

The BEGONIAN



DEVOTED TO THE SHELTERED GARDEN

B. paranensis

J. Doorenbos
Photo



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GENERAL OFFICES

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Views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the Editors, the Society or its officers.

CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS



Mr. Paul Revere far right, from San Francisco installing officers.

Photo courtesy of Black Star

The highlights of the 1969 A.B.S. Convention included a full program of activities for all who attended. The 37th Annual Begonia Show was limited to *Begonias* only and the array of unusual *Begonias* shown was a welcome sight for all. A beautiful ten foot by ten foot display of *Begonias* only was designed and built in the rotunda by Chuck and Mae Tagg of Fullerton, Calif. The show was a good demonstration of the growing knowledge and talents of our Society. Our Show Chairman, Jim Somes, Hawthorne, Calif. deserves our congratulations for another successful show.

The Annual Meeting held on Saturday afternoon was attended by members from all areas of the Southwest. A bid was presented by the Theodosia Burr Shepherd Branch of Ventura to host the 1970 Convention. It was announced that the Fifth Annual Eastern Begonia Convention would be held September 18-20, 1970 at the McAlpin Hotel in New York City. This allows plenty of time to plan ahead.

The annual convention banquet was held Saturday evening, September 6, at the Flamingo-Ramada Hotel in Arcadia, Calif. The speaker for this event was Clarence Hall, a Past-President of the A.B.S. Mr. Hall came from Sacramento, Calif. to present a "Treasure Chest of

Memories." The heart-warming memories he presented covered the 37 year history of the A.B.S. and introduced the many prominent members who have served so faithfully during those many years.

The installation ceremony was conducted by Paul Revere from San Francisco, Calif. The first duty of the newly-installed President, Vera Naumann, was to present a life-membership to our retiring President, Walter Pease. She also presented him with a gift -- a beautiful briefcase. A handmade gavel for the new President from her husband was presented by Mrs. Hattie Tolle, Sierra Madre, Calif. in his absence.

Sunday morning saw many of our members driving from garden to garden enjoying the variety of ideas for landscaping. Rudolf Ziesenhenne, Santa Barbara, Calif. directed the Sunday afternoon seminar with his usual encouragement and knowledge. The subject was species *Begonias*, their influence in hybridizing, naming species, culture of species, and other general information about species *Begonias*.

The show was closed and removed Sunday evening by many tired but happy workers. There was an air of self-satisfaction for a good year ended and a better one begun.

AIMS AND PURPOSES OF THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY, INC.

The purpose of this Society shall be: To stimulate and promote interest in *Begonias* and other shade-loving plants; To encourage the introduction and development of new types of these plants; To standardize the nomenclature of *Begonias*; To gather and publish information in regard to kinds, propagation and culture of *Begonias* and companion plants; To issue a bluletin which will be mailed to all members of the Society; and To bring into friendly contact all who love and grow *Begonias*.

NATIONAL AWARDS 1969

The Eva Kenworthy Gray Award for the contribution of original material to help members in their interest in and study of Begonias was made to Mr. Harry N. Butterfield, Agriculturist and retired professor at the University of California, for his many articles in the *Begonian* and his booklet of "Growing Begonias in California", as well as for his extensive work, with the able assistance of his secretary, the late Emma Carleton, in cataloging the many Begonias during his terms of office as Nomenclature Director of the American Begonia Society from 1949 until 1957.

Again, this year, two Herbert P. Dyckman Awards for Service awards were made.

One of these Service Awards was presented to Alva Graham who made the English translation of the French book, "Les Begonias" by Chas. Chevalier, also for her work in compiling and financing, with an interest-free loan, the printing of the "Buxton Check-List of Begonias" for the American Begonia Society. Truly, this is Service!

The second Service Award was made to Edna Korts who has served the American Begonia Society in a great many capacities for a number of years. Mrs. Korts has been National President twice, Business Manager, Nomenclature Director, Chairman of the School of Judges; during which time she conducted two courses of study for judges. She also served as Chairman of the Awards Committee and designed the American Begonia Society pin. Whatever job she was asked to do, she did do to the best of her ability to benefit the Society and that, too, is Service!

The Alfred D. Robinson Memorial Medal for an outstanding hybrid Begonia that was distributed within the last five to ten years was awarded to B. r. c. 'Lady Frances Jean'. The hardiness, vigor, ease of cultivation, outstanding beauty and distinctiveness make this rex hybrid

Begonia that was developed by Sylvia Leatherman of Leatherman's Gardens in South El Monte, California, a plant worthy of recognition.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



President Vera Naumann
Photo courtesy of Black Star

Greetings to all members and friends.

May we learn more about our Begonias and companion plants and live up to the "Aims and Purposes of the American Begonia Society". Let's make this a happy year by all working together.

The other officers and myself meant it when we took our oath of office and we are here to work with you and to help you.

President
Vera L. Naumann

PUBLICATION NOTICE

All material for publication — articles, notices, photographs — should be sent to the Editor, preferably five weeks before date of publication. Deadline is the first of the month preceding month of publication.

Advertising copy and inquiries should be sent to the Advertising Manager.

1969 SHOW WINNERS

PERPETUAL AWARDS

Herbert P. Dyckman Perpetual Award for the Most Distinctive New Fibrous Begonia, given by Mrs. Dyckman in honor of her husband who was the founder of the A.B.S. — won by Walter Watchorn for B. 'Monday'.

John Thieben Perpetual Award for the Best New Rhizomatous Type Begonia — won by Thelma O'Reilly for B. 'Universe'.

Edna Korts Perpetual Trophy for the Best Cane Type Begonia in the Show — won by Nettie and Gene Daniels for B. 'Dorothy Barton'.

Redondo Area Perpetual Trophy for the Best Semperflorens Type Begonia in the Show — won by John Ekstrand for B. s. c. 'Double Pink'.

Jack Taylor Perpetual Trophy for the Best Begonia Grown in a Hanging Basket — won by Nettie and Gene Daniels for B. *scharffiana*.

Fred Neels Memorial Perpetual Trophy for the Best Begonia Grown in a Wall Pocket — won by Ethel Reid for a B. 'multiflora tuberosus'.

San Miguel Perpetual Award for the Best Old Begonia in cultivation for 25 years or more — won by Nettie and Gene Daniels for B. *scharffiana*.

CHALLENGE TROPHIES

Effie Chapman Challenge Cup for the Best Fibrous Begonia in the Show — won by Walter Watchorn for B. 'Waltana' x *paulensis*.

John R. Williams Challenge Cup for the Best Rhizomatous Type Begonia in the Show — won by Florence Banner for B. *masoniana*.

Gonda Hartwell Challenge Cup for the Best Rex Begonia in the Show — won by Lillian and Lee Steinhaus for B. r. c. 'Purple Petticoats'.

Palos Verdes Begonia Farm Challenge Trophy for the Best Tuberos Begonia in the Grower Section to Ethel Reid for a B. 'Ruffled Tuberos Type'.

Dr. Edgar Irmischer Memorial Challenge Award for the Best Entry in the Show and the President's Challenge Trophy for the Best Begonia in the Show — won by Lillian and Lee Steinhaus for B. r. c. 'Purple Petticoats'.

DIVISION AND SPECIALTY TROPHIES

Division A — Cane-like — to Nettie and Gene Daniels for B. 'Dorothy Barton'.

Division B — Shrub-like — to Walter Watchorn for B. 'Waltana' x *paulensis*.

Division C — Thick-stemmed — to Mae and Chuck Tagg for B. 'Marie Reed'.

Division D — Semperflorens-type — to John Edstrand for B. s. c. 'Double Pink'.

Division E — Rhizomatous-type — to Larry Banner for B. *masoniana*.



Lee and Lillian Steinhaus
Photo courtesy of Black Star

Division F — Rex — to Lillian and Lee Steinhaus for B. r. c. 'Purple Petticoats'.

Division G — Tuberos-types — to Ethel Reid for B. t. h. 'Ruffled Type'.

1969 SHOW WINNERS

Division H — Best Collection — to Avril Butler for a collection of 3 Begonias.

Division J — Begonias from Seed — to John Ekstrand for B. *paranaensis*.

Division K — Photograph of Begonias — to Jack Golding for a color photo of B. 'Tomment'.

Division L — Photo of Branch Exhibit — to the Kinckerbacker Branch.

Division M — Miniature Gardens — to Wm. Meyn.

Division I — New Introductions — to Walter Watchorn for B. 'Monday'.

Division B (Novice) — to Ginny and Shorty Peterman for B. *incarnata*.

Division E (Novice) — to Florence Banner for B. *masoniana*.

Division F (Novice) — to Mabel Anderson for B. r. c. 'Stone Mountain'.

Best Begonia Grown on a Totem Pole — to Larry Halvorson for B. 'Ellandee'.

Best Begonia Grown in an Enclosed Container — to Hazel Snodgrass for B. *griffithi*.

Sweepstakes Award for the winner of the most Blue Ribbons (1st Place) to Nettie and Gene Daniels.

CERTIFICATES OF AWARD

Cultural Certificate for Fibrous to Walter Watchorn for B. 'Waltana' x *paulensis*.

Cultural Certificate for Rhizomatous to Florence Banner for B. *masoniana*.

Cultural Certificate for Rex to Lillian and Lee Steinhaus for B. r. c. 'Purple Petticoats'.

Cultural Certificate for Tuberos-type to Ethel Reid for a B. t. h. 'Ruffled'.

Hybrid of Distinction Certificate to Walter Watchorn for B. 'Monday'.

Hybrid of Distinction Certificate to Thelma O'Reilly for B. 'Universe'.

The Orris R. Martin Perpetual Memorial Trophy for Best Tuberos-type in Novice Section and the Bessie Raymond Buxton Branch Perpetual Award for the Best Collection of Six Begonias were not awarded at this Show.

OUR READERS

WRITE US

From the Elsa Fort Branch of the American Begonia Society

On page 10 of the January, 1968 issue of "The Begonian" you will find a description of B. *listida*. The description fits it perfectly— "indescribably beautiful".

On a visit away from this area Marion Thompson was fortunate to get a small cutting of it. She has coddled it for several months and it has grown slowly, but steadily under greenhouse conditions via a terrarium.

If you have success with seeds, try some or if you can find a plant, get one. You will be thrilled.

You have not heard much from our group in recent months, but we are very much alive and some of the members grow plants which are truly show material. We hope to get some photographs to California in time for this years show.

Essie V. Morris
Elsa Fort Branch

Note to Secretaries: If there is an error in your Branch notice please notify us as soon as possible. Remember that by the time you receive this issue that the issue for the following month has already gone to press.

EXIT EDITOR

For over two years now I have served as editor of 'The Begonian'. During that time, I have had the help of many, many people. It has not been the thankless job I was told it was. The cooperation, encouragement and help I received was more than I expected. It would be impossible for me to tell you the wonderful friendships which have developed during my time as editor.

With this November issue, Mrs. Mabel Anderson is taking over. The job is hers and she is handling it very well. She is bound to make mistakes. We all do. Patience, planning and practice will make Mabel a capable editor. The important thing about an editor is that he be willing to try. Mabel had expressed this willingness by accepting the office. Please extend to her the encouragement, cooperation, and friendship which you so generously gave to me so that 'The Begonian' continues to grow as the best magazine of its type.

My thanks to you, Mabel, for accepting this tremendous job and my sincere best wishes for the year ahead.

Mae Tagg



AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

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TROPHY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND THANKS

The Committee and the Trophy Chairman for the 1969 American Begonia Society Annual Show, held in Arcadia, California, would like to acknowledge with thanks and appreciation the donations to the Trophy Fund to the following Branches and individuals:

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Santa Barbara Branch
San Gabriel Valley Branch
Missouri Branch
Mr. and Mrs. William Meyn
Mrs. Goldie Ward
Mr. and Mrs. Perry Olmstead

THE LONELY LITTLE BEGONIA

Last January I joined the American Begonia Society and received my first copy of "The Begonian", with the little packet of free seeds. I scattered them on a small amount of peat moss, in one of those oleo cups, snapped the lid on and set it in the east window. In just a few days, I could see tiny green dots. While dusting one day, I knocked the cup off on the floor, spilling out the contents. I managed to find one green dot with a tail on it and potted it in a thimble. It soon filled the thimble and went from there to a small plastic cup. It is now in a child's ninety year old silver mug. It is a fuzzy green-leaved plant, with small white blossoms, I call it "Thimble-Baby". Now it is with my other Begonias and isn't lonely any more.

BEGONIA CATHYANA

By ELDA HARING, Greenwich, Connecticut

Beautiful but frustrating is *B. cathyana*. I find it most difficult to describe this gorgeous begonia. In "All About Begonias" Bernice Brilmayer had this to say about it. "Named for Cathy an antique Oriental queen. Silky velvet leaves, zoned ruby-red and emerald green, reversed underneath; glowingly rich when light shines through. Rare orange flowers."

In my experience, I have found *B. cathyana* somewhat difficult, having tried it in various windows, the greenhouse and under fluorescent lights. It seems to be temperamental for if conditions are not to its liking, it suddenly drops its leaves and stems. The first time this happened only one or two stems were left with a single leaf at the top. Being most reluctant to cast it aside I placed the pot under warm white fluorescent lights. Now and then it was given a little water but was kept quite on the dry side. Finally after some weeks had gone by I was pleased to see new leaves appearing through the soil for I was on the verge of discarding the pot and plant.

This *Begonia* came from China in 1908. It seems to need to be kept fairly warm, from 70 to 75 degrees and in an even temperature. It definitely needs to be protected from drafts. The temperature under the warm lights on my plant stands stays at 70 degrees but during the winter months drops to 65 degrees when the lights go off at night. In February when the outside temperature drops to near zero the night-time temperature in the cellar will often drop to 55 degrees and *B. cathyana* shows its resentment by again dropping leaves and stems, but fortunately renews itself when conditions again suit it.

In experimenting with *B. cathyana* I have found that it grows best in a mixture of 2 parts vermiculite, 1 part milled sphagnum and 1 part perlite. I have tried it in various soil mixes for potted plants

but this so-called "sterile" mixture suits it better than any of the usual house plant soil mixes. The plant is fertilized when it is showing active growth with alternate feedings of "Ortho-Gro" and "Rapid-Gro" being applied twice a month. It is always watered with lukewarm water winter and summer, for very cold water is deleterious to this warmth-loving *Begonia*.

I am told that *B. cathyana* is easily propagated by using leaf cuttings, but much better and quicker results are obtained by using top stem cuttings with at least two leaves on the stem. These root quickly in the mixture described when taken in late spring or early summer in our location. Taking top stem cuttings also forces the plant to send up new growth from the crown thus resulting in a more compact and attractive plant. Periodically some of the leaves turn yellow. These are promptly removed to keep the plant well groomed and looking beautiful. The plant in the photograph is three years old and has renewed itself several times. If any "Begonians" have given up on *B. cathyana* I do hope they will be encouraged by my experience and try it again, for when well grown it is breathtakingly beautiful and what a satisfaction to succeed with a "difficult" *Begonia*.



B. cathyana

Photo by Walter J. Haring

CLAYTON M. KELLY SEED FUND

INSTRUCTIONS —

"Begonias From Seed-Sowing and Growing" gives step by step easy to follow instructions and encouragement for beginning seed growers. Price 25 cents.

NO. 1 — *B. paranaensis* Brade

New from Brazil found growing near Aguas de Prata at an elevation of 2,900 feet. Belongs to the *Pritzelia* subgenus. Medium growth, with thick stems, large leaves with dentate margins. Huge white flower clusters in earliest spring, lasting for several weeks. Fruits have one very long wing. Plants have a new stout stem each year from the ground, but flowers on top of last year's growth. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

COMMENT:

There has been some confusion about this *Begonia* but through the combined efforts of our own Research Department and Drs. Smith and Schubert we now have it correctly identified. The picture and information that appeared in the September (page 211) 'Begonian' is in error and should be identified as *B. parviflora* according to a Botanist in Europe who has this to say—"B. *parviflora* is indeed reminiscent of *B. paranaensis*, but the former plant is bigger, the leaves much larger (up to 2 feet across) and much deeper cut into, with long subdivided lobes, while the flowers are much smaller and much more numerous and the fruits have narrower wings, which are all the same size. *B. parviflora* belongs to *Scheidweileri* section while *B. paranaensis* belongs to the *Pritzelia* section.

A piquant point is, that a species from Brazil which you sent me in May 1965 as unidentified is the true *B. paranaensis*. There is no doubt what so ever about this as it agrees completely with the very clear picture (see cover picture) that accompanies Brade's original description. I included a photograph of this beautiful plant, which is reminiscent of, although

clearly distinct, from *B. valdensium*."

Our thanks to Drs. Smith and Schubert, Thelma O'Reilly and our Botanist friend in Europe who spent so much time and effort on this identification.

NO. 2 — *B. socotrana* ✓

Herbaceous perennial with more or less deciduous branches, growth bushy. At the base we find a number of connected green bulbils which are covered with brown scales. Stems ramified, petioles four to six inches long, succulent, hairy, green. The leaves of the lower and center parts are peltate, almost circular, about four-and-a-half by four-and-a-half inches when fully grown; slightly glossy, bare, beneath pale green, hairy at the elevated veins. The upper leaves are more or less cordate or have three to five lobes. Flowers are very large and pink. The bulbils should be collected in the fall and stored in a dry place until spring. The two types of winter flowering or 'Christmas Begonias' are both descendants of *B. socotrana*. Seeds were tested and germination was evident in from three to six weeks. Not an easy plant to grow. Price 50 cents per packet.

NO. 3 — *massoniana* syn. *B. 'Iron Cross'*

Discovered by Mason in 1952. One of the most beautiful *Begonias* in cultivation. White-hairy, reddish stems and large, roundish, firm puckered leaves, Nile green, marked with contrasting bold pattern of brown-red in the form of a cross. Older leaves are overlaid with silver and covered bristly red and red-ciliate. Waxy flowers are greenish-white with maroon bristles on back. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

NO. 4 — *B. obscura* Brade

The A.B.S. research department is working on *B. ecbinosepala* and *B. obscura* and we hope to have definite information in the future. Brade states that *B. obscura*'s leaves are twice as large as those of *B. ecbinosepala* and the petioles are longer.

Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund (Continued)

As soon as we have definite information it will appear in "The Begonian." Price 50 cents per pkt.

NO. 5 — *B. cinnabarina* ✓

Bolivian Andes. Has erect zig-zag stems and leaves are slightly downy. The long, erect flower stems carry a compact panicle of three cinnabar-red, rounded flowers, two inches across. This Begonia has played an important part in shaping some of today's plants. Price 50 cents per pkt.

NO. 6 — *B. micranthera* var *ventura* ✓

Favorite tuberous type. Grows to a branching plant twenty-four inches high, laden with bright orange blooms for about five months. Blooms are as large as those of the multiflora types, sometimes measuring two inches across. Scarce in cultivation and a beautiful Begonia. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

NO. 7 — *B. acida* ✓

Brazil. Large, seersucker-puckered leaves of apple-green are round but appear to be angled by a suggestion of points where veins run out to the edge. Dainty white flowers standing well above foliage. Prefers steady warmth and humidity. Price 50 cents per pkt.

COMMENT:

A few months ago seed of this Begonia were offered, however, they were not *B. acida*. Those offered above are from a prominent Botanist who is usually correct on plant names, so we hope this is the true *B. acida*. We can only offer seed as they come labeled and are always perturbed when mistakes occur.

NO. 8 — 'Orange rubra' ✓
(*B. dichroa* x *B. 'Coral Rubra'*)

Clear green leaves sometimes faintly silver-spotted, sometimes not. Ornate clusters of large salmon-orange flowers that out shine the foliage. Beautiful plant. Fresh hand-pollinated seed that germinated in about ten days. Price 50 cents per pkt.

NO. 9 — *B. caraguatatubensis* Brade

Brazil. New species identified by Ziesenhenné and described by the collector as follows: leaves up to one foot across, beautifully shaped and textured, dark red on underside, plants about two feet tall, panicles of white flowers. At the upper end of leaf petiole were red-hairy, bristly, red wings or collars— Nice *Begonia*. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

NO. 10 — *B. octopetala* syn. *B. Grandiflora*. (L'Heritier de Brutelle)

Habit of growth is low; leaves and flowers arise directly from elongated tubers; flowers large, white. Price 50 cents per pkt.

NO. 11 — *B. Unidentified*

Species with shrubby growth and flowers like those of the Strawberry plant. There will be information on this one later. Price 50 cents per pkt.

COMMENT:

A short time ago seed of what came to us as *B. tafiensis* were offered by Seed Fund — we now have information that this was an error so now we can correct it and if you do not have Begonias that answer the following description, you do not have *B. tafiensis*. Information from Smith and Schubert. *B. tafiensis* — Argentine species of the genus *Begonia*. It belongs to the *Hyszia* section and its external characteristics resembles *B. bieronymii lindau* although it differs in the leaves which are symmetrical, round and somewhat heart-shaped at the base. It grows in rocky areas in Puna region in the province of Tucuman.

Herbaceous plant with erect stalk more or less branched with a wrinkled surface and with long fibers (2 mm) which are multicolor (in some there is a tendency toward branching) tuberous base. Leaves provided with two petiolate stipules, persistent, free, scarious, oval; edges lacinate due to presence of long fibers. Petioles wrinkled also bearing hair-like fibers as does the stalk. Leaves themselves are heart-shaped or almost circular, wider than

Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund (Continued)

long; 2-3 cm in length and 3-5 cm wide, both sides are hair-like fibers as on the stalk and petioles; principal veins more prominent on the underside than on the upper.

Blossoms may be triple, with long peduncles wrinkled and "hair-covered" as are the petioles, but "hair" less dense, from 5-15 cm long. Bracts free, oval, similar to stipules but larger, from 5-10 mm long, by 5-10 mm wide. Pedicels approximately 1-5 cm long, similar to peduncles but slimmer. Staminate flowers with 4 or 5 petals, two exterior of elliptical shape, more or less ciliate because of presence of large "hairs" up to 20 mm long, two exterior ones obovate, with edges uninterrupted and undulating, apex flattened, up to 2-3 mm long and 2-9 mm wide; anthers joined at base. Pistilate flowers with six petals, usually egg-shaped, up to 11 mm long and 8 mm wide. Three styles double lobed, stigma forming a spiral strip.

Fruit a capsul, up to 1.5 cm in length by 1 cm wide (excluding the wings); three wings (may be up to five) unequal in size, one somewhat larger, up to 1-5 cm long by 1 cm wide; bilaminate placentas with ovules on both sides; seeds ellipsoidal reticulate. —End of description, and would like to add that this is a full and authentic description and not an offer of seed. This description came to the Seed Fund written in Spanish and we wish to give full credit for translation to Mr. B. F. Jurjevic, Instructor of Spanish, Roseville High School, Roseville, California.

Fern spores —

Adiantum trapeziforme—Delicate looking, yet bold growing 'Giant Maidenhair' with slowly creeping rhizome and large two-pinnate fronds on black stems, the stalked trapezoid leaflets to two inches long and brilliant green. Price 35 cents per pkt.

Adiantum peruvianum— 'Silver Dollar' fern. Price 35 cents per pkt.

Adiantum pentaphyllum— Good basket type maiden hair. Price 35 cents per pkt.

All three ferns may be purchase for \$1.00.

SUGGESTIONS FOR GROWING FERN SPORES

Sow at any time of the year. Use bottom heat of about seventy degrees. Soil mixture should be rotted leaf mold and acid peat in equal proportions. Preferred pH range is 5.5 to 6.0.

Sow in shallow clay pans after the soil has been moistened. Spores should be thinly sown. Do not cover them except with a piece of glass or plastic sheet. Keep from direct sun; and water by setting pans in water until tiny drops form on the surface.

In high humidity, germination occurs within three weeks. These embryos should be watered carefully with a fine spray from above, to encourage fertilization. (Spores differ from seed in this way.) Fertilization takes place in six to eight weeks; then small leaves begin to develop.

Plants can be transplanted later when they are large enough to be handled without damage, and placed in two and one-half-inch pots. Lower the temperature to about sixty degrees and use the same soil mixture throughout. All that is recommended for good growth is high humidity and a semi-shaded location.

Send requests for seeds to:
Mrs. Florence Gee
Seed Fund Administrator
234 Birch Street
Roseville, California 95678



AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY BOOKLETS

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ROUND ROBIN NOTES

Fragrance:

B. 'Joe Hayden', (hybrid of 'Reichenheimi' x *mazae*), large, dark-sheened, star leaved rhizomatous *Begonia*, has the sweetest of fragrance, Ben Marcus of Brooklyn reports. "It is lovely."

Mutations:

Chet Nave of San Leandro, California, had made a cross of *B. kenworthy* x *B. boweri* and shared leaves of several sister seedlings with Chuck Tagg. One of these sported for Chuck in July, was double-curved, very compact, *kenworthyi* color with *boweri* edges and dark mahogany rhizome. It was a tough grower, good plant, and he was trying to see if the sport would retain its characteristics when propagated.

Adventitious growth:

Mae Blanton of Mesquite, Texas, had found adventitious growth on her B. 'Nelly Bly' in July, a tiny leaflet on the vein of the leaf, with appearance of a hood until close inspection. Under a magnifying glass she found two more beginning leaflets on that vein and another on the vein of a second leaf. The plant had suffered some malady earlier in the year that gave the look of red spider or thrip damage, although Mae could find no other evidence of either. Leaves kept crinkling and drying up. She had trimmed out quite a bit of the plant and set it on the greenhouse floor and leaves had been more normal. Mae also mentioned that a friend had succeeded in rooting a "hood" of *B. hispida cucullifera* (a *begonia* species with curious growths on the leaves, different from usual adventitious growth). A few tiny leaflets were grown, but may have been lost in the hot weather.

Seed Fund seed of *B. rotundifolia* had turned up one giant form for Mae while another seedling was typical *rotundifolia*. The strange one grew and grew, to produce a ten-inch basket full of *rotundifolia*-like leaves—with some difference in size

Round Robin Notes (Continued)

and shape but the same color. It was blooming in July. She couldn't decide whether it was a hybrid or a possible mutation, because it occasionally showed adventitious growth. One leaf had small leaflet at the sinus; several were twin leaves on the same petiole, back to back, and even joined occasionally.

Bulbils:

Members of Flight No. 38 were listing *Begonias* known to have bulbils, such as *B. evansiana*, *B. sutherlandii*, *B. gracilis* and its variety *martiana*. *B. gemmiphra* (Indian tuberous species) and others from the literature but perhaps not in cultivation were cited, and new ones were noted from Rudy Ziezenhenne's article in the August "Begonian." Charles Chevalier in his "Les Begonias" had indicated that *B. 'Abel Carriere'* and other *evansiana* x *rex* hybrids also had viviparous bulbils in the leaf axils; but members of the flight, most of whom had grown the silvery-leaved upright 'Abel Carriere' had not found bulbils on their plants. Carl L'Hommedieu of Oakdale, Long Island, reported his plant grew on a tuber about the size of a large marble.

Chuck was growing another *evansiana* hybrid from a bulbil given him—*B. 'Torsa'*, looking much like *evansiana* but growing much larger leaves. It was a cross with an unidentified *Begonia* called *B. Bhotan* species. Anita Sickmon, Cheney, Kansas reported growing *B. sutherlandii* for the first time. She had planted the bulbils in June, they had grown to three inch high plants by the end of September. These small plants had bulbils at the leaf axils that were so big they looked out of place on the small plants. They had bloomed.

Gesneriads:

Carl advised persons trying to cross a small *Sinningia* (horticulturally known as *Gloxinia*) such as *S. 'Doll Baby'* with a larger *Glox* to use the pollen from the larger plant on the flower of the smaller. Pollen from the smaller plant might not

be able to travel a longer distance than it normally would have to in the short flower tube of a miniature.

Hybridiaing:

Carl had lots of seed and good germination from his cross of *B. 'Maphil'* x *B. conchaefolia* last winter. He could not transplant all of the seedlings but hoped he had not missed any that might be exceptional. Seedlings were still small in August and probably would change as they matured, but so far they did not have the thick shiny leaf of *conchaefolia*, though most had its shape. Some had brown markings around the edge of the leaf, with corresponding red markings underneath. Carl also had a few seedlings in August from *B. rex* cv. 'Colorvision' that looked as if they would have the red design that Mr. Benary has been working for.

Margie Sikkelee of Dallas, Texas, said some of her seedlings of *B. kenworthyi* x *B. heracleifolia nigricans* were surprisingly small. One was medium, with three to four inch leaf shaped like that of *kenworthyi* but with coloring and vigor of *nigricans*. Her seedlings of the Stafford crosses of *B. kenworthyi* and *B. boweri nigramarga* were lovely, with green spots like window on a dark leaf.

Chuck had *B. versicolor* and *B. nurii* growing well in a ten-gallon aquarium in August. As both had been in bloom several months, he had tried repeatedly to set seeds between these, both ways, with no success. He couldn't even self them. He tried removing male blooms from tank to dry for an hour, got much pollen; still no success. He tried taking both plants out of the aquarium for an hour and then crossing. Much pollen, both ways, but blooms always dropped in a day or two.

Third and fourth leaves on seedlings of the unidentified species called 'Zip' x *B. boweri nigramarga* resembled *boweri nigramarga* for Mae Blanton. No peltate leaves so far. She also sowed seed of what she hoped was a reverse cross. She was unable to see pollen on 'Zip', so

Round Robin Notes (Continued)

propped two flowers together and left them until the male fell. Seedlings have leaves similar to *B. boweri nigramarga* also. Both sowings germinated in about ten days.

Seed germination:

Mrs. Paul Maslin, Linthicum, Maryland reports good germination with seed pan full of seedlings (from ABS seed fund); *B. acida*, *B. dregei*, *B. parilis*, *B. taylori*, *B. friburgensis*. She likes oleo tubs for planting seed. She also uses peat pots in plastic bread boxes, each bread box holds ten peat pots, it takes away the worry over dryness.

B. staudtii:

Ethel McKay, Port Orchard, Washington reports that leaves on her *B. staudtii* dried up but new leaves came at the base of her plant.

B. 'Gilsonii':

Two different plants are being grown under this name: Margie reported she had found from available writings that there was a possibility that both *B. 'Gilsonii'* and *B. 'Sylvia'* could have some *B. sutherlandii* in them. They look and act a good deal alike — she had not had bloom on her 'Gilsonii', though the plant was large — she supposes because of too much shade. It has delicate leaves and she gave it late, late sun, thinks it must not be enough.

Robins are flying full of interest and full of good material. Now is the time to join a flight!

Mrs. Anita Sickmon
Round Robin Director
Route 2, Box 99
Cheney, Kansas 67025

THE AMATEUR BEGONIAN

I live in a big old farmhouse with many windows. There are many Fir and Locust trees for shade. I have always had house plants but I quit growing hardly anything but *Begonias*. I love them so and am really hooked! I grow them everywhere in the house. My "green house" is a small glassed in porch on the north-east corner. "What do you want for Christmas, Mom?" My son asked. "Shelves", I said and shelves I got. Now my little porch is alive with *Begonias*. Woe unto anyone who passes through there and does not notice all those lovely leaves and blossoms.

I grow the "Beefsteak" *Begonia* and *B. 'Ricky Minter'* in my husband's old smoke stands and they trail to the floor. The "Lettuce Leaf" and *B. r.c. 'Can Can'* are set in my mother's old glass fruit stands. *B. r.c. 'Captain Nemo'* is in an old china flower pot that is at least sixty years old.

Winters are a bit of a problem with the furnace going but I manage the humidity factor. I must have them in the livingroom with me so I can look at them.

My husband says that soon we will have to move to the barn for the *Begonias* are going to crowd us out of the house.

Nora Shaban

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Mabel Anderson
Editor

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Do you have a question?

"Questions" sent to the Editor will be forwarded to the Officers of the A.B.S. most likely to have the answer.

PRONUNCIATION OF *BEGONIA* NAMES

By JACK GOLDING, *Kearny, New Jersey, President, Knickerbocker Branch*

Before proceeding with Part 4, it is necessary to make the following corrections: IN PART 1, "The Begonian", August 1969, page 177, right column, line 3 - correct the spelling of *echinosepala*.

IN PART 2, "The Begonian", September 1969, on page 200, in the chart of phonetic symbols I had represented the sound for the diphthong *ae* as eye, when it is the ending of a name. After a discussion with Toby Lothman of New York City, in which he showed me that this a colloquial (also the *Reformed Academic*) pronunciation, I re-checked all the references and in accordance with the Traditional English System, it should be pronounced as - ee. Therefore, in the chart opposite, *ae*, delete the words "as ending and". On page 201, line 38, change the pronunciation of the family name *Begoniaceae* to be-goh-ni-AY-se-ee.

Ruth Pease of Los Angeles, California, has written to me that the sentence starting on page 201, line 30 might be confusing, and that B. 'Prunifolia' is not a species, but a seedling of B. 'Viardi'. Therefore, I have revised this sentence to read as follows:

"First is the genus name *Begonia* and it is followed by either the species name, e. g. *vitifolia*, veye-ti-FOH-li-uh, grape leaved; or the "Fancy Name" of a cultivar, e. g. 'Helen W. King'."

The following typographical errors should be corrected. On page 201, line 29, the word "complex" should be "complete". On page 214, line 10, the pronunciation of *carolineaeifolia*, should be kar-oh-lin-e-ee-FOH-li-uh. On page 214, line 29, the pronunciation of *heracleifolia*, should be her-ak-le-i-FOH-li-uh.

IN PART 3, "The Begonian", October 1969, on page 242, line 42, the pronunciation of *viscida* should be VISS-id-uh; the letter c before the vowel i is soft as in center; thanks to Mrs. J. W. Todd of New York City for this correction.

Continuing with the pronunciation and the meaning of *Begonia* names, the following in the form of an adjective are constructed by adding a suffix to a verb base.

SUFFIX . . *ilis*, il-is, indicates capacity or ability; hence, a property or quality.

'Amabilis', am-AB-il-is, with ability to be loved; hence lovely.

gracilis, GRAS-il-is, graceful, slender; for its tall erect slender appearance.

humilis, HYEW-mil-is, low growing, for the form of this plant.

SUFFIX- . . *icans*, i-kanz, indicates resembling something so close as to be almost identical.

nigricans, NIG-ri-kanz, black, for the dark almost black color of its leaves.

SUFFIX . . *ula*, u-la, indicates tendency or action.

acutangula, ak-yaw-TANG-u-luh, making a sharp angle, for the shape of its leaf tips.

crispula, KRISP-u-luh, for the tendency of its leaves to be irregularly waved and twisted.

The active present participles with a SUFFIX . . *ans*, or *ens* are treated as adjectives and are a useful way to name *Begonias*.

fragrans, FRAY-granz, fragrant, for the scent of its flowers.

'Frutescans, fryew-TESS-enz, shrubby, bushy, for its growth.

fulgens, FUL-jenz, shining, glistening, for the surface of its leaves.

luxurians, lux-YEWR-i-anz, luxuriant, for its lush growth.

Pronunciation of Begonia Names (Continued)

pubescens, pyew-BESS-enz, downy, for the surface of its leaves.

scandens, SKAN-dez, climbing for the nature of its growth.

semperflorens, sem-per-FLOH-renz, the prefix *semper* means always and *florens*, means flowering; hence — always flowering — for its continuous blooms.

suaveolens, syew-a-VEE-o-lenz, sweet-scented, for the fragrance of its flowers.

PREFIXES are used in Botanical Latin to modify a word and form the descriptive names of some *Begonias*.

PREFIX — *di* . . (GR.), deye; or *dis*, dis, — indicates the number two, and also different or opposite characteristics.

diadema, deye-a-DEE-muh, two crowned, for the two branching sections of its inflorescence.

dichroa, DEYE-kroh-uh, two colored.

dipetala, deye-PET-al-uh, having two petals.

discolor, DIS-kol-or, of two different and usually distinct colors; for the two different colors of the faces of its leaves.

disticha, DIS-tik-uh, arranged in two opposite rows, for the attachment of its leaves to the stem.

PREFIX — *dicho*, (GR.), deye-ko — in two

dichotoma, deye-KOT-o-muh, forked in pairs, for the branching of its inflorescences.

PREFIX — *meta* — (GR.), met-uh, indicates next to, changed, after.

metachroa, met-uh-KROH-uh, with changing color, for its leaves which become purplish.

PREFIX — *ob* . . , ob, indicates inversed, reversed, the other way around.

obliqua, ob-LEYE-kwuh, lopsided, for the slight inequality of the sides of its leaves.

obscura, ob-SKYEYEW-ruh, not seen, hidden or indistinct, possibly for the marking on its leaves.

PREFIX — *sub*, (before vowels and most consonants), suc . . . (before c) suf . . . (before f), sug . . . (before g) which all indicate almost, approaching.

subnummularifolia, sub-num-yew-lay-ri-FOH-li-uh, with leaves almost resembling coins, for their round and thin shape.

There are various other examples of *Begonia* names with this prefix in the previous parts of the series.

IN PART 2 of this series, "The Begonian", September 1969, I listed some *Begonia* names that were compounds formed by joining two nouns or a noun and an adjective. Continuing with more of this type of names:

ENDING in . . *carpa* (GK) meaning fruit.

erythrocarpa, er-ith-roh-KAR-puh, with red fruit.

ENDING IN . . *caulis*, KAWL-is, means stem.

aridicaulis, uh-rid-i-KAWL-is, with a dry stem.

brevicaulis, brev-i-KAWL-is, with a short stem.

crassicaulis, krass-i-KAWL-is, with a thick or fleshy stem.

Pronunciation of Begonia Names (Continued)

mollicaulis, mol-li-KAWL-is, with a soft stem.

pychocaulis, pik-no-KAWL-is, dense or compact; hence with stems crowded together.

ENDING IN . . . *cola*, k-oh-luh — means dweller.

ficicola, feye-sik-OH-luh, fig-dweller, the plant was found growing on a Ficus (fig tree).

rupicola, ryew-pik-OH-luh, named for where it was found dwelling in rocks or on cliffs.

An interesting compound is formed by the stem *phyll* of the Greek word for leaf, *phyllon* joined with the connecting vowel 'o' to *maniaca* meaning abnormal, therefore—*phyllomaniaca*, fill-o-man-iAY-kuh, crazy leaf, for the abnormal growths on the surface of its leaves.

Occasionally a *Begonia* name will start with the Greek word pseudo, syew-do, which means resembling, but not equally — e.g. B. 'Pseudo *phyllomaniaca*' is the name of a hybrid that is almost like the species *phyllomaniaca*.

To commemorate a person an epithet for a *Begonia* can use the form of a noun. To do this, the name of the person is put in the singular genitive case and is either masculine or feminine, dependent upon the person honored.

The rules of the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature for the formation of an epithet to honor a man were given in the March 1969 "The Begonian". These rules are restated here, but in both the male (m) and female (f) forms.

1. When the name of a person ends in a vowel add *i* (m) or *ae* (f), except if the name ends in *a*, then *e* is added.

2. From a name ending in a consonant add *ii* (m) or *iae* (f), except if the name ends in *er* then *i* (m) or *ae* (f) is added. e.g.

pearcei, PEERS-eye, for Richard Pearce, its discoverer.

mazae, MAH-zee, for Don Maza of Mexico on whose ranch it was found.

bettinae, bet-TEEN-ee, for Senora Bettina Von Knoop of Mexico.

macdougallii, mak-DOO-gal-li-eye, for Thomas MacDougall of New York, its discoverer.

olsoniae, OHL-son-i-ee, for Bee Olson of California.

While I have listed only a few typical commemorative names it would be interesting to trace the history of *Begonias* through the great many people that have been honored by having a *Begonia* named after them.

At the recent 4th Eastern Regional Begonia Convention, I had discussions with some of our members concerning my use of the Traditional English System of pronunciation, instead of the Reformed Academic System. Before I started this series of articles I was prone to use the Reformed Academic pronunciations, but after checking, and not finding, even one English book of pronunciation of Botanical Latin Names that used that system, I followed the lead of L. H. Bailey, Ralph Bailey, A. W. Smith and the others, and used the Traditional English System.

Listening to the "older" members discuss their *Begonias*, I have noted that most use a mixture of both systems. It does not matter which method is used, provided we agree to use one or the other, so at least we will be consistent and stop confusing the beginners.

It is my intent to discuss in the next part the criticisms, comments, and questions that you have concerning this series. Please write to either the Editor or me to let us know what you think.

I hope that we will continue in our efforts and together establish a standardized pronunciation for all *Begonia* names.

INFORMATION PLEASE

A woman in Texas who wishes to remain anonymous asks why she can't find *B. Socotrana*. I have looked for it myself with no success. The seed fund of the 'Begonian' has offered it a few times since I have been a member and I am sure it will be offered again. Unfortunately, I've had no success in rearing the plants, but like the old adage, if once you don't succeed, try, try again.

Dr. Bill and Margaret Ireton of Bakersfield, California wanted to know if I noticed the fragrance of *B. dichroa*. I sure have, and wondered how many others did too. However that is not the only fragrant Begonia. Have you ever had a whiff of *B. 'Joe Hayden'* or *B. 'Brazilian Hearts'*, and there are so many others. In the mid-winter, when many rhizomatous *Begonias* are in bloom, go around to your plants and smell. You will be pleasantly surprised.

Many readers and members sent me cuttings and leaves and asked me for an opinion of what was wrong with their plants. I would like to set the record straight on that, and that is, I am no diagnostician.

Let me tell you how to have diseases diagnosed and where to send the plant parts and exactly what to do. In order to diagnose plant disease or pests of any kind, which may show a range of symptoms, wrap a specimen of diseased plant in a plastic bag, waxed paper or aluminum foil and put in mailing tube or crush-proof box. Write a letter giving pathological conditions as you may know and extent of the disease in the area. Put the letter into package, seal tightly and mail first class. (Remember that a diagnoses can be only as good as the sample you send.) Mail to your local or State Department of Agriculture.

For nematodes, if suspected, collect the soil from around the roots and include samples of the roots from 4-6 inches deep. Get as much soil as is thought necessary and enclose in a freezer bag, preferably, and close the open end se-

curely. If taken from the garden and not pots, then take at least a quart of soil from the area of the sick plant.

Be sure in either situation to give your name and address or insert a self-addressed stamped envelope. They'd love you for that. Mail the package as soon as possible after you collect your samples. Do not let it sit overnight as nematodes are living animals and must reach their destination alive.

For free bulletins, circulars, spray schedules, pamphlets etc., write to the Bulletin Room, College of Agriculture at your state university.

Sometimes in many large communities there are local people who could help you, such as Horticultural Societies, Botanic Gardens, and in Canada, contact the Science Service of the Dept. of Agriculture, Ottawa, Ontario.

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MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL BOARD MEETING OF THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

The annual meeting of the American Begonia Society was called to order at 3:20, September 6, 1969 in the Seminar Room at the Los Angeles County Arboretum. Charles Tagg led the Pledge of Allegiance, and Vera Naumann read the Aims and Purposes. There were 17 officers and 12 National Representatives present. The minutes of the 1968 Annual meeting were read and approved. There were 52 members present at the meeting.

Walter Pease informed the group of the passing of Col. Gale.

The annual report of the treasury was given. There was a balance of \$376.02, receipts of \$11,079.90, and disbursements of \$10,948.23, leaving a balance on hand of \$507.69 less the overdraft of the Seed Culture Bulletin Fund of \$4.22, so that the August 18, 1969 balance is \$503.47. Mr. Barnett said there were extra financial reports available to those requesting them.

Anne Rose and Gertrude Winsor reported that they had audited the Treasurer's books and found them in order.

The secretary reported for the ballot-counting committee. There were 433 ballots cast. The new officers are: President-Elect, Pearl Benell, Vice-President, John Provine, Secretary, Irene Granell, and Treasurer, Walter Barnett.

Everett Wright reported for the Library. Walter Barnett moved, 2nd by Allen Sweet, that a vote of appreciation be given to Everett and Lucile Wright for their efforts and the wonderful job they have done with the Library. Carried unanimously.

The secretary read the William Penn Branch report.

The question of Hosting the Convention was presented to the floor. Virginia Peterman of Theodosia Burr Shephard Branch in Ventura extended an invitation to the Society to Host the Convention and Show in 1970. After discussion, Walter Barnett moved, 2nd by Jim Somes that the invitation be accepted. Carried unanimously.

The Branches represented were introduced. San Francisco extended an invitation to their Fall Festival. Sacramento gained ten new members this year. Over 3,100 people attended the Santa Barbara Show. The dates of the Eastern Convention were given (September 19th and 20th) an attendance appreciated for anyone in their area at that time.

Garden Tours were arranged for Sunday morning starting at 9:30.

Walter Pease thanked the members for their help in the years work.

Mrs. H. Smith of San Francisco suggested a

commendation to Mr. Rennault who is retiring.

The new roosters are available at the Show and are \$1.25.

The meeting adjourned at 4:15.

Virginia Barnett, Secretary

CONDENSED MINUTES OF THE NATIONAL BOARD MEETING SEPTEMBER 22, 1969

The executive Board of the American Begonia Society was called to order at 8:00 p.m., President Vera Naumann presiding. A quorum was present.

The President presented slate of nominees as follows: Mabel Anderson—Editor; Iris Delameter—Co-Editor; Anne Rose—Advertising Manager; Hazel Snodgrass—Awards Chairman; Virginia Barnett—Business Manager; Edna Burkett—Historian; Gene Daniels—Photographer; Anita Sickmon—Round Robin Dir.; Pearl Benell—Membership Sec.; Rudolph Ziesenhenné—Nomenclature Dir.; Florence Gee—Seed Fund Admin.; Martha Rader—Public Relations Dir.; Margaret Taylor—Parliamentarian; Lydia Austin—Librarian. Motion to approve, carried. Roll recalled, twenty officers present.

Treasurer reported total balance \$492.77.

Proposed budget for coming year reported by Finance Committee Chairman. Life Membership fund balance \$2,288.51.

Vice President Soames suggested Presidents of Branches attend National Board meetings. President Naumann requested Representatives take suggestion back to their Branches.

Advertising Manager reported receipts of \$79.85 for month.

Editor requested that all news of Branch activities be sent before 1st of the month preceding publication.

Membership Secretary reported 59 new members, total membership 2,262.

Minutes of July Regional and Annual Meetings approved as read.

Communications: Letter read from Mr. Ziesenhenné. Re: request to furnish "The Begonian", years 1934 through 1942 to Dr. T. H. Eckhardt of the Berlin Botanical Gardens in exchange for unfinished work of Dr. Irmischer. Mr. Barnett offered to furnish photo copy paper and to find out if one of his clients would copy books. Motion made and carried authorizing Mr. Barnett to proceed.

Letter read from Theodosia Burr Sheperd Branch re: Show dates for 1970. Mr. Daniels authorized to investigate and make arrangements for best dates. Further discussion to be held over until next meeting.

Condensed Minutes (Continued)

Show Treasurer reported all bills not in, estimation of proceeds would show a profit.

Meeting adjourned 10:45 p.m.

Irene Grannell, Secretary

CULTURE OF TUBEROUS BEGONIAS

By VERA L. SCHATH

Reprinted from the November 1936 bulletin

During November most of the tuberous *Begonias* will be dormant and should be properly cured and stored away.

While the plants still have green leaves continue to water them very lightly. If they are dried too fast the tuber will tend to shrivel. The main stalk should drop off before lifting the tuber. When dug the tubers can be placed on trays in the sun or first washed with water to remove the soil and then dried. The latter way is cleaner, otherwise it would be necessary to keep shaking off the dirt as it dries from day to day.

One should make sure that the stem end of the tuber is thoroughly dry as it is here that the rot may start. Care should be taken not to skin or bruise the tuber when lifting from the ground. Exposing a cut or bruise to the sun will, as a rule, cause the injury to heal over and save the tuber from rotting.

If the tubers have to be lifted early, to make room for some other plants, they should be very carefully dug with as much soil as possible, placed in flats and kept moist until the main stalk drops off.

Tubers of potted plants can be left in the soil in the pot, placed in the sun and thoroughly dried, then stored away for the winter. They must be shaken out and planted in new soil in the spring, that is after they have sprouted.

If tubers are planted in a lath house, under a large tree or in a place well protected from frost and in well drained soil, they may be left in the ground all winter, covered with two or three inches of oak leaves, which should be carefully removed in the spring when the tubers start to sprout. My suggestion is that you try

leaving a few tubers, that are not so choice, in the ground and mulch over. The results next year will be unbelievable. As many as four or five stalks will sprout from a seedling tuber, each bearing an abundance of flowers.

The tubers that are lifted, when well dried in the sun, should be stored away in flats in a cool, dry, well ventilated location, where they will be free from frost. Some growers prefer to cover the tubers with dry peat, which is another good plan.

Rooted cuttings or small tubers will shrivel and dry out if not planted back in flats. They should be planted in shallow flats of dry leaf-molds and stored in the greenhouse or in a dry place. By watering them about February first most of them will start.

We cannot over emphasize the fact that tubers should be thoroughly dried in the sun for at least a week, two or three days is not long enough to dry out all the moisture, especially if they have been washed. It is this moisture that will start rot and decay. The sun will not injure the tuber in any way.

The most important thing to remember is to keep the plant moist as long as the stem shows green. When the proper time comes the leaves will start to drop and nature will do the rest. Drying up a plant too early only destroys the vitality it is now storing up for next years growth and flowers. A little added care and patience now will repay one next summer when tuberous *Begonias* again bloom and glorify the garden.

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IN MEMORIUM

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E. FREDERICK SMITH

E. Frederick Smith, known to his many friends of the Begonia Society as "Plantsmith", passed away at the age of 73 on August 31, 1969 after a long illness.

He developed and introduced the fertilizer "Spoonit". He is best remembered as attending the National Begonia Shows and passing out samples of his product with a cheery greeting and a warm smile. He will be missed by his many friends in the Begonia world.

MILDRED TAIT

Mildred Tait was a member of the Elsa Fort Branch. At the time of her death Mrs. Tait had been a member of our branch for 15 years.

Mildred was a person with great love of nature and all living things. The times have been many when I have wished to have her unusual talent for making plants grow. I think that love I speak of, had something to do with it.

When she came in the door she brought laughter, fun and happiness with her.

In time we may find someone to close our ranks, but there will be no one to fill Mildred's place for when she was fashioned the pattern was destroyed.

May God in His infinite wisdom give her peace and happiness forever more.

Mrs. E. Morris

LT. COL. CARROLL MORTON GALE

Lt. Col. Carroll Morton Gale passed away August 22, 1969 at the age of 89. Col. Gale had a long and distinguished career in the United States Army having served his country in the war with Spain, the 1st World War and also served in the Panama Canal Zone, The Phillipines and

at various posts around the continental United States. After his retirement in 1942 he joined the Begonia and Camelia Societies. He was honored by having a Begonia named for him, 'Col. Gale'.

Col. Gale was National President of the American Begonia Society in 1949. His loss will be deeply mourned by all who knew and loved him.

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 Mrs. V. O. Harman, Secy.
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 Phyllis Ferguson, Secy.
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CALENDAR

November 6 — Westchester Branch: Speaker Mae Tagg, her topic: "Repotting Begonias".

November 6 — Whittier Branch: Anniversary of Branch. Vera Naumann, President of A.B.S. will be the special guest and will talk on "The History of the Branch".

November 9 — Long Beach Parent Chapter: Past President Charles Tagg will speak on "Winter Begonias". Time 1:30 p.m.

November 11 — Glendale Branch: Glendale Federal Savings and Loan, Glendale Ave., Glendale. Speaker will be Alberta Logue.

November 13 — Redondo Area Branch: Whoopie Party.

November 18 — Loyal Heights Recreation Center, Seattle Washington, at 7:00 p.m. Program will include instructions on Christmas Decorations.

November 24 — A.B.S. BOARD: South Gate City Auditorium, 4900 Southen Ave., South Gate, California. Meetings are always open to members. 8:00 p.m.

NOTICE TO ALL CONTRIBUTORS:

November 1 is the deadline for all material for the December issue. Due to a change in the method of printing the "Begonian" it would be most convenient if all material was submitted as early as possible.

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