

The Begonian

DEVOTED TO THE SHELTERED GARDENS

JULY 1963

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AIMS AND PURPOSES OF THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY, INC.

The purpose of this Society shall be: to 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; and to bring into friendly contact all who love and grow begonias.

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HUNGER SIGNS IN THE GARDEN

By JOHN THIEBEN
Los Angeles, California

Plants are just like human beings. If they don't get the right things to eat, they get sick from malnutrition. And, of course, sick plants are not the most beautiful to look at. Sick plants are more susceptible to attack from insects and plant disease.

Like sick human beings, sick plants exhibit to the trained eye of the plant doctor certain symptoms which are characteristic of specific nutritional deficiencies. With a little keen-eyed observation, you can diagnose many hunger symptoms in the plants in your garden. Once you have done this, treatment of the condition is easy with the proper fertilizer.

NITROGEN DEFICIENCY

Nitrogen is especially important for flowers of good quality, because it is essential for the synthesis of natural proteins. Plenty of nitrogen gives a good, normal, deep-green color to foliage and stems. In general, nitrogen deficiency is characterized by slow growth, slender, fibrous stems, and foliage and stems that fade to yellow in color.

Treatment for nitrogen deficiency: Use any organic fertilizer high in nitrogen. A few of the best are blood-meal (15% N.), hoof and horn (12.5 % N.), and cottenseed meal (7% N.). These products could be mixed with compost or soil mix and applied to the soil in the fall or early spring. Always allow at least six weeks for complete decomposition of organic materials in the soil.

PHOSPHORUS DEFICIENCY

In general, plants which are deficient in phosphorus are slowed in growth. The undersides of leaves assume a reddish-purple color, and the plants are slow to mature.

Treatment for phosphorus deficiency: Use either fosplate rock (30% P.), or bone meal (21% P.), applied directly to the soil or mixed with

your potting mix. The amount you apply depends on how much your soil needs. To determine the correct amount, a soil test would be helpful.

POTASSIUM DEFICIENCY

General symptoms of potassium deficiency show up in plants that are reduced in vigor, have poor growth and poor yield, and are more susceptible to disease. Ashen-gray leaves develop brown edges, and crinkle and curl. Later they become bronzed.

Treatment for potassium deficiency: If soil is particularly low in potassium, add potash rock, granite dust, or wood ashes. Heavy mulching seems to help maintain the potassium supply.

CALCIUM DEFICIENCY

In general, plants exhibiting calcium deficiency are retarded in growth and develop thick, woody stems.

Treatment for calcium deficiency: Use any good grade of ground natural limestone.

MAGNESIUM DEFICIENCY

Magnesium deficiency is widespread. Plants deficient in magnesium, in general, are late to mature, do not mature uniformly, are of poor quality, and lack green color, with the lower leaves being affected first. The areas between the leaf veins turn yellow, then brown, while the veins remain green.

Treatment for magnesium deficiency: Use Dolomite limestone, since this contains quite a bit of magnesium.

Usually plenty of good old manure or a good quality compost will correct all soil deficiencies, but if evidence of deficiency still exists, add the suggested minerals or organic materials.
—From *The Begonian*, May, 1957.

COVER PICTURE

Begonia. hispada cucullata, also known as "piggy-back begonia"

BEGONIAS OF GUATEMALA

By ALEX D. HAWKES
"The Tropical Gardener"

An unusually interesting technical treatment of the Begonias of Guatemala has recently been published, as a part of the valuable *Flora of Guatemala*. This is a publication of the Chicago Natural History Museum which has been appearing, in serial form, for a number of years, and the discussion of *Begonia* forms a part of the 7th part of Volume 24 of *Fieldiana: Botany*, from that institution. The authors of this study are Drs. Lyman B. Smith (best-known for his work with bromeliads) and Bernice G. Schubert. The date of issuance of this treatise is November 13, 1961.

Thirty-six species and variants of *Begonia* are described in this paper, and twelve are illustrated in line drawings. The authors indicate that the genus includes "about 800 species" and that it is "nearly pantropical" in distribution. They also quote, as follows, from notes furnished by Paul C. Standley, who with Julian A. Steyermark has done the bulk of the vital botanical collecting in Guatemala:

"The species or varieties of *Begonia* grown in Guatemalan gardens or as pot plants are numerous. They are largely those seen commonly in the United States and are probably of South American origin. It is noteworthy that of all native Central American species only *B. heracleifolia* has much if any importance as an ornamental plant. Most of the others are decidedly inferior in ornamental value, and many of them decidedly unattractive. Rex begonias are noticed frequently as pot plants, especially in the mountains, but they must be protected from wind and rain. The cultivated plant known in the United States as *Begonia rubra* (a form or hybrid of *B. maculata* Raddi) is a common garden plant in Guatemala. In the gardens of Coban the plants

of this species often rise well above the garden walls."

In view of my very casual collections of Begonias in Nicaragua (see *Begonias in Nicaragua*, in *The Begonian* 30: 4-6, 2 figs. January 1963), I have found this study of particular interest. Smith and Schubert list only the following species from that country, even though others from Guatemala should certainly extend well within its confines: *B. convallariodora* ("Southern Mexico to Panama"), *B. Fischeri* var. *tovarensis* ("Southern Mexico and Cuba to Venezuela, Bolivia and Peru"), *B. glabra* ("Southern Mexico and the West Indies to Peru and Bolivia"), *B. involucrata*, *B. Lindleyana* ("Southern Mexico to Columbia"), *B. nelumbiiifolia* ("Southern Mexico to Columbia"), *B. plebeja* ("Central America"), and *B. stigmosa* ("Southern Mexico to Colombia").

I very much believe that I have found *Begonia crassicaulis* growing as a rather common epiphyte near Santa Maria de Ostuma, in Nicaragua, since the drawing of it in this work certainly looks much like the very odd "leafless" tree-dwelling species of that area. Its large and handsomely-toothed leaves are produced after the flowers. Something like *B. heracleifolia* is also found in this area, over near the marvelous chill highland woods of the El Tuma Grade, but I have long known this species here in South Florida, and there are some differences even to one so untrained in *Begonia* taxonomy as myself. And Stanley's Guatemalan and Honduras species, *B. Popenoei*, looks very familiar, and technical description rings a mental bell as much like a plant found in a very sodden-wet pine-forest at about 4800 feet elevation—though Smith and Schubert indicate that this does not occur above 100

(Continued on Page 149)

SLANTED TOWARD THE BEGINNER

HOW TO HYBRIDIZE BEGONIAS

By DOROTHY S. BEHREND'S
Encinitas, California

So you want to hybridize begonias—just for fun?

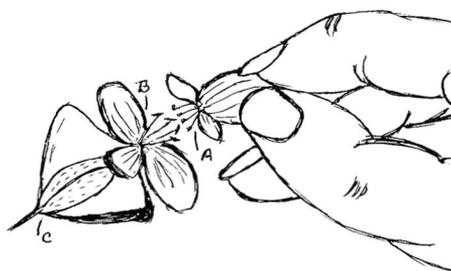
That is probably how all begonia hybridizers began playing that fascinating game.

You may learn a great deal by watching the bees, but you may learn faster by reading of past hybridizing. Read the lists of registered begonias, where the parents of the cultivars are listed. It is not recommended that you make the same crosses or more confusion will be created. But by reading of these crosses, you may get the worthwhile crosses firmly fixed in your mind, so that you will get better "takes".

In the early begonia days, San Diego's A.D. Robinson used the coccinea or caned stemmed begonias to cross and create many cultivars. Since then, many people find crossing rex begonias to be very satisfying.

Never name a begonia unless it proves to be completely distinctive or different and *vigorous*. Begonias without vigor are soon lost. Look at the long list of begonias registered in the past six years. Many are already unobtainable now, because they failed to have vigor.

Choose two vigorous plants in



Pollinating a begonia blossom: Dust stamens (A) gently on pistils (B). Results: Seeds forming in ovary (C).

bloom, that you hope to use as parents. They may be species, hybrids, or, as we call them now, cultivars. You will find that some hybrids or cultivars are sterile and then your efforts are wasted. I have found 'Lucerna' and 'Corbeille de Feu', to mention only two, to be sterile.

Place your thumb nail under the stamens on the male blossom that has been opened several days, preferably about ten o'clock in the morning. If you find pollen (looks like powder) comes off the stamens onto your nail, it is ready.

Use this flower to pick and pollinate the female blossom (as illustrated) on your chosen seed-bearing parent plant. Dust the male blossom *gently* over the female flowers that have been opened at least three days. Be sure that the stamens touch the pistils so that the pollen is shaken loose.

Keep a record of any crosses you make. An easy way to mark the pollinated blossom is by tying a different-colored thread on the blossom stem for each different cross.

You may make this same cross back onto the opposite plants, but you will probably need more than one flower cluster open at the time. The male blossoms open prior to the female blossoms, so by having several clusters open at one time on each plant, this is very satisfactory.

The illustration shows the female flower, with the ovary under the receptive pistils and the petals. By using the flower of the male parent, there is no chance of an incorrect record. By using a fine brush to spread the pollen, there is always a chance of pollen staying in among the bristles,

(Continued on Page 152)

GROWING BEGONIAS – A NEW WAY OF LIFE

By RUBY MAE BUDD
Los Angeles, California

My first introduction to a begonia—which I didn't know from a daisy—was just over three years ago. After all I have been through since then, to plant begonia seeds and nurse the plants to prize-winning beauty, I have discovered an easy, productive, and satisfactory way of planting, quite by accident.

My initiation was at a fuchsia society meeting, where Mr. Rudolf Zieshenne spoke on begonias and showed a Begonia 'Iron Cross'. Right then I knew that I had to have one.

A few months later our neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. John Thieben, invited my husband and me to be charter members of the Westchester Branch of the American Begonia Society, which he was then forming. As we always enjoyed working in our garden, we thought it would be fun to belong to a garden club.

Of course, we didn't know that our acceptance would change our whole way of living. Our nice, sunny, garden turned into a lath shade garden. The roses, asters, and other sun-loving plants had to go to make room for begonias, ferns, and fuchsias. Behind our garage was a hide-away—9 feet by 22 feet—for anything we wanted to hide. Well, that soon turned into a place for begonias, a closed-in fiberglass greenhouse.

The first meeting of the Westchester Branch was held at our home. Bert Slatter was the speaker. Well, if you know Bert, you know that when he gets through talking about begonias you're a begonia bug or something is wrong with you.

At the second meeting, our beloved Bee Olson was the speaker, and her topic was "Planting Begonia Seeds". She showed us how to do it from the very start, from the mix to the gallon wide necked jars to sowing and covering the jars. I was so fascinated,

I said to myself, "Ruby, this is for you!"

In the next issue of *The Begonian* the first thing I looked for was the Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund List. There, to my surprise, was B. 'Iron Cross'. I wouldn't be satisfied to try something easy like *semperflorens*—no, I had to have the seed that was not only the longest germinating but also the most difficult to raise. I wanted a B. 'Iron Cross'.

Mrs. Florence Gee, Seed Fund Administrator, who has always been very helpful with advice, sent me the seed and instructions for planting.

I sterilized the medium, half oak leaf mold and half peat moss, both sifted in my kitchen colander, moistened with refrigerator defrosting water (in later plantings my refrigerator never was defrosted so often), baked in the oven for two hours at 180 degrees, cooled and placed into a wide-necked pickle bottle that I boiled to sterilize—and all done with well sterilized hands. In a small salt shaker I placed a small amount of fine sand, also sterilized, and my seed, mixed them together, and sowed my first begonia seed. In looking at the result of this work, I felt as proud as if I had just canned a bushel of peaches.

When my husband came home that evening he wanted to know what that awful odor was. I told him that I had sterilized my seed planting mix in the oven. (We ate out that night.) Then I thought that I had a good excuse for every time I didn't feel like cooking dinner—I sterilized mix. But, being a smart man, he finally caught on. So, after that, I covered the pan with aluminum foil, which kept the odor in.

I knew I had to have patience in growing seed, especially B. 'Iron Cross' (*masoniana*). Patience I would

have to acquire if I intended to continue with seed. I took my prize bottle in our back bedroom and thought to myself, "Forget about it", which I immediately did. But in an hour I looked and nothing had happened. This was in September, 1959, and nothing happened for three long months.

But the day did come on December 25, 1959, and my Christmas was complete at the moment that I saw germination.

After that, germination was good. I transplanted them the following March.

In the meantime I had gained more experience with seed, so my second try with *B. 'Iron Cross'* was sowed April 12, 1960, germinated in May, and potted in August. I raised eighty plants from these seeds—and one of them won six trophies this last season.

There have been many inquiries about the correct way of planting begonia seeds. I have tried them all. For beginners, I suggest that you try the methods described in books, folders, and other sources, but also try the following method that I have discovered recently.

Last November I had the good luck to win a grand prize at a meeting, a large sack of a commercially prepared planter mix. At various times I had purchased smaller bags of this mix, but now, having a large bag, I really had fun repotting several begonias in the mix.

I had a seed pod on my prize-winning *B. dregei*, which I had been watching for some time. When I thought it was ready I removed the pod, and seed fell all over my hand. Not wanting to waste any seed, with one hand I took a clear plastic ice-box dish that I use for seed planting, filled it with the commercial mix, which was already moist in preparation for repotting, and firmed it down; with the other hand full of seed, I managed to plant the *B. dregei* seed.

I have been taught that mixes should be well strained before seeds are planted in them. Well, at that moment I didn't have any of my regular seed mix prepared. So—nothing like trying! In seven days the container looked like a golf course turf.

I have been told also that seedlings should be transplanted as soon as they get their third leaf, because then there are no root systems to disturb as they have not started to throw out roots. This system I have adhered to always. This transplanting is a little tricky to get on to, I will admit, but I soon found the right instrument, an old-fashioned pen holder with the pen point spread out to pluck up the small seedlings. I also use a three-inch or four-inch large-headed nail; I use the point to make the holes in the planting mix for receiving the seedlings, and use the head for firming the mix.

Six weeks after germination of the *Begonia dregei*, which usually takes months, I transplanted them. The root systems had already spread out all around the stems. This was quite remarkable, for I have transplanted many seedlings and never have they developed root systems in other mediums as fast as in this prepared planter mix.

When planting begonia seeds, I dampen this prepared planting mix just to the point where I can wring it out and not have any water dripping. I put it in a wide-necked glass bottle, clear plastic refrigerator dish, or a plastic shoe box, firm it down, then sow the seeds evenly, cover them, and forget them—for a few hours, anyway.

I have found that this method is less work than other methods, eliminates baking the mix, and the seeds will germinate faster so that I have nice seedlings within a very short time.

PATRONIZE BEGONIAN
ADVERTISERS

Bumblin' Along With

My column this month has "gone to seed."

From Mrs. C.K. of Springfield Virginia, come several questions regarding seed:

Will any plant set seed at all if it is not fertilized or hand-pollinated?

For a plant to set seed it is necessary for the pollen from the male bloom to come into direct contact with the female capsule, but it is not necessary that this be done by hand. Nature helps with the bees and even air currents; or the natural falling of the pollen to female blooms lower on the plant will fertilize the capsule and result in seed. There are some begonias that never seem to produce seeds naturally and these must be hand-pollinated.

If pollination is successful, I read, "the ovary will swell and form a seed pod". Can it happen if pollination is not successful?

Charles Chevalier states in *Les Begonias*: "Capsules resulting from pollination and arrived at full development do not necessarily enclose seeds. It quite often happens on the contrary that they contain only dry and brown ovules. There was no fertilization, properly speaking, and fruit has developed following exciting action of pollen on the ovary."

Are begonia seeds red as often as black?

Begonia seed color seems to range through all the tints and shades of red, brown, and black. The seed of the hybrid will not necessarily bear seed of the same color as the parent plant.

Is it possible to have seed that is not fertile?

Yes. To test fertility, spread seeds

over a sheet of white paper; then tilt the paper. If the seeds roll on the paper, they are most likely fertile. If they do not roll, they are undoubtedly infertile.

How long will begonia seeds remain fertile?

According to most authorities, two years would be the longest that we could hope for germination. Of course, there are always exceptions. However, the rule seems to be: the fresher the seed, the better the germination.

Mrs. D. R. of Iowa asks: When do you pick a seed pod that you have pollinated?

Karl Albert Fotsch, in *Die Begonian*, states: "The seeds ripen relatively quick and therefore the capsules should be inspected from the time of fertilization on. As soon as the capsules turn brown, they should be cut off in order to prevent a loss of seed by bursting of the capsules. The fresh seeds contain a high degree of humidity. Therefore it is natural that great damage can be done if they are not stored carefully. Therefore the fresh seeds should be placed in thin layers in a dry, light, well aired room for the so-called "after ripening". Then they should be cleaned and sorted and placed in clean bags".

Florence Gee of the Seed Fund sends us this question from Mrs.G.V. of Girard, Pennsylvania: Please tell us in *The Begonian* how to collect seeds from our plants and send to you.

Collecting seed for the Seed Fund really starts when the bloom spike on the begonia begins to unfurl. If you plan to allow your begonia to go to seed and will be generous enough to collect it for the Fund, then you

should isolate the plant, give it plenty of air and light, and handpollinate it at the proper time. To ensure good seed and a healthy plant, you should pollinate only as many seed capsules as your plant can nurture—this depends on the species and general condition of the plant. Producing seed does weaken the plant, so care should be taken.

The normal time between pollination and harvest of seeds is between four and six weeks. After the seed pod has been picked and carefully dried, seed should be removed, cleaned, and put in a container that will not allow the seeds to escape. Seeds are so tiny that this is sometimes difficult to accomplish.

The package should be labeled and sent off to Mrs. Florence Gee.

If seed pods have developed in a glass-house, the same procedure should be followed. However, if they have developed in an out-of-doors garden, you cannot be certain that they have not been cross-pollinated by nature. Should you send this seed, be sure to note that the plant grew out-of-doors.

Please do send seed. There is a real need for it.

Mrs. E. C. of Georgia asks: I've germinated the begonia seeds I received with my first issue of The Begonian. What are they?

Dear Mr. E. C. — I asked our Membership Secretary and her answer was, "Honestly, I don't know. I just feel lucky to have seed to send."

I do know that in the past seed sent has been mixed semperfloren or mixed rhizomatous. What fun you will have indentifying them! Very often I send to the Seed Fund for a package of mixed seed. It's fun to see the results. The stronger, easier-growing seeds come first, and you can prick these out of the jar and flat them, then wait for the next ones to come along. Often you end up with rare and unusual plants.

Mrs. A. L. of Iowa asks: What is a cultivar and what is a hybrid? It is

all so confusing.

*Dear Mrs. A. L.—*Technically speaking—a cultivar is a cross between begonias not known to be species. A hybrid is a cross between two species.

Your questions about begonias will be answered if you will write to:

Bee Olson
13715 Cordary Avenue
Hawthorne, California

FUCHSIA AND SHADE PLANT SHOW IN LONG BEACH

"Jewels of the Shade Garden" will be the theme of the ninth annual Fuchsia and Shade Plant show to be presented by the California National Fuchsia Society in the Long Beach Municipal Auditorium in Long Beach, California, on Saturday and Sunday, July 20 and 21.

The event will feature garden displays by Branches of the California National Fuchsia Society and exhibits by other garden clubs.

Individual entries will include fuchsia blossoms, fuchsia plants, begonias, ferns, African violets, gloxinias, orchids, and other shade plants, with trophies and ribbons to be awarded in various classifications. Entries will be open to members or non-members.

Fuchsia Queen Sandra Scarrioffini and her two Princesses, Cheryl Arnold and Candice Rose, will be officially crowned in special ceremonies at 8 p.m. on Saturday. Awards will be presented to winning exhibitors at this time.

The show will be open to the public from 2 p.m. on Sunday. Admission will be 90 cents for adults, 35 cents for children 12 to 16, free for children under 12.

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CONVENTION NEWS

It is nearly that time of year again. People are beginning to ask questions—when, where, and what's to eat? Well—here is the scoop as far as we know.

We are going to use the same facilities as we did last year. The address is the National Guard Armory, located at 111 Grosvenor Street, Inglewood, California. The date will be September 7 and 8.

Dinner will be held Saturday evening, September 7, at the Elks Club in Inglewood. The cost of the dinner will be \$2.85 per plate. Reservations should be made with Pearl Parker, 15021 Gerkin Avenue, Hawthorne, California. A social hour, from 6 to 7 p.m., will precede the dinner. Come and meet your old friends and make some new friends.

Clarence Hall, a friend of everyone in the American Begonia Society and a past National President, will be the master of ceremonies for the evening. Carl Meyer, of San Francisco, will install national officers. Featured speaker will be Howard A. Anderson. An authority on photography, he has made a picture on the development of flowers on time exposure. This will be narrated by Mr. Anderson.

Read your schedule, groom your plants, and join us at the convention.

YOU CAN'T WIN

No—you can't win a trophy or even a few ribbons on your cherished plants—if you don't enter them in the Begonia and Shade Plant Show.

There will be many classifications—for begonias, ferns, and other shade plants. Surely one plant in your collection is worth displaying.

If you live too far away to bring your best begonia plant to the show, enter a picture of it for display and competition under the new Division W.

BEGONIA SHOW PLANS GO NATIONAL

The 1963 Begonia and Shade Plant Show of the American Begonia Society will include displays by members throughout the country, offering an opportunity for exhibitors regardless of their distance from the show.

As stated by the Show Committee: "We must agree that it is not practical nor feasible to ask out-of-state Branches to put in exhibits nor out-of-state members to bring their plants, even though we all know how much better a show we could have and how much more fun it would be to get to know all of you out-of-staters. But, after all, this is a national show and not a California show—and we need your help."

Two divisions have been added to the show schedule:

Division V is for Branches outside of California to submit plans of garden plots, drawn to scale, showing the proposed designs and materials to be used.

Division W is for members outside of California to submit snapshots of potted begonias.

Requirements of these new divisions are given in the show schedule and rules and regulations elsewhere in this magazine.

A special committee will handle the displaying of all entries in these two divisions. Entries must be received no later than August 15, and should be sent to:

Mrs. Bee Olson, Research Director,
13715 Cordary Avenue,
Hawthorne, California.

or

Mrs. Terry Olmsted, Pres.-Elect,
8717 S. La Cienega Boulevard,
Inglewood 1, California.

Pictures of outstanding entries will be published in *The Begonian* as soon as possible after the show.

Begonia and Shade Plant Show

September 7-8, 1963

CALIFORNIA NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY

111 Grosvenor Street, Inglewood, California

5 blocks north of Florence Avenue—1 block west of La Brea Avenue

Open 2 p.m. to 10 p.m., Saturday, September 7 — 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sunday, September 8.

We are making plans for a larger competitive show with increased floor space to encourage all members to bring their plants.

Please read the rules and regulations as adopted by the National Board.

Let all members help to make this year's Begonia and Shade Plant Show the best ever.

Only by your participation can this be accomplished.

Meeting old friends and making new ones are a good gardener's delight. We all look forward to our Annual Meeting each year, glad to greet and welcome you.

BERT SLATTER, *Show Chairman*

Special Awards

The following awards are competitive and are open to all exhibitors in the Novice and Amateur divisions.

Sweepstakes trophies will be awarded in both Amateur and Novice divisions. (See Rules and Regulations no. 16).

HERBERT P. DYCKMAN PERPETUAL AWARD—This award is given by Mrs. Dykman in honor or her husband, the late Herbert P. Dyckman who was the Founder of the American Begonia Society.

The most outstanding new fibrous begonia exhibited each year will be honored with this award.

PRESIDENT'S CHALLENGE TROPHY — To be awarded to the Best Begonia in the Show displayed by either novice, amateur, or commercial entrant. The large trophy was presented to the A.B.S. by Calvin E. Trowbridge. Only plants which win division trophies may be considered for best plant in show.

PALOS VERDES BEGONIA FARM CHALLENGE TROPHY—Given for the outstanding Tuberos Begonia in the Show.

EFFIE CHAPMAN CUP—For the best Fibrous Begonia in the Show.

GONDA HARTWELL CUP—For the best Rex Begonia in the Show.

JOHN R. WILLIAMS CUP—For the best Rhizomatous Begonia in the Show.

REDONDO AREA PERPETUAL TROPHY—For the best Semperflorens Begonia in the Show.

CONNIE LEIGH HENDRIX CUP—For the best amateur Flower Arrangement in the Show.

GORDON BAKER LLOYD CHALLENGE CUP—For the best Seedling in the Show. (less than one year old).

A.B.S. SWEEPSTAKES TROPHY—To the winner of the most points in the Begonia divisions of the show.

THE GLENDALE BRANCH AWARD—For the highest rating NEW CULTIVAR shown in DIVISION K.

THE INGLEWOOD BRANCH AWARD—For the most distinctive species in Division S.

JACK TAYLOR PERPETUAL TROPHY—Donated by the Orange County Branch. For the best hanging basket Begonia.

EDNA KORTS PERPETUAL TROPHY—For the best Cane type Begonia in the Show.

ALFRED D. ROBINSON MEMORIAL MEDAL—To the hybrid Begonia for 1956.

JACK BAILEY MEMORIAL CUP—For the best Branch Garden Plot Display.

SAN MIGUEL BRANCH CHALLENGE TROPHY—For a begonia that has been in cultivation for 25 years or longer. A member winning the trophy three times, not necessarily consecutive, has the privilege of retiring it from competition.

EDWARD L. KORTS PERPETUAL MEMORIAL TROPHY—Donated by Mrs. Daisy Walker. For the best three Rex Begonias under one year old.

ARTHUR STRANDBERG PERPETUAL TROPHY—Donated by the Inglewood Branch. For the best Fern.

BESSIE BUXTON BRANCH PERPETUAL AWARD—An eight-inch Paul Revere bowl of Sterling silver. For the best entry of six begonias of different varieties from the following: Semperflorens, Fibrous, Cane Type, Hairy Fibrous, Rhizomatous Small Leaf, Rhizomatous Large Leaf, Rex Plain Leaf, Rex Spiral Leaf (no Tuberos).

1963 FLOWER SHOW SCHEDULE OF

DIVISION A—SEMPERFLORENS BEGONIAS

- Class 1. Foliage green, flower single.
 2. Foliage dark, flowers single.
 3. Foliage green, flowers double.
 4. Foliage dark, flowers double.
 5. Species, such as, Indian species, Mexican species, etc.
 6. *Begonias* 'Richmondensis,' or 'Catalina,' others similar.

DIVISION B—FIBROUS BEGONIAS, (CANE TYPE)

- Class 7. Tall types (over three feet), as 'Lucerna,' 'Orange Rubra,' etc.
 8. Intermediate types (18 in. to 3 ft., as 'Medora,' *olbia*, and others.
 9. Low growing types (under 18 in.)
 10. Any other cane type not covered in above classes. Thickened stalk type.

DIVISION C—HAIRY FIBROUS BEGONIAS

- Class 11. Hairy, as 'scharffi,' Feernando Costae.'
 12. Sparsely hairy, as 'Neely Gaddis,' 'Braemar,' 'Dorothy Grant,' etc.
 13. Heavy-textured tomentum-covered foliage, as *incana*, *kellermannii*, 'San Miguel,' etc.
 14. Distinctive foliage, erect growth, as 'Mrs. Fred Scripps' *luxurians*, etc.
 15. Any other varieties not covered in the above classes.

DIVISION D—RHIZOMATOUS BEGONIAS (not rex)

- Class 16. Small leaves, as *boweri*, *imperialis*, *rotundifolia*, etc.
 17. Medium leaves, star type, as, 'Glendale,' 'Silver Star,' 'Virbob,' etc.
 18. Large star foliage, as 'Ricinifolia,' *heracleifolia*, 'Sunbar,' etc.
 19. Medium foliage, no marginal cutting, as 'Erythrophylla,' etc.
 20. Large foliage, no marginal cutting, as 'Freddie,' *barkeri*, etc.
 21. Spiral or crested foliage, as *manicata cristata*, 'Crestabruchi,' etc.
 22. Distinctive, unusual or odd foliage, as, *acida*, 'Iron Cross,' etc.
 23. Hairy leaved types, as, 'Otto Alfred,' *fusca*, etc.
 24. Rhizome upright, as, *carolinefolia*, *kenworthyi*, etc.
 25. Any other varieties not covered in the above classes.

DIVISION E—REX CULTURUM BEGONIAS

- Class 26. Large leaved types as, 'Cardoza Gardens,' 'President,' 'Rajah,' etc.
 27. Medium leaved types, as, 'Helen Lewis,' 'American Beauty,' and many of the new rexes that are available.
 28. Small leaves, as 'Dew Drop' and others of approximate size.
 29. Large spiral-leaves, as, 'Bronze King' 'Mt. Baldy,' 'Green Pastures,' etc.
 30. Medium spiral-leaves, as, 'Bronco,' 'Curly Haze,' 'Mary Ann,' etc.
 31. Branching Types, as, 'Van Ex,' 'Silver Van Ex,' 'Silver Sweet,' etc.
 32. Miniature leaves, as, 'Toy,' 'Annie Robinson,' 'Butterfly,' etc.

33. Miniature species, 'Curl,' etc.
 34. Any other varieties classes.

DIVISION F—TUBEROUS ROOTED

(OTHER THAN 'TUBER'

- Class 35. Species, as, *suthe*
 36. Cultivars, as, 'We etc.
 37. All *socotrana* and c
 38. Any others not cov

DIVISION G—'TURERHYBRIDA,' OR

- Class 39. Single forms, flowe
 40. 'Multiflora' and ' compact, many flo
 41. Camellia forms, flo double.
 42. 'Fimbriata Plena,' flowers.
 43. *crispa*: large, singl
 44. *cristata*: large, sin growth on each pet
 45. 'Rosebud,' rose-like
 46. 'Picotee,' irregular bleeding into the c
 47. 'Marmorata,' came ground blotched
 48. Ruffled camellia ar ed from 'Fimbriata
 49. 'Marginata,' camell thin, precise
 50. *pendula*: dro g containers; flower: small.

DIVISION H—WALL POCKETS

- Class 51. Fibrous begonias, C
 52. Rhizomatous begor
 53. Rex begonias, Clas
 54. Tuberous begonias

DIVISION I—HANGING BASKETS

- Class 55. Fibrous begonias C
 56. Rhizomatous begor
 57. Rex begonias, Clas
 58. Tuberous begonias,

DIVISION J—SPECIAL DIVISION :

Collection of six pl exhibited by a Bra Branch show chair ribbon awards, ph cash awards. Plan members.

DIVISION K—NEW BEGONIA INT

- Class 59. Open to all, Ama per exhibitors unli dvidually by point cate of commendat of 85 points. Beg not again be exhibi

DIVISION L—BEGONIAS GE N (

- Class 60. To be class a chairman, and chie

DIVISION M—NOVICE CLASSES

Any amateur who h

THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

ave 'Cutie,' 'Berry's Brown'
es not covered in the above

BEGONIAS

HYBRIDA')

flandii, *martiana*, *davisi*, etc.
ltoniensis, 'Richard Robinson,'

derivatives.

ered in the above classes.

THE SPECIMEN PLANT

is suggestive of the wild rose.
'Multiflora Alba'; low, bushy,
ered, both single and double.
owers camellia-like, single and

large double, carnation-like

e, petal margins frilled.

gle flowers with crestlike out
tal.

e in appearance.

border or a different color
dominant shade.

ellia form with a rose back-
and spotted white.

nd novelty types as distinguish-
Plena.'

ia form, petals edged with a
f; different color.

ty; suitable for suspended
s numerous, both large and

lasses 1-15.

ias (not rex), Classes 16-25.
ses 26-34.

i, Classes 35-50.

lasses 1-15.

ias (not rex), Classes 16-25.
ses 26-34.

. Classes 35-50.

FOR BRANCHES

ants of different varieties, to be
nch under the direction of the
man. First, second, and third
us \$15.00, \$10.00, and \$5.00
ts must be grown by Branch

PRODUCTIONS

eur or Commercial. Entries
nited. Each entry judged in-
t score and awarded a certifi-
cation upon scoring a minimum
gonias previously entered can
ited in this class.

ON THEM POLES

ccording to entries by show
f clerk.

as never won a blue ribbon in

an A.B.S. show may enter plants in this division,
as classified in the previous classes, for a period
of three consecutive years. These will be staged
separately and judged accordingly. Class ribbons
and trophies will be awarded in this division.

DIVISION N—COMMERCIAL GROWERS

In this division Commercial Growers may ex-
hibit plants in any of the classes in this schedule.
A trophy will be awarded to the best plant
entered, which also may compete for the Presi-
dent's Trophy. See Rules and Regulations No. 11.

DIVISION O—FERNS

- Class 61. Mounted large-leaved epiphytic, as *Platyserium*.
62. Hardy North American species, as *Woodwardia
fimbriata*.
63. Hardy tropicals, as *Pteris* and *Polystichum*
varieties.
64. Tender and rare tropicals, as *Polypodium* varieties.
65. *Adiantum* (Maidenhair) varieties.
66. Hanging baskets, fine or heavy fronds.
67. Wall baskets, fine or heavy fronds.

DIVISION P—OTHER SHADE PLANTS

- Class 68. African violets.
69. Bromeliads.
70. Fuchsias, upright.
71. Fuchsias, basket.
72. Gloxinias.
73. Any shade or tropical plant.

DIVISION Q—FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS

- Class 74. Begonia flowers and foliage, other than 'Tuber-
hybrida.'
75. Low container, tuberous begonia flowers.
76. Begonias and other plant material.
77. Rex begonia foliage only.
78. Corsage using tuberous begonias.
79. Corsage of begonia blossoms or foliage other than
'Tuberhybrida.'

DIVISION R—PLANTERS AND TERRARIUMS

- Class 80. Plantings of begonias.
81. Plantings with other house plants.

DIVISION S—SPECIES

Open to all. No limit on entries by any exhibitor.

DIVISION T—MINIATURE GARDENS

Not to exceed 30 inches square.

DIVISION U—BRANCH GARDEN PLOT DISPLAYS

Trophies, first, second, and third. Cash award of
\$25.00 to each Branch entering a display.

DIVISION V—BRANCH GARDEN PLOT PLANS

Open to all Branches outside of California. Plan
to be for a 10 ft. x 10 ft. display with a wall at
the back. Scale to be used: 2 inches for 1 foot.
Plan must include all materials used, names of
plants, focal point, props, etc. Judging will be on
the basis of the idea presented, not on architect-
ural exactness. Trophy for best plan.

DIVISION W—SNAPSHOTS OF A POTTED BEGONIA

Open to all members outside of California. Pic-
tures should be 3½" x 5" in size. Trophy for best
snapshot.

DIVISION X—BEGONIAS IN CULTIVATION 25 YEARS OR LONGER

Species or cultivars. The *Buxton Check List of
Begonias* will be the authority as to the age of
the plants.

A.B.S. Flower Show Rules and Regulations

1. All exhibits are, from the commencement to the close of the exhibition, in the charge of the Show Committee.

2. Competitive entries must be made according to division and classes.

3. All competitive entries must be in place by 9:30 a.m., Saturday, September 7, and judging will commence at 10:00 a.m. All entries not in by 9:30 a.m. will be eligible only for non-competitive exhibition.

4. All entries will receive sealed entry cards at time of entering plants, allowing same to remain sealed until after judging.

5. Chairman of Judges Committee will assume complete charge at start of judging and no person will be allowed to interfere, to offer criticisms, or to distract the decisions of the judges. Only judges and their clerks will be permitted in show room at time of judging.

6. Any chairman or members of committees engaged in the show preparation will be permitted to exhibit and to compete under the same conditions as any other exhibitor, with adherence to all show rules.

7. Each entry may compete for only one class award and only one entry per exhibitor may be made in any class with the exception of division K.

8. All plants and flower exhibited in competitive classes must have been grown by the exhibitor and have been in his possession for three months prior to the show. This rule does not apply to flower arrangements. Only class award blue ribbon winners may be considered for trophy awards in the novice, amateur, and commercial divisions.

9. *Novice*: A novice is an amateur who enters A.B.S. competition for the first time and he remains a novice for three consecutive years, after which he must enter in the amateur class. In the event a novice wins a total of five blue ribbons or wins one of the A.B.S. trophy awards prior to the expiration of this three year period he must thereafter enter as an amateur.

10. *Amateur*: An amateur is one who grows plants for self-pleasure and by self-effort and does not hold a commercial license. Any member of the family not falling into this category disqualifies the entire family as amateurs.

11. *Commercial Grower*: A commercial grower may enter any class. However, his plants will be judged only against other commercial entries. A commercial grower is a person who obtains his livelihood from the sale of plants.

12. The management shall have the right to exclude infected or diseased plants.

13. No plant may be removed from the show except by official permission.

14. While the management will exercise due caution and care in safeguarding exhibits, it cannot assume responsibility for loss or injury.

15. Judges shall award premiums as in their opinion an entry merits. Whether a group of entries is in competition, or an entry is without competition, it will be at their discretion to award only on merits. The decision of the judges is final.

16. Sweepstakes trophies will be awarded on total number of blue ribbons only in begonia divisions.

17. All trophies must remain on display for the duration of the flower show.

19. Challenge trophies are to be returned to the A.B.S. Flower Show Chairman three weeks prior to the 1964 A.B.S. Flower Show.

20. Any container, wire, clay, ceramic, wood, or metal, without hanger wires, may be entered as a potted plant.

18. Individual entries in the competitive show are open to all, members or non-members.

21. Pictures submitted in Division W should be accompanied by the following information, which will be needed if they are reproduced in *The Begonian*: Name and address of exhibitor, name of exhibitor's Branch, name and approximate age of the begonia, and any interesting facts about its culture and growth.

22. Plans and pictures submitted in Division V and Division W will not be returned to exhibitors.

23. Plans submitted in Division V and snapshots submitted in Division W should be sent to Mrs. Bee Olson, Research Director, or to Mrs. Terry Olmsted, President-Elect. They must be received no later than August 15, 1963.

24. Perpetual and challenge trophies must score 90 points or over.

25. Perpetual and challenge trophies are for A.B.S. members only.



Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund Flight

No. 1—*B. masoniana*—

Syn. *B. 'Iron Cross'*. Introduced in England in 1952 by Mason, it is said to be one of the most beautiful begonias in cultivation. Leaves are large and puckered, Nile-green, marked with a contrasting bold pattern of brown-red, resembling the German iron cross. Stems are white-hairy and reddish. Flowers are waxy, greenish white, with maroon bristles on the back. At first the seedlings will resemble the rex type begonias but, according to authorities on the subject, *B. masoniana* bears no relation to this group of plants.

Seeds are hand-pollinated from plants belonging to Norman Owens of Oroville, California, and should germinate in four to five weeks under proper growing conditions. We suggest that ample time be given for plants to appear before giving up and discarding seeds. Sometimes as long as one year has elapsed before all seeds from a packet of seeds have germinated.

Of all seeds offered by the Seed Fund, *B. masoniana* has been the most requested, and it is our desire that everyone who wants a plant of this fascinating begonia will be able to grow one from seed. It has been our experience that germination has been almost perfect from very fresh seed and plants have appeared in about three weeks. This is the reason we continue to offer seed, plus the fact that we have a huge quantity on hand at present and would like for you to have the seeds while they are fresh and viable. We collected seed from plants about a week ago when we were visiting at Norman Owen's greenhouse. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 2—*B. pilifera*—

Formerly offered as *B. 'Honduras'*. Seeds are from Mrs. Cullen, of Illinois, who has the following to say about the plant: "This plant is one of

the most handsome I have had the opportunity to grow. True, it is not as fragile or delicate in appearance as some, but its sturdiness lends itself to our rather unfriendly indoors environment, its inflorescence is lovely, and it is as fragrant as any spring blossom. I have found that a light hand with fertilizer produces a dark, leathery, more compact leaf, while the average amount of fertilizer seems to produce a longer petiole and a broader, thinner leaf, lighter in color. I happen to prefer the former.

"I think that this species could take its place with any of the thousands of dependable house plants, for people who don't care to fuss a great deal, and certainly it is more attractive than many." 50 cents per pkt.

No. 3—*B. manicata aureo-maculata*

Rhizomatous. Fleshy, green leaves are blotched yellow or ivory, and occasionally rose-red. 35 cents per pkt.

No. 4—*B. 'Spaulding'*—

(*B. boweri* x *hydrocotylifolia*). This is a hybrid named for a former American Begonia Society president. Bushy dwarf, with round leaves shaded velvety grass-green to darkest green, oxblood underneath, be-whiskered on the edges. Pink flowers. Rhizomatous. 25 cents per pkt.

No. 5—*B. Mixed*

Cane, rhizomatous, hairy leaf, and rex types. 25 cents per pkt.

No. 6—*B. 'Inglewood'*—

(*B. sunderbruchi* x *B. manicata*). A hybrid. Sturdy grower with crisply ruffled, red-bronze, fingered leaves. Glowing pink flowers. 25 cents per pkt.

No. 7—*B. 'Leo Rowan'*—

No information other than that it is a beautiful and choice begonia. 35 cents per pkt.

No. 8—*B. 'Di-Anna'*—

(*B. dichroa* x *B. 'Annie Laurie'*). Long, narrow leaves, thickly pleated and ruffled, silver-spotted. Salmon-pink flowers. 25 cents per pkt.

No. 9—B. 'Calla lily'—

Seeds are from a grower in Australia, who describes some of the plants as being unusual. Naturally, a few *semperflorens* type will appear, but allow enough time for the *Calla lily* type to develop.

Calla lily begonias do not like to be moved about. Give them a good location and leave them alone. Water sparingly and only when the soil is completely dried out. Protect plants from hot sun in summer, but give them enough light to insure compact growth and bloom. 25 cents per pkt.

No. 10—B. 'Chocolate Soldier'—

No accurate description available. 25 cents per pkt.

FERN SPORES FROM AUSTRALIA

***Adiantum weigandi*—**

A thick pinnae, large, double variety. 35 cents per. pkt.

***Adiantum affine intermedium*—**

Pinnae has drooping habit. 35 cents per pkt.

***Adiantum multiceptum*—**

Tassel with wide spreading ends on fronds. 35 cents per pkt.

***Adiantum nobile*—**

35 cents per pkt.

***Adiantum lathomi*—**

35 cents per pkt.

Adiantum roseum scutum

Rosie pinnae. 35 cents per pkt.

***Adiantum pubescens*—**

35 cents per pkt.

Suggestions for sowing fern spores:

Sow at any time of year. Use bottom heat of about seventy degrees. Soil mixture should be rotted leaf mold and acid peat in equal proportions. Preferred pH range is 5.5 to 6.0. Sow in shallow clay pans after soil has been moistened. Spores should be sown thinly. Do not cover, except with a pane of glass. Keep from direct sun, and water only by setting pans in water until tiny drops form on the surface.

Germination in high humidity occurs within three weeks. These em-

bryos should be watered carefully from above with a fine spray, to encourage fertilization (spores differ from seeds in this respect). Fertilization takes place in six to eight weeks, then small leaves begin to develop. After the leaves have grown about two weeks, plants are large enough to be pricked off in little bunches—not singly. Plants can be transplanted later when they are large enough to be handled without damage. All that is recommended for good growth is high humidity and a semi-shaded location.

Ferns are grown easily from spores. All that is required is time and a little patience. Bottom heat is not essential in warm weather. However, more time is required for germination. We hope you will try a few for your shade garden.

***Alsophila australis*—**

Tree fern with well proportioned, spreading crown, even when it is small. Requires lots of water. Arching fronds finely divided, metallic green, on rough stalks covered with small, pale brown, hair-like scales. 25 cents per pkt.

GREENHOUSE PLANTS

***Peperoma maculosa*—**

San Domingo. Leaves very fleshy, ovate, lanceolate, seven to ten inches long, bright shining bluish or bottle-green, with ivory or white veins. Petioles beautifully spotted with purple or maroon. Fragrant. 25 cents per pkt.

***Streptocarpus wendlandii*—**

Natal. Stemless plant, with a single huge leaf becoming three feet long and two feet wide, with olive-green corrugated surface; densely hairy, purple beneath. The tall flower spikes sprouting from the leaf bear about thirty small, violet-blue flowers. 25 cents per pkt.

OTHER GENERA

***Hibiscus huegeli*—**

Australia. Erect, tomentose shrub, with small, deeply three-lobed to five-lobed, dark green, coarse, hairy

leaves. Numerous small, single, rosy-purple flowers with spreading petals. 25 cents per pkt.

Myrtus communis compacta—

“Greek Myrtle”. Evergreen shrub, loosely leafy, with leathery, rather broad ovate, two-inch leaves, dark lustrous green, spicy when bruised. Fragrant white flowers with numerous stamens and purple-black berries. 25 cents per pkt.

Littonia modesto—

From Australia. Described as being choice and desirable. 25 cents per pkt.

S.O.S.

The Seed Fund needs seeds of begonias and all shade plants. Your help will be appreciated and will keep the Seed Fund in operation.

Mrs. Florence Gee
Seed Fund Administrator
234 Birch Street
Roseville, California.

GUATEMALA . . .

(Continued from Page 136)

meters altitude, far below that range!

But of course I can very well—and probably am—completely wrong on these, since it is known that so many kinds of *Begonia* are narrow endemics, and seldom occur outside of a very restricted region. Altitudinal range appears to be very important in specific distribution in the genus, too.

This is a very valuable contribution to our knowledge of the genus *Begonia* in this part of the world, and for the serious student should form an important addition to the reference library. The illustrations by Dr. R. Downs were made, I suspect, from herbarium material, and in a couple of cases really do not do justice to the living plants. An example is found in *Begonia pustulata*, which at least in my garden is never a rigidly erect plant such as is indicated.

—Editor, *Tropics Magazine*
P. O. Box 435
Coconut Grove 33, Florida

LIGHT AND THE TUBEROUS BEGONIA

By W. WILLETTS

Quite frequently the question arises: “Why is it that we cannot flower the tuberous begonia during the winter months?”

By now most growers will have realized the importance which the influence of light has on the begonia. This is because it is classified as a long-day plant; that is, it does most of its growing and flowering during the spring and summer months.

When tubers are started in January and February, growth is very slow to develop, but as the days lengthen into March and April, this is speeded up considerably, and buds begin to form quite freely. September finds the beauty of the begonia slowly but surely fading, this effect being produced mainly because of the rapidly decreasing hours of daylight. Buds from plants which have produced normal flowers during the summer months are now more reluctant to open, the plants take on a jaded look, and show signs of going to rest.

We all know from experience that the begonia is resentful of burning sunshine. In fact, shading is one of the greatest problems, but even shading during very dull weather can produce very strange effects on both flower and leaf. The flower is slower to open and may even bleach a little, and the foliage on the lower half of the plant will decide suddenly to roll inward, giving the leaf a triangular effect, and the whole of the foliage will lose a little of its natural sheen. This, then, is one of the main reasons why the tuberous begonia is essentially a long-day plant.

Some experimental growers try to keep their plants going for as long as possible with the aid of artificial light (electric bulbs, etc.) but this, in my opinion, is against all the rules of nature, and there must be some dis-

order in the natural functions of the tuber the following season.

This method may prove useful where cuttings are taken late in the season, just to keep the plants growing in order to produce suitable tubers for stock, but a grower will be well advised to take cuttings earlier in the season, rather than depend upon artificial lighting.

—From the bulletin of the National Begonia Society (England & Wales), Summer, 1962.

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**WESTCHESTER BRANCH
SHADE PLANT SHOW**

The Westchester Branch of the American Begonia Society will present its second annual Begonia and Shade Plant Show on Saturday and Sunday, August 3 and 4, in the Westchester Women's Club, 8020 Alverstone Avenue, Los Angeles, California.

Hours of the show will be from 1 to 9 p.m. on Saturday, and from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday.

Entries may be made on Friday from 8 to 10 a.m. The show will be open to all members of the American Begonia Society.

"Begonias for Beauty" will be the theme of the show.

"Know, Grow, and Show Begonias", the motto of the Branch, will be followed in this manner:

Know—Visitors will have the opportunity to see and learn about the many begonias that are grown throughout the world, in the educational booth with Bee Olson and Ruby Budd in attendance to answer questions. A huge map will be on display, showing in which parts of the world the different begonias originate. Another display will show the planting of begonia seeds and show the begonias at different stages of growth.

Grow—The main feature will be a plant sale table, with hundreds of begonias and ferns at reasonable prices. As many Westchester members are good growers, interested in seed and propagation, there will be many hard-to-find begonias on sale. Other plants will be from Leatherman's Gardens in El Monte.

Show—Trophies will be awarded in all divisions of begonias, as well as for fuchsias, ferns, other shade plants, and flower arrangements.

PATRONIZE BEGONIAN
ADVERTISERS

SPECIAL MEETING

The July meeting of the National Board of the American Begonia Society will be held on Sunday, the 28th, in San Diego. It will be in the Floral building located in Balboa Park, and will begin at 1:30 p.m.

The San Miguel Branch and the San Diego Branch have jointly invited the National Board to have a regional meeting in their area. Refreshments will be served and there will be a plant table.

These regional meetings are held for the purpose of getting better acquainted and learning how people do things in other climates than our own. Let's all go to San Diego, take a plant or two for the plant table, and partake of their hospitality.

—Carl E. Nauman, *President.*

Palos Verdes

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Farm**

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AND SHADE PLANTS

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Complete Nursery & Garden Supply Shop

*1½ Miles E. of Redondo Beach
Hi-Way 101*

IN MEMORIAM

Ora M. Wilson, the famed fern collector of San Diego, passed away in April.

She was a well known shade gardener and at one time worked with the late Marie Minter in attempting to identify the many cane stemmed begonias named by the late A. D. Robinson.

Having taught school in San Diego for thirty years, she recalled many former students who had attained prominence in their respective fields. To name but a few, these included Ted Williams, in sports; Art Linkletter, in radio and television; Edwin Moore, Jr., in palms.

She belonged to many organizations, including the American Fern Society, Quail Gardens Foundation, and the American Begonia Society, in the horticultural field. Her show garden of ferns and begonias was the high light for many visitors to the San Diego area as her famous autograph cloth attests.

BEGONIAS — FUCHSIAS — FERNS
and other varieties of shade plants

(NO SHIPPING)

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COMING SOON

THE THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL FLOWER SHOW AND CONVENTION

of the American Begonia Society

September 7-8

Inglewood Armory

ALERTING ALL BRANCHES — WHEREVER YOU ARE

You can participate in '63

CALENDAR

July 3—Westchester Branch: Date of meeting changed because regular date is on Independence Day. Jean Kerlin will be the "firecracker" speaker.

July 4—Whittier Branch: No meeting in July

July 11 — Orange County Branch: George Ogata, of the L and M Nursery in Anaheim, will speak on Bonzai. Mr. Ogata brings an interesting and amusing talk on this subject.

July 12—San Gabriel Valley Branch: Interesting program promised; no speaker announced.

July 13—Eva Kenworthy Gray Branch: Pot-luck at 12 noon, with the Branch furnishing coffee and punch. Mr. E. Grove Teany, of Vista, will talk on "Succulents for the Shade Garden" at 1:30 p.m. Mr. Teany knew Herbert P. Dyckman well, while residing in Long Beach as Cactus Pappy. He recalls the founder of the A. B. S. visiting him often in his nursery.

July 17—Glendale Branch: Irene Osborn, prominent member of the Ventura Branch, will show fern slides and explain the use of ferns in landscaping. Irene is a true grower of ferns and begonias and will bring many ideas and suggestions.

July 20—Bessie Raymond Buxton Branch: Meeting at 11 a.m. at home of Mrs. Lester H. Fox, 170 Marsh Hill Road, Dracut, Massachusetts. Mrs. Fox will speak on "Cane Begonias".

July 20-21—Fuchsia and Shade Plant Show, Municipal Auditorium in Long Beach, California.

July 28—Regional National Board Meeting, 1:30 p.m., Floral Building in Balboa Park, San Diego, California.

August 3-4—Westchester Branch: Begonia and Shade Plant Show, Westchester Women's Club, 8020 Alverstone Avenue, Los Angeles.

HYBRIDIZE . . .

(Continued from Page 137)

so that when you make the next cross you may be using pollen other than what you think you are using.

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All types of begonia seeds other than the tuberous and more rare bulbous may be planted any time of year under ideal conditions.

—Reprinted by request from *The Begonian*, October, 1959.

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Report of National Board Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the National Board of the American Begonia Society was held Sunday, May 26, at Ventura, California, with the Theodosia Burr Shepherd and Santa Barbara Branches as hosts. The meeting was called to order at 2:35 p.m. by President Carl E. Naumann.

Thirty officers, chairmen, and representatives responded to roll call.

Mrs. Clyde Snodgrass, of Ventura, was introduced as chairman of the arrangement for the day, and she welcomed the members of the Board and the large group of visitors.

The Treasurer, Earle E. Budd, reported as follows: balance \$1352.98 receipts \$189.75, disbursements \$343.27, balance \$1199.46.

The report of the Seed Fund Administrator, Florence Gee, was read as follows: income \$90.00, expenses \$30.00, remitted to Treasurer \$60.00, balance in revolving fund \$100.00.

Illness made necessary the resignation of Dorothea Waddington as Membership Secretary. This was accepted with regret and a wish for her complete recovery. Mrs. Daisy Austin, appointed to fill this vacancy, was introduced. She promised to fill the office to the best of her ability. There was no membership report.

Mrs. Bee Olson, Research Director, reported that she was receiving replies to her letters regarding information about seed. These will be used in connection with the Seed Fund and in her column, "Bumblin' Along With Bee". She was complimented highly for her column, especially by Mr. Clarence Hall, who said it had added greatly to *The Begonian*.

Mrs. Ethel Arbuckle, Public Relations Director, reported that word from the Texas Branches showed that they were doing very well. She also displayed an original catalog of Theodosia Burr Shepherd, which is now a collector's item.

Mrs. Korts was welcomed after a trip to the Hawaiian Islands. She spoke of the desire of everyone that *The Begonian* be improved, possibly with some colored plates. These, of course, would be costly and she asked that everyone think about the possibility of raising the dues. The present dues do not cover the expenses of *The Begonian* and the dues in almost all other societies are much higher than in the American Begonia Society.

Bert Slatter, Show Chairman, said he would like to see the Theodosia Burr Shepherd Branch and the Santa Barbara Branch make displays in the show of September 7 and 8. He also made a plea for plant entries and asked for the donation of trophies.

Mrs. Lola Fahey, Librarian, reported that she had received 125 letters, had sent *The Begonian* to Cairo, Egypt, and to France, and had sold nineteen *Buxton Check Lists*. She has remitted \$108.06 to the Treasurer.

Mrs. Fahey has received a brochure regarding the new edition of *Exotica*. It will be too large and heavy for distribution through the library. The cost will be \$38.00 with \$1.50 insurance. A two-volume edition will cost \$45.00. The library can purchase one for its own use only at 20%. No action was taken.

Roy Joyce, Slide Librarian, was not present because of illness. Greetings and best wishes were extended to him.

Mrs. Elsie Joyce, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, made the following report on candidates:

President-Elect—Mrs. Mabel Corwin, of Rosemead, California, member of San Gabriel Valley Branch.

Vice-President—Robert Hale, of Sacramento, California, member of Sacramento Branch.

Secretary—Mrs. Peggy McGrath, of Whittier, California, member of Whittier Branch.

Treasurer—Mrs. Leona Cooper, of Santa Ana, California, member of Glendale Branch.

An acknowledgement of sympathy, from Mrs. Orris R. Martin, was read.

The following Branches reported: Foothill, Glendale, Hollywood, Inglewood, Long Beach Parent Chapter, North Long Beach, Orange County, Redondo Area, San Gabriel Valley, Santa Barbara, Theodosia Burr Shepherd, Westchester, Alfred D. Robinson, San Diego, San Miguel, and Eva Kenworthy Gray.

The meeting adjourned at 4 p.m.

Following the business meeting, the host Branches served sandwiches and coffee. A plant table concluded the afternoon.

Margaret B. Taylor,
Secretary.

COPY DEADLINE

All material for publication in THE BEGONIAN must be received by the Editor not later than the fifth of the month preceding month of publication.

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Half Page	18.50	15.00
Quarter Page	10.00	8.50
Per Inch	3.00	2.50

Branch Directory

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AT THESE MEETINGS

BRITISH BRANCH

F. J. Bedson, Secy., Kent, England

BUXTON, BESSIE RAYMOND BRANCH

3rd Saturday, Homes of Members
Miss Cynthia Webber, Secy.
5 Hillside Ave., Bedford, Mass.

DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS BRANCH

3rd Monday, 10 a.m., Member's Homes
Mrs. George Wilkins, Secy.
3625 N. Fitzhugh St., Dallas, Texas

EAST BAY BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:45 p.m., Willard School
Telegraph at Ward, Berkeley, California
Miss Dorothy F. Osburn, Secy.
5015 Cochrane Ave., Oakland 18, Calif.

EL MONTE COMMUNITY BRANCH

3rd Friday, Members' Homes
Daisy Morrow, Secy.
2821 Musgrove Ave., El Monte, Calif.

FOOTHILL BRANCH

3rd Thursday, 8:00 p.m.
La Verne Community Bldg.
2039 Third St., La Verne
Miss Christine E. Kindell, Secy.
338 W. 11th St., Claremont, Calif.

FORT, ELSA BRANCH

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

GLENDALE BRANCH

4th Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.
Tuesday Afternoon Club, 400 N. Central
Mrs. Ethel Arbuckle, Secy.
5932 Seville Ave., Huntington Park, Calif.

GRAY, EVA KENWORTHY BRANCH

2nd Saturday, 1:30 p.m. (except Dec. & Jan.)
Seacoast Hall, 3rd and E St., Encinitas, Calif.
Mrs. Alice E. Roberts, Secy.
523 Hermes Ave., Encinitas, Calif.

GRAY'S HARBOR BRANCH

2nd Monday, 8:00 p.m.
Hoquiam Public Library or
Messingale and Rosenear Music Store
Aberdeen, Washington
Mrs. Jessie B. Hoyt, Secy.
1013 Harding Road, Aberdeen, Wash.

GRUENBAUM, MARGARET BRANCH

4th Tuesday, 10:30 a.m., Homes of Members
Mrs. Adolph Belser, Corr. Secy.
Welsh and Verree Rd., Philadelphia, Pa.

HOLLYWOOD BRANCH

Meetings temporarily suspended.
Mrs. Georgina Barton, Secy.
2821 Herkimer St., Los Angeles 39, Calif.

HOUSTON, TEXAS BRANCH

2nd Friday, 10:00 a.m.
Garden Center, 1500 Herman Drive
Mrs. Grant Herzog, Secy.
12601 Broken Bough, Memorial Station
Houston 24, Texas

HUMBOLDT COUNTY BRANCH

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

INGLEWOOD BRANCH

1st Tuesday, 7:45 p.m., American Legion Hall
3208 West 85th St., Inglewood, Calif.
Mrs. Elsie M. Willick, Secy.
13214 Merkel Ave., Paramount, Calif.

KNICKERBOCKER BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Library, Horticultural Society of N.Y.
157 West 58th St., New York
Mrs. Phyllis Cherot, Secy.
115-44 194th St.,
St. Albans 12, N. Y.

LONG BEACH PARENT CHAPTER

3rd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Linden Hall
208 Linden Ave., Long Beach, Calif.
Mrs. Vera Ohlson, Secy.
1925 Maine Ave., Long Beach 6, Calif.

LOUISIANA CAPITAL BRANCH

1st Friday, Capitol Room
1701 Main St., Baton Rouge
Mrs. Elaine Wilkerson, Secy.
5764 Robertson Ave., Baton Rouge 5, La.

MIAMI, FLORIDA BRANCH

4th Tuesday, 8:00 p.m.
Simpson Memorial Garden Center
Mrs. Ray Rosengren, Secy.
5530 N.W. 21 Ave., Miami, Fla.

MISSOURI BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, 1 p.m.
World War Memorial Bldg., Linwood and Paseo
Kansas City, Mo.
Miss Nina Austin, Secy.
1104 Askew St., Kansas City 27, Mo.

NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH

3rd Friday, 7:30 p.m.
3901 Atlantic Ave., Long Beach
Mrs. Rebecca Anthony, Secy.
153 Ellis St., Long Beach, Calif.

ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Garden Grove Grange Hall, Century and Taft Sts.
Garden Grove, Calif.
Daisy G. Austin, Secy.
1510 Kimberly Ave., Anaheim, Calif.

PASADENA BRANCH

Meetings on Call, Homes of Members
Col. C. M. Gale, Secy.
40 N. San Rafael, Pasadena 2, Calif.

PHILOBEGONIA BRANCH

2nd Friday, Members' Homes
Mrs. Anne W. Stiles, Secy.
R.D. No. 2, Box 43B, E. Delaware Trail,
Medford, N. J.

REDONDO AREA BRANCH

4th Friday each Month
Lincoln School Recreation Center
Ernest and Vail Sts., Redondo Beach, Calif.
Mrs. Margaret Buell, Secy.
1441 - 21st St., Manhattan Beach, Calif.

RHODE ISLAND BRANCH

1st Saturday, Homes of Members
Miss Ruth Harrington, Secy.
372 Lloyd Ave., Providence, R.I.

RIVERSIDE BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., Shamel Park
3650 Arlington, Riverside, Calif.
Mrs. Lillian Maddox, Secy.
7172 Mt. Vernon St., Riverside, Calif.

ROBINSON, ALFRED D. BRANCH

3rd Friday, 10:30 a.m., Homes of Members
Constance D. Bower, Corr. Secy.
1609 W. Lewis St., San Diego 3, Calif.

SACRAMENTO BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, 8:00 p.m., Garden Center
3300 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento, Calif.
Elmer A. Thomas, Secy.
913 Sonoma Way, Sacramento 22, Calif.

SAN DIEGO BRANCH

4th Monday, Barbour Hall
2717 University Ave., San Diego
Leah Jones, Secy.
3734 - 40th St., San Diego 5, Calif.

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH

1st Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.
Garden Center, Golden Gate Park
9th Ave. and Lincoln Way
Lillian A. Beach, Secy.
3006 Castro St., San Francisco 12, Calif.

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH

2nd Friday, 8:00 p.m.
Los Angeles State and County Arboretum
501 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, Calif.
Mrs. Lillian Hale, Secy.
113 N. Ardmore Drive, San Gabriel, Calif.

SAN MIGUEL BRANCH

1st Wednesday, Youth Center, Lemon Grove, Calif.
Mrs. Lucille Williams, Secy.
1261 Concord St., El Cajon, Calif.

SANTA BARBARA BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 8:00 p.m.
Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History
2559 Puesta Del Sol
Elnora Schmidt, Secy.
3346 Calle Cita, Santa Barbara, Calif.

SEATTLE BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, 7:45 p.m.
Meeting locations will vary; call the secretary at
SUNset 2-2234
Miss Bernice Moore, Secy.
2842 West 59th St., Seattle 7, Wash.

SHEPHERD, THEODOSIA BURR BRANCH

1st Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Alice Barlett, C.H., 902 E. Main, Ventura, Calif.
Mrs. Clermont Morris, Secy.
539 Jones St., Ventura, Calif.

SMOKY VALLEY RANCH

3rd Thursday of each Month
Mrs. Lyle L. Melvin, Secy.
833 E. Jewell Avenue, Salina, Kansas

SOUTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY BRANCH

3rd Thursday, 8:00 p.m.
Burbank School
319 B. St., Hayward, Calif.
Mrs. Evangeline Muller, Corr. Secy.
36937 Cherry St., Newark, Calif.

TALL CORN STATE BRANCH

Mrs. Edna Monson, Secy.
South Taylor, Mason City, Iowa

TARRANT COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Monday, 10:00 a.m.
West Side State Bank, Fort Worth, Texas
Mrs. E. E. Flippo, Secy.
1916 Forest Park Blvd., Fort Worth, Texas

TEXAS STATE BRANCH

1st Tuesday Night in Members' Homes
E. Weaver,
1325 Thomas Blvd., Port Arthur, Texas

TEXASTAR BRANCH

1st Thursday, 10 a.m., Garden Center
1500 Herman Dr., Houston, Texas
Mrs. J. L. Linkenhoger, Secy.
45 Caroline Trail, Houston 24, Texas

WESTCHESTER BRANCH

1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Westchester Women's Club
8020 Alverston St., Los Angeles, Calif.
Mrs. Walter W. Pease, Jr., Secy.
8101 Vicksburg Ave., Los Angeles 45, Calif.

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, 11:00 a.m., Homes of Members
Mrs. A. S. Lash, Secy.
1228 Oklahoma Drive, Pittsburgh 16, Pa.

WHITTIER BRANCH

1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Palm Park Community Center, 1643 Floral Drive
Anne L. Rose, Secy.
1255 Ramona Dr., Whittier, Calif.

WILLIAM PENN BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, 2:00 p.m., Homes of Members
Mrs. Griscom Bettle, Jr., Secy.
331 Station Road, Wynnewood, Pa.



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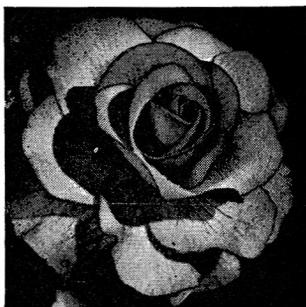
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