

The *Regonian*

DEVOTED TO THE SHELTERED GARDENS

DECEMBER, 1964

PRICE 25 CENTS

NUMBER 12



From our house to your house, Peace, joy and Happiness for Christmas and the New Year

From The Editor—

In the mail I just received several letters asking whether the “new editor” would be interested in getting articles. It kind of amazed me for the success of any magazine depends upon materials the editor receives—not what he writes! So, feel free—write and send!

I am very interested in the departments that interest you the most. Will you take a survey for me in your own meetings and let me know? As far as I can tell this has not been done. Both the editorial staff, and the writers themselves are curious about their departments. If some department is liked more than another in general interest, perhaps we should enlarge it. Let's hear from you on this at headquarters.

Again, remember the deadline. We will have to stick by this with no relations to friends and friendship! To get our magazine out on time—copy must be in by the first. Thanks for your cooperation on this.

You want your branch to be better known and to get extra publicity? Then enter your local flower show in the indoor plant, shade plant division. In a recent show I found in the green plant section 7 begonias—all getting prizes and not one was a member of the ABS! In talking with these folks I found they would love to know more about begonias even though they could not attend meetings . . . idea here. Maybe we should go on a magazine subscription drive, getting more members through subscriptions to the members!

In answer to several of your inquiries as to increasing our number of pages. Good idea! When we can get more money in the budget we will! This comes from more memberships and more ads. Wouldn't it be great even to have a front cover in color?

You will note on our staff head, several new editorial appointments. Send your materials to your regional editors—and early now!

GORDON BAKER LLYOD

From The President—

As I write this we are having the first rain of the season. In Southern California this is a big event. The plants look so fresh and clean, and I am sure are saying “thank you” for a nice bath.

It is good to see Clarence Hall and his lovely wife back from their travels abroad. They plan to move to Northern California to be near their family. Clarence has agreed to be Northern California editor for the Begonian when they get settled. We are sorry to see them go, but I am sure he will serve the society well in this capacity.

There seems to be an interest in forming new branches in all parts of the country. Will you please send your inquiries to Mrs. Vera Naumann, Public Relations Director. She will be happy to send information, and answer any questions about forming a new branch.

May I take this opportunity to wish all of *you* a Happy Holiday Season with your loved ones, and a wonderful year of begonia growing.

MABEL CORWIN

BEGONIA REPORT

BY ALVA GRAHAM

A.B.S. Nomenclature Director

Some years ago it was a tradition for the Perry Millers to entertain the outgoing officers of the A.B.S. at their big begonia nursery in Whittier. And the high point of the party was that the president who was finishing his/her term was given the choice of any of the beautiful new rex seedlings of the year to be named for him/her. When the Millers gave up their nursery and moved to Glendora this happy custom was dropped. But one of the rexes that Mrs. Miller raised back in 1952 has persisted to this day and appears in many collections up and down the state. Some of her friends who have been raising it have persuaded her that it should be registered, and a fine begonia that has been called Cora Miller's rex for all these years certainly deserves to be officially named.

No. 216-B. Cora Miller is a medium sized rex of an unusual color, a golden green or greenish gold, with light green veins and red back. It is a double spiral and the 6 by 7 inch leaves have nine or more shallow points. The petioles are red with sparse red hairs. One parent was B. Patsy from the Lewis Gardens and the other is unknown.

No. 219-B. Cleo Ken is one of Susie Zug's happy originations. It is rhizomatous with a read stitched margin on plain green leaves. Small pink flowers form airy clusters, in spring and early summer, on stems a foot or more long which hold the blossoms well above the foliage. B. kenworthy was the seed parent and B. Cleopatra provided the pollen.

No. 218-B. Nancy Gail is an intermediate cane which Belva Kusler developed in 1961 from a Lenore Olivier-dregei combination. The medium green leaves are of smooth texture with the major veins raised and pale green. The sinus and undersides are red. The flow-

ers are of rose-pink on short stems and it blooms intermittently through the year. The ovary is unusual as its three wings are equal in size (and some of the wings have a thickened edge on which there is a second blossom. Nancy Gail may be staked or grown as a basket plant.

No. 219-B. Gwen Lowell is another intermediate cane. It is from a velozoana-obscura cross made by Belva Kusler in 1961. It is very shrubby and may be used in a basket or staked. The leaves are of a velvety texture of dark green with lighter veins. The white flowers are in loose terminal custers on 6 inch petioles. The blooming period is from April to January, and then the plant puts out much new growth before it starts blooming again. On the backs of the two larger petals of the male flowers there are about eight short stiff red hairs.

These plants of Mrs. Kusler's may be obtained from Tropical Paradise Greenhouse, one of our advertisers.

No. 220-B. Curly Merry Christmas. This is a rex that George Sorenson of Florida thinks is a sport of the well known B. Ruhrthal, familiarly called Merry Christmas, because of its red and green coloring. It has the same coloring and dimensions but is a spiral form. He first grew it in 1960 and it can be obtained now from Mrs. Dillard's Tropical Paradise Greenhouse.





Also, enclosed herewith is a picture of Mrs. Fox's Begonia collection. This picture shows a portion (about 50) of the entire collection (105 plus), which were an Educational Exhibit at the Annual Fall Flower Show of the Fayette County Garden Council, entitled "The Lovellest Days of the Year".

The judges for the show recommended that Mrs. Fox be awarded the Special Award of the National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc. The Ricinifolia on Mrs. Fox's left has leaves 15 inches wide. The plant itself is more than four feet wide and three feet high. It was a leaf cutting last October (1963). Visitors to the show expressed much interest and appreciation of the Begonia exhibit. Mrs. Fox is a very enthusiastic Begonia grower.

FERNS (Part 1)

This article will continue in future issues.

"SO SAY THE EXPERTS", by Ruth Peace

We are told that we pamper ferns too much and to start with the easy-to-grow ferns first. Ferns that can be grown with Camellias, azaleas, and fuchsias should have the same amount of sun as those plants.

Ferns should not be planted too deeply. Plant them only as deep as they were in the can. They can be planted in the same type material as fuchsias, camellias, and begonias.

Feeding ferns is very important. Feed them with nitrogen $\frac{1}{4}$ strength once a week.

When planting ferns in the garden, be sure that they have a sufficient root system. Do not plant them

straight from the four inch pot. Grow them on in pots first. If you are using plastic pots, watch the watering. They hold water longer. Ferns like to be watered thoroughly, but must have good drainage.

Ferns should be repotted each year; however, this does not apply to all ferns. The time to transplant them is in February and March. Watch for the new growth. Take off all the dead roots. Remove the old potting mix. Cut the old fronds off. Never replot them deeper than previously grown. Always keep the crown above the mix. When repotting ferns, keep them cool until they take hold again.



In 9" pot
 Leaves 11" at broadest span x 7½"
 Similar in texture and color to ken-
 worthyi
 Pink flowers in winter
 A lush grower
 Does not defoliate the way its parent
 does
 Overall dimension—3½' wide
 2' high
 2½' through

Just one plant in the pot
 Raised by Mrs. Korts for trial and
 at Oct. 1962 Glendale Show received
 first prize for best new hybrid and
 Award of Merit.

Belva Kusler New Hybrids:
 Dorothy Barton, Victoria Kartack,
 Nancy Gail, Gwen Lowell, Delphine
 Fosmo.
 Other New Begonias. Crispa, Miyo Ber-
 ger, Grace Lucas, Blue Bell,
 Curly Merry Xmas, Jean Herr.

CATALOG 50c

TROPICAL PARADISE GREENHOUSE
 8825 West 79th Street
 Overland Park, Kansas

*"Season's Greetings and all Good
 Wishes for a Happy Holiday
 Season"*

SACRAMENTO BRANCH

*"Merry Christmas with Best Wishes
 for Your Happiness in
 The New Year"*

HUMBOLDT COUNTY BRANCH

*To Wish You The Blessings Of
 Christmas And a Blessed
 New Year.*

REDONDO AREA BRANCH

*To Wish You All The Joys and
 Blessings of the Christmas Season.*

SANTA BARBARA BRANCH

*"Season's Greetings and all Good
 Wishes for a Hoppy Holiday."*

THE KNICKERBOCKER BRANCH

*A Very Joyful Christmas And All
The Season's Cheer
May the 1965 Season Be Your
Best Begonia Year.*

INGLEWOOD BRANCH

*"Season's Greetings And All Good
Wishes for a Happy
Holiday Season."*

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH

*To Wish You All The Joys of
The Christmas Season*

**WESTERN
PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH**

*"Christmas Greetings and Good
Wishes for the New Year."*

GLENDALE BRANCH

*"The Friendly Folks of the Foothill
Branch Wish You A Merry Christ-
mas, With All Wishes For You
Happiness In The New Year."*

FOOTHILL BRANCH

BEGONIAN

Christmas is just around the corner . . . a friendly living gift of a plant to a neighbor will be greatly accepted. Give a good plant, something you would like to get! Include with it your favorite directions for feeding, watering and care. Wrap it up brightly and watch the smiles from the receiver!

Want a glass house? November issue of Flower and Garden Magazine certainly gives some ideas. You can even have a window glass house if you can't afford a big one. For years and years grandmas and grandpa had a Wardian case . . . and one of these in a window or on a porch give you the fun of growing some of the harder to grow begonias and other unique indoor plants.

Begonia growers seem to like Bon-sai. There are many new books on the subject—some very expensive. Also there are some 25 cent and 50 cent books. One you might find carefully covering the subject is "Bon-sai—Miniature trees, their selection, culture and care" by Claude Chedamian. \$3.95, 1955 published by D. Van Nostrand Co. 96 pages, well illustrated and carefully explained procedures.

West-wise you shade plant and begonia lovers should begin to get acquainted with the use of 1 year rotted and leached redwood sawdust. Don't look for the bargain basement kinds, but the one that has the year of rotting behind it. It will take the place of leaf mold, and peat moss. Will outlive peat about 8 times and will hold water even better than peat, with the fine qualities of perfect drainage. Great boon to every gardener. No disease can live in this material and that's important when you want to repel rots and fungus.

NEWSLETTER

The famous Henrici restaurant of Chicago, last year had this very interesting menu at each table. . . .

Christmas Menu
Grace
Conscience, Clear
Kindness Good Cheer
Tender Memories
Charity, Served with Discretion
Peace Truth
Long Life Stuffed with
Usefulness
Hearts of Courage
(A Large Portion)
Affection Happiness
Sweet Thoughts
Best Wishes for Absent Friends
Good Health

A little humor inserted into gardening is good for everyone. Buy as a go Home!" . . . by Ken Kraft. \$3.50 published by Appleton-Century. Ken was also the author of the fine "Garden to Order" one of the best stories of seeds sowing and development of our flowers that was ever written. Ken and his wife Pat, now live in the redwoods of northern California. You will love the chapter on hot beds!

*"May all the Joys of Christmas
Cheer Usher in Your
Happiest Year."*

**THEODOSIA BURR
SHEPHERD BRANCH**

*"May All The Joys of Christmas
Cheer Usher In Your
Happiest Year"*

ELSA FORT BRANCH

*We Bring You All The Season's
Greetings And Lasting Happiness
And Cheer. May Your Begonias
Bring You Pleasure Throughout
The Coming Year.*

WHITTIER BRANCH

*Happy Holidays and many hours
of pleasant reading in the New
Year. Your new Librarian*

TERRY OLMSTED

*"May All The Joys of Christmas
Be Yours Throughtout
New Year"*

NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH

*"Merry Christmas With Best
Wishes For Your Happiness
In The New Year"*

**EVA KENWORTHY
GRAY BRANCH**

*To All Plant Lovers, Wherever and
Whoever You Are, We Sincerely
Wish You Just an Old-Fashioned
Merry Christmas and a Happy
New Year.*

SEATTLE BRANCH

Bumblin'

*"We on the Atlantic Seaboard
Extend the Season's Greetings
to All Of You in the A.B.S.*

PHIOBEGONIA BRANCH

*My Heartfelt Thanks
and Best Wishes for the
Holiday Season*

to

*All Members and Flight Chairmen
in the Round Robin Program*

from

**HERBERT H. WARRICK
Round Robin Director**

*May all the joys of Christmas
Cheer usher in Your
Happiest Begonia Year."*

WESTCHESTER BRANCH

From V. W. of Coventry Centre, Rhode Island I have several questions—all in regard to 'miniature' begonias. The questions cover the classifying and judging of begonias in an effort to clarify this issue when a plant is to be entered in a show and also when the plant is to be judged. I find no reference books to guide me in the answering of these questions so I consulted a well known authority who has grown, classified and judged begonias for many years. With her help I have attempted to answer these questions. I have done this with the thought in mind that perhaps one of the purposes of this column might be to clarify matters pertinent to begonia growing and judging. After reading the following questions and answers I ask you as members of the ABS to write me your thoughts on the subject and I will be happy to include them in my column.

(1) *Is the rex begonia Red Berry a true miniature?*

Ans.: I cannot answer a straightforward 'yes' or 'no' to this question. This begonia certainly was hybridized to create a 'miniature' rex and in

FROM EAST TO WEST

SEASON' GREETINGS AND WISHES
FOR SUCCESS IN OUR UNITED EFFORTS.

Bessie Raymond Buxton Branch

*MAY ALL THE JOYS OF THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON
BE YOURS NOW AND ALWAYS.*

**EASTSIDE BEGONIA CLUB
BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON**

Along With

by Bee Olson

the March 1951 Begonian this rex together with the other Roy Berry rexes were listed as minatures. It would seem to me that if you were called upon to classify this plant and you were not looking at the plant to be entered you would most assuredly classify it as a 'miniature' rex. However, growing conditions varying as they do from grower to grower and area to area, if this rex grew considerably larger than usual it would not seem right to enter the plant as a 'miniature' unless rules within that particular show schedule provided for this.

(2) *Just what makes up a miniature in any type of begonia?*

Ans.: Again we cannot give a definite answer. To the best of our knowledge this question has never been settled. In years gone by many hours were spent by a committee to make this decision but none was reached. If you will refer to the Flower Show Schedule of the ABS as printed in the Begonian each year you will find that the Rhizomatous Division lists ten classes beginning with the small leaved types such as 'boweri', 'imperialis', 'rotundifolia' etc. These would no doubt be considered the miniature in the rhizomatous other than rexes. In the Rex Division they have two classes for 'miniature leaves'. To come to a decision on what makes up a miniature one would surely have to consider the over-all size of the plant, the compactness of the plant, the size of the leaf, the size of the rhizome, spacing between leaves, etc. Until a rule of the ABS is established, the flower show chairman would have to set forth regulations and rules to cover this part of his show.

(3) *In rexes is the size of the leaf a special size? If so, what size?*

Ans.: Again, we must state that to date no 'size' has been stipulated.

Most flower shows resort to classes and then the listing of named plants that generally would fall into this class. Again referring to the Flower Show Schedule of the ABS they list under 'miniature leaves' the rexes 'Toy', 'Annie Robinson', 'Butterfly', etc. and under 'miniature spiral-leaves' the plants 'Cutie', 'Berry's Brown Curl', etc. However, if a plant grows to such an extent that the leaves are comparable to the small leaved or even medium leaved rex it would seem wiser to enter it in that classification. Hybridizers make their crosses striving for the miniature-leaved plant thus it would seem that in the awarding of points or judging a plant it would rank higher with the smaller leaf than the larger leaf. By entering the plant in the small-leaved rex it would probably fare better than entering it in the miniature classification. Show rules should stipulate size where there is a possibility of this question arising.

(3) *In rexes is the size of the leaf a special size? If so, what size?*

(4) *Are the leaves of a miniature rex—being a rex—allowed to be larger than other types of miniature begonias?*

Ans.: To this question I would answer yes—for as far as my experiences have taken me, I have yet to find a miniature rex as small as say the rhizomatous 'China Doll' or 'boweri'. Perhaps there are some miniature rexes this small but I have not heard of them. One day perhaps one of our hybridizers may come up with an extremely tiny leaved rex that no doubt will be the day when the 'window-sill' begonia grower will become an enthusiastic rex bebonia grower.

(5) *Would it not be wise to have a 'Miniature' Division? In other words have classes under this division like (1) Miniature rexes (2) Miniature rhizomatous (3) Miniature fibrous, etc.*

Ans.: I would say this would depend a great deal on the show. In a very large show, especially where a great many small leaved plants ap-

(Continued on Page 261)

The Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund Flight—

No. 1 — *B. Brazil*. New species having leaves of a velvety sheen on top, red underneath. Plant is medium height with spiral rings on petiole underneath the leaf blade. Collected in dense second growth forest, elevation 1000 feet about 10km this side of Caragutuba, Brazil. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 2 — *B. Brazil*. New species with shiny green leaves — both sides — plants medium growth with large pink flowers. Collected 20 feet above sea level in swamp forest 5km south of Itanhaem. Nearly full sun. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

Two species above were sent to Seed Fund by an orchid collector in Brazil.

No. 3 — *B. acetosa*. Brazil. Neat, round, hairy leaves top short stilt stems from rhizome below. On top, the effect of fuzz is subdued green; underneath, ruby red. Sprays of white flowers in the spring. Price 50 cents per pkt.

No. 4 — *B. 'Bow-nigra'* — (*B. boweri* x *B. heracleifolia nigricans*) A hybrid. Has star-shaped bronzy leaves with light veins. Creeping rhizomes, small growing, interesting leaf patterns. 35 cents per pkt.

No. 5 — *B. 'Bow-Chancee'*. (*B. boweri* x *B. 'Joe Hayden'*) A hybrid. Has small star leaves, dark and creeping rhizomes. 35 cents per pkt.

No. 6 — *B. 'Mrs. Busch'*. Branching cane type with pink flowers. 25 cents per pkt.

No. 7 — *B. 'Argenta — Guttata'* (*B. albo-picta* — *B. olbia*) A hybrid. Sometimes called 'trout leaf', for its resemblance to the skin of a lake trout. Stout and well branched; innumerable small silver spots on typically pointed olive-colored leaves, red-lined beneath. Cream colored flowers sometimes pink in strong light. 35 cents per pkt.

No. 8 — *B. 'Sir Percy'*. [*B. 'Silver Star'* x *B. 'Speculata'*] A hybrid. Pointed silver-like leaves that resemble a rex begonia but easier to grow. Leaves have a penciled edge of dark green. 25 cents per pkt.

No. 9 — *B. maculata*. Brazil. Leaves lobed, toothed, dark, dull green; flowers pink. Leaves silver splotched. 25 cents per pkt.

No. 10 — *B. German sunderbruchi*. var. *B. 'Santa Rosa star'*. Rhizomatous, star-shaped leaves with light veins in center of leaf. Flowers pink in large clusters. 25 cents per pkt.

No. 11 — *B. rotundifolia*. Sometimes called the 'Pennywort begonia'. Rhizomes slender and creeping; leaves up to two and a half inches, almost round with basal lobes usually overlapping, glossy light yellow-green, crenately lobed; flowers pink, in erect inflorescences. Good plant for the window sill gardener. 25 cents per pkt.

No. 12 — *B. sceptrum* — Brazil. 'Resembles the aconite, or monkshood'. Silky, dark green leaves with sunken veins, cut deeply to separate the points, then cut again to branch like antlers; faintly silver-spotted. 25 cents per pkt.

No. 13 — *B. echinosepala* — Brazil. Narrow, serrate leaves, not heavily haired, drooping from arched branches. Male flowers are white-bearded. 25 cents per pkt.

No. 14 — *B. serratipetala* — New Guinea. Appealing, beautiful, full-branched plant with slim, shiny leaves sharply cut and crinkled, spotted with raised dots. Female flowers have red-toothed petals. Choice plant but very limited supply of seed. 50 cents per pkt.

No. 15 — *B. 'Organdy'*. Semperflorens type very popular as bedding plant. Medium growth with pink, red or white flowers. Attractive in beds or borders. 25 cents per pkt.

We told you last month about our *B. 'Calla lily'* type begonia — at this point we wish to say it is beautiful beyond all expectations. Plants have all bloomed now, two are red and one pink. The outstanding feature is the green-spotted white leaf, edged pink. One plant has two seed pods that we hope will ripen so that we may propagate later. However, the bees and hummingbirds were very con-

spicious in our patio all summer so — anything could happen. We are excited over this begonia and hope to have more definite information in the future.

GREENHOUSE PLANTS

Epiciscia? Bronze leaf, silver overlay (appears gray). Red flowers in great profusion. Good grower. 35 cents per pkt.

Strepto carpus saxorum — Bushy plant with fleshy, pubescent, elliptic, thin leaves in crowded whorls; flowers with white tube and oblique limb of large spreading pale lilac lobes, on thin stems, blooming over many months 35 cents per pkt.

Schlumbergera gaertneri — Red blooming 'Easter cactus'. Stiff spreading branches of long flattened joints, dull green with purplish crenate margins, a few bristles at apex; star-like regular flowers dark scarlet in spring. 25 cents per pkt.

OTHER GENERA —

Lagerstroemia — Pink flowers' in showy terminal clusters, the calyx more or less turban-shaped. Leaves opposite without marginal teeth. Good plant for warm, dry situations. 25 cents per pkt.

Cassia alata—Sun loving shrub with pinnate foliage of 3 pairs of leathery leaflets, and showy clusters of nearly regular, rather cupped flowers of golden yellow. 25 cents per pkt.

PLEASE NOTE —

It becomes necessary now to ask your help in supplying seed to keep the Seed Fund in operation. We can not remain active without sufficient amounts of seed to supply the demand. Over a period of years, we have done our best to offer seed of begonias and shade plants that are not obtained through any other source and are aware that many members are growing plants from these seed — We think it is only fair that you in turn help us out now. We can use begonias, other genera and shade plant seed however, we are over supplied with *semperflorens* seed and can not use at present.

In the case of rare or exotic types we will be happy to compensate any

one who can supply them. If you have anything at all to offer, please contact us at address below.

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

SHOW REPORT

The RHODE ISLAND BRANCH of the ABS held its 6th Annual Begonia and Other Tropical Plant Show September 12-13 at the University of Rhode Island, Kingston. Mr. & Mrs. Percy Merry were judges. *President Mrs. Yarmeta Scholberg* won the *Virginia Withee Silver Trophy* for the *Best-in-the-Show begonia* with her *Semperfloren 'Joan Strong*.

Special ribbon awards were won by *Miss M. Elizabeth Tourgee, Salvatore Rugguere* and *Geraldine Daly*.

Begonia Blue Ribbon Winners were:

Geraldine Daly (2)—Salvatore Ruggiere—Robert Hebb—Virginia Withee (2)—Helen Richmond—Susan Harrington (2)—Yarmela Scholberg (2)—M. Elizabeth Tourgee.

African Violets Blue Ribbon Winners were:

Mrs. Harry Garrett—Robert Hebb—Susan Harrington — Yarmela Scholberg.

Fern Blue Ribbon Winners were:

Geraldine Daly (5)—Robert Hebb—Virginia Withee—Madaline Brown. *Cacti and Succulent Blue Ribbon Winners* were:

Yarmela Scholberg—Geraldine Daly—Isabel McShane—Terry Hall—Eric Hassel.

Other Houseplant Blue Ribbon Winners:

Robert Hebb (4)—Geraldine Daly. *Junior Blue Ribbon Winners* were: Bruce Dickson—Sonya Salisbury

PAUL P. LOWE
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1 block east of U.S. Hwy. No. 1
Open Saturday and Sunday only

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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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National Board meets 4th Monday, 7:30 p.m., South Gate City Auditorium, 4900 Southern Avenue

pear, it would no doubt be a good idea to initiate such a division. It is difficult for a judge to be fair to all plants entered when they vary a great deal in size. Many times in shows it is necessary for the judges to ask if a sub-division cannot be made because they feel it would not be fair to judge certain plants against

V. W. goes on to state in her letter that she is aware that growing conditions, feeding, watering, etc. makes a great deal of difference in the plant, but she feels a grower should know just how to enter their plant to be correctly judged. Also she feels that a list of accepted miniature plants should be compiled or a rule as to size to help in future shows held by our branches throughout the world.

Regarding the growing conditions and variance in feeding programs, water, etc. I think these decisions and conditions must be taken into consideration by the grower. If, as V. W. states, they want lush growth then they must be prepared to enter a larger plant into a class above those that are grown under different conditions and perhaps fed less with the hopes that they will remain miniature.

As to a rule as to size to be adopted by the ABS or Flow Show Chairman throughout our branches, one was suggested by my guide in this matter which I believe to be an excellent one. Here it is:

- Overall size12 to 14 inches
- Leaf size (approx.)
.....3½ to 4½ inches
- Rhizome size
.....Small (like a little finger)
- Size of NodesShort
- Size of petiolesShort
- Size of plant...Small and compact

Let us hear from you as to your views on the above questions—also please let us know if you approve or disapprove of the suggested guide as to size.

COPY DEADLINE

Deadline for February issue of the Begonian is January 1, 1965.

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ROUND ROBIN NEWS

HERB WARRICK
Round Robin Director

Mrs. Thel Shuler, Lexington, Ohio, Chairman of Flight No. 15 lives on a 400 acre farm. Mr. Shuler also owns a sawmill from which hardwood sawdust is a by-product. Some of this is unused. It collects and rots down. Mrs. Shuler has found that the old sawdust, especially that which is around 20 years old makes a very excellent rooting medium for begonias. For her it is even better than vermiculite or perlite. The sawdust causes the cuttings to grow a wonderful root system.

Has anyone else in the A.B.S. had a similar experience with any kind of sawdust?

Rufus C. Neas, Greenville, S. C. Flight No. 15 is an avid begonia grower and also one of our commercial folk who advertise in the Begonian. An interesting name that he has acquired in his community is 'That Flower Bug'. This is one of those very nice compliments that makes the recipient feel good all over. Only real friends say such things, Rufus, and you deserve commendation for having earned the honor.

Here is a challenge for brave shade plant growers. No. 13 has not yet been used for a Flight in our Round Robin program because of a sort of historic taboo against this number. However, we will use this number if we can find a chairman and six or seven members who are willing to risk the spooks that have surrounded this figure for so many years. Any of you folks who don't hesitate to walk under ladders or don't mind black cats crossing your path are good candidates. If we get more than enough members for one Flight we can even start a No. 13 A and No. 13 B. How about it, folks?

Flight No. 19 has quickly filled with six members and is now flying. Mrs. June Costan of Long Beach, Calif. is the chairman.

Flight No. 20 is now forming and is almost ready to start. Mrs. Barbara

Walker of Niles, Ill. will be the chairman.

A few requests are now beginning to come in for a specialty Flight such as those dealing only with hybridizing, plant exchanging, growing from seed, single type plant culture (possibly tuberous, rexes, semps, canes, etc.), house plants or others. The 'general interest' Flights seem to be more popular and we have not yet been able to start a complete specialty Round Robin. One difficulty of setting up successful Flights of specialty subjects would be the problem of mixing experienced and inexperienced members. The experienced grower would be obligated to continually give instructions that possibly should be done by one of the available books on the specific subject. Mixed experience levels in a specialty Flight might also be difficult for the chairman to motivate or keep at an interesting discussion level. I would appreciate viewpoints from among the whole A.B.S. membership.

With this December issue of the Begonian the expanded Round Robin program completes almost a year of most interesting activity. Over one hundred and twenty-five members (eighteen are men) are now enjoying the cultural correspondence in a total of nineteen excellent Flights. This is a wonderful service that the A.B.S. provides for its members and it is hoped that in 1965 many more folks will participate.

CALENDAR

Foothill Branch — December 17. Mary Lou Ginther will show pictures and tell of the rehabilitation work done by the Casa Colina Center. Instead of a Christmas gift exchange, pay one dollar, and receive a nice fern.

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AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY NATIONAL BOARD MEETING . . .

SEPT. 28, 1964

The regular meeting of the board of directors of the American Begonia Society was called to order at 7:30 PM by the president, Mrs. Mabel Corwin, on Sept. 28, 1964 at the South Gate Auditorium.

Mrs. Gertrude White led in the renewal of the pledge of allegiance to the American Flag.

The Aims & Purposes of the society were read by the president-elect, Mrs. Muriel Perz.

Nineteen elected officers and branch representatives answered roll call. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Officers reporting were: Past Presidents Mrs. Terry Olmsted; president elect, Mrs. Muriel Perz, vice president, Howard Small; and vice president, R. E. Hale, who came from Sacramento to attend the board meeting.

Harold Burkett, treasurer, reported a balance on hand Sept. 25 of \$530.69.

Mrs. Daisy Austin, membership secretary, reported a total of 2497 Begonians disbursed.

Mrs. Vera Naumann, public relations director, announced that another branch is in the planning stage and details will be given at a later time. She has received \$30 from Japan to cover 10 memberships in the ABS.

Mrs. Ruby Budd filed her report as advertising manager showing receipts of \$44.00 and accounts receivable of \$27.50.

Bert Slatter, flower show chairman, reported that the show was a financial success. A complete report will be filed when all accounts are closed.

The librarian, Muriel Perz, reported that \$62.20 was cleared at the show and a balance of \$162.90 is in her account.

Mrs. Edna Korts, business manager, presented a check for \$108.50 to the treasurer. This represents the proceeds from sale of Begonian back issues. Mrs. Korts made a motion that

\$50.00 be placed in the Life Membership Fund to cover cost of a life membership for Mrs. Terry Olmsted. The motion was seconded and carried.

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

It was announced that the South Coast Botanic Garden will hold its first open house on October 17, 1964.

The Redondo Beach Area branch of ABS issued an invitation to hold a regional meeting at the Botanic Garden at the board's convenience.

Correspondence was read by the secretary.

Howard Small, convention and flower show treasurer, reported that more than 10,600 persons came through the turnstile at the Arboretum during the week end of the show. He gave a preliminary report and will file a closing report when all money is received and bills paid.

Mabel Corwin presented her list of appointments for ratification. They are:

EditorGordon BakerLloyd
Membership Sec'y.Daisy Austin
Advertising Mgr.Anne Rose
AwardsMargaret Taylor
Show Chairman.....R. L. Pyle
HistorianRuth Pease
Identification Garden
.....Marie Turner
LibrarianTerry Olmsted
NomenclatureAla Graham
Parliamentarian.....Carl Naumann
Round RobinHerbert Warrick
Business Manager.....Edna Korts
ResearchBee Olson
Seed FundFlorence Gee
Slide Library & Speakers

BureauRoy Joyce
Public RelationsVera Naumann
Howard Small made a motion that

these appointments be approved which was seconded and carried.

Mrs. Terry Olmsted gave high praise to the Arboretum Foundation for their co-operation and many courtesies in assisting with our recent show. She moved that we contribute \$100.00 to the Arboretum Foundation. Seconded and carried.

Mrs. Olmsted also reported on the status of negotiations to obtain payment of \$250.00 due the Society for a flower plot put in at Pan Pacific last spring. She requested permission to bring suit. Carl Naumann moved that Terry be authorized to take what ever action she thinks best to collect his money. Seconded and carried.

Mrs. Florence Gee, Seed Fund Chairman, sent a letter of appeal for seed to keep the fund stocked.

It was announced that the San Diego Area branches will host the regional meeting to be held in Balboa Park, San Diego, on October 25 at 1:30 PM.

A discussion of how best to handle the raffle ticket sales for the crocheted table cloth donated by Mds. Hodgins and Mrs. Lee resulted in the decision to have tickets printed for sale at branch meetings in October and at the board meeting. Tickets will sell for 50c each or 3 for \$1.00. The drawing will be at the November board meeting.

Members are urged to bring plants for the October meeting plant table.

The "Begonian" problem was brought up by the president, for discussion about size and number of copies to be printed. A motion to continue with the present printer until a comparative study can be made of costs and services of other printers, was seconded and carried. Mr. Hale moved that a committee be appointed to investigate and compare, seconded and carried.

The newly appointed chairmen were introduced.

Vera Naumann requested permission to have new brochures concerning procedure for forming new branches printed at a cost of \$37.00

per 100. Terry Olmsted moved that these be printed. Seconded and carried.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
PEGGY McGRATH,
Secretary.

IN MEMORIAM

by

RUTH AND WALTER PEASE
Westchester Branch

'John Thieben' what magic that name brings to mind. We were given in our lifetime the presence of a friend who had such a touch in growing beautiful plants, a kindness in his manner, a twinkle in his eyes.

As a restaurateur and a wholesale meat caterer, he was busy beyond belief. Yet, his beautiful plants graced many of the various garden shows produced throughout Southern California during the past fifteen years. He was the founder of the Westchester Branch of the American Begonia Society.

He was a man from Iowa, making California his home for the past nineteen years. He loved sports, good competition, people and in return was loved, admired and respected by many. Our deepest sympathy goes to his widow, Agnes and their children, Michael, Karen and Kay.

John Thieben was a gifted man. There will be no other like him. His plants grew to such magnificence just for him, it seems, in return for his loving care.

When he passed away October 16, the loss was almost unbearable but then we realized what this man had shown us in teaching us the love of plants. He gave of himself completely when he showed us so much beauty and how to enjoy it. The members of the Westchester Branch knew all too well how vital John was to so many. We hold his memory dear. It will remain our Ways and Means for a long, long time. He will remain our friend forever.

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION <i>(Act of October 23, 1962; Section 4369, Title 39, United States Code)</i>		Publisher: File two copies of this form with your postmaster.
1. DATE OF FILING Sept. 28, 1964	2. TITLE OF PUBLICATION The Begonian	
3. FREQUENCY OF ISSUE Monthly		
4. LOCATION OF KNOWN OFFICE OF PUBLICATION <i>(Street, city, county, state, zip code)</i> 1510 Kimberly Avenue, Anaheim, California Orange County 92802		
5. LOCATION OF THE HEADQUARTERS OR GENERAL BUSINESS OFFICES OF THE PUBLISHERS <i>(Not printers)</i> 1510 Kimberly Avenue, Anaheim, California 92802		
6. NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF PUBLISHER, EDITOR, AND MANAGING EDITOR		
PUBLISHER <i>(Name and address)</i> THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY INC 1510 Kimberly Ave. Anaheim, Calif.		
EDITOR <i>(Name and address)</i> Gordon Baker Lloyd Box 36 Sierra Madre California 91024		
MANAGING EDITOR <i>(Name and address)</i> Same		
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I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.		
<i>(Signature of editor, publisher, business manager, or owner)</i> Daisy Austin - Membership Sec'y		

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.

EASTSIDE BRANCH

4th Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
Natural Gas Co. Building
Crossroads Shopping Center, Bellevue, Wash.
Lois C. Donahue, Secy.
2508-108th St. N.E., Bellevue, Wash.

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 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, Cor. Secy.
Welsh and Veree Rd., Philadelphia, Pa.

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
Luis Lopez, Cor. Secy.
421 East 64th St.
New York, N.Y. 10021

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
Ruby Tessier, Secy.
3737 Gundry Ave., Long Beach, Calif.

ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Garden Grove Grange Hall, Century and Taft Sts.
Garden Grove, Calif.
Maybelle L. Woods, Secy.
604 S. Helena St.,
Anaheim, California, 92805.

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., Shamel Park
3650 Arlington, Riverside, Calif.
Mrs. Lillian Maddox, Secy.
7172 Mt. Vernon St., Riverside, Calif.

ROBINSON, ALFRED D. BRANCH

3rd Friday, 12 noon, 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) Eiland, Secy.
469 West Norman St., Arcadia, Calif.

SAN MIGUEL BRANCH

1st Wednesday, Youth Center, Lemon Grove, Calif.
Mrs. Irene Cretin, Secy.
3060 Crane St., Lemon Grove, 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 Barlett, C.H., 902 E. Main, Ventura, Calif.
Mrs. Clermont Morris, Secy.
538 Jones St., Ventura, Calif.

SMOKY VALLEY BRANCH

3rd Thursday of each Month
Mrs. Arthur Houlberg, Secy.
833 Sheridan St.
Salina, Kansas, 67401.

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. V. O. Harman, Secy.
306 Cody, Houston, Texas, 77009

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, Altarmoor Dr.
Natrona Heights, Pa.

WHITTIER BRANCH

1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Palm Park Community Center, 1643 Floral Drive
Mrs. Evelyn Shute, Corr. 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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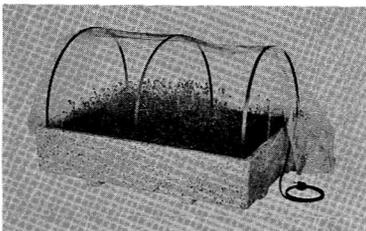
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