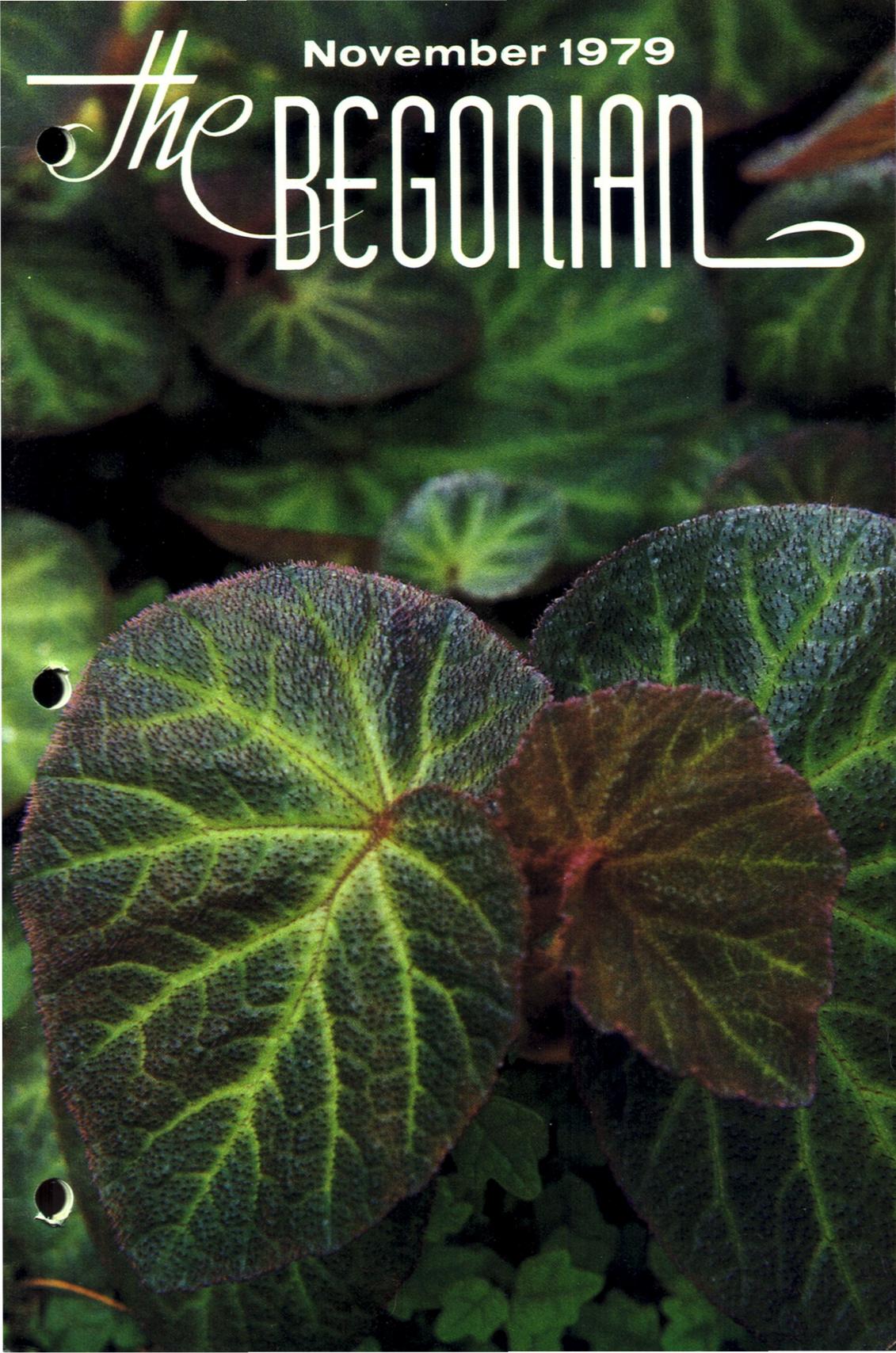


November 1979

The BEGONIAN



The BEGONIAN

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AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

Founded January 1932 by Herbert P. Dyckman

Aims and purposes

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.

TO bring into friendly contact all who love and grow begonias.

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THE COVER: A Dennis Maley photo of a plant grown by wife Pat. Although commonly referred to as Unidentified Brazil Species #2 (mk), some feel it's not a species at all. See page 273 for Pat Maley's notes about this mysterious but beautiful begonia.

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NOTES/ *From the editors*

There's more trouble ahead—and only one thing will see us through it.

Unity.

The American Begonia Society won't exist much longer without a new spirit of cooperation in the leadership ranks.

There are bright signs that the internecine bickering which has dominated the ABS board of directors in recent years is on the wane.

A serious east-west rift is on the mend after western directors moved the ABS convention to the East this year and eastern organizers made such a success of it.

Groups of members—some officers, some not—have worked in concert to pull off sales, auctions, and other fund raisers to bolster the recently sagging ABS treasury.

When members in the East objected to planned dates for the 1980 convention, westerns agreed to change.

This showed the desire of westerners to mend fences.

Only a concerted effort to end all divisiveness, however, will preserve the society.

Recent concerted attempts to mount write-in campaigns in the ABS officer election did nothing to bind up the old wounds. Even though the campaigns in the end had little effect, talk that they were going on in secret did great harm to the society's spirit.

Former editors Ed and Phyllis Bates, in an editorial last April, pointed to "divisiveness" among board members and noted: "Once a course of action has been decided upon, the board members have not always joined in a concerted effort to make things work."

This is not a new development.

Jean Kerlin, in her dinner remarks at the Western Regional Show in October, half-joked that she thought for

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Unraveling the mystery of *B. laciniata*

Tim Gustafson-Byrne

Like all begonia fanciers, I am always looking for something challenging to grow. I work part time in a commercial greenhouse and am fortunate to have access to all kinds of seed catalogs. One day, while glancing through a tropical seed distributor's list, I came across a species of *Begonia* new to me, *B. laciniata*.

The distributor described it as follows: "*Begonia laciniata* — a Sikkim purple black Begonia. A collector's item. Seeds were collected by mountaineers of the Indian Botanical Survey at 6,000 feet elevation in the Himalayan Mountains of Sikkim. Grows 1 to 2 feet tall, cold tolerant. Has purple black roundish sharply lobed leaves which are green reddish beneath."¹

This description aroused my curiosity, so I did some research. In first checking Chevalier's *Begonias*, I found not only a description, but also a picture.

This book describes *B. laciniata* as follows: "*B. laciniata* Roxb. Introduced at Kew in 1830 from western Bengal by Dr. Royle. Branched stems of 30-60 cm. (12-25 inches) long, green, strong, terete, woolly. Leaves 12-15 cm. (5-6 inches) long, obliquely cordate, acuminate, more or less deeply laciniate-lobed, glabrous, dark green above, the edge and center an almost black purple-green, lighter underneath, edged with red, with the center

and veins red. Blooms in the summer. Collector's species; rare in cultivation."²

I think the most challenging words in both descriptions were "rare in cultivation" and "collector's item." Seeing this, I decided to order some of these unusual seeds. It wasn't very long before my package had arrived and I set out to attempt growing this challenging plant.

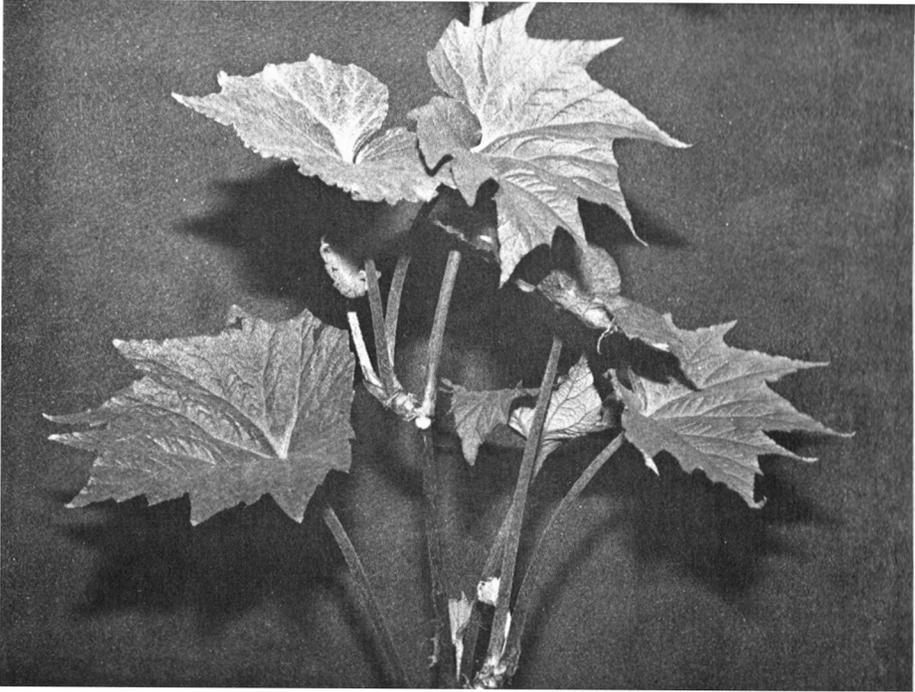
B. laciniata was first described by Dr. William Roxburgh in 1830. The discovery was made in the Garrow Hills region and the Eastern frontier of Bengal. This begonia's distribution ranges through India, Burma, Indochina, and parts of China.

This plant was introduced into the Royal Botanical Gardens at Kew by Dr. Royle. There seems to be a slight discrepancy on when this actually took place. The author of one article states that its introduction into Great Britain was in the same year as its discovery, and yet another author states it wasn't introduced into England until some 22 years later, in 1852.

Over the years other varieties of *B. laciniata* have been discovered. The American Begonia Society at one time acquired some of these seeds and, as a result, two varieties arose—"one with upper surfaces of the leaves smooth and zoned with a lighter green area, and the other similar in form but soft-hairy."³

ABS probably was the organization responsible for introducing *B. laciniata* into the U.S. Records show that in 1936 ABS made available tubers of *B. laciniata* through a seed dealer in India. Unfortunately, due to restrictions on importing plants, it was impractical for the society to order them. ABS

Tim Gustafson-Byrne of 17 Stewart Ave., So. Glens Falls, NY 12801, grows rare tropicals under lights. A design-draftsman by trade, he loves plants so much he works evenings and weekends at a large commercial greenhouse. Tim credits his wife, Sue (Gustafson), for turning him on to plant collecting. A year spent studying forestry at Syracuse University made his addiction even worse. He's 25 years old.



This plant, labeled *B. laciniata*, was grown by Mike Kartuz from seeds given him by Corliss Engle, who got them from Arnold Arboretum. The seeds apparently were collected in China. The plant has solid-colored light-green leaves. Lack of blooms has prevented positive identification, although the leaf shape and growth habit are typical of the various forms of the plant known as *B. laciniata*. A discussion of the latest findings about the names *B. laciniata* and *B. laciniata* var. *flava* will be found on page 259.

at that time did try to order seeds. Whether they actually arrived is not indicated in the records.⁴

In an article, Dr. Roxburgh describes *B. laciniata* in detail, but not once does he mention that the foliage was variegated. A reason for this was given in *Curtis's Botanical Magazine*: "The foliage in the living plant is beautifully variegated, a circumstance not noticed by Dr. Roxburgh, perhaps because he made his description from dried specimens, where this character would, in a measure at least, disappear."⁵

On the other hand, what if he was actually describing another variety of *B. laciniata*? Many articles have been

written on the plants of India and that region, and there are even some descriptions of the different varieties of *B. laciniata*. The varieties, therefore, do exist and so does the possibility that Dr. Roxburgh did his research on one of them.

□

My wife and I are apartment dwellers, so our space is very limited. To accommodate our need for plant space I constructed a light bench—a very inexpensive item for a handyman to build. It doesn't take up much room and the begonias grow just fine since it is possible to control the length of uninterrupted daylight the plants need to flourish. This bench has two

levels, the upper having an added advantage built in. The heat created by the lights on the lower level provides wonderful bottom heat on the upper level, which helps speed seed germination.

To germinate *B. laciniata* I used sterilized leaf mold as a medium and placed it in a large covered petri dish. Before dispersing the seeds, I made sure the leaf mold was quite moist. Once the dust-like seeds were scattered, I closed the cover and sealed it. I then recorded all the information on a label attached to the side of the container and placed the dish under the lights on the upper level. Germination time was approximately 14 days. Once the cotyledons (embryonic leaves) appeared, I watched them to be sure the leaf mold stayed moist and fungus did not develop.

When the true leaves appeared, I removed the cover and transferred the dish to a 10-gallon aquarium. The aquarium contained 6 inches of moist vermiculite on the bottom and had a glass cover to maintain high, constant humidity. The petri dish was placed in this tank to enable the little plantlets to grow higher than the covered dish allowed before transplanting.

Once the third or fourth true leaf appeared, I moved the seedlings carefully to their own 1-inch individual pots. The mix I used was 1 part peat moss, 2 parts soilless mix, and 1 part vermiculite. After weeding out the stragglers and repotting, the stronger seedlings were then placed back into the aquarium and the top put back in place, but left slightly ajar for air circulation. The plants remained in these pots for approximately 6 months.

A dilute solution of fertilizer was fed the young plants twice during the 6-month period. All the plants showed

noticeable growth. The leaf color darkened and there was an increase in pubescence over the entire plant.

A few of these plants were hardened off slowly and removed from the tank. Some were left in the open air with humidity fluctuating from 30 to 50%; others were placed on pebbles in dishes of water for added humidity. To my dismay, none of the plants removed adapted to the drier atmosphere.

Meanwhile, back at the tank, all the plants seemed to be flourishing. The humidity was maintained at about 85%. The larger plants were removed again and this time placed into their own individual containers, where they seem to have adapted well. The humidity has dropped to 70% in the separate containers but the plants have adjusted to it. The soil mix used for the larger plants is basically the same as before only this time 2 parts rich potting soil was added.

To test the effects of actual sunlight on the plants, I placed one container in a northeast window. It seemed to display a deeper red in its color than those under the full-spectrum fluorescents. The plants under the lights, however, grew larger leaves and grew more rapidly than those in partial sunlight. Perhaps the fact that the timers were on a 12-hour daylight cycle could explain the more rapid growth in the latter plants.

The plants that resulted from this long growing process are very handsome indeed. Unfortunately, the seeds were not of the variegated *B. laciniata*. They display a very mildly pubescent green surface with a woolly light pink underside. From the description that was given in C. B. Clarke's article "Begoniaceae" I am going to assume the plants that I have are *B. laciniata* var. *flava*!

Even so, these plants were well worth the effort and time it took to grow them from seed. Even though they are rare in cultivation, with artificial lighting and environment control I believe anyone with the right setup and a little patience can enjoy *B. laciniata*.

Thanks to Millie Thompson and Ed Bates who shared their valuable time with me and provided reference material.

1. H. Ron Hurov, Hurov's Tropical Seeds, *Indoor Exotics 1978-A Seeds*, p. 3 #85.5.
2. Charles Chevalier, *Begonias*, trans. Alva G. Graham (American Begonia Society, 1975) pp. 75-76.
3. Helen K. Krauss, *Begonias for American Homes and Gardens* (New York: The Macmillan Company, 1947), p. 92.
4. "Tuberous Begonias of India," *Monthly Bulletin of the American Begonia Society*, vol. 3 (May 1936), p. 3.
5. William J. Hooker, "Begonia laciniata, Cut-leaved Begonia," *Curtis's Botanical Magazine* (1 December 1857), tab. 5021.
6. William Roxburgh, *Flora Indica; or Descriptions of Indian Plants*, vol. 3 (London: Parbury, Allen and Co., 1832), pp. 649-650.

B. N. Ghose, "Himalayan Begonias," *The Begonian*, vol. 16 (June 1949), p. 123.

In this note, ABS nomenclature co-director Carrie Karegeannes reports that the name B. laciniata has been supplanted by B. palmata and B. laciniata var. flava has been renamed B. flaviflora.—Editors

As Tim Gustafson-Byrne points out, the species we have known as *B. laciniata* is indeed variable. In a thorough study in 1939, Dr. Edgar Irmscher named nine forms (or groups of forms, using his proposed word "turma") that occur in the Yunnan province of China and adjoining Burma. The leaves vary widely in the pattern of the lobes and in the hairs. Most of his forms are pink flowered, but three are yellow flowered.

Irmscher included A. de Candolle's two varieties, var. *nepalensis* and var. *bowringiana* (1864), and he placed Clarke's yellow-flowered var. *flava* (1879) partly with his form *flava* and partly with his new form *gamblei* (finding different

branches on the specimen sheets). He combined Clarke's pale-pink-flowered var. *tuberculosa* in the *nepalensis* grouping and cited Hooker's plate 5021 in *Curtis's Botanical Magazine* (1857) for it.

An 1860 *Botanical Magazine* plate, No. 5182, illustrates the *bowringiana* form, which Hooker described as having leaves that were not variegated, but green and slightly hairy above, and flowers of pale rose. Typical of the *B. laciniata* forms are ovaries with one large and two very narrow wings.

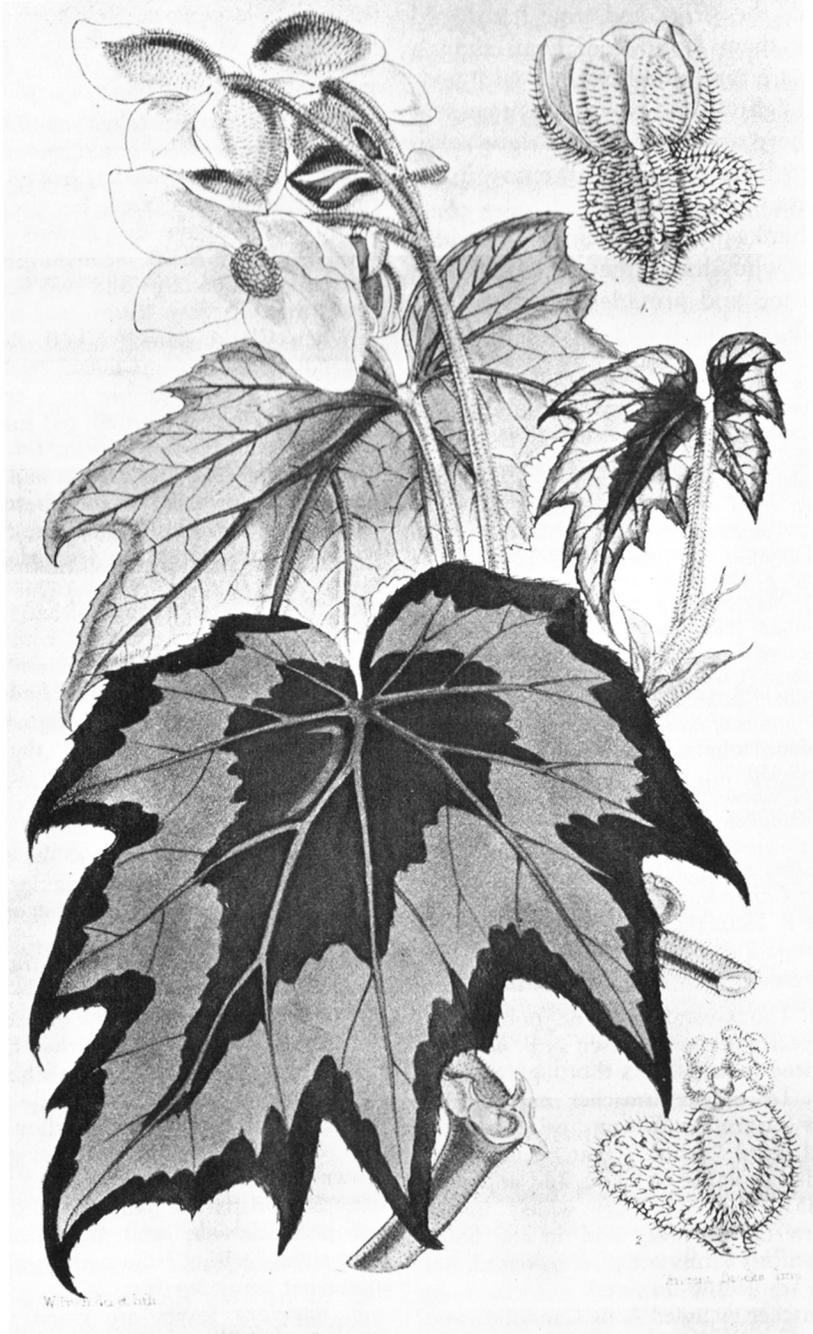
When Clarke named his *B. laciniata* var. *flava* (whose name means "yellow"), he said it might possibly be a separate species, lacking "the brown-red tint of *B. laciniata*" and having thinner, less softly hairy leaves. Also, the ovaries and tepals ("petals," informally) were pubescent or nearly glabrous, while *B. laciniata* flowers were "always more or less glandular pubescent." Irmscher, using a magnifying glass, found varying kinds of hairs on all the forms, and he kept *flava* with *B. laciniata*. But in 1970 Hiroshi Hara of the University of Tokyo—who had been studying specimens in the British museums and herbaria—found the *flava* form different enough to be a separate species. Hara named his new species *B. flaviflora*.

If Tim's flowers prove to be yellow and his leaves have short-triangular, acute lobes, his plants may be this begonia, as he surmises.

Hara said his species *B. flaviflora* is different from *B. laciniata* not only in its flower color—creamy yellow or deep yellow, with deep-red bracts that fall off early—but also in the kind of hairs on leaves, pedicels, outer tepals, and ovaries. It is also different from the yellow-flowered *Begonia xanthina* in having soft, brown tomentum rather than long, spreading bristle-like hairs on the petioles and peduncles—as well as having tall, erect stems (arising from a rhizome) and somewhat acute tepals.

B. flaviflora leaves are green above, rugose (wrinkled), with short, whitish, almost conical hairs. Underneath, the leaves are dark crimson (or purple) in the center and brown-tomentose on the veins.

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***Begonia laciniata* from Curtis's *Botanical Magazine* of 1857 (plate 5021). The foliage is variegated, dark purple at the center and outer edge, a band of green in between. It has been determined this plant is the same as one published in 1825 under the name *B. palmata* D. Don. Since the name *B. palmata* was published before the name *B. laciniata*, it becomes the correct name for this plant.**

Roxburgh: chronicler of Indian begonias

Carrie Karegeannes

William Roxburgh — the Scottish botanist who has been called the “father of Indian botany” and the “Linnaeus of India”—was the first person to describe Indian plants in full detail for a flora of India. During nearly 40 years of service in India, he developed experimental gardens of possible commercial plants, studied wild plants, and made 2,542 large, detailed, colored drawings of plants. A complete set of the drawings is at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, England, and 300 were published in *Plants of the Coast of Coromandel* (1795-1820).

While he was Superintendent of the Botanic Garden in Calcutta, he introduced 1,510 new species into cultivation that he had named himself, including several new genera. The majority of his species still carry his names and 26 of the 55 genera he named still stand.

Roxburgh was born in Scotland June 3, 1751, and studied botany at the University of Edinburgh. He attended the Medical School and made several voyages to India as surgeon's mate on ships of the Honorable East India Company. In the intervals he completed his studies for an M.D. degree and in 1776 arrived in Madras, India, as newly appointed assistant surgeon for the East India Company. Part of his duties was to record natural resources.

In 1780 he was promoted to full surgeon and in 1781 was sent to Samul-

cotta, where he is thought to have begun his drawings. In the fall of 1793 he went to Calcutta to head the Botanic Garden. He improved the arrangement of plants there and greatly increased the collection, from 300 to 3,500 by the time he left.

Roxburgh's health broke down in the hot season of 1813 and he took a sea voyage to regain it. His health did not improve and he went on to England, where he died Feb. 18, 1815.

While he was on the voyage his friend and editor, the missionary-linguist William Carey, published Roxburgh's catalog of plants in the Botanic Garden, *Hortus Bengalensis* (1814). After the botanist's death, Carey published two volumes of Roxburgh's *Flora Indica* (1820 and 1824). The manuscript the botanist had left with him was enlarged by comments and additional new species described by Nathaniel Wallich, the successor at the Garden. But Wallich could not continue the work, and it ceased with only one-third of Roxburgh's work published.

Carey and Roxburgh's children decided to publish the entire manuscript without Wallich's additions, and the second edition of *Flora Indica* appeared in 1832. It includes all Roxburgh's plants, among them the first publication of his begonia descriptions.

Roxburgh described three species of *Begonia*, naming two of them as new. As it happened, however, his *Begonia* names did not fare as well as many of his others. He described one species as the already-named *B. malabarica*, but it turned out to be a new species—and it was later renamed in his honor

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Carrie Karegeannes, nomenclature co-director, was born in Wusih, China, of American missionary parents. She was evacuated in 1940. Other countries in which she's lived include Japan, Greece, and France.

Easy to grow: B. 'Black Raspberry'

Elda Haring

Very easy to grow and most charming is B. 'Black Raspberry'. It always catches the eye of visitors, even those who do not grow any plants at all.

Classified in the *Thompson Begonia Guide* as rhizomatous, medium leaved, entire-sub-entire, it was originated by Paul Lowe of Florida, and resulted from a cross of *B. acetosa* and *B. imperialis*.

The foliage is very dark, with a pebbly surface carrying minute white hairs on the surface and leaves measure 3 by 4 inches in size. Leaves are somewhat heart shaped and there is slight overlapping at the point where the stem meets the leaf. The back of the leaf is rosy red, also covered with tiny white hairs and the stem is hairy with red dots.

Almost everblooming, the pale pink flowers are held well over the handsome foliage. As this is one of my favorite plants, I grow it in the greenhouse, under fluorescent lights in the cellar, and on the sunporch where it receives bright light but very little direct sun.

It thrives in a rather heavy potting mix containing loam, peat moss, and sand as well as in a lighter mix of one part each of vermiculite and perlite to two parts of any packaged potting mix. It grows as happily in my favorite propagation mix of equal parts of vermiculite, perlite, and milled sphagnum, fed frequently with water-

soluble fertilizer.

Temperatures in my light garden range from 65 degrees in winter to 75 in summer with humidity around 40% in winter to 60% in summer.

In the greenhouse in winter where the nighttime temperature is about 56 degrees, B. 'Black Raspberry' never shows any damage as do some of my difficult begonias.

The temperatures on our sunporch stay at about 70 degrees night and day in winter and go from 70 to 80 in summer. From my experience it seems evident this lovely begonia will perform well in most any situation.

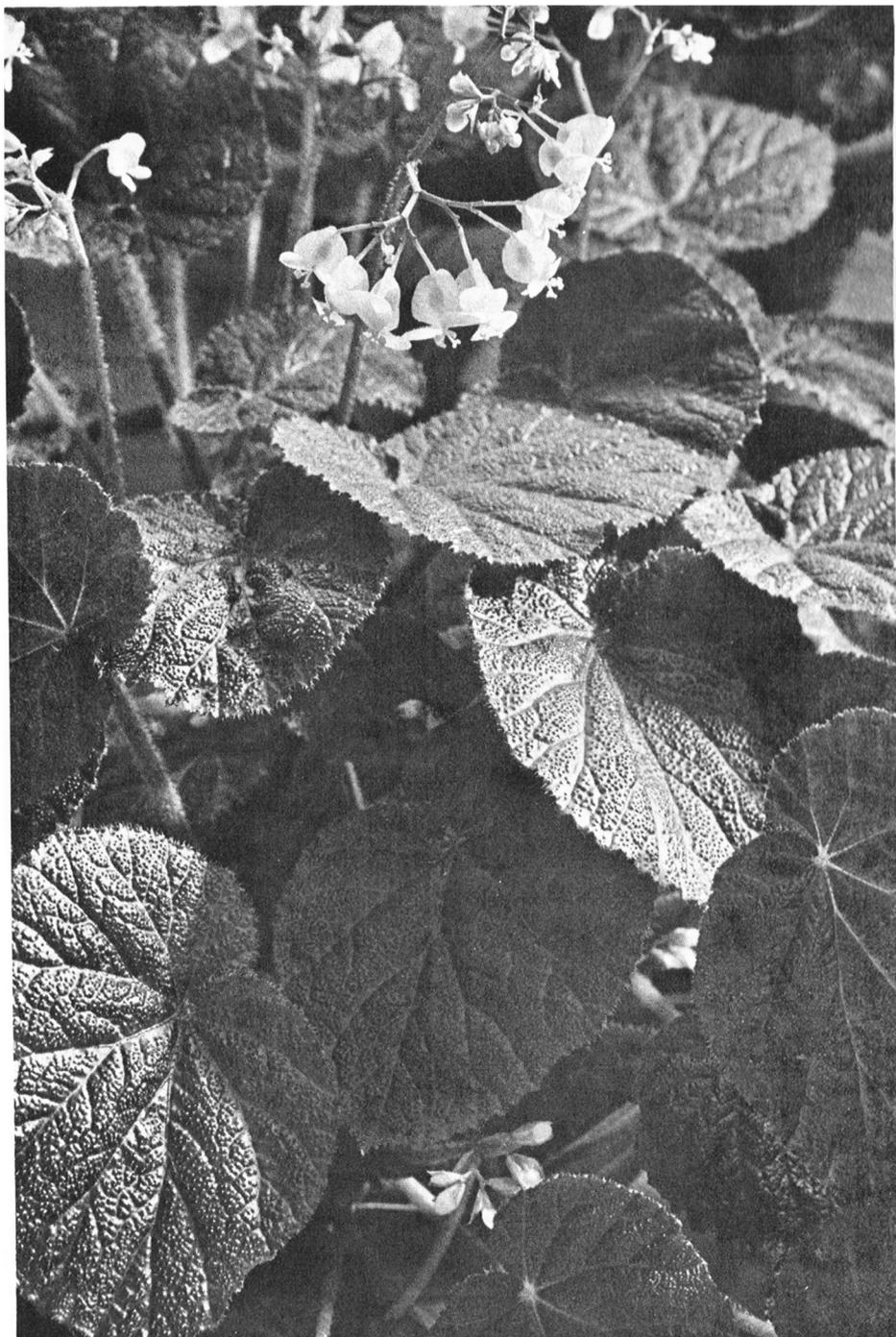
B. 'Black Raspberry' is propagated easily uncovered in pots or pans by leaf stem cuttings trimmed to half-dollar size, by wedges, and by rhizomes. It roots more readily in early spring at the beginning of the growing season but can be started at any time although rooting is slower when temperatures are low. Even when small, the plantlets start to throw bloom stalks.

Under the conditions where I grow my begonias, B. 'Black Raspberry' stays compact with overlapping leaves. Specimen plants in six-inch pots retain this characteristic as well as smaller ones which I keep root pruned and in four-inch pots.

When I started to collect begonias years ago, I found myself choosing green-leaved varieties, but after visiting Kartuz Greenhouses in Massachusetts and Logee's in Connecticut, I became fascinated with the seemingly endless varieties of begonias with red leaves, dark blotches and patterns.

In my own collection I have many of these, some easy to grow, others more difficult.

This is another in Elda Haring's series on easy-to-grow begonias. Elda submitted this story before the ABS Big Apple Convention, where Corliss Engle's specimen of B. 'Black Raspberry' won a best-of-division trophy. Apparently Elda is psychic, in addition to being a very accomplished grower.



Begonia 'Black Raspberry', grown by Corliss Engle, won the Sacramento Branch Trophy for best rhizomatous begonia at the recent "Big Apple Convention" in New York. Corliss' plant also received a cultural certificate for scoring 94 points.

Updating Begonia section Urniformia

Rudolf Ziesenhenn

Photo/Rudolf Ziesenhenn

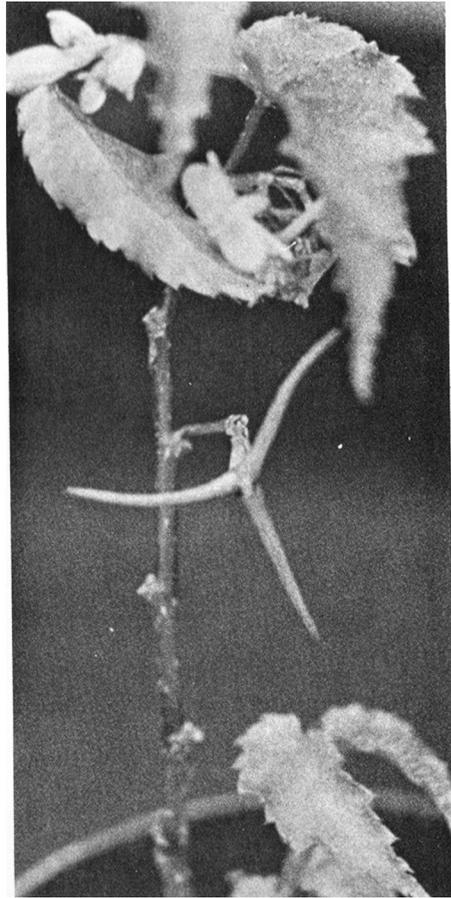
With its seed pod resembling a space satellite, *Begonia pittieri* C.DC. from Costa Rica is claiming attention in the *Begonia* world. Recently Richard Kenoziorski of Grecia, Costa Rica, sent me seed of a native Costa Rican begonia which he called "satellite begonia" for want of a better name; as he asked me to identify it, I have informed him that the small plants which have come up definitely are *B. pittieri*.

In *The Begonian* of January 1974, on pages 11 and 12, I presented a new subgenus, *Begonia* section *Urniformia* Ziesenh. In the article, I stated I had not yet been able to bring a female flower to maturity to enable me to dissect it but was working from a photograph of the dried herbarium specimen.

I had the good fortune to visit the greenhouse of Dr. and Mrs. Robert C. Dunnell in Seattle in August 1977 and he showed me a Costa Rican plant which I recognized as *B. pittieri*. Dr. Dunnell sent me a plant which flowered and was self-pollinated.

The fruits were dissected and new conclusions reached, necessitating a revision of the 1974 description of the ovary and placenta. I have made drawings of the plant parts to illustrate the characteristics of the section as well as the species which Casimir De Candolle described.

The important discoveries are that there is one instead of three cells in



***Begonia pittieri*, with its satellite-like seed pod, is a smallish plant, somewhat similar in form to *B. incarnata*. Not commercially available, it is of greater botanical than horticultural interest.**

the ovary; there is a central placenta supported above and below by a thin, short connection; horizontally viewed, the placenta is top-shaped; viewed from above, the placenta is triangular with the points rounded where they grow a short distance into the hollow horns; the placenta entirely fills the single cell so that the seed, which are

Rudolf Ziesenhenn has been a leading authority on begonias for decades. Rudy and wife Margaret, an ABS past president, have traveled extensively on behalf of ABS and to study begonias. They live at 1130 North Milpas Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93103, where Rudy combines work and pleasure in operating a begonia nursery.

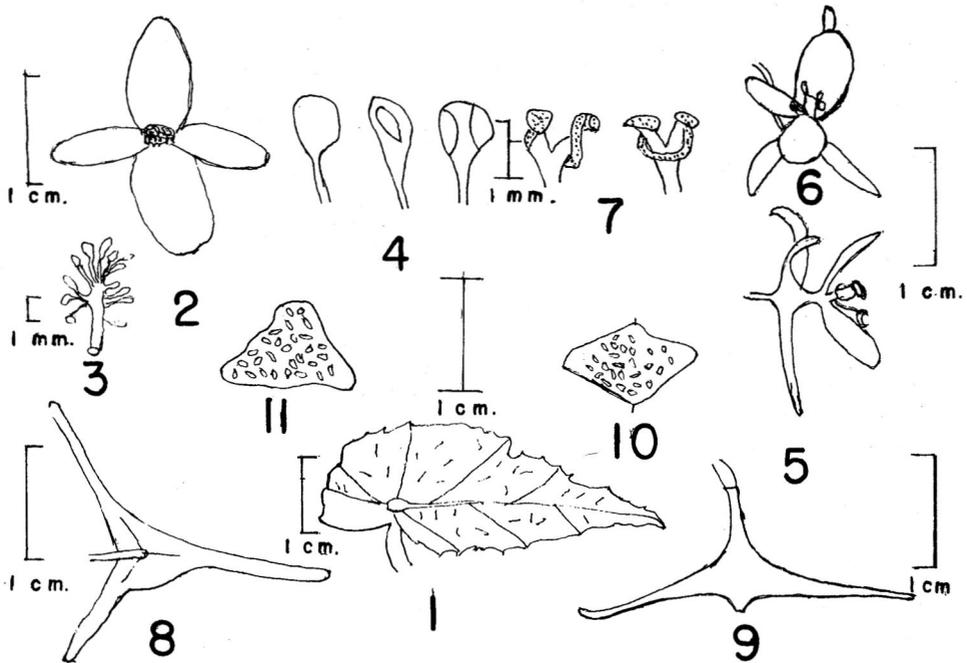
few and widely spaced on its outer surface, grow against the ovary wall and are forced sideways horizontally onto the placenta in random directions. (This seed arrangement is most unusual in *Begonia*, whose seeds are most often arranged in regular patterns. However, when the fruit of *B. pittieri* is mature and the placenta has dried and shriveled into a small ball, the seeds appear to be more abundant because they touch each other.)

It was also observed that the stigmas dry and fall off the ovary before the fruit matures and that leaves are palmately veined.

Begonia section *Urniiformia* Ziesenhenné, revised. Perennial half-shrubs with palmately-pinnately nerved leaves (Figure 1). Male flowers tepals 4 (2), filaments grown out in a cylindrical column (3), above free, anthers elliptical (4), connective not protracted. Female flowers tepals 3 (5 & 6), unequal, styles 3 united at base, two-divided (7) falling off, stigma papillae makes one turn around the arm. Capsule elongated above urnshaped (8 & 9), three-long horned. The discovery of a single cell in the ovary with a central placenta is unique to *Begonia* and sets this section apart from all known sections which have axile, laminal or parietal placentation.

Begonia section *Urniiformia* Ziesenhenné, sect. revisio; tepalis masculinis 4 (Figure 2), filamentis in columna cylindrica connatis (3), superne liberis, antheris ellipticis (4), connectivo non protracto. Tepalis femineis 3 (5 & 6), subaequalibus, stylis 3 (7), basi connatis, bifidis, caducis, stigmatibus continuis in spirili 1, utruque ramo. Capsula (8 & 9) urniformi prolongata superne, 3 cornibus longo. Ovarium uniloculare, placentatione centrali libera (10 & 11), sessili. Floribus paucis. Species una. *Begonia pittieri* C.DC., Costa Rica.

Illustration/ Rudolf Ziesenhenné



Begonia section Urniiformia

The convention: a triple-barrelled success

The first-ever ABS convention outside California was a financial, horticultural, and social success.

"Begonias in the Big Apple," the 1979 convention in New York Sept. 14-16, netted a large profit for ABS, imparted a lot of cultural information, and brought together 140 ABS members from 20 states and Canada who otherwise might never have met.

Convention co-chairman Jack Golding reported the event would add about \$6,000 to the ABS treasury. The profit came primarily from the plant sales table, which was surrounded almost continuously by so many non-member visitors that less aggressive shoppers had difficulty making purchases.

In informal talks at the convention show, at meals, and during seminars, begonia information was exchanged readily among growers.

Corliss Engle, "best of show" and sweepstakes winner, presented a comprehensive and entertaining look at miniature and bonsai begonias to grow indoors under lights, as she does with her whole collection.

She recommended collecting small-growing begonias if your space is limited because they permit you to have more plants, which, in her case, satisfies her "great greed" for begonias. Most good miniatures are rhizomatous plants, she said.

Tears appeared in more than a few eyes as Millie Thompson, collector and author, delivered a touching talk on the way begonias make new friends for you and bring pleasure to grower-collectors.

By researching the history, parentage, and cultural needs of individual begonias, Millie noted, you find the

New York, New York

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plants develop "character."

Thelma O'Reilly, nomenclature co-director, took an enthusiastic look at new cultivars and hinted at hybrids to come in the near future.

She was joined by nomenclature co-director Carrie Karegeannes, who discussed the nomenclature of species begonias. She pointed out, for instance, that *B. sementacea* is a name given to one plant on the East Coast and quite another plant in the West.

Efforts are under way to standardize such inconsistencies, she noted.

Joy Logee Martin of Logee's Greenhouses in Connecticut gave an instructive lecture on rex begonias, the Logees' longtime specialty.

She covered their history, culture, and ways to overcome common problems. Among her demonstration plants was a large, handsome specimen of the granddaddy of them all, *B. rex*.

Co-chairman Golding, a recognized authority on begonia nomenclature, discussed the botanical classification of *Begonia* in a lecture rich in technical detail.

Jack also talked about his recent trip to Israel, where he and Israeli botanists and horticulturists exchanged information on begonia growing in greenhouses and experiments in meristem propagation of tuberous begonias for the Dutch bulb trade.

A superbly illustrated lecture on plants in the tropics was presented following the Friday night banquet by author-explorer-photographer Charles Marden Fitch.

Awards were presented and ABS of-

Please turn to page 272

Margaret Taylor wins Dyckman award

Thelma O'Reilly

The Herbert P. Dyckman Award for longtime ABS service was presented this year to one of the society's "lovely ladies," Margaret B. Taylor. All who know Margaret and her many

Photo/Ralph Corwin



**Margaret
B. Taylor**

years of dedication to ABS are delighted that she was chosen for this honor.

It was thrilling to have the honor of presenting the society's most prestigious awards in the Big Apple, which is where the first-ever national Show and Convention outside of California was held. It was sad, too, not only because it was the last time I'll present these awards but because for the first time during my three-year term I did not have the joy of presenting all of them.

Margaret Taylor was born in Chester, Penn. She first came to California in 1937 with her husband, who was an officer in the U.S. Navy. They went

Thelma O'Reilly, nomenclature co-director, managed to write two articles for our convention coverage despite great odds: she's been suffering from exhaustion brought on by trying to squeeze 36 hours of work into each day; she slipped and fell at the convention hotel, bruising herself rather badly; and she returned home to find her daughter, the senior class president, also suffering from exhaustion as a result of trying to squeeze 36 hours into 24. Doctors have told mother and daughter to slow down a bit.

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east for duty at the beginning of World War II.

During the war years Margaret lived in Rutherford, N.J., while her husband served in the South Pacific. In 1948 they moved to Anaheim, Calif., where her husband retired.

They became involved with the American Begonia Society in the early 1950s. Margaret has served as president of the Orange County Branch three times. She has served on the board of directors as president, awards chairman, secretary and parliamentarian. She continues to enjoy serving as a senior judge.

Unfortunately, Margaret was unable to attend the national convention. A friend from California, Katharine Alberti, accepted the award and expressed Margaret's words of gratitude.

Katharine, in turn, presented the award to Margaret in a brief ceremony at the Western Regional ABS Show in Glendale, Calif., Oct. 6.

Although there were nominations for the Eva Kenworthy Gray Award and the Alfred D. Robinson Medal of Honor, none of the nominees received a majority of the votes cast.

It has been a privilege to serve for three years as awards chairman. I appreciate the cooperation of each of the following committee members who served with me and thank them for their assistance and wise choices: Clarence Hall, Elda Haring, Leslie Hatfield, Rudolf Ziesenhenné, Michael Kartuz, Philip Seitner, Ronnie Nevins, Patricia Morrison, Linda Lockett, and Carrie Karegeannes.



**Bruce McAlpin's blue-ribbon winner,
B. ex Kew species**

**Best in Show: Corliss Engle's *B. bogneri* won
The Golding Trophy**



Photos/Karen Bartholomew & Chuck Anderson

***B. maddougallii*, grown by Frank Kerin,
won The O'Reilly Trophy for best species**



THE CONSTITUTION: A PULL OUT-AND-VOTE SECTION

These four pages contain the text of proposed changes in the American Begonia Society Constitution and Bylaws. Words in normal type are proposed to remain. Words in italic type enclosed with brackets are proposed to be removed. Words in boldface type are proposed to be added. This is not the entire constitution. Please remove these four pages from *The Begonian* and vote by marking the ballot on the fourth page of this section. Mail to Ballot Counting Committee, American Begonia Society, P.O. Box 153, Brea, CA 92621. Ballots must be received by Dec. 1, 1979.

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. All persons who are interested in begonias shall be eligible to membership, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors may revoke the membership of any member for just cause.

Section 2. There shall be [three] **five** classes of membership in this Society, known as Annual, Life, [and] Honorary, **Sustaining and Benefactor**.

Annual Members. Annual members shall have all the usual privileges of membership, and shall pay dues of an amount [stated] **as established** in the Bylaws. Annual Membership shall be for one year from date dues are paid.

Life Members. Life members shall have all the usual privileges of membership. The payment of a life membership fee shall exempt a member from paying further dues during his/her lifetime. Life membership shall not be subject to cancellation or refund of any part of dues for any reason.

Honorary Members. Any person whom this Society shall deem worthy of the honor may at any regular Board or annual meeting be elected an Honorary Member by a two-thirds vote of the members present. For each person elected an Honorary Life Member, a life membership fee shall be transferred from the current funds of the Society to the Life Membership Fund. Honorary Members shall have all the usual privileges of membership. **The Board of Directors may not approve more than four honorary members per year.**

Section 3. Each Annual, Life or Honorary Member shall be entitled to one vote on all matters brought before the Society [*Membership shall cover the immediate family, except that only one member of the family*] **and** shall receive the official publication. [*and exercise the right to vote, unless additional dues are paid.*]

Section 4. Each Annual, Life, or Honorary Membership may include a spouse with the annual dues payment of two dollars, which shall entitle them to vote and to be eligible to hold elected or appointed office.

Section 5. A Sustaining Membership may be awarded to any person upon annual payment of twice the amount of the regular dues, entitling him to the privileges of the Society including receipt of the *Begonian*.

Section 6. A Benefactor Membership may be awarded to the donor of \$500.00 or more to the current funds of the Society. It

shall entitle the holder to all privileges of the Society for one year including receipt of the *Begonian*.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of this Society shall be: President Emeritus, **Immediate Past President**, President, President Elect, two Vice Presidents, Treasurer, Secretary, and one Director from each Branch Society **and Regional Organization**.

Section 2. The President Emeritus shall be Herbert P. Dyckman, Founder and First President of this Society (deceased).

Section 3. The following officers shall be elected annually in August by ballot: President, President Elect, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. Each member of the Society is entitled to one vote. All officers shall serve for one year and be installed at the Annual Meeting. No elected officer named in this section may succeed himself in the same position more than two consecutive terms.

Section 4. A Director shall be elected by each Branch Society to assume office and be installed with the remaining National Officers.

Section 5. Any appointed officer may be relieved of his office for just cause, and/or for the good of the Society by a majority vote of the Executive Board, subject to the approval of two-thirds of the elected Board present at a regular meeting.

ARTICLE V. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall consist of the President Emeritus, the [seven] **six** officers elected by the entire membership of the Society, **the Immediate Past President**, [the] Branch Directors [*—one elected by each Branch Society—*], and the department heads **and committee chairpersons** appointed by the President.

Section 2. The Executive Board shall consist of the President, President Elect, two Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, and Immediate Past President.

ARTICLE IX. AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Amendments to this Constitution may be initiated by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any Annual Meeting. Such amendments **written as part of the entire Section being changed** shall then be submitted to the membership in accordance with Section 2 of this Article.

Section 2. [*The Membership Secretary shall mail*] **The Secretary shall initiate the mailing of a ballot covering the proposed Amendment to each member of the Society within sixty (60) days after the Annual Meeting at which the Amendment was initiated,**

with the request that the member vote upon said Amendment and mail his ballot to reach the [Recording Secretary] **Ballot Counting Chairman within** ninety (90) days after the Annual Meeting at which the Amendment was initiated. If two-thirds of the votes cast are in favor of its adoption, the Amendment shall be declared adopted at the next meeting of the Board of Directors [when published in the official publication of the Society]. **A notice of said adoption shall be published in the next issue of the Begonian.**

ARTICLE XI. ADOPTION OF CONSTITUTION [AND BYLAWS]

Section 1. This Constitution [and Bylaws] shall be subject to the same rules of adoption laid down in Article IX concerning Amendments, and upon adoption shall go into effect, superseding all former Constitutions [and Bylaws] when published in the official publications of the Society.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I. DUTIES OF ELECTED OFFICERS

Section 1. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Society and of the Board of Directors. He/she shall appoint the heads of the various departments with the exception of the Editor, and these appointments shall be subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. He/she shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Society and shall be an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee.

Section 2. The President Elect shall perform the duties of the President in the absence of the latter, or whenever the President is unable to perform the duties of the office. A vacancy in the office of the President shall be filled by the President Elect. The President Elect shall be included in planning and policy making during his/her years of service as a method of training.

Section 3. The First and Second Vice Presidents shall perform such duties as are assigned to them by the President and shall in sequence fill the office of President and/or President Elect as required.

Section 4. The Directors elected by each branch shall attend the meetings of the Board of Directors of the American Begonia Society when possible, shall make such reports and recommendations as will further the interests of the Society, and shall file an annual written report of the branch activities with the Recording Secretary of the American Begonia Society at the Annual Meeting.

Section 5. The Treasurer shall receive and account for all monies of the Society and shall pay out the monies under the direction of the Board of Directors. The books shall be closed as of the last day of each month and a written report prepared and presented to the Board of Directors at the following Board Meeting. The ABS shall obtain a bond with a surety company and in such sum as the Board of Directors may determine. He/she shall make to the Board of Directors monthly, and to the Society annually, a report of all receipts and disbursements. The annual report made by the Treasurer shall be presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society and shall be accompanied by a report of audits

made by an Audit Committee of two members appointed by the President.

Section 6. The Secretary shall keep **complete and** concise records of the proceedings of the Society and of the Board of Directors, and shall have charge of the records of the Society except such basic records as are necessary for the proper functioning of the various departments and offices. The Secretary shall transmit the minutes of the regular Board meetings to the Editor for publication in the Begonian not later than the first day of the month following the regular meeting of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS MANUALS

Section 1. A written statement or outline of basic duties in looseleaf form shall be available for the following:

- a. Finance Committee
- b. Audit Committee
- c. Flower Show and Convention Advisor
- [d. Committee of Awards]
- d. Publications Committee
- e. Corresponding Secretary
- f. Business Manager
- g. Membership Secretary
- h. Research Director
- i. Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund Director
- j. Nomenclature Director
- k. Chairman of Speakers Bureau
- l. Branch Relations Director
- m. Slide Librarian
- n. Round Robin Director
- o. Chairman of the Ballot Counting Committee
- p. Historian
- q. Chairman for the Committee of Awards
- r. Chairman for the School of Judges
- s. Parliamentarian
- t. Circulation Manager
- u. Advertising Manager
- v. Lending Librarian
- w. Book Sales Librarian
- x. [Begonian Librarian]

Back Issue Begonia Sales

- y. Editor
- z. Editorial Board
- aa. Nominating Committee
- bb. Branch Directors
- cc. Members at large Director**
- dd. Public Relations Director**
- ee. Show Classification and Entry Chairman
- ff. Past President
- gg. All officers elected to the Board of Directors

Section 2. A complete set of operating instructions manuals shall be maintained in the files of the Secretary.

ARTICLE VI. ANNUAL DUES

Section 1. The dues of annual members shall be determined by the Board of Directors of this organization at necessary intervals of not less than one year through a majority vote [of the Board of Directors including mail votes of Branch Directors not present at the initiating meeting.] **by signed ballot of the Board of Directors including one signed ballot by mail from the nonattending representative of each Branch and Regional Organization. Ballots with clarifying explana-**

tion. shall be prepared by the Secretary and verified by the President and Parliamentarian. Ballots shall be mailed with instructions to return them to the Ballot Counting Committee within 30 days.

Section 2. Members in arrears thirty days shall be dropped from the rolls of the Society and their names removed from the mailing list of the official publication [until the arrearage has been paid].

Section 3. A Life Membership fee shall be ten times the current annual dues.

ARTICLE VII. ELECTIONS

Section 1. The President shall appoint not later than 150 days before the Annual Meeting a Nominating Committee of three members who shall be the presidents or past presidents of branch societies. This Committee shall diligently attempt to obtain at least two nominations for each elective office. All nominees must be members in good standing. This Committee, not later than 90 days before the Annual Meeting, shall report to the Board of Directors the nominees for each elective office.

Section 2. Additional nominations may be made by a petition signed by at least 14 members of the Society, if made and delivered to the Secretary at least 80 days before the Annual Meeting.

Section 3. Before the ballots are printed the President shall appoint a Ballot Counting Committee including a chairman and two members approved by the Board of Directors, who shall receive the mailed ballots from eligible voters. Instructions to the voter shall be printed on the ballot to mail it to the Ballot Counting Chairman. The ballots shall be opened only in the presence of the Committee.

Section 4. An official ballot containing the names of all nominees shall be mailed to each eligible voter at least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting. Only ballots received seven days prior to the Annual Meeting shall be counted.

Section 5. Six days before the Annual Convention the Ballot Counting Committee shall open and count the ballots. [They] **The committee shall invalidate any ballot containing any writing other than the marks necessary to register votes for candidates nominated under the procedures provided in these bylaws. The committee shall make an immediate report in writing to the President and the Secretary. All candidates shall be notified of the results of the election immediately by the Secretary.**

Section 6. Vacancies in office, either elective or appointive, shall be filled by appointment by the President, subject to approval by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IX. BRANCH SOCIETIES

Section 1. Any member of this Society may affiliate with any Branch Society provided he/she meets the requirements for membership in that Branch.

Section 2. Each Branch Society shall have a Constitution and Bylaws, both of which shall be approved by the Board of Directors of the American Begonia Society; it shall require that one member of each family main-

tain membership in the American Begonia Society; it must include among its officers a president, a treasurer, a secretary, and a national director [each being a different person]; it may determine its own officers other than those specified above; it may make additional qualifications for membership; it may determine the manner in which its local activities shall be financed; and it may determine its own activities and meetings provided that those activities and/or requirements in no way conflict with the National Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 3. Each Branch Society shall file with the Membership Secretary of the American Begonia Society the names and addresses of all new members together with their dues, as received.

Section 4. Each Branch Society shall furnish the Secretary of the American Begonia Society with the names and addresses of all officers of the Branch immediately following elections.

Section 5. Branches shall operate as non-profit units of the American Begonia Society. They shall not carry on any other activities not permitted by a corporation exempt from Federal income tax under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954. Upon dissolution of a Branch, after paying, or adequately providing for the debts and obligations of the Branch, the remaining assets shall be distributed to a nonprofit fund, foundation or corporation, which is organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational or religious and/or scientific purposes and which has established its tax-exempt status under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

ARTICLE XII. AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Amendments to the Bylaws may be initiated by a majority vote of the members present at any Annual Meeting or by two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors. Such amendment, written as part of the entire [Article to be proposed] **Section** to be changed, shall then be submitted by mail to the membership in accordance with Section [2] **3** of this Article.

Section 2. Ballots for approval or disapproval of the proposed amendment(s) including clarifying explanation shall be prepared by the Secretary and verified by the President and Parliamentarian before printing. All ballots shall be returned by mail to the Ballot Counting Committee and opened only in the presence of that committee.

Section 3. The Membership Secretary shall mail a ballot for approval or disapproval of the proposed amendment to each eligible voter of the Society within [30] **60** days after the amendment is initiated, with the request that the member vote upon said amendment and mail his ballot to reach the [Secretary] **Ballot Counting Committee** within [60] **90** days after the meeting at which the amendment was initiated. If two-thirds of the votes cast are in favor of its adoption, the amendment shall be declared adopted at the next meeting of the Board of Directors. A notice of said adoption shall be published in the next issue of the Begonian.

THE CONSTITUTION: A PULL OUT-AND-VOTE SECTION

ARTICLE XIII. ANNUAL CONVENTIONS AND FLOWER SHOW STANDARDS AND CONDITIONS

Section 1. The Annual Convention and Flower Show may be held anywhere in the United States approved by the Board of Directors. **It shall be held between August 20 and October 1.**

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall require compliance with the following standards and conditions:

a. Plants of quality and quantity worthy of a National Show and National Awards must be available.

b. Qualified ABS judges will be used.

c. There must be assurance that a proper quorum will be in attendance to conduct the Annual Meeting. (See Article VIII.)

d. Sale plants will be grown and available for sale to members and public during the Show as a moneymaking activity for the ABS.

e. Transportation will be paid for the President or President-Elect and the Banquet Program speaker.

f. All funds remaining after the Show expenses have been paid will be forwarded to the ABS treasury.

ARTICLE XV. REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Section 1. The ABS shall encourage the

formation of Regional Organizations to promote and coordinate voluntary activities, shows, etc. for both Members-at-Large and organized Branches. A Regional Organization shall combine several geographically adjacent states whose ABS members voluntarily request to be included.

Section 2. A Regional Organization shall be launched voluntarily by ABS members who shall establish their own organization and elect their own officers including a national Regional Director.

Section 3. A national Regional Director, duly elected, shall serve as a voting member of the ABS Board of Directors. He/she shall represent the Members-at-Large within his/her region.

Section 4. A Regional Organization shall operate in accord with the Aims and Purposes of the ABS and Constitution and Bylaws, and enjoy the benefits therefrom.

Section 5. When a Regional Organization or group of Branches is planning a Regional Flower Show the Board of Directors may advance a loan to cover preliminary costs provided plants are grown and sold during the show as a fund-raising activity. The loan, and any agreed-upon share of the profits, shall be repaid within 30 days after the close of the show.

Ballot—Proposed revision of ABS Constitution and Bylaws

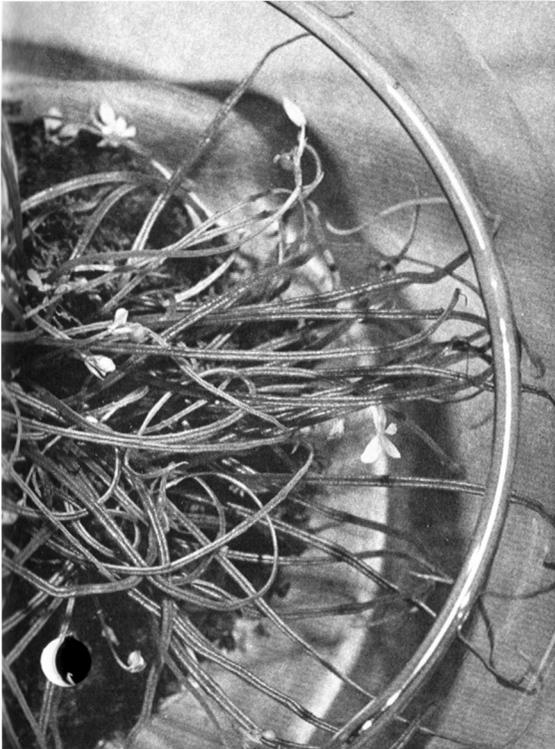
Shall these articles be adopted as part of the Constitution and Bylaws of the American Begonia Society?

	Yes	No
Constitution		
Article III	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Article IV	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Article IX	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Article XI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bylaws		
Article I	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Article V	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Article VI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Article VII	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Article IX	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Article XII	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Article XIII	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Article XV	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

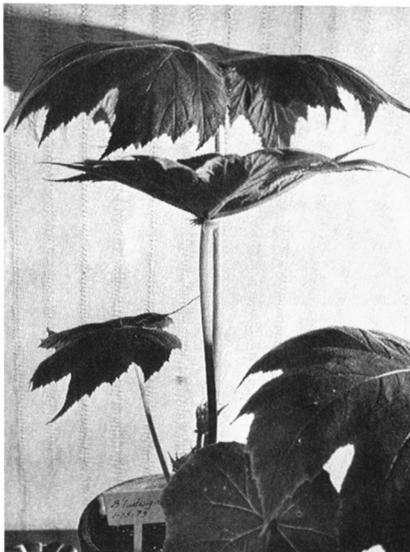
Mail to Ballot Counting Committee, American Begonia Society, P.O. Box 153, Brea, CA 92621. Must be received by Dec. 1, 1979.

ABS convention and show results

New York, New York
The ABS Convention



B. ludwigii,
grown by Joy
Foster, won the
Phyllis Fox Tro-
phy for best
seedling from
the ABS seed
fund



Herbert P. Dyckman Service Award
Margaret B. Taylor

Best in Show: The Golding Trophy
Corliss Engle, *B. bogneri*

Sweepstakes (grower with most blue ribbons): Miami Beach Trophy
Corliss Engle

Begonia Hybrid of Distinction
Logee's Greenhouses, *B. 'Calico Kew'*

Cultural Awards

Corliss Engle, *B. 'Ionic'*—95 points

Anthony Croce, *B. scharffii*—90 points

Jack Golding, *B. 'Linda'*—92 points

Corliss Engle, *B. 'Black Raspberry'*—
94 points

Corliss Engle, *B. 'Thrush'*—90 points

Corliss Engle, *B. bogneri*—95 points

Suzanne Colaizzi, *B. nurei*—94 points

Frank Kerin, *B. 'Silver Jewel'*—
92 points

Frank Kerin, *B. macdougallii*—
93 points

Marie Donnelly, *B. 'Tom Ment'*—
90 points

Division A. Cane-like: Murray Morrison Trophy
Corliss Engle, *B. 'Ionic'*

Division B. Shrub-like: Palomar Branch Trophy
Anthony P. Croce, *B. scharffii*

Division D. Semperflorens characteristics: Denton County Branch Trophy
Jack Golding, *B. 'Linda'*

Division E. Rhizomatous: Sacramento Branch Trophy
Corliss Engle, *B. 'Black Raspberry'*

Division F. Rex: Gordon Lepisto Trophy
Corliss Engle, *B. 'Thrush'*

Division G. Tuberous & Semi-tuberous: H. Gilbert Harlow Trophy
Corliss Engle, *B. bogneri*

Division I. Hanging Baskets: Connecticut Branch Trophy
Marie Donnelly, *B. 'Tom Ment'*

Division J. Species: The O'Reilly Trophy
Frank Kerin, *B. macdougallii*



Division K. Grown in a contained atmosphere: Midge Grasheim Trophy

Corliss Engle, *B. 'Millie Thompson'*

Division L. Begonia cultivars in cultivation for 25 years or longer: The Thompson Trophy

Bea Hessel, *B. 'Bow-Joe'*

Division M. Novel methods of growing begonias: Jacksonville Branch Trophy

Frank Kerin, *B. suffruticosa*

Division N. Begonia collections (five plants): Hampton Branch Trophy

Jack Golding, *B. foliosa*, *B. 'Linda'*,
B. bowerae var. *nigramarga*, *B. 'Dew Drop'*, *B. sutherlandii*

Division P. New begonia introductions by a commercial nursery: Santa Barbara Branch Trophy

Logee's Greenhouses, *B. 'Calico Kew'*

Division Q. Novice grower: Theodosia Burr Shepherd Trophy

Sue Hessel, *B. oxyphylla*

Division T. Photographs of begonias: Edna Stewart Branch Trophy

Joan Coulat, *B. hemsleyana*

Division U. Artistic photographs of begonias: Rubidoux Branch Trophy

Sue Hessel, *B. tuberhybrida* cultivar

Division V. Seedlings (from ABS Seed Fund seeds): Orpha Fox Trophy

Joy Porter, *B. ludwigii*

Frank Kerin's bonsai of *B. suffruticosa* won the Jacksonville Branch Trophy for best novel method of growing a begonia

Corliss Engle won the Murray Morrison Trophy for best cane-like begonia with *B. 'Ionic'*



Top commercial entry: *B.* 'Calico Kew'

Thelma O'Reilly

Begonia 'Calico Kew', a stunning hybrid of *B. goegoenis* and *B. ex Kew* species, swept the ABS 1979 Convention's top two awards for new introductions from a commercial nursery.

Created by Byron Martin of Logee's Greenhouses in Connecticut, *B.* 'Calico Kew' won the blue ribbon in the commercial nursery division for new introductions at the convention show in New York.

It scored 90 points, qualifying for the society's Hybrid of Distinction designation.

B. 'Calico Kew' is a stunning, shrub-like begonia with strong stems and large shimmering leaves that show the best characteristics of both parents.

Myriads of bright pink flowers are held high above the green, bronze and pink foliage. It is different and distinct, adding a "new look" to begonia collections.

For many, the most interesting national show divisions are the new introductions by growers and commercial nurseries. This year there were no entries in the grower division but the begonias in the commercial nursery division were tantalizing and exciting.

The red ribbon was awarded to *B.* 'Winkey's Vivid', a *B. rex* cultivar. What a difficult decision it was for the judges. All agreed this is one of the most beautiful of all *B. rex* cultivars. Words cannot describe the vividness of red and silver coloring on the plush, velvet-like leaf surface. It is another of Leslie Woodriff's magic beauties from McKinleyville, Calif.

Third place winner was *B.* 'Denton L. Cole' (*B.* 'Cachuma' x *B. manicata crispa*), a rhizomatous begonia hybridized by Bob Cole of The Plant

New York, New York

The ABS Convention



Photo/Chuck Anderson



***Begonia* 'Calico Kew'**

Shop's Botanical Gardens in Reseda, Calif. What a fresh, clean, crisp look there is to this begonia with such interestingly shaped green leaves.

These winners, plus other exciting new begonia cultivars, foretell future begonia treasures for us to grow.

More Big Apple Convention

Continued from page 266

ficers installed at the Saturday night banquet. President Nathan Randall, commenting on the quality of the show and the fact that many of the trophies were won by one member, said: "I've discovered that in the East Mabel Corwin is spelled Corliss Engle."

The annual show comprised 259 entries. Ribbons were awarded to 209. Show schedule for the first time was the show supplement to *The Thompson Begonia Guide*, following its adoption earlier this year by the board of directors.

The Buxton Branch rented a bus to bring 600 show and sale plants and its members to the convention.

Convention co-chairman Jack Golding and Ed Grasheim directed a crew of organizers that included:

Don Lathrom, plant sales; Marjorie Mack, programs; Jim Fryer, registration; Barbara and Howard Berg, raffle; Frank Kerin, show plant classification; Verdalee Tombelaine, publicity; George Cassa and Marilyn Petersen, graphics; Sue Hessel, photography; Toby Lothman, plant placement; Mark Golding, staging; John Clegg, trophies, and Cecil Phaire, tours.

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Quotable notables

Salient statements by noted authorities during the ABS convention in New York in September:

Millie Thompson, co-author of *The Thompson Begonia Guide*:

"I couldn't pass up a single begonia. I had to order every one. I still do. The more I know, the more I want to know. But I do not advise you to become as hopelessly addicted to begonias as I am.

"We all sometimes lose sight of why we grow begonias. To enjoy them—that's the most important thing."

Joy Logee Martin, rex begonia specialist from the founding family of Logee's Greenhouses:

"Overpotting is a problem with rex begonias. The rex particularly likes tight boots.

"If big leaves burn, the problem is too little water. If the little leaves burn, the problem is too much water. There is nothing more important than watering."

Charles Marden Fitch, plant explorer, author, and photographer:

"In Sri Lanka, the Royal Botanic Garden has a great begonia house."

Corliss Engle, grower of prize-winning begonias under lights:

"The critical factor is watering. Overwatering miniatures is sheer death to them.

Jack Golding, convention co-chairman, indoor begonia grower, and author:

"Doctors bury their mistakes; we use ours for compost."

SANTA BARBARA BRANCH OF THE AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

invites you to its meeting each month
except July at 7:30 p.m.,
on the fourth Saturday,
1232 De La Vina St.

DO COME!

Unnamed Brazil species may be a hybrid

Pat Maley

The distinctive begonia pictured on the cover has been in distribution for some time as an unidentified Brazil species, generally designated "Unidentified Brazil Species #2 (mk)." The "mk" stands for Michael Kartuz, whose numbering of the unidentified begonias in his catalog has given us at least a temporary method of distinguishing one unidentified species from another.

Trying to research the background of this begonia brought me to dead-ends, so I wrote to Michael. His reply provided interesting information concerning this plant—and his doubt that it is a species.

Michael first obtained the plant from Frank Kerin of Pittsburgh several years ago. Frank, in turn, acquired it from an orchid collector but he knows nothing of its origin. He has since lost the plant.

Michael's associate, Patrick Worley, crossed Unidentified Brazil Species #3 and Unidentified Brazil Species #9. The resultant seedlings were absolutely identical to Unidentified Brazil Species #2.

The same results occurred when Byron Martin of Logee's Greenhouses repeated the cross. Michael's opinion is that Unidentified Brazil Species #2 may be a natural hybrid.

It is a lovely, distinctive begonia. Like many distinctive and unusual be-

Pat Maley of 1471 E. Madison, El Cajon, CA 92021, is hopelessly addicted to begonia collecting. Currently she is scheming to have husband Dennis build yet another greenhouse. Pat and Dennis planted pieces of driftwood with begonias and donated them to be auctioned off at the western regional show banquet in October. The lively auction netted more than \$120 for ABS.

gonias, this one seems to require terrarium conditions, though I've heard that some collectors are able to grow it in the open.

Growth is that of a creeping, semi-upright shrub. Some pinching is necessary to promote branching and keep growth full. Tiny white flowers rise above the foliage in spring.

Kartuz lists #2 as rhizomatous in his current catalog, but *The Thompson Begonia Guide* lists it as shrub-like, distinctive foliage, which seems more accurate when one observes the growth. Velvety red hairs cover the leaf surfaces, and new growth emerges from rose-colored stipules.

Of easy culture when terrarium-grown, this begonia is a beautiful addition to any collection.

We hope someone who has this plant will grow seedlings of it. If the seedlings show wide variation and have characteristics of unidentified species #3 and #9, it will lend credence to Michael's theory that species #2 actually is a hybrid of #3 and #9. We'd like to present additional information about this plant in the future. Please contact us if you have any information to share.—Editors



Mabel Corwin

Norman and Donna Bakewell, Canada, grow beautiful tuberous begonias. Their potting mix is started two years ahead of time. It consists of two compost piles.

One is made with a lot of bracken fern. Another compost heap consists of kitchen garbage, seaweed, and turf sods. These are mixed together in the second year and some lime is added to raise the pH because their soil is quite acid.

At this time they also add their used potting soil. This is all mixed together. When they are ready for potting, they use a wheelbarrow load of fir bark two or three years old to a wheelbarrow load of the compost mixture. To this they add approximately 1 quart Milorganite, 2/3 quart steamed bone-meal, and 2 cups superphosphate.

They mix this all together and plant their tuberous begonias in 2-gallon pots. They sent photographs in a robin showing strong, healthy plants full of blooms.

Screens in terrariums

Daniel Haseltine, Illinois, likes to use plastic screen in the bottoms of terrariums between the drainage material and the potting mix. The top can be lifted off without disturbing the bottom and getting everything mixed up.

The screen is also good in the bottom of pots to keep crawling insects from entering the pots through the

drainage hole. It also prevents the mix from going through the hole.

Slow-release fertilizer

Some of the robins have been discussing the use of slow-release fertilizer in their bubbles. Elda Haring, North Carolina, gave this information:

Osmocote is a slow-release fertilizer that must be used either at the root system or on the surface. As soon as moisture hits, it starts to release. You can see the difference in a couple of days in a darker shade of green on the leaves. It cannot be mixed with potting soil unless used within three weeks because moisture starts the release of the fertilizer.

Mag Amp is formulated so its low solubility enables the grower to mix it in the soil prior to sterilization without losing nutrients. The co-precipitating chemical activator in Mag Amp is not affected by fluctuations such as excess water or high temperatures.

I have used Osmocote frequently in flats for outdoor plants and as a top dressing for some of my old plants. It works well.

I have experimented with it in bubbles, but it does release too quickly in such a humid and moist atmosphere, whereas Mag Amp doesn't. The information I have quoted above about Mag Amp came from the manufacturer.

Recycling milk cartons

Verda Stull, Ohio, recycles plastic milk cartons. She uses the bottoms as saucers in the greenhouse and cuts up the rest for labels. She now has hundreds of labels.

Mabel Corwin, round robin director, will send a newly revised flight list and other information about joining a round robin—a packet of letters circulated among begonia lovers—if you write to her at 1119 Loma Vista Way, Vista, CA 92083.

SEED FUND / *A shade lover, B. sudjanae*

Linda Miller, director, Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund

SPECIES

- NV 1 — *B. aridicaulis*: Mexico. Miniature rhizomatous plant, with green leaves shaped like teardrops.
A lovely plant very suitable to terrarium growing. per pkt 1.00
- NV 2 — *B. foliosa*: Colombia. Drooping shrubby types. Makes a lovely, graceful basket plant with a fern-like appearance. Loveliest of the small-leaved group. Blooms intermittently with white blooms.
Germination time: 14 days. per pkt 1.00
- NV 3 — *B. gigantea*: India. Name means "giant." 2-3 ft. rhizomatous plant with a swollen base sending up many tall, slim stems, topped by tight balls of white-to-pale pink flowers, each resembling a bird poised in flight.
Germination time: 13 days. per pkt 1.00
- NV 4 — *B. heracleifolia nigricans*: Mexico. Lovely plant with leaves blackish-green with contrasting pale green along veins, lobed. per pkt 1.00
- NV 5 — *B. macdougallii*: Mexico. Rhizomatous with giant compound leaves. Flowers white in winter and spring. per pkt 1.00
- NV 6 — *B. paleata*: Brazil. Compact shrub-like plant with leaves very much like *B. acida*, seersucker puckered and apple green. Special. . . per pkt 1.00
- NV 7 — *B. pearcei*: Bolivia. One of the most beautiful and colorful of tuberous species. Leaves are lobed, velvety green often with darker markings along veins. Flowers are bright yellow. This one does go dormant, so watch for rest period in fall. Dry and store tubers. per pkt 1.00
- NV 8 — *B. sudjanae*: Sumatra. A real beauty! Rhizomatous. Leaves light green, asymmetrically peltate, covered with small hairs. Has cymes of small white flowers. For best results grow in a rather shaded area. Exposed to intense sunshine, leaves show clear sign of chlorosis.
Germination time: 10 days. per pkt 1.00

HYBRIDS

- NV 9 — Butterfly semps per pkt .25
- NV 10 — *B. 'Tence'*: A Gordon Lepisto hybrid of much merit. Compact semper-florens type with satin green leaves streaked light green and yellow. The one-inch single flowers are coral-red and at times cover the plant completely. The plant was named after one of Mr. Lepisto's aunts.
. per pkt 1.00
- NV 11 — Grab bag of ferns: 3 lovely varieties of ferns, separately labeled. 3 pkts 2.00
- NV 12 — Grab bag of perennials. 4 varieties separately labeled. . . . 4 pkts 2.00
- NV 13 — Rex cultivar: This plant has very black leaves that are large, some over 10 inches. It is of easy culture, and has not shown a tendency to mildew as many of the rex varieties do. The seedlings of this plant should prove very interesting. per pkt 1.00

Send orders to Linda Miller, 4613 Cochran St., Simi Valley, CA 93063.
Include self-addressed, stamped envelope. California residents add 6% sales tax.
Checks and money orders should be made payable to: Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund.
Foreign orders: U.S. funds only.

Carrie Karegeannes and Thelma O'Reilly, nomenclature co-directors

In the citations of cultivar parents, the female (seed) parent is listed first.

Begonia 'Tin Lizzy'

No. 727—*Begonia* 'Lee's No. 9' x *B. hatacoa* [syn. *rubro-venia*]* 'Silver' 'Tin Lizzy'

Rex Cultorum group; rhizomatous, with rhizome jointed at or below the soil. Leaves are green with pinkish-silver overcast, cordate and subtire, 3" x 5", with lightly puckered surface; 8-veined; petioles 6"-8"; stipules ½" x ¾". Pale pink flowers are small. Heart-shaped leaf with pastel wash of pinkish-silver combined with the habit of the male parent distinguishes this cultivar. Originated in 1976 by Bob Cole, 18007 Topham Street, Reseda, CA 91335; first bloomed in 1979. Registered Aug. 16, 1979.

Begonia 'Jean Burns'

No. 728—*Begonia* 'Big Boy' x unnamed *B. rex* cultivar 'Jean Burns'

Rex Cultorum group; rhizomatous. Spiraled leaves are dark olive-green with red overlay on silver areas, red edging, and a dark olive-green center, 4½" x 5", with smooth surface and ciliate margin; 10-veined; petioles 4"-6"; stipules ¼" x ½". The originator says this cultivar can be distinguished by its outstanding spiral and excellent color. Originated in 1976 by Bob Cole (address above); no blooms to date. Registered Aug. 16, 1979.

Begonia 'Hawaiian Freakout'

No. 729—*Begonia* 'Hawaiian Sunset' x unnamed *B. rex* cultivar 'Hawaiian Freakout'

Rex Cultorum group, with erect stem. Monstrous leaves are blackish green with light-green outer markings and inner markings of white and red spots, highlighted by a bronze overlay, 2½" x 1½", with crenate margin and smooth surface; 12- to 18-veined; petioles ¼"-½"; stipules ½"-¾". The cross of a canelike begonia and a *B. rex* cultivar produced an unusual shrublike plant with colorful, strangely shaped leaves. Originated in 1972 by Charles Hewitt, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA 91126; first distributed in 1974. Described in The Plant Shop's 1976 catalog; pictured (leaf) in catalog *Begonias 1978*. Tested by The Plant Shop, 18007 Topham Street, Reseda, CA 91335. No blooms to date. Registered Sept. 4, 1979.

Begonia 'Hawaii Fifty'

No. 730—*Begonia* 'Hawaiian Sunset' x unnamed *B. rex* cultivar 'Hawaii Fifty'

Rex Cultorum group, with erect stem. Leaves have a bronze edging, green specks, and a reddish overlay and are cordate, 1½" x 2½", with crenate margin and puckered surface; 6-veined; petioles ½"; stipules ¼"-½". Small leaves of the Rex Cultorum style on a 1½' shrublike begonia give a different look, and the stems have a tendency to crest. Originated in 1972 by Charles Hewitt (address above); first distributed in 1978. First described in The Plant Shop's 1978 catalog. Tested by The Plant Shop (address above). No blooms to date. Registered Sept 4, 1979.

Applications to register *Begonia* cultivars may be obtained from Thelma O'Reilly, 10942 Sunray Place, La Mesa, CA 92041. A \$2 check or money order payable to the American Begonia Society must accompany each completed application. Photos, drawings, and/or dried specimens to accompany applications are encouraged. ABS is the International Registration Authority for *Begonia* cultivar names.

*In 1972, Hiroshi Hara of the University of Tokyo confirmed that Hamilton's type for his species *B. hatacoa* (in D. Don, 1825) exactly agreed with *B. rubro-venia* Hooker (1853). Hara published his finding in the *Journal of Japanese Botany* 47(5): 15, May 1972. Thus the older name *B. hatacoa* is the correct name for the species. We have not found a botanical variety name for the silver form in the literature.

QUESTION BOX/ *Distance to grow plants under lights*

Elda Haring

Question: How far under a two-tube fluorescent fixture should one grow rex, rhizomatous, and shrubby types such as *B. foliosa*? How about terrariums, seed pans, transplanted seedlings, and leaf wedges?

Answer: Much depends on the natural light in the room. Under a two-tube fixture, if the room is dark, most begonias need to be 6 inches from the light. Unless kept at least 10 inches from tubes, terrariums might be too close to the heat of the fixture's ballast. My own seed pans, transplanted seedlings, and leaf wedges are grown 12 to 14 inches from the tubes but the room has two windows.

In my cellar there is bright light for I have four 8-foot tables, each with 4 fixtures containing 2 tubes each. The tables are painted white and are 18 inches from the tubes.

Tops of seed pans and containers with cuttings are approximately 10 to 12 inches from the tubes. All my seedlings and plants grow in compact fashion under these conditions.

Question: Some of my rexes and rhizomatous types curl their leaves under lights. Could the problem be too much light?

Answer: Leaf curl usually is an indication that the humidity is too low for those varieties, or they may be suffering from too much warmth from the ballasts.

For instance, although humidity under my lights varies from 50 to 70%, *B. acida* never curls its leaves but the

Send questions about begonia growing to Elda Haring, P.O. Box 236, Flat Rock, NC 28731. She'll mail you her reply promptly.

very similar *B. paleata* does. In the greenhouse, leaves of the latter never curl.

Question: Do you use plastic hanging baskets with saucers attached? If so, do you use drainage material? What medium do you use and how do you know what size to choose?

Answer: Yes, I do use these baskets as I do not like water dripping onto plants on the benches in my greenhouse — indoors they may be taken down for watering.

I like to use a few marble chips in the bottom over which I place a piece of paper towel to give a little air space at the bottom. Use your favorite planting mix just as you would for a plastic pot.

These baskets came in sizes from 6 inches and up. Choose one that will fit the root system of the plant, leaving an inch of space all around. A basket too large for the root system may result in root rot.

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Final word on 1980 convention

ABS directors have rescheduled the 1980 convention and show as requested by members attending the Annual Meeting at the New York convention in September. The new dates are Sept. 4-7, 1980.

At their Oct. 15 meeting, directors unanimously voted to make the change so the convention would not interfere with Jewish holy days Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Organizers have selected the Holiday Inn in Long Beach, Calif., as the convention site.

New appointments to board

The appointment of Corliss Engle as Research Department co-director was approved by the ABS board Oct. 15. Millie Thompson, who previously headed the department alone, asked President Nate Randall to make the appointment. Millie has undertaken an ambitious project in which members around the world grow and study specific begonias.

Directors also approved the appointment of Clair M. Christensen, an attorney, to be parliamentarian.

Another contribution

Palomar branch has donated \$150 to the ABS treasury, proceeds from a plant sale it had at its Aug. 19 meeting. Plants sold were contributed by branch members. The meeting, held at the home of Ralph and Mabel Corwin, attracted many visitors from neighboring branches.

Western Regional Show

It seemed somehow jinxed, but the ABS Western Regional Show went on anyway, overcoming shopping mall logistics, a truck accident, and three days of plant-damaging air conditioning.

A regional show in the west is unusual, but, since the ABS convention and show was in New York this year, Southern California members organized "Begonia Galleria" at the Glendale Galleria shopping mall Oct. 5-7.

The many specimen show plants were displayed on tables distributed widely

throughout the mall. Plant sales were conducted in a central location near a membership sign-up table and other exhibits.

Organizers, led by coordinator Darlene Fuentes, reported a probable profit for ABS of several hundred dollars.

Fewer plants than expected were entered in the show following an accident which damaged the entries of Ralph and Mabel Corwin of Vista, Calif., perennial ribbon and trophy winners. The accident, which happened as the Corwins were arriving at the Galleria, also damaged their truck. But there were no injuries and both attended the Saturday night banquet.

By Saturday, a few plants were reacting to the mall's air conditioning like plants usually do—by wilting and dropping flowers.

Quick action to keep the show tables cleaned up minimized the effect and on Sunday—third day of the show—there still were plenty of plants to impress viewers.

The Saturday night banquet was served at a Glendale church. Chicken dinner was cooked by Darlene's father, a caterer, who won a round of applause from the consumers.

Afterward, cultural certificates were awarded for well-grown show plants—four to Pat Maley of El Cajon, Calif., and one to Doug and Goldie Frost of Garden Grove, Calif.

In addition, driftwood planters containing begonias—the table centerpieces—

Great Christmas idea!

Seed Fund gift certificates

Purchase now in any amount over \$5.

Add 50¢ to cover postage and handling.

Send name and address of recipient and your check payable to Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund. Mail to Linda Miller, 4613 Cochran St., Simi Valley, CA 93063.

Please note whether gift is for ABS member or non-member. A card will be sent along with the certificate conveying your holiday greetings.

were auctioned by plant sales chairman Ed Yeckley to benefit the ABS treasury. The centerpieces were made by Pat and Dennis Maley.

Symposium in Connecticut

Logee's Greenhouses will host an "Indoor Gardening Symposium" on Saturday, Nov. 24, in conjunction with the Thanksgiving show of artists at Peep Toad Mill in Danielson, Conn.

The program will include guided tours of the greenhouses and lectures on the care of begonias, geraniums, herbs, and fragrant plants, as well as instruction in fundamental growing techniques.

How to become a judge

Judges Course Director Margaret Lee has announced a new scale of points to qualify as an ABS Judge at shows: three or more points are needed to qualify as a Sophomore Judge, 25 or more to be a Junior Judge, and 50 or more to be a Senior Judge.

Points can be earned in the following ways: three points for completing the ABS Judges Course, two points for each year of judging, two points for each begonia show judged, one point for each non-begonia show judged, one point for each year of clerking or classifying and registering entries at a begonia show, one point for classifying and registering entries at a begonia show, and one-half point for clerking at a begonia show.

Regardless of the number of points acquired, to become a Senior Judge a person must judge a minimum of five begonia shows and serve on the "entries

committee," classifying and registering plants, of at least one begonia show.

ABS directors approved the changes in July to be effective with the New York show in September. Persons interested in taking the judges course should contact Margaret.

IN MEMORIAM

Joseph Taylor

Word has been received of the death earlier this year of Joseph Taylor, ABS president in 1956. Mr. Taylor and his wife Ruth, who died in 1976, were active in the Redondo branch before they moved to Clear Oaks, Calif. Mr. Taylor also was a past president of the National Fuchsia Society.

John Scott

John Scott, known to many members of round robins, died in July. He lived in Bentleigh, Victoria, Australia. Mr. Scott gave frequent lectures on gardening and served as horticultural adviser for occupational therapy in two hospitals. He was known for producing a "TV garden": turning an old TV case into a light garden with a scene of Melrose, Scotland, painted in as a backdrop so the garden "show" could be viewed "without commercial interruptions."

Mr. Scott was awarded the 1978 John Pascoe Fawkner Gold Medal for distinguished service to horticulture, the highest award given by the Royal Horticultural Society of Victoria. An article about him appeared in the March 1979 *Begonian*.

Photo/Chuck Anderson



Elected officers at the New York Convention (from left): Treasurer Eleanor Calkins, First Vice President Frank Kerin, Second Vice President Joan Coulat, President-Elect Gilbert Estrada, and President Nathan Randall. Secretary Norma Taylor was unable to attend.

More William Roxburgh

Continued from page 261

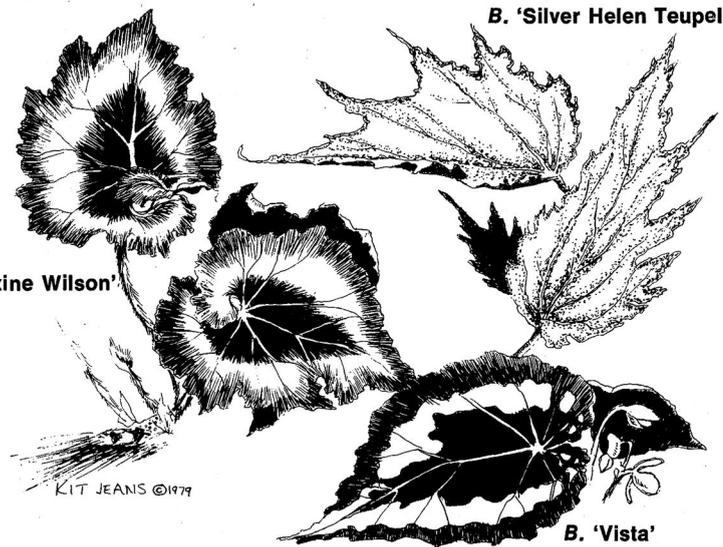
(*Diploclinium roxburghii* by F. A. Michel in 1855, transferred to *Begonia roxburghii* by A. de Candolle in 1864). [See article on *B. roxburghii* in the July 1979 *Begonian*, p. 164.]

Begonia aptera Roxburgh was a new name when listed in the catalog of 1814 but, unfortunately, by the time the description was published in 1832 another species had been published under the name, and his had to be

renamed later. His third species, *B. laciniata*, has stood until recently (see the note following the article on *B. laciniata* on p. 259).

Sources on Roxburgh's life:

- G. King, "A Brief Memoir of William Roxburgh," *Annals of the Royal Botanic Garden, Calcutta* 5, 1895.
- D. H. Nicolson, Smithsonian Institution, introduction to William Roxburgh, *Flora Indica*, 1st ed., facsimile reprint of 1820-1824 edition (New York: Oriole Editions, 1975).
- J. Robert Sealy, "William Roxburgh's Collection of Paintings of Indian Plants," *Endeavor* 34(122): 84-90. May 1975.



B. 'Silver Helen Teupel'

B. 'Maxine Wilson'

KIT JEANS ©1979

B. 'Vista'

NEW—THE ONE-AND-ONLY ABS BEGONIA CALENDAR!

It's a 1980 calendar featuring pen-and-ink drawings of begonias by ABS member-grower and artist Kit Jeans. Three sketches from the calendar are reproduced above. There are 12 pages of drawings, each 8 by 10 inches.

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Proceeds will be donated by Kit to the ABS treasury. Order now to be sure of getting one—or buy several and use them as gifts. Supply will be limited.

Send your check to Kit Jeans Begonia Calendar
Rt. 1, Box 319
New Johnsonville, TN 37134

More about *B. laciniata*

Continued from page 259

The outer tepals of the yellow flowers are sparsely hairy at the base and the ovary sparsely downy—in contrast to Hooker's white tepals "clothed with red tomentum mixed with hairs" and "very tomentose" capsule for the *laciniata* form Irmscher put with *nepalensis*. The *nepalensis* form is more lobed, with narrower lobes than *B. flaviflora*.

Hara, however, would take us a step farther still.

De Candolle in 1864 and Clarke in 1879 listed *Begonia palmata* D. Don (1825) as possibly the same as *B. laciniata* or its variety *nepalensis*, with a question mark. Hara now accepts them as indeed the same species—which makes *B. palmata* the oldest name, taking priority over the name *laciniata*.

As for dates of introduction into English cultivation, Hooker in 1857 said Dr. Royle had sent the species to Kew, but did not say when. He said Roxburgh had published the name in 1830 (Roxburgh's work actually is dated 1932), and perhaps Charles Chevalier picked up that date accidentally for the introduction. On the other hand, Royle was in India from 1799 to 1831, and the plant could have been sent to Kew during that time, as well as after. If it was sent to Kew as early as 1830, we wonder why Hooker waited so long to describe it.

The synonym *B. roylei*, which no doubt was given in honor of Royle, dates from 1857. J. Linden listed it as available in Belgium for the first time that year. Whatever date it reached England, the species was discovered in 1812, and Roxburgh listed it in 1814 as growing in the East India Company's Botanic Garden in Calcutta.

Perhaps Tim will share further details of his seedlings as they mature and bloom. Photos would be interesting to see—whether his plant proves to be one of the forms of *B. palmata* D. Don (syn. *B. laciniata* Roxburgh) or *B. flaviflora* Hara.

In addition to Tim's references, see: William Roxburgh, *Hortus Bengalensis*: 68. 1814.

J. Linden, *La Belgique Horticole* 7: 197. 1857.

Alphonse de Candolle, *Prodromus* 15(1): 347-48. 1864.

E. Irmscher in *Mitteilungen aus dem Institut fuer allgemeine Botanik in Hamburg* 10: 433-61, 525-34, plates 1 to 11. 1939.

Franz A. Stafleu, *Taxonomic Literature*: 403. 1967.

Hiroshi Hara in the *Journal of Japanese Botany* 45(3): 91-92. 1970.

—Carrie Karegeannes

More editors

Continued from page 255

many years the organization's initials stood for "American Bitching Society."

Don't misunderstand: open discussion of all issues is healthy while a decision is pending. It's the only way to make good law.

But once all viewpoints are aired and the decision has been reached, a responsible officer of this or any organization must either support it—or if his or her conscience won't allow that—resign in protest.

In this, there is no middle ground. It is not acceptable ethics to stick around and try to scuttle a project once it is started.

The recent economic crisis was only one hurdle. The next will be to reverse a downturn in membership ranks, to which divisiveness has contributed. At last count, ABS had about 2,400 members. The number may drop somewhat more because of the dues hike.

It will take a unified effort to boost the membership to a respectable level. Success in beating back the financial dragon was a good omen.

Let us continue in a constructive spirit. It's what such an ABS pioneer as Alfred D. Robinson would have wanted. In 1934, he said:

"The organization is much more worth fostering than the individual glorification."
—C.A. & K.B.

BEGONIAN MINI-ADS

Begonias. Blue Ribbon Winners. Odd. Rare. Unusual. Price list 50¢ or stamps. Begonia Paradise Gardens, 9471 Dana Rd., Cutler Ridge, FL 33157. (305) 251-5836.

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Exhibition Manual. Optional supplement of The Thompson Begonia Guide for subscribers and non-subscribers, 100 pages. Price \$4.95, optional binder \$3.50, including packaging and shipping. N.Y. residents add state tax. Thompson, P.O. Drawer PP, Southampton, NY 11968.

Something for everyone—begonias, cactus, succulents, tropicals. Wholesale and Retail. No list—No mail order. Harvey's, 611 So. 8th St. Adel, Iowa 50003.

Begonias. Featuring Wally Wagner hybrids, gesneriads, miniatures for light gardens. List 50¢. Pat Morrison/Jim Heffner, 5305 S.W. Hamilton St., Portland, OR 97221.

Mini-ads are \$1 per line per insertion with a minimum of \$4. A line is about 36 characters. Payment must accompany order. Send to Pam Mundell, advertising manager, 2324 Connie Dr., Sacramento, CA 95815.

The Plant Shop's Botanical Gardens, 18007 Topham, Reseda, CA 91335, (213) 881-4831—Welcome Wed thru Sun, 10 am-6 pm. Progressive catalog, \$2.00, refunded with first order. Poster of 18 species staghorns, \$4.00.

Woodriff's Fairyland Begonia Hybrids. List 25¢. Visitors welcome. Leslie & Winkey Woodriff, Fairyland Begonia & Lily Garden, 1100 Griffith Rd., McKinleyville, CA 95521. (707) 839-3034.

Texas Begonia Lovers, We have many standard and unusual varieties and we love to visit with begonia people. GRANT'S PLANTS & THINGS, 252 E. Tarleton, Stephenville, Texas 76401, (817) 965-5979.

THE MINUTES / *ABS board of directors August 20, 1979*

The meeting was called to order at 7:55 p.m. by Pres. Nathan Randall in the Fullerton Savings & Loan Assn. Community Room in Anaheim. Mabel Corwin led the Pledge of Allegiance and Gil Estrada read the Aims & Purposes.

Pres. Randall asked that all representatives and officers submit their annual report to the secretary as soon as possible. A letter from the Saline County Branch in Salina, Kansas, was read requesting that we remove their branch from the National Roster because of the raise in dues. Before any action is taken on this request, Gil Estrada will write to the branch explaining the position of the Board and the problems we face necessitating the raise in dues.

A phone call from Joan Coulat was reported, in which she clarified her statement reported in the Sacramento newsletter that "if elected I intend to bring the National to the north." By that she meant that news and participation in ABS activities will be in the north, not that she intended to have meetings held there.

Minutes of the previous meeting were not read because Virginia Barnett, secretary, was ill, and unable to be at the meeting.

Pres. Elect—Gil Estrada reported a Bookstore balance on June 30 of \$1,214.75; sales July of \$62.20; disbursements of \$133.72; leaving a balance on hand July

31 of \$1,081.03 He also reported total sales from Aug. 1, 1978, to July 31, 1979, of \$5,266.01; from this \$2,260.78 was spent for the purchase of books; operating expenses of \$222.98; ABS General Fund \$1,000; ABS Catalog Fund \$1,403. Gil reported that Elda Haring's book *Begonias for Beginners* is no longer available from the Bookworm Publishing Co. The October *Begonian* will carry an ad for the sale of books on hand at special prices.

First Vice-Pres. Ralph Corwin reported that the master copy of the revisions of the Constitution and Bylaws is now ready and will be taken to New York to be brought before the Directors at the annual meeting. If approved there they will be published in *The Begonian* for general membership vote.

Ralph reported receiving a suggestion from Thelma O'Reilly that the Corresponding Secretary compile a list of officers and directors with name, address, zip code, and phone numbers for the convenience of the committee chairmen to cut down the time utilized in correspondence with these officers. Those who have unlisted numbers and do not wish to have them published would simply so state. The list to be limited to elected and appointed officers.

Second Vice-Pres. Doug Frost reported on arrangements for the 1980 Convention. He brought an agreement from the Elks

Club catering service to be signed with the accompaniment of a \$200 deposit to reserve the dates and rooms for meals contracted for by the Elks Club. Discussion disclosed that the Elks Club is in constant demand in Long Beach and to assure our reservation we would need to comply with this request. Muriel Perz moved that we send the \$200 to be taken from the Show Fund, and sign the agreement. Seconded by Gil Estrada. Motion carried. Doug also stated that it had been called to his attention that the dates for the 1980 Convention as amended at the last meeting conflicted with Yom Kippur. After discussion Wanda Elin moved that we go back to our original dates of Sept. 11 through 14 to avoid further confusion. Seconded by Gil Estrada. Motion carried.

Treasurer Eleanor Calkins reported a balance on hand July 1, 1979, of \$2,053.16; receipts during July of \$4,410.25; disbursements of \$2,452.16; leaving a balance July 31, 1979, of \$4,011.24.

Membership Secretary Kathy Brown reported 123 memberships processed as of Aug. 20, 1979; receipts of \$819; disbursements of \$52.92. Members in good standing as of Aug. 20: 2,708. It was mentioned that *The Begonian* shows the wrong subscription rates and should be updated.

Round Robin Director Mabel Corwin reported all flights going well.

The Seed Fund report for two months was read by Pres. Randall, July 11-13, 1979; receipts of \$153.69. Aug. 1-10, 1979; receipts \$105.29; expenses of \$31.50; balance \$73.79.

Darlene Fuentes, Regional Show Chairman, reported securing Buffum's restaurant for the judges luncheon. Holiday Inn rates for the ABS will be \$30 per day single and \$36 per day double. The Inn will also provide a shuttle bus. Seminars will be by Carlton l'Hommedieu, Bob Cole, Ed Yeckley, and Louise Bower.

Past *Begonian* Sales: Katharine Alberti reported sales of \$69.75, expenses of \$3.90, leaving a balance of \$65.85. Katharine also reported receiving four big boxes of past issues from Herb Warrick. The secretary was instructed to write to Mr. Warrick thanking him for his generosity.

Wanda Elin, Chairman of the Ballot Counting Committee, reported the results of balloting for the raise in dues: 25 yes votes, 6 no votes. The count does not reflect the count of the directors present at the meeting when the voting by show of hands was taken.

Gil Estrada moved that the new subscription rates be declared in effect, seconded by Wanda Elin. Motion carried. The editors are instructed to show the new rates with the October issue of *The Begonian*.

Gil Estrada moved that the Board accept the charter of the Fred A. Barkley Branch. Seconded by Pearl Bennell. Motion carried.

Pres. Randall read a letter from Kit Jeans in which she proposed to put out, entirely at her own expense, an engagement calendar featuring line drawings of begonias in dark green on white stock. Kit proposes to sell these calendars at the rate of \$3.95 each plus postage and handling with the proceeds above costs to go to the ABS treasury. Her printer advises that they will be out by November 1. What is now needed is advertising in *The Begonian*. Wanda Elin moved that we accept her proposal and give her advertising space in *The Begonian*, seconded by Muriel Perz. Motion carried.

The names of Wanda Elin and Eleanor Mulch were proposed for life membership. Eleanor Calkins moved that we accept these two, seconded by Gil Estrada. Motion carried.

Pres. Randall reported that Marle Thompson of Sacramento has graciously offered to serve as alternate secretary at the convention in New York. Katharine Alberti was selected to serve as alternate to Marle if necessary. Pearl Bennell moved that we accept both appointments, seconded by Gil Estrada. Motion carried.

Joan Coulat sent word that the Sacramento Show grossed \$1,800 and 17 new members for the branch.

Pres. Randall reported that \$107 was taken in on the donation plant table at the Regional Board meeting for the benefit of the ABS treasury and a little over \$130 was raised by the Palomar Branch at a pot luck meeting held for fund raising for the treasury.

Wanda Elin stated that Herb Warrick would like an indication from the Board of their opinion of his work on a cultivar list compiled from *The Begonian*. Since only two members present at this meeting had seen this list, his request was tabled until all members could see and evaluate it.

After branch reports the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

—Norma Taylor, secretary pro tem

The November board meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 19, at Fullerton Savings and Loan, Anaheim.

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