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The BEGONIAN



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

COVER PICTURE: Begonia 'Abenrote'

Front Cover Picture by Joseph Bond

The plant on the cover was photographed at the home of Joseph Bond in Balboa, Panama. He identified his plant as *B. 'Abenrote'*, a rex cultivar. The climate in Balboa is ideal for growing most begonias out-of-doors year round. The tuberous varieties are the exception. For ease in handling, most of his plants are potted rather than being set in the ground. They are protected from the direct rays of the sun by various types of roofing or cover. Care must be exercised to see that they do not receive too much water during the rainy season. In the dry season, it is necessary to water frequently and to mist the plants. Since nematodes are a real problem in the Canal Zone, he carries out a constant control program.

Another of his hobbies is photography. Not only has he sent slides to the *Begonian*, but he has created a multimedia presentation on begonias which was the feature of a recent Twin Cities Branch program. He will assist Gordon Lepisto in preparing other ABS slide programs.

There is no information available in any of the usual sources about *B. 'Abenrote'*. A survey of begonia listings did reveal a plant named *B. 'Abendrot'*. The name means "sunset" in German. The coloration of

the cover photo and the similarity in sound of the two names leads one to wonder if they are one and the same. *B. 'Abendrot'* is a rex hybrid which was included among the new introductions of Teupels of Germany in 1966. It was reported to be a pure seedling of *B. 'Inka'*. If readers who have had experience with *B. 'Abenrote'* or *B. 'Abendrot'* write to the editors about their plants, we shall report on the outcome in a future issue. P.B.

Is your Branch Making History?

Historian Betty Tillotson requests that you send to her articles about your branch, its activities, and its members that have appeared in your local newspapers. She compiles these into a book. She needs your cooperation so that your branch is included. Obviously she cannot scan newspapers for each and every locality. Her address is 3912 Wildrose Way, Sacramento, CA 95826.

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.

AIMS AND PURPOSES OF THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

The purpose of this Society shall be:

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

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

TO standardize the nomenclature of *Begonia*;

TO gather and publish information in regard to kinds, propagation and culture of *Begonia* 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 *Begonia*.

GETTING TO THE ROOTS POTTING AND RE-POTTING

By Elda Haring, Flat Rock, North Carolina

Photos by Walter Haring

A discussion of potting and repotting begonias would not be complete if it did not include a word about potting soils or mixes. It would be well nigh impossible to set forth a formula for a medium that would suit every section of the country. I am often asked why "plain old garden dirt" isn't good enough. Garden soils vary greatly in their content. Here in North Carolina we may have red clay that is heavy when wet and dries to concrete hardness, or we may have a sandy clay with little food value or we may be blessed with a good woodsy soil, depending upon where we live. Your garden soil may lack organic matter, or it may possibly have sufficient nutrients to support good growth. The main argument against using garden soil is that it often harbors insects or insect eggs as well as weed seeds. Such soils if they are to be used in small quantities are best baked in a shallow pan in the oven at 180 degrees for 40 minutes not to sterilize them which would virtually destroy much of the organic matter, but to pasteurize them sufficiently to rid them of soil borne diseases and insects.

In the February issue of the *Begonian*, Evelyn Cronin of the Buxton Branch gives the recipe for a number of suitable potting mixes all of which are being used in the northeast with great success. In the west many growers like to use compost of their own making along with redwood chips or sawdust, oakleaf mold, black peat and bonemeal. In some sections

of the south, compost, worm castings or composted-cow-manure are used to add enrichment to potting soils. Millie and Ed Thompson, authors of the *Thompson Begonia Guide*, like to use some soil in their mixes. They obtain purchased sterilized top soil and use at the ratio of 2 parts soil to 1 of peat moss, 1 of perlite and 1 part of Jiffy Mix and they practice constant feeding to grow their unbelievably gorgeous plants. I, too, like some soil in the potting medium and use a weed-free top soil made by the Michigan Peat Co. and sold locally as "Garden Magic" top soil, adding to it 1 part of German peat moss (not Michigan peat), 1 part of builders sand to which is added for each 10 quarts of the mix 2 scant tablespoons of dolomite or ground limestone and two tablespoons of either bonemeal, superphosphate or Mag-Amp, a slow release fertilizer. The latter, with a high ratio of phosphate, is especially good for flowering plants. All of the materials mentioned have common properties: they are light, loose and fluffy, have moisture retentive qualities and they drain well.

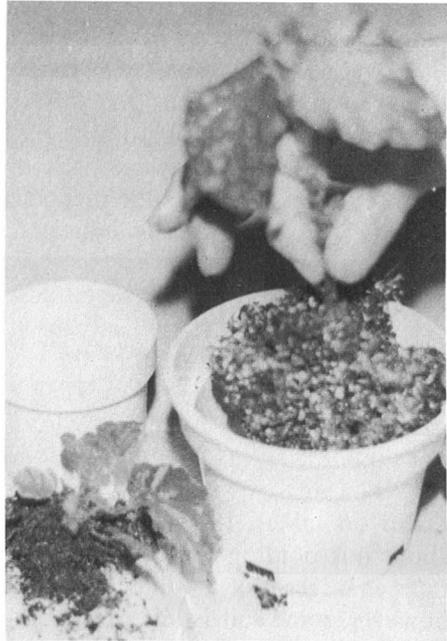
Beginners should not hesitate to use one of the many brand-named packaged potting mixes available at garden nurseries and supermarkets for they are formulated for use of indoor plants. My own experience has been that these do tend to pack. I prefer to lighten them by adding a pint of vermiculite and a pint of perlite to each four quarts of the

mix. Whatever you use, it should be stored in a plastic can or bag or some other receptacle and should be lightly moist when you are ready to use it. Never use a bone-dry mix for repotting plants.

Generally speaking most begonias grow best in the squat bulb or azalea pots but they do grow well in regular size pots and this should be of little concern to the inexperienced grower if the regular ones are all that are available to him. It is well to use pots that are provided with a hole or holes in the bottom for good drainage. Either clay or plastic pots are suitable. I prefer the clay for I have a tendency to over water and the mix in plastic pots stays moist longer, but of necessity I use both. It is important to use only clean pots. Clay pots, if new, should be soaked before using as they are very dry. If not soaked before using they will absorb moisture from the potting mix with possible damage to the roots of the newly potted plant.

The drainage hole should be covered with pieces of broken flower pot (shards) or a layer of pebbles, gravel or marble chips to prevent soil from sifting through. Lacking any of these materials, I often use a piece of paper towel or newspaper to cover the drainage hole. Placing a layer of gravel or sand in the bottom of plastic pots when using soilless mixes is helpful to give the pot greater stability.

Whether you have obtained small plants through mail order or have grown your own from cuttings, proper potting will enable the plant to get off to a good start. Rooted cuttings of begonias vary in the size of the root systems. Small ones may



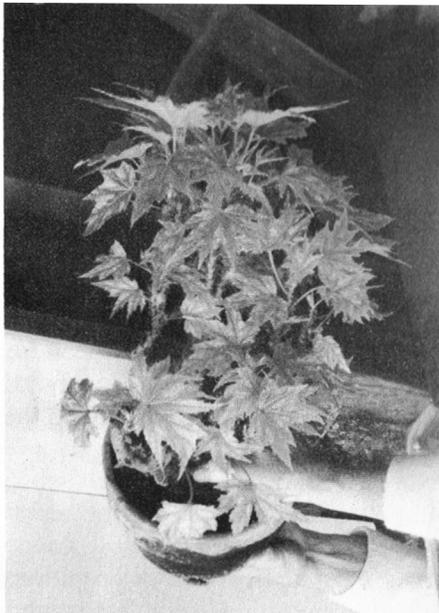
Shallow rooted cutting of *B. 'Buttercup'* on left will go into 2" pot. On right, *B. 'Lawrence H. Fewkes'* with heavier root system needs 3" pot.

have a few roots and they should go into 2 or 2½ inch pots at first although some vigorous growers may have a large root growth and need a 3 or 4 inch pot. One must exercise his own good judgment in this case for the pot should be neither too large nor too small. Examine the root system of a purchased plant. It may be very shallow, in which case it is best left in the original pot for a time. Should you find the pot full of roots repot immediately giving the root system more room.

It is more difficult to learn when your begonias are in need of repotting than it is to learn how to go about it. Usually the most propitious time for repotting is in late winter or early spring when after resting the plant is ready to resume active

growth. It is necessary to keep young plants in active growth by examining the rootball from time to time so they can be given root room in a timely fashion. It is important that they do not receive any set back by crowded roots. To examine plants to determine if repotting is indicated, the plant must be removed from the pot. If the soil in the pot seems very dry, water first to loosen any roots that may cling to the sides of the pot thus resisting being removed. For easy removal, place fingers on top of pot supporting the plant while inverting the pot. Tap lightly up-side-down on table. If the root system slides out holding the shape of the pot, a larger pot is indicated. If, however, some soil is left in the bottom, replace until the roots have penetrated to embrace all the potting mix. Sometimes you will find only

the top one-third of the rootball appears healthy, the bottom $\frac{2}{3}$ appearing to have no roots at all. This probably was caused by overwatering or some other aspect of poor culture. A smaller size pot is then required in order to encourage fresh young roots to form.



Knocking *B. 'Richard Robinson'* from pot to examine rootball.



A root bound plant of *B. 'Mercury'*

Begonias whose roots have not only filled the pot but are rope-like and have become entangled, twined about the rootball with roots protruding from the bottom of the pot, are said to be root bound. All the nutrients have been used up and a new root system must be encouraged. Cut off the protruding roots and clip or cut the heavy roots to permit new feeder roots to grow. To alleviate shock to the plant the top must be pruned proportionately at the same time.

As my own growing area is limited I keep some of my begonias in good



Filling soil around rootball of *B. acida*

growing condition for several years by removing from the pot and gently rubbing off the lower quarter of the rootball, replacing in the same size pots with a layer of fresh soil, adding a very thin covering at the surface. As there is very little shock to the plant using this method I do not find it necessary to prune the top unless it is to remove any dangling rhizomes or ungainly shoots or simply to retain the symmetry of the plant.

Choose the proper size pot to fit the rootball, allowing $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 inch space all around. Place a layer of potting mix in the pot so that when

centering the plant, the top of the rootball is at least $\frac{1}{2}$ inch below the pot level for ease in watering, then fill in all around the rootball pressing very lightly. Never pack tight, for begonias need a loose mix in order for the fine roots to penetrate the fresh soil. After potting water lightly to settle the soil. Easy does it. Too much water is likely to cause rotting. Care should be exercised to see that it is neither too dry nor too wet. As the roots fill the pot shift to the next size until your begonia has attained the size you want and can comfortably accommodate.

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NEW IN THE CATALOGS

by Carrie Karegeannes
Research Department

The 1976 seed and nursery catalogs are offering new strains of begonias and picturing pages of glowing blossoms in many forms and colors. Emphasis in most catalogs is on the *Semperflorens-cultorum* and *Tuberhybrida* groups, offering quick, lavish color for summer gardeners, but others are included.

"Mega-Begonia"

The new *Semperflorens-cultorum* varieties are coming bigger flowered than ever this year, up to 2 inches across. The "wax" or "bedding begonias" are *B. cucullata* cultivars, developed from early hybrids of the Brazilian species *B. cucullata* variety *hookeri*, synonym *B. semperflorens*, but they are better known in horticulture by the synonym, or nicknamed "semps." Mrs. Helen Krauss published the group name *Semperflorens-cultorum* for them in 1945.

Dr. Henry M. Cathey of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service is "most enthusiastic" about the new large-flowered strains — which he calls collectively "Mega-Begonia" — that hybridists are developing by crossing and selection. He says they are the most rapidly developing bedding plant today and forecasts that begonias will be the plants most used for bedding by the 1980's. Ease of growing from seed (now that we understand the use of light for germination) and from cuttings and their ability to grow in either shade or sun give them a wide range of uses.



B. 'Glamour' series
Pan American Seed Co. photo

Among the new ones, George J. Ball, Inc. (Chicago), offers an F_1 hybrid *B.* 'Scarlet Sensation', that flowers freely with deep rich scarlet, single blooms $1\frac{3}{4}$ to 2 inches across, in the shade or full sun. Plants are uniform in size and shape, growing to 12 to 14 inches high. Ball also reports the even larger flowered Pan-American Seed Co. F_1 hybrids *B.* 'Glamour Pink', *B.* 'Glamour Rose', and *B.* 'Glamour Red', with similar compact habit but with more of their flowers in the 2-inch range. Blooms appear when seedlings are only 3 inches high. *B.* 'Scarlet Sensation' is a little freer blooming and plants usually spread a little wider.

George W. Park Seed Co. (Greenwood, S.C.) offers, among many varieties, its own originations *B.* 'Pink Ruffles', *B.* 'Baby Ruffles', and *B.* 'Rosy Ruffles', first listed in 1975 (and not to be confused with *Tuberhybrida* 'Fluffy Ruffles' series). Compact, green-leaved plants bear 1¼- to 1½-inch blooms so fully double that they are balls of ruffled petals.

Tuberhybrida

Tuberhybrida improvements continue also. Antonelli Brothers (Santa Cruz, Calif.) report they have developed a new race in their Double Rose Form, with better flower size, shape, and colors and better plant form and vigor. The huge flowers are more roselike than ever. Their Giant Double Ruffled, sometimes called 'Ballerina' begonias, come in

the camellia and carnation forms. Antonelli also has a new "Mini-strain," developed from the *Multi-flora* group of *Tuberhybrida*, giving short, compact plants with numerous small flowers for foreground plantings or pots. A range of colors includes *B.* 'Mini-Beauty', yellow with apricot edge, and *B.* 'Lady Soroptimist', a mini-yellow.

Thompson and Morgan Ltd. (Ipswich, England) lists "bearded" *Tuberhybrida* begonias with flowers up to 5 inches across carrying a central fringe, or crest, on the petals, in a range of colors and color combinations. Park's varied Belgian and American offerings include *B.* 'Santa Teresa', first offered in 1975 — a ruffled white with pink edge, in their American 'Fluffy Ruffles' series or "ruffled and frilled double giants." Others in the series are the spotted red-and-white *B.* 'Polka Dot' and the salmon *B.* 'Santa Monica', as well as other solids.

Christmas Begonias

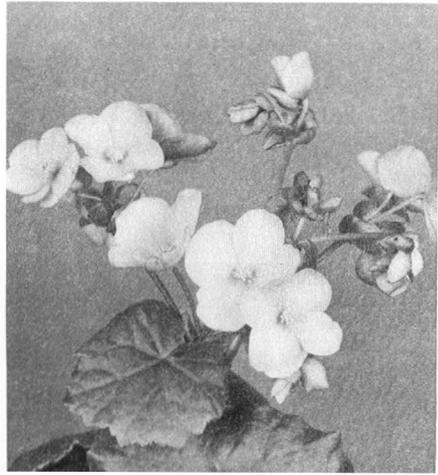
Park's also introduces a new Ernst Benary development from Germany, *B.* 'Love Me', an F_1 hybrid in the *Cheimantha* group, which can be grown from seed. *Cheimantha* begonias are *B. socotrana* x *B. dregei* derivatives grown in various forms as "Christmas" or "winter-flowering" begonias since the first hybrid, *B.* 'Gloire de Lorraine', was produced in 1891; they are also called "Lorraine begonias" in Europe. *B.* 'Gloire de Lorraine' was sterile and could be reproduced only from cuttings; now *B.* 'Love Me' is reported as the first that can be grown from seed. The heterosis triploid was developed through cooperation of the



Double Rose Form *Tuberhybrida*
Antonelli Brothers photo



B. 'Scarlet Sensation'
Geo. J. Ball, Inc., photo



B. 'Love Me'
Geo. W. Park Seed Co. photo

Institute of Applied Genetics of Hannover and Benary of Hannover Mueden. It is long flowering with clusters of single pink flowers 1 inch across on plants 10 to 12 inches high.

Reproduction from seed will permit growers to flower the plants in other seasons than winter, according to when they plant. For 4-inch pots in flower in November, Park's advises sowing in March, with pinching back at the end of June and early in August. April-sown plants should be pinched once, in July. Summer temperatures should not fall below 68° or flower buds will form too soon. Germination, with light and with temperatures of 68° to 72°F., takes 20 to 35 days.

Another group called "Christmas

begonias" is the Hiemalis group (termed "Elatior begonias" in Europe), originated in England in 1883 by a cross of *B. socotrana* with a tuberous hybrid and developed through numerous cultivars since. Recent improved forms in many colors have been introduced from Otto Rieger in Germany as Rieger Elatior begonias, distributed by Mikkelsens, Inc. (Ashtabula, Ohio). (See May, July, September, and December 1973 issues of the *Begonian*.) Although propagated by cuttings, these hybrids can be timed to bloom by controlling light and temperature.

Other Hybrids

Logee's Greenhouses (Danielson, Conn.) includes among newer offerings in pages of many kinds of begonias, the 1969 ABS John Thieben Award winner *B.* 'Universe', produced by Thelma O'Reilly. A January *Flower and Garden* magazine article on new plants included a photo of 'Universe'.

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DELICIOUS!

By Patrick J. Worley, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Reprinted from the *Minnesota Begonia Review*.

During a recent telephone conversation Pat Burdick and I discussed the safety of begonias as house plants. There are, I believe, no poisonous begonias. In fact during the second world war the British ate their begonias as food during the hard times.

We talked of the pickles made from the rhizomes of the Indian *Begonia picta* and Pat related to me this short but fascinating tale . . . "When the natives of New Guinea are out foraging for food in the jungles they are always on the look out for their favorite leaf. When they see it they run to it and shout 'Delicious' as they devour it leaf, stem and root."

This has caused me no end of laughter imagining those natives shouting "Delicious" in perfect English in the middle of the untracked jungles of New Guinea.

Logically this begonia is called *B. deliciosa*, which I have, so extending myself via the extra long telephone cord into the plant room, I immediately plucked a choice leaf, ate of it and pronounced it "Delicious!"

I decided then and there to sample each and every begonia leaf I had to determine which were of superior eating quality, because, as far as I know no one has bred begonias for gustatory qualities.

I don't mean to make light of this task, and I consider it part of my explorations of every aspect of *Begoniaceae*. Here are a select few as a guide to your own palate.

B. deliciosa — sweet sour in taste, very pleasant and refreshing should

be good with a vinaigrette dressing in a mixed salad bowl.

B. 'Margaritae' — just sour, tasty when sliced like coleslaw and tucked in a bun next to a wiener. Elegant!

B. 'Raspberry Parfait' — does not live up to its name. Most of the hairy leaved begonias are unpleasant in texture, unless you enjoy just nibbling on a wool blanket now and then.

B. cubensis — bitter!

B. epipsila — sour and thickish not too bad, good in irish type stew if cut in large chunks.

B. Rex Cultorum — all very tangy, makes a beautiful garnishment when placed whole on white bread with creamed cheese (especially an open faced sandwich.)

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B. subvillosa (syn. *leptotricha*)
— very good, almost rivals *B. deliciosa* in flavor but otherwise less sweetish.

In general the taste of the begonias I sampled ranged from sweet-sour to bitter, most tasting pretty much the same. I would recommend not partaking too heavily of the joys of eating begonias as I did notice a slight laxative effect. Bon Appétit!

Ed. Note: After I read this, I double checked at the library and came across one reference to *B. gracilis* in a book about poisonous plants. It was listed as having emetic properties. The original source was a report of a study done at Kew Gardens. L. H. Bailey (1922) reported that the stalks of some species are used as the leaf stalks of rhubarb are used. He wrote: "The rhizomes of many species particularly those from South America, are bitter and astringent and are employed locally for certain fevers and syphilis. Some species contain purgative principles. The sour sap of one of the Asiatic species is said to be used for cleaning weapons."

The San Diego Poison Information Center Microfilm Index shows all begonias non-toxic and had recorded no cases of harmful effects. The only cautionary word was a warning to avoid eating plants which had been sprayed with insecticides, especially, systemic insecticides.

So go ahead and eat them. Doesn't a salad of *B. 'Cleopatra'* sound romantic?
P.B.

Historical Interest — Modern Value

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ABS AUTHORS

Knickerbocker Branch member, Neal Weaver, has written an excellent article "Caution: Begonias May Be Habit Forming" for the New York Botanical Garden magazine, *Garden Journal*, Feb. 1976 issue. It has many good pictures of begonias.

Jack Golding also of Knickerbocker Branch, has written an article which will appear in a book edited by Neal Weaver: *Today's Woman-House Plants, No. 2*. Fawcett Publications will have it on the newsstands this spring.

Joe McMahon's backyard forest is pictured in the new Sunset book, *The Joy of Gardening*, sold on newsstands in the western states. Joe is a member of the Santa Clara Branch.

Begonian contributing editor, Elda Haring's book, *The Complete Book of Growing Plants From Seed*, has had steady sales since it was first published several years ago. Hawthorn Books has just made it available in a paperback edition.

Ed and Millie Thompson have collaborated on an article that appears in the April issue of *Plants Alive* magazine. It includes pictures of their collection of begonias in hanging baskets and is entitled, "Suspend Your Best Begonias."

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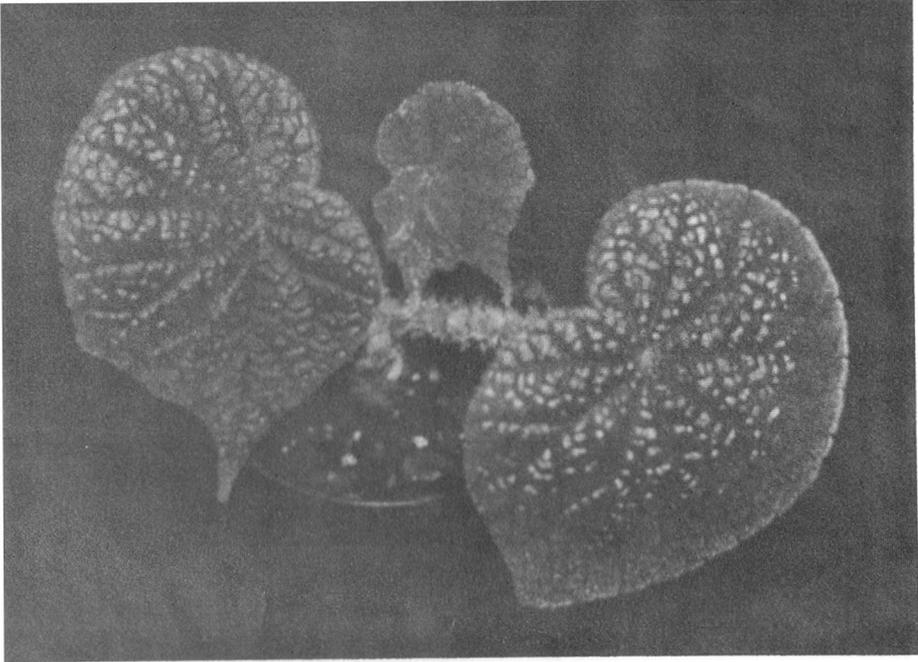
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Pamphlets for Beginners:

- 'Begonias from Seeds — Sowing and Growing'\$.25
 'Begonias in General — Basic descriptions of classes and culture'... .50
- My # 1 — *B. deliciosa*: an Asian species, grows to 2 ft. Upright, branched with untypical rhizome-like stem which hides just beneath the soil surface. Nick-named 'Indian-spotted' for the area of its origin and the large gray spots on its olive-drab, deeply palmately lobed leaves. Surprisingly large and soft pink flowers. per pkt. 1.00
- My # 2 — *B. dregei*: semi-tuberous African species. A beautiful, dainty plant, young leaves are spotted, but as it grows older the spots disappear. Makes a nice basket, does not go entirely dormant. White flowers in abundance. This one needs good circulation of air, is very sensitive to mildew. per pkt. .50
- My # 3 — *B. incarnata*: Mexican species. Fibrous plant, Frilly and fluffy with light green leaves, fluted and scalloped on the edges. Flesh pink flowers in winter. per pkt. 1.00
- My # 4 — *B. 'J-11'*: Brazilian species still without a name, although it has been around for more than 15 years. Much like *B. friburgensis*, but larger, leaves 12 in. long, petioles with large purple scales. Photo in January 1973 *Begonian*. per pkt. 1.00
- My # 5 — *B. subvillosa* (syn. *leptotricha*): known as 'wooly bear'. The underside of the leaves is covered with appressed brown hairs. Blooms profusely all year, beginning when the plant is still small. Doesn't want to be kept too wet. per pkt. .50
- My # 6 — *B. micranthera venturii*: a favorite tuberous type. Grows to a branching plant 24 inches high; laden with bright orange blossoms for about 5 months. per pkt. 1.00
- My # 7 — *B. pavonina*: a rhizomatous species from Malaya with brownish leaves, sometimes with a peacock blue sheen. White blooms. per pkt. 1.00
- My # 8 — Unidentified — similar to *B. scharffiana*: a begonia sent to the Botanic Gardens in The Netherlands by Mr. L. Maurice Mason, who stated it had been collected in the Organ Mountains in Brazil. It belongs to the *B. scharffii*-*B. scharffiana* group, but it has pure white flowers. per pkt. .50
- My # 9 — Star Rex. I have no information on these, I would like to hear from those of you who planted it when it was offered in Sept. 1974. It will make nice plants. per pkt. .50
- My # 10 — Mixed Begonias. This is a collection of the seeds I received unnamed, or in too small an amount to offer. Some great varieties in these. per pkt. .50

Please include a stamped self-addressed envelope. Calif. residents, add 6% sales tax. Make checks and money orders payable: Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund, and mail to; Mrs. Pearl E. Benell, 10331 Colima Dr., Whittier, CA 90604.



R. Ziesenhenné photo

BEGONIA CARRIEAE

By Rudolf Ziesenhenné

The beautiful and unusual plant being designated *Begonia carrieae* was found by Mr. Thomas MacDougall on April 13, 1967 in the wilds of Mexico but he failed to give a complete habitat designation other than Ocozocoautla, Chiapas.

Begonia carrieae is a unique plant and I have had to keep it hidden until now because everyone who sees it desires it immediately. The characteristic which first claimed my attention was the leaf stems entirely covered with a solid shingling of hairs and wide, scale-like hairs of many shapes ending in many divisions. Truly this condition is unique among the *Begonias* I have seen. The upper surface of the leaves is covered with simple short hairs and the surface is dull, not shiny. The nerves, veins, and veinlets are sunk into the leaf and the areas between them are bowed up. This condition is called rugose. The underside of the leaf feels like felt to the touch because of the multitude and thickness of scale-like hairs, which are greatly divided and have long terminal hairs. The rhizome freely sends out lateral divisions and this makes a full plant. The white flower-petals are large for a rhizomatous begonia being about three-quarters of an inch in diameter. This is a beautiful and unique species.

Begonia carrieae is named for Mrs. Carrie Karegeannes of Annandale, Virginia who was honored by the American Begonia Society in 1974 with

the Eva Kenworthy Gray Award, its highest award, for her contributions of original *Begonia* material. Carrie has been active for many years on the Research Committee of the American Begonia Society under the direction of Mr. Carl L'Hommedieu and is researching all material about *Begonia* species. Carrie is a careful and persistent researcher and in the December 1975 issue of the *Begonian*, pages 293-295, fully established *Begonia morelii* Irmscher by publishing the Latin description which somehow was never published. Thus her name becomes affixed to *Begonia morelii* Irmscher ex Karegeannes. I am sure the *Begonia* world will see more of her work in the future.

On July 28, 1967 I received *Begonia* seed from Thomas MacDougall among which was C.287. In his records he lists C.287 as a rhizomatous *Begonia* from Ocozocoautla, Chiapas, dated April 13, 1967. He said the seed was from a plant in cultivation. The seed was planted and germinated well and I transplanted about 400 plants. They were not all the same so I concluded some of the seedlings were hybrids. I had also received a shipment of rhizomes but they died. Mr. MacDougall in a letter dated July 22, 1967 wrote: "I was not optimistic about C.287 and the fumigation with the outside temperature at 103°F., was the last straw. Next season I hope to get habitat pictures plus some observations and maybe by early spring you will have seedlings in bloom!" On May 4, 1968 Mr. MacDougall wrote, "I am enclosing two more leaves of C.287 of which I have three plants growing in Oaxaca — although I failed to get fotos of this species in bloom." The outline of one of these leaves from a juvenile plant is super-imposed on the typical mature leaf shape in the drawing. On March 18, 1972 I received three rhizomes of C.287 from Mr. MacDougall and they were all alike. In April I received seed from Mr. MacDougall and planted it. Most of the plants were alike but some were obviously hybrids and one of these I named *B. 'Cachuma'* which is registered #439 and was published in the April 1975 *Begonian* on pages 94-95. It is named for a stream valley across which the federal government built a dam creating a reservoir named Cachuma Lake. This plant unlike C.287 has large pink flowers and deeply lobed leaves and is perhaps a cross between C.287 and a variety of *B. heracleifolia*. On August 7, 1972 Mr. MacDougall wrote: "I hope the last batch of C.287 is coming true. The number is certainly a good species."

Finally to see if the C.287 was a true species I self-pollinated one of the plants Mr. MacDougall had brought in. I had received it March 18, 1972. All the plants came true to the parent plant.

Mr. MacDougall, when collecting *Begonia*, took them back to the hotel where he was staying and planted them in the garden and cared for them until he was ready to return to the United States for they are difficult to maintain alive after they are collected.

During the years of studying this plant, I have not been idle but have been hybridizing *B. carrieae* with the following hybrids named, registered, and published in the *Begonian* listed:

- #439. *B. 'Cachuma'* (*B. carrieae* x unknown). April 1975. pp. 94-95.
 #440. *B. 'Rip van Winkle'* (*B. hydrocotylifolia* x *B. carrieae*). May 1975. p. 116.
 #443. *B. 'Yanonalí'* (*B. mazae* x *B. carrieae*). May 1975, p. 117.
 #444. *B. 'Mish'* (*B. kellermanii* x *B. carrieae*). May 1975, p. 117; February 1976. Cover photo. p. 33.
 #484. *B. 'Sisquoc'* (*B. carrieae* x *B. bowerae nigramarga*). February 1976, p. 51.
 #485. *B. 'Troll'* (*B. 'Ricinifolia'* x *B. carrieae*). Feb. 1976, p. 51.
 #486. *B. 'Chichee'* (*B. bowerae* x *B. carrieae*). Feb. 1976, p. 51-52.
 #487. *B. 'Lospe'* (*B. 'Bowtique'* x *B. carrieae*). Feb. 1976, p. 52.
 #488. *B. 'Lospe-tu'* (*B. 'Bowtique'* x *B. carrieae*). Feb. 1976, p. 52.
 #489. *B. 'Wizard'* (*B. 'Norah Bedson'* x *B. carrieae*). Feb. 1976, p. 52.
 #490. *B. 'Macushla'* (*B. 'Madam Queen'* x *B. carrieae*). Feb. 1976, p. 52.
 #491. *B. 'Tajiguas'* (*B. frigida* x *B. carrieae*). Feb. 1976, p. 53.

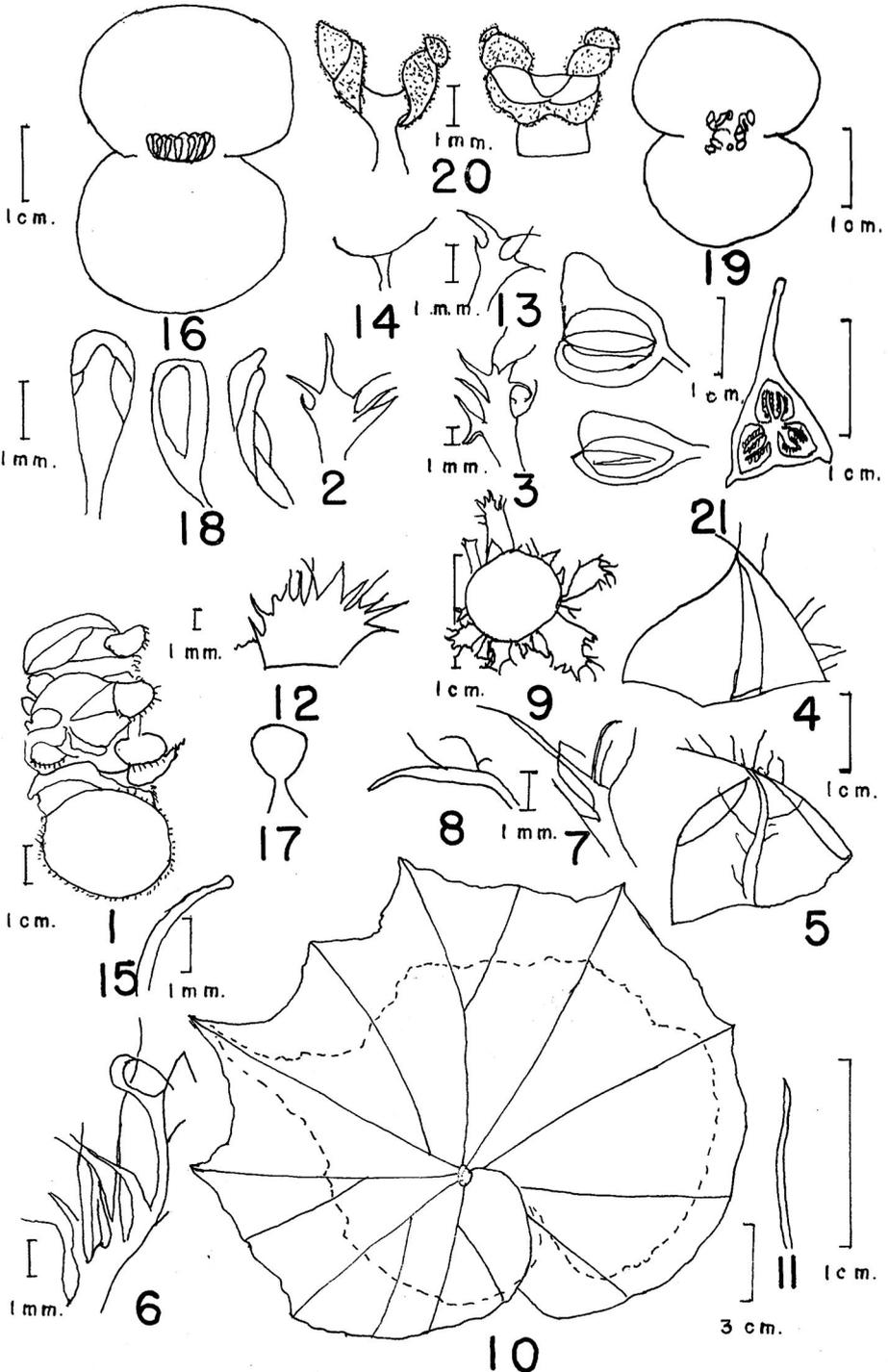
There are some others still not named which are also different from any other *Begonia* in cultivation. As soon as I name them, they will be registered.

One thing is apparent from the crosses made to date: the beautiful and multitudinous scale-like hairs on the leafstems do not show up on the hybrids. *B. 'Cachuma'* does have some wide, base-hairs but they are like those on *B. 'Immense'* also called *B. 'Fisher's Ricinifolia'*. All the hybrids do have the dull leaf-surface and to some extent the rough leaf-surface. One thing is apparent to me; they fill a gap in supplying plants with fine, hairy leaf-surface in the rhizomatous group.

DESCRIPTION

Begonia (section *Magnusia* (Klotzsch) A. DC.) *carrieae* Ziesenhenn. New species, herbaceous perennial; stem (figure 1) a rhizome, creeping, broadly elliptical, tip set with emerging leaves, large, green stipules and petioles, 5 inches long, 1 3/8 inches wide, 1 3/16 inches in depth, branching, well-covered with foliage, rough texture, green leafstem scars closely-spaced and fringed with scale-like hairs (figures 2 & 3) dull, thickly-set with simple hairs; stipules persistent turning brown quickly, papery, top ones (figure 4) broadly ovate, tip blunt, 7/8 inch long, 1 3/16 inch wide; keeled, 1/16 inch high running out and terminating in a hair; margin entire, curled outward, ciliated with hairs about 1/16 inch long, green, dull, outside thickly set with simple hairs; lateral ones (figure 5) broadly ovate, tip blunt, 7/8 inch long, 1 inch wide, keeled, extending out 3/8 inch beyond the stipules tip, covered with multi-tipped hairs up to 3/8 inch long (figures 6, 7, & 8): petioles (figure 9) cylindrical, 5/16 inch in diameter, 8 inches long, veronese green Royal Horticultural Society Color Chart 660/1, dull, densely-covered with simple hairs 1/16 inch long to various complex-shaped and multi-tipped hairs with bases 1/64 to 1/8 inch wide and 1/32 to 1/4 inch long; leaf (figure 10) rough, thick,

above sheeles green 860/1, rugose, the veins depressed with the tissue between bowed up, dull, thickly short-hairy 1/32-1/16 inch, above the point of attachment of the petiole to the leaf and running out the main nerves stand a series of hairs (figure 11) gradually descending in length from 7/16 to 1/16 inch long; below veronese green 660/1 diluted by the multitude of white hairs, netted, the nerves, veins, and veinlets being suspended below the leaf blade, dull, the nerves covered with wide multi-tipped hairs (figure 12) 5/32 inch wide at the base, 1/4 inch at the widest part, 1/4 inch long, hairs on veins (figure 13) base 1/32 inch wide, 1/8 inch long, with two simple hairs extending opposite to each other and about 1/16 inch long; very unequally, broadly-elliptical, tip abruptly acute, base rounded, basal lobes of blade overlapped, lobe from the tip-end of leaf raised up almost standing on edge, margin curled under, undulate, obscurely dentate, ciliate, shallowly-lobed, outside laterally 4-lobed at the end of each nerve, inside laterally 2-lobed, 8 1/2 inches long, 7 inches wide; palmately 9-nerved, outside basally 3, laterally 2, inside basally 1, laterally 3, intervenia bowed up: inflorescence a multi-flowered, equally-divided cyme, late-winter flowering; peduncle axillary, cylindrical, smooth, 3/8 inch in diameter at base, 15 inches long, sheeles



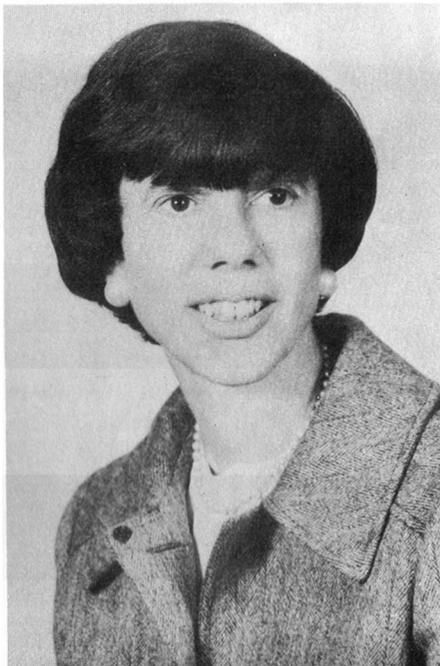
Begonia carrieae Zies.

green, dull, few scattered, simple hairs of various lengths; branches 3 inches long, few-scattered hairs; pedicels $1\frac{1}{8}$ -2 inches long, few, scattered capitate hairs (figure 15); bracts remaining, screeles green, dull, very broadly ovate, margin ciliate: male flowers (figure 16) pedicels $1\frac{1}{8}$ inch long, some capitate hairs; tepals 2, white, base greenish, thick, transversely elliptic, tip rounded, base straight; outer surface thinly covered with fleshy trichomes to $\frac{1}{8}$ inch long pointing away from the base of the tepal, some mere pimples, some capitate hairs on short bases (figure 17), some slender and long to $\frac{1}{8}$ inch (figure 15); stamens 57, arranged like a hand of bananas, $13\frac{1}{32}$ inch wide, $7\frac{1}{32}$ inch high; filaments free, ones on top $1\frac{1}{32}$ inch long, bottom ones $1\frac{1}{12}$ inch long; anthers oblong, wedge-shaped, tip blunt, connective not produced, $1\frac{1}{12}$ - $\frac{1}{8}$ inch long: female flowers (figure 19) pure white, greenish at base, thick, transversely elliptical, tip rounded, base straight, outer surface with few scattered hairs as the males, one inch wide, $\frac{2}{3}$ inch wide, veins straight; styles (figure 20) 3, united $\frac{1}{3}$, free part $1\frac{1}{10}$ inch, two lobed $\frac{1}{8}$ inch long, stigma papillae forms a continuous band of two twists; capsule (figure 21), $\frac{3}{8}$ inch long, $13\frac{1}{32}$ inch wide, elliptical, ends rounded, green, one large wing, $5\frac{1}{16}$ inch long, triangular, ascending toward the stigma end, tip blunt, few scattered, capitate hairs, other two wings marginal; ovary (figure 21) 3-celled, placenta 2-divided carrying seed on all sides.

Type MacDougall C.287, Mexico, Chiapas, Ocozocoautla. April 13, 1967.

LATIN

Begonia (seccione *Magnusia* (Klotzsch) A. D.C.) *carrierae* Ziesenhenne, spec. nov. Herba perennis: rhizomate repente, late elliptico, 13 cm. longo, 3.5 cm. lato, 3 cm. crasso, ramoso, ad apice usque foliato, aspero, viridis; cicatibus hepaticis, dispositis arte, squamis fimbriatis; opacis confertis villosis: stipulis cato siccis, persistentibus, papyraceis late ovatis, obtusis, 2.2 cm. longis, 2.9 cm. latis, carinatis, 2 mm. altis, terminatibus pilis, marginibus integris, curvis recessim, extis pilis 3 mm. longis, viridibus opacis, ciliatis; stipulis lateralibus late ovatis, obtusis, 2.2 cm. longis, 2.6 cm. latis, carinatis, fimbriatis; etiolis opacis, teretibus, 8.5 mm. diametro, 20 cm. longis, viridibus veronesii 660/1 (Royal Horticultural Society Color Chart) dispositis arte pilosis 1.5



Carrie Karegeannes

mm. longis ad squamis-fimbriatis .5 mm.-3 mm. latis, 1-7 mm. longis: foliis rogosis, crassis, viridis screeleanis 860/1, opacis, densis pilis, 1-1.5 mm.; subtis viridis veronesii 660/1, reticulatis, opacis, nervis squamis-fimbriatis dispositis arte 9 mm. latis, 3mm. longis; valde obliquis late ellipticis, acutis, basis rotundis, marginibus flexis dorsom, undulatis, dentatis obscuris, ciliatis, lobis vadosis, exlus lateralibus 4-lobatis, intis lateralibus 2-lobatis, lobis basil- aribus profundis, lobis ad apice profundis, imbricatis, verticalibus; palmatinervis, nervi 9; inflorescentia cymosa, flores multi, pendunculis axilliaribus, 38 cm. longis, piliferis paucis; bracteis persistentibus, viridibus, ovatis latis- simis, ciliatis: tepalis masculinis 2, candidis, transversis ellipticis, rotundatis, extis dispersis pilis capitatis, 2.15 cm. longis, 2.9 cm. latis, venis rectis; staminibus 57, filamentis liberis, 1-2 mm. longis antheris cunatis, apice obtusis 2-2.5 mm. longis: tepalis femineis 2, candidis, transverse ellipticus, extis dispersis pilis capita- tis, 1.5 cm. longis, 2.5 cm. latis, venis rectis; stylis 3, basi .9 mm. conatis, parte libera 2.5 mm. longis, stigmatibus bicornutis, 2 mm. longis, fascia papillosa bis speraliter torta duo, inferne continual cinctis; capsula 1.5 cm. longa, 1.1 cm. lata, ellisoidea, inaequaliter trialata, pila capitata dispersa, ala maxima triangulara obtusa 9 mm. longa, reliquis angustis carnosis; ovario 3-loculari, placentis bilamellatis, un- dique ovuliferis. MacDougall No. C.287. Typo in herbario Rudolf Ziesenhenne, 1130 N. Milpas St., Santa Barbara, Calif. 93103. U.S.A.

Please contribute slides of *Begonias* to the A.B.S. Slide Library.

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REGISTRATION OF BEGONIA CULTIVARS

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

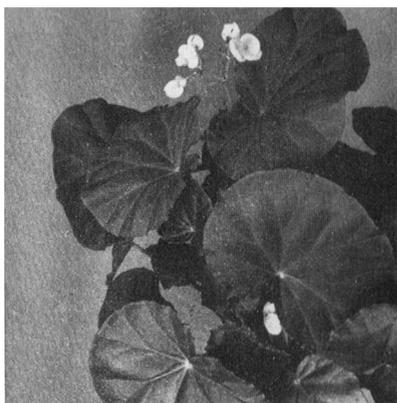
No. 506 — *Begonia* (*B. listida* X *B. paranaensis*) 'Murray Morrison'

Belva Kusler, R. R. 2, Siren, Wisconsin 54872, developed this hairy-leaved, shrub-like plant in 1969, it first bloomed in 1970, and was distributed in 1973. The soft-looking, velvety leaves appear to have a pinkish blush due to soft red hairs; mature stem 24"; leaves are forest-green above with citron veins, lettuce green below with blood-red veins; shape obliquely trullate (trowel shaped), acute, with basal lobes overlapped, 8 x 4 1/2"; margins slightly dentate, angled at vein ends; coriaceous texture with velvety, red pillose hair; nerves 5, evident transverse and oblique; petioles 4 - 4 1/2", long, round, lettuce-green; stipules 1", Nile green, persistent, closely enveloping stem. The flowers are white, pillose (red hairs) on outer petals. Tepals, 2 broadly obovate and 2 narrowly obovate; erect, compound dichasium arrangement on 4" stem, blooming in winter. Registered August 30, 1975.

No. 507 — *Begonia* (*B. olsoniae* X *B. Brazil Species #4*) 'Alva Graham'

Originated by Belva Kusler (address above) in 1969, first bloomed in 1970 and distributed in 1973, this shrub-like, hairy-leaved plant has 12" mature stem height and has compact growth with satin green leaves, ivy-

green above and wine-red below, having transversely broadly-elliptic basal lobes overlapped, shortly acuminate, 5 x 5 1/2"; texture coriaceous with satin sheen and pillose; margin entire undulate; 8 nerves palmate, evident; petioles round, pubescent, 3 1/2"; stipules ovate, keeled, 1 - 1 1/2", at first pale green, soon marcescent. White flowers, with red hairs on back of male tepals which have a circular and narrowly elliptical shape; blooms year-round, 4 - 2" petals on male blossoms and 3 to 6 - 2 x 1 3/4" petals on female blossoms, on 3 1/2 to 7" stem; compound dichasium, erect arrangement. Registered August 30, 1975.



B. 'Alva Graham'

Photo by Jack Golding

No. 508 — *Begonia* (*B. paranaensis* X *B. 'Jill Adair'* selfed) 'Jack Golding'

This hairy-leaved, 15"-stemmed, shrub-like plant was developed by Belva Kusler (address above) in 1969, first bloomed in 1970 and was distributed in 1973, has leaves with satin sheen, double dentate and undulate margin with large clusters of white flowers with undulated tepals,



B. 'Jack Golding'

Photo by Belva Kusler

erect, high above leaves on 10" round, glabrous flower stem; male flower, 2 1/2", 4-petaled; female flower 1 1/2", 5-petaled, blooming all year. Leaves are ivy-green above and blood-red below, obliquely ovate, acute, basal lobes, 8 1/2 x 5"; texture is coriaceous, scattered hirsute; nerves 7, evident, palmate, transverse; petioles 1 1/2", oval, with top grooved, villous; stipules 1 3/8", first spring green, then marcescent, keeled. Registered August 30, 1975.

No. 509 — Begonia (B. listida X B. 'Jill Adair') 'Mabel Corwin'

Originated by Belva Kusler (Siren, Wisconsin) in 1969, first bloomed 1970, first distributed 1973, this shrub-like, hairy-leaved plant grows stems of 9-12". A small compact plant with attractive leaves with light green around the main vein, it has attractive white and pink flowers which bloom year-round. The flowers have red stiff hairs on outside and tepals are elliptic obovate shape, male 1 1/2" diameter, female 1 3/4" diameter; 4 male, 5 female petals; the arched, compound dichasium arrangement grows on 4-6" terete, pubescent stem. The leaves are ivy-green above, fern-green along main veins and wine-red below, with obliquely ovate, cordate, acute shape, 5" x 2 1/2"; slightly dentate and undulate, ciliate margin. The texture is coriaceous, dull satin sheen, pilose. Nerves 1-3, evident, red; petioles, 5", red, oblique to midrib; stipules, 1/2" triangular, keeled, persistent. Registered August 30, 1975.

No. 510 — Begonia (B. versicolor X B. morelii) 'Mae Bee'

Originated in 1972 by Yvonne Wells, 1739 Potter Lane, Mesquite,

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Texas 75149, this rhizomatous plant of distinctive foliage has pink flowers with red hairs, arranged on 1" to 2" stem, blooming in wintertime. The leaves are reddish-green with red hairs, of oval shape, 1-1 $\frac{1}{4}$ ", with soft-hairy texture. This plant grows easily and compactly. Registered September 9, 1975.

No. 511 — Begonia (B. versicolor X B. 'John Blais') 'Gordy'

Originated by Gordon Lepisto, 1775 Field Ave., St. Paul, Minn. 55116, in 1973, first bloomed in 1974, and first distributed in 1975. The dwarf, rex begonia is low-growing, compact, non-spiral, with creeping rhizome. The entire leaf is covered with raised, white spots with a red hair in dead center of each spot; the ovate, oblique-shaped leaves, 6" have dentate, ciliate, slightly-crested margin with verrucose texture. The veins are dark mahogany to light green near edge. The flowers are pink, 1" diameter, single-flowered, on top of 3" stem, below plant leaves, blooming periodically year-round. Registered September 29, 1975.

No. 512 — Begonia (B. versicolor X B. 'John Blais') 'Joe Bond'

Originated by Gordon Lepisto (address above) in 1973, first bloomed and distributed in 1974, this large, rex begonia with ovate, oblique leaves, under 9" long, is a compact, creeping-rhizome type, sparsely covered with fine red hair, non-spiral.

The Indoor Light Gardening Society of America, Inc., Dept. B, 128 West 58th St., New York, New York 10019. Dues \$5.00. Bi-monthly magazine; light garden; up-to-date, informative; seed fund; round robins; chapters.

The plant flowers periodically year-round and likes warmth and more than average humidity. The light-pink flowers, 1 $\frac{5}{8}$ " diameter, are in a cluster of 3 to 5 flowers on the top of 7" to 9" stem. The leaves have irregular texture, puberulent, (red); margins are denticulate, ciliate, slight crested. The veins are dark-red near center to light-green; petioles are under 7", covered with red hair. The overall color of the leaves is light-green, flushed-pink along center and veins with pink spots along edge. Registered September 29, 1975.

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Seattle Show to Host Regional ABS Meeting

By Mary Davidson Dunnell
Co-Chairperson, 1976 Seattle
Begonia Show

The Seattle Begonia Society is pleased to announce that it will serve as host to a regional meeting of the American Begonia Society board of directors during its twenty-second annual show, August 13, 14, and 15. National ABS officers and their spouses attending the Seattle event will be honored at a dinner on the evening of August 14.

We hope that as many ABS officers as possible will be able to visit the Seattle show and meet with Begonia People in the Pacific Northwest. During the weekend of the Seattle show, there will be three other horticultural events—the Greater Seattle Fuchsia Show, which will be held at the Northgate shopping mall in conjunction with the Seattle Begonia Show; the Eastside Begonia Show, at the Bellevue Shopping Mall, Bellevue, Washington; and the Puget Sound Fuchsia Society Show at the Seattle Center, site of the 1962 World's Fair.

Those planning to come west for the national convention and show later in August might want to begin their vacation a little early. In addition to our festival of horticultural shows, this would be an ideal time to visit the spectacular beauty of our

national parks, the San Juan Islands, and the magnificent gardens of Victoria and Vancouver B.C., all within a few hours of Seattle.

A special Hospitality Committee, chaired by Mrs. James C. Level and Mrs. John Ordway, has been appointed. National officers planning to attend the Seattle Begonia Show and regional ABS meeting as well as those seeking further information should write to Mrs. James C. Level, 13770 1st Avenue, N.E., Seattle, Washington 98125.

Mini-Ads

The Begonian is once again accepting mini-ads to serve both the readers in locating plants and supplies and the growers who offer these specialties.

The rate for advertising in this column is \$1 per line (about 36 characters) with a minimum charge of \$4. Payment for the ad must accompany order. Direct questions, copy, and checks to the Advertising Managers, Mabel Corwin or Edward Thompson.

Odd, rare and unusual begonias

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Newest Begonias, African Violets,

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List 20¢. Gift with order. Irene's Hobby Floral Shop, Rt. 1, Niangua, MO 65713

Photos of ABS registered cultivars.

Contribute B/W prints for use in identification book. R. Ziesenhennel, Nomenclature Dir. 1130 Milpas St., Santa Barbara, CA 93103.

African violets-begonias-episcias

Cuttings only—rex leaves 35¢
Other begonias 45¢, episcias 35¢
violets 30¢. Stamp for list.
Wilson's Greenhouse, Rt. 1
Box 165-4, Ozark, MO 65721



OPERATION GRAND DONATION

By Gene Daniels, Plant Chairman
P.O. Box 83, Camarillo, CA 93010

During March, each branch from Santa Barbara to San Diego received a check for \$10 and a request for a pledge of 100 or more plants for sale at the National Show and Convention in San Diego Aug. 26-29. This is the one big opportunity your branch will have to give a financial shot in the arm to the ABS.

If we get the 2225 plants we have requested, it will mean a profit of better than \$3,000.00. If we don't, it means we will spend approx. \$1800

of your money to purchase these plants for sale to the public. I think it is obvious which is the right choice. We need a pledge, in writing or by phone, from a representative of your branch to make this project a success. Without knowing in advance that the plants will be coming in, the actual donation of 100 plants will be almost a waste of time, since the show committee will have already purchased begonias to fill the quota needed for the show.

BOX SCORE OF PLEDGES — March 29, 1976

GARDEN GROVE BRANCH	500 plants
THEODOSIA BURR SHEPHERD BRANCH	214 plants
SANTA BARBARA BRANCH	100 plants
ALFRED D. ROBINSON BRANCH	100 plants
SAN MIGUEL BRANCH	100 plants

We have also heard from Westchester and Glendale branches that they will cooperate, but do not have specific pledges. Please let us hear from you soon with specific number of plants. Also, any branches or indi-

viduals outside of the Southern Calif. area mentioned above who give pledges will be listed in the box score each month. *Late note: Redondo and Palomar Branches each pledge 100 plants!*

ABS Library Notes

Librarian Lydia Austin announced the following additions to the ABS Library:

Gardening Under Glass, Charles Marden Fitch, Hawthorn Books
Complete Book of Growing Plants From Seed, Elda Haring, Hawthorn Books

Thompson Begonia Guide, Volume II, Part 2, Mildred L. Thompson, E. Thompson, publisher
Candolle 30, Journal of the Geneva Botanical Garden (written in vari-

ous languages)
Plants Alive magazine, 1976 issues
Horticulture magazine, 1976 issues
Fuchsia Fan magazine, 1976 issues
The Garden, Journal of the Royal Horticultural Society, Jan. '76.

Members having copies of old *Begonians* may send them to the Librarian for resale to others. Complete years are especially desired. Requests for purchase of back issues should be sent to the librarian also.

CONDENSED MINUTES OF THE ABS BOARD MEETING March 22, 1976

The ABS Board meeting was called to order at 7:45 p.m., March 22, 1976, at South Gate Auditorium. A quorum was present. Flag salute and ABS aims and purposes were presented. Barbara Philip was named acting secretary with Rudolf Ziesenhenné as her assistant by Margaret Ziesenhenné, who presided.

Minutes of the February 23, 1976 meeting as published were corrected in the fourth paragraph of page one, second line, "Volume III" to read "appendix of Volume II;" minutes were approved as corrected.

The president in her report mentioned receiving inquiries from branches as to their non-profit status under the Internal Revenue Code. She asked the Board for a motion to enable the national organization to apply for group coverage for branches who wished it; she also explained that in accordance with the ABS constitution and bylaws, she was following Robert's Rules of Order in connection with the ABS meetings in the future; attendance record was to be circulated and when quorum was determined, the opening ceremony would be followed by approval of minutes, read or published; reports of officers and standing committees in the order listed in the bylaws; reports of special committees; unfinished business, if indicated in previous month's minutes; new business; and good of the organization, when branch reports would be given.

Mr. Ziesenhenné moved and it was seconded that the president be empowered to contact Internal Revenue Service and State Franchise Tax Boards and circulate information to ABS branches as to their responsibilities as non-profit organizations to gain tax exempt status. Motion carried.

James Porter gave the treasurer's report which showed balance on hand of \$1,149.07 as of February 18, and \$147.57 as of March 17, 1976; receipts were: membership \$1930.10; advertising \$410.95; seed sales \$272.86; a transfer from the special account of \$1140 and two small receipts brought total received to \$3782.47. Disbursements were \$4783.97, including \$1800 for paper for printing *Begonia* for six months; \$1,040 for printing March *Begonia*; \$444 for circulation of *Begonia*; and \$475 for colored covers for *Begonia*. Two items which had not been previously approved for payment were \$166.64 for the editors and \$61 for comprehensive and liability insurance. It was explained that the \$166.64 included \$75 monthly payment to the two editors, and the other was for expenses, only one month of which expenditures were over \$50.

Business Manager Gil Estrada made a motion that the two bills be validated; motion seconded and carried.

Walter Barnett moved that last month's motion to renew copyrights of *The Begonia* be rescinded as copyrighting apparently began in March and April 1954 and no months have come yet when the renewals could be effective; his motion was seconded. It was pointed out that the circulation manager, who was not present, had already written to the copyright officials; it was moved to amend Mr. Barnett's motion to include the provision that no action be taken until the circulation manager had heard from the copyright officials concerning the renewing of copyrights; the motion to amend was seconded and permission obtained from the maker and seconder; motion to amend carried. Original motion as amended carried.

The acting secretary read a letter from Mildred Thompson transmitted by phone and to be followed up in writing, that she be given information regarding research being carried on by the New York Botanical Garden in connection with the cultivar and species catalogues; Mr. Ziesenhenné explained that the manifests sent by the researcher when she forwarded material should suffice for Mrs. Thompson who is working on two books soon to be published.

An item from the Seattle Branch of the ABS the *Begonia Chatter* in President Ken Gordner's message announced the holding of a meeting after the show and dinner on the weekend of August 14 when several ABS Board members are expected to attend.

Also read by acting secretary was a letter received by the 1975 Show Treasurer in Santa Barbara regarding the non-receipt of a book order sent in error by a Montreal member to the address of the circulation manager; the matter was to be checked out by Mr. Estrada.

Letter from Branch Manager of American Savings, 925 N. Hacienda Blvd., La Puente, CA., regarding ABS safe deposit box; duplicate key cannot be made; suggested ABS transfer contents to another box—total charge \$3.50.

Letter from Robert J. Lagomarsino, Member of Congress, congratulating president and ABS on honorary fellowship award presented by the Royal Horticultural Society commemorating the "Bicentenary of the American Declaration of Independence." The congressman is a member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on International Security and Scientific Affairs.

Mr. Estrada moved that the safe deposit box in American Savings be changed, paying one dollar for the lost key and \$2.00 for two new keys; that names to be carried on signature card should be Mrs. Ziesenhenné, president, Charles Richardson, vice president, and Gilbert Estrada, business manager. Motion was seconded and carried.

Mr. Barnett moved that photocopies of the manifests of the New York Botanical Garden material being compiled by Mrs. Council be sent to Mildred Thompson. Motion seconded and carried.

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Mrs. E. Bolduc

STANDING COMMITTEES:

Editor Edgar Bates said a New Guinea begonia will appear on the April *Begonian*. He said no meeting of the editorial committee was planned for April. He asked for copies of the *Begonian* from July 1938 to January 1941 so that the editor's file of the *Begonian* would be complete. Mr. Barnett moved that several times a year the *Begonian* should carry notices to members to send unwanted copies of the *Begonian* to Lydia Austin, librarian, for redistribution. Motion seconded and carried. Mr. Bates reported the editors had received a gift from Elda Haring of a hard-cover copy of her book "Plants from Seed" which is being turned over to the ABS Library; a paper back edition is available in bookstores for \$4.95. Mr. Estrada reported the last bound copies of the *Begonian* in the library were for 1960.

On behalf of the librarian, who was not present, a report of the 100 copies of *Les Begonias* by Chevalier, translated by Alva Graham, which had been shipped to the eastern convention by Kandid Litho at the request of the former treasurer was asked of Mr. Barnett, who knew nothing of the whereabouts of the books; correspondence with the eastern convention show chairman is being carried on.

Membership Period February 11 to March 10, 1976; new members 148, renewals 158, total memberships processed 352; members returned to files 46; members in good standing this month 3997, last month 3943, last year 3869; total received and deposited \$1730.58; expenses, postage \$143.06. (report read by acting secretary.)

Research (read by Seed Fund Chairman) indicates \$250 grant given New York Botanical Garden to continue the search for begonia materials in the library; several small donations were noted, and the need for member and branch support expressed.

Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund Period Jan. 17 through March 11, 1976, two months: Received from seed sales \$291.19; bulletins and sales tax, \$14.72; total \$305.91. Disbursements, postage, membership secretary, refunds, catalogue fund, left a profit to ABS of \$272.86. Both the research director and Pearl Benell, who read the reports, had been ill during the past two months; both are recuperating.

1976 Show Chairman Betty Cooper reported progress with convention and show plans; meeting March 7 concerned plant sales; will find another meeting place for future meetings. **Judging School** Margaret Lee reported no requests for judging courses; Mrs. Ziesenhenne had sent a point scoring book to the chairman of Minnesota Federated Garden Clubs and given that person the judging school director's address. **Parliamentarian** Peggy McGrath mentioned movers of motions should state clearly the wording of motions so the secretary may get the exact words down for minutes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mrs. Lee moved the approval of nominees for the nominating committee; motion seconded and carried. (Names not available until chairman contacted.)

At the request of Orange County Branch Director, an executive session was called; the president turned the meeting over to Vice President Richardson and absented herself followed by five other members. Minutes were kept of the executive session but as any action or information in such a session is confidential, and not to be discussed with anyone who did not attend, according to Robert's Rules of Order, minutes may only be read at another executive session.

When regular meeting reconvened, Mrs. Ziesenhenne asked Mrs. Mabel Corwin, Advertising Manager, for her report. She distributed the new advertising rate sheet for the *Begonian* which had been printed gratuitously by the owners of Kandid Litho. It shows not only the display rates but the rates for classified ads.

Mr. Barnett, former treasurer, presented a bill for professional services rendered in preparation of exempt organization annual informa-

tion returns for the three fiscal years ended August 31, 1972, 1973, and 1974, three years at \$725.00 per annum, \$2175.00, amending his presentation with the remark that he did not expect to receive the money because of the poor financial condition of the society. In accepting the bill for the society, the president remarked that no advance approval of the finance committee had been given the charge and the legal aspects of the bill would have to be studied.

Mr. Barnett then requested an audit of the society records by a certified public accountant.

Branch reports were heard.
Meeting adjourned at 10 p.m.

Barbara Rowe Philip, Acting Secretary and
Rudolf Ziesenhenne, Assistant Acting Secretary

B. 'BARBARA LEPISTO'

Back Cover Photo
by Gordon Lepisto

A successful cross between *B. versicolor* and a rex cultivar produced this medium leaved spiral rex begonia. Registered in 1975, it is among several rexes derived from *B. versicolor* as female parent. Reports from various growers having different cultural methods from my own indicate that this rex responds best under higher than normal humidity and a growing medium on the loose side. I grow it in coarse orchid bark under 80-90% humidity and warm (72-75°F.).

Very few characteristics carry over from *B. versicolor* except possibly the fine red hair on petiole and leaf surface. I find it as easy as any rex to propagate, very strong and dependable, given the proper conditions, and pleasing to the eye. Plants of this should be available from Rosetta White, Abilene, Kansas, later in the year.

CALENDAR

May 24 — ABS Board of Directors Meeting — South Gate Auditorium — 7:30 p.m.

May 26 — Last date to mail contributions for June *Begonian*

BRANCH DIRECTORY

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AT THESE MEETINGS

BUXTON BRANCH

3rd Saturday, Homes of Members
Nancy Wheatley, Secy
R. R. k, Foster's Pond, Andover, MA 01810

CONNECTICUT BRANCH

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

EAST BAY BRANCH

3rd Thursday, 7:45 p.m.
Northbrea Community Church, Berkeley, Ca.
Julia M. Huwe, Secy
743 Albemarle St., El Cerrito, CA 94530

EASTSIDE BRANCH

4th Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
590 116th Avenue N.E., Bellevue, Washington
Douglas Hart, Secy
6005 121st S.E., Bellevue, WA 98006

EDNA STEWART PITTSBURGH BRANCH

3rd Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.
Phipps Conservatory
Beverly Coyle, Corr. Secretary
144 McCurdy Drive, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15235

EL MONTE COMMUNITY BRANCH

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

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.
Gilbert A. Estrada, Sec'y.
7914 Springer St., Downey, CA 90242

GERALDINE DALY BEGONIA BRANCH

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

GLENDALE BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 8:00 p.m.
Glendale Federal Savings, 401 N. Brand
Mrs. Irene Grannell, Secy.
1431 Coronado Ter., Los Angeles, CA 90026

GREATER ROCHESTER BRANCH

Third Sunday, Members' homes
Thea S. Tweet, Secy.
280 Weymouth Dr., Rochester, N. Y. 14625

HAMPTON BRANCH

2nd Monday, 7:45 p.m.
Parrish Memorial Hall Southampton, NY
Katherine Sickles, Secy.
Locust Ave., Southampton, NY 11968

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 New York
128 West 58th St., New York
Samantha G. Langer, Secy.
361 East 50th Street
New York, NY 10022

LONG BEACH PARENT CHAPTER

2nd Sunday, 1:30 p.m. Community Room,
Coast Federal S & L,
6241 Spring St., Long Beach, California
Mrs. Jan Iwanylo, Secy.
3459 Karen, Long Beach, CA 90808

LONG ISLAND BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.
Planting Fields Arboretum
Oyster Bay, Long Island, N.Y.
Mrs. Michael Hecht, Secy.
2 Bonnie Court, Merrick, N.Y. 11566

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
Mrs. Alma Crawford, Secy.
14250 Madison St., Miami, Florida 33158

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. Mary Peterson, Sec'y.
24522 Pescadero Rd., Carmel, Ca. 93921

NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Mercury Savings and Loan Assn.
4140 Long Beach Blvd., Long Beach
Miss Carol Ruane, Secy.
2133 Pacific Ave., Long Beach, CA 90806

ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
First Christian Church,
1130 E. Walnut Street, Orange, California
Mrs. Dorothy Porter, Secy.
19151 Lomita Ave., Orange, CA 92669

PALOMAR BRANCH

2nd Monday, 7:30 p.m.
Oceanside Savings, 249 S. Indiana St., Vista, CA
Mrs. Ann Shore, Secy.
P.O. Box 828, Fallbrook, CA 92028

PORTLAND BRANCH

Mrs. Otelia Klobas, Secy.
35330 S.E. Dunn Rd., Boring, Ore. 97002

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

ROBINSON, ALFRED D. BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 10:30 A.M. Homes of Members
Juana Curtis, Secy.
4107 Taos Dr., San Diego, Ca. 92117

RUBIDOUX BRANCH

4th Thursday, 7:30 p.m., West Riverside Memorial Hall
4393 Riverside Drive, Rubidoux, Ca.
Mrs. Cindy Gray, Secy.
22601 Whittier Street, Colton, CA 92324

SACRAMENTO BRANCH

3rd Tuesday, 8:00 p.m., Garden Center
3300 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento, Calif.
Sandra Graves, Secy
9 Rosemead Circle, Sacramento, CA 95831

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. Kathy Donlin, Secy.
 c/o 230 Jones St., #302, San Francisco, CA 94102

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 7:30 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

1st Wednesday, 7:30 P.M.
 Casa del Prado (Rm. 104)
 Balboa Park, San Diego
 Mrs. Nova Gillis, Secy.
 11885 Walnut Rd., Lakeside, Ca. 92040

SANTA BARBARA BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
 Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History
 2559 Puesta Del Sol
 Mrs. Patricia Hill, Secy.
 6549 Huntington Dr., Santa Barbara, CA 93111

SANTA CLARA VALLEY BRANCH

3rd Thursday, 8:00 p.m.
 Security S & L Bldg.
 Fremont and Mary Aves.
 Sunnyvale, 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.
 Judy Boling, Secy
 10025 39th Southwest, Seattle, WA 98146

SHEPHERD, THEODOSIA BURR BRANCH

1st Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
 Senior Citizens Bldg., 420 Santa Clara St.,
 Ventura, CA
 Dale Gaberson, Secy.
 234 Corsicana Dr., Oxnard, CA 93030

SOUTH SEATTLE BRANCH

4th Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Wm. Moshier Field House
 430 South 156th Burien
 Helen Harbord, Secy
 17859 S.E. 196th Drive, Renton, WA 98055

TAMPA BAY AREA BRANCH

Mrs. Grace McDougall, Secy.
 Plum St., Inverness Highlands
 Inverness, Florida 32650

TARRANT COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Monday, 10:00 a.m., Bank of Fort Worth
 Mrs. Richard Ellis, Secy.
 2117 Hillcrest, Ft. Worth, Texas 76107

TEXASTAR BRANCH

3rd Thursday, 10 a.m., Garden Center
 1500 Herman Dr., Houston, Texas
 Mrs. V. O. Harman, Secy.
 306 Cody, Houston, Texas 77009

TWIN CITIES BRANCH

Pat Burdick, Secy
 1910 Skyline Dr., Burnsville, MN 55337

WESTCHESTER BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Citizens S&L Assoc.
 5347 Sepulveda Blvd., Culver City, Ca.
 Barbara Mack, Secy.
 424 Oregon St., El Segundo, CA 90245

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH

2nd Wednesday 11:00 a.m. every month
 Northway Mall Community Room
 North Hills, Pittsburgh, Pa.
 Marie Treat, Secy
 604 Nobletown Rd., Pittsburgh, PA 15220

WHITTIER BRANCH

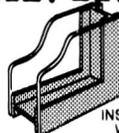
1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
 Palm Park Community Center
 5703 South Palm Avenue, Whittier
 Miss Anne Rose, Secy.
 14036 Ramona Drive, Whittier, Calif. 90605

WILLIAM PENN BRANCH

4th Tuesday, Noon Homes of Members
 Mrs. John W. Watson, Secy.
 209 Pembroke Ave.
 Wayne, Pa. 19087

Note to branch secretaries: please promptly notify the editors of changes in meeting place, date, and changes in secretary's name and address.

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