well balanced top growth by this time. If some are growing too rapidly, hold back the water and keep on the cool side. Keep the backward plants warmer and apply liquid fertilizer once a week.

Just a word of caution to the over-anxious amateur grower about putting the plants out in the beds the first part of May. Many have asked if it is safe to put them out any time this month. Definitely no. Continued warm weather is too uncertain. Make sure

of the frost line in your area. In many parts of the Northwest frost may occur any time in May.

The ground and nights are cold. The plants have been growing in a protected place, in an even temperature, in warm soil day and night. Placed out in beds or borders too early, frost or no frost, they are sure to be "set back" due to the cold ground and the long cold nights of forty degrees temperature for ten or twelve hours.

Remember, to grow specimen plants the growth must be slow and continuous from the first leaf until the plant is fully matured and in bloom. All transplanting must be done with care and under conditions that do not interfere with that continuous growth. The plant should never know that it has been moved.

So, do not get over-anxious even if we do have some hot summer days. If the plants are happy where they are, there will be sufficient time to harden them off by the last week of May.

The plants should be gradually "hardened off", given all the cool air and sunlight they can take. Turn the potted plants and flats around once a week so that the other side will face the strong light. This will induce the development of strong, even laterals, making a more perfectly formed plant.

If the plant has had too much shade, it will be tall, spindly and poorly formed. If it has had sufficient light, yet the leaves do not have a healthy, green, robust appearance, the plant may need more water or food or both, while yellowing leaves indicate too much fertilizer or indigestion.

While we suggest that we do not pamper or give the young May plants too much care, such as over-feeding, or too much water, experience alone can teach us when and how to interfere with natural growth.

(\*Dr. Hillery is a recognized Northwest authority on Tuberous Begonia culture and also the great Primrose family. Seattle Branch is very fortunate to have acquired such an exceptional new member.)

# Begonias

## Pennsylvania Queens

By Delany Wetherill, Pennsylvania

The tuberous-begonia happily lends itself to landscape, shaded corners, and along wooded paths where sunlight indifferently filters through overlapping trees. The beautiful glossy leaves and clustering blooms of the tuberous-begonia have given rewarding satisfaction to landscaper and flower lover alike. With innate dignity this plant admirably lends itself to all landscaping projects and, if not crowded, will produce rewarding results.

Interest in the tuberous-begonia, as a plant which might be successfully grown in the cold reaches of the Pocono mountains of Pennsylvania, has held my attention and provoked a personal vigilance for some time. It has been with true satisfaction that I have found this particular begonia does well in this cool climate.

Although it is an accredited fact that the tuberous-begonia will thrive better when planted in partial shade, it was my experience that this plant does equally well when planted in full sunshine. With the true perverseness of the inexperienced, I planted one-dozen of these delightful plants in the border of my garden just off the terrace in full sunshine. The plants bloomed happily and were a joy to me as well as to my friends. The brilliant flowers brought forthright praise in their exactness . . . replica of the rose, the camellia, the carnation, and the gardenia. The plants set out in full sunshine showed more spirit than their brothers that were tucked away in partial shade; plants grew taller and produced more bloom. However, in all fairness it must be recorded that the leaves of plants grown in the shade had more luster and were a deeper green.

The tuberous-begonia, to give satisfaction in the cooler reaches of the mountains, must be started in flats at least six-weeks prior to the time it is feasible to set plants out in the garden . . . a mixture of peat, sand, bone meal, and barnyard cow manure proving a helpful combination to give satisfactory results. It should be remembered that the tuberous-begonia is an insatiable feeder, and it is well to enrich the soil before setting down plants. Lime should never be

used, a limy soil proving harmful to this particular type of begonia.

The normal life of the tuberous-begonia is six months; no amount of care or feeding will prolong the longevity. When the span of life has been reached, leaves turn yellow and fall to the ground. Thinking back to my earlier experience, I remember purchasing a particularly beautiful specimen of the tuberous-begonia from John Rutchie Tannersville, Pa. It was with reluctance John Rutchie was persuaded to part with his experimental plant which he had raised in the hothouse. Late in the fall I noticed the leaves of my treasured specimen were turning yellow and falling to the ground. With grave concern, I put the plant in my car and rushed down to Paradise Valley to consult John Rutchie and ask his valued advice.

"The plant has reached its resting period." John Rutchie smiled at my grave concern. "There is nothing you can do that will prolong the life of your plant," he said.

John Rutchie stated that for several years he had been taking plants to Florida hoping he might discover some way the life of this valued plant might be prolonged. "If I could have accomplished this," John Rutchie said, "my fortune would have been made."

At the first frost tubers must be dug up and stored away for the winter. A light covering of sand is advisable where tubers are subjected to changing temperatures. However, some gardeners prefer using a coarse burlap bag through which moisture can seep, thus preventing tubers from drying out during the long winter's rest period.

The tuberous-rooted begonia is valued for its decorative usefulness and its adaptability to any landscape. It is admirably suited to cool climates (not frost). The glossy foliage and bright blooms of this particular begonia has made it a recognized factor in all planting. The tuberous-begonia has brought rewarding satisfaction to architect and inspired gardener alike.

# Alfred D. Robison Medal

The late Alfred D. Robinson of San Diego was known throughout the world as an authority on growing begonias. A native of England, Mr. Robinson came to San Diego in 1905 from San Francisco, and, after his extensive begonia plantings around his spacious home grew out of bounds, he opened the gardens as a nursery. He originated many new begonia varieties by hybridization.

Mr. Robinson joined the begonia society soon after it was organized, when it was called the California Begonia Society, and was responsible for the adoption of the name it bears today as an international organization, the American Begonia Society.

Alfred D. Robinson passed away in 1942 and the A.B.S. established a Memorial in his honor in the form of a perpetual Begonia Exhibition at the Lincoln Park Conservatory in Los Angeles. Many of the Branches contributed plants and money to help finance the care of the plants. However, this Memorial Exhibition was only allowed to be on display in the conservatory for approximately two years, when the buildings were condemned as unsafe and were closed. The begonias had to be removed.

At a later date, the A.B.S. planned to establish a Memorial in the form of a plaque, to be placed at ROSECROFT, the Robinson's Begonia Gardens. These gardens were saved from "oblivion by the ravages of time" by Mr. and Mrs. Don Hunter. It was also planned, to award a medal for the best hybrid begonia introduced each year.

These plans were never completed and the money contributed by the Branches toward this venture has been in the treasury as the 'Robinson Memorial' all this time.

I propose to re-establish the interest in this worthy idea by activating the ROBINSON MEDAL and, with due appreciation and credit to Mrs. Alice M. Clark of San Diego, we herewith present the proposed revised rules for winning a ROBINSON MEDAL.

Edna L. Korts  
President, American Begonia Society

**For a Better Garden!**

**ATLAS FISH EMULSION**

- 100% ORGANIC FERTILIZER
- DE-ODORIZED
- NON-BURNING
- Gives vigorous growth
- Inexpensive
- Feed as you water



PILGRIMS learned from INDIANS to use FISH FERTILIZER

**AT NURSERIES AND GARDEN STORES**

Mrs. Alice M. Clark's recommendations for Judging Begonias.

## A. PROPOSED REVISED RULES FOR JUDGING BEGONIAS COMPETING FOR ROBINSON MEDAL

1. Committee on Awards shall be three members appointed by the President and approved by the Board of Directors for terms of three years except of the first three appointees. One member will serve 3 years, one 2 years and one 1 year, the yearly vacancy to be filled by an appointment by the President, approved by the Board of Directors.

2. Committee on Awards shall consider the classes and the awards and systems of scoring each year and recommend any changes or additions that seem necessary to the Board of Directors.

3. The Committee on Awards shall submit a yearly list of accredited judges for the approval of the Board of Directors.

4. The Committee on Awards shall receive, review, check and pass on the applications for begonia awards when signed by at least three recognized judges who participated in the scoring together with the date and place of showing, and submit recommendations for awards thereon to the Board of Directors.

5. The Board of Directors shall grant awards of A.B.S., including the Robinson Medal, after due consideration of the report of the Committee on Awards.

## B. RULES FOR JUDGING BEGONIA HYBRIDS FOR THE ROBINSON MEDAL

The Alfred D. Robinson Medal for any hybrid begonia introduced since 1943, shall be granted by the Board of Directors, subject to the following rules:

1. A "Certificate of Commendation" may be given to a new begonia which has been hybridized and grown by originator at least one and one-half years from seed before being named and entered in a Show. (See A. 4 above.)

2. A hybrid which has received a "Certificate of Commendation" shall be eligible for a "Special Certificate" in places other than its origination. (See A. 4 above.) Third year plants, when they should be widely distributed and grown under many conditions.

3. New hybrids that have already received three "Special Certificate" awards may then be exhibited in Convention Begonia Show. The best of these entries shall receive the ALFRED D. ROBINSON MEDAL and the next best shall receive the "Award of Merit Certificate". (See A. 4 above.)

4. If records can be submitted to the Committee on Awards to prove that new hybrids introduced from 1943 thru 1948 have received awards comparable to B. 1 and 2 in



above rules, when passed by Committee on Awards, they shall be eligible for ROBINSON MEDAL at the 1953 Convention Show. Those introduced from January, 1949, to December, 1951, with enough awards to rate with the Committee on Awards shall be eligible for the ROBINSON MEDAL at the 1954 Convention Show. Hybrids from 1951 on will be judged by regular procedure laid out under Rules A. and B.

#### C. SCORE FOR JUDGING NEW HYBRID BEGONIAS

New hybrids to be eligible to be judged by these points must have been mentioned and at least partially described in the BEGONIAN since 1943 and shall be properly registered with the Director of Nomenclature since that time.

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| 1. Outstanding originality .....                     | 35  |
| 2. Beauty and grace of plant form.....               | 25  |
| 3. Adaptability .....                                | 20  |
| 4. Leaf beauty in texture,<br>color and form .....   | 15* |
| 5. Floral beauty of texture,<br>color and form ..... | 05  |

100

(\*In the case of a tuberous or other begonia valued more for flowers than foliage, transpose score of 4 and 5.)

NOTE: Referring to paragraph 4 "hybrids introduced from 1943 thru 1948 have received awards comparable to paragraph B 1. and 2. in above rules": These awards must be blue ribbons, special ribbons, A.B.S. Cultural Certificates, best in show, or similar highly rated awards.

Hybridizers interested in competing for the ROBINSON MEDAL must show their plants at the 1953 Annual Convention Show in Redondo. Classifications will accommodate the prize winning plants from 1943 thru 1948, to 1951 and to 1953. Plants eligible for the Robinson Medal at the 1954 Convention Show *must* be shown at the 1953 Show.

These suggestions were presented to the Board at the March meeting with the request that they be studied and reported to Branches for discussion at the April meeting.

#### FISHER'S NURSERY

Choicest Rex Begonias—Epiphyllums—Ferns  
Visitors Welcome—Closed Mondays and Tuesdays  
Will Ship Plants & Epiphyllum Cuttings Anywhere  
—also—

Rex Begonia Seed, \$1.00 per package

CARL E. FISHER

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(1½ Miles East of Buena Park)

TROPICAL PLANTS  
EPISCAS NAEGELIAS  
FITTONIAS PHILODENDRONS

New Price List

821 JUANITA WINTER PARK, FLA.

Anthurium Crystallinum—\$1.00

Ferrel's Shack

## Ways and Means At Full Steam

President-elect Glenn Motschman, as Chairman of the newly created "Ways and Means Committee" reports many new projects and ideas being pushed toward completion.

The first 5000 mimeograph copies of a tuberous begonia cultural instruction sheet plugging the value of A.B.S. membership have been distributed to nurseries and to various branches for distribution to nurseries in their areas. These sheets will be given out by nurserymen to customers purchasing tuberous begonias.

The work done in obtaining the greenhouse for donation at the Convention is described under Convention News.

#### 1953 Garden Festival

Mr. Jimmy Giridlian's Oakhurst Gardens will be the location of the A.B.S. Festival. Mr. Motschman has appointed Calvin Trowbridge in charge of staging and planning it with Frank Rich to assist. Tickets may be procured from Stuart Smith, who has been appointed Committee Treasurer, 1419 W. 104th St., Los Angeles 47, Calif. Ticket books are being circulated also by branches, who share in the proceeds of the sale.

All friends and neighbors are invited to come and have a wonderful time. Attractions so far undertaken are as follows:

Redondo Beach—holding a drawing on a cedar chest—proceeds all to go to the Convention fund.

Santa Monica — General Merchandise Store.

Inglewood—Country Food Store.

Redondo Beach — Dart Game.

Glendale — Wheel of Chance.

San Gabriel — Bakery.

South Gate — Fish Pond.

Compton — Game of Skill.

A.B.S. Food Bar, in charge of President Korts, will take care of your hunger. There will be no need for anyone to bring his own picnic lunch, coffee, service, or potluck dish because everything will be on sale at the Bar!

Don't forget—June 14th!

#### A.B.S. Garden Tour

The Committee has made further arrangements on the June 28th Garden Tour which will cover all parts of the Los Angeles area. Tickets (50c each) for this may also be purchased through Mr. Stuart Smith after May 8th. They also will be distributed to local branches for sale.

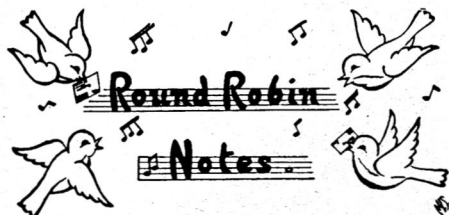
Bow-Arriola, Bow-Nigra, Bow-Chancee

\$1.50 each — Express Collect

Available at

TURNER'S SHADE GARDENS

5549 N. Sultana St. Temple City, Calif.



Dear Friends:

Another month has passed; suppose you are all busy planting garden and flowers for summer.

The Robins are all flying on time, but we do need members for the following Round Robins before they can start flying, namely; African Violet Hybridizing, Seed Swap, Tuberous Begonias, Orchids, Daylilies, and and the Fuchsia Robin.

A.B.S. members interested in any of these or other Round Robins are urged to send name, address, and name of Robin you wish to join, and I will place you as soon as possible.

Members of Robins are reminded to send your courtesy cards promptly, as our directors cannot do their best without your cooperation.

Good gardening to all,  
Your Chairman, *Sophia Baker*  
2733 S. E. - 35th Place, Portland, Oregon.

## Your Editor

Note that the Begonia descriptions reprinted from the *Flora Indica* in March were taken from Mr. Elmer Lorenz' copy and not from A.B.S. Library material, for which we thank Mr. Lorenz very much.

### Slide Program

Haven't read of any Branches using the free lecture "Tuberous Begonias at Their Best" put out by our advertiser Atlas Fish Emulsion, reported last fall. There is a tape recording with it and the whole is free to branches or groups of mixed clubs where the attendance is 50 or more.

### Florida Collection

Mr. G. E. Ramer of Miami Shores sent a clipping from the *Miami Herald* illustrated by a fine shot of a magnificent border of blooming '*erythrophylla*' begonias. The story tells of his retiring there 12 years ago and importing 114 yards of soil to fill over the sandy base. Today he has over 100 varieties of begonias in his garden in beds and around the pool. He tells of building up the soil to its present high level of fertility and humus with his own compost mixture plus peat and using plenty of water and fertilizer. His plants show it and definitely look as if they "belonged".

**DID YOU KNOW THE BIGGEST BEGONIA CELEBRATION TO DATE WAS HELD IN AUSTRALIA?**

Mrs. Emily Carringer, Alfred D. Robinson Branch, San Diego, writes that her husband

in the course of his stamp collecting hobby had struck up a long-standing correspondence with a lady in Australia who knew he was also a begonia fancier. She therefore sent to him in a special "First Day Envelope" a printed copy of the invitation to the "Ballaarat Begonia Festival" from which we quote:

"Now 115 years old, the world-wide fame of Ballaarat came early with the great gold rush. This brought great numbers of diggers—but with it also—men of vision—men with great intensity of purpose and a determination to reside here, to become citizens and exercise a real sense of civic pride—to take part in the planning and development of a fine city.

"The work they carried out, and the many fine gifts they bequeathed to us in the heritage we have today—a beautiful and proud city with its tree-lined streets, gardens, statuary, lake (now the Olympic Rowing Course), magnificent park lands—Eureka Gardens, Industry, Public Buildings, Institutions, etc., all of which are briefly described in picture and story in the Festival Souvenir Booklet.

"We now share this heritage, and want to show you how its beauty, progress and stability, have been added to—how many of the mining heaps and scars have been removed, and used in the great White Swan water storage—how new building areas were levelled and formed—New Schools, Kindergartens, and Youth Centers have been erected, and housing built and the City extended.

"The Begonia Festival of 1953 is the first of its kind in Australia, giving you the opportunity to return to and see Ballaarat in a carnival mood, with its garden setting in the glorious Autumn time. (Date of festival is March 6th to 16th—their Autumn). The City will be at its best with the added magnificent display of Begonias at the Botanical Gardens.

"I cordially invite you to participate in the Begonia Festival and come back to Ballaarat. A warm welcome awaits you.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Nicholson, Mayor"

The reverse of the invitation lists the program including art and garden shows, Mardi Grass, "Arrival of the Begonia Festival Cobb Coach Mail", music, of all kinds, dancing, sports competitions, parade including floral floats, barbecue and bonfire with military demonstration, schoolchildren's demonstration, flower show, trades display with attendance of commissioners from 20 nations, selection and crowning of the "Queen of the Begonias", "Unveiling of 'Begonia Bill'", special Ballaarat picnic, special Church services, and also a number of bus tours to special begonia displays and gardens. Many conventions of various groups were obtained to coincide with the festival. I, for one, am sorry I couldn't have been there! Toppers off to Ballaarat, Australia!

# Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund

All Seed Fund Flight memberships have been mailed. If you have any questions about yours, please write to me immediately.

There was a greater demand for some types of seed than others and it became necessary to substitute some varieties.

We have tried to give all the members of the '53 Flight a good assortment of begonia seeds, and we are especially pleased with being able to give you good value.

Although "new" seed, as it appears to veteran begonia growers, is always a rarity, we are happy to report the enthusiasm and good will shown on this Flight, even though it had an unavoidably late start.

We have passed on to you seed as it was represented to us, and we hope everyone will be pleased with the types as well as with good germination. We shall be glad to hear from you; so please write.

As this is my last month as Seed Fund Administrator, pro tem, I wish to acknowledge the help of two of our fond growers, that also sell seed. They cooperated wholeheartedly, and my thanks go to Marie Turner and Louise Schwerdtfeger for their untiring help.

Seeds available in limited quantities, this month, at fifty cents a packet are:

*chimbrazo*: Light-green, peltate leaves; bushy; *salmon flowers*.

*acutangularis*: Upright growth, grooved stalks; smooth leaves; green with light-green

veins.

*foliosa*: Tiny leaves; naturally procumbent; makes excellent hanging basket subject.

*Scharffiana*: Hairy leaves; green surface, red undersides.

*ch'vatoa*: Upright, heavy stalk. (See p. 55, 1950 March *BEGONIAN*)

*Strelitzia Nicolai*: A tree-like Bird-of-Paradise; white flowers with blue tongue in huge, blackish bracts. Will stand 33 degrees but prefers above 40. Packet contains five seeds.

Grace Adams,  
Seed Fund Administrator, pro tem.  
Box 2544, Los Angeles 54, Calif.

## NEW APPOINTMENT

The Seed Fund office is now re-organized and with operating material on hand, so I am glad to announce a new chairman. Mr. and Mrs. Jack MacLanahan are well known to many members, as they have each held an office on the National Board in previous years. They are well qualified and very interested in handling the Seed Fund and will serve the Begonia Society efficiently in this capacity.

Therefore this is to announce the appointment of Della and Jack MacLanahan as administrators of the Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund.

—Edna Korts, President.

## Begonia Soil Mixes

The old question of what soil mix is best for begonias has cropped up again with the comment that Mr. Ziesenhenné's was excellent but the rarer items were hard to obtain; shouldn't there be some simpler one for average use? So we went back the last three year's issues and here they are—year, grower, page:

	Page
1950—John Bauman .....	75
Mrs. Hoisington .....	126
Mrs. Michaelson .....	180
Mrs. Breshears .....	220
Manson Hume .....	253
John Ellis .....	257
1951—Mrs. Waltzer .....	46
Jack Lighthart .....	48
John Paul Edwards .....	117
William Williamson .....	227
Joe Littlefield .....	264
1952—Bob Lundblad .....	33
Glenn Motschman .....	78
Mrs. Elsa Fort .....	107
Pat Antonelli .....	170
Mrs. Bessie Buxton .....	216
Gordon Baker Lloyd .....	251
Rudolf Ziesenhenné .....	272

You can take your pick of these and meanwhile we are collecting some recipes from other highly successful growers.

## Cold Facts About Tuberous

By Sidney Sampson, Duluth, Minn.

When dividing a tuber, try and cut your tuber so it can be planted with the cut above the ground and the eye below the ground. Let your cut tuber dry a day or so before planting and treat the cut surface with sulphur or "Fermate" before planting. (Use "Fermate" very lightly.)

## CORRECTION

The National Horticultural Magazine

The wonderful October issue of this magazine containing the large collection of rex begonia illustrations sells for \$1.00, as do all their recent issues.

However, ABS members may join the American Horticultural Society and receive all four of the quarterly issues for \$3.50 because of our Society's affiliation with them.

## MAGAZINE

Small, interesting—flowers, gardening, bird and nature notes, poems, ads.

\$1.00 per yr.; 25c, 3 months; Sample, 10c

**GARDEN GLEANINGS**  
2B, Baroda, Michigan



—Courtesy Riverside Daily Press

Natl. President Edna Korts; oldest Riverside Branch member, Mrs. Emma Porter; and Mrs. Dorothy Behrends dedicate the R. H. Terrell Elm as Mr. Terrell plants it right.

## A.B.S. Vice-President Honored

R. H. Terrell of Riverside was honored by the planting of an American elm in his name at Fairmount Park, Riverside, by that city's branch of the A.B.S. Mrs. Dorothy Behrends, former editor of *The Begonian*, made the dedicatory speech in the presence of National President Edna Korts and many of Mr. Terrell's friends.

Garden Editor for the Riverside Press and Enterprise and charter member of the A.B.S. Riverside Branch, 1944 Branch president and its national representative for four years, after which he has now been serving as national director, Mr. Terrell is a great

friend to all gardeners and a rugged champion of Begonias in an area that is supposed to be adverse to their cultivation due to its hot, dry climate. However, that is just an incentive to Mr. Terrell and the Riverside Branch. Their descendants will no doubt be planting begonias in the shade of the great Terrell Elm in the 21st Century.

This is the third tree planted by this branch. In 1949 a magnolia was planted in honor of Mrs. Emma Porter, their "Cheerful Philosopher". In 1952 a liquidambar was dedicated to their first President (1941) Mrs. Jessie Topham.

## CONVENTION NEWS

Mr. Motschman and his Ways and Means Committee have worked out a wonderful additional attraction for this year's Convention-Show. Southern California Greenhouse Mfrs. have agreed to donate one of their 9 x 12 foot glasshouses, filled with begonias, as on display at the Convention, to the winner of a drawing to be held at the Convention, August 23rd at 3:00 p.m. (Winner need not be present.) Tickets will be distributed to donors to the Convention Fund through the branches, who will collect for it; non-branch contributors may send their money direct to Stuart Smith, Committee Treasurer, 1419 W. 104th St., Los Angeles 47, Calif., and will be given tickets at the rate of 1 for every 50c or 3

for every \$1.00 donated to the Fund.

In return for their fine cooperation Southern California Greenhouse will receive a quarter-page space for advertising in *The Begonian* for one year, paid for out of the proceeds.

Incidentally the Company will erect the glasshouse on the winner's property if within a 40-mile radius of the show site.



# NOW

## TIMELY TUBEROUS TIPS

By Glenn W. Motschman

*Monthly cultural information on growing the Tuberous Begonia in Southern California.*

Water and humidity are very important in the culture of tuberous begonias. Seedling plants and growing, well-rooted tubers should be kept moist, but not wet, from the start. The amount of water will depend on the temperature. The plants will thrive if watered about 8:00 a.m. daily with a fine rain-like spray from your garden hose. This should be done each morning at approximately the same time. If the day is unusually hot, then a second watering about 4:00 p.m. will be necessary. Be sure that the water falls like a light rain on the plants. A forceful spray should never be turned directly

on the plants for it would be most injurious.

Overhead watering and clean gardening will usually insure healthy growth. Tuberous begonias will drop their buds if the soil is allowed to dry out. It is advisable to wet down the walks and grounds where your tuberous begonias are growing in order to provide the humidity so necessary in the culture of this plant.

When the first flower buds appear, begin feeding every other week using half strength fish emulsion. This should be applied after first wetting the planting area, and then be sure to water in well immediately after applying.

With proper care and good warm weather the tuberous begonia should start blooming in June and continue to bloom all during the summer and fall months.

## Library Notes

Two new acquisitions have been added to your library for your reading pleasure: **GLOXINIAS AND HOW TO GROW THEM** by Peggy Schulz (\$2.95) should please those members who wish to attain perfection in the growing of this beautiful plant along with their Begonias, — and the **AFRICAN VIOLET VARIETY LIST 1953**—by Carolyn K. Rector (\$0.50), a splendid glossary of all the known varieties of this plant and their synonyms. This will prove helpful to those collectors who wish to add new plants but desire to check to assure themselves that the same plant is not grown under several other names. Both of these books are valuable additions to our literature on the Gesneriads.

As is customary at this time of year we list below the books in stock which you may purchase thru your Library. Write for further information if interested in other titles and we will endeavor to secure them for your convenience.

**BEGONIAS FOR AMERICAN HOMES & GARDENS**, Helen K. Krauss— \$2.95.

**BEGONIAS & HOW TO GROW THEM**, Bessie R. Buxton—\$3.00.

**DIE BEGONIEN UND IHRE KULTUR**, Albert Vogelmann, (in German)— 1.50.

**THE TUBEROUS BEGONIA**, A. G. Langdon— \$2.00.

**TUBEROUS ROOTED BEGONIAS**, George Otten— \$2.00.

**HOW TO INCREASE PLANTS**, Alfred C. Hottes— \$3.00.

**HOW TO GROW RARE GREENHOUSE PLANTS**, Ernest Chabot— \$4.00.

**OUR GARDEN SOILS**, Charles E. Kellogg, \$4.00.

**SOILS & FERTILIZERS FOR GARDEN & GREENHOUSE**, Laurie & Kiplinger — \$2.50.

**FERNS FOR GARDEN & GREENHOUSE**, A. H. MacSelf— \$3.50.

**CYCLAMEN PERSICUM**, Walter C. Blasdale— \$1.50.

**GLOXINIAS & HOW TO GROW THEM**, Peggy Schulz— \$2.95.

**AFRICAN VIOLET VARIETY LIST**, Carolyn K. Rector— \$.50.

**MODERN FOLIAGE PLANTS**, Alfred B. Graf— \$.50.

**PRACTICAL PLANT BREEDING**, W. J. C. Lawrence— \$2.00.

**BON SAI**, Norio Kobayashi— \$2.00.

**CAMELLIAS ILLUSTRATED**, Oregon Camellia Society— \$5.00.

**GARDENING IN THE SHADE**, H. B. K. Morse— \$.50.

### *Pamphlets:*

**Some New Species of Chinese Begonias**. Irmscher in Notes from the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh— \$.50.

**Tuberous Begonias**, Lambert Day—reprinted from the Natl. Horticultural Magazine, April, 1941— \$.25.

**Begonias—Their Propagation & Culture**—bulletin of the A.B.S.— \$.25.

**New Pronouncing Dictionary of Plant Names**— \$.25.

**Complete back files of the Begonian for 1949 and 1950**, each— \$2.00.

**Complete back files of the Begonian for 1951 and 1952**, each— \$3.00.

Write to the Librarian for other back copies of the publication of your Society and also for information on Old Fern Books, if interested. California members kindly include 3 per cent sales tax when ordering. Your purchases thru your Library add other volumes to the list of acquisitions for your use and pleasure.

Gladys C. Nolan, Librarian.



# Another Eastern Branch is Organized

It is with a great deal of pleasure that we welcome the Ocean County, New Jersey Branch into our A.B.S. family. Our newest Branch was organized by Mrs. Emma Ficken, assisted by Mrs. Elsa Fort, Eastern Chairman of Public Relations. Mrs. Ficken, an avid begonia grower and former member of the Missouri Branch, is known for her collection of some eighty varieties of begonias that she grows in her house-trailer home, taking the plants with her where ever she may go.

From Mrs. Fort's report on their first meeting, we quote:

"The Ocean County New Jersey Branch of the A.B.S. was organized March 2nd, 1953, with eight charter members present. President and Secretary elected and Constitution and By-laws compiled for approval of the Board of Directors. This is a very interesting group of Begonia lovers and growers due to the fact that several members live in house-trailers. Their husbands are employed in a very special type of work, (Lead-burners) which necessitates their living where the work is. The trailers for the most part consist of living room, kitchen, bath and bedroom, all good sized rooms but the windows are not large and although most of them have deep sills, begonias growing in them hug and touch each other. The condition of their begonias is first class and they possess many, many very rare and hard to grow species and varieties.

"Do we hear someone say, 'How about moving day with the plants?' The plants are put in the shower room, right on the floor and go right along with never a bit of packing required. Then, when the final destination is reached, they are brought out to the living room, bedroom, kitchen and hall windows; and they go right on growing

with never a set-back due to change of temperature, being packed in close boxes or perhaps being dropped en route. In the summer the plants are put out of doors in the shade of the awning which is the roof of the porch, and, inasmuch as the Begonias are kept in their pots there is no set back from replanting.

"This new A.B.S. group is very enthusiastic to learn all they possibly can about the raising and care of their plants and are constantly experimenting with new Begonias added to their collections."

Mrs. Helen Ravasy, a permanent resident of Island Heights, N. J., was elected first President of the Branch, and Mrs. Ficken chosen Secretary-Treasurer. Other officers for the group will be elected at their April meeting. The members plan to meet the first Monday of the month, at the trailer homes.

The Constitution and By-laws of the Ocean County New Jersey Branch was submitted, voted upon and approved by the members of the A.B.S. Board of Directors at the regular monthly meeting held in Los Angeles, March 23, 1953.

Because practically all members of the new Branch are "Trailer Begonia Growers" it was suggested that we give them the distinction of being "OUR PORTABLE BRANCH" and we shall be interested in their activities and follow their Branch work as they spread their knowledge of begonia growing in moving across the nation.

To the Ocean County New Jersey Branch of the A.B.S. best wishes and a hearty welcome from the Officers and members of the American Begonia Society.

Respectfully,

*Louise Schwerdtfeger,*  
Director of Public Relations.

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## New Officers

*Texas State:* President, Mrs. R. J. Wilson; Vice-president, Mrs. I. G. Thornton; Secretary, Mrs. Ed Fullerton; Treasurer, Mrs. Fred M. Owens; Member at Large, Mr. E. Weaver.

## NEW BOOK

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(Price \$4.75 After May 31st)

## President's Letter

Since our Membership Secretary, Mr. Elmer Lorenz, who reorganized the membership system in 1949, has resigned, I have been called upon to find someone who could efficiently take his place. No better person could surely be found than your former editor, Mrs. Dorothy Behrends, and she has agreed to accept the position. You may address all your membership communications to her *at the same box number as before*: Box 2544, Los Angeles 54, Calif. Don't forget the zone number!

We are fortunate in finding someone to accept the regular appointment as Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund Chairman, also, as reported under that heading.

Let us all help these fine new officers by cooperating with them in every possible way to make their tasks easier.

*Edna L. Korts, President.*

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CORAL GABLES

BOX 804

FLORIDA

## ★ Calendar ★

(Visitors Always Welcome)

May 1st thru 8th

Oakland Spring Flower Show: Southern  
Alameda County Branch is exhibiting.

May 9th

Missouri Br.: Educational table at Kansas  
City Garden Flower Show.

May 16th

New England Br.: Mr. and Mrs. Vincent  
Mason, 154 Beaumont Ave., Newtonville,  
Mass., hosts at 10:00 a.m. Mr. and Mrs.  
Percy I. Merry, 109 Brookside Road, Need-  
ham, Mass., hosts at luncheon.

May 18th

Pasadena Br.: Joe Littlefield—"Begonias  
and Companion Plants".

May 23rd, 24th

San Diego Floral Association Spring  
Flower Show, Recital Hall, Balboa Park.

May 23rd

Missouri Br.: Spring Begonia and Shade  
Plant display under Chairmanship of Mrs.  
Chris Ebert at Rudy Fick Motor Co., Persh-  
ing Road and McGee, Kansas City, Mo.

May 24th

Sacramento: Begonia Show at Garden  
Center.

May 27

Glendale Br.: Annual Garden Festival—  
Fun for all and featuring garden gadgets,  
begonias, fertilizers and shade plants. Peggy  
Sullivan will talk on Flowering Shrubs in  
the Shade Garden.

June 9th

Missouri Br.: Educational display at the  
Shawnee Mission, Kansas.

June 14th

Natl. A.B.S. Garden Festival—WE HAD  
THIS REVERSED WITH THE TOUR IN  
LAST MONTH'S CALENDAR — THIS IS  
THE FESTIVAL DATE — OAKHURST  
GARDENS!

June 20th

New England Br.: Hostess Mrs. Max C.  
Miller, Diamond Hill, Cumberland, Rhode  
Island, at 10:30 a.m. Mrs. F. N. Wiley  
speaks on Ferns.

June 28th

Natl. A.B.S. Garden Tour — Get your  
tickets at your Branches.

July 18th and 19th

South Bay Garden Club's 15th Annual  
Flower Show in Eagles' Hall, Catalina and  
Garner Sts., Redondo Beach, Calif. No ad-  
mission charge. Exhibits will include table  
arrangements, flower and vegetable speci-  
mens, pot plants, floral displays including  
those by professional florists and nurserymen.  
One section for children under 13.

July 31, August 1st and 2nd

San Gabriel Valley Br.: Annual Flower  
Show!

August 22nd, 23rd

A.B.S. NATIONAL CONVENTION  
REDONDO BEACH HIGH SCHOOL  
REDONDO BEACH, CALIF.



# BRANCH MEETING DATES AND PLACES

*(Visitors always welcome at these meetings.)*

## CENTRAL FLORIDA BRANCH

1st Friday, May 1, June 5, 8:00 p.m.  
Lounge, Florida Power Co.  
Winter Park, Fla.  
Mrs. Martha Gipson, Secy.-Treas.  
861 Juanita Roal, Winter Park, Fla.

## DALLAS COUNTY BRANCH, TEXAS

1st Thursday, May 7, June 4, 7:00 p.m.  
Member's Residences  
Mrs. W. H. Buntin, Cor. Secy.  
3113 Parker Dr., Dallas, Texas

## EAST BAY BRANCH

2nd Thursday, May 14, 7:45 p.m.  
Willard School, Telegraph at Ward  
Berkeley  
Miss Dorothy Osburn, Secy.  
5015 Cochrane Ave., Oakland 11, Calif.

## EL MONTE COMMUNITY BRANCH

3rd Thursday, May 21  
Jennie Baker School, 12043 Exline  
Jean Cross, Cor. Secy.  
1304 Elm, Alhambra, Calif.

## FOOTHILL BRANCH

3rd Thursday, May 21, 8:00 p.m.  
La Verne Recreation Hall  
Mrs. C. W. Hall, Cor. Secy.  
358 E. Arrow Hwy., Upland

## FORT ELSA BRANCH

1st Saturday, May 2, June 6, 2:30 p.m.  
Miss Lola Price, Secy.  
628 Beech Ave., Laurel Springs, N. J.

## GLENDALE BRANCH

4th Wednesday, May 27, 8:00 p.m.  
Tuesday Afternoon Club, 400 N. Central  
Mrs. Mabel Anderson, Cor. Secy.  
1064 Davis Ave., Glendale 1, Calif.

## GRAY, EVA KENWORTHY BRANCH

3rd Monday, May 18, 7:30 p.m.  
Community House, La Jolla  
Tillie Genter, Cor. Secy.  
7356 Eads St., La Jolla, Calif.

## GRAYS HARBOR BRANCH

2nd Monday, May 11, 8:00 p.m.  
Hoquiam Pub. Library, or Messingale &  
Rosenear Music Store, Aberdeen, Wash.  
Mrs. Jessie B. Hoyt, Secy.  
1013 Harding Road, Aberdeen, Wash.

## GRUENBAUM, MARGARET BRANCH

4th Tuesday, May 26, 10:30 a.m.  
Home of Members  
Box Lunch 12:30, Program following  
Mrs. Ernest Jones, Secy.  
R.F.D., Willow Grove, Pa.

## HOLLYWOOD BRANCH

2nd Monday, May 11, 7:30 p.m.  
Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd.  
Mrs. Maude A. Cooper, Cor. Secy.  
1014 Havenhurst Dr., Hollywood 46, Calif.

## HOUSTON TEXAS BRANCH

2nd Friday, May 8, 10:00 a.m.  
Garden Center, Herman Park  
Mrs. E. H. Claggett, Secy.  
4415 Austin, Houston, Tex.

## HUB CITY BRANCH

### COMPTON-LYNWOOD

3rd Monday, May 18, 7:30 p.m.  
Roosevelt High School Cafe  
1200 E. Olive, Compton, Calif.  
Mrs. Dorothy Sarson, Secy.  
1108 E. Glencoe Ave., Compton 1, Calif.

## HUMBOLDT COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Monday, May 11, 8:00 p.m.  
Los Amigos Club, Loleta, Calif.  
Miss Margaret Smith, Secy.  
P. O. Box 635, Ferndale, Calif.

## INGLEWOOD BRANCH

2nd Thursday, May 14, 8:00 p.m.  
325 N. Hillcrest, Inglewood, Calif.  
Mrs. Velda Scalley, Secy.  
1415 W. 104th St., Los Angeles 47, Calif.

## LA MESA BRANCH

2nd Monday, May 11, 7:30 p.m.  
Porter Park, University & La Mesa Blvd.  
Peggy Owens, Secy.  
4275 Nabal Dr., La Mesa, Calif.

## LONG BEACH PARENT CHAPTER

2nd Tuesday, May 12, 7:30 p.m.  
Fox Home at 2255 Elm Ave.  
Mrs. W. Cox, Secy.  
3592 Lewis Ave., Long Beach 7, Calif.

## MIAMI FLORIDA BRANCH

4th Tuesday, May 26, 8:00 p.m.  
Simpson Memorial Garden Center  
Miss Elizabeth S. Hall, Secy.  
3340 S.W. 24th Terrace, Miami, Fla.

## MISSOURI BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, May 19, 1:00 p.m.  
American Legion Bldg., Linwood & Paseo  
Kansas City, Mo.  
Mrs. Mary Wood, Secy.  
626 W. Charles, Independence, Mo.

## NEW ENGLAND BRANCH

Mrs. Lester H. Fox, Secy.  
170 Marsh Hill Road, Dracut, Mass.

## NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH

2nd Monday, May 11, 7:30 p.m.  
Houghton Park Club House  
Harding & Atlantic, N. Long Beach  
Mrs. Beatrice White, Secy.  
1411 Poppy St., Long Beach, Calif.

## OCEAN COUNTY NEW JERSEY BR.

1st Monday, May 4, June 1, 12:30 p.m.  
Members Homes  
Mrs. Helen Ravasy, President  
Cedar and Summit Aves., Island Heights, N. J.

## ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

1st Thursday, June 4, May 7, 7:30 p.m.  
Farm Bureau Hall, 353 S. Main St., Orange  
Mrs. Evie Darden, Secy.-Treas.  
6701 S. Fee Ana St., Rt. 3, Anaheim, Calif.

## PASADENA BRANCH

3rd Monday, May 18, 7:30 p.m.  
Casitas del Arroyo, 117 S. Arroyo, Pasadena  
Mrs. Lois Williams, Secy.-Treas.  
1674 Monte Vista St., Pasadena 4, Calif.

## PETALUMA BRANCH

3rd Friday, May 15, 8:00 p.m.  
Dania Hall, 19 Main St.  
Mrs. Hazel Chappell, Secy.  
222 Bodega Ave., Petaluma, Calif.

## PHILOBEGONIA BRANCH

2nd Friday, May 8, Members Homes  
Mrs. Robert York, Secy.  
3311 Fremont St., Camden, N. J.

## PORTLAND OREGON BRANCH

4th Friday, May 22, 8:00 p.m.  
Journal Bldg. Aud., Front & Yamhill Sts.  
Ronnie Hirsch, Secy.  
6831 S. E. Flavel, Portland 6, Oregon

## RAYTOWN MISSOURI BRANCH

4th Tuesday, May 26, 7:30 p.m.  
Homes of Members  
Mrs. Mildred Schorr, Secy.-Treas.  
7708 Sni-A-Bar Terrace, Kansas City, Mo.

## REDONDO BEACH AREA

4th Friday, May 22, 8:00 p.m.  
2308 Rockefeller, Redondo Beach, Calif.  
Mr. Joe Taylor, Secy.  
301 Anita St., Redondo Beach, Calif.

## RIVERSIDE BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, May 13, 7:30 p.m.  
Member's Residence  
Mrs. Kay Elmore, Secy.  
Shamel Park, 3670 Arlington, Riverside, Calif.

## ROBINSON, ALFRED D. BRANCH

4th Friday, May 22, 10:00 a.m.  
Homes of Members  
Mrs. L. Carringer, Secy.  
825 Harbor View Pl., San Diego 3

## SACRAMENTO BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, May 19, 8:00 p.m.  
Garden Center, McKinley Park  
Mrs. H. R. Pirkner, Secy.  
750 - 48th St., Sacramento, Calif.

## SALEM OREGON BRANCH

1st Tuesday, May 5, June 2  
The Chapel, 685 Winter St., Salem  
Mrs. Loren H. Edlund  
863 Edina Lane, Salem, Ore.

#### **SAN DIEGO BRANCH**

4th Monday, May 25  
Hard of Hearing Hall, Herbert & University  
Mrs. Alice Shetler, Secy.  
4551 Kensington Dr., San Diego 16, Calif.

#### **SAN FERNANDO VALLEY BRANCH**

2nd Monday, May 11  
Homes of Members  
Mrs. Nel Schoenbrom, Secy.  
18635 Calvert St., Reseda, Calif.

#### **SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH**

1st Wednesday, May 6, June 3, 8:00 p.m.  
1641 Taraval St.

Mrs. George Leslie Kuthe, Secy.  
1095 Market St., San Francisco 3, Calif.

#### **SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH**

4th Wednesday, May 27  
Masonic Temple, 506 S. Santa Anita Ave.  
Arcadia, Calif.

Mrs. Gonda Hartwell, Secy.  
1719 Alamosa Ave., Monrovia, Calif.

#### **SANTA BARBARA BRANCH**

2nd Thursday, May 14, 7:30 p.m.  
Girl Scout Clubhouse, 1838 San Andres St.  
Mrs. Rolland J. Brines, Secy.

440 Via Dichosa., Santa Barbara, Calif.

#### **SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BRANCH**

1st Tuesday, May 5, June 2, 8:00 p.m.  
V.F.W. Hall, 311 Pacific Ave.

Miss Hazelle E. Oxley, Secy.  
428 Davis St., Santa Cruz, Calif.

#### **SANTA MONICA BAY BRANCH**

4th Wednesday, May 27, 7:30 p.m.  
1130 Lincoln Blvd., 7th St. Entrance  
Santa Monica

Jack MacLanahan, Secy.  
3734 Overland Ave., Los Angeles 37

#### **SEATTLE BRANCH**

3rd Tuesday, May 19, 7:45 p.m.  
University of Washington Arboretum  
Clubhouse

Mrs. H. C. Bamford, Secy.  
810 W. Lee, Seattle, Wash.

#### **SHEPHERD, THEODOSIA BURR BR.**

1st Tuesday, May 5, June 2, 7:30 p.m.  
Alice Bartlett C. H., 902 E. Main, Ventura  
Mrs. M. E. Ramelli, Secy.

1839 Poli St., Ventura, Calif.

#### **SOUTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY BRANCH**

3rd Tuesday, May 21, 8:00 p.m.  
Cafeteria, High School, Hayward, Calif.  
Mrs. Margaret Nelson, Cor. Secy.

P. O. Box 818, Niles, Calif.

#### **SOUTHGATE BRANCH**

4th Tuesday, May 12, 7:30 p.m.  
South Gate Municipal Aud., 4900 Southern  
Mr. Walter Partridge

4849 Beck Ave., Bell, Calif.

#### **TEXAS STATE BRANCH**

4th Friday, May 22, 7:30 p.m.  
Members' Homes

Mrs. Ed Fullerton, Secy.  
2822 - 8th St., Port Arthur, Texas

#### **WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH**

2nd Wednesday, May 13, 11:00 a.m.  
Homes of Members

Mrs. Walter H. Kirch, Secy.  
Clearview Rd., Glenshaw, Pa.

#### **WESTERN RESERVE BRANCH**

CLEVELAND, OHIO  
4th Wednesday, May 22, 8:00 p.m.

Garden Center, 10013 Detroit St.  
Cleveland, Ohio

Mrs. Edward Lobser, Cor. Secy.  
25912 Westlake Rd., Bay Village, Ohio

#### **WHITTIER BRANCH**

4th Tuesday, May 26, 7:30 p.m.  
Union High School, Room 19

Lindley Ave. Entrance, Whittier, Calif.  
Mrs. Gladys B. Bruce, Secy.

6602 Milna Ave., Whittier, Calif.

#### **WILLIAM PENN BRANCH, PA.**

3rd Tuesday, May 19, 2:00 p.m.  
Homes of Members

Mrs. J. H. Ward Hinkson, Secy.  
Wallingford, Pa.

#### **CONDENSED MINUTES**

Meeting of National Board held March 23, 1953,  
called to order by President Korts at 7:40 p.m. at  
Los Angeles City Hall. All welcomed.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. Motschman and  
Purposes read by him. Minutes of previous meeting  
read and corrected.

Mrs. Behrends' letter requesting a point system  
of judging begonias be approved for inclusion in  
her handbook for judges was discussed and the  
system printed in the July, 1952, Begonian was  
officially adopted. Mrs. Behrends to be advised  
accordingly.

Treasurer Richardson reported a technical loss of  
\$107.46 for the month of February which, however,  
included the purchase of life memberships, so the  
actual loss was not so much. Grand total of all  
funds is now \$2,605.73. He read membership sec-  
retary's report of 61 new members, 118 renewing  
and 1 life membership purchased by the San Fran-  
cisco Branch.

Business Manager Brown reported advertising  
income of \$137.25. Editor reported obtaining inter-  
esting foreign information by correspondence. Re-  
ports accepted as read.

Ways and Means Chairman, Glenn Motschman,  
reported he and Mr. Slatter had secured donation  
from Southern California Greenhouse Manufacturers  
of a 9x12 greenhouse to be given away at the 1953  
Convention August 23rd. See report elsewhere.

Mr. Motschman read Finance Chairman Trow-  
bridge's report of the Inglewood Printing Company  
offer for handling advertising, printing, etc., of  
The Begonian. President asked all members to  
consider and discuss this at branches and report  
back at next meeting.

Mrs. Schwerdtfeger reported hearing articles from  
The Begonian were being copied without permis-  
sion. Mrs. Korts reported the April and subsequent  
issues would be copyrighted. Approved.

Slide Librarian Terrell reported 2 sets in circula-  
tion 1 on order. Mrs. Korts reported visiting  
meeting of Riverside Branch where they honored  
Mr. Terrell by planting an elm tree.

Librarian Nolan reported 36 books in circulation,  
15 sold and receipt of acknowledgment of Begon-  
ians sent to Hamburg Exposition, Germany.

Mr. George Spaulding of the Arboretum reported  
that Dr. Smith and Dr. Schubert will be happy  
to identify material properly mounted as herbarium  
specimens for the A.B.S.

Mrs. Kerlin read a report from the Seed Fund,  
a balance of \$168.33 on hand, \$120.00 worth of  
seed purchased. Mr. and Mrs. Jack MacLanahan  
being willing to accept the office according to Mrs.  
Korts, her appointment of them as Chairmen of the  
Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund effective at the close  
of the present flight was approved.

Mr. Motschman reported income of \$85.00 on  
Sunday and \$35.00 on Tuesday sales of tickets on  
the glass house at the International Show, as Mr.  
Rich and Mr. Trowbridge were absent removing  
the display.

Public Relations Director Schwerdtfeger reported  
formation of a new Ocean County, New Jersey,  
branch in which all but the secretary live in trailers.  
Also reported disbandment of the Heart of America  
Branch, the members of which have rejoined the  
Missouri Branch. Investigation of the San Fernando  
Valley area is also under way.

Branch highlights: Mrs. Zug of Foothill reported  
the Park in which they meet has asked them to  
install a permanent planting of Begonias; they are  
putting an educational display in the Padua Hills  
Flower Show; membership drive with Pres'dent  
offering a prize for member bringing in the most  
new ones. Garden visitation April 12th.

Hollywood, Mr. Beaufore, reported passing of  
their oldest member, much-loved Mrs. Callan; an-  
nual picnic dinner to be held June or July.

Glendale, Mr. Joyce: May will be their annual  
festival.

Inglewood, Mr. Smith: Took 3rd at International  
Flower Show.

Redondo Area, Mr. Koebig: Thanked Mrs. Turn-  
er for her help in getting the convention fund  
started; sent letters to all branches asking entries  
for island or booth displays; have received first  
branch contribution; request from Missouri that a  
separate section be arranged for out-of-state entries.

Riverside, Mrs. Guekler: New meeting place,  
3670 Arlington Avenue. Annual show April 18th  
and 19th.

San Gabriel, Mr. Browne: Planning their annual  
show for July 31st. August 1st and 2nd.

Turn to next page

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4" ROUND WIKS: 1/16", .08c for small pots;  
7/32"-A .08c for 3" & 4" pots; 7/32"-B .10c  
for 4", 5" & 6" pots; 1/4" .12c for 6", 7"  
& 8" pots; 3/8" .15c for 8", 9" & larger pots.  
*Write for bulk prices.*

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The best of the older varieties  
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**CONDENSED MINUTES (Cont.)**

Santa Barbara, Mrs. Weber: Reported on meeting where Mr. Ziesenhenné's begonia was ceremoniously named "MacBride's Napoleon."

Shepherd, Mr. Wood: Faithful member Mrs. Meyer reported fatally ill. Members all offered to write their sympathy.

South Gate, Mrs. Arbuckle: Mr. Hixon fell and injured himself and will be unable to participate for some time.

OLD BUSINESS: Mr. Motschman thanked Dorothy Powell for getting out the first 5,000 copies of tuberous instruction sheets for distribution to nurseries and Mr. Richardson for fine work on membership posters.

Mrs. Nolan reported the A.H.S. letter saying cost of printing the rex material for A.B.S. circulation would be \$276.00 and asked how much we could bear. Tabled for further investigation.

President Korts appointed Mr. Frank Moore Chairman of the Nominating Committee with Mr.

Clarence Johnson of San Gabriel and Mrs. Alice Clark of San Diego. Appointed Bert Slatter on Convention Committee for 1 year term. She then gave a short history of the Alfred D. Robinson Memorial Fund and the proposal to create a bronze medal award for each year's outstanding begonia hybrid. Received letter from the San Diego Branch releasing this fund for this purpose. First bid on die cost was \$240.00 and medals \$20.00 each. The proposal was to give 5 this year at the Annual Convention to catch up and then one per year. Presented rules suggestions, which see on another page. Submitted for discussion at next meeting.

Mr. Motschman requested Ways and Means be advanced \$125.00 for immediate expenses, the money to be returned as soon as possible. So ordered.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**DORRIS MOTSCHMAN, Secy.**



—Courtesy New York Botanical Garden

"A California Begonia Garden"—the display of the New York Botanical Garden at the N. Y. International Flower Show, March, 1953.