

# The BEGONIAN



MAY, 1973

*Devoted to the Sheltered Garden*

VOL. 40, NO. 5



## GENERAL OFFICES

GENERAL OFFICES: dues, address changes, or magazines:  
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2317 So. Third Ave., Arcadia, Calif. 91006
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- Past President.....Mrs. Margaret B. Taylor  
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- Vice-President 2 years.....Jack Golding  
47 Cinton Ave., Kearny, New Jersey 07032
- Vice-President 3 years.....Charles A. Richardson  
5444 Hartwick St., Los Angeles, Calif. 90041

### BEGONIAN STAFF

- Editor.....Jack C. Bergstrom  
129 Agostino Rd., San Gabriel, Calif. 91776
- Co-Editor.....Mrs. Alva G. Graham  
929 Indiana Ave., So. Pasadena, Calif. 91030
- Contributing Editors.....Mrs. Elda Haring,  
Mrs. Helen Matsubu, Mrs. Phyllis Wright
- Advertising Manager.....Miss Anne L. Rose  
14036 E. Ramona Dr., Whittier, Calif. 90605
- Circulation Manager.....Mrs. Pearl Benell  
10331 S. Colima Road, Whittier, Calif. 90604

### APPOINTED OFFICERS

- Awards Chairman.....Mr. Walter Pease  
8101 Vicksburg Ave., Los Angeles, Calif. 90045
- Business Manager.....Mrs. Virginia Barnett  
1213 S. Mullender Ave., W. Covina, Calif. 91790
- Historian.....Mrs. Alice Broadhag  
9619 Broadway, Temple City, Calif. 91780

- Judging Course Director.....Mrs. Ruth Pease  
8101 Vicksburg Ave., Los Angeles, Calif. 90045
- Librarian.....Mrs. Lydia Austin  
15329 Eastwood Ave., Lawndale, Calif. 90260
- Membership Secretary.....Mrs. Betty Burrell  
14050 Ramona Dr., Whittier, Ca. 90605
- Nomenclature Director.....Rudolf Ziesenhenne  
1130 N. Milpas, Santa Barbara, Calif. 93103
- Parliamentarian.....Mrs. Margaret Ziesenhenne  
1130 N. Milpas, Santa Barbara, Ca. 93103
- Research Director.....M. Carleton L'Hommedieu  
370 Locust Ave., Oakdale, L.I., New York 11769
- Round Robin Director.....Mrs. Mae Blanton  
Route 4, Box 159A, Louiseville, Texas 75067
- Seed Fund Administrator.....Mrs. Florence Gee  
234 Birch St., Roseville, Calif. 95678
- Show Chairman.....Mrs. Cecelia Grivich  
2808 S. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, Calif. 91006
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Australia, New Zealand, and  
New Guinea.....Mrs. Phyl J. Setford  
P. O. Box 417, Mildura, Victoria, Australia

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

## BRANCH NOTES & CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 3 — Westchester Branch — 7:30 p.m.—Mr. Elmer Lorenz, Glendale Branch member, past president of the Bromeliad Guild and long time member of the ABS will enlighten us on the beautiful world of Bromeliads. Everyone is welcome to visit Westchester and learn. Our meeting is held at the Westchester Woman's Club, 8020 Alverstone Avenue in Westchester.

May 3 — Whittier Branch Meeting — 7:30 p.m. Speaker will be John Provine, horticulturalist at the Los Angeles County and State Arboretum, who will discuss begonias grown at their greenhouses and outside gardens.

May 8, 7:45 p.m. — Glendale Branch — Speaker will be Rudy Zieshenne on "Mexican Species." Everyone is urged to come. Refreshments will follow the program and there will be the usual plant table, probably with some Begonias from Rudy's collection.

May 11 — San Gabriel Valley Branch — Del Welhite will speak on "Interludes from Jungle Trails". He has made numerous trips into lower Mexico and Central America, the last one in late 1972. He spent some time with five different Indian tribes.

May 11 — North Long Beach

Branch, 5535 Stearns, Long Beach. Program: Branch president, D. C. Sullinger, will speak on "Growing Begonias from Leaves." Visitors are always VERY welcome. (Notice new meeting place.)

May 22 — Miami Branch, 8 p.m. Alice Nierenberg, a member of the branch, will give the program, "Raising Begonias from Seed." Alice and her husband, Larry, have collected begonias in Costa Rica, Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Larry was a biologist at the University of Miami. The talk will be illustrated with slides as well as plants.

May 25 — Redondo Area Branch — 6:30 p.m. May Day Potluck Dinner. Special Drawing for Staghorn (Continued on Page 103)

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### AIMS AND PURPOSES OF THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY, INC.

The purpose of this Society shall be:

TO stimulate and promote interest in *Begonias* and other shade-loving plants;

TO encourage the introduction and development of new types of these plants;

TO standardize the nomenclature of *Begonias*;

TO gather and publish information in regard to kinds, propagation and culture of *Begonias* and companion plants;

TO issue a bulletin which will be mailed to all members of the Society; and

TO bring into friendly contact all who love and grow *Begonias*.

## COVER PICTURE — THEY CALL IT PURPUREA

Jack O. Langrell

*Begonia purpurea* is the most beautiful palm leaf begonia I have ever seen. Its large shiny leaves will grow to two feet across, on stems three feet high. Its clusters of chartreuse flowers that bloom during the winter, make this a very special begonia in my greenhouse.

Seed of this species of begonia was obtained from its natural habitat in Brazil.

Mr. Rudolf Zieshenne said, "*Purpurea* is not its correct name. I believe it to be a variety of *macdougalii*, that is found in Mexico. However, *purpurea* is the name people call it."

*Begonia purpurea* being a large rhizomatous begonia, prefers a drying out period between waterings, but never completely dried out.

The soil should have plenty of humus. I like oak leaf mold, and good drainage, with about forty percent fresh water sand or sponge rock.

I don't like to spray *B. purpurea* with water for I have found it to be susceptible to mildew at the leaf axils. I provide around fifty percent humidity at seventy degrees fahrenheit, and more humidity at higher temperatures and less humidity at temperatures below seventy degrees.

*B. purpurea* seems to enjoy about the same amount of light as that required by silver leaved Rex begonias. It is an adaptable plant. I have seen one growing quite well as a house plant for the past two years. I have grown one on my patio during the summer months in Seattle, Washington, where the night temperatures

drop from fifty to fifty-five degrees fahrenheit every night. Most of the time it is in the greenhouse with a minimum temperature of sixty-two degrees.

I find that *B. purpurea*, as with other rhizomatous begonias, responds well to organic fertilizers. By organic fertilizers, I mean fish emulsion or liquid barnyard manure. I find that less fertilizer, more often, is best. I like one quarter recommended strength weekly.

If you have not had the opportunity to become acquainted with this beautiful palm leaf begonia from the Brazilian jungles, I urge you to do so. I'm sure you will find a new friend and make room for it in your begonia collection.

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### 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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### CORRECTION

Chester Nave's red flowered semperflorens that has become so popular as a pot plant is *B. 'Gee Gee'*. It was named for our Seed Fund Registrar, Mrs. Florence Gee, so it should be easy to remember its spelling. Sorry it was incorrect in the April Begonian.

— From the Co-Ed's Desk.

## NOMINATIONS FOR ABS AWARDS

With the Forty-First Annual Convention and Show only three and one-half months away, it is time to start thinking about nominations for the three American Begonia Society Awards for 1973: the Eva Kenworthy Gray Award, the Alfred D. Robinson Memorial Medal and the Herbert P. Dyckman Service Award. Nominations may be made by any member of the ABS, and must be in writing. Please remember that these awards are not given as the result of a popularity contest but for merit and extraordinary service. The rules governing these awards are as follows:

### *Eva Kenworthy Gray Award*

This award is presented to a person who has contributed original literary material which aided members in their study of Begonias, or who has been outstanding in his or her promotion of interest in the culture of Begonias and the creation of good will and understanding between members in their search for knowledge of Begonias. He or she need not be a member of the American Begonia Society.

### *Herbert P. Dyckman Service Award*

This award is to be presented to a person who has rendered long-time or very outstanding service above and beyond that usually expected of a member or officer of the ABS.

### *Alfred D. Robinson Memorial Medal*

This medal is awarded to an outstanding Begonia Hybrid with the following stipulations:

1. All Begonia nominees must have been registered with the ABS Nomenclature Director.

2. The originator of the Begonia nominee must be a member of the ABS.
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.

Each nomination for the Eva Kenworthy Gray and Herbert P. Dyckman awards must include a list of specific reasons why the nominees are deemed worthy of receiving these awards, and no nomination will be considered without such list.

All nominations must reach the Chairman of the Awards Committee by July 1, 1973, in order that they may be forwarded to the other six committee members for review and analysis. The awards will be based on the nominee's merits rather than the number of letters received. A single letter of nomination will receive just as much attention and carry just as much weight as several. I must repeat that these are awards for merit and service, not popularity, so keep this in mind and send in your nominations. Mail all nominations to:

Mr. Walter W. Pease  
Awards Chairman, ABS  
8101 Vicksburg Avenue  
Los Angeles, Calif. 90045

July 1st is the deadline for sending in your nominations. DO IT NOW.

Previous recipients of the Eva Kenworthy Gray Award are: Mrs. Bessie Buxton, 1955; Miss Charlotte Hoak, 1956; Miss Constance Bower, 1957; Mrs. Alice Clark, 1958; Mr. Rudolf  
Continued on Page 103)



Marie Underdahl, winner of "Best in Show,"  
with her as yet unnamed Begonia cultivar.

## LONG ISLAND BRANCH FLOWER SHOW

By Dr. William Donnelly

On Friday, Saturday and Sunday, March 23, 24, and 25th, the Long Island Branch of the American Begonia Society held its first flower show.

One must remember that the Long Island Branch was brought into existence only last summer, mainly by the efforts of Millie Thompson of Southampton, New York, who is our first president. Yet, our 84 members, new as they are, had 177 entries entered by 26 exhibitors, and 156 varieties were represented in the show. It was beautiful!

The Sweepstakes were won by Millie and Ed. Thompson, and Best in Show was won by Marie Underdahl for an unnamed variety of begonia.

The Show Chairman was Wendy Stuart and the Assistant Show Chairman in charge of staging was Henry Sweitzer. You have never seen such a beautiful show and Wendy and Henry together with their committee

of 15 other helpers really deserve a great deal of credit.

The Show was held in the Walt Whitman Shopping Center in Melville, New York. The Merchants Association of the Walt Whitman Shopping center supplied the area (including an enormous aviary of very beautiful but noisy tropical birds) and also the tables, tablecloths, ribbons, bowls — all in a beautiful enclosed mall visited by thousands of people daily.

We signed up 50 new members at the show making our total membership 134. This is a real accomplishment when one considers that the Branch was only an idea last summer.

You would have to have been there to really appreciate the beauty of the plants and the staging. The thousands of people who came to gaze and ask questions and join our branch are a tribute to the success of the Show and our Branch.

It is too bad that lack of space

forbids the listing of all those who worked on the Show Committee to make it the beautiful spectacle it was. Nor does space allow the listing of the numerous awards made for very lovely plants and artistic displays. We would however, like to leave a bit of space for a thank you to Ruth Pease, our National Judging Chairman, whose advice and help made it possible to stage this really beautiful show. Come and see our show next year!

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### ABS AWARDS

(Continued from Page 101)

Ziesenhene, 1959; Mrs. Louise Schwerdtfeger, 1960; Mrs. Helen Krauss, 1961; Mr. Bert Slatter, 1962; Mrs. Bernice Brilmayer, 1962; Dr. Clyde Drummond, 1963; No award 1964; Mary L. Gillingwaters, 1965; Mrs. May Taft Drew, 1966; Mrs. Sylvia B. Leatherman, 1967; Drs. Lyman B. Smith & Bernice G. Schubert, 1968; Mr. Harry M. Butterfield, 1969; Mrs. Ruth Pease, 1970; No award 1971; Mrs. Elda Haring, 1972.

Previous recipients of the Herbert P. Dyckman Memorial Award are: Mrs. Florence Gee, 1968; Mr. Herb Warrick, 1968; Mrs. Alva Graham, 1969; Mrs. Edna Korts, 1969; No award 1970 or 1971; Mr. Everett Wright, 1972.

Previous recipients of the Alfred D. Robinson Medal are: 'Silver Star'; 'Freddie'; 'Golden West', 1949; 'Ricky Minter', 1950; 'Glendale', 1950; 'Virbob', 1951; 'Orange Rubra', 1954; 'Verde Grande', 1957; 'Kumwa', 1961; 'Madame Queen', 1964; 'Sophie Cecile', 1966; 'Purple Petticoats', 1968; 'Lady Frances Jean', 1969; 'Eunice Gray', 1972.

## CALENDAR

(Continued from Page 99)

Fern. Round Table Discussion. Hidden Auction and Plant Table.

June 8 — North Long Beach Branch, 5535 Stearns, Long Beach. Program: Member Jack Lowder will show slides and comment on "Gardens in America and Europe." Visitors are always VERY welcome.

June 12, 7:45 p.m. — Glendale Branch — "How I Grow Begonias" will be disclosed by Sylvia Leatherman at this meeting. She will provide the plant table. Refreshments will be served, and everyone is invited to attend.

June 22 — Redondo Area Branch — 7:30 p.m. Speaker: Irene Nuss on "Cane Begonias." Plant Table and Refreshments.

June 26 — Miami Branch, 7 p.m. The June meeting will be a covered dish supper to celebrate the Fortieth Anniversary of the founding of the American Begonia Society.

July 14-15 — The Ventura Theodosia Burr Shepherd branch annual Flower Show will be held July 14 from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. and the 15th from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Anacapa Junior High at 100 Mills Rd., Ventura, Calif. No admission charge and free parking.

July 27 — Redondo Area Branch — 6:30 p.m. Potluck Dinner. Speaker: Joe Littlefield on "Begonias and General Gardening." Plant Table and Coffee.

July 29 — Theodosia Burr Shepherd Branch Garden Tour, beginning at 265 Walnut Drive, Ventura. 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

# BEGONIA SHOWS — QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

By Ruth Pease

Question: Reprints of the ABS Point Scoring System for Judging Begonias and A Suggested Guide to Classification of Begonias for Show Purposes were made because the first editions were sold out. Were changes made in the reprints?

Answer: The Point Scoring Book is made up of two sections: Point Scoring Schedules and Distribution of Points by Category. There were some additions and some deletions made in the Distribution of Points by Category section.

No changes were made in the Classification Guide itself, but a xeroxed sheet of corrected Begonia names is included with each copy sold. These are the corrections in spelling noted in an article by Jack Golding in the January 1972 Begonian.

Question: Since the Classification Guide was published, a number of new and different Begonias have been introduced to growers everywhere. What can classification clerks do at shows when exhibitors bring these to the show?

Answer: Consideration should be given to the habit of growth of the plant itself. If the classification clerk is a grower, he or she may recognize similarities to other Begonia varieties and refer to their names in the Guide, placing the newcomer into its proper division and class at the show.

On the other hand, if he realizes ahead of time that some of these Begonias may be brought to the show and that they are not listed in the

Guide, he may check with the Nomenclature Director for assistance.

There are descriptive paragraphs in the first few pages of the Guide which define thick-stemmed Begonias, rhizomatous Begonias with distinctive foliage and so on. This reference section in the Guide should be used frequently to understand the present system of classifying Begonias for show purposes.

Question: Have you found any plants entered in the Annual Show that do not fit exactly as they are noted in the Guide?

Answer: Some. We noticed two years ago that an entry of *B. mazaе* and another of *B. 'Ellen Dee'* were in competition in the class for cane-like trailer. Singly, these plants fall into the category nicely, but when seen in competition they seemed to be at odds. Show committees will be observing these things for years. In this particular case, it might have been helpful if there were classes for hybrids and classes for species! It is difficult to say. Each show is different, each area is different and the entries each year are different. Show committees should record their observations. This would help classification committees in the future. The Guide, just as other publications, should be looked into and updated every five to ten years in order to keep up with changes and needs of the Society.

Remember, no matter how we cut it, the judges must eventually make

a decision for Best Begonia in a Division and then Best Begonia in the Show from winners in Begonia divisions. All types of growth habits and appearances compete together for these awards.

Having plants of similar appearance and growth habits compete together in their proper classes and divisions is of major importance to the judges as they proceed through the show performing their duties carefully. It is easier for them to judge fairly and it is also better for exhibitors since they find their plants competing with look-alikes and having the advantage of being scored fairly with the use of the scoring system for the particular type of Begonia.

Judges may look at the two in this case and mentally make adjustments for their being alike in habit of growth as stated in the Guide but different in actual appearance (foliage-wise). This is part of judging and judges, usually growers themselves, are quick to realize if a plant is outstanding, yet seemingly slightly different from the others in its class.

We also noted a need for a narrow-leaved (bare-leaved) class in the shrub-like division. And the possibility of a separate division for the small-leaved (bare-leaved) shrub-like plants since they really seem to be a breed of their own. Again, this would depend upon how many such entries came to the show and what they had to compete with in a particular show.

The following are now listed as ABS-accredited Judges:

Mr. James Wyrzten  
Senior Judge  
165 Bryant Avenue  
Floral Park, New York 11001

Mrs. Adele C. Zemansky  
Now a Senior Judge  
736 Rutland Avenue  
Teaneck, New Jersey 07666

Mr. Walter Pease, Jr.  
Sophomore Judge  
8101 Vicksburg Avenue  
Los Angeles, Ca. 90045

Send your questions to  
Mrs. Ruth Pease  
Director, ABS Judges Course  
8101 Vicksburg Avenue  
Los Angeles, Ca. 90045

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#### IN MEMORIAM

Herta Benjamin, a charter member of the Knickerbocker Branch, died March 4, 1973. She has been Contributing Editor of The Begonian for many years and her active interest will be greatly missed. Our sympathy goes to her husband and family.

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## ROUND ROBIN NOTES

Robin members are having a lot of excitement to share as spring makes its way across the country, leading the way for many new experiments with their plants. A packet of robin letters can be like a small book on Begonias, giving some very pleasant reading when you receive it. You don't know what you are missing if you don't belong to a robin!

Bowl Begonias continue to spark much interest. Casey Marchlewicz of Illinois shared some beautiful pictures of her large landscaped terrariums and bubble bowls. She is experimenting with *B. ficicola* in three different places. The one in the large fish tank under two 40-watt lamps is growing like a weed and has large leaves but still no flowers. The one in the large bubble with 32 watts of light is growing but has very small leaves. One in the 5 gallon bottle at the end of the 40-watt light is almost at a standstill so she would say that it does better under lights for her.

Mark Golding, New Jersey, has *B. ficicola* in a 14" bubble bowl and in a 5 gallon bottle. The one in the bowl does better. It has bloomed for him three times since the convention. To get it to bloom, he reduces the amount of time his lights are on from 18 hours to about 7 hours for about a week. Then each week he increases the amount of light about an hour at a time until he has 12-13 hours of light, keeping it this way until it blooms. If this doesn't work, he gives the plant a bad chill every night for about a week. If he doesn't kill it, it blooms!

Priscilla Beck, Connecticut, was interested to read that many can only

grow *B. rajah* and *B. ficicola* tightly covered. Hers were covered in the beginning but have grown so large they pushed their covers off and although covers are lying on top, they haven't been on tight for ages. *B. rajah* has been in bloom for almost a year. She thinks maybe it has to do with the fact that her lights are on about 11 hours.

Mark has *B. 'Mumtaz'* in a large bottle and it has leaves that measure 15-18 inches. They are a bright red. He notes that if you cut the end of the rhizome off, the plant will grow two or more shoots and the leaves come out in pairs instead of singly. The more you cut the rhizome, the bushier the plant gets. It hasn't stopped blooming for about 10 months. Every third leaf throws up a flower spike.

Dorcas Resleff, Washington, has many of the terrarium Begonias in gallon jugs (jugs cut off one inch from the bottom). She cut one jug near the bottom and another one near the top, putting the straight sides together to enclose her plant of *B. 'Exotica.'* It is about one foot tall and is just comfortable in the double height jug.

Claire Roberts, New Mexico, from her experience finds that *B. imperialis* does much better in a bowl than outside, as does *B. versicolor*.

Patt Schumacher of Florida said her *B. nurii* was in bloom earlier this winter and now has little seedlings coming up along side the plant. She had tried crossing it with something else but didn't think it took so forgot about it. Her large brandy snifter containing *B. violifolia* is going to be too small for it if it continues to

grow the way it has. Some of the leaves are 2" long and about 1½" wide, with beautiful texture and color.

Anita Sickmon, Kansas, had a friend bring her a small start of *B. prismatocarpa* planted in a clear plastic picnic water glass with another glass inverted over it. The leaf had been put to root in vermiculite and the two glasses joined together with a strip of plastic tape around the junction of the glasses. It has been there for months and seems happy there. You can look quite readily through the glass to see what is going on. Anita has been using some of these same type glasses to propagate the "bowl" Begonias with clear plastic wrap over the glass after she inserts the leaf. Every *B. versicolor* rooted but she lost some of the *B. aridicaulis*, *B. subnummularifolia* and *B. rajah*. She feels late January was too early and that more will root easily as spring advances.

Margaret Collins of Florida has been successful in growing plants from tiny leaves she rooted of *B. foliosa*. And from Texas, Louise McCree reported that her brother grew *B. metallica* from a leaf in a terrarium.

Edna Stewart of Pennsylvania said she had a Reiger Elatior Begonia on her kitchen window sill, where it has been since last May. It was up to the middle of the window and took up the whole sill so she cut it back. It has never quit blooming since she received it. Reigers require a lot of water, she feels, and she gives hers a glassful every day.

Arline Peck, Rhode Island, said the fern she has gotten a kick out of this past year is *Tectaria circutalia*

(Button Fern). It gets its tiny bulb-like buttons mostly on top of the leaf on the veins. When the tiny bulb opens at top, she plants it with the top up and it soon grows a new fern. Vivian Stewart of Washington has several small maiden hair ferns that she is going to try in terrariums. They are so tiny and delicate they should be very beautiful with a miniature Begonia for contrast. Ruth Stanley, Ohio, said she had found that it doesn't pay to destroy a planting of fern spores under 2-3 years. Some spores are very slow to germinate.

If you'd like to compare notes with others on your seedlings, cuttings, greenhouse, terrariums or any other phase of Begonia growing, why not sample a robin or two? Believe me, it's contagious! If you like to hybridize, study the species, grow tuberous, or just want to learn about Begonias and other shade plants, come on and join us. We'll welcome you. Just write and let me know.

Mrs. Mae Blanton  
Round Robin Director  
Rt. 4, Box 159A  
Lewisville, Texas 75067



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## CLAYTON M. KELLY SEED FUND

### B. Rex hybrids. American.

Especially grown for the Seed Fund from some of the best plants that have been crossed to bring out the brilliant reds as well as other popular rex colors. Both spirals and non-spirals are included and, because rex Begonias are such complicated hybrids, they will not come true from seed. One seed capsule seldom produces two plants alike. Price \$1.00 per pkt.

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

\* \* \*

### SPRING SALE — BY REQUEST

Hundreds of plants may be grown from this collection which is yours for the nominal fee of eight dollars. Single pkts. are fifty cents each.

#### No. 1—B. popenoei.

Bright green leaves, white flowers. Found growing in wet tropical forest.

#### No. 2—B. J11. Brazil sp.

Belongs to section Pritzelia and appears to be closely related to *B. friburgensis*.

#### No. 3—B. olsoniae syn. B. velloziana. Brazil.

Rhizomatous plant, considered one of the most beautiful Begonias grown.

#### No. 4—B. pearcei

Widely grown to-day and contributed to early modern hybrids.

#### No. 5—B. luxurians. Brazil.

Good foliage Begonia.

#### No. 6—B. 'Rubaiyat' (dichroa seedling).

Bushy plant, green leaves some times silver-spotted. Large clusters of soft pink flowers.

#### No. 7—B. 'Bertina Hybrids'

Flowers fuchsia-like, long and slender, red, pink and orange-scarlet.

#### No. 8—B. Johnstoni. Africa.

Pale green leaves and red-spotted stems; large pink flowers.

#### No. 9—B. pruinata. Costa Rica.

Smooth rounded leaves glisten like silver.

#### No. 10—B. sc 'Butterfly'.

Mixed. Enormous flowers, shiny green foliage. Grow in semi-shade outdoors or in pots for long blooming season.

#### No. 11—B. glabra, also called B. scandens cordifolia.

Climbing type with handsome, high-gloss green leaves in abundance; white flowers.

#### No. 12—B. rosaeflora.

Ancestor of present day large tuberous Begonias.

**No. 13—*B. laciniata*. North Thailand.**

About two feet tall with pink flowers.

**No. 14—*B. lindleyana*.**

Rhizomatous plant with nice pink flowers.

**No. 15—*B. sanguinea*.**

Thick, leathery, oval leaves, red-brown over green on top; red underneath; white flowers. Good basket.

**No. 16—*B. convolvulacea*. Brazil.**

Hanging type with light green oval leaves, white flowers in spring.

**No. 17—*B. odorata*. South America.**

Patent leather leaves slightly cupped when young. Flowers white and sometimes fragrant.

**No. 18—*B. boliviensis*.**

Distinguished tuberhybrida ancestor with clusters of five-petaled orange-scarlet flowers with golden stamens.

**No. 19—*B. sc mixed*.**

Chance of a few *Calla* lily type in these.

\* \* \*

**GREENHOUSE PLANTS**

***Kohleria eriantha*.**

Gesneriaceae. Soft-hairy, scaly rhizome, deep green, ovate, toothed leaves. Orange-corolla tubes widening toward the throat which is pale yellow and marked blood-red.

***Streptocarpus hybrids*.**

Large flowers of various colors.

\* \* \*

***Platynerium lemoinei*.**

**Staghorn Fern.**

Prolific plant with basal fronds distinctly reniform, developing occa-

sional erect lobes; grey fertile fronds very slender, erect spreading, later pendant, twice forked, very narrow in all parts, both sides densely white tomentose; sori V-shaped at tips. Price 50 cents per pkt.

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**BOARD MEETING TO BE HELD IN SAN DIEGO**

At the invitation of the San Miguel and Alfred D. Robinson Branches of the American Begonia Society the regular board meeting will be held on Sunday, May 27, in San Diego. It will convene at 2 p.m. in Room 104, Casa del Prado, in Balboa Park. Since this is where the Alfred D. Robinson Memorial Begonia Garden was dedicated last August, the morning can be spent in the big lath house where the exhibit of Begonias is located. All members of ABS will be welcome at this meeting. Come and bring your friends.

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## IN MEMORIAM CONSTANCE D. BOWER

Miss Constance D. Bower passed away in San Diego on August 30, 1972, shortly after her eightieth birthday.

Born in San Diego, California, on July 24, 1892, Connie, as she was affectionately known to her friends, was one of the early group in San Diego with Eva Kenworthy Gray and Alfred D. Robinson which spread the interest in begonia growing in Southern California and finally nationally. She shared her knowledge of begonia culture in early Begonia Round Robin letters, prior to the founding of the California Begonia Society which became the American Begonia Society.

An avid plant grower, when she retired after many years as secretary to the publisher of the San Diego Union, she founded and operated the "Constance Bower Gardens" at 2412 L Street, San Diego, specializing first in begonias, then adding succulents which were more in demand, and African Violets. After she closed her nursery, she continued to supply the Saintpaulias to an outlet in a local department store.

In recognition of her deep interest in begonias and in helping others to grow them successfully, the species, *Begonia bowerae*, was named for her in 1950 (The Begonian April 1950, pp 76-78.) Connie was aware that *B. bowerae*, its forms and varieties have given rise to over 130 named cultivars, all showing the characteristic dark markings of *B. bowerae* on the leaf and the eyelashes on the leaf edge.

Constance Bower has left us a

legacy of some very beautiful begonia hybrids which are listed:

- 1927 B. 'Pink Neely Gaddis', a B. 'Viaude' seedling.
- 1928 B. 'Conbow', a B. 'Thurstoni' seedling.
- 1932 B. 'Druryi', (B. 'Cyprea' X *B. sanguinea*.)
- 1935 B. 'Froncosa', parents unknown.
- 1937 Begonias 'Pala', 'Palomar', 'Ramola', and 'Red-veined Incana'; all from the cross of *Begonias incana* X *ricinifolia*.
- 1937 B. 'Rufida', parents unknown
- 1940 B. 'Connie Bower', (B. 'Alzasco' & B. *dichroa*.)
- 1941 B. 'Lulu Bower' (B. 'Alzasco' & B. *dichroa*.)
- 1950 B. 'Improved Elaine', a chance seedling from B. 'Elaine'.
- 1950 B. 'White Elaine', a chance seedling from B. 'Elaine'.
- 1952 B. 'Arabelle' (B. 'Margaritaceae' X B. 'Lulu Bower')
- 1952 B. 'Faustine' (same as B. 'Arabelle')
- 1952 B. 'Melisse' (same as B. 'Arabelle')
- B. 'Jimmie', an 'Elaine' seedling, date unknown.

Miss Bower received the 1957 Eva Kenworthy Gray Award in recognition of her outstanding work with begonias. She was the third recipient of this ABS award, the first being Mrs. Bessie Buxton and the second Miss Charlotte Hoak. (See The Begonian Vol. XXLV, No. 12, December 1957, p. 274.)

Rudolf Ziesenhenn  
Nomenclature Director

## A BUBBLE BEGONIA

By Mike Kartuz

Mike Kartuz suggests *B. nurii* Irmscher if you enjoy growing begonias in bubbles and bowls and can find room for another. *B. nurii* is a lovely small species that qualifies as one of the begonias that is so old that it is new. It is indigenous to the Malay Peninsula, was discovered in 1929, and described and named by the late Dr. Edgar Irmscher of Germany. During its first fifty years in civilization, it seems to have been overlooked, at least by growers in this country. It is mentioned only once, in *The Begonian* of April 1953, and then, only as one in a list of species begonias.

However, at the beginning of its second half-century, 1969, Chuck Tagg of California reported success in growing it, and apparently members of ABS in Texas had *B. nurii*.

Hearsay suggests that it was sent as seed in a ROUND ROBIN from Britain. It has light olive-green rounded and cupped leaves, with irregular silver spots especially prominent on the young growth. The leaf margin shows a tinge of reddish brown apparent on both upper and lower surfaces. Margins are somewhat undulate with hairs similar to those of *B. bowerae*. The flowers, white with pink on the backs of the petals, are small but are borne freely.

Mike grows *B. nurii* Irmscher well in his humid glass-house but he advises that for sure success under home conditions, one should place it in sphagnum, in a covered container. Soak the long shredded moss in a weak fertilizer solution,  $\frac{1}{4}$  tsp. of 15-30-15 to a gallon of water.

When the moss has taken up all the water it will, squeeze out the excess and place the sphagnum in a clear glass bowl to a depth that will just cover the roots of the begonia. If the plant has been grown in soil it is better to remove a part of it. Immerse the roots gently in tepid water to accomplish this. If in perlite this is not necessary. Place the plant in a depression in the moss and tuck the moss around the roots.

Select a bowl appropriate to the size of the plant, then let the roots fill the moss before placing in a larger bowl. A plastic cover like saran is preferable to glass because it allows the passage of air but prevents moisture from leaving the enclosure. If the bowl is completely closed it may not need more water for many weeks, or possibly not until it is ready for a larger bowl. If the moss should dry add fresh fertilizer solution until moist again, but not wet. Place the bowl in good light but not sun. Fluorescent light suitable for African violets will be fine for *B. nurii*.

Mike says that in California he saw beautiful plants grown in large glass bubbles. It's worth trying. *B. nurii* is truly a charming begonia.

— From *The Buxtonian*,  
newsletter of Buxton Branch.

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## RIEGERS IN SACRAMENTO

By Clarence Hall  
*Past President A.B.S.*



As soon as the supply of Rieger elatior begonias catches up with the demand for these sensational new plants, Sacramento area gardeners and house plant enthusiasts are going to have a field day.

Challenging the beauty of the magnificent tuberous *Begonia elatior* which grow to perfection in the moist climate of places like the Bay Area and Santa Cruz, *Begonia elatior* grows splendidly here in Sacramento — indoors or out — taking our summer heat as well as bedding begonias do.

And, with a minimum of care in the home, they are in beautiful color nearly all year. One I received in April last year is still showing color. Even if it weren't, the cupped and tri-colored leaves are so handsome they challenge the beauty of the blossoms.

Indoors the plants like to be kept in a moist medium irrigated with water at room temperature—between 68 and 70 degrees—and roots should not be allowed to get cold. The plants like an East, North or West window in summer and a South window in winter. Avoid overwatering or they will mildew.

Outdoors they will probably do best if planted in semi-shade, but so little is known about their performance here that a gardener might move a pot into a sunnier location to compare the performance. One of the intriguing aspects of gardening is such experimentation. Often an amateur gardener will discover a plant thrives in an area where books and experts advise against growing it!

So, be on the lookout for these beauties in nurseries during these early months of 1973.

## IN MEMORY OF ELSA FORT

Twenty-three years ago, in April 1950, a small group of friends met at the home of Elsa Fort in Pensauken, N.J. This was an important day for us, because, inspired by her enthusiasm and her, at that time, "windowsill" Begonias, we decided to form a branch of A.B.S. Officers were chosen, a committee was named to draw up By-Laws, and we applied for a Charter for the Elsa Fort Branch. This was doubtless the first inter-racial Begonia Society Branch in this country.

Elsa gave us directions for soil, watering, light, etc., and when we left each of us had a cutting to start at home. How well we remember those plants — *B. dregei*, *B. digswelliana*, *B. 'Washington Street'* — names not heard very often these days.

After twenty-three years of association we can look back and realize how much time and effort Elsa put into helping us, how much of her "know-how" and enthusiasm was passed on to us; how many plants and cuttings we received from her.

Elsa Fort loved her plants and flowers and they reciprocated by thriving for her.

Now she has been taken from us but, fortunately, memories linger on and on, especially in the minds of members of the Elsa Fort Branch American Begonia Society.

(I'd like to add that, thanks to the generosity of the family, Elsa's plants were given to members of the Elsa Fort and Philobegonia Branches).

By Lola E. Price

\* \* \*

The Philobegonia Branch has lost a dear friend, our good and able

teacher, Elsa Fort Weber. She died February 27 at the age of 85 years. For some time she was the Eastern Public Relations Chairman of ABS. She will be missed by a host of friends here in the East.

Anne Stiles, Secretary

## CELEBRATION FOR THE ZUGS

Susie and Percy Zug were feted February 24 in honor of their 60th wedding anniversary. An open house at their home in the Magnolia Home Park in Glendora was hosted by their children and close neighbors, and over 150 friends enjoyed the afternoon, some coming from as far as Santa Barbara and San Diego.

They received congratulations from President and Mrs. Nixon and from more than 140 other friends.

Susie is one of the successful hybridizers of Begonias, and even in the April Begonian her newest cross, *B. 'Christine'*, is published. It is No. 334. Her first one was No. 3, 'Maximilian', back in 1951. And in between there have been many others, including 'Verde Grande,' 'Sir Percy,' and 'Silver Jewel', to name a few.

The Begonian congratulates you, Susie and Percy, and wishes you many more anniversaries.

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## CARAVAN WEST

Dear A.B.S. Member:

We invite you and all A.B.S. Begonia lovers to join our CARAVAN WEST to the American Begonia Society's Annual Convention and Begonia Show.

Here is an opportunity to meet West Coast begonia enthusiasts and see those specimen plants, so large, they are often grown in tubs. Meet the members of the A.B.S. Board and the hard working staff of the Begonian.

Plenty of free time has been allotted for you to see the many points of interest in both the Los Angeles and San Francisco areas. For those who join the CARAVAN brochures will be available regarding tours.

Originally our tour was scheduled for 7 days and 8 nights at \$348, all inclusive, except meals. Because we wanted you to have more time in San Francisco, we have included two extra nights at a slight increase.

It is necessary to have your deposit of \$100 by April 30th and the balance by May 31st. This is necessary in order to hold our Motel reservations.

Please make your checks payable to "CARAVAN WEST" and mail to:

Mrs. Raymond C. Cronin  
88 Ledgeways  
Wellesley Hills, Mass. 02181

Do join us!

### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS OF CARAVAN WEST

#### AUGUST 16

Arrive Los Angeles  
Show set-up

#### AUGUST 17

Judging—Free day for guests  
6:30-8:00 P.M. Gala champagne  
preview—Dutch Treat

#### AUGUST 18

Morning free  
1:00 P.M. Annual Meeting  
Election of A.B.S. Officers  
6:30 P.M. Social Hour at Fullerton  
Hilton.  
8:00 P.M. Annual Banquet by  
reservation  
Installation of Officers  
Guest Speakers

#### AUGUST 19

10:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. Seminars  
2:00-4:00 P.M. Seminars  
Speakers from both coasts will be  
featured

#### AUGUST 20

9:00 A.M. Bus tour, San Marino.  
Huntington Library Art Gallery  
and Botanical Gardens. Visit famous  
Japanese Landscaped canyon  
with a traditional Japanese garden;  
Camellia collection comprising  
1,500 varieties; the Desert garden,  
ten acres, largest garden of  
mature cacti and succulents in the  
world.

Library contains such treasures as  
The Gutenberg Bible, Ellesmere  
manuscript of Chaucer's Canterbury  
Tales, and Benjamin Frank-

lin's autobiography in his own hand.

The Art Gallery is in the famous Huntington Family residence. Modeled on 18th century French and English designs, elegantly furnished, it houses some of the most famous art treasures in the world.

1:00 P.M. Bus tour Los Angeles State & County Arboretum, Arcadia, Calif. Collection of living plants from every continent in the world. Exhibits and buildings representative of California's early heritage. Guided tram tours.

7:00 P.M. Cocktail party at home of John Provine, A.B.S. President

**AUGUST 21**

Free day. Optional tours

**AUGUST 22**

Free day. Optional tours

**AUGUST 23**

Fly to San Francisco

6:00-8:00 P.M. Hall of Flowers, Golden Gate Park. Preview of Flower Show. The show is a joint venture encompassing over twenty plant societies. Included with Begonias will be Orchids, Fuschias, Roses, African Violets, fine flower arrangements. Dutch Treat.

**AUGUST 24**

Optional. By private car to Rod McClellan's 'Acres of Orchids'. Rod, who is a member of the San Francisco Branch, American Begonia Society, is developing a fine collection of Rexes. His greenhouses

cover one of the largest areas of house plants.

Afternoon. Guided tour of world-famous Strybling Arboretum in Golden Gate Park.

**AUGUST 25**

Garden tours of gardens of members of San Francisco Branch.

Evening. Annual Begonia Exhibitors Dinner. By reservation.

7:00 P.M. (Tentative) Happy Hour.

8:00 P.M. Dinner

\$100.00 to confirm 'Caravan' reservation by April 30, 1973.

Balance by May 31, 1973.

Inquiries:

Mrs. Raymond C. Cronin  
88 Ledgeways  
Wellesley Hills, Ma. 02181  
Phone: 235-6833; 235-6832

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**MATERIAL NEEDED FOR  
'THE BEGONIAN'**

We appreciate all material which is of interest to members of The American Begonia Society, such as articles, branch notes, etc. Please type and double space on white paper and send to the Editor. Pictures should be black and white with clear distinctions. Thank you.

**BEGONIAS  
HOUSE and GARDEN PLANTS**

*Send for List—10c*

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Louisburg, Missouri 65685**

## RESEARCH

### Sex Expression in B. 'semperflorens'

By W. G. McGregor

Member of Research Committee

Breeding lines of *B. semperflorens* showing different genotypical tendencies of sex expression were used. Groups of twenty plants of one genotype (strain) produced 2.4% females over a period of May to September while another produced 34.2% over the same period. A group of thirty plants varied from 10.5% females in March to 23.1% in July to 22.4% in September. Six growth substances such as gibberellic acid, 2.4D, cycocel (B9), ethrel, etc., were used in different concentrations in parts per million during different

development stages to influence the sex expression. Gibberellic acid elongated growth while ethrel retarded growth in all concentrations. It was impossible to prove any significant effect of these treatments. Strain, season, age and nutritional conditions were influential however.

Reference — V. Lichtenberg. Studies on the ratio of sex expression among the flowers of *B. semperflorens* and on the possibilities for artificial influences by application of growth substances. 1971.

### Day Length for Rex Begonias

By W. G. McGregor

In this experiment in Germany plants of the Rex B. 'Reiga' were subjected to different day lengths and partly also to different temperatures. In a day length of 12 hours or more plants grew with large leaves and long petioles. Under short day conditions two reactions were found. In some experiments the rest period was induced and shoot tips would die out. In others the growth continues with the newly developed leaves smaller with shorter petioles as compared with the long day conditions. The reason for such different reactions is not yet known. At temperatures ranging from 50° to 77°F. under long day conditions the plants grew stronger with rising temperatures. Under short day conditions at each temperature the results were as stated above.

Reference — W. Runger and B. Wehr. Influence of day-length on the growth of *Begonia Rex cultorum*. 1970.

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## THE NATIONAL BEGONIA SOCIETY OF ENGLAND

By Alva Graham

The National Begonia Society held its 23rd annual show in September in conjunction with the Birmingham Flower Show, and according to the society's Bulletin it was "bigger and better" than ever. There were 206 new members reported for the year, bringing the membership to over 700. Later the annual meeting was held and the following officers were elected: President, L. A. Simpson; Chairman, John Woolman V.M. H.; Vice-Chairman, D. S. Anderson; Sec./Treas., Fred J. Martin; Ass't Secretary, C. G. Woolley. Plans are now being initiated for celebrating the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the society.

Exhibits of begonias were placed in other flower shows during the year, several shows having classes for begonias for the first time. Tables manned by society members gave out information and took memberships, the Shrewsbury Show bringing in 70 new members.

On July 2 the Blackmore & Langdon's Nurseries in Bath were hosts to 250 N.B.S. members who journeyed from all over Great Britain for the occasion. Before a sumptuous tea in the afternoon, the guests visited the four sections of the nursery; the seedling house, the named varieties house, the houses for hanging baskets and house-plants. In the seedling house, the most popular of all, each visitor was asked to vote for the three most beautiful of these unnamed hybrids, with a prize offered to the one naming the three that received the most votes.

During the tea break Secretary F. J. Martin presented the Society's Silver Medal of Honour to J. A. Lewin, a founder member of the N. B. S., who has been active on committees or as an officer ever since. This is only the seventh medal given in the Society's twenty-four years.

### CONDENSED MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the American Begonia Society was held on March 26, 1973, in the South Gate Auditorium with 15 officers and 9 branch representatives present. After the usual opening ceremonies, the minutes of the February meeting were read and approved.

The Treasurer reported receipts of \$1,314.22; disbursements \$1,376.37; leaving a balance on hand of \$3,801.68. Membership Secretary reported 127 new members; 133 renewals; total membership 2683; membership last year 2082; funds received and deposited \$1095.38; expenses \$36.79. Circulation Manager reported total Begonians dispersed 3004; total mailing expenses \$53.00. Advertising Manager reported receipts \$72.00; unpaid accounts \$32.50.

A motion was made and passed to send The Begonian to Horticultural Abstracts in England. The Treasurer reported that he had received word that Elsa Fort had passed away. The secretary was instructed to write a letter of sympathy to the Elsa Fort Branch to be forwarded to the family.

The Awards Chairman reported 7 Cul-

(Continued on Page 119)

### BEGONIAS

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# BRANCH DIRECTORY

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AT THESE MEETINGS

## **BUXTON BRANCH**

3rd Saturday, Homes of Members  
Mrs. F. N. Sinex  
34 Thackery Rd., Wellesley, Mass. 02181

## **CONNECTICUT BRANCH**

4th Sunday of each month  
Mrs. Priscella 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  
Diane McElroy  
9010 209th Ave., N.E., Redmond, Wash. 98052

## **EL MONTE COMMUNITY BRANCH**

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

## **FOOTHILL BRANCH**

3rd Friday, 8:00 p.m.  
First Methodist Church, Marshall Hall  
3205 D Street, La Verne, Calif.  
Mrs. Marie Schmidt, Secy.  
1296 Prospect  
Pomona, Calif. 91766

## **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.  
Eva Johnson, Sec'y  
704 E. San Antonio Dr., #3, Long Beach, Ca. 90807

## **LONG ISLAND BRANCH**

2nd Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.  
Planting Fields Arboretum  
Oyster Bay, Long Island, N.Y.  
Annette W. Boree, Sec'y  
8 Brown Road, Great Neck, N.Y. 11024

## **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  
55 South West 17th Road, Miami, Florida  
Rosamond Meriwether, Secretary  
1552 Plasentia Ave., Coral Gables, Florida 33134

## **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.  
Mrs. Esther Eberle, Secretary  
240 Grove Acres, Pacific Grove, Ca. 93950

## **NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH**

2nd Friday, 7:30 P.M., 5535 Stearns, Long Beach,  
Glendale Federal Savings and Loan Bldg.  
Barbara Welty, Secy.  
4741 Hazelbrook  
Long Beach, Calif. 90808

## **ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH**

2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.  
First Christian Church,  
1130 E. Walnut Street, Orange, California  
Dorothy Porter, Secy.  
19151 Lomita, Orange, Ca. 92667

## **PHILOBEGONIA BRANCH**

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

## **PORTLAND BRANCH**

Mrs. R. D. Morrison, President  
5305 S.W. Hamilton St., Portland, Oregon 97221

## **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, Ca. 90230

## **RHODE ISLAND BRANCH**

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

## **ROBINSON, ALFRED D. BRANCH**

2nd Tuesday, 10:30 A.M. Homes of Members  
Mrs. Frances King, Secretary  
3327 - 28th St., San Diego 92104

## **RUBIDOUX BRANCH**

4th Thursday, 7:00 p.m. West Riverside Memorial Hall  
4393 Riverview Drive Rubidoux, Ca.  
Dorothy Ansevics, Sec./Treas.  
4063 Opal St. Riverside, Ca. 92509

## **SACRAMENTO BRANCH**

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

## **SALINE COUNTY BRANCH OF KANSAS**

4th Monday, 2:00 p.m., Homes of Members  
Mrs. George Smith, Secy.  
916 Park St., Salina, Kansas 67401

## **SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH**

1st Wednesday, 8:00 p.m., Garden Center  
Golden Gate Park, 9th Avenue and Lincoln Way  
Mrs. H. C. Banks, Secy.  
1279 35th Ave., San Francisco, Ca. 94122

**SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH**

2nd Friday, 8:00 p.m.  
 Los Angeles State and County Arboretum  
 501 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, Calif.  
 Mrs. Alice Broadhag, Secy.  
 9619 Broadway, Temple City, Ca. 91780

**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 Puesta Del Sol  
 Miss Gladys M. Grant, Secy.  
 460 Mountain Dr., Santa Barbara, Calif. 93103

**SANTA CLARA VALLEY BRANCH**

4th Thursday, 8:00 p.m.  
 Northern Calif. S & L Assn.  
 10250 South Sunnyvale-Saratoga Rd.  
 Cupertino, Ca.  
 Mrs. Elizabeth K. Sayers, Secy.  
 369 Ridge Vista Ave., San Jose, Ca. 95127

**SEATTLE BRANCH**

3rd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.  
 Calvary Lutheran Church  
 7002 23rd Ave., N.W.  
 Mrs. Ray Hodgkinson, Secy.  
 11257 Evanston Ave., No. Seattle, Wash. 98133

**SHEPHERD, THEODOSIA BURR BRANCH**

1st Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.  
 Y.M.C.A. Bldg., 5200 Telegraph Rd., Ventura, Calif.  
 Mrs. Hattie Lee Keller, Secy.  
 510 E. Yucca St.  
 Oxnard, Calif. 93030

**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  
 Helen Harbord, Sec'y  
 17859 S.E. 196th Dr., Renton, Wash. 98055

**TARRANT COUNTY BRANCH**

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

**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.  
 Ramona Greb, Secy.  
 441 Hillside Lane, Santa Monica, Ca. 90402

**WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH**

2nd Wednesday, 11:00 a.m. every other month  
 Pittsburg Garden Ct., 1059 Shady Ave., Pittsburg, Pa.  
 Mrs. Genevieve Allison, Secretary  
 Butler, Pennsylvania

**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

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING....**

(Continued from Page 117)

tural Certificates had been sent to the Long Island Branch.

Judges Course Chairman reported receipts of \$145.25 for Judges Courses, Classification Guides and Point Scoring books sold; expenses \$20.63.

Margaret Ziesenhenné reported she had completed the 1972 Index of The Begonian, which was a tremendous job. A special vote of thanks was given Mrs. Ziesenhenné.

The President appointed Mrs. Ziesenhenné to do the Index next year. The Research Director's report was read. Research Committee members are active; Carrie Karegeannes has been working with *B. prestoniensis* of which she has a beautiful color plate from old literature; two more articles have been summarized by Grant McGregor; and Mac MacIntyre has some of his hybrids on display at the Liverpool Botanic Gardens. The Round Robin Director's report was read; 10 flights came through; 2 "lost" flights were re-started and 3 new flights launched.

The Show Chairman reported the committee had voted not to enter the Fuchsia and the Fern Shows this year due to the pressure of our own Show in August. A motion was made and passed to take the usual ad in the Fern Annual.

A committee was appointed to up-date a bulletin on Propagation and Culture of Begonias which was printed many years ago. Our representative to the South Coast Botanic Gardens reported they now have space for begonias and requested help in supplying plants. The Nominating Committee reported as follows: President Elect, Margaret Ziesenhenné; Secretary, Margaret Ireton; Treasurer, Walter Barnett; Vice-president for 3 years, Walter Hansen.

A motion was made and carried to accept the report. The president appointed the Show Committee to revise the Standing Rules of the Show and Margaret Ziesenhenné, Elsie Joyce, Rigmor Clarke and Edith Krupnick as the committee to revise the Rules on Operating Procedures. Margaret Lee reported that the Regional Meeting would be held at the Casa Del Prado, Room 104, Balboa Park on May 27th.

Following the usual branch reports, the meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Irene Grannell, secretary  
 Respectfully submitted,

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