

# The BEGONIAN



APRIL, 1974

*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.

## FROM THE EDITOR

Over the past few months since I became editor, I have received letters from numerous readers on a variety of subjects. Almost all of them have included complimentary remarks on our efforts with *The Begonian*.

Since I am listed as the editor most of these letters come to me, assuming that I'm entirely or largely responsible for what goes into the magazine.

However, Ed Bates is a "true" co-editor. We divide the work and the responsibility. It falls generally to Ed to decide what articles should be published to promote the theme of each issue. He solicits particular articles when we need them and searches for interesting material to add from other sources.

Ed has a substantial knowledge of horticulture in general and begonias in particular, giving him a fine background from which we constantly draw.

On a personal note, Ed is married and is the father of four sons. He has a master's degree in chemistry and works as a senior systems analyst for a computer manufacturer. He is active in the Horticultural Society, and publishes the newsletter for the Orange County Branch of the ABS.

We have found that there is more material than we have had room to

print. Jerry Rike, our advertising and business manager has also generated more advertising.

Twice we received from the National Board of Directors permission to expand particular issues from the normal 24 pages to 28 pages. At the last ABS Board of Directors meeting we received approval for permanent expansion to 28 pages at our discretion.

This will allow us to publish more articles of general interest and provide you with a greater variety of material. It is a battle of the scissors every month trying to fit into the restricted space. Some issues have traditionally required four extra pages to publish such things as the Constitution, the yearly index and the show program. For those issues, we will go to 32 pages.

The Board has also approved an adjustment in the advertising rate structure, to take effect with the July issue. These rates have not been changed since 1953 when they were lowered. This will help cover the increasing cost of paper and postage without increasing the membership dues.

Mr. Gene Moglia of the Long Island Branch has asked us to tell you that there will be a Photo Division, a Seedling Division for seedlings under nine months, and an Arts and  
(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*.



## DESIGNING THE SMALL GARDEN

By Evelyn Cronin

Small or mini-sized gardens are a constant feature at plant society shows, county fairs, expositions, and flower shows in general. Whether the garden is planned by the professional or the amateur, design is an inherent feature of each presentation. How does one plan a small exhibit or mini-garden for a show? Usually the sponsoring organization allots a space with given dimensions, and there is a show title or theme. Frequently the title or theme suggests the design. Given no general theme, one is free to present an idea or concept. The allotted space may be symmetrical or asymmetrical. This can also be a determining factor in the design chosen. If there is a written schedule with a given problem, then the schedule controls the type of design. It is wise to have a scale drawing; after the space has been designed, a scale model or a simple mock-up is a very helpful device. Having a plan or a design simply means organizing the space into pleasing solids and voids. Voids have shapes and are just as important as solids; simplicity of design is most effective and desirable. The smaller the area, the more restraint should be exercised. Below are some of the principles and elements of landscape design used in both exhibition type and home gardens.

**BALANCE:** There are two kinds of balance used in all art forms, including landscape design. The most common is *symmetrical* or formal balance; the other is *asymmetrical* or informal balance. In a traditional formal balance a central, cross, or

terminal axis is used. A pool or fountain placed in the center of a design provides a central axis. If the central axis is interrupted part of the way down its length with an equally strong axial line crossing it, a cross axis is created. When the central motif or accent is a door, window, corner of a building, etc., with a path leading to it, this is known as a terminal axis. In all of the above forms of symmetrical balance, all plant material is arranged in fairly equal quantity on each side of the axial lines. However, do not carry this theory to such lengths that all plant groupings are identical on both sides. This leads to monotony. Make certain that a sufficient sameness is created to produce an appearance of quiet and rest — balance.

Asymmetrical or informal balance is usually found in nature; thus a naturalistic design is usually an asymmetrical one. A simple example would be to use an architectural feature or a grouping of garden furniture on one side of an unstressed axial line balanced by groups of plantings on the other. The arrange-

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ment of objects, either similar or dissimilar on one side of a vertical axis is balanced by dissimilar elements in equilibrium or asymmetrical balance.

**UNITY:** Great attention should be given to the plant material and other features selected. Plants similar in form, texture, color and habit of growth, coming from a single or related ecological group, always seem to belong together. They create an harmonious composition, not only with themselves, but with each other. If a particular form, texture, or color is used throughout the design, a strong element of unification is introduced. Great care should also be exercised in choosing garden accessories. They should be chosen to complement the plant material used. A white marble statute in a rustic setting would destroy the unity of a design; likewise the wrong selection of garden furniture.

**ACCENT:** A design may be unified and balanced, yet be dull and uninteresting unless another principle of design is applied — accent. A design should contain some element which catches the eye and holds it. Contrast of color, texture of foliage, shape and height are effective and subtle means of providing accent. A more obvious approach, and perhaps more dramatic, is the use of related accessories such as sculpture, furniture, etc. Architectural features such as steps, walls, pools, etc., add interest and accent. In a small area great restraint is needed not to add too many features; avoid crowding a small area.

**PROPORTION AND SCALE:** While these two terms are quite similar in meaning and are frequently

interchanged in art discussions, it is best to examine them separately. *Proportion* is the proper relation between parts of the design and their relative extent; the term *scale* is generally used when referring to the relative size of objects and plants. The Greeks are said to have had a rule, sometimes spoken of as the "golden mean," which might be expressed mathematically as the ratio of seven to five. In other words, an area that is seventy feet long should be approximately fifty feet wide if it is to appear in good proportion. Walks, walls, terraces and any other landscape feature should be in good proportion to the allotted space. *Scale* is the size relationship of all of the components to each other. Objects and plants should be chosen so that they neither overpower nor dwarf anything else in the design.

**REPETITION, RHYTHM AND SEQUENCE:** When objects, units or plant groups are the same, or nearly so, and are used several times, the result is repetition. For example, beds and borders of the same size and shape may be repeated; similar straight or curved lines may be used to define pathways or planting areas, etc. This quality of repetition can easily degenerate into monotony unless it is carefully handled. To avoid this, rhythm, either regular or syncopated, can be introduced. Let us assume that as accent, benches have

(Continued on Next Page)

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been placed in indentations in the bordering beds spaced ten feet apart. Several benches on each side as repetition would be monotonous. If the benches were alternated with pieces of sculpture, a rhythm would be created that would relieve monotony entirely. Moreover, if such sculptures were not alike, a sense of sequence would also be developed, giving even greater life and a feeling of movement or progression to the scene. An extreme example, of course. Rhythm and sequences are easily expressed through the placement of plants, either as individuals or as groups. Tree forms, standard trained plants, may be carefully arranged to give a sense of rhythm. The use of recurring groups of plants, similar in most characteristics but different in color, foliage or texture, is the best means of creating an orderly movement (sequence) from one thing to another. This helps to avoid spottiness. Lines within a design may also be used to achieve repetition and rhythm. An architectural element, such as a pool, is more effective if its outline repeats the outline of the boundaries of the areas around it. Generally a square pool should be surrounded by square or oblong areas, and conversely, a round pool creates greater harmony surrounded by areas of similar shape.

The principles of design are concrete components and are constants. The elements of design are the artistic components perceived by the senses. In landscape design the elements are characterized by form, texture, color and harmony.

**FORM:** These may be columnar, conical, rounded, tall, oval, vase-

shaped, weeping, picturesque, etc. and can apply to all plant materials used in a design; i.e., upright juniper is columnar, norway maple, round; honey locust, vase shaped; spruce, pyramidal, etc. All plant materials fit into one of the above shapes. A tall or vase-shaped form can best be accented at the base by a globular or low-spreading form, and edged at a lower level with low growing spike forms or lawn. There should be a definite relationship in proportion between these three levels.

**TEXTURE:** A forest in the distance gives the appearance of all small or fine-textured foliage. Therefore, in order to increase the visual size of a small area, use small-leaved plants such as podocarpus, bamboo, etc. as background material for heavy or medium-textured specimens, as well as many of the broad-leaved tropicals. This serves to add perspective to the design; the Japanese have been using this device for thousands of years in their landscapes. The smallest object is always placed farther away to give an illusion of distance.

**COLOR:** We think of color in terms of the many hues found on the color wheel. Color is one of the most important elements of design because it creates the greatest visual impact. Yet great subtlety can be achieved through the use of the color green. Using the forest as an example, note how the shades of green vary; there are gray greens, blue greens, yellow greens, and red greens. Use the softer grey-greens and blue-greens in the background with strong greens in the foreground. This increases perspective and adds third dimension to a garden plan.

**CONCLUSION:** Whether a design is planned for a mini-garden in a show or the home garden, the results should give one pleasure. There should be a feeling of harmony and unity; a feeling that everything belongs in the scape. The most dramatic design will not "work" if one derives a feeling of restlessness or jumpiness. Avoid a design within a design; avoid too much variation in plant material; avoid the use of too many accessories, particularly in a very small area. One well chosen accessory, carefully placed, and integrated within the design, creates a much greater impact than many small ones. A curved line or asymmetrical balance in a small area can also give added perspective. Place plant material in pleasing masses, using groupings of three to five.

The use of one kind of plant material, such as begonias, in a small design or exhibition type garden, can be challenging and most effective. Read the schedule carefully and the scale of points. Generally, the scale of points indicates the predominance of one kind of plant material to conform with the particular plant society. Let this be your guide to the amount of other kinds of plant materials to be incorporated into the design. Always make certain that the addition is culturally correct; that it can be grown along with the plants featured. Use plant material that is not only ecologically correct but indigenous to your section of the country. The begonia family in all of its magnificent variations of shapes, color, texture, varying heights, lends itself extremely well to a small garden.

## Letter to the Editor:

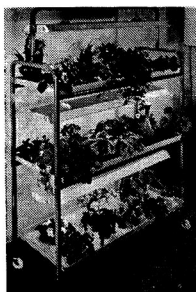
I greatly enjoyed Scott Hoover's February *Begonian* account of *Begonia* collecting in Colombia — and am proud that A.B.S. could have a part in the project.

The notes on the exotic orange-flowered species collected from twenty feet up a palm tree called to mind an unidentified species from Columbia offered in the Seed Fund in the October 1968 *Begonian*, p. 208, as No. 83. It also was orange-flowered and climbing. I wondered if they might be the same.

My seed of this species failed to germinate, but perhaps other members were more successful. And I wonder if any members who were able to grow this one might like to share photos and descriptions in the

*Begonian* — and thus possibly aid Mr. Hoover with the additional information. And, if these do prove the same, a later identification or new name would then be found for our No. 83 as well.

Sincerely,  
Carrie Karegeannes



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# HEATING THE GREENHOUSE

By Douglas Hart

I have been asked many times, "I'm starting up a new greenhouse, how should I heat it?" Last year I did a research paper on the heating of greenhouses for my Growing Structures class at Bellevue College. For those that might be interested, I am reprinting excerpts from that paper.

Ever since man has had the greenhouse or conservatory he has had the problem of heating it. "The efficient heating of greenhouses was a long, painful, and quite often a disastrous evolutionary process, exemplified by successions of scorched, 'boiled' asphyxiated plants, and not a few asphyxiated gardeners too as the fumes rose thick and rancid from the old flue system."

Earliest heating systems were no more than piles of peat moss smoldering in the corner of the greenhouse.

Needless to say, we have come a long way from those early days. But here are still some basic questions to be answered: What is the size of your greenhouse? What fuel is the least costly in your area? Do convenience and space have a bearing upon the kind of heating equipment you might use? Can you use the existing heating facilities of your home for your greenhouse heat? What kinds of plants do you expect to grow? Do you plan to enlarge some day? What night temperature do you wish to keep?

All these questions need answering before you can decide on the type of heating system that will be right for your setup.

Plants grown in the greenhouse

are classed by the night temperature at which they are grown. The day temperature is usually 5 to 10 degrees F. higher. Plants develop and grow slower in cooler temperatures and more rapidly, taller and thinner in higher temperatures. Also it requires twice as much fuel when the temperature outside is 0 degrees to keep a greenhouse at 60 degrees as it does to maintain a 60 degree temperature.

Now to determine how much 'heat' you need for your own greenhouse. To determine the heat loss, it is necessary to know the total square foot surface area exposed to the two different temperatures, the rate or coefficient of heat transfer through the material of which the exposed area is made, and the temperature differential between indoors and outdoors.

The Lord and Burnham Company figures for a greenhouse 8x12 19,000 BTU's per hour would be needed. A 9x26 foot greenhouse, 34,000 BTU's per hour; or a 14x26 foot house, 51,000 BTU's.

Now about the different types of heating systems. For large setups there are steam and hot water systems. These have a boiler and a series of pipes running the length of the greenhouse. Water tubes pass through the boiler to heat them. The capacity of a boiler is referred to in terms of horsepower, one horsepower being equal to 33,475 BTU's per hour. Boilers can be fired with coal, oil, gas, or electricity.

For smaller setups, electric, oil, or gas burners are best. Electricity is

unquestionably the most trouble-free and clean method of heating. There are several kinds of electric heaters:

1. An immersion heater can be fitted to a system of hot water pipes.
2. Electrically heated tubes can take the place of hot water pipes.
3. Heaters designed to circulate warm air by convection.
4. Warm air can be forcibly circulated by an electric fan blowing air over a heating element.

I use oil in my greenhouses. It is a gravity feed, pot-type burner, vented to the outside. They aren't very clean, but can be made thermostatically automatic. A more efficient oil burner is the Blue-Flame burner. These have burners designed to burn the oil with maximum efficiency and eliminate all possibility of unburnt vapor being evolved. The Blue-Flame shows great heat, and the absence of unburned carbon particles.

Gas is burned very much like oil, and should be vented at all times too. It is cleaner, but a little more expensive than oil. (Although these days I wonder, my oil bill has been going up every month.)

Now a word about prices. A "No-Vent Gas Heater" with 20,000 BTU's capacity is listed at about \$250.00 (1972 listing). Hot-air vented gas heaters with 24,000 BTU's with fan forced air is listed at about \$128.00. Electric fan forced heaters with 4,000 watt capacity (13,650 BTU's), 220 volt, is listed at about \$100.00. Oil burners with 50,000 BTU's capacity are listed at about \$100.00.

Whatever you do, don't skimp on heater output. A slightly over-size heater costs little extra, but gives you

priceless insurance against future expense if you add sections to your greenhouse or start to grow plants that need higher temperatures.

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### Ap 1 — *B. angularis*.

Discovered in Brazil in 1822. Name means 'angular stems'. Tall aristocratic, with long, oval-pointed leaves of gray-green silk moire, strikingly veined with pearl-gray, toothed and undulating on edge. Short stemmed, white flowers.

Per Pkt. \$1.00

### Ap 2 — *B. fernandoi-costae*.

From Brazil. Eye catching plant with soft, fleshy green-cupped, roundish leaves with inconspicuous hairs. Erect clusters of white flowers. Plant has tendency to trail. Per pkt. \$1.00

### Ap 3 — *B. laciniata*.

Rhizomatous from Thailand. Leaves roundly ovate on long petioles. Leaves are unequally cordate and acutely lanceolate. Large, pink flowers. The peduncles are axillary as long as the leaves, bearing two to six flowers of which more than half are stamen-bearers. Grows to two to three feet in height. Per Pkt. \$1.00

### Ap 4 — *B. malabarica*.

One of the oldest known begonias. This plant was known in Malabar and Ceylon, India as early as 1650. Classed as thick-stemmed, rather

woody. Grows to two feet. Small, deeply toothed leaves on short stems, are dark green above, white spotted when young, covered with short white hairs, pale green beneath. Flowers pale pink. Very floriferous.

Per Pkt. \$1.00

### Ap 5 — *B. pavonina*.

Imported from Malaya by Jane Neal of England. A rhizomatous species with smooth bronze-green leaves which turn peacock-blue when old. Flowers large, pinkish.

Per Pkt. \$1.00

### Ap 6 — *B. rotundifolia*, *rhizomatous*.

Sometimes called the 'Pennywort' begonia. Rhizomes slender and creeping: small leaves, almost round with basal lobes usually overlapping, glossy light green, crenately lobed. Flowers pink.

Per Pkt. \$ .50

### Ap 7 — *B. xanthina*.

From India. Thick rhizome. Ovate leaves which are unequally cordate, are brownish with a ring of white spots. Flowers are of medium size and conspicuously yellow. Capsule has unequal wings, one very much elongated.

Per Pkt. \$1.00

### Ap 8 — *B. odetheiantha*.

A unique begonia from Brazil. Small purple stems. Leaves deep green with a wavy margin. This plant is unusual in that it has long internodes and then very short nodes with three or more leaves coming out almost touching and surrounded with large whitish stipules, then another long internode. The flowers are small and hang in loose clusters on pendant stems.

Per Pkt. \$1.00



#### Ap 9 — *B. martiana*.

A tuberous species discovered in Mexico in 1828. Called 'Holly-hock' begonia. Grows tall, tolerates considerable sun. Flowers pink.

Per pkt. bulbils \$1.00

#### Ap 10 — *B. sutherlandii*.

Tuberous species from South Africa 1868. Slender stems and branches drooping, leaves lance-shaped, delicate green, toothed, sometimes red veined. Graceful and suitable for hanging containers. Flowers yellow to orange.

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Please make all checks or money orders payable, US Funds, to Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund, and mail with order to: Mrs. Pearl Benell, 10331 Colima Rd., Whittier, Calif. 90604.

### Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the Seattle Branch

The Seattle Branch celebrated their 25th anniversary on February 19, with four charter members and thirteen past presidents in attendance.

The club organizer, Scott McClanahan, spoke on the forming of the branch. Charles Tusler, long-time branch historian, gave a short resume of the early history of the branch. Herb Warrick, Northwestern Public

Relations Chairman presented greetings from Wally Wagner, ABS President, and from Mrs. Peggy McGrath, ABS PR Director.

Guest clubs present were: Eastside Branch of the A.B.S., Southside Branch of the A.B.S., Evergreen Men's Garden Club, Greater Seattle Branch of A.F.S. Pacific N.W. Fuschia Society, Sno King Men's Garden club, Cascade Cactus and Succulent Club, Evergreen Chrysanthemum Society.

Following a toast wishing the club another 25 years of success, the beautifully decorated birthday cake was served, followed by a social hour.

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# NATIONAL CONVENTION AND SHOW NEWS

By Gene Daniels, *Show Chairman*

The wonderful response to the American Begonia Society 1973 National Show and Convention by many of our Eastern members has inspired members of the Santa Barbara and the Theodosia Burr Shepherd Branches to put a really major effort into giving you a combined convention and show in the Santa Barbara, California, area. This year's plans incorporate a lot of new ideas — new at least for the Westerners, who upon the urging of last year's Eastern contingent, are coming up with a convention schedule complete with hotel facilities.

The NEW dates are September 5 for show entries, September 6 for judging, preview and special Santa Barbara activities, and September 7 and 8 for the Convention and Show.

As host to the Convention the Santa Barbara Branch, under the able direction of President Aden Clarke, is working toward giving you the type of program you have been demanding. Mr. Clarke will shortly have the details for you relative to the housing available at the lovely convention facilities of the Francisco Torres Convention Center in Goleta near Santa Barbara. If you wish to make reservations or have questions, please contact Aden Clarke at 460 Mountain Dr., Santa Barbara, Ca., 93103, telephone (805) 963-9770. President-elect Margaret Ziesenne is coordinating pre-convention activities for ABS President Wallace Wagner.

Theodosia Burr Shepherd Branch

of Ventura will host the National Begonia and Shade Plant Show, with Gene Daniels, ABS show chairman, in charge. Branch President Laurie Hansen is Preview Chairman, and Walter Hansen, ABS vice president, will serve as transportation director.

Vice President Hansen's job is to work out details for car pooling, bus and possibly air transportation. He is asking for one member of each branch to act as a coordinator with him and he must receive information regarding specific transportation problems of each branch and of members at large who are considering attending the event. It is imperative that each branch contact Walter Hansen, 344 Plumas Ave., Ventura, Ca. 93003, phone (805) 647-1939, with the name and address of its transportation coordinator. We have a major problem this year with the gasoline shortage. Walter plans to go all out to solve this with bus and car pool plans, but without the cooperation of the branches this will be impossible. We need the name of your show transportation coordinator and we need it now, not next month! With adequate transportation this convention and show will be a success. Without it, Santa Barbara and Ventura Branches will have a nice little private meeting and show next September!

Let's help Vice President Hansen with probably the toughest job of this year's big affair. We've got the ideas and the people; now we need your cooperation. It's going to be a great September!

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## ROUND ROBIN NOTES

The "energy crisis" is putting begonia growers to the test — and they are not found wanting! Begonias are being grown cooler, with less light, and under many conditions different than formerly but coming up with flying colors. Robin members never seem to run out of new ideas to help each other grow sturdier and better plants. Sharing these ideas makes each round of the robin more interesting. Do YOU belong to one or more of these exciting groups of friends?

Judy Gilman, Massachusetts, said that if someone challenges you about "wasting energy" by growing plants under lights, tell him you are heating your house electrically! Almost all of the energy the lamps use is eventually converted into heat, according to the newspaper and her engineer husband.

Just shorten the hours you have the lights on over your plants, advised Rosetta White of Kansas. She has found eight hours are long enough. Some days she doesn't turn her lights on the plants that she has in the house. It doesn't hurt them if you only have the lights on them every other day, as she sometimes does. She found it helps to make some of them bloom.

Lois Covey, Florida, was surprised when her visiting son told her he had been growing plants in bowls, too, in Arizona. His experiments have been quite different from hers. He takes old, city-street light bulbs, 8" in diameter, removes filaments, puts damp soil with nutrients and plants in from the bottom (the neck of the

bulb) then seals up airtight. Plants shed old leaves, grow new ones, and stay much the same size. The old leaves fall and disintegrate. He has been growing philodendrons this way but his next project will be to experiment with begonias.

Margaret Duval, California, finally had bloom on her *B. ficicola* after putting its bowl in her daughter's bedroom where the light was very dim. She thought it had a strange ovary — no wings, long and slender, hardly more than a swelling of the stem.

Connie Holcombe of Virginia told how she grows her begonias. She just looks at them, talks to them, and tries to imagine what they want that they haven't got. So often it seems to be a combination of lots of light, dry feet and wet air. Not that she can usually contrive all that but it's what she tries for. If something isn't doing as well as she thinks it should, she tries something different — more light, bigger pot, cooler temperature, etc. — whatever she thinks might work. Sometimes one succeeds in pleasing a plant and it perks up!

Toni Welch of Ohio said she switched last winter from a 23-19-17 fertilizer to another of 15-30-15 analysis and has never had her begonias bloom so profusely before.

Elizabeth Stuart, California, said her area Agricultural Inspector told her that just spraying the cleaned pots with Lysol spray does a better job of sterilizing pots than soaking in Clorox solution.

Gloria Wakefield of Illinois is happy with her success in raising

about 75 Rexes from seed. All are thriving at about six months old. Now she is convinced — after her experience with them — that raising from seed in the atmosphere in which the plants will have to live is best. Most of her best and most successful plants are those she raised from seed.

Debi Miller, California, told about some of the hints given by an expert begonia grower at a recent meeting of her branch. He advised them to use only good seed when trying to grow from seed because weak seed would get disease. He transplants his seedlings for their first transplanting BEFORE the appearance of the first true leaf, or when it is very immature. The germinated seed spreads out an umbrella-like network of filaments, then the seedling leaves appear. It is the third leaf that sends down the first true root. So in transplanting the begonia before the root starts he eliminates the root-breaking that is so fatal. Just after germination, he puts the container of plantlets in poor light so that the first leaves REACH for the light producing the long stem that is essential for transplanting before roots and third leaf appear. For a planting tool he uses an old fountain pen with tip heated until red-hot then pressed down on hard surface to spread the points apart. He lifts seedling with pen, sets it into a furrow made with a nail file, then pushes soil up next to the plant stem. He advised against planting into a hole because the collapsing soil would drag the seedling too far into the soil. Seedlings are planted about  $\frac{3}{4}$ " apart and allowed to grow until leaves are touching

before another transplanting.

Phyl Setford, Australia, accidentally left a *B. masoniana* (syn. 'Iron Cross') out in her front garden under a wisteria. After an illness she found it was still alive so decided to leave it there. It flowered and little plants of it came up everywhere in the garden around the pot yet she can't get seed of it to grow in the glass houses. The plants are still thriving although exposed to temperatures as high as 108° and down below 0°!

On a visit to Kew Gardens in England this past summer, Carrie Karegeannes, Virginia, saw the re-found *B. rex* species from Assam, so long lost to cultivation. It was a big, handsome plant and just like two color plates Carrie has from literature of the 1800s. She said Kew keeps mostly species from the wild but have a few hybrids too. When they have a hybrid, they like to have its parents in the same collection.

Each robin is just like a small club where the members meet by correspondence instead of in person. If you would like to join some of these groups, I KNOW you would enjoy them as much as I do!! Give them a try. Just write and let me know you want to join us in the fun.

Mrs. Mae Blanton  
Round Robin Director  
118 Wildoak Drive  
Lake Dallas, Texas 75065

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# BEGONIAS I CANNOT LIVE WITHOUT

By Lois Covey

201 Lake Boulevard, Tarpon Springs, Fla. 33589

We are often told how large the begonia family is, comprising thousands of species and more thousands of hybrids. There are all kinds — cane-stemmed and angel-wings, fibrous and rhizomatous, Rexes and miniatures. There are tall ones and small ones, fat ones and thin ones, pretty ones and ugly ones, long ones and short ones, sprawling over climbing, drooping and creeping ones. So each begonia grower has a wide area of choice.

No other plant family offers so much variety of leaf, habit of growth, design and shape and texture of leaf. Leaves can be striped, spotted, sprinkled with polka dots or hairs, vari-colored and patterned and vari-textured. Some are silky and shine with silver, some are soft like richest velvet or brocade. Yet they are not inanimate forms; they are living, breathing, growing plants. Each grows from an infinitesimally tiny seed, smaller than a grain of dust. How this tiny particle can form roots, grow and produce a crown of beauty is truly a miracle, which only the true plant-lover appreciates.

Choosing plants for your collection is no simple matter, especially if space is a problem. A high standard of selection is necessary, and this is achieved largely through years of begonia growing, careful observation and dedicated attention. To select a small number of plants is not easy. My list will not be your list, and my list may even change from year to year. But I will write

here of my *eight* most beloved begonias as of this moment.

*B. rajah*. If I were sentenced to spend the rest of my life, not on a desert isle, but on a tropical one, and were allowed to take with me only one begonia, there is no doubt or hesitation in naming it: *B. rajah*, a species from Malaysia. Even if I were confined to a tiny cell in a high-rise apartment, or to a hospital bed, and were allowed to have only one plant for a companion, it would be *B. rajah*. I consider it one of the most beautiful of all begonias, certainly the most beautiful begonia I have ever seen. I will never forget the tribute paid to it by a friend of mine, who said: "Next to my husband, I loved my *B. rajah*. When it died, I felt like a widow!"

*B. rajah* presents no cultural problems, either. If its requirements are met — coarse damp sphagnum to grow in, constant humidity easily provided by a partially closed glass bowl, a little liquid fertilizer dropped on it at intervals for nutrition — it is easy to grow. It makes no demands on the grower, but offers rich benefits in the way of constant, magnificent beauty over a long period of time. How long its life span will be, I have yet to learn.

Most people would undoubtedly list *B. versicolor* as their first or second choice on this list. But I am giving it neither for one simple reason — I have not been able to grow it. Although I have followed others' instructions faithfully, successive leaf cuttings have failed to root for me,



and several small plants, placed in what I thought were perfect bowl conditions, have died. I hope to keep on trying, for I know that along with *B. rajah*, it is a very choice begonia, and whenever I achieve success, I shall have to revise this list.

*B. goegoensis*. The only difficulty about this plant seems to be the pronunciation of its name. To me, it is one of the most choice and beautiful of all begonias, moderate in size, never demanding, with gorgeous quilted, almost transparent green leaves. More than a cellular framework, each leaf resembles a piece of quilted, silken fabric that glistens with the radiance of light. A mature plant is a rewarding sight and well worth achieving. It roots easily from a leaf, is inclined to grow slowly, but presents few problems. It is an outstanding plant with universal appeal. I dearly love it and simply cannot live without it.

*B. 'Mumtaz'*. Mike Kartuz has given us another beauty, with the quilted leaves of *B. goegoensis* combined with the sturdiness and rosy vein-coloring of *B. rajah*, its parents. A mature plant in bloom with its pink flowers is "a thing of beauty and a joy forever." It has all the charm and winsomeness of *B. goegoensis*, with the added attraction of a suffusion of rosy coloration. The same quilted leaves grow somewhat larger. It is easier to grow and more sturdy than either of its parents. I will always keep it a specimen plant in my collection.

*B. 'Silver Jewel'*. The imperialispustulata group of begonias offers many beauties, some difficult and some easy. They might well be called "the pebbled-velvet group" and I

love them all. But if I could have only one, it would be *B. 'Silver Jewel'*. Each leaf is a work of art, more beautiful than the hand of man can create — silver and green markings in assorted patterns — all of this group grow vigorously and spread rapidly here in Florida and can even be used as ground covers, in contrast to the difficulty many Northern growers report. My great pride and joy is a twelve-inch wire hanging basket, with a 'Silver Jewel' measuring twenty-four inches in diameter, its leaves countless in number. I shall never stop growing this lovely plant.

*B. dayi*. This plant has been a favorite since I first saw it many years ago. It knows how beautiful it is and wants to show it. It cooperates to the fullest, so is most rewarding. Round, shiny leaves of apple-green, with indented red veins, its only demand is to be grown on the dry side. It flourishes for me, and deprived of it I should be unhappy, indeed.

*B. 'Arcola'*. This U. U. Stanford hybrid is somewhat similar in word description to *B. dayi*, but actually very different in appearance and perhaps even more beautiful. This plant deserves better recognition. Shy and reticent, it can brighten a corner with unobtrusive beauty, a true gem worth seeking out. Elda Haring calls it one of her favorite favorites and my sentiments are much the same. Rather than apple-green, the leaves on a young plant are chartreuse, and the veins are even more pronounced, almost henna color. It is truly beautiful, especially when in bloom with harmonious henna-colored flowers.

(Continued on Page 99)

## BUILD A MOSS WALL TO BEAUTIFY AREA BENEATH WOODEN DECK

by Grace V. Schillinger

R.R.#1, Box 168, Colona, Illinois 61241

Before I made the moss wall at the west end of our patio, my house plants didn't have a good place to take a summer vacation. They cluttered the space and did very little to beautify it. The wind from the west dried them out so they barely survived our midwestern summers.

I longed for some kind of shelter to break the wind. So I got busy and made a moss wall under our wooden deck. It was a joy!

The slatted floor of the deck on the north side of our house lets in light on the patio but very little sunshine so the plants I chose for the wall were ones which enjoy shade. Begonias, baby's tears, single and double impatiens, coleus, ferns, fuchsias, several types of wandering Jew, Swedish ivy, and lobelia flourished in the mossy wall and in special planters I made from old logs and petrified oyster mushrooms and lichens. The Rock River flows by about 60 feet from the wall and its mists boosted the growth of my plants.

I used two sheets of exterior three-quarter-inch plywood for the superstructure of the wall, leaving three inches open at the top for added light and air. I nailed the plywood to a 4" by 4" wooden deck support on one side and to the corner of the house on the other.

I nailed heavy-weight, black building paper (tarpaper) to the plywood with short shingle nails. If I'd had access to a carpenter's stapler, it would have been completed sooner.

Next came the light-weight wire which I nailed on with heavy 3-inch staples, pounded about a half inch into the plywood, so a thick mat of moss could be stuffed into it to hold the plants. I covered the outside of the wall with shake shingles.

Then I bought 2 large bales (1 by 4 ft.) of long-fibered unmilled sphagnum moss at a garden center. I soaked the moss overnight in a large tub, squeezed out big handfuls of it and stuffed it tightly into the wire. My wall measures 6 ft. by 8 ft. and there was very little of the 2 bales left. After packing the moss in, I soaked the entire wall with the hose. One thing to keep in mind is that you must never let the moss dry out or you'll never be able to wet it again properly.

In early June came the fun of planting. First I tied onto the wire some nearly rotted log planters that I'd lugged home from a nearby woods. These logs held succulents, baby's tears, small begonias (*semperflorens*), lobelias, and a few 'Floral Carpet' snapdragons.

In my little 11 ft. by 16 ft. greenhouse, I'd raised for my wall lots of out-of-the-ordinary begonias from seed — hybrids, a cross between *B. olsoniae* and *B. listida*. As they were hybrids, the colors were varied — pinks, salmon, reds, and white. I poked a handful of humusy soil all around each small begonia plant that I planted in the moss. They hardly knew they'd been moved and took hold quickly.

Interesting stones were nestled at the base of gray stumps of different heights placed near the wall to hold my house plants. These plants loved living there in such a protected place.

If the day was extra hot, I hosed the wall two or three times; on humid, cloudy days, once was enough. By August the moss was barely visible. The wall was a mass of greenery and flowers. Toads and frogs liked the moisture and lived behind the stumps. They ate insects and bugs so it wasn't necessary to spray with harmful insecticides. If there wasn't enough moisture to suit the frogs, they hopped to the Rock River and cooled themselves.

It will be a challenge each year to test various plants in this moss wall. Next year I want to try different kinds of begonias — for instance, the tuberous ones. I'm wondering if artemesia with its soft silvery foliage would like lending a contrast to the other plants. And I want to find out if pansies will like living in the sphagnum moss. They should grow well if some plant food is added to the water in the sprinkling can.

Dwarf nemesia with its shades of blue, rose, white, yellow, pink, orange, and crimson should do all right if planted at the outside of the wall where a little morning sun would touch them. And nigella (Love-in-the-Mist) with its blossoms of rose-red, purple, pink, and white should make a pretty display in the same location.

Before hard frosts came, I took the begonias and other special plants from the wall, repotted them in loose humusy soil, and kept them over in the greenhouse. Some of the moss

may fall out during our winters but it will be a simple procedure to stuff a fresh supply in the vacant spots when summer comes.

Building the wall was challenging work but the fun of planting it made it worthwhile. It gave me a beautiful and secluded place to sit with friends over cups of coffee.

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## Special Membership Meeting

A special membership meeting will be held on the first Thursday night in June, 1974, in conjunction with a regular meeting of the Westchester Branch. The purpose of the meeting is to vote on the following resolution pertaining to the non-profit status of the American Begonia Society.

The resolution is as follows:

"RESOLVED: That the Articles of Incorporation of the American Begonia Society, a California Corporation, be amended by the addition thereto of Paragraph 7, reading as follows:

"7. The property of this corporation is irrevocably dedicated to charitable purposes and no part of the net income or assets of this corporation shall ever inure to the benefit of any director, officer or member thereof or to the benefit of any private persons. Upon the dissolution or winding up of the corporation, its assets remaining after payment, or provision for payment, of all debts and liabilities of this corporation shall be distributed to a nonprofit fund, foundation or corporation which is organized and operated exclusively for charitable purposes and which has established its tax exempt status under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

If this corporation holds any assets in trust, or the corporation is formed for charitable purposes, such assets shall be disposed of in such manner as may be directed by decree of the Superior Court of the county in which the corporation has its principal office, upon petition therefore by the Attorney General or by any person concerned in the liquidation, in a proceeding to which the Attorney General is a party."

At least fifty members must be present at the meeting.

## REGISTRATION OF BEGONIA CULTIVARS

Note: The American Begonia Society is the International Registration Authority for the genus *Begonia*. Information regarding registration may be obtained from Rudolf Ziesenhenné, 1130 N. Milpas St., Santa Barbara, CA 93103.

### **No. 396 — *Begonia* (B. 'Norah Bedson' x B. 'Colombian Species') 'Rosie Beck'**

This plain-leaved, uneven heart-shaped rhizomatous begonia was originated in 1968 and first distributed in 1972 by Helen Short, 14701 Los Angeles St., Baldwin Park, Ca. 91706. The light yellowish-green leaves are  $4 \times 5\frac{1}{2}$ "; finely double-toothed, short ciliate margin; medium texture; veins 8, palmately reddish markings near center; petioles pinkish with red stripes; stipules remaining long triangular, a hair on tip. Flowers in winter. Registered Nov. 11, 1973.

### **No. 397 — *Begonia* (B. 'Norah Bedson' x B. 'Colombian Species') 'Virginia Owen'**

Similar to B. 'Frances Fickwith' but with 8-lobed leaves, this star-shaped rhizomatous begonia has uneven heart-shaped leaves,  $3 \times 4\frac{1}{2}$ "; margin toothed, undulating, ciliate; texture medium; 8-nerved palmately; petioles red-striped, narrow flat hairs; stipules remaining, triangular, keeled, drying quickly; color pea green with irregular brown markings. Blooms in winter. Registered November 11, 1973.

### **No. 398 — *Begonia* (B. 'Pinafore' x B. lubbersii) 'Rio Bergen'**

An intermediate cane-type with large coral-salmon female flowers in

clusters and brownish shades of green foliage, this begonia developed by Jutaro Orihata, 45, Juniso, Kamakura, 248 Japan has obliquely lanceolate, pointed top and bottom, leaves, boat-shaped and showing silver spots when mature;  $7\frac{7}{8} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$ "; margin uneven, crinkled edges, narrow serrated; texture smooth, glossy, slightly chatoyant; 7-8 veined with brownish-green area along veins; petioles fresh, cylindric, glabrous, pinkish, somewhat curved; stipules brown, remaining; leaf emerald green on top, with occasional brown cast, silver-splashed, rusty-green under, the inner palest red. Flowers off and on all year, a dainty, drooping cluster, female  $2\frac{1}{8}$ ", 4-petaled with white streaks; male seldom opens; stem  $3\frac{5}{8}$ ". Available from Kartuz Greenhouses late 1974. Developed 1972, first bloomed and distributed 1973. Registered Jan. 28, 1974.

### **No. 399 — *Begonia* (B. 'Pinafore' x B. lubbersii) B. 'Ayer Bergen'**

Jutaro Orihata, address above, also developed this begonia, intermediate cane, and describes the leaves as "almost same as B. 'Rio Bergen.'" The difference is in the flowers which are pale-green, the female  $1\frac{3}{4}$ " when open, 5-petaled with white streaks, one petal smaller than the others. Developed in 1972, first bloomed and distributed in 1973, it will be available from Kartuz Greenhouses in late 1974. Registered Jan. 28, 1974.

### **No. 400 — *Begonia* (B. 'Margaretacea' x B. 'Lily of the Valley') 'Audrey Brenda'**

This intermediate cane is de-

scribed as "matronly" by its developer, Jutaro Orihata, address above, having "quite attractive, graceful flowers and leaves." The darkish foliage makes a "pleasing contrast to the bright salmon blooms." Leaves are silver-spotted, bronze over green above, brick-red below; some have overlapping basal lobes, long-ovate with one rounded basal lobe larger than the other; 8 x 25/8", margin slightly rippled and crenate; texture uneven, crisp and satiny; 9-veined, depressed on top side; petioles green, fleshy, short, cylindric; stipules long ovate, falling early. Flowers, male 13/4" when open, female 11/4", both 4-petaled, hanging in unusually tight clusters on 2" stems, blooms off and on all year. Developed 1972; first bloomed and distributed 1973; available from Kartuz Greenhouses late 1974. Registered Jan. 28, 1974.

**No. 401 — Begonia (B. unnamed rex x B. unnamed rex) 'Patapasco'**

Originated by Margaret M. Lee, 1852 31st St., San Diego, Ca. 92102, in 1958, this plant first bloomed in 1960 and was first distributed in 1963; listed in ABS Classification Guide, this large spiral Rex cultivar is easy to propagate and grow, has distinctive coloring of dark-maroon center surrounded by forest-green outer zone, with white marbling. The leaves are broad-ovate pointed, 7 x 9", margin laciniate, ruffled or wavy; texture heavy, sparsely pustulate; veins prominent; petioles red with red hairs; stipules, medium sized red. Flowers are dark coral, about 1 1/2"; blooms summer and fall. Available from originator. Registered Jan. 28, 1974.

**No. 402—Begonia (B. 'Weltonensis' x B. 'Lucille Rolfe') 'Dilli'**

Mrs. E. A. Meyer, Yuffara St., Tathra, N.S.W., Australia 2550, gave the aboriginal translation of "fine wood dust" in naming this intermediate cane begonia which she developed in 1973 and which first bloomed and was distributed in 1974. Leaves are roundish, scalloped 4 x 4"; margin is smooth; texture light; veins sunken, red at back; petioles red; color dark green with reddish tinge. Flowers are white, the size of a one-cent piece, emerging at nodes in bunches of 5-6, on 1 1/2" flower stem, all summer. Available from originator. Registered January 29, 1974.

**No. 403—Begonia (B. 'Weltonensis' x B. 'Lucille Rolfe') 'Andi'**

According to originator, Mrs. E. A. Meyer, address above this intermediate cane, like B. 'Dilli', is interesting because of its scallops but an added delight is the spotting, from B. 'Lucerna', one of B. 'Lucille Rolfe's' parents. Developed in 1973, bloomed and first distributed in 1974, leaves are roundish, scalloped, 3 1/2 x 3", margin smooth; texture light; veins sunken, red at back; color dark green, radiating lines of varying sized spots. Flowers are white, size of one-cent piece, arranged in small cluster on 1 1/2" stems; blooms all summer. Registered Jan. 29, 1974.

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## RESEARCH IN PLANT PROPAGATION

The following article was printed in the "Nursery News Letter" by the Cooperative Extension, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Ithaca, N.Y. Permission to reprint the article in *The Begonian* has been granted by Dr. M. Kawase of the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center, Wooster, Ohio, and also by the Cooperative Extension Agent, Mr. Stephen M. Jaffe.

M. Carleton L'Hommedieu  
Research Director

**New Root Promoting Material:** from Dr. M. Kawase, Dept. of Horticulture, The Ohio Agricultural Research & Development Center, Wooster. A new approach for rooting cuttings has been uncovered by Professor M. Kawase. He found that willow cuttings placed into a beaker of water released a strong rooting substance. Cuttings from the mung bean plant, a sensitive test plant, were placed into the water containing the willow "root-promoting" substance. After seven days of sitting in this water, a mass of roots formed along the stem of the bean cuttings. The cuttings placed in plain water, by comparison, only had a few roots at the base of the cutting.

Professor Kawase used centrifugal force to diffuse even more of the rooting substance from the willow cuttings that were placed in water. The stimulant in the water subsequently increased the number of roots on cuttings when it was applied to the cuttings prior to sticking them in the propagation media. The willow rooting stimulant differs from the hormones found previously in plants. The mixture of indoleacetic acid (IAA) and the crude water extract produced roots more effectively

than IAA or willow water extract used alone.

Recent results indicate that rooting substances similar to the willow extract can be obtained from other plant materials. The new rooting extract was successfully extracted from softwood cuttings of cotton-easter, euonymus, holly, honeysuckle, ninebark, sweetleaf, viburnum and yew plants either by steeping them in water or extracting with water from the cuttings after they were freeze-dried and ground. With exception (sic), cuttings of all species studied contained a rooting substance similar to the one found in willow cuttings.

The substances have been checked by paper chromatography (a procedure used to identify chemical substances). Each extract was found to contain three or four similar fractions. This suggests that such substances must be very common in the plant kingdom. The strongest fraction (used without plant hormone added) produced nine times as many roots as were produced by the control cuttings in water alone. Additional studies and the development of their application to the nursery industry are currently underway in Ohio. The new "unknowns" can then be synthesized and new rooting substances seem to be in the offing — for use by the ornamental horticulturists.



## CALENDAR

May 8 — Long Island Branch 7:30 P.M. — at Planting Fields Arboretum in Oyster Bay, Long Island, New York. Plants, Supplies and Literature sales, the Question Box, Plant Raffles, Name the Begonia Contest, Slide and Book Libraries precede the meeting which begins at 8:00 p.m. The Begonia of the month will be the *Semperfloren* strain B. 'Tausendschoen' by Liz Schaefer, who won the trophy for the best semp at the 8th Eastern Convention in Connecticut. The main program will be a symposium on different growing environments, with questions to be solicited from the members. Hank Euler will speak on Greenhouses, Cleo Kohm will speak on Indoor Light and Joyce Rose will carry the banner for the Window Sill growers. Refreshments will be served.

April 26 — Redondo Area Branch — 7:30 p.m. at Dana School, 135th Street and Aviation Blvd. Our evening includes a "May Day Festival Potluck Dinner," hidden auction and plant table. Visitors welcome.

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### BEGONIAS I CANNOT LIVE WITHOUT (Continued from Page 93)

A mature or older plant seems to lose some of its brilliant coloration, but this may possibly be caused by a variation in light, rather than by age.

*B. boweri nigramarga*. I have been a collector of the so-called "miniatures" for several years. This group has many gems, so it is difficult to make a selection. Since *B. boweri nigramarga* has been used as the parent of many others, and since it is very difficult to improve on it for

daintiness, miniature size, and beautiful leaf-markings (edging and spots of black on small one-inch leaves), it becomes my favorite for this list. I have had no difficulty growing it, perhaps a little on the dry side. As it spreads over a wide flat pot and fills it, it can easily be divided into small plants. The leaves also root easily. I must never be without this beautiful little gem.

The Rex begonias. Of all the many types of begonias I have grown over a long period, I love the Rexes most of all. If I had to give up ALL the others, I would still continue to grow the Rexes. Even if I were restricted to the limited space of a single windowsill in a city apartment, or an arid climate like Arizona, I would still try to grow Rexes in bowls or fish tanks if necessary to provide the essential humidity they need. They are all so gorgeous, it is impossible to pick out one named hybrid and say this is it. With the magnificent displays of color in their leaves, ranging from vesuvius black through royal purple, green, brilliant reds and pinks, splashed and flushed often with silver, with their great variety of textures — silk, taffeta, brocade, no plant could give more delight to the eye and soul of the artist. They are not easy for all — they are easier in some climates than others. Their conditions must be met, even though it proves a struggle for the grower, but all the effort, anxiety, and suffering over their culture is well worth the challenge. They not only offer beauty to the eye, they nourish the spirit as well. (Ed. note) Watch for Ms. Covey's next article on begonias she cannot live with.

## CONDENSED MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING OF THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY JANUARY 27, 1974

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors was held Sunday, January 27, 1974, at the Peek Family Colonial Terrace Room, Westminster, California, hosted by the Garden Grove Branch of the ABS, Wallace Wagner presiding; twenty-six board members were present. After opening ceremonies and branch reports, the following business was conducted:

The printing of the Cultural Bulletin has been completed and the motion was made, seconded and passed that copies go on sale on a single issue basis for fifty cents each. Bulk sale price was set at twenty-five cents per copy in units of fifty or more. The treasurer reported income from November 19, 1973, to January 18, 1974 in the amount of \$2,522.72; disbursements, of \$3,049.88; the balance on hand being \$1,580.72. It was moved, seconded and passed that the membership and circulation secretaries receive fifty dollars a month to offset expenses of their tasks. The Business manager recommended an increase in advertising rates for the BEGONIAN and the recommendation was accepted through the Board action. Following are the new rates: full page, one time, \$40; four or more months, \$30. One-half page, one time, \$20; four or more months, \$18.50. One quarter page, one time, \$12.50; four or more months, \$10. One inch, one time, \$5; four or more times, \$3.50. The Finance Committee recommended that the dues be left at \$4.00 per year for the present time.

The Public Relations Committee reported a new branch in Tampa, Florida, was ready to be chartered and this branch was unanimously accepted by Board action. The following resolution was proposed: "It is recommended that all proposed amendments to the Constitution as well as By-Laws be in the hands of the Society's legislative committee at least 45 days before a regular annual meeting, to allow time for study and preparation of copies for consideration by members attending meetings." This became a standing rule through appropriate Board action.

Departmental reports from the remaining committees were heard and approved, but required no Board action. These included the report from the slide librarian that more slides of begonias were urgently needed through membership donations. The Seed Fund Director reports a profit of \$605.81 from the seed fund this fiscal year to date and the librarian reported \$292 in the library fund. A motion was made, seconded and passed to designate 10% of the profits of the seed fund to

the catalog printing fund on an on-going basis.

The Show Committee Chairman, Gene Daniels reported that a tentative date for the ABS show has now been set for Sept. 6-8 with entries to be accepted before 7:00 p.m. on Sept. 5 unless pre-registered. The Santa Barbara Branch will host the convention and the Theodosia Burr Shepherd Branch will host the show. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Margaret Ireton, Secretary

## CONDENSED MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING OF THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY FEBRUARY 24, 1974

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors convened at the Westchester Women's Club, Westchester, California, at 2:15 p.m. Sunday, February 24, 1974, Margaret Ziesenhennel presiding in the absence of the president. The Westchester Branch hosted the meeting. After the opening ceremonies, roll was taken, with twenty-five members present.

It was moved, seconded and passed that a resolution be accepted pertaining to the non-profit status of the American Begonia Society as follows:

"RESOLVED: That the Articles of Incorporation of the American Begonia Society, a California Corporation, be amended by the addition thereto of Paragraph 7, reading as follows:

"7. The property of this corporation is irrevocably dedicated to charitable purposes and no part of the net income or assets of this corporation shall ever inure to the benefit of any director, officer or member thereof or to the benefit of any private persons. Upon the dissolution or winding up of the corporation, its assets remaining after payment, or provision for payment, of all debts and liabilities of this corporation shall be distributed to a nonprofit fund, foundation or corporation which is organized and operated exclusively for charitable purposes and which has established its tax exempt status under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

If this corporation holds any assets in trust, or the corporation is formed for charitable purposes, such assets shall be disposed of in such manner as may be directed by decree of the Superior Court of the county in which the corporation has its principal office, upon petition therefore by the Attorney General or by any person concerned in the liquidation, in a proceeding to which the Attorney General is a party."

Voting on the non-profit status by a special membership meeting consisting of

at least fifty members of the Society will take place at the Westchester Women's Club, the first Thursday in June, 1974, in conjunction with a regular monthly meeting of the Westchester Branch.

A discussion was held of the proposed standing rules for the 1974 show committee and action was tabled until recommendation of a special committee can be considered. Mrs. Ziesenhenné appointed Cecilia Grivich, John Provine, Walter Pease, Jim Somes and Charles Richardson as members of the committee to work with the Show Chairman. It was announced the dates of September 6-8 for the Show had been confirmed and the show will be held at the Francisco Torres Conference Center, 6850 Colegio Rd., Goleta, California. A motion was made, seconded and passed to send three hundred dollars to the Santa Barbara and Theodosia Burr Shepherd branches.

Rudy Ziesenhenné reported good progress on the registration of begonias and the species catalog, but requested that the compilation of material for the hybrid and cultivar catalog be referred to the Research Director. A motion to this effect was made, seconded and passed.

A motion was made, seconded and passed that all inactive files from any department or office be stored in the

office of the editor where they will be available to the current officers or directors; ten dollars a month will be paid for storage.

A motion was made by past president John Provine, seconded and carried that four pages be added permanently to the *BEGONIAN* (unless not needed), supplements being excluded from the page count.

The treasurer's report indicated a balance on hand February 18, 1974, of \$4,891.61 after receipts of \$5,302.53 and disbursements of \$1,991.64. Over two thousand dollars were reported in income from the membership secretary and another two thousand dollars from the 1973 show and convention. The seed fund chairman reported a profit for the month of \$121.59.

Announcements at the meeting included the information that the Seattle Branch was celebrating its twenty-fifth anniversary. The ABS Board this day also paid tribute to the fact that six past presidents were present for the meeting: Pearl Bennell, Muriel Perz, Walter Pease, Mabel Corwin, Walter Wright and John Provine.

After hearing director's reports, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Margaret Ireton, Secretary

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# BRANCH DIRECTORY

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AT THESE MEETINGS

## **BUXTON BRANCH**

3rd Saturday, Homes of Members  
Mrs. Raymond C. Cronin, Secy  
88 Ledgeways, 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 Thursday, 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

## **GARDEN GROVE BRANCH**

3rd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.  
Sunnyside School  
9972 Russell Ave. at Brookhurst, Garden Grove, Ca.  
Mrs. Millie Hinds, Sec'y.  
8752 Dewey Dr., Garden Grove, Ca. 92641

## **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**

2nd Sunday, 1:30 p.m.  
Glendale Savings & Loan Bldg.  
5535 E. Stearnes Street  
Los Altos Shopping Center, Long Beach, Calif.  
Miss P. E. Powell, Secy.  
3031 Shakespeare Dr., Los Alamitos, Ca. 90720

## **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. J. S. Gremillion, Sec'y.  
1854 Cedardale, Baton Rouge, La. 70708

## **MESQUITE BRANCH**

1st Tuesday, 10:30 a.m., Members homes  
Mrs. Mae Blanton, Secy.  
118 Wildoak Drive, Lake Dallas, Texas 75065

## **MIAMI BRANCH**

4th Tuesday, 8:00 p.m.  
Simpson Memorial Garden Center  
55 South West 17th Road, Miami, Florida  
Rosamond Meriwether, Secretary  
1552 Placentia 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.  
Virginia Carey, Secy.  
P. O. Box 3264, Carmel, Ca. 93921

## **NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH**

2nd Friday, 7:30 P.M., 5535 Stearns, Long Beach,  
Glendale Federal Savings and Loan Bldg.  
Miss Carol Ruane, Secy.  
2133 Pacific Ave.  
Long Beach, Calif. 90806

## **ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH**

2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.  
First Christian Church,  
1130 E. Walnut Street, Orange, California  
Mrs. Norma Taylor, Secy.  
2414 N. Bristol, Santa Ana, Ca. 92667

## **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. Susian Shaner, Secy.  
5026 W. 122nd Street, Hawthorne, Calif. 90250

## **RHODE ISLAND BRANCH**

1st Saturday, Homes of Members  
Mrs. Arline G. Peck, Secy.  
Eagle Peak Road, Pascoag, RI 02859

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

2nd Tuesday, 10:30 A.M. Homes of Members  
Mrs. Harold Ingersoll, Secy.  
6665 Via Estrada, La Jolla, Ca. 92037

## **RUBIDOUX BRANCH**

4th Thursday, 7:30 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. Beverly Bartlett, Secy.  
725 - 36th Street  
Sacramento, Ca. 95816

## **SALINE COUNTY BRANCH OF KANSAS**

4th Monday, 1:30 p.m., Homes of Members  
Mrs. Jesse B. Harper, Secy.  
Route 3, 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. Elizabeth Stuart, Secy.  
169 Mauna Loa Dr., Monrovia, Ca. 91016

**SAN MIGUEL BRANCH**

2nd Wednesday, 8:00 P.M., Porter Hall  
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.  
Bethany Lutheran Church, 7400 Woodlawn Ave. N.E.  
Mary Dunnell, Secy.  
2208 N.E. 177th St., Seattle, Wa. 98155

**SHEPHERD, THEODOSIA BURR BRANCH**

1st Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.  
Senior Citizens Bldg., 420 Santa Clara St.,  
Ventura, Ca.  
Mrs. Hattie Lee Keller, Secy.  
510 E. Yucca St.  
Oxnard, Calif. 93030

**SOUTH SEATTLE BRANCH**

4th Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Wm. Moshier Field House  
430 South 156th Burien  
Mrs. Viva Musgrave, Secy.  
11447 12th Ave., Seattle, Wash. 98155

**TAMPA BAY AREA BRANCH**

Mrs. Grace McDougall, Secy.  
Plum St., Inverness Highlands

**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 Ave., Los Angeles, Calif.  
Ramona Greb, Secy.  
441 Hillside Lane, Santa Monica, Ca. 90402

**WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH**

2nd Wednesday 11:00 a.m. every month  
Pittsburgh Garden Center, 1059 Shady Ave.,  
Pittsburgh, Pa.  
Mrs. Alfred Slee, Secy.  
211 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. John W. Watson, Secy.  
209 Pembroke Ave.  
Wayne, Pa. 19087

**FROM THE EDITOR**

(Continued from Page 79)

Crafts Division (pertaining to begonias) at the Annual Eastern Convention Show this year. Rosemary Marfurt, 434 McDermott Rd., Rockville Center, New York 11570 will supply further information about the show.

Marjorie Kirchoff, Editor

**IN MEMORIAM**

The Monterey Area Branch of the American Begonia Society regrets the passing of Ashley D. Shaw on January 24, 1974 in Carmel, Calif. after a period of failing health. He was a charter vice president of this chapter and will be greatly missed by all the members. Deepest sympathy is extended to his wife, Louise.

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