

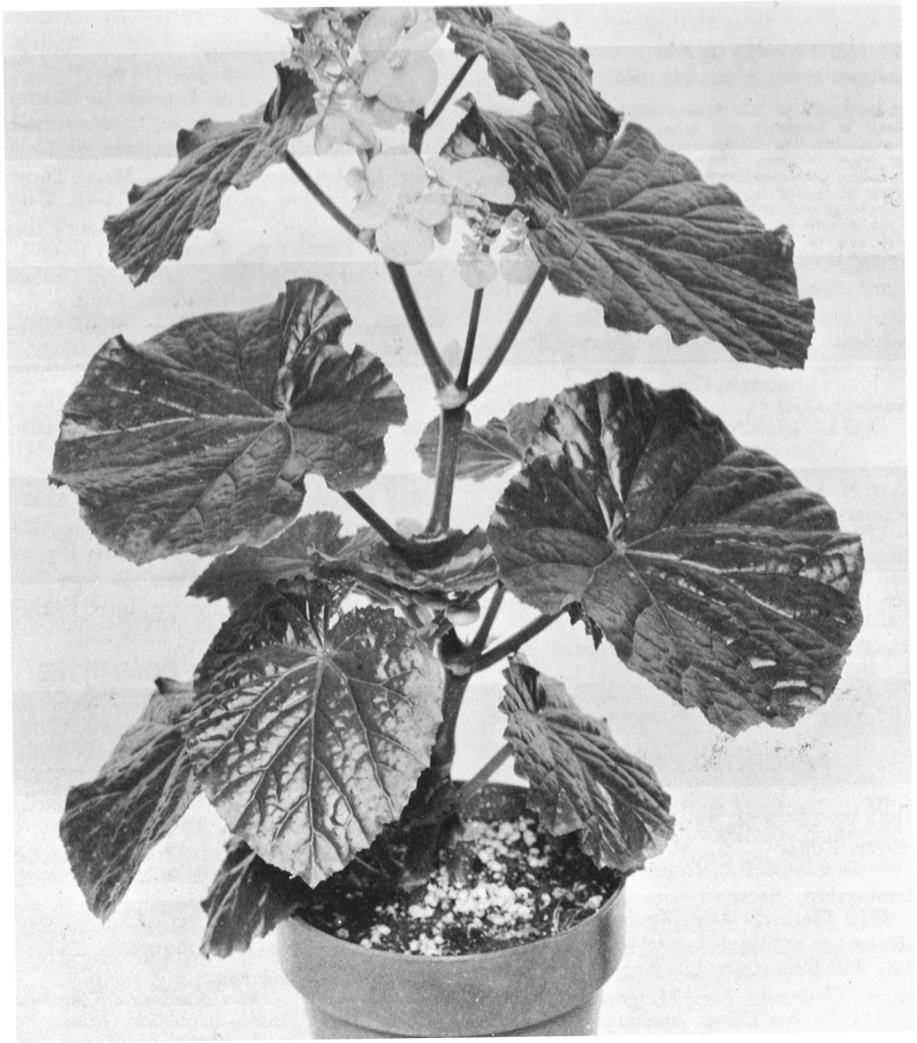
# *The Begonian*

DEVOTED TO THE SHELTERED GARDENS

APRIL, 1964

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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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# BEGONIA GLOIRE DE SCEAUX

By RUTH P. MERRY  
Needham, Massachusetts

Begonia 'Gloire de Sceaux' — so old it is new, at least to me. When I saw this specimen (see cover picture) in a greenhouse, I bought it, and when I brought it home, Mr. Merry wanted to pollinize it immediately.

Then I looked in the begonia books I have — Buxton, Krauss, Brilmayer, and the *Check List* — and found the same information in all, much to my amazement, that it is a cross of *socratana* and *subpeltata* made in 1884 by Thibaut and Keteleleer in Nancy, France. *Subpeltata* has also been called *incarnata purpurea* and various other names.

But no matter when the cross was made, 'Gloire de Sceaux' is a beautiful plant and we are certainly going to try to grow it and work with it. The plant is very straight and sturdy. The bronzy green leaves are round with scalloped edges and slightly ser-

rate, and the flowers are a lovely shade of rose and emerge from the axils of the leaf. The leaves are of heavy texture with depressed veins that are red at the sinus; the maroon of the underside of the leaf sometimes gives a slight flush of maroon to the edge of the upper side.

At the moment — February the eighteenth — all the flowers are staminate and the pollen will be used on other begonias. Propagation by leaves will be tried and probably will be successful. Leaves are 6½ inches at their widest point.

I could find nothing about this variety in any *Begonian* from 1948 to this year, and there was no description of value in any of the begonia books. I would certainly like to know what experience other growers have had with this plant.

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## PLAN NOW FOR A SUMMER LATH-HOUSE

By OLIVE SCRYMGEOUR  
Bedford, Massachusetts

The lath-house used at a recent flower show was transported to our yard and set up between two Norway maples that protect it on the South-west and west sides. Further protection was given by stretching clear plastic across the back.

The lath-house is eight feet wide by seven feet deep; it is eight feet at the peak, and it has four steps. Gro-lux lights have been installed. They give a rich luster to the leaves, and the effect at night is beautiful.

In such a lath-house, the plants must be in clay pots to give them weight so that they will not blow over.

Plants cannot be put outside safely until after Memorial Day, because frosts have been known to occur here even in the month of May. Since the first fall frost sometimes occurs by the fifteenth of September, the plants must be taken in by Labor Day; otherwise there will be a mad rush when the weatherman broadcasts announcement of a frost with the plants still outside.

During the summer I water with a slow-running hose — no nozzle. I feed 20-20-20 every two weeks. It is well to plan for a little sun in the lath-house.

(Continued on Page 81)

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### COVER PICTURE

Begonia 'Gloire' de Sceaux'.

—Photo by P. I. MERRY

(Taken with 8 x 10 studio camera; inside film; stopped to f22. 500 watt flood lights on either side.)

# NORTHEAST MUSINGS

By RUTH MERRY

Eastern Editor

Needham, Massachusetts



Ruth  
Merry

In the early 1900's the type of house plants that could be grown in the Northeast was restricted to geraniums, Boston ferns, rubber plants, and a few begonias. At that time everyone was burning coal, which gave off a gas that the plants did not like. It was under such conditions, in a house with many-paned windows and narrow window sills, that Bessie Buxton grew her begonias.

Nowdays, with oil heat, electric stoves, and more humidity in the houses, the number of plants possible to grow has been expanded almost *ad infinitum*.

For instance, in a sun porch leading from a living room, with four windows facing south, four windows and a glass door facing south to west, with extra light from adjoining rooms, a radiator, and a brick floor, are grown all kinds of plants from sedums to adiantums.

To be more specific, the nearly two hundred plants include all kinds of begonias except tuberous and rexes, a few geraniums, hoyas, marantas, diffenbachias, monstera, several species of philodendrons, davallias, adiantums, polypodiums, dracenas, trade-

scantias, sedum morgianums, peperomias, kalanchoe tomentosum, kalanchoe fedtschenkoi marginata tricolor, cyrtomiums, sheffleras, rhoeo discolor, fatshedera, aglaonoma warneki, spathyphyllum, pittosporum, coleus, ivies, zygocactus, and possibly a few more. These are grown here the year around. During the short months they about stand still, but they are healthy and only a few more minutes of light will start them to grow again.

In the living room the fireplace is screened by large dracenas, marantas, diffenbachias, and neanths bellas. A large B. 'Ricinifolia' is growing in front of the windows.

In the kitchen are *B. rex cultorum* and a few other odd plants.

The temperature in the sun room varies from probably more than 80 degrees down to the fifties at night. The living room stays about 65 degrees—the thermostat is set at that point at night and at 70 degrees by day.

The kitchen is the warmest room, because the pipe from the heater to the kitchen radiator is the shortest. The plants are on shelves directly over the radiator in front of east windows. The rexes enjoy the humid warmth. A *Begonia foliosa* in a hanging pot also enjoys this atmosphere. The canned gas of the stove does not bother the plants, unlike the old city gas.

Incidentally, for an extremely fast growing vine, try *cissus adenopodus*. It must grow almost inches a day and, for a *cissus*, is quite attractive with its bronze leaves and red hairs.

Some plants are more of a challenge to grow in the house, but it is fun to try as many as pocketbook, space, and time will allow.



One of the most important points to practice in growing good plants, especially exhibition plants, is not to crowd them. Restrain your enthusiasm for growing everything and give the plants plenty of room. Do not let foliage overlap and let each plant get plenty of light. For exhibition plants, leave plenty of space around each one and keep turning them around to get specimens uniform on all sides. Sacrifice other plants for your exhibition plants.

The damage of crowding holds true in a greenhouse as well as in a house. Good spacing cannot be stressed too much.

\* \* \* \*

When anyone acquires a plant, the question most often asked is "How often do I water it?"

The standard answer is, "Water when it is dry."

Test each plant — no matter how many you have — before watering it, then water until water goes through to the saucer and throw away that water. If there is only a small number of plants in your collection, it is possible to draw your water the day before and let it stand to evaporate the chlorine, but with a large collection or when watering with a hose, this is not possible.

Rain water is best, of course, but not practical. Some cities are now using fluoride in the water, and whether or not this is good for plants is a good question. There are now so many preparations that can be used individually, it does not seem necessary to fluoridate the entire water supply.

\* \* \* \*

To grow a plant on a radiator in front of a sunny window, use a potting urn at least one size larger than the plant pot. Fill the bottom of the urn with two inches of gravel, add water, then place the pot in the urn but be sure that the pot does not touch the water. The evaporating water offsets the dry heat of the radiator.

What fertilizer do you use? In the Northeast, many professional and commercial growers are using XL-60 15-30-15 plant food. It contains iron chelates and is supposed to be unsurpassed for use on potted plants. It is an excellent foliar feed and the chelates overcome any iron deficiency quickly. Fish emulsion, also, is very effective; and Ra-pid-gro (23-19-17) has been used with good success. It is important that you read the formula on any plant food container, to be sure that it contains the properties desired by your plants.

\* \* \* \*

Recently a letter arrived from Indiana asking for begonias described as follows:

"One has a small dark red or maroon maple-type leaf (or maybe it is an angel wing type). I saw it at a garden club flower show and, as I remember, it was more a maple-shaped leaf. It was trained on a small trellis in a six-inch pot. It had no blooms on it at that time.

"The other begonia has an almost transparent, light green leaf with dark veins on the back. It is more the hanging basket type with pink blooms. For several years I had this one but suddenly lost it."

*Richardsiana* might be the answer to the first, although I have never seen it trained on a trellis. Out of the thousands of begonias, what would the members choose? Answers might be most interesting.

## TRY THIS WHEN REPOTTING

Select a pliable paper plate, dessert size. Fold it in half but do not crease it. Put a small amount of potting soil in the folded plate. When you have your plant set in its new pot and are ready to fill in around it, tap the potting soil from the plate into the pot. Refill the plate as necessary.

—HAZEL HARMON,

# NOTES ON THE STRUCTURE OF PHILODENDRON

By ALEX D. HAWKES  
*The Tropical Gardener*

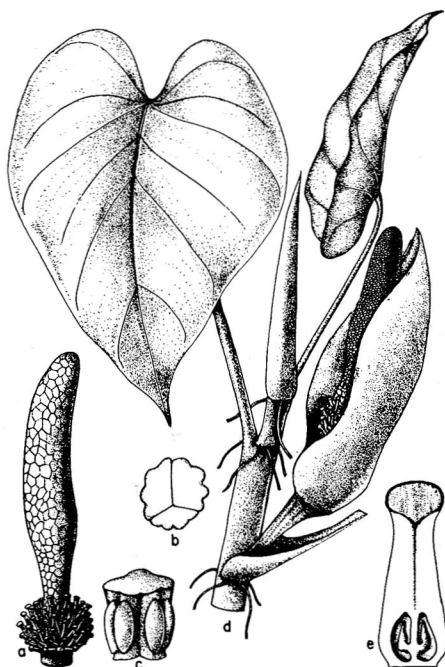
The aroids (pronounced *ah-royds*), those diverse and fascinating members of the Arum Family — or, as it is known by the botanists, the Araceae (*ah-ray-see-ee*) — have long been justly popular plants with horticulturists in all parts of the world. This is particularly so in subtropical and tropical regions, for the majority of this moderately large family (estimated to comprise something in excess of two thousand species) occurs in warm lands of both hemispheres.

Considerable interest is being shown in the aroids today, yet little has been written about them in the popular publications. In future issues of *The Begonian*, I would like to write some generalized articles on the major kinds of aroids, in the belief that these will be of interest and value to readers everywhere.

Certain terms, pertinent to structure, must of necessity be used in these articles, and due to its great popularity in our time, I can think of no better place to commence our notes on the cultivated aroids than with the genus *Philodendron*, and particularly its vegetative and floral structure.

The genus *Philodendron* (*fil-oh-den-dron*) is one of the largest of the entire Araceae, with upwards of 225 valid species, these widespread from Cuba and Mexico southward in the Americas. Like most araceous groups, the taxonomy of *Philodendron* is frightfully confused, and a great many of the cultivated species are misnamed. Certain recent publications have, further, done little to straighten out the nomenclature of these commonly-grown plants, despite their portentous opinions.

The species utilized to illustrate the basic structure of the genus here



*Philodendron Hoffmannii*. a, Spadix (X 1/3) b, Staminate flower viewed from above (X 6) c, Staminate flower (X 6) d, Part of flowering branch and leafy stem (X 1/4) e, Pistillate flower (X 3 3/4) (From Stanley & Steyermark's "Flora of Guatemala," Part I, published by the Chicago Natural History Museum, 1958.)

is *Philodendron Hoffmannii* (*hof-man-ee-eye*), a variable plant with a large range extending from Mexico, British Honduras, and Guatemala through Central America to Panama. It is a vine, often found growing as an epiphyte in moist woods, although on occasion it takes to the ground as a true terrestrial, or is even found on rock-outcroppings as a lithophyte. Like the majority of aroids, it occurs principally at rather low elevations.

In our illustration, we find at *a* the entire spadix (pronounced *spay-dix*), which in the aroids is the actual

flower-bearing portion of the very complicated and often highly reduced inflorescence. In this spadix — whose basic form is characteristic of most *Philodendrons* — we see at the base the pistillate or female flowers, these odd, flagon-shaped objects. Above these pistillate flowers the remainder of the finger-like spadix is made up of the staminate (male) flowers. In this genus *Philodendron*, the lower portion of the staminate part of the spadix is sterile, while the individual flowers found above are fertile. Close-ups of these highly specialized staminate (male) and pistillate (female) flowers are to be seen in *b*, *c*, and *e* of the illustration. In *c* the stamens may be seen affixed on the sides of the male flower. In *e* we find a cross-section of the female flower, designed to show the ovules and their arrangement — this being an externally important diagnostic characteristic in the Araceae.

Part *d* of our figure shows the uppermost position of a flowering branch and leafy stem, with conspicuous aerial rootlets arising at the nodes. The boat-shaped structure which partially encloses the spadix is called the spathe, and it is again a very important and oftentimes showy organ — for example, it is the large white or whitish “flower” we know as the Calla Lily (*Zantedeschia aethiopica*).

There is, within the large genus *Philodendron*, an amazing amount of variation in all of these structural parts noted here. In future articles of this series, I will discuss — in more detail — certain of the more important and interesting of these variations, and in like fashion, will take up the other genera of the ever-fascinating Aroid Family.

## DISBUD OR MORE BLOOMS?

By ESTHER J. LONG

Merchantville, New Jersey

Shall we disbud our plants to promote blooms that are more nearly perfect but few in numbers, or shall we encourage profuse blooming although blooms may be less than perfect?

This is a decision that is difficult for many of us. We know that when a plant blooms, something is taken from the mother. Do we want ideal specimen plants or colorful enjoyment? We alone can decide.

In most parts of the country winter is on the wane, and even though we have had a severe winter with lots of snow and ice and not much sunshine, our homes have been made brighter with colorful blooms if we have not disbudded our plants and have nurtured and coaxed them along. What joy even a small bloom gives us on a dull day!

To enjoy the thrill of blooming beauties next season, start now to prepare. When it is time to take them out-doors, repot the plants if necessary and move them to the shade of a large bush or to some other shaded area. Of course, keep the plants moist in dry weather.

A good mixture for repotting is one-third sand, one-third peat, and one-third good garden soil. Some leaf mold and a small amount of dehydrated cow manure or sheep manure is excellent. However, do not over-fertilize.

In early September, move your plants to a porch or some other protected place, getting them ready to move indoors. Work some begonia fertilizer carefully into the soil, according to package directions.

Here are some excellent winter bloomers: ‘Paul Bruant’, ‘Bow-Nigra’, ‘Bow-Arriola’, ‘Bow Chancee’, *boweri*, *manicata crispa*, *metallica*, ‘Viaudi’, *nitida*, ‘Joe Hayden’, *scharffi*, and *sunderbruchii*.

Good blooms to you!

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# PREPARING PLANTS FOR A SHOW

By MAY DREW  
*Narberth, Pennsylvania*

At its February meeting, the William Penn Branch of the American Begonia Society had the pleasure of hearing Ernesta Drinker Ballard, Director of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, speak on "Preparing Plants for a Show". Mrs. Ballard based her talk on the schedule for the Society's section of the 1964 Philadelphia Flower Show—actually three sections: one for Sunday to Tuesday, one for Wednesday to Thursday, and one for Friday to Saturday.

Each day's list begins with forced bulbs. Mrs. Ballard gave the familiar directions: Chose suitable varieties; provide enough bulbs for succession in order to have at least one pot in show condition on the right day; chill, but do not freeze, until roots are well established; place in a cool spot when brought inside.

An exhibition on a window sill should not be crowded. Plants should be spaced to let each be well defined.

Specimen ferns can be grown under house conditions. Maidenhair must be shared from time to time to encourage new growth, and this should be done several months before a show.

Mrs. Ballard gave in detail the steps in building a specimen of topiary ivy: a frame of heavy gauge wire filled with sphagnum, pots of long, trailing ivy set in the moss, these long stems wound and tied or clipped with hairpins to cover the frame, then weeks of pruning and tying as the plants grow to make a full and healthy green cover of a geometrical figure or an animal shape. t

For an espalier, the basic frame is most important. Woody plants are more satisfactory than herbaceous plants for this work.

African violets can be brought to a more nearly perfect condition under fluorescent lights than in a greenhouse, but flowering begonias may

be too tall to allow the lights to be near enough to be effective.

In this schedule, there are only two classes specifically for begonias, though some other classes are general enough to include them. Therefore, only a small part of Mrs. Ballard's talk applied directly to begonias. The rhizomatous types lend themselves well to exhibition, because they can be trained easily to rounded shapes. House-grown plants should be expected to have a weak side. However, symmetry may be improved by placing, on three sides of a plant, a screen covered with aluminum foil. Set facing a sunny window, the screen reflects an effective amount of light.

Flowering plants are preferred by judges, put weak or partially spent sprays should be removed. It is better to show young plants instead of old plants, which are likely to be leggy and to lack freshness and vigor. While size alone does not mean superiority, a large plant will win over a small one of the same kind, other things being equal.

General recommendations: a plant for exhibition should be full, well rounded, and in proportion to the pot. Some kinds, such as orchids and African violets, should be shown in bloom. Grooming is most important; leaves and pots should be clean; dusty leaves or algae-covered pots can disqualify an exhibit; all blemished leaves should be removed.

## FREE GLOXINIA OFFER

American Gloxinia Society will send valuable seeds, growing instructions, and information about the Society. Send stamped return envelope to Dept. B, AGS, 1335 East 103 St., Brooklyn 36, New York.

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PATRONIZE BEGONIAN  
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## NEW BEGONIA REGISTRATIONS

By ALVA GRAHAM  
*Nomenclature Director*

In *The Begonian* for December, Chester Nave's registration no. 194 should have been spelled B. 'Fire-N-Ice'.

Mr. Nave reports that this cultivar and his B. 'Cotton Candy' have such double flowers that he has been unable to obtain any seed from them, and that reproduction must be by cuttings.

There are two new registrations:

No. 196 — B. 'Gayle': This was obtained by Torbjorn Lothman, of Flushing, New York, by crossing B. leptotricha with a semperflorens variety. It is a large semperflorens type, growing up to two feet in the garden, but it has unusually heavy bloom. The cymes hold 25-40 blossoms, white, turning to green as they age, but all remaining until the last pistillate flower ripens and then they all turn brown.

Mr. Lothman is doing some interesting research on begonias at the City College greenhouse in New York.

No. 197—B. 'Waltanna': Ruth Pease, our A.B.S. Historian, has registered one of the plants she obtained as a chance seedling of B. scharffiana. It is very shrubby with much basal growth, and has thin textured leaves that are olive green with faintly reddish veins on the back and hairy reddish petioles. The male flowers are an inch across, white with red hairs, and extend just beyond the leaves. The plant is very floriferous and blooms over a long period from early summer. It is a good pot plant, and should make a nice basket.



B. 'Gayle'



B. 'Waltanna'

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# IT PAYS TO BE IGNORANT

By PEGGY McGRATH  
*Whittier, California*

Do-it-yourselfers are made, not born. Most of the odd repairs around my place would still be undone if I were an expert; but it pays to be ignorant.

After I have securely repaired something requiring wood and nails, and I am satisfied with the result, someone is bound to say, "You used the wrong kind of nails." I always use what is available, left over from the work of an expert.

I can always saw a piece of wood to the desired size — if I have measured accurately — by using whichever saw is handy and looks like the right size. Invariably I use the wrong kind: a cross-cut when it should be a hack-saw, or a hack-saw when a key-hole saw is right. Results at such a time are meaningless.

Now plumbing is a whole story by itself. Has anyone else learned the versatility of liquid solder? On a ranch, irrigation lines are a necessity but they are erratic. I usually learn about them at night after plumbers have closed shop for the day. So — if it's a bad leak and the line cannot be shut off, I call the water company. The after-hours telephone answering service may remember my call within a few hours — when she comes across the memo — and the emergency service man comes at 9:30 p.m. or so.

It's a welded pipe and the hole is too near the joint for a collar, so he puts in an emergency plug and says, "Call the pipe company". The pipe company men come a day or two later. They say, "It's a welder's job. We only do fittings". I call the welder and am told he will surely come tomorrow or the next day — sure. But it's a small job . . .

Two or three weeks later, the emergency plug won't hold any longer, the water is gushing out, and the water system has to be shut down at

the meter. It's night and there'll be no water in the house until the leak is plugged. I go to the handy neighborhood hardware store — a blessing in any community, and it is open nights, besides — and tell the dealer my problem. With a minimum of thought on his part, and at a cost of only a few cents, I go home with a tube of plastic gasket, a metal washer, and a metal screw. I back the car around so its head-lights illuminate the problem area and, in a few minutes, a repair is made. In another two weeks I call the welder and say, "Don't bother"; and he is relieved because he probably never intended to. My repair has lasted several months, to date.

Spading is another thing I do wrong. I use the spade I can handle best to achieve the result I want. I should use another kind, and besides — I hold it wrong and use the wrong foot.

I use wood filler where plaster filler is right. The hinge holds, but — it shouldn't.

I wanted to enclose two open dish cupboards with framed glass doors. I measured down and across and went to a cabinet maker. When I went back for the finished product — and he had done a beautiful job — he asked casually, "Are you sure the doors measured the same on both sides?" What a time to bring that up!

After the use of sandpaper, wood file, and plane, the doors fit without catches and I can open them with only a small amount of tugging. Nobody but me notices the gap at the right top of one of them. You can plane down but not up.

Perhaps this is why I don't display prize begonias. On a ranch there are always repairs to be done and I am busy doing them my way — one that requires neither brains nor intelligence. Ignorance is best.



# Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund Flight

## No. 1 — *B. paulensis* —

Brazil. Although this begonia was discovered in Brazil many years ago, it is not common in cultivation. It was first grown in this country by Louise Schwerdtfeger from seed brought from Germany.

Leaves are medium green, shiny, and peltate; distinctly striking with its ivory-colored sinus or eye, from which radiate the main veins. The radial veins are joined by cross-veins which form a circle, giving an interesting spider-web effect. Each spider-web section is covered with short white hairs, but on the underside of the leaf the hairs are red, showing up distinctly on an apple-green background. The leaf petiole is light green, covered with pinkish hairs, and a small collar of red hairs appears at leaf petiole junctions. Flowers are 1½ to 2 inches in diameter and are white inside. *B. Paulensis* is a magnificent plant to challenge the imagination of any collector of beautiful begonias.

Easily grown from seed, the young plants require protection until they are ready for three-inch pots. Overwatering is dangerous. Keep seedlings in a humid, sheltered location, moist but not wet, with plenty of light — and look forward to plants that will fill a ten-inch pot. The beautiful foliage and lovely flowers, whose large petals are backed with long maroon hair held high above the plants, will be a delight to all who see them. This begonia grows well in any good begonia soil and can be grown well in pure sphagnum moss. In any case, it is a good feeder. It prefers a cool house to a heated glass-house. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

## No. 2 — *B. Rex hybrids* —

Seeds are from plants with beautiful foliage — many colors and color combinations — from a grower who specializes in plants of the highest

and most beautiful quality. There will be spirals as well as the regular types, all in rich colors. \$1.00 per pkt.

Rex begonia seeds are touchy about warmth. Bottom heat is desirable. Seeds require from three to four weeks to germinate, sometimes longer. Sow them especially thin, to give the seedlings a chance to grow undisturbed as long as possible before transplanting. Do not try to transplant the seedlings until they have produced the second set of true leaves. True characteristics will not be evident until at least the fourth set of adult leaves appear, and sometimes they are not permanent, as they change color and texture during the first three years. Small or slow-growing seedlings should not be destroyed, as they may turn out to be beautiful and worthwhile plants.

## No. 3 — *B. 'Kallaking'* —

A hybrid by Chester Nave, San Leandro, California. Mr. Nave produced this unusual 'Calla' type begonia by crossing one of his best *B. 'Calla Queen'* with the *semperflorens* species seed which was brought back from Dr. Goodspeed's expedition to South America. He found that he had an unusually husky and fast-growing plant with the typical foliage of the 'Calla Lily' begonia, dark green lower leaves, green leaves with white splotches midway on the stalk, and the topmost leaves pure white, formed like small calla lilies. Flowers were the pinkish shade of the species. This was in 1961. He named the new plant 'Kallaking'.

He continued his work, using 'Kallaking' with various *semperflorens* he was growing. From hundreds of seedlings, he selected for registration those he considered outstanding. These are hardy and easily grown, taking up to 100 degrees heat in the glass-house without harm, and doing well on the house window sill or

planter in the ground. They are of everblooming habit.

We are grateful to Mr. Nave for supplying seed of his new hybrid and hope you will take advantage of the opportunity. A picture of *B. 'Kallaking'* appeared in *The Begonian* for December. \$1.00 per pkt.

**No. 4 — *B. Colombia* Species —**

Came to Seed Fund via Bee Olson, A.B.S. Research Director. Described as being twelve feet high or more, with leaves about 27 inches wide. Don't let the size if this begonia frighten you. Chances are that it attains this size only when growing in the jungles if its native habitat. It would be interesting to see how it will perform in cultivation. Why not try it? 50 cents per pkt.

**No. 5 — *B. Woodriff's 'Orange rubra' x B. dichroa* —**

Cane type that could produce something different and interesting. 25 cents per pkt.

**No. 6 — *B. Semperflorens* species —**

From South America. Large growing. Ideal for growing in foreground of shrub border. Not for pot culture. 25 cents per pkt.

**No. 7 — *B. Mixed* —**

Dozens of types; difficult to say exactly what the mixture contains, but many from varieties in short supply. 25 cents per pkt.

**GREENHOUSE PLANTS**

***Gloxinia* —**

Single and double. Choice. Mostly doubles in a variety of colors. 35 cents per pkt.

***Gloxinia* —**

Grandiflora strain, all colors. Only seven and eight petal blooms were used in this cross. 25 cents per pkt.

***Setcreasea striata* —**

Commelinaceae. Vigorous little creeper, hugging the ground, with succulent, triangular, clasping leaves, olive-green and lined with white stripes, deep purple beneath, and arranged like shingles. Flowers white.

Used as a basket plant. 35 cents per pkt.

***Reichsteineria purpurea* —**

Brazil. Tuberous plant with wiry-erect, wine-red stems, bearing whorls of three pubescent, dark, crenate leaves, and dense clusters of slender, tubular, dusky-rose flowers, marked throughout with little stripes of fuchsia-red. 35 cents per pkt.

**OTHER GENERA**

***Vallota Speciosa* —**

Scarborough lily. Amaryllid. Basal leaves to two feet long and one inch wide, appearing at the same time as the flowering stalk. Flowering stalk leafless, stout, to three feet. Flowers scarlet, funnel-shaped, to three inches across, in terminal umbels. 25 cents per pkt.

***Bowiea Volubilis* —**

Liliaceae. 'Climbing onion'. Grown as a curiosity. Succulent, light green bulb, to eight inches in diameter, above ground, sending up a twining fresh green branched stem with a few linear deciduous leaves. Small, greenish-white flowers. 25 cents per pkt. white flowers. 25 cents per pkt.

***Abutilon* hybrids —**

All types, variegated all green, with bell-shaped blooms. 25 cents per pkt.

***Manihot esculenta variegata* —**

'Cassava'. Columbia. Widely grown in tropical regions. Grow in greenhouse as an ornamental. Digitate, fresh green leaves in this form are beautifully variegated yellow along veins. Seeds should be soaked several hours before sowing and placed in a warm location. 25 cents per pkt.

***Musa Velunta* —**

'Pink banana'. Dwarf species to about six feet high, slender, with pinkish stem, petioles, and into midrib, leaves three feet long and one foot wide. Erect inflorescence with red bracts, pale yellow flowers, and small, red, velvety fruit. Good greenhouse plant but grown outdoors where climate permits. 25 cents per pkt.

## BEAUTIFUL ZUEBRAE

By RUBY MAE BUDD  
Los Angeles, California

Of the many fibrous begonias I have grown, one of my favorites is the beautiful Begonia 'Zuebrae' (Pronounced zoo-bree).

B. 'Zuebrae' is a cross between Mrs. Suzy Zug's hybrid B. 'Zuensis' and the fibrous B. 'Braemar'. Its leaf surfaces are semi-shiny, like 'Braemar', and the underside of the leaves are dark red. It has the hairs of 'Zuensis'. It likes greenhouse conditions, but requires no special care — just usual watering and feeding.

A plant which I obtained fifteen months ago as a two-leaf cutting is now in a wire basket lined with Palca Wool. Several leaves measure nine inches across.

B. 'Zuebrae' is one of the many hybrids produced by the well-known and loved Dorothy S. Behrends, of Encinitas, California, who was an active member of the American Begonia Society for many years, a frequent contributor of articles for *The Begonian*, and author of the book *Begonias Slanted Toward the Beginner*.

History of this hybrid:

'Braemar' — *scharffi* x *metallica*

'Zuensis' — *paulensis* x 'Credneri'

'Zuebrae' — 'Braemar' x 'Zuensis'

Begonia 'Zuebrae' is a "must" for your begonia collection.

### Basella alba —

Ornamental vine for greenhouse, with succulent leaves and white flowers. 25 cents per pkt.

(The last three mentioned came to the Seed Fund via Bee Olson.)

### Stapelia gigantea —

Ascepiadaceae. Ribbed, fat stems, pale green and velvety, with gigantic flowers to sixteen inches across, pale yellow with transverse lines. 25 cents per pkt.

MRS. FLORENCE GEE,  
Seed Fund Administrator,  
234 Birch Street,  
Roseville, California 95678.

## PHOTOGRAPHIC TIPS

By P. I. MERRY  
Needham, Massachusetts

Photograph only good specimen plants.

Groom each plant by eliminating poor leaves and cleaning it.

If necessary, stake and tie the plant to make it more shapely, being sure the mechanics do not show.

If the plant is in a clay pot, clean the pot. A plain pot is the best container. "The plant is the thing."

Set the plant in front of a plain background, either light in color or white, large enough to cover the entire field of the finder.

The material under the pot should also be plain but it may be darker.

Face the plant so that the best side is toward the cameras.

Use the camera on a tripod so that the lens can be stopped down to sharpen the image and bring out the detail — texture of leaves, veins, etc.

Flood lights should be placed so that the plant is lighted evenly.

Use an exposure meter.

If you are photographing out-of-doors, choose a day without wind. The sky is a fine background, if the plants can be placed in a position so that it can be used. The sun should be behind the camera and never directly overhead.

The Los Angeles Fern Society  
announces

### FERN AND SHADE PLANT SHOW

May 16-17  
Poinsettia Recreation Center  
7341 Willoughby Ave., Los Angeles

Open competition in all divisions  
Visit regular meetings at new location  
L. A. County Museum—Exposition Park  
Fourth Thursday each month  
Educational programs—Plant Table —  
Refreshments

# FUN WITH REX SEED

By THE REBEL

I bought some hybrid rex begonia seed from a friend — some from 1962 and some from 1963. I planted a pan of 1962 seed in a good mix of mold, peat, etc. Next I planted a pan of 1962 seed in milled sphagnum moss, which I had wet with a mixture of distilled water, Hyponex fertilizer, and a little liquid fish fertilizer, the fish fertilizer for residue for later feeding. I pressed the moss almost dry, spread the seed, put on the plastic cover, and put it under the lights.

Then, using 1963 seed, I repeated the whole operation. Germination was fair in both trials. All seed showed life in thirty days. This was in December. There was no bottom heat, as I have no heat in my glass-house.

On a shelf in my garage I have a fixture with two 48-inch Gro-Lux lamps. Under these lights I have baby rex in pots — some in two-inch plastic pots and some in two-inch peat pots. I put the baby rex in unmilled sphagnum moss, after first washing the soil from the roots, then pressed the moss in the bottom and all around the roots, being careful not to harm the tender roots. Then I watered the pots, mixing a little Hyponex and a shot of Bl.

I put them in half-flats, 9 inches by 18 inches. These half-flats have a tent-like wire framework, sloping from the sides up three inches in the center which I can cover with a good weight of "poly" transparent material, forming regular little greenhouses, which provide added heat and humidity.

I found that the peat pots with moss held too much moisture, which most of the plants do not like. The plastic pots are alright. The plants in unmilled sphagnum moss are doing swell. I have to feed them every day, as the moss is sterile. When feeding, I spray, because the leaves feed the same as the roots, and I spray the

undersides of the leaves, as the large pores are on the undersides.

These larger pores, called stomata, keep the leaves from losing too much moisture, as they close in hot weather. When you spray in hot weather, with these pores being closed, your spraying is not doing any good. Always feed in the morning or evening, when the stomata are open and receptive.

After moving the plants from the lights to the greenhouse, I find that I have much healthier plants, with much better root systems, when they are grown under the lights. The larger and better roots seem to help make faster growing and more vigorous plants — even beyond the two-year or three-year maturity stage. I am sold on lights.

I bought a 'Merry Christmas' and a 'Dewdrop' from a friend. They were going dormant, both showing leaves which had started to turn yellow. I fed them well, put them under the lights, and in three weeks the leaves had lost most of their yellow and were on the road back to color.

In my tube-house I have a poly-covered frame, which is 18 inches square on the inside, with four shelves. Each shelf will hold a nursery flat. This frame is in the southeast corner of the house, thus getting all the winter sun all day long. Sun, humidity, and heat in the enclosure certainly make the little two-inch and three-inch plants get up and go. There has been no dormancy in the small plants.

This winter, so far, has been mild — not under 39 degrees. I have orchids blooming in the glass-house — three cattleya plants in bloom. This is all in Orange County, in California.

My fun comes from just fooling around with rex, trying this "durn fool" stunt, then trying some other

(Continued on Page 82)

# Bumblin' Along With

From T. Y. of Salt Lake City:

"I made a trip recently to Hawaii, intending to bring back some of the beautiful plants grown there. I was discouraged because I was advised that they have so much trouble with nematodes. I did not bring any plants because I was told that if they had nematodes, the quarantine station would not allow me to take them. What are nematodes and can anything be done about them? How would you know if you have them in your plants?"

Dear T. Y.: There are two types of nematodes — root and leaf. They are sometimes called root eels or leaf eels. They are little worms, microscopic in size, with cylindrical bodies, not segmented, thread-like, and capable of swift movements, twisting like eels. They are colorless and their mouths are furnished with little probes which permit them to penetrate the living tissues of plants and to pierce the cells of plants which harbor them, and nourish themselves from the substances which they contain. They are egg-laying, the sexes often separate and of different form. The males have the shape of eels, but the females are pear-shaped or bottle-shaped.

Root nematodes cause galls on the roots of plants, which vary in size from the head of a pin to an ordinary pea. Sometimes this gall, or swelling, appears above the ground, but usually it is below the soil level. Above the ground it appears yellowish or reddish-green, slightly granulated like a large wart. Under the soil it appears in clusters or strings of small round growths, brown in color and hard.

When these galls form on the roots,

a plant cannot take sufficient food or water through the roots and, therefore, it sickens and dies. The root system of a plant infested with root nematodes should be destroyed. If it is possible to take cuttings of the plant, do so, but watch to be sure that nematodes do not develop on the new plants. Nematodes are spread by tools used and even by our hands when we are potting. In the agricultural stations, plants are checked by microscope to be certain they are nematode-free; so you see they are not easy to detect in the early stages.

Root nematodes are difficult to destroy. The young larvae hatch inside the body of the mother. The female dies when the eggs are sufficiently developed. The eggs are covered by skin that is very thin but strongly resistant to outside influences. After hatching, they may remain inside the gall or they may leave and form a new one on another root. If they leave the root and are freed in the soil, they can live many months in the ground. It is possible for them to dry up and remain a long time in a dormant state, then they can resume active life on contact with water and a host plant. The male larva searches out the female larva and dies after copulation. When the female larva encounters a root, she penetrates it, choosing the most tender place, and, after puncturing the root repeatedly, causes the formation of a gall. Inside the gall, the female larva grows and lays about one hundred eggs.

Therefore, if we find root nematodes on a potted plant, we should destroy the plant and see that the soil in the pot is thrown away.

The leaf nematode is more microscopic in size than the root nematode

and is very damaging to all begonias. It, too, lives in the soil. When conditions are favorable, it enters the plant either by the stomata or by piercing the skin directly — it settles in the leaves where it lives within the epidermis. Lower leaves are attacked first, then the entire plant. Since it lives within the leaf, dusting or spraying does not reach it.

These little worms, with their prong-like tongues, suck the leaves dry, leaving tiny gray spots which quickly change to brown and black discoloration of the leaves. The leaves seem thicker, become hard and brittle, and soon shrivel up. The worms travel from leaf to leaf when they are wet. They move in the water which clings to the stems and leaves. If plants are close together and leaves touching, they can travel from plant to plant. They do not travel on dry leaves.

All infested leaves should be burned. If a plant is badly infested, the entire plant should be burned. Foliage of the plant should not be wet and all plants should be widely spaced. Water the plant by placing the pot in water and letting the roots soak up the water.

If you have a valuable plant, the best thing to do is to submerge it in water at 115 degrees temperature for five minutes or 120 degrees for one minute. The water should be agitated and kept within three degrees of the desired temperature. The worms will die and the leaves as well, but unless the plant is extremely sensitive, new leaves will form. When the plant is removed from the hot water, place it on its side and allow it to drain. Keep it shaded for at least two days.

After this much information, certainly we must agree that both types of nematodes are to be avoided. We should be thankful that rigid tests are made to keep them from entering other parts of the country, although it is difficult to pass up some of the beauties grown in Hawaii. I,

too, have experienced this.

Thank you for your letter.

Mrs. J. C. L. of Orem, Utah, who asked about sending seeds through the mail during freezing weather, writes:

"Thank you for your answer on mailing begonia seeds to cold climates. I had sent for the seed anyway and they arrived in weather that was eleven degrees below zero. Five packets of seed from the Seed Fund were planted and germination looks to be near 100 per cent. The second set of leaves is already beginning to show. I'd like to urge anyone in the colder areas to send for seed in the winter months. The seed arrived here three days after it was mailed and it is growing along quite well."

Dear Mrs. J. C. L.: Thanks to you for proving "proof of the pudding". Actual experiences are much better than theory. Winter months are a good time to sow our seeds so that we may have seedlings ready to set out in our gardens when spring comes along. We're happy to learn of "near 100 per cent germination". Keep up the good work.

Mrs. P. P. of H., California, asks:

"I have a begonia with variegated leaves and now the new growth seems to be turning all green. Will the plant go all green or is there something I can do to keep it variegated?"

Dear Mrs. P. P.: This is a distressing situation since most of us who enjoy the variegated leaves certainly do not want them to lose this quality. I do find this statement in *Die Begonien* by Karl Albert Forsch: "The cause of leaves of variegated-leaf begonias to turn green is supposed to be too much nitrogen fertilization. Very little nitrogen fertilizer should be used on variegated begonias and only during the first period of growth." Hope this helps you.

Mrs. R. G. W. of Chippewa Lake, Ohio, a new A.B.S. member, writes this helpful letter:



"I have recently started growing begonias and don't know enough about them to ask intelligent questions. In the few issues (of *The Begonian*) I have received, I've noticed several questions about germination and thought I would pass along this tip.

"I used to discard my seed pan if there was no germination in four to six weeks. Then I read in an English magazine that no seed pan should be discarded *for at least two years*. I don't have the room to keep them that long, so I leave the original label on the plant an entirely different variety in the same pan. This month I was rewarded with three streptocarpus seedlings that appeared among columneas. It had been six months since the streps were planted. I have found that if germination is very late, it is usually very sparse. This doesn't matter because I grow under lights and discard all but one to six at first transplanting, anyway."

Dear Mrs. R. G. W: Thanks for your interesting letter. From my own experience, I agree that seed pans or jars should be kept for two years — I, too, have had rewards many months after planting seeds.

Good luck in your seed planting.

This department has one purpose — to help all members, whatever your problems, wherever you live. Write to:

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## SUMMER LATH-HOUSE . . .

(Continued from Page 67)

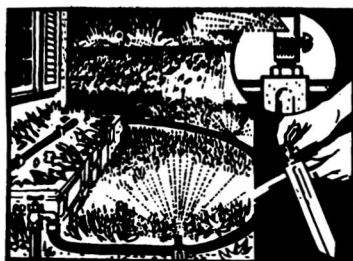
My 'Lucerne' and 'Lorna Doone' bloomed all summer. The semperflorens varieties need full sun, but the least bit of sun burns 'Lucerne'. 'Bunchi' thrived in the lath-house; it grew many leaves with bright pink edges. 'Dancing Girl', that touchy grower, also thrived. Other begonias used were 'Alto Scharff', 'Erythroylla', 'Argentea-Guttata', 'Medora', 'Speculala', 'Cleopatra', 'Bessie Buxton', 'Thurstoni', and *luxurians*. 'Multiflora Rosea' and 'Alba scandens' grew luxuriantly in hanging pots.

The northeast side had enough light so that I could use a hanging pot of ivy geraniums in bloom. For contrast among the begonias, I used a number of coleus; also a hanging pot of browallia, and a largeimpatiens on the ground.

The only time I really admire and enjoy my begonias — after working in the greenhouse all day — is when I sit out there at night, often alone, with a blanket over my knees on chilly nights. (Bedford is in a cold spot.)

People driving by often stop to admire the charming scene.

For summer enjoyment of your plants — do try a lath-house.



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## SEATTLE BRANCH TRIES NEW PROCEDURES

By HERBERT H. WARRICK  
*National Representative,  
Seattle Branch, A.B.S.*

Since November, 1962, the Seattle Branch of the American Begonia Society has been trying several new administrative procedures to stimulate interest in its activities. These may not be unique for some of the other Branches, but they have revitalized our club.

Our attendance had drifted down to less than twenty per meeting and it appeared that we could not continue much longer. Our Board had asked the members to choose between several plans, ranging from completely disbanding to trying to find methods for rebuilding. Forty-one members came to that fateful November meeting and voted almost unanimously for seeking new approaches in our club procedures.

From many suggestions made at that meeting and subsequent to it, the Board selected a few for trial. Basically, these have stimulated member participation, increased social activities, and added to the educational benefits.

Only six principal additions to our procedures were made, as follows:

1. Add potluck dinners to a few of the meetings.
2. Set up committees for many of the activities previously handled only by members of the Board.
3. Invite committee chairmen to the Board meetings.
4. Have Board meetings every month and rotate them among members' homes wherever space is available.
5. Increase the scope of the club bulletin.
6. Set up study groups for the various shade plants, to permit detailed discussions on plant culture.

Each of these features seems insignificant by itself, but their total

effect has been to raise our attendance from twenty to about forty-five per regular meeting. Everyone now seems enthusiastic and feels disappointed when he has to miss a meeting.

Detailed explanations of these ideas and how they were applied would require too much space in this article. We realize that other clubs also have found many successful procedures. Articles in *The Begonian* indicate that many plans are in progress. Perhaps all Branches should submit their ideas to the National Board where they can be combined into some form of Guidance Bulletin that all can use.

While a year's trial may not be sufficient to test out our ideas completely, we feel that we have made enough progress to justify their continuance in our Branch. We have also gained confidence in our ability to apply ideas. Our future seems a lot more cheery and we would appreciate exchanging ideas with all of the other Branches.

## FUN WITH REX SEED . . .

*(Continued from Page 78)*

thing that I have heard about. Things that Bill Jones or Tom Smith says won't work — I will try. And do you know? They are right. Many of the stunts are not possible to anyone else, but I try them and see. I have rex plant in one-half inch bark and moss, bark and sand, and bark and sponge-rock; cattleya orchids in bark and sand, half sand and the other half steer manure, with a few pebbles on the top to hold moisture, as well as in shavings and steer manure.

My wife says I am nuts. Well, maybe I am, but what fun I have! Why don't you try it? If you fool around with plants, you are half way to the nut house now, and don't have far to go.

Will see you when they let us out to play with dolls.

## ROUND ROBIN NEWS

The revised Round Robin program, as outlined in last month's *Begonian*, is already under way. This column has been set up to keep all members of the American Begonia Society advised on what the Robins and their Flights are doing.

As this article is prepared on February 20, there are on file thirteen recent letters from A.B.S. members who have asked to be placed on Round Robin Flights, in addition to one member here in Seattle who has made a verbal request. Of these fourteen members, twelve are women and two are men. This shows that most of the corresponding is done by the ladies in our families of begonia and other shade plant growers. However, there are many men in our Begonia Society who are enthusiastic growers of many types of plants. All of these men are invited to send in their requests for assignment to Round Robin groups, and an effort will be made to place at least two men on a Flight. Even though you might be the only man on a Flight, the exchange of plant-growing information in the Round Robin letters will be beneficial to all correspondents.

Explanatory letters have been mailed to all members who are awaiting assignment. Members have also been asked to send in a little more information about themselves and their plant-growing experience. It is hoped that this information will aid in making assignments.

As mentioned in the March *Begonian*, both the Research Director and the Round Robin Director will be assigned to every Flight. Although we will not have time to write in these Flights, we will be able to look for items that have research value and general news value. Bee Olson, Research Director, will have two categories in her selections. One will be items held in her research file which will accumulate cultural information

about individual plant species and varieties of all kinds. Her other file will contain items and questions on which she will apply research time and furnish answers in *The Begonian*. I will select news items of interest to the whole Society.

If you do not want some item used in *The Begonian*, just put a note in your letter. Bee and I will mark your letter with a small rubber stamp to show what part we plan to use.

We may not be able to get everything that we mark into *The Begonian* because Tru Peterson, the Editor, may have to restrict us. We are quite sure that we could almost fill the entire magazine with your excellent information, but he will have to allow space for other articles, pictures, announcements, Seed Fund Flight, Board news, and advertisements.

Please remember that this is your program. It should be a wonderful source of information for *The Begonian*.

I understand that there are several independent Round Robins, or Circles as they were called at one time, in flight today. If any of these would like to have more members assigned to their Flights, we would be happy to make such assignments. One Flight already has sent this kind of request to us. Bee Olson and I would appreciate being placed on the mailing lists of all of these Flights. We know that they, also, contain very helpful information for *The Begonian*.

HERB WARRICK  
Round Robin Director  
6543 — 26th Ave., N.E.  
Seattle, Wash., 98115.

## IN MEMORIAM

The Western Pennsylvania Branch of the American Begonia Society mourns the recent death of our Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. A. S. Lash. She will be greatly missed by her many friends.

## BUXTON BRANCH TO ENTER SHOW

The Bessie Raymond Buxton Branch of the A.B.S. is planning again to enter the spring show of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, but in a much smaller space than last year.

Members are setting up a terrace surrounded by a stucco wall, and against this wall various specimen begonias are planted. A bed of semperflorens, with a fountain and suitable furniture provide interest. The area is next to the flower arrangement section of the Garden Club Federation and should attract the attention of the flower arrangers and the visitors to the arrangements.

The public loves a spring flower show, which shows them beauty at the end of a winter, but it is a challenge to the exhibitor. It means terrific care and forcing plants to show size, after three months of sulking. But it is amazing how fast they grow, once the days grow longer. They really take on a new lease on life.

A fall show would be at a much better time, but the big spring show is the best one. Attendance approaches 100,000 during the eight days.

## AFRICAN VIOLET SHOW APRIL 25 AND 26

The Seattle Saintpaulia Society, Inc. will present its eleventh annual African Violet Show and plant sale on April 25 and 26, in the Norway Center, 300 3rd West, Seattle, Washington.

"Violets and Driftwood" will be the theme of the show, which will be under the direction of Philip Aaron, show chairman.

Show hours will be 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturday, the 25th, and from noon to 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, the 26th. Admission will be 50 cents.

MARY CENTRELLA,  
*Publicity Chairman.*

## CALENDAR

April 2 — Westchester Branch: Stan Spaulding will speak on "Conditions Under Which Begonias Grow".

April 2 — Whittier Branch: Clarence Hall will be guest speaker. His program will be KISIS. What is it? Come and see. Program will include an informative demonstration on propagating begonias.

April 7 — Inglewood Branch: Annual Presidents Dinner — food by Knott's Berry Farm — \$2.75 per person. Guest speaker will be Maria Wilkes.

April 9 — Orange County Branch: Dorothy Behrends will be the guest speaker, on "Bromeliads and Other Shade Plants".

April 10-11 — African Violet Show, 820 Java Street, Inglewood, Calif.

April 10 — San Gabriel Valley Branch: Guest speaker will be Mr. Jan Grott, of El Modena Gardens, growers of ferns. His subject will be "How To Use Ferns In Your Landscaping".

April 16 — Long Beach Parent Chapter: Mrs. Edna Korts, a past-president of the A.B.S., will talk on "Begonias In General".

April 25-26 — African Violet Show, Norway Center, 300 3rd West, Seattle, Washington.

May 7 — Westchester Branch: Jean Kerlin will be guest speaker. Her topic will be "Shade Oddities".

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## REPORT OF NATIONAL BOARD MEETING

The regular meeting of the National Board of the American Begonia Society was called to order at 7:30 p.m., February 24, by the president, Mrs. Terry Olmsted.

The president-elect, Mrs. Mabel Corwin, read the aims and purposes of the Society.

Twenty-six Board members answered roll call.

The report of the treasurer, Earle Budd, showed a balance of \$1573.87 on hand.

The membership secretary, Daisy Austin, reported 2325 *Begonians* mailed.

The public relations director, Vera Naumann, announced that a new Branch is being formed in Seattle, Washington.

Ruby Budd, advertising manager, reported receipts of \$60.00 and accounts receivable of \$139.50.

Edna Korts, business manager, stated that \$623.29 has been turned over to the Society since 1961 from sales of bound *Begonians*, with no cost to the Society; 177 books have been sold, and 53 are still on hand. Lola Fahey and Edna Korts will work together to assemble back issues of *Begonians* for binding, in order that complete sets from previous years will be available.

Lola Fahey, librarian, asked to be relieved as librarian because she is moving to Vista California. She turned in a check for \$44.10 for books sold.

President Terry Olmsted reported that Mr. Herbert Warrick is hard at work getting the Round Robin letters started.

Earle Budd, treasurer, reported that \$318.63 in interest has been earned to date on the convention fund, which was started in 1958 with a loan of \$500 from San Francisco. Mr. Budd made a motion to bank \$775.00 in a special Savings Association convention fund, to bring it up to date, and this was approved. Interest amounting to 243.63 will be placed in the general fund.

The Board voted to have 5,000 brochures printed at a cost of \$66.00.

On a motion by Edna Korts, it was voted that a ballot be placed in the April issue of *The Begonian*, for members to vote on the proposed raise in dues. The deadline for return of the ballot will be May 15.

Mrs. Lee moved that the advertising in *The Flower Grower* be reinstated at this time, and this motion passed.

Bert Slatter, show chairman, reported that the Los Angeles Fern Society has asked the American Begonian Society to put a display in its Fern and Shade Plant Show May 16 and 17. He stated that he was willing to put in such a display only

if members will provide sufficient good plants.

It was announced that the convention and show will be held September 5, 6, and 7, at the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum. The Saturday night banquet will be at the Elks Club. Cost per person will be about \$3.00.

Mrs. Fahey announced that Bernice Brilmayer's book, *All About Begonias*, was presented to Mr. Boyd Keith of the Arboretum staff in appreciation for his care of the Begonian Glass House at the Arboretum.

Branches reporting were: Glendale, Inglewood, North Long Beach, Orange County, Redondo Area, Alfred D. Robinson, San Gabriel Valley, San Miguel, Whittier and Westchester.

Peggy McGrath,  
Secretary

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# 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  
Mrs. Daniel L. Comiskey, Secy.  
64 High Rock St., Needham, Mass., 02192

## 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  
Mrs. Isabel A. Hall, Secy.  
358 E. Arrow Hwy., Upland, 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. Katherine Alberti, Cor. Secy.  
3322 Troy Drive, Hollywood, Calif., 90028

## 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 Roseneau 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. Frances Jean, Secy.  
8212 Reading Ave., Los Angeles 45, 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. Mabel Gage, Secy.  
3214 Delmar Ave., Long Beach 7, 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, 11 a.m.  
Member's Homes  
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.  
Jack N. Schumann, Secy.  
13382 Laux Circle, Garden Grove, Calif.

## PASADENA BRANCH

Meetings on Call, Homes of Members  
Col. C. M. Gale, Secy.  
2176 N. Roosevelt Ave., Altadena, 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.  
Opal Murray Ahern, Secy.  
1304 N. Poinsettia Ave., 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., Shamol 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  
Emma Engelbrecht, Secy.  
4562 Kensington Dr., San Diego 16, 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. William (Polly) Ellau, Secy.  
469 West Norman St., Arcadia, 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.  
Loyal Heights Field House,  
21st Ave., N. W. and N. W. 77th St.  
Mrs. Janice W. Barnette, Secy.  
2735 N. E. 53rd St., Seattle, Wash., 98105.

**SHEPHERD, THEODOSIA BURR BRANCH**

1st Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.  
Alice Bartlett, C.H., 902 E. Main, Ventura, Calif.  
Mrs. Clermont Morris, Secy.  
538 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.  
Lorenzo Manor School  
18250 Bengal Ave., Hayward, Calif.  
Jack Dunaway, Secy.  
1650 Plaza Dr., San Leandro, Calif.

**TALL CORN STATE BRANCH**

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

**TARRANT COUNTY BRANCH**

2nd Monday, 10:00 a.m.  
Members' Homes  
Mrs. F. E. Mahler, Secy.  
1815 Sixth Ave., Fort Worth, Texas

**TEXAS STATE BRANCH**

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

**TEXASTAR BRANCH**

3rd Thursday, 10 a.m., Garden Center  
1500 Herman Dr., Houston, Texas  
Mrs. J. L. Linkenhoger, Secy.  
11310 Holidan Way,  
Houston, Texas, 77024

**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. Alex Nagy, Secy.  
R. D. #1, Box 305P, Altermoor Dr.  
Natrona Heights, Pa.

**WHITTIER BRANCH**

1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m.  
Palm Park Community Center, 1643 Floral Drive  
Mrs. Evelyn Shute, Cor. Secy.  
15344 E. Leffingwell Rd., Whittier, Calif.

**WILLIAM PENN BRANCH**

3rd Tuesday, 2:00 p.m., Homes of Members  
Mrs. Ernest C. Drew, Secy.  
635 Moreno Rd., Narberth, Pa.



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