

The BEGONIAN



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Devoted to the Sheltered Garden

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

ACROSS THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

In the May issue of *The Begonian* Awards Chairman Hazel Snodgrass asked you to be thinking about "who" and "what" as nominees for the special awards given each year by the American Begonia Society. I hope you have been doing just that.

In this issue are the rules and regulations governing these awards. They are not difficult to follow and deserve your consideration. These are very coveted awards and worthy of your time and attention. Please do not think they do not concern you as an individual and as a Branch, no matter where you live as a member of the Society. They are not popularity contests, however, but for those people who have contributed outstanding literary efforts and for extraordinary service to the Society, and for that begonia which is outstanding and has proved itself over the years required.

Read the rules carefully and send in your nominations to Hazel Snodgrass. She and her committee will study and evaluate the entries. The awards, which are a surprise to the winners, are announced at the Annual Banquet and there is much pleasure derived. This is important enough for me to use my message to you this month in addition to the announcement by the Awards Chairman.

Are you pleased with our surprise of some color this month?

Best wishes for much success as the growing season begins.

Margaret B. Taylor
President

SHOW PHOTOS NEEDED

A reminder to all members and non-members who live outside the one hundred mile radius from the National Show in Glendale:

Send in colored slides or colored or black-and-white prints of your prize plants. We want to see their beauty, too. Judging will be on the plants—not on the photographs.

Be sure to have the name of the plant and the exhibitor's name and address on each picture. If a picture is to be returned, enclose a self-addressed and stamped envelope. Send entries to:

Mrs. Katharine Alberti
Photo Div. A.B.S. Show
3322 Troy Drive
Hollywood, Calif. 90068

COVER PICTURE

Begonia 'Exotica'—grown by Thelma O'Reilly. Photo by Gene Daniels. Read Wallace Wagner's article on page 120.

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 EXOTICA

By Wallace A. Wagner

Land of 'Exotica'

New Guinea (Ghin-ee), the second largest island in the world, lies in the South Pacific just below the equator and just above Australia. The land is lush, green, and primeval, full of vast swamps, high mountains, and tangled rain forests. Traveling is hard, slow, and treacherous. Roads are non-existent.

The natives live a true stone-age culture, until recently untouched by civilization. Their lives, their tools, their weapons, their desires are few and simple. New Guinea is a land where no man does anything or is required to do anything unless he feels like it, where tribal wars are called off if one tribe decides that it needs to tend its crops that day.

The climate is hot and wet. Heavy rain clouds hover over the valleys until the hot sun turns them to steam in the early afternoon. The damp evenings are chilly. The rainfall averages 150 inches per year.

The thick, lush carpet of ferns and the deep green of the rain forests are offset by brilliant flowers and leaves of all colors on such tropical plants as impatiens, philodendrons, and others. Birds of paradise, red, emerald, golden, and nightblue, flutter, huff, and screech among the fern and bright orchid gardens of the higher, light-searching limbs of the trees.

Nestled in the limestone grottos are species of miniature begonias with white and pink flowers, resting in the crevices filled with moist decaying vegetation, waiting to be discovered.

Rhododendron blossoms broader than a hand thrive along the grottos, protected from the blistering sun by the dense trees.

The beauty of this tropical paradise is not noticed by the natives, who are interested in a plant only if it will serve for dressing a roast pig or for decorating a war bonnet. Existing, in this primitive culture, takes twenty-four hours a day.

This is the land of 'Exotica'.

'Exotica' and its culture

When a new species of begonia is discovered it is not "yanked up" and sent to collectors, the prime reason being that the plant would have to be held by the plant quarantine agency at the port of entry, where it would be treated against pests and diseases. Unfortunately, this treatment results in the death of most plants, especially the more sensitive tropical plants like begonias.

Instead, a new species is usually introduced by seed sent to selected growers, universities, or botanical foundations. The plants grown from the seed inherit the same sensitivity to their environment as the seed parents. Therefore, to grow a species successfully, the grower needs to know the environment in which the seed parents lived.

A begonia's native growing conditions are often difficult to duplicate. In many cases the grower is not willing to custom-design a climate for one begonia, so he grows a new species in the same climate he grows his other species. Usually the conditions are only partially satisfactory.

Species do not adjust to new climates as readily as hybrids; therefore, they are more difficult for most hobbyists to raise successfully.

Among the most difficult species is the begonia commonly called 'Exotica' (tentatively identified as *Begonia brevirimosa*).

Before we look at the way collectors have raised this new begonia either successfully or unsuccessfully, let's recall the conditions under which 'Exotica' grows in its homeland.

New Guinea has an equatorial climate. It is very hot and wet. The heavy rain clouds hover over the valleys until they are evaporated by the blistering sun into steam in the hot afternoons. The tropical plants flourish in this humid atmosphere by growing under the high light-searching trees, protected from the searing sun. The heavily shaded limestone grottos shelter many species of colorful-leaved tropical plants. The plants thrive in the crevices where decaying vegetation provides nourishment and moisture retention.

'Exotica' was first described in an article by Dr. E. Irmscher, titled *New Begonias from Papua including Celebes*, written in 1914. The habitat was described as Northeast New Guinea, in a swamp-like area in the forest near Kelel.

From this description of the place where 'Exotica' was found, it would seem that this species would require a warm greenhouse with high humidity, and probably would appreciate some limestone in its potting mix. Like most begonias, it would require a very porous, well drained soil mix.

Rudolf Ziesenhene, of Santa Barbara, California, first received *Begonia* 'Exotica' from the Royal Botanic Garden in Edinburgh, Scotland, in November, 1969, under the name *Begonia brevirimosa* Irmscher. Since then, many collectors have received the plant through shared cuttings and have grown it, some with much success but most with discouraging results.

'Exotica' is being grown mostly in closed containers such as bubble bowls, although Anita Sickmon in Kansas grows it in the open on her greenhouse bench and has better success there than in a closed container.

The biggest problem for some fortunate growers is finding a container that is large enough. When it decides to grow, 'Exotica' is a rapid grower. It has a tendency to grow tall rather than bushy. Persons growing 'Exotica' in bowls find that placing the containers in south windows produces the best results. The strong light and humid atmosphere make 'Exotica' feel at home. Growers who have lost their plants attribute their failure to overwatering. Good drainage seems to be very necessary.

Most 'Exotica' owners are using sphagnum moss or a porous soilless mix. None mentioned adding lime to their mix. It would be interesting to see what effect lime would have on the lack of turgidity that 'Exotica' has.

Successful growers hold daytime temperatures in the range of 70 to 90 degrees. Night temperatures are allowed to fall to the mid-fifties.

(Continued on page 135)

TUBEROUS BEGONIAS, THE ETHEL REID WAY

PART 2

By Gene Daniels
Co-ordinating Editor

Last month we learned the fundamentals of starting a tuberous begonia after its long winter rest. This month the Begonia Lady of Ventura, California, Ethel Reid, will let us in on a few of the fine points of culture that are applicable in the early season.

In many parts of the country, tuberous begonias are just about ready to be lifted from the flats and potted into their individual pots. Ethel told us in May to put the three-inch to four-inch plants into large pots. Tubers must have room to grow and, if the mix is loose enough with good drainage, they cannot be over-potted. This is entirely different from culture directions for other types of begonias.

There is no need to keep potting a plant up in size during the season. The chances are that any attempt at this will break off a main stem and ruin a good plant. Never press the mixture down around the plant when potting. Merely tap the pot on a bench a couple of times to secure the soil.

In general, a round plastic tub will do better than a square wooden box or a clay pot. The plastic will retain moisture longer and stay cleaner. The round shape will allow you to point the plant in the direction you desire, still keeping a row of pots in a straight line. Remember that the flowers appear in approximately the same direction as the points of the leaves. If several square containers are used, a problem arises in

plant symmetry. Either the containers are all lined up evenly or the plants are even; but getting the two to work together is a matter of luck.

The leaf mold for the potting mix and for the starting mix must be capable of getting wet. Choice coarse leaf mold, if you can find it, will wet nicely just as it comes from the bag. If it is very fine and dry at the time of potting, all the water in the world will not wet it adequately. A wetting agent will help, but the only real way of preparing the mix for water is to hand-knead the dry mixture with water until every piece of leaf mold is soaking wet. Then wait a day and shovel sharp sand and the leaf mold together. Now, when the tubers are watered, everything will get wet. Neglect of this preparation is one of the major causes of slow growth or partial failure with the plants.

If a stake is positioned early in growth it will allow roots to grasp it tightly and make for more security. Later, it can be removed and a taller stake of the same diameter will slip into the hole and remain steady.

At planting time, and for the next month or so, the decision must be made whether you want lots of smaller flowers or fewer but larger ones. From a 2-inch or 3-inch tuber, one stem will produce larger flowers; two stems will give more but smaller bloom. More than two is usually unnecessary. A 4-inch or 5-inch tuber can handle two stems comfortably.



Ethel Reid is shown here with her grand-daughter by some of her tuberosus begonias. Notice how she has built raised benches to display plants at just the right height. Plants grown close together help create their own humidity.



Growing in front of the large tuberosus begonias are masses of white Saxifraga or Bergenia. These companion plants are attractive besides helping to create humidity.

— Photos by Ventura Star-Free Press

bly and still produce great numbers of large blooms. If two stems are left, they should be selected for vigor and they should have leaves pointing in approximately the same direction. This way all the flowers will be showing on one side, which is the proper way to grow tuberous begonias. A tuber does not grow well if it is isolated and made to grow on all sides. When grown near walls or other shrubbery, it can easily obtain much needed moisture from them.

Mrs. Reid has developed a safe method of removing the additional stems and, at the same time, starting these stems into new flowering plants the same year. A few hours *after* watering, grasp the extreme base of the unwanted stem and pull with a steady, twisting motion. Sometimes a tiny edge of the tuber will come with it, sometimes one or two small roots, but neither is necessary.

Because the plant was watered prior to this action, no additional water needs to be added to the wounded spot for a few days, and the air getting into the open hole in the mix will heal the mother tuber quickly. Do not push mix into the open hole. It will fill in rapidly from future waterings anyway.

The removed stems will root nicely in straight leaf mold in a flat. Place these cuttings two inches apart and they will flower the same summer, and make identical plants the next year. Allow them to remain in the flat until spring of the following year. Do not allow them to dry out completely during the winter. (More on this in future *Begonians*.)

Stem rot is sometimes a major problem, and Ethel has found most

of the reasons and some of the cures. A heavy hand with a watering wand bumping against a stem is a major contributor. Watering should be done from an open-end hose or large diameter pipe permitting water to trickle very slowly onto the loose mix so as not to pack it down or wash it up against the stems. If leaf mold does get on the stems it is a good idea to wash it off.

But the main cause of stem rot is allowing blossoms or stems to remain loose and rotting in the plant or on the surface of the mix. Ethel's special preventive against stem rot is to remove the mix carefully from directly around the stem and substitute silica sand (sharp sand) around the stem. It acts just like a clean, dry bandage if any problem should develop. If stem rot does occur, and it can happen regardless of care, cut it away cleanly with a very sharp, clean knife (easier than a razor), and dust CAPTAN, available in agricultural supply stores, onto the open wound. This is almost a sure cure. Good ventilation will also help.

One reason for leaving two main stems on a plant is the availability of the other stem for flowers if one should get infected with rot or be broken accidentally. However, if a lone stem is lost early in the season, the tuber usually will send up another stem which will flower the same year.

Old flowers should be removed by snapping only the blossoms, not the stem, from the plant. Bad leaves may be removed by snapping the petiole (leaf stem) about three or four inches away from the main stem and then allowing the remain-

ing part to rot slowly, dry up, and fall off with no additional help. Do not snap it close to the main stem or rot might spread throughout the plant. If it is snapped off five or six inches away from the main stem, the remaining butt sometimes dries, but remains an unsightly stub on the plant.

Tying the plant to the stake produces another potential hazard. If the plant is growing well, the main stalk can reach three inches in diameter. It is best tied with a figure eight around the stem and stake, with a tie made of raffia, although round paper-covered wire will do. The tie should be crossed loosely behind the stem and then tied very securely to the stake. It is imperative that enough slack is left in the tie so that it does not bind the stem as it grows in diameter. This cannot be stressed too emphatically!

The stake, of course, should not protrude above the flowers, and it is necessary to be careful when adding stakes not to puncture the tuber or break through the existing leaves.

The plants will do best where they get lots of light and in a cooler area, even direct sun early and late in the day. But, if they are to get direct sun, it is imperative that they be conditioned to the sunny area from the initial planting, and not moved into position after they have begun to flower in a more protected, shaded place.

The ideal location for tuberous begonias is where they can create their own environment. By this, Ethel means where they are grown in large numbers with lots of ferns and other companion shade plants around to give off humidity. She is

completely opposed to fogging or misting either the blossoms or the plants, themselves. All types of problems can result from this.

Instead, she suggests that walls, the ground, other plants, everything except the begonias should be misted and then the tuberous begonias can accept the high humidity naturally. She has seen other tender shade plants growing nicely in hot areas of the country, close to artificial waterfalls or swimming pools. Yet the same people who grow these shade plants seem afraid to try tuberous begonias under these ideal conditions. She is certain that they will grow in this manner, but she admits that it might be easier just to move to Ventura, California, or "Begonia Country" as she calls it.

In future *Begonians* she will discuss mildew and pest problems as well as other fine culture points. Also included will be some pointers on the selection of begonias by observing good genetic traits. If this is understood thoroughly, the A.B.S. member will be able to buy a flowering tuberous begonia and know that it is capable of producing a specimen plant.

<i>Palos Verdes</i>	Begonia Farm
4111 - 242nd St., WALTERIA, Calif. 90505	
TUBEROUS BEGONIAS	
COMPLETE SELECTION OF BEGONIAS AND SHADE PLANTS	
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Hi-Way 101	

GROW AND ENJOY MINIATURE BEGONIAS

By Phyllis Wright
Contributing Editor

So often we hear folks say that they love the "leaf" begonias but they get so large there just isn't space to grow them. Maybe they have never grown the miniatures, which certainly are jewels of the begonia family. These I lovingly call my "Baby" begonias.

It is difficult to have real favorites among these plants, so I will just list a few that are easy to grow.

I start these plants just as I start their "big" sisters. I use leaf cuttings. I always start with a good, healthy leaf with about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch of stem, which I cut diagonally and dip in root hormone, being careful not to get too much of the powder on the stem. This stem is then inserted into damp vermiculite. My favorite way is to insert the whole stem right up to the leaf. In this manner I usually get baby plants from the center of the leaf as well as one or two from the stem.

When these tiny plants are large enough to handle, they are separated carefully and replanted in another covered box of vermiculite. They are fed with a quarter-strength fertilizer when the medium becomes dry.

In about six weeks the small plants are ready to be transferred into small pots. I use the same soil mix I use for all my begonias, good leaf mold mixed with compost half and half. This is sterilized and then I add perlite and a little vermiculite to make the mix light. It is dampened with warm water and permitted to stand for a day or two before it is used.

From my own experience, I believe the secret of keeping the plants small is to keep them in small shallow pots. A $2\frac{1}{2}$ -inch pot is the size I like best. When they are established, these plants are treated the same as the other begonias.

Boweri nigramarga (species) heads the list as a true miniature. It has small, apple-green leaves, patterned with chocolate, an eye-lash edge, and small white flowers. It is a winter bloomer. This one will stay in the same small pot for a long time. Keep it on the dry side. Too much water will cause the plant to rot off. I have seen it used as a terrarium plant but the jar should be kept uncovered.

'Baby Rainbow' (Rex), a lovely plant, has a small pointed leaf, with rainbow hues of purple, raspberry, and amethyst, with a dark red crinkly edge, pink stem, and pink flowers. This one is a little fussy about being moved into a larger pot, so it is kept in the $2\frac{1}{2}$ -inch pot. When it gets too tall, I pinch the top out and it continues as a nice compact plant.

If this plant is kept in good light with a little filtered sun, the colors truly live up to the name. It is a good idea to let this one get quite dry before watering. Good drainage is absolutely essential. It is hard to keep it small in a terrarium. I tried it and most of the leaves were $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 inches across.

'Dew Drop' (Rex) is a semi-miniature. It has lobed leaves that remind one of ivy, delicate pink and silver leaves, and is not particular

where it grows. Its only bad feature is that it is susceptible to mildew. It does like heat. I grow mine in a small bulb pot. It is always a well shaped, sturdy plant, an easy one to grow.

'Granny' (Rex) is another easy grower. It has small calico leaves of silver, rose, and red. The plant is upright and if it is kept pinched it remains a nice compact plant. It seems to stay happy in a 4-inch pot. When it gets a bit out of hand I cut it back and before long I have a new, bushy plant.

'It' is a Rex hybrid. It has round leaves of clear green splotted with silver and lots of lovely pink blooms in early spring. It is kept in a small bulb pot and does very well. It can be grown in a larger pot but it will become a larger plant. It is a beautiful plant any way it is grown. I am fond of it because it is such a bright, clean plant. For a winter bloomer it is tops.

'Lucy Closson' is a real joy, with dwarf bronze leaves, flecked with purple and bright pink. Sometimes it is a little hard to get going but, once started, it is a spectacular plant. This one really enjoys a little sun to bring out the bright colors. It is easy to keep going and a joy to watch.

'Redwing' (Rex) is also a nice miniature. It has beautiful pointed leaves, the outer edges are silver, and the center is maroon. It is flushed with crimson. Here again, a little filtered sun brings out the bright colors. I find this one is a little touchy to grow, so I always keep a cutting—just in case.

These that I have mentioned are just a few of the small ones. Maybe I can write about a few more at a later date. In the meantime, try one or two and you will be rewarded as I am. All those mentioned do exceptionally well under fluorescent lights.

WHICH BEGONIAS TO BUY

By E. A. McWhorter
Columbia, S.C.

If you have finally decided to purchase some begonias, the first thing to remember is not to purchase plants which are difficult to grow and are peculiar about such conditions as humidity, water, and temperature. It is necessary to purchase sturdy, healthy plants from a reliable dealer.

Try to establish the names of the plants. Some people say names are not important, but in order to converse with others and to study the plants, the names are most important. So many begonias are similar,

that without names it is virtually impossible to describe them unless they are very distinctive in color or leaf. I know—I made many mistakes and most of my begonia education has come from trial and error.

There appear to be only two others in the state of South Carolina that raise begonias to any degree. One of these is interested only in growing them for commercial use and is not interested in names or research.

The next question is which plants to purchase? I would recommend canes, semperflorens, or possibly some rhizomatous. Wait on the rex until you have accomplished the technique of growing the above.

Some canes I have grown with success, such as *albo-picta*, 'Orange Rubra', 'Sophie Cecile', 'Veitch Carmine', 'Grey Feather', 'Thurstoni', 'President Carnot', and others of this group.

As for semperflorens, I have grown only a few and they all grew very well.

The better rhizomatous consist of: 'Brocade', 'Erythrophylla,' 'Erythrophylla Helix', 'Bunchi', 'Maphil', 'Sunderbruckii', 'Randy', 'Fuscomaculata', 'Heracleicotyle', 'Nelumlufolia', 'Sir Percy', 'Gigi'.

These plants have all grown very easily for me. All of these rhizomatous except 'Nelumlufolia' and 'Brocade' can be grown in baskets with great success.

I don't grow many canes or semperflorens any more. Now I usually use rhizomatous and rex. It took me quite a while to progress to rexes — after many failures and many hours of trying to find the right conditions for these plants. However, once they are established, I find rexes almost as easy as canes to grow and they are truly spectacular plants and certainly a sight to see when fully grown.

BEGONIAS — PLANTS AND LEAVES

Rex and rhizomatous

Send for list — 10¢

E. A. McWHORTER

2010 Rockland Road

Columbia, South Carolina 29210

ROUND ROBIN NOTES

Openings are waiting in robins, new and old—on growing under lights, greenhouses, terrariums and bowls, cuttings, seed, rexes, species, hybridizing, mini-begonias, Kusler hybrids, and many others.

Hazel Shear of Texas has found a successful way to root rex leaves. She takes a gallon plastic jug, cuts it in half just below the handle, and then fills the bottom with vermiculite that has been soaked thoroughly. She places the leaves or wedges in the vermiculite and replaces the top on the jug. In this way some air gets in. She has tiny plantlets in no time. If she roots them in a bowl or pan, she covers them with a plastic bag, but cuts a small hole in the top of the bag.

Arline Peck of Rhode Island has always used Formula Five from New Era for growing from seed. (Now New Era has combined Formula Five and African Violet Soil.) She puts this mix in a container and moistens it, being careful that all the mix is moist. After she sows the seed, she labels the container with variety and date. She covers the container with a piece of plastic or sets it in a plastic shoe box and puts on the lid.

With good light (no sun) the seedlings begin to appear and she uncovers them gradually. She uses the same soil mix for transplanting and covers them loosely until the seedlings are established. When she has lots of seedlings, she tries them in different locations to see which they like best.

Fausta Waite of Pennsylvania reports that in early April she had her

(Continued on page 130)

CLAYTON M. KELLY SEED FUND

No. 1—*B. subnummularifolia*

Small, creeping terrarium plant that requires moisture and humidity. Leaves small, oval, red beneath, shiny green above. Stems red. Plant blooms when very young and almost constantly. Nice little creeping begonia. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 2—*woolnyi-Herzog*

Species from Bolivia. Seed was collected from a plant from the collection of the late Dr. Irmscher, Germany. Handsome begonia with palmately lobed leaves. Elegantly spotted with white. Flowers appear in winter. They are greenish-white with pink petals. Choice begonia. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 3—*B. acaulis Merrill and Perry*

A beautiful small tuberous species from New Guinea, which continuously and profusely blooms with bright pink flowers. Grows in a terrarium. Seed scarce. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 4—*B. solananthera A DC*

Trailing stems, smooth, oval leaves, very floriferous in winter. White flowers with crimson centers. Choice. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 5—*B. ulmifolia*

Also called 'Elm-leaf' begonia. Grown for its oddity. Imitates elm in leaf shape and color, with added rough hairs. Small white flowers. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 6—*B. kellermanni*

Guatemala. Deeply cupped green leaves, thick and completely covered with sheer white felt. Angel-wing-like clusters of white flowers in late winter, early spring. Easy from seed. Price 50 cents per pkt.

No. 7—*B. micranthera hieronymii*

From Tucuman, Argentina, at 2,000 meters elevation. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 8—*B. sc Gee-Gee*

A hybrid by Chet Nave, California. Huge red flowers with fluffy yellow centers. Leaves very large, green when grown in shade, brilliant red in sun or strong light. Good pot plant or border plant in foreground of shrub border. Very durable begonia. Price 50 cents per pkt.

No. 9—*B. Rex hybrids from Germany*

Contain all the brilliant colors, including some from Teupel originations. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

No. 10—*B. heterosis sc 'Dornroschen'*

Small type with rich red blooms. Weather-resistant. Winner of gold medal at Stuttgart in 1961. Price 50 cents per pkt.

No. 11—*B. heterosis sc 'Blutenmeer'*

Small growing, bronze foliage, rose-colored bloom. Weather-resistant. Price 50 cents per pkt.

The two varieties of *Semperflorens* Begonias above are from Germany and are the hardiest and most beautiful grown, giving many months of color. Grow them in the garden or in pots for the patio.

Acanthostachys strobilacea —*Bromeliaceae*

Brazil. Unusual plant. Decorative and best grown in a hanging container. Fruit resembles small orange-colored pineapples and holds color for three to four months. A *strobilacea* has pendant whip-like leaves to 36 inches. They are reddish brown.

The small orange pineapple is surrounded by stiff bracts. This plant should be grown in a 2-inch or 3-inch pot with a sandy terrestrial mix. Water it heavily during growth in spring and summer, but keep it only moderately moist the rest of the year. It needs some sun but also succeeds in a north window. Do not bother the off-shoots. A useful indoor plant. Price 6 seeds for 50 cents.

Please send requests for seed to:
Mrs. Florence Gee
Seed Fund Administrator
234 Birch Street
Roseville, Calif. 95678

ROBIN . . .

(Continued from page 128)

lights burning 13½ hours each day and the begonias that were blooming were: *B. foliosa*; *B. pruinata*, a species from Costa Rica; *B. heracleifolia nigricans*, a species from Mexico with three-foot bloom stalks; *B. 'Beryl'*, with 2½-foot bloom stalks; *B. 'Margaritacea'*; *B. 'Gloire de Sceaux'*; *B. 'Frosty Dwarf'*; and all the rexes she's tried, including a tremendous *B. 'Fire Flush'*.

Fausta writes that there are dozens and dozens of begonias that she can grow under the lights and they look positively gorgeous but will have to be discarded when they are taller than twenty-four inches. The reason is that the lights have a higher intensity on the upper part of the plants and not enough on the lower, so leaves frequently turn pale and uninteresting and drop off.

A tremendous amount of skill, patience, and care goes into producing

really good-looking big plants under lights because they have to be moved around often to get maximum light coverage. She believes that they have to be fed much more often than when they are grown in natural light. Little plants are no problem, or those that sprawl like the *pustulatas*. The leaves invariably are satiny or velvety, lush, strong, healthy, and with more dramatic coloring. The whole plants have a look of jubilation and vibrancy.

Fausta finds that lights are indispensable for rooting cuttings or leaves toward raising young transplants. The Gro-lux lights are splendid for germinating seeds if seeds are placed four to five inches below the lights. When plants are large enough to go into three-inch pots, she changes the lights to one warm white and one cool white tube. She has never been able to note any difference in plants' growth pattern under any other combination. The darker leaves she places nearer to the lights; the lighter leaves she keeps off to the margins.

Patt Schumacher of Florida has decided that *B. bartonea* is not so particular about the humidity of a closed area but resents drafts. She placed *B. bartonea* in a jar and left the top open. It is growing out the top. It touches the jar on all sides and is in full bloom. She keeps the soil on the dry side.

If you want to join a flight, tell how you grow begonias and your choice of flights. Write to:

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

BEGONIAS, BANGLES AND BUBBLES

Believe it or not, "Begonias, Bangles, and Bubbles" is the official name for the 1972 National Convention and Flower Show. And it will be a far cry from the first convention held exactly forty years ago. In the last few years you have seen the tremendous increase in excitement and attendance at the big show of the year.

On Labor Day week-end, Saturday, September 2, and Sunday, September 3, at Glendale College in Glendale, California, thousands of begonia enthusiasts are expected to swarm to the biggest one yet.

We have added the term "Bubbles" to the name of the show because our two bubbling bubble ladies, Wanda Elin and Ronnie Nevin of Orange County Branch, proved to us in '71 that the big interest is in bubbles, and this year's bubble display will have more and more bubble begonias than ever before.

We added the word "Bangles" because we liked the sound of the word. Maybe that's not usual A.B.S. routine, but this isn't a routine show.

Professor Burnell Yarick of Glendale College (and member of the Glendale Branch of the A.B.S.) is organizing a major effort of plant seminars, ranging from culture instructions for the pure beginner to the most advanced begonia information. These will be detailed in next month's *Begonian*.

One change in show rules to be noted immediately is that the show will be set up and all plants entered on Thursday, August 31, *only*. Judging will be Friday before the great luncheon for the judges and workers

of the show, with the enthusiastic Glendale Branch as host.

The plant tables this year will include a separate table of pre-packaged plants at bargain prices designed for the new begonia enthusiast. The main table will be a repeat of last year, emphasizing "The Scarce, the Rare, and the Unusual", except that this year we will try a system which will enable us (we hope) to find the plant you want without a major search.

Members and their guests are invited to a show preview on Friday evening, from 6 to 8:30 p.m., when President Margaret Taylor and Show Chairman Cecelia Grivitch will be hostesses. Many members missed this event last year and yet it proved to be one of the highlights of the convention.

And finally the banquet. Ah, the banquet! But it's too early to talk about that now. So you can wait breathlessly for a future *Begonian* to let you in on the many secrets that await.

—Gene Daniels



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RULES FOR AWARDS BY THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

Eva Kenworthy Gray Award:

This award may be presented to a person for one of two reasons:

1. For contributing something of a spiritual value toward cementing good will and harmony among our members.

2. For contributing original material (other than begonias) toward helping our rank and file members in furthering their study of begonias.

Herbert P. Dyckman Award for Service:

To be eligible for this award, a person must have rendered long-time or very outstanding service above and beyond that usually expected of a member or officer of the American Begonia Society.

Each nomination for the Eva Kenworthy Gray Award or the Herbert P. Dyckman Award for Service must be accompanied by specific reasons why the nominee is deemed worthy of receiving one of these awards.

Alfred D. Robinson Award:

When nominating a begonia for this award, the following rules should be considered:

1. All begonia nominees must have been registered with the A.B.S. Nomenclature Director.

2. The originator of the begonia nominee, amateur or commercial, must be a member of the A.B.S.

3. The begonia nominee must have been released to the public for at least five years, but not more than ten years, prior to nomination.

Award for Culture:

1. A request for the number of

certificates needed, along with the classification to which they will be awarded, should be sent to the Awards Chairman.

2. The plant must be judged by accredited A.B.S. judges and obtain a rating of 90 points or more, according to the American Begonia Society *Point Scoring System for Judging Begonias*.

3. One certificate may be awarded for each individual Begonia Division listed in the A.B.S. Show Schedule, i.e. Cane-like, Thick-stemmed, Shrub-like, etc. These awards are for single plant entries only and are not intended for collections, photographic entries, sweepstakes, etc.

July 15, 1972, is the deadline for sending your nominations to:

Mrs. Hazel Snodgrass
Awards Chairman
205 No. Walnut Drive
Ventura, Calif. 93003

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ANOTHER YEAR, ANOTHER SHOW

This thought prevails wherever flower shows are planned and produced. Show committees plan to better their last year's efforts. Exhibitors look to their plants to see if they are show material. All is planned with the anticipation of sharing the beauty of our plants with others.

The 1972 A.B.S. Annual Show Rules and Show Schedule will be published in the July issue of *The Begonian*. Read them carefully, noting changes, additions and deletions from previous A.B.S. Annual Show Schedules. The trophies will be listed in their respective divisions in the Show Schedule.

The show will be held on the campus of Glendale College in Glendale, California. There will be ample room for parking. Branch garden displays are welcomed. If your branch plans to enter a floor garden display or table display (see the Show Schedule), contact Walter Pease, Placement Chairman, 8101 Vicksburg Avenue, Los Angeles 90045, as soon as possible. A floor plan must be established to accommodate all entries.

Structure of previous Show Schedules presented several problems. Rather than having sub-classes, as in the past, for practically each class in a division for begonias grown in hanging containers, in enclosed containers, on totem poles, or in a novel manner, the basic class in all classes this year will be for potted plants, including those grown on trellises.

There will be a separate division for begonias grown in hanging

baskets and wall pockets, and another division for the novel grown begonias, with a class included for the unique container-grown begonias. We have a division for begonias grown in bubbles, terrariums, or other containers providing an enclosed atmosphere for plant growth.

There will be a begonia division for the novice grower and a division for students 20 years old and younger. Begonias grown in any manner by these exhibitors will compete in these divisions.

Entries of begonia Hybrids in cultivation 25 years or longer will once again be in a division of their own. Anyone wishing to compete for the San Miguel Trophy will have to enter in this division.

This eliminates the need for judges to find the best 25-year or older begonia in cultivation after they have completed their regular judging assignments. The same applies to begonias grown in hanging containers. In the past, special trophies necessitated either having special teams of judges do extra work after all other judging was completed or having all the judges participate in this judging to give the exhibitors the fairest decisions. In the end, some felt exhibitors really didn't get the best judgment because after an all-day session of judging, judges had an added pressure placed upon them. They could no longer make decisions as they did earlier in the day . . . and lunch was long overdue.

Judging will begin at 9:30 a.m. on Friday and the proposed time for

completion of judging will be 1:30 p.m.

Entries will be accepted all day from ten in the morning until ten at night Thursday, August 31st. No entries will be accepted on Friday morning.

It has been found that latecomers have held the show procedures up in the past. Exhibitors had to be moved, entries had to be classified and registered, clerk sheets were held up, and the judging was off to a late start.

Pre-registration entry forms will

be available. Write to Wally Wagner, Registration Chairman, 530 South Barnett Street, Anaheim, California 92802, for copies of these forms. List your entries according to the Show Schedule and return them to him before August 31st.

This year will be our 40th A.B.S. Annual Show. It also marks the Society's 40th anniversary. We hope it will be a happy one for all to remember.

Ruth Pease

Chairman,

Judging Review Committee

BEGONIA SHOWS QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

By Ruth Pease

Judging Course Director

Question from Los Angeles: In looking through my copy of the Joint Scoring System for Judging Begonias book I've noted the different scoring schedules, but I'm not sure about the varying capitalized letters in each. Can you help me?

Answer: In our judging classes we go into detail on how to use the Point Scoring System for Judging Begonias book. This information is printed in our judging lessons also. I believe this system should be understood by judges and exhibitors alike.

There are 38 Point Scoring Schedules in the book. These include schedules for all types of begonias as well as judging them in groups (perhaps collections), naturally trailing types, floor garden displays, photographs of begonias and many others.

Those Point Scoring Schedules consist of 21 different Point Scoring

Categories (lettered A through U) that judges have at their disposal when scoring begonia entries in the show. These categories include such items as cultural perfection, quantity of blooms, color effect, adequate number of begonias and others.

An example: Schedule for the Cane-like, Shrub-like, Thick-stemmed, and Rhizomatous Begonias is as follows:

	Points Allowed
A. Cultural perfection	35
B. Foliage	30
C. Quantity of flowers	10
D. Quality of flowers	10
E. Difficulty of cultivation	10
F. Correct and suitable labeling	5
	100

While the Rex Cultorum Begonias Schedule is as follows:

	Points Allowed
A. Cultural perfection	45
B. Foliage	40
E. Difficulty of cultivation	10
F. Correct and suitable labeling	5
	100

Emphasis is placed on the cultural perfection and foliage when judging rex culterum begonias, therefore the omission of the categories C and D.

The Distribution of Points by Category for Cultural Perfection alone is then broken down on Page 15 of the book as follows:

	Possible Points Allowed						
A. <i>Cultural Perfection</i>	45	40	35	30	25	20	15
1. Shape of plant	9	8	7	6	5	4	3
2. Fullness of plant	9	8	7	6	5	4	3
3. Size of plant	5	4	4	3	3	2	2
4. Vigor of plant	5	4	4	3	3	2	2
5. Freedom from pests	4	4	4	3	3	2	2
6. Suitable container (size, design)	5	4	3	3	2	2	1
7. Clean container	4	4	3	3	2	2	1
8. Staking of plant	4	4	3	3	2	2	1

A.B.S. judges must know how to use this system correctly before they can be invited to judge in the A.B.S. Annual Show. It is used when making decisions in close competition, as well as determining the best in a division. The present scoring system was approved by the A.B.S. in 1969.

Address your judging and show questions to:

Mrs. Ruth Pease
8101 Vicksburg Ave.
Los Angeles, Ca. 90045

EXOTICA . . .

(Continued from page 121)

Propagation is by either stem cuttings or leaf cuttings. The misery of 'Exotica' is in the effect of taking stem cuttings.

Hazel Harmon, of Ottawa, Kansas, says: "My plant got so tall that I decided to cut about three to four inches from the top. The next day the plant had melted into a mess."

Others found that when they shared cuttings from their prize plants, their friends obtained coveted new plants but the owners ended up with plants that just fell apart and died. Rudolf Ziesenhenne, one of those disappointed "former owners", warns that if you want to propagate by stem cuttings you had better cut up the entire plant.

Leaf cuttings don't have that disintegrating effect.

In spite of its sensitivity, 'Exotica' is truly a distinctive new species deserving the special care it demands. After all, you can't blame the plant. It grows well in New Guinea.

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.

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REPORT OF MONTHLY MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors of the American Begonia Society met in a regional meeting on Sunday, April 23, 1972, at the Peek Family Colonial Terrace Room in Westminster, California. There were 48 members and 9 guests present.

The treasurer reported receipts of \$713.30 and disbursements of \$1,579.47 (which included two months printing *The Begonian*), leaving a balance on hand of \$899.25.

The membership secretary reported 61 new members, 104 renewals, a total membership of 2,006.

The circulation manager reported mailing 2,523 copies of *The Begonian* for March and 2,646 copies for April, at a total mailing expense of \$56.18.

The advertising manager reported \$15.00 receipts.

The judging course director reported that class members are turning in their home work. The show schedule will appear in the July issue of *The Begonian*.

The librarian reported giving a check for \$200.00 to the treasurer; balance on hand \$96.91; accounts due \$90.00.

The ideas committee chairman reported that Larry Banier is now on the committee. A letter is being circulated to all committee members in all areas of the country to collect ideas.

The research director's report was read. A list of plants needed for the research project by Rutgers University was enclosed. Over 400 plants are needed and he would appreciate help from members and Branches in obtaining them.

The awards committee co-chairman announced that the time is approaching to make nominations for the Eva Kenworthy Gray Award, the Herbert P. Dyckman Award, and the Alfred D. Robinson Award. He also announced that we will have Branch displays in this year's show and he would like to know how many Branches wish to put in displays.

A motion was passed to transfer \$500.00 to the show treasury.

The judging course director requested approval of ordering an additional 200 copies of the show schedule.

A motion was passed authorizing the awards committee to purchase a perpetual trophy for Best in Show.

The president presented the names of the nominating committee: Peggy McGrath, Margaret Lee, and Everett Wright. These were approved.

Irene Granell
Secretary



A.B.S. LIBRARY BOOKSTORE

The following selection of books are FOR SALE

- *Gesneriads And How To Grow Them. \$7.95
by Peggy Schulz
- *Rex Begonias As House Plants \$1.00
by Virginia Withee
- *So Say The Experts \$2.00
by Ruth Pease
- Classification Guide Compiled by . . . \$1.25
the Westchester Branch, A.B.S.
- *Platycerium Fern Facts \$4.95
by Wendy Franks
- *The Tuberous Begonia \$10.80
by Brian Langdon

The Begonian—Complete reprints . . \$6.00
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Sowing and Growing25

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AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY BOOKLETS

Point Scoring System for Judging
Begonias \$1.25

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

ORDER FROM: Ruth Pease
8101 Vicksburg Ave.
Los Angeles, Calif. 90045

BRANCH DIRECTORY

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AT THESE MEETINGS

BUXTON BRANCH

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

CONNECTICUT BRANCH

4th Sunday of each month
Mrs. Friscella Beck, Secy.
R D No. 1, Box 121,
Mystic, Conn. 06355

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.
Miss Carol E. Orpin, Secy.
428 Norvell Street
El Cerrito, Calif. 94530

EASTSIDE BRANCH

4th Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
590 116th Avenue N.E., Bellevue, Washington
Grace Fisher, Secy.
770 Monroe Ave. N.E., Renton, Wash. 98055

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.
Mr. Robert I. Wilson, Secy.
544 Fountain Drive
Mira Loma, Calif. 91752

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. Katharine Alberti, Secy.
3322 Troy Drive, Hollywood, Calif. 90068

GREATER BATON ROUGE BRANCH

Mrs. John H. McKay, Secy.
5116 Baton Rouge Ave., Baton Rouge, La. 70805

HOUSTON TEXAS BRANCH

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

KNICKERBOCKER BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Horticultural Society of N.Y.
128 West 58th St., New York
Miss Margaret Huger, Secy.
505 East 82nd St.
New York, N.Y. 10028

LONG BEACH PARENT CHAPTER

3rd Sunday, 1:30 p.m.
Great Western Savings and Loan Bldg.
6300 East Spring St., Long Beach, Calif.
Mrs. Paul E. Powell, Secy.
3031 Shakespear Dr., Los Alamitos, Calif. 90720

LOUISIANA CAPITAL BRANCH

1st Friday, Sear's Garden Center
6201 Florida St., Baton Rouge
Mrs. Johnnie L. Tanner, Secy.
1962 Cederdale, Baton Rouge, La. 70808

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 Friday, 11 a.m., Member's Homes
Kansas City, Mo.
Mrs. Glenn Lucas, Secy.
Kansas City, Mo. 64109

MONTEREY BAY AREA BRANCH

4th Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.
Lighthouse and Dickman Sts., New Monterey, Calif.
Frederick Bell, Jr., Secy.
P.O. Box 527, Pebble Beach, Calif. 93953

NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH

1st Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
525 Ocean Blvd., Long Beach
Barbara Welty, Secy.
4741 Hazelbrook
Long Beach, Calif. 90808

ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Lions Club, Walnut St. and Garden Grove Blvd.
Garden Grove, Calif.
Mrs. R. L. Nevins, Secy.
1913 Aspen Circle, Fullerton, Calif. 92631

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 Cafeterium
135th St. and Aviation Blvd., Hawthorne, Calif.
Mrs. Margaret Buel, Secy.
18500 Mansel Street
Redondo Beach, Calif. 90278

RHODE ISLAND BRANCH

1st Saturday, Homes of Members
Miss Marcella Flynn, Secy.
7 Fairfield Ave., East Providence, Rhode Island 02914

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. Betty Tillotson, Secy.
3912 Wildrose Way
Sacramento, Calif. 95826

SALINE COUNTY BRANCH OF KANSAS

4th Monday, 2:00 p.m., Homes of Members
Mrs. Wayne Smith, Secy.
1823 Highland, Salina, Kansas 67401

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH

1st Wednesday, 8:00 p.m., Garden Center
Golden Gate Park, 9th Avenue and Lincoln Way
Mrs. Louise Eby, Secy.
1137 Hillside Blvd. So. San Francisco, Calif. 94080

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH

2nd Friday, 8:00 p.m.
Los Angeles State and County Arboretum
501 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, Calif.
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. George Bayse, Sr., Secy.
2347 Langmuir St., San Diego, Calif. 92111

SANTA BARBARA BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History
2559 Puerta Del Sol
Miss Gladys M. Grant, Secy.
460 Mountain Dr., Santa Barbara, Calif. 93103

SANTA CLARA VALLEY BRANCH

3rd Thursday, 8 p.m.
Member's Home
Elisabeth Sayers, Secy.
369 Ridge Vista Ave.
San Jose, Calif. 95127

SEATTLE BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.
Calvary Lutheran Church
7002 23rd Ave., N.W.
Mary Sanderman, Secy.
13045 37th N.E., Seattle, Wn. 98125

SHEPHERD, THEODOSIA BURR BRANCH

1st Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Y.M.C.A. Bldg., 5200 Telegraph Rd., Ventura, Calif.
Mrs. Bernie Crosby, Secy.
231 Bethel St.
Ventura, Calif. 93003

SMOKY VALLEY BRANCH

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

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. Bannison, 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 Fedlacko, 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. Stuart J. Bracken, Secy.
727 Mt. Moro Rd., Villanova, Pa. 19085

CALENDAR

June 20—Seattle Branch: Program
—"Plant Culture of Show Plants".

June 23—Redondo Area Branch:
Donation plant table.

July 6—Westchester Branch:
Member panel discussion on be-
gonias.

July 15-16—Theodosia Burr Shep-
herd Branch: Annual begonia show
on Saturday, July 15 (1 to 6 p.m.),
and Sunday, July 15 (10 a.m. to 4
p.m.). At Cabrillo Junior High
School, 1426 E. Santa Clara Street,
Ventura, California. Excellent plant
table. Free admission.

July 22-23—Sacramento Branch:
6th annual Begonia and Companion
Plant Show on Saturday, July 22 (2
to 8 p.m.), and Sunday, July 23 (10
a.m. to 6 p.m.). At the Sacramento
Garden and Arts Center, 3330 Mc-
Kinley Blvd., Sacramento, California.
A spectacular of begonias and ex-
otics, featuring the theme "Begonias
to Grow and Show". Free admission.

July 29-30—Seattle Branch: 18th
annual Seafair Begonia, Fuchsia, and
Shade-loving Plant Show on Satur-
day, July 29 (2 to 9 p.m.), and
Sunday, July 30 (10 a.m. to 7 p.m.).
At the Loyal Heights Recreation
Center, 21st N.W. and N.W. 77th
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