

The BEGONIAN



JANUARY, 1971

Devoted to the Sheltered Garden

VOL. 38 NO. 1

Happy New Year



Begonia 'Medora'

Photo by Gene Daniels, Black Star

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

ABOUT DELIVERY OF YOUR "BEGONIAN"

Where is my "Begonian"? Did you forget me? Do you favor some members more than others? I could go on and on quoting from letters received by members of the Board. We are very concerned and disturbed over the attitudes of those members who blame us for their "Begonians" getting lost or failing to arrive when due.

All members are mailed The Begonian at the same time in the bulk mailing except those who have paid the proper postage to receive their copy Air Mail or first class. These members are very few and most of them are overseas who don't like to wait six weeks for their "Begonian". There are NO favorites! All "Begonians" enter the postal stream at the same time in the same mail bags.

The Seed Fund depends very much on the date you receive your magazine. The magazine should be treated as first class mail but quite often it is handled as fourth class.

I wish to suggest a list of items you should check on to assure that YOU are not responsible for some of these delays, they are as follows:

1. Please check your name and address on The Begonian. Is your last name, street and city spelled correctly? Is the zip code correct? Is

your address a Street, Avenue, Boulevard, Place, Court or Circle? Many cities have, for instance, a Street and also a Place or Court etc., with identical names such as Center Street and or a Center Place. Each of the items listed above has, at one time or another, caused the Post Office to return someones magazine because we were not given the complete and correct information.

2. Are your dues sent to us on time? Stencils are pulled when dues are not received in time. We do send two notices before stencils are pulled. Did you pay your membership dues to a Branch Treasurer and they failed to send it to us on time? The ABS Membership Secretary cannot process them until they are received.

If you are not guilty of any of the above items and still your magazine goes astray, we recommend that you contact your individual Postmaster. We cannot reach the many hundreds. They are all interested in the mail going through as fast and as smoothly as possible and hearing your problem gives them an insight into what may be wrong.

Pearl Benell, *President*
(formerly Membership Secretary)

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* and companion plants;

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*.

BEGONIA BASICS

for Beginners

by Elda Haring, *Greenwich, Connecticut*



Begonia 'My Maine'
Photo by Walter J. Haring

The origin of B. 'Calla Lily' is not known but it is believed to be a sport (or mutation) of B. *semperflorens*. "A mutation", writes Bernice Brilmayer in All About Begonias, "results from a spontaneous change in a plants structure, usually in some portion of the plant such as a branch. For example, the usually plain green leaves on one stem very suddenly become streaked and splashed with white". The leaves of B. 'Calla Lily' at pot level are light green and those on the upper stalk heavily spotted or streaked with white. Above these on the growing tip are leaves of pure white and cup-shaped like the calla lily, hence its name. Flowers of the original variety were single, red or pink but hybrids have now

produced plants with double flowers and some with pure white flowers. Some cultivars like 'Calla Queen' and 'My Maine' grow to large specimen size but most of the double flowered kinds have leaves that tend to be of small size. B. 'Calla Lily', like B. *schmidtiana* needs to be grown quite dry. Water when the soil feels dry then water thoroughly and do not water again until the soil feels dry. If the tips of the shoots soften and fall off the soil is too wet. If the leaves seem papery

with brown edges and leaves suddenly appear transparent, it is too dry. In winter when it is resting, give water very sparingly. B. 'Calla Lily' likes a cool atmosphere, from 50 to 60 degrees but will do well at 70 degrees daytime temperatures with a 5 or 10 degree drop at night. It is much slower growing than either B. *semperflorens* or B. *schmidtiana* and like the latter, stem cuttings rot easily. In my experience the best time to take cuttings or crown divisions of this one is in the early spring or early autumn.

Keep 'Calla Lily' in bright light with either early morning or late afternoon sun. Too much sunshine will turn white leaf edges pink and sometimes papery and browned. In

my greenhouse I keep it on a shelf where it is lightly shaded by a shelf above. A canopy of cheese cloth is sufficient if your greenhouse is very sunny. In a south or west window of a cool room away from heat or radiators, it does very well during the cold winter months. Keep in mind that this plant is a very slow grower. Patience is the watch-word. In late winter or early spring or when it shows signs of renewed growth, feed twice a month with ½ strength Rapid-Gro, Peters or Hyponex.

B. 'Calla Lily' needs to be slightly pot bound to be at its best. Carefully remove the plant from its pot. If the root ball comes out intact, retaining the shape of the pot, it will benefit by being moved to the next size pot. If soil is left in the bottom of the pot the plant is not ready for repotting. As with *B. schmidiana*, when the plant has bloomed for many months, stems will separate and fall over. That is the time to cut them back to allow the plant to renew itself or remove from the pot and divide the crown into sections. These rooted sections may be potted to 3 inch pots or placed three to a 5 inch pot. Beginners would be advised to use divisions rather than attempt stem cuttings. If you do decide to take stem cuttings, remove them down at the crown level, taking care to take plenty of green leaves. The white leaves lack chlorophyll and usually will not root.

All of my *Begonias* grow in a mixture of 2 parts garden loam, 1 part peat and 1 of sand. If I do have to resort to packaged potting mixes, I add 1 pint perlite and 1 of vermiculite to a quart bag of the mix. The soilless mixes are good for *B. schmidiana* and 'Calla Lily', but I also like

to add 1 part of sand to the mix. Although some authorities recommend the use of rotted manures in soil mixes for *Begonias*, I would not advise the inexperienced grower to use manure at all for if not correctly used they can burn tender roots and cause stem rot. Soil conditions vary so greatly that it would be wise to ask the advice of your friends or your local garden nursery about potting mixes. In some areas, natural soils are too highly alkaline for *Begonias*. In others, nematodes may be present. Nematodes are also called eel-worms. If present in the soil they cause root-knot resulting in damage to the plants. Call your County Agriculture Agent or write to your State Agriculture office and ask for leaflets on soil in your area. These leaflets are greatly helpful. From the same source you can usually obtain leaflets on Care and Culture of House Plants, which includes instructions for suitable soil mixes. Taylor's Encyclopedia of Gardening also contains information on soils in the various states. Look for this information under the name of your state. It will also give the address of your State Agriculture station which will supply you with a list of publications available.

In the *B. semperflorens* division there is another *Begonia* with variegated leaves, called 'Charm'. I understand that this is a seedling of *B. 'Calla Lily'* from a cross made by Logee in 1948. This *Begonia* is inclined to grow quite compact. Flowers are pink. Be sure to give it the same care as suggested for *B. 'Calla Lily'* for it to perform at its best.

VISIT A BRANCH THIS MONTH

BEGONIAS AT WAGENINGEN

by Jane Neal, *Research Representative, England*

Growing in the Plant Station at Wageningen, Holland is the most comprehensive collection of *Begonia* species in Europe, possibly in the world. Complete, that is, as regards those species in present cultivation.

Definite identification of many has been made difficult by the complete lack of any authoritative work on the genera. Only Dr. Irmischer has provided some basis on which to work and this is only available to those who can read German. Add to this a load of synonyms and inaccurate identifications and the chaos is complete.

The Karyograms (chromosome counts) helps only occasionally, for they show only a strange "national" tendency. Indian species are almost all 20 chromosomes, move to Africa and they climb to 26-28. When the genera begins to reach the outposts of its territory, counts climb to the limits of polyploidy, i.e., *B. acutifolia* with 156 chromosomes.

The chromosomes are small and many appear to be fragmentary and so are difficult to count. This would seem to be typical of a tropical genera. (Darlington and Stebbins)

No basic haploid count is yet in sight. While a species providing this may yet turn up, it is my theory that the parent species that gave rise to our present plants are now extinct.

The "bits" present in many species mitotic cells, may, or may not, be the "B" chromosomes mentioned by many authorities. These "B" chromosomes, always very small, and showing a tendency to alter in number within a species, when present, have, to date, no definite explanation, either of their use to the

species in question nor their apparent ability to come and go as they please. (Darlington)

That the entire genera is "wind pollinated" cannot be ruled out. All the signs are present — males open first, males predominate and anthers and stigmas are to a great extent, extruded. Another pointer, supplied by Wageningen, was that the pollen grains are small, dry and featureless. All of these are present in the wind pollinated plants.

It is a fact that much of the botanical matter regarding this genera, even of the entire family, comes under the heading of "not proven".

Growing conditions at Wageningen and methods are of considerable interest. A large airy house is heated by water pipes. The benches are of the "closed" type — concrete troughs are filled with damp peat and the plants, in their pots, are sunk in this to their rims. The potting compost is also peat, to which is added a complete fertilizer and calcium to bring up the P.H. to the required level. Then a regular feeding with liquid seaweed fertilizer is commenced. The peat in all cases — bedding or potting — is a coarse sphagnum moss peat. Not milled or refined in any way, merely broken up to a fairly coarse consistency. Plants so grown are magnificently strong and healthy.

Formula

To 1 cubic yard of peat-mold
3 kilograms of Dolomite lime
3 kilograms of compound fertilizer
(15 N — 5 P — 15 K)
300 grams of trace elements
(Formula in small quantities and our

terminology. M. Carleton L'Hommedieu

Formula

1 bushel peat
5 ounces Dolomite Lime
5 ounces fertilizer (15 - 5 - 15)
½ ounce trace elements

It is worthy of note that no soil enters these houses.

All those species that require very high humidity are grown on the "greenhouse within a greenhouse" principle. Portions of the benches are enclosed in glass frames and these are kept under canvas covers so that a maximum humidity is maintained. These small greenhouses are always situated over the hot pipes.

To comment too freely on their identification would be an impertinence on my part - but I did leave them with one or two "question marks" to think about.

With regard to *B. richardsiana* syn. *suffruticosa* for one. The plant they have under this title is the same as the plant I have raised for many years as *B. richardsiana*, but their *B. dregei* differs in many ways from the plant I have under this name. I have sent Mr. Karper seed from this for I believe that they have *B. richardsiana* also *B. suffruticosa* but not *B. dregei*.

I have also sent them seed from my "geranium" leaved species. When I showed them this unidentified plant, Professor Doorenbos looked at it then said "but this has no right to exist".

Again, it is entirely my own opinion but I believe that this entire group of "Africans" is very closely related, even possibly no more than sub-species. *B. parva* and *B. mannii* are almost identical, *B. mannii* has smaller leaves, male and female flowers, *B. parva* has only female. My

own plant of *B. parva* has produced, in its life, two imperfect males, but produces no seed, nor can I find that it could have any vegetative means of reproduction. Either this is not a species or it is another that has not been "well collected". A dioecious form where only one part came into the collectors hands. I will, however, stick my own neck out and suggest that it is no more than an aberrant form of *mannii*.

It must be born in mind with these polyploid groups, there is always the individual who reverts to a triploid and so becomes entirely sterile. This matter of anomalous or questionable species runs through the genera. But the definition of a species is more and more in question - it too is a matter of opinion. It would seem that more and more it becomes just a useful "handle" to identify a group and seed from many such will only result in "hybrid swarms". Such results many of us have achieved, in the past, when growing from seed.

B. tomentosa, that has aroused so much conjecture, still remains in doubt. The cutting from Thelma O' Reilly, the plants that I have raised from ABS seed, the plant grown from a cutting from Liverpool Botanic Garden and the plant raised from more ABS seed and growing at Wageningen, are all entirely different.

B. tomentosa, as grown in England, is a dwarf - American *tomentosa* is a large plant with violently red backs to the leaf - my seed plants are small and almost recumbent - the plant at Wageningen is also large but has only red edged leaves. The same applies to *B. itaguassuensis* (*itaguassuense*). My plants from ABS seed are large with almost upright rhizomes and

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

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differ only slightly from the plants grown in this country as *acetosa*. Dutch *B. acetosa* are similar to ours but Dutch *itaguassuensis* (*itaguassuense*) again lacks the violently red back to the leaf. Their plants resemble mine in every way but this, for there the leaves have only a covering of red hairs. The chief difference of my plant from *B. acetosa* is that *B. itaguassuensis* (*B. itaguassuense*) has a more pronounced "drip point", also the leaf does not "spoon" as does *acetosa*. One possible explanation is light — but my plants show no lessening of their color in the winter. Seed from both might be interesting.

The species identified as *B. echinosepala* goes once more into question also. At Wageningen they have *B. echinosepala*, *B. obscura* and *B. dietrichiana*. If one had only a description to go on, these three plants could very well be confused. All have a ridged (sulcate) stem, all have oblong, finely serrate leaves, all are abruptly acuminate, all have small white flowers, males white hairy, all have brown papery persistent stipules. The plant identified as *echinosepala* differs only in its more spreading habit and a leathery leaf, also slightly larger flowers. *B. obscura* is slightly more upright and has rather coarser serrations on the leaves — *B. dietrichiana* has narrower leaves and more red on the back than the others. Till I returned home and examined my plant, I had decided that it was *B. dietrichiana*. Now I think I may well have yet another member for this company — for the leaves on my plant seem crisper than any of the others, greyer on the surface and redder on the back. Only when cuttings and seed

have grown will comparison possibly settle this controversy, for it must always be born in mind that my plant could merely by an ecotype. That is — my growing conditions have caused the slight difference.

They have the semp species too, and here the tremendous dominance of some species is well displayed. Except for the wide variation in color of the hybrid semps one might well be looking at the species. The leaves of this last may be rounder and a paler green and the flowers a pale delicate pink — apart from that they are the semps we know.

My big shock came when I found they had identified the plant we grow as *B. plageoneura* as *B. cubensis*. I pointed out one item they had missed — the semi-double pinkish flowers — they sent them Miln Redhead's paper on this species. I think that here, they are wrong. Mac MacIntyre has obtained a cutting from Glasgow of *B. cubensis* and says the two do not resemble each other when seen together but admits that going only on a description, they could be confused, particularly as the only description seems to be very inadequate.

I was not prepared to find that the African *B. staudtii* was such a golden yellow. They grow it in one of the "cases" and they are huge plants. It is difficult for many of us to get such humidity as they obviously require. *B. paulensis* also grow under these conditions and once again I found it hard to recognize my plant. The problem is — how to raise the heat and humidity for these "Turkish Bath" characters.

The Andean group was imposing — *cinnabarina*, *veitchii*, *davisii*, *froebelli* and *boliviensis*. All but *B. clarkii* were present. *B. froebelli* is

most attractive—the buds are covered with a greyish powder, then open to a vivid scarlet.

Mr. Karper and Professor Doorenbos both brought up the point that I have made in the past on more than one occasion — this is, that no one has examined a population “in the field”. When this has been done with a family, the results have frequently been astonishing — showing that when you have a plant population that covers a wide territory, the individuals at one end of this territory can differ radically from individuals at the other end — differ so much that in the past such individuals have received species status. This could very well be the explanation of many of the anomalous and confused *Begonias*. Many are, in fact, blood brothers. So much of the

taxonomist work, in the past, was done on a dried and pressed herbarium specimen and the botanist working on them never saw a live plant, let alone a colony growing in the wild, under natural conditions. I have seen herbarium specimens of *dietrichiana* and *echinosepala* and I could not decide which was which, but after seeing the living plants one is no longer in doubt.

One last species to discuss — *B. taylorii*. This has produced a small plant very like a recumbent *martiana* — but Professor Doorenbos says it is in no lists and it is not a correct botanical name. Who collected it and who described it? This is another of the difficulties of getting the family into some sort of order — so many of our species are of unknown origin.

HELP NEEDED FOR NEW BEGONIA CATALOGUE

by Rudolf Ziesenhenné, *Nomenclature Director*

The Board of Directors of the American Begonia Society has authorized the Nomenclature Director to proceed with preparation of a new *Begonia* list in two parts, one for *Begonia* species and one for *Begonia* cultivars. The Board has also voted to establish a savings account in which to deposit funds for the cost of preparing and publishing the new Begonia Catalogue of The American Begonia Society. It is hoped that members and Branches will send donations to the fund to the A.B.S. treasurer, Mr. Walter J. Barnett, 1213 South Mullender Avenue, West Covina, California 91790.

We need member volunteers to help with the work of compiling

data for the new catalogue, especially persons with research experience who have access to large libraries having botanical and horticultural reference material. Interested members who are willing to spend some time looking up references which will be assigned to complete the work, should contact me at 1130 North Milpas Street, Santa Barbara, California 93103.



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if off the press. Order your
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Cliff Ebeling

6157 Lime Ave., Long Beach, Calif. 90805

ROUND ROBIN NOTES

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!

The New Year will bring forth some very rewarding studies. A lot of work hours spent researching, experimenting, keeping notes and sharing with others, will be the fulfillment of many flight members in 1971.

Drying Begonia bloom:

Ruth Stanley of Bellefontaine, Ohio has been experimenting with drying *Begonia* bloom and has had a break through in keeping the color true. She put about ½ inch of Flower Dri in a pan and placed the bloom on it, then covered it with the Flower Dri. She put it in the oven at 250° for 10 minutes then let it set until cold. Flower Dri by itself did not keep the color but the heat with it did. The bloom is the most fragile she has handled. She puts the glue on the paper then places the bloom between the sheets of paper, one is transparent so the bloom color shown is very good.

Seed:

Ruth Planted *B. taylorii* seed and they were up in less than two weeks. She is still using Jiffy 7's crumbled up and put in seed pans and does not have any scum, mold or algae.

Adeline Putzier of Grove City, Minnesota planted seed of *Begonias olsoniae* and *paulensis* and had good germination with seedlings growing on. Lavice Masline of Linthicum, Maryland reported she had seedlings growing of: *Begonias acida*, *mollicaulis*, *incarnata*, *acaulis engerli paranaensis nelumbifolia*, *maculata*, *taylorii*, *fagifolia*, *rotundifolia* and *kenworthyii*.

Seedlings:

Ruth has seedlings of *B. heracleifolia* x 'Chantilly Lace' that are very interesting. She is hoping for a finger leaf with dark edges and chartreuse centers. Ruth found that it helps the weak seedlings to put liquid fertilizers on them, she uses Shultz, 6 drops to 10 ounces of water.

B. herbacea:

Murry Morrison of the Bronx had blooms all winter on his *B. herbacea*, and tried setting seed, capsule seemed to develop but got no germination. Ruth tried the pollen on other plants but seed pod did not stay on long enough to mature the seed. Dr. Harlow stated in his address at Eastern Convention, it took six weeks to ripen tuberous seed. Ruth wondered if it would take that long for other *Begonias*, she had never timed them but thought it would be a good thing to do this winter. Murray had his *B. herbacea* in a hollowed out fern log under his lights. The bloom was very tiny coming from the rhizome down in the foliage.

Propagation:

Wanda Welch of Whittier, California reported, in the summer, that she had an 'Iron Cross' that had two large leaves that had turned crisp around the edges. She took them off to make the plant more tidy and decided to see if she could propagate these leaves. She trimmed them down to the size of half a dollar and put them in a pot, then placed the pot in a terrarium. The pieces that were left from her trimmings, she put in a flower bed on the north side of the house and covered the cut

edge with a little sandy soil. A plantlet came from each vein on those outdoors while the ones in the terrarium just "pooped" out.

Mike Michelson of Miami, Florida writes that he has a hard time growing and propagating *B. ludwigii*. The stem he takes cuttings from seems to rot back all the way to the soil. He had two seed pods on *B. eminii* that he was watching closely (so he thought) but one exploded and sent the seed into surrounding pots. He is watching to see if they will germinate where they fell. The seed is different from other *Begonias* in that it is much larger and different shape.

Pollen Bank:

Details have not been finished on setting up a pollen bank but discussion continues in Flight No. 38.

B. versicolor:

Mae Blanton of Mesquite, Texas reports that *B. versicolor* is a habitual bloomer for her. At the end of October *B. violaeifolia* was putting

up buds so was hoping to cross these two. Mae has her *B. versicolor* growing in a 10 inch bubble bowl in East window of her home. When Mae got this *Begonia* it was a small plant with a portion torn from one leaf. After the plant grew a little she decided to remove the leaf and see if she could propagate it. She injured the stem a bit and put it down in a mix, but grew impatient so took it from the mix and put it in the bubble bowl with mother plant. In two or three weeks a tiny plantlet was showing at the sinus of the leaf which was above the moss level. The largest leaf was the size of a dime and another new leaf was coming, all this had taken place in 5 weeks.

If you want to be a part of one or more of these interesting flights, tell how you grow *Begonias*, your choice of flights and write:

Mrs. Anita Sickmon
Round Robins Director
R. R. No. 2, Box 99
Cheney, Kansas 67025

NOTES ON JUDGING AND SHOW PROCEDURES

by Ruth Pease, *Judges Course Director*

Several have asked about the course we are using in the present judging class sessions held in Inglewood, California. We are using the same course prepared in 1965. Basically, the information was good in 1965 and will continue to be good for years to come. What we are doing is taking the 1965 course, discussing each of its lessons and noting where changes have taken place in classification of *Begonias*, the point scoring system, procedures used at our Begonia and Shade Plant Shows.

Homework is required and members taking the course will use the

currently approved classification as they write about their *Begonias*. Of course, those attending the classes will have the benefit of classifying and point scoring at each class session. However, we realize there are those who will want to know of these changes, who will want to know how to judge according to newer methods of procedure, so the discussions are being taped and the printed copies may be available as individual lessons to supplement the 1965 course or as a full unit at the end of the class sessions. We are not

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 14)

CLAYTON M. KELLY SEED FUND

No. 1 — *B. viscida* Zies.

Distinctive tuberous species from Mexico. Upright, hairy and dioecious (male and female flowers on different plants). Leaves are 6 x 4 inches, golden green with sparsely scattered silver spots, covered with short bristly hairs on upper surface. Lovely pale green flowers. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

SUGGESTION: Sowing medium may be a little wetter than for most *Begonias* and don't sow all of the seed at one time, the first try may not be successful.

No. 2 — *B. goegoensis* — Sumatra

Handsome *Begonia* with lily-pad leaves of bronzy-green with lighter green veins on square stems with pink flowers produced in late winter. The leaves are puckered and present a most unusual appearance. Has periods of active growth but grows well at 60 to 60° during the winter months. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 3 — *B. bradei* — Brazil

Stems and both surfaces hairy covered like a dense velvety carpet. Underside of leaves vividly crimson, green above. Flowers large and white; crimson hairs on outside of petals. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 4 — *B. philodendroides* — Mexico

Novelty plant, leaves like *Philodendron dubium* — smooth, leathery, deeply lobed; large white flowers; underground tuber-like rhizome. New leaf and flower stems come up through the soil. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 5 — *B. decora* Staph.

Introduced by Fr. Saunders from Perak, Maylay. Short, succulent, thickly hairy brown bracts and hairy rhizomes. Grows bushy, about 4 to

6 inches tall. Petioles 1½ to 6 inches long; reddish-green, thickly covered with white hairs. Leaves egg-shaped, long, pointed, deeply lobed at base, about 2 to 3 inches in size, serrate dentate. Top leaves beautiful reddish brown, on and near the veins yellowish green, covered with thick set papillae (like *imperialis*) and short hairs, beneath red, green on the veins, hairy in spots. Flowers in spring, large pink. A real beauty. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 6 — *B. olsoniae* Syn. *B. vellozoana* — Brazil

Herbaceous, 8 to 12 inches tall. Stems short, oblique, up to 5½ inches long, rooting at the stipules. Leaves oblique, broadly ovate subauricular, cordate, with a closed basal sinus. Palmately 8 nerved 4 to 5 inches long, 5 to 8 inches broad, hispid-pilose on both surfaces, with small fimbriate scales on the nerves beneath, green above with a whitish zone on the veins, paler below and occasionally reddish. Flowers are whitish, some times the outer rosy. *B. olsoniae* is considered one of the most beautiful *Begonias* in recent years and is said to rival *B. masoniana* in beauty. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 7 — *B. lubbersii* — Brazil

Unlike any other *Begonia* yet introduced. Silver-splashed, dark boat-shaped leaves with a rare look of *Caladium humboldtii*. Exotic. Flowers white or pinkish-white, depending on the light; very large blooms producing equally large seed capsules. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 8 — *B. Masoniana* — Syn. *B. 'Iron Cross'* — Maylaya

Seeds produced in Europe. Introduced by Mason in 1952 and said to

be one of the most beautiful *Begonias* in cultivation. Leaves are large and puckered, Nile green, marked with contrasting bold pattern of brown-red resembling an iron cross. Stems are white-hairy and reddish. Flowers are waxy, greenish-white, with maroon bristles on back. Planting method should be the same as other rare seed, allowing from 4 to 6 weeks (sometimes longer) for germination. No special handling is necessary. Due to the length of time required for germination, moisture content of planting medium should be carefully watched, and medium should not be allowed to become too wet or too dry. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 9 — *B. metallica* — Brazil

Erect, bushy, hairy; leaves coarsely toothed, glossy olive-green with metallic purple veins above, red-veined beneath; flowers large, light pink, pink-bearded without. Price 50c per pkt.

No. 10 — *B. palmaris* A.DC. — Mexico

Stems erect; petioles to 4 inches long; leaves roundish, to 8 inches long, usually palmately lobed, sometimes merely once-cleft between the base and the tip, slightly green, slightly hairy above and on the nerves beneath, margins toothed and ciliate, flowers in dense axillary clusters. Price 50c per pkt.

No. 11 — *B. hemsleyana* — China

Shiny green leaflets radiate from stem ends like umbrella ribs; flowers lovely pink. Leaves will produce viviparous plants. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 12 — *B. maculata* — Brazil

Silver spotted leaves. Leaves lobed and toothed, dark dull-green; flowers pink. Price 50c per pkt.

No. 13 — *B. veitchii*

Tuberous species not often seen; large vermilion flowers. Price 50c per pkt.

No. 14 — *B. pearceii*

Fairly widely grown today; contributed yellow flowers and brown-shaded leaves to early and modern hybrids. Price 50c per pkt.

No. 15 — *sc semperflorens*, mixed.

From England, in all colors, some doubles, some variegated. Price 50c per pkt.

No. 16 — *B. micranthera* var. *venturii*

Favorite tuberous type. Grows to a branching plant 24 inches high, laden with bright orange bloom for about 5 months. Blooms are larger than those of the multiflora types, sometimes measuring 2 inches across. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

FOR THE GREENHOUSE

Streptocarpus polantha

Originally from Kew Gardens, England. A miniature and a very charming species that requires high humidity and shade. Price 50c per pkt.

Anigozanthus humilis

'Cat's Paw', collected by a friend in the Australian outback. Price 50c per pkt.

Anigozanthus viridis

Green 'Kangaroo Paw'. Also collected in Australian outback. Price 50c per pkt.

Anigozanthus belong to the Amaryllidaceae family and are grown for their reddish-green flowers in a cool greenhouse.

Please send request for seed to:

Mrs. Florence Gee
Seed Fund Administrator
234 Birch Street
Roseville, California 95678

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11)

attempting to rewrite the present course. For the present, it must be used along with the newer printed material.

No test will be given at the end of the course. Members interested in becoming ABS Judges will turn in homework with each lesson. Study will be involved. The homework cannot be completed without concerted effort, research in reference books, observations of our *Begonias*. As to actual judging procedures, homework on this involves what is already printed in the 1965 course and what will be discussed in class. With this much study, we feel a test at the end of the course is unnecessary. Homework will reveal where further clarification is needed. This then will be taken up in class.

A question asked recently involves the usage of the Classification of Begonias for Show Purposes Book. What do we do when a *Begonia* classified as having leaves from 3 to 6 inches in the book is entered with 8 inch leaves? It would be entered in the 6 to 12 inch class. The Classification of Begonias for Show Purposes book is a guide. The beauty of the present system of classification of rhizomatous *Begonias* by measuring their leaves gives an exhibitor a better chance in competition, having his plant with 8 inch leaves compete with the same variety of the same size, but in its proper "size" class.

Many questions are asked during our class sessions. We will try to bring some of them to you through this column.

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RESEARCH REPORT

M. Carleton L'Hommedieu,
Research Director

Since my last report in the November issue of The Begonian, I have received two more donations to the Research Fund: Jack Golding of the Knickerbocker Branch and the Orange County Branch of California. We now have \$587.52 in the Fund. This is very encouraging to me as I felt that we had arrived at the end of the road with the donations for the Fund, until these two donations gave me a renewed hope. I feel that a number of Branches are still skeptical, so the Fund no doubt will have to prove itself.

I have received a letter from Professor Rutland of the Horticulture Department of Georgia University in which he had submitted two proposals for research with *Begonias*. One is with Artificial Media as Related to Water Capacity and Availability to *Begonias* Growing in the Greenhouse or Home. The second one is Light Sources and Intensities for Growing *Begonias* in the House Without Water Deficit. Both are of practical value to our members. As soon as definite plans are completed satisfactorily for a project, I will immediately notify all of the Branches that have contributed to the fund, as I feel that this is one of my obligations to these members.

An article written by Professor Rutland on the Slow Release Fertilizers will soon appear in The Begonian.

Jane Neal, our Research Representative in England, has sent me a report of her trip this summer to Wageningen, Holland. She was able to see Dr. Doorenbos and succeeded in answering some of the *Begonia*

problems and gave them some new ones to think about. You will soon see her report in The Begonian.

Thelma O'Reilly has many herbarium specimens ready to send to Dr. Schubert at the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University. She has also collected considerable information on the adventitious growth of certain *Begonias* and will soon have an article on the subject for the magazine. Thelma and Carrie Karegannes have spent many hours researching many questionable species. I have been able to intercede for Thelma in contacting Dr. Doorenbos on certain species.

The recent project with the Branches concerning the Herb. Warwick question sheet which was explained in the November issue is beginning to create interest with the members.

SUCCESSFUL SEED GERMINATION *

by Dr. Grant McGregor, *Research Dept.*

Experiments in germinating seeds of *Begonias* and *Nemesia* were carried out at the University of Reading, England.

Seeds of *Begonia semperflorens* ('Dwarf Carmen') were tested at temperatures of 68°, 77° and 86° F. with a short exposure to low intensity daylight every other day. The best germination was at 77° F. (71%) while germination at other temperatures dropped to 64%. When *Begonia* seeds were exposed to 12 hours of fluorescent light each day compared to controls held in darkness, it was found that light markedly stimulated germination. From 62% to 100% germinated in light after 8 days compared with 4% or less in darkness.

COVER PICTURE

B. 'Medora' originated in Medora, Illinois as a chance seedling. Small leaved, upright growing, branches drooping, leaves silver spotted, glossy green with bright pink stipules; petioles short, red, giving the plant a pink glow as the pink flowers are very few; makes a beautiful basket plant.

IN MEMORIUM

Mrs. Fay Wilkens, a member of the Dallas County Branch for many years, passed away October 20, 1970. She will always be remembered by her many friends as one who loved to share her plants with others.

Similar results were obtained with 9 other varieties of *Begonia semperflorens*. The addition of potassium nitrate and potassium nitrite had no effect while thiourea was inhibitory.

In another experiment two soilless composts were compared for seed germination, comprising 50% (by volume) mixtures of perlite and peat and sand and peat. The seeds were grown on the surface of the compost and germinated at 68° F. in growth rooms under fluorescent tubes of about 1,000 foot candles. The boxes were covered with transparent plastic film to prevent drying out. There was no significant difference in the compost, both were satisfactory. When *Begonia* seeds were watered from above, poor results were obtained. Very satisfactory germination was obtained in 5 days when the boxes were placed on moist sand and irrigated from the bottom.

*J. Pollard and E. H. Roberts. Successful Germination of *Begonia* and *Nemesia* Seeds. *Grower*, 1968; 70, p 374.

FIFTH EASTERN BEGONIA CONVENTION

From any angle the Convention in Westbury, New York was a total success. The many activities and lectures kept things going at a busy pace until closing time on Saturday.

The tour of Planting Fields was held Friday morning at which time the ABS Research Director, Mr. Carl L'Hommedieu spoke about the Research Projects.

Professor H. Gilbert Harlow, developer of the Harlow Hybrid tuberous *Begonias* was guest speaker at the Friday evening dinner. He illustrated his lecture with slides on his various hybrids he has developed using both day-light and fluorescent lighting.

The morning Seminar on Saturday was conducted by Dr. Bernice G. Schubert, curator at Arnold Arboretum, who illustrated her lecture with slides showing the drawings and descriptions of *Begonias* as they appeared in some very early books of plants.

The Friday afternoon Seminar was conducted by Mrs. May Taft Drew of the William Penn Branch and her "star pupil", Mrs. Fausta Waite who demonstrated propagation of rhizomatous *Begonias*. This was followed by a Seminar on Growing *Begonias* Under Lights with an illustrated lecture by Mrs. Orpha Fox of the Bessie R. Buxton Branch.

At the Awards Banquet, Mrs. Belva Kusler the originator of those outstanding *Begonia* cultivars, was guest speaker. In honor of her contributions of *Begonia* cultivars to the world, Mr. Jack Golding, President of the host Branch presented Mrs. Kusler with a scroll in appreciation.



Jack Golding and Belva Kusler
Photo by Britton Logan

All of the lectures were taped in the hope that they will be transcribed for reprinting in The Begonian.

The Flower Show was judged by accredited ABS Judges and they used a modified version of the ABS point scoring system to evaluate the plants. There were 148 entries in the competitive exhibits from all over the Eastern Area. Some 100 *Begonias* were exhibited in non-competitive displays. *Begonias* having either *B. daedalia* or *B. strigillosa* parentage were exhibited by Carrie Karegeannes. *Begonias* growing in rocks and under lights were another of the non-competitive exhibits.



Mildred Thompson, Winner of Best in Show for *B. foliosa*.

Photo by Edward Thompson

Trophy Winners

Best in Show: won by Mildred Thompson for *B. foliosa*.

Sweepstakes won by Jack Golding

Best semperflorens won by Jack Golding

Division and Specialty Trophies

Best in Show by a Novice — won by Mark Golding for Collection in a Bottle

Best Kusler Hybrid — won by Murray Morrison for *B. 'Clara Elizabeth'*

Best Shrub Like — won by Jack Golding for *B. 'Richmondensis'*

Best Shrub Like by a Novice — won by L. Gillis Long for *B. serratipetala*

Best Cane Like — won by Murray Morrison for *B. 'Clara Elizabeth'*

Best Thick Stemmed — not jointed — won by Elda Haring for *B. 'Richard Robinson'*

Best Rhizomatous — won by Elda Haring for *B. 'Bunchi'* seedling.

Best Rhizomatous by a Novice — won by Marilyn Bottjer for *B. rotundifolia*

Best Rex Cultorum — won by Jack Golding for a rex cultorum

Best Semi-tuberous — won by Toppy Todd for *B. dregei*

Best Hanging Basket — won by Mildred Thompson for *B. foliosa*

Best Collection of Begonias — won by Elda Haring for *B. dark pustulata*, *silver pustulata* and 'Emerald Jewel'

Best Novel Method of Growing — won by Mark Golding for a collection of *Begonias* growing in a bottle. *Begonias acida*, 'Beatrice Haddrell', *heracleifolia nigricans*, *masoniana*, r.c. 'Old Smoky', *richardsiana*.

Trophy Donors

Bea Hessel	Murray Morrison
Jack Golding	Adele Zemansky
Western Pennsylvania Branch	
William Penn Branch	L. Gillis Long
Gertrude Ferris	Vera Naumann

DID YOU KNOW?

The lovely small leaved hirsute *Begonia* 'Nelly Bly' was named by the originator, Mrs. Eva Kenworthy Gray, for her little sister who sang the song "Nelly Bly" at the age of four years? Mrs. Gray's plant was introduced way back in 1924 and was said to have a red flower, a favorite color of the younger sister. However, most of the plants grown today have pink or white flowers so heavily covered on the outside with rose or red hairs that it appears to have red flowers.

(Picture and text, Jan. 1944, pp 234-235-236)

Happy New Year



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Point Scoring System for Judging Begonias \$1.25

A Suggested Guide to Classification of Begonias for Show Purposes \$1.50

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PLANT NUTRITION

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Fifteen elements are known to be essential for the nutrition of plants. Three; carbon, hydrogen and oxygen are obtained from water and the atmosphere, the balance from the soil. These minerals in the soil can be utilized only in solution and absorbed through the root hairs. When foliar feeding is practiced there is absorption of the minerals through the leaves.

Nitrogen (N) stimulates vegetative development. In excess, it results in an over-luxuriant growth of foliage at the expense of flowers and fruit; cellular structure is weakened and resistance to disease appreciably lowered.

Phosphorus (P) is essential in all functions of growth. It is particularly associated with production of fruits and seeds. It also induces good root development, contributes toward the formation of strong cell walls and in general hastens maturity. A deficiency of phosphorus turns the underside of leaves a reddish-purple color — plants mature slowly.

Pottasium (K) promotes general vigor of the plant and it increases the resistance to certain diseases. It also plays an important part in sturdy root formation. In general, it has a balancing influence on other plant nutrients. A deficiency turns leaves an ashen gray color, developing brown edges and they crinkle and curl. Later they turn bronze.

Trace Elements are boron, iron, manganese, molybdenum, supher and zine. The term "trace" refers not to the amount of the element in the soil, but in the amount needed by the plant. Although these ele-

ments are needed only in infinitesimal amounts, they are of great importance and may mean the difference between healthy and sickly, stunted growth. A number of plant diseases are caused by a lack of one or more of the trace elements.

Complete fertilizers are usually based on a ratio of 1% nitrogen, 2% phosphorus and 1% potash or 1% N, 3% P and 1% K or any desired multiple of these ratios; i.e., 2-6-2, 5-10-15, 15-30-15. Any analysis of a complete commercial fertilizer is stated as outlined above and in that order — nitrogen, phosphorus and potash. In the preparation of commercial fertilizers, most reliable firms make it a practice to supply the required amount of nitrogen in two, sometimes, three forms; in a quickly available in-organic form, in a somewhat more slowly available form and in a very slowly available form. In any complete fertilizer there are usually present some of the minor, trace elements.

Soluble fertilizers — water soluble salts. The concentrated solutions are uneconomical. Soluble fertilizers contain the same nutrient elements as do the standard complete fertilizers. Some brands contain most of the trace elements and some, also vitamins and hormones. This is an advantage if they are to be used for foliage feeding. They can be used as a pre-planting dip for seeds to quicken germination and promote a more vigorous growth of the young seedlings. They may be used as a dip for leafy, soft wood cuttings to develop a more vigorous plant. It has been found that when young seedlings or

rooted cuttings are to be transplanted, or when older plants are to be moved from one location to another, they will suffer less of a set back if given an application of high analysis soluble fertilizer. In the case of young plants, best results will be obtained if fertilizer is applied to the propagating bed, seed bed or flat about three days previous to the time of transplanting.

Foliar feeding is of particular value in supplying trace elements where a deficiency exists. Scientific research has proved, through the use of radioisotopes, that at least one half of the nitrogen in a good all-soluble, high-analysis fertilizer enters the leaf directly within a few hours after application and that a reasonable percentage of the phosphorus and potassium is absorbed in this way.

It is important not to use too concentrated a solution and the manufacturer's directions should be followed with care. Never use more fertilizer than recommended.

Don't fertilize when the plant has just been repotted or is dormant, weak or ailing, nor immediately after a flowering period, or growing media is dry.

Do fertilize when the plant begins new growth after a resting period or about six weeks to two months before its normal flowering period and until flowering is finished.

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Condensed Minutes of the National Board Meeting of The American Begonia Society

The National Board met on November 22, 1970 at the South Coast Botanic Gardens in Palos Verdes Peninsula. The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by the President, Mrs. Pearl Benell. After the opening ceremonies, 16 Officers and 13 Branch Representatives answered roll call. Mrs. Benell expressed the Boards thanks to the Redondo and the Westchester Branches for hosting the meeting.

The minutes of the October meeting were read and approved with the following additions: the \$1.50 per year cost of first class mailing is over and above the annual dues of \$4.00.

The Treasurer reported receipts of \$1,630.70; disbursements \$974.82; balance on hand as of November 18, 1970 is \$1,492.37.

The Advertising Manager reported receipts \$62.80; unpaid accounts \$55.00.

The Editor reported the price for printing the Kusler Hybrid Chart separately is \$53.67 for 500. A motion was made and carried to ask Mr. Morrison if he is willing to have the chart revised and reduced for greater ease of publishing.

Motion made and carried to approve the appointment of Mrs. John Williams of Sacramento and Walter Pease to be members of the Awards Committee of which Mrs. Hazel Snodgrass is Chairman.

The Historian reported she has received a few reports from Branch Secretaries but more are needed, especially pictures of Branch activities are welcome.

Judging course Director reported receipts of \$79.75 from the sale of the Judging Courses, Classification and Point Scoring booklets. Twenty two attended the Judging class on Nov. 2nd. The discussions, questions and answers etc. are being taped and will be edited. The information will then be available in mimeograph form for a nominal fee.

The Librarian reported \$84.69 in her bank account.

The Membership Secretary reported 90 new members, 141 renewals; total members in good standing, 2,193. Funds received and deposited \$953.24.

The Nomenclature Director's report was read by Walter Barnett. The Whittier Branch sent the first check, amount \$50.00 to start the Savings Fund for publication of the Catalogue of Begonias. Mr. Barnett was authorized to open the account.

The Research Director's report was read by the Secretary. The amount in the Research Fund has reached \$537.52. Mr. L'Hommedieu is now in the process of deciding upon the projects to be researched. Thelma O'Reilly reported receiving a number of seedlings of *B. seychellensis* from Dr. Meyer of the National Arboretum in Washington D.C.

The Secretary read the Round Robin report of continuing activity.

The Treasurer reported a net profit of \$50.00 from the Seed Fund.

The Show Chairman reported the first Show Committee meeting will be held on December 2, 1970 at the L.A. County Arboretum to begin planning for the next years show.

Walter Pease reported the Show Treasurer's books are in order and there will be (probably) \$650.00 profit from the 1970 show.

The Public Relations Chairman's report was read by the Secretary. Mrs. Rader offered to resign due to her inability to attend Board Meetings because of illness in her family.

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19)

Decision of the Board; she has done a good job and could continue to do so from her home.

Motion made and carried to approve the Finance Committee's report on the proposed budget for the September 1970 to August 1971; expected income, \$11,900.00; proposed disbursements, \$11,031.34; leaving an estimated \$400.00 for other projects. Convention Fund balance as of September 16, 1970 — \$986.20. Life Membership Fund balance \$3,031.34.

Motion made and carried to approve payment of the bill to repair the addressograph.

Motion made and carried to approve the appointment of Anne Rose, Walter Barnett and Chuck Tagg, Chairman, to the temporary committee to study matters concerning The Begonian.

Following the Branch reports, the meeting recessed for refreshments supplied by the Redondo and the Westchester Branches and for the sale of the plants donated by those present.

There will be no Board Meeting in December. The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Irene Grannel, Secretary

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FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Proposed Budget: Sept., 1970 to August, 1971

Expected Income:

Membership Dues	\$ 8,700.00
Advertising	850.00
Seed Fund	600.00
Library	500.00
Show & Convention (1970)	600.00
Sale of pins & miscellaneous	125.00
Judging Course	125.00
Miscellaneous	400.00
	<hr/>
	\$11,900.00

Proposed Disbursements:

"Begonian Printing"	\$ 7,200.00
Register of Copyrights	72.00
President's Allowance	180.00
Editor's Allowance	720.00
Editor's Expense	75.00
Membership Secy's Allowance	600.00
Membership Secy's Expense	750.00
Repair of Addressograph	200.00
Seed Fund Administrator	200.00
Rent, City of South Gate	54.00
Insurance	117.00
Treasurer's Expense	15.00
Secretary's Expense	125.00
Advertising Manager's Expense	30.00
Stationery and Printing	250.00
Judging Course Expense	50.00
Dues, Arboretum and Botanic Garden	20.00
Advertising	450.00
Sales Tax	100.00
"Begonia Boat" Printing	120.00
Miscellaneous	172.00
	<hr/>
	\$11,500.00

Estimated income for
other projects \$ 400.00

Convention Fund Balance
September 16, 1970 \$ 986.20

Life Member Fund Balance,
Guaranteed Rate Account
Balance, July 8, 1970. \$ 3,031.34

Annual interest on this
fund at 5¼% is \$175.00+

We presently have 38
life members. At \$50.00
per life member, the
Fund requires \$1,900.00
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member, 38 members
would pay \$152.00 in
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Vera Naumann, *Chairman*
Virginia Barnett, *Business Mgr.*
Walter Barnett, *Treasurer*

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by Virginia Withee
- *All About Begonias \$5.95
by Bernice Brilmayer
- *So Say The Experts \$2.00
by Ruth Pease
- Classification Guide Compiled by . . . \$1.25
the Westchester Branch, A.B.S.
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Leatherman and Dorothy Behrends
- *Begonias Slanted Toward the \$3.00
Beginner by Dorothy Behrends
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BUXTON, BESSIE RAYMOND BRANCH

3rd Saturday, Homes of Members
Mrs. Herbert Hurley, Secy.
11 Woodland Rd., Lexington, Mass. 02173

CONNECTICUT BRANCH

4th Sunday of each month
Nellie Radtke, Secy.
24 Cooper St.,
Norwich, Conn. 06360

DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS BRANCH

3rd Monday, 10 a.m., Members' Homes
Mrs. George W. Hopkins, Secy.
1619 S. Beckley Ave., Dallas, Texas 75224

EAST BAY BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:45 p.m., Willard School
Telegraph at Stuart, Berkeley, Calif.
Charles Badcock, Secy.
2325 Esmond, Richmond, Calif. 94804

EASTSIDE BRANCH

4th Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
590 116th Avenue N.E., Bellevue, Washington
Edith Lange, Secy.
9905 Belfair Lane, Bellevue, Washington 98004

EL MONTE COMMUNITY BRANCH

3rd Friday, Members' Homes
Mrs. Gladys Mattuket, Secy.
1801 Azalea Drive, Alhambra, Calif. 91801

FOOTHILL BRANCH

3rd Thursday, 8:00 p.m.
First Methodist Church, Marshall Hall
3205 D Street, La Verne, Calif.
Mrs. Madge Borden, Secy.
602 North Angelino, Azusa, Calif. 91740

FORT, ELSA BRANCH

1st Saturday, 1:00 p.m.
Miss Lola Price, Secy.
628 Beach Ave., Laurel Springs, N.J. 08044

GLENDALE BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 8:00 p.m.
Glendale Federal Savings, 401 N. Brand
Mrs. Frances Perkins, Secy.
3712 Revere Ave., Los Angeles, Calif. 90039

GREATER BATON ROUGE BRANCH

Mrs. Charles H. Smith, Secy.
4177 Flannery Rd., Baton Rouge, La. 70814

HOUSTON TEXAS BRANCH

2nd Friday, 10:00 a.m.
Garden Center, 1500 Herman Drive
Mrs. B. A. Russell, Secy.
5926 Jackwood, Houston, Texas 77036

INGLEWOOD BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
Western Federal Savings Building
355 E. Manchester Blvd., Inglewood, Calif.
Lola Somes, Secy.
4849 W. 130th Street, Hawthorne, Calif. 90250

KNICKERBOCKER BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
McAlpin Hotel, New York City
Mrs. Philip Sarna, Secy.
37 East 30th Street, New York 10016

LONG BEACH PARENT CHAPTER

2nd Sunday, 1:30 p.m.
Glendale Federal Savings & Loan Bldg.
5535 Stearns St. Cor. Bellflower, Long Beach, Calif.
Mrs. Bernita McClanahan, Secy.
1020 Poppy Ave., Compton, Calif. 90221

LOUISIANA CAPITAL BRANCH

1st Friday, Sear's Garden Center
6201 Florida St., Baton Rouge
Mrs. John Blythe, Secy.
1823 Madras Drive, Baton Rouge, La. 70815

MESQUITE BRANCH

Mrs. Billie Lyles, Secy.
928 Calle Reale, Mesquite, Texas 95149

MIAMI BRANCH

4th Tuesday, 8:00 p.m.
Simpson Memorial Garden Center
Mrs. Marie Evans, Secy.
610 63rd Drive, Hialeah, Florida 33012

MISSOURI BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, 11 a.m., Members' Homes
Kansas City, Mo.
Mrs. Lynne K. Wood, Secy.
626 W. Charles, Independence, Missouri 64055

NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
American Legion Post No. 560
East 59th and Orange, Long Beach
Ruth Hurd, Secy.
2942 Sawyer St., Long Beach, Calif. 90805

ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Garden Grove Grange Hall, Century and Taft Sts.
Garden Grove, Calif.
Mrs. O. L. Simmons, Secy.
2611 Westhaven Drive, Anaheim, Calif. 92804

PHILOBEGONIA BRANCH

2nd Friday, Members' Homes
Mrs. Anne Stiles, Secy.
East Delaware Trail, R. D. No. 2, Medford, N.J. 08055

PORTLAND BRANCH

Mrs. Lavene Jenkins, Secy.
9920 S. W. 53rd Ave., Portland, Oregon 97219

REDONDO AREA BRANCH

4th Friday, 7:30 p.m.
R. H. Dana School Cafetorium
135th St. and Aviation Blvd., Hawthorne, Calif.
Mrs. Juanita Spunaugle, Secy.
4248 Mentone Ave., Culver City, Calif. 90230

RHODE ISLAND BRANCH

1st Saturday, Homes of Members
Mrs. Robert Northup, Secy.
555 Kingstown Road, Peace Dale, R.I. 02883

RIVERSIDE BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.
Dales Recreation Center
3936 Chestnut Street, Riverside, Calif.
Mrs. Margaret K. Elmore, Secy.
3935 McKenzie, Riverside, Calif. 92503

ROBINSON, ALFRED D. BRANCH

3rd Friday, 12 noon, Homes of Members
Constance D. Bower, Corr. Secy.
1609 W. Lewis St., San Diego, Calif. 92103

SACRAMENTO BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, 8:00 p.m., Garden Center
3300 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento, Calif.
Mrs. Dora Hale, Secy.
9770 Carmencito Ave., Sacramento, Calif. 95823

SALINE COUNTY BRANCH OF KANSAS

4th Monday, 2:00 p.m., Homes of Members
Mrs. Lyle Melvin Sr., Secy.
131 Aspen Road, Salina, Kansas 67401

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH

1st Wednesday, 8:00 p.m., Garden Center,
Golden Gate Park, 9th Avenue and Lincoln Way
Mr. Allen Sweet, Secy.
303 La Serena Way, Sonoma, Calif. 95476

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH

2nd Friday, 8:00 p.m.
Los Angeles State and County Arboretum
501 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, Calif.
Mrs. Mabel Anderson, Secy.
16609 Cypress St., Covina, Calif. 91722

SAN MIGUEL BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, Porter Hall, 7:30 p.m.
University & La Mesa Blvd., La Mesa
Mrs. Maynette Hodgins, Secy.
1829 Granit Hills Dr., El Cajon, Calif. 92020

SANTA BARBARA BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History
2559 Puesta Del Sol
Mrs. Helen Yost, Secy.
888 La Milpita Rd., Santa Barbara, Calif. 93105

SEATTLE BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, 7:45 p.m., Loyal Heights Field House
21st Ave., N.W. and N.W. 77th Street
Virginia Level, Secy.
13770 1st Avenue N.E., Seattle, Wash. 98125

SHEPHERD, THEODOSIA BURR BRANCH

1st Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Y.M.C.A. Bldg., 5200 Telegraph Rd., Ventura, Calif.
Mrs. Oakley Murphy, Secy.
119 E. Simpson, Ventura, Calif. 93001

SMOKY VALLEY BRANCH

4th Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Members' Homes
Mrs. Henry Flaherty
606 South Third, Salina, Kansas 67401

SOUTH CAROLINA BRANCH

Mrs. Leonard Thomas
333 Harrow Dr., Columbia, S.C. 29210

SOUTH SEATTLE BRANCH

4th Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Wm. Moshier Field House
430 South 156th Burien
Sally Harding, Secy.
11632 1st Ave. S., Seattle, Washington 98168

TARRANT COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Monday, 10:00 a.m., Members' Homes
Mrs. R. M. Benison, Secy.
Rt. 2, Box 155 Dickinson, Texas 77539

TEXAS STATE BRANCH

4th Thursday, Sabine National Bank Bldg.
Port Arthur, Texas
Mrs. R. J. Wilson, Secy.
4620 Evergreen St., Port Arthur, Texas 77640

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 Alverstone St., Los Angeles, Calif.
Barbara Mack, Secy.
424 Oregon St., El Segundo, Calif. 90245

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, 11:00 a.m. every other month
Pittsburg Garden Ct., 1059 Shady Ave., Pittsburg, Pa.
Mrs. Irene Fediaczko, Secy.
125 Arlington Ave., Butler, Pa. 16001

WHITTIER BRANCH

1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Palm Park Community Center
5703 South Palm Avenue, Whittier
Miss Anne Rose, Secy.
14036 Ramona Drive, Whittier, Calif. 90605

WILLIAM PENN BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Noon Homes of Members
Mrs. Murdock Davis, Secy.
256 Broughton Lane, Villanova, Pa. 19085

CALENDAR

January 7 — Whittier Branch, 7:30 p.m. Speaker: John Mathews, "Rose Pruning, How and When in Whittier".

January 9 — San Gabriel Valley Branch 31st Annual Installation Banquet. Social Hour 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Dinner 7:30 p.m. Santa Fe Inn, 10478 E. Valley Blvd., El Monte; call 287-5082 for reservations. Reservations close January 5th.

January 25 — ABS Board, 7:30 p.m. South Gate City Auditorium, 4900 Southern Ave., South Gate, Calif. Meetings are always open to members.

February 4 — Westchester Branch 7:30 p.m. Speaker, Mr. Burnell Yarick, Professor of Botany at Glendale City College, "A Botanist Looks at a Begonia".

February 4 — Whittier Branch, 7:30 p.m. Speaker: Sylvia Leatherman, "Ferns, Their Care and Culture in Early Spring".

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