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*The* BEGONIAN

# The BEGONIAN

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Founded January 1932 by Herbert P. Dyckman

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**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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See inside back cover

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**THE COVER:** Close-up of a ripe fruit of *B. rhopalocarpa*, a begonia new to cultivation. The four flaps of the fruit are yellow on the outside, red inside. They open to reveal a yellow placenta covered with seeds. Photo by Reyer Jansen. See story by J. Doorenbos on page 102. Seed contributed by Dr. Doorenbos is available from the Seed Fund, page 113.

<b>Epiphytic begonias</b>	First of two parts by Alan Meerow.....	96
<b>Wire baskets</b>	How to make your own containers by Corliss Engle.....	99
<b><i>B. rhopalocarpa</i></b>	A begonia with interesting fruit by J. Doorenbos.....	102
<b>Easy to grow</b>	Elda Haring presents an old-timer, <i>B. 'Thurstonii'</i> .....	104
<b>Begonia from Borneo</b>	Large-flowered <i>B. burbidgei</i> by J. Doorenbos.....	105
<b>Begonia gallery</b>	<i>B. aconitifolia</i> from the A. D. Robinson collection.....	106
Round robins	.....	108
New cultivars	.....	110
Growing from seed	.....	112
Seed fund	.....	113
ABS news	.....	114
Mini-ads	.....	117
Associated groups	.....	118
ABS services	.....	119

NOTES/ From the editors

We're proud and happy to report the news that begonias are about to break into the big leagues, bookwise.

Ed and Millie Thompson's new *Begonias*, a lavishly illustrated volume, finally will be published this year by Times Books. Details are in the Thompsons' announcement on page 107.

It's important for you to make your reservation now with the Thompsons—and not with anyone else who may solicit a commitment—for two reasons:

You get a copy autographed by the authors.

An expression of sizeable interest will help relieve the substantial financial commitment the Thompsons have made. (Several "guarantors" are taking a financial risk to support the Thompsons in a commitment to the publisher to sell 5,000 copies.)

So don't wait for *Begonias* to find its way to your corner bookstore. Make your reservation now and think about buying an extra as a gift.



Round robins are now being reported by Jan Clark, a member from Grand Forks, N.D., recently named (appropriately enough) Round Robin reporter.

But if you want to join one or more robins, Round Robin Director Mabel Corwin still is the person to contact.



If you are moving, you'll save the not-so-rich ABS more money than you think by sending your new address ahead of time to Elisabeth Sayers, new membership secretary (369 Ridge Vista, San Jose, CA 95127).

You see, the Postal Service doesn't forward third-class mail. Your *Begonian* gets returned (with 25 cents postage due), then we pay again to remail it once we do get your new address.



The Logee's Greenhouse catalog now available for \$2 is for 1980-81, not 1979-80 as indicated in the Logee's ad on the back cover. (Covers are printed months in advance.)

—C.A. & K.B.

# Epiphytic begonias: they cling for life

Alan Meerow

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## (First of two articles)

The genus *Begonia* has long been a staple of international horticulture. From a relative few of the many Mexican species have come the myriad semperflorens or wax begonias whose everblooming qualities grace shady gardens in summer. Hybridization of a handful of tuberous species from the Andes of Peru, Bolivia, and Colombia has given rise to the popular tuberous begonias, also summer flowerers.

Of late, the improved varieties of the Rieger strain or Heimalis begonias, derived from crosses of the African semi-tuberous *Begonia socotrana* with other tuber-forming species and hybrids, have come into prominence as winter-blooming pot plants. To this list we can add the many other species and their hybrid progeny that as houseplants or specimen plants outdoors in mild climates offer foliage interest, a profusion of airy blossoms, or often enough both.

The horticultural classification of *Begonia*, their varied and sundry uses in the garden, and the plethora of cultural conditions that different types demand are all subjects that could fill many pages. But from the botanical perspective these ubiquitous denizens of the worlds' tropics are equally fascinating.

The genus *Begonia* comprises more

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*Alan Meerow, a botanist-horticulturist, is greenhouse manager for The Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, 800 S. Palm Ave., Sarasota, FL 33577. He also has written for Horticulture. ABS was the first plant society Alan joined and, though he has since branched out, he still has "a fondness for begonias." This two-part series is adapted from one that appeared in the Selby Gardens Bulletin.*

than 90 percent of the species in the family Begoniaceae. Only two other described genera have been placed in the family: *Hillebrandia*, a monotypic genus, is represented by a single Hawaiian species, *H. sandwicensis*. *Symbegonia*, with about 15 species currently described, is found only in New Guinea.

The genus *Begonia*, with considerably more than a thousand species, has established itself pantropically—with the exception of Australia and New Zealand—from Mexico to Argentina, from Southern Africa north to the Sahara, and from New Guinea to China. As botanists and plant collectors venture farther into tropical regions, the species list continues to grow, and it has been estimated by some workers in the field that as much as half the genus remains undescribed.

Systematic botanists have made attempts to ally the Begoniaceae with other families of flowering plants in the higher classification or orders; but the family is a decidedly introverted one, and its obscure relationships with other familial groups has led to its placement in a separate monotypic order, the Begoniales. But even to the layperson's eye, there is something that makes a begonia a begonia, despite a variety of vegetative morphology unmatched by any other genus in the plant kingdom. The reader uninitiated in the group need only glance through *Exotica* to gain an inkling of the staggering divergence of foliage form and growth habit that exists within the genus.

Despite the bizarre disparities, vegetative characteristics rarely hold up as a basis for botanical classification.

Certain characteristics, however, do hold fast throughout the genus *Begonia*, particularly in the floral parts and fruit.

Leaves of begonia species are usually asymmetrical and are subtended by large and often persistent stipules. Begonias are monoecious, that is, separate male (staminate) and female (pistillate) flowers are produced on the same plant, though at different times in some species. The ovary is consistently inferior (below) to the perianth (flower parts) and the ripe fruit is usually a winged capsule containing many dust-like seeds. Consciously or not, it is by this fruit structure that many untrained in botany identify members of the genus. Three complexes of species, however, one South American and two Africans, possess an elongated, wingless ovary.

The perianth parts of begonia flowers, both male and female, distinctively lack a separation into sepals and petals, and are best referred to as "tepals." Flowers of begonias are generally white, pink or red, but orange and yellow flowered species exist, and blue seems to be the only color unaccounted for in the genus.

Despite their widespread range, the genus *Begonia* has maintained a genetic integrity that is at once baffling yet horticulturally advantageous. Persistent hybridizers have managed to interbreed species of *Begonia* that have been isolated by thousands of miles for millions of years, across oceans and towering mountains. Unfolding the evolutionary history of this intercontinental genus would tax the greatest botanical imagination.

Early taxonomists, confronted with a natural grouping of plants of awesome variety and distribution, dealt with the genus as many separate ge-



*B. glabra* growing at the Marie Selby Botanical Gardens

nera, a treatment that quickly proved artificial in the light of critical inspection. Modern systematic botanists, however, to get a handle on a genus as large as *Begonia*, have recognized sections at the subgeneric level, each section consisting of from one to as many as several dozen species that hang together naturally by certain floral characteristics. In many cases, the name of a particular section in the genus *Begonia* is the same epithet formerly applied to one of these old genera.

Begonias are generally thought of as terrestrial plants of warm, humid and shady environs, but several species have colonized arid regions in both the Old and New World tropics. And not surprisingly, in a tropical genus of some dimensions as *Begonia*, a few have left the soil for an airborne existence as epiphytes.

Epiphytism is by no means a widespread phenomenon within the genus. Michael Madison in his "Vascular Epiphytes: Their Systematic Occurrence and Salient Features" (*Selbyana* 2(1):1-13 1977) listed only 10 species of *Begonia* out of 900 that could be defined as true epiphytes. Though both numbers can be considerably enlarged, it can safely be said that most begonias prefer their roots in the ground.

Then, too, the traveler in tropical climes is as likely as not to find small plants of terrestrial species growing on branches or trunks of trees if enough organic matter has accumulated to provide a suitable nesting place for the tiny wind-dispersed seed. Such a situation can at best be considered facultative epiphytism. Nonetheless, the small complement of epiphytes within the genus *Begonia* comprises some of the more interesting and curious representatives of this group of plants.

The first species that enters our discussion is one of the most widespread

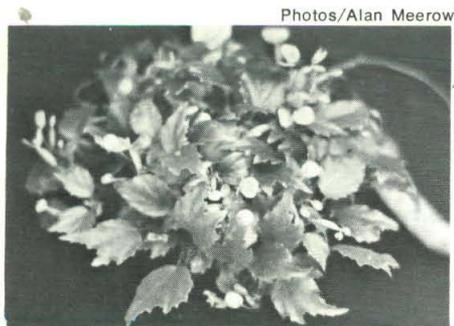
begonias in the American tropics. Whether it can be called a true epiphyte is a subject for debate as it undoubtedly begins life as a terrestrial plant. *Begonia glabra* soon begins to ascend wet trunks of rain forest trees, however, adhering to the bark by short holdfast roots formed at the leaf nodes.

It is a vigorous, branching climber and can frequently be seen completely covering the buttressed trunks of trees with its lustrous leaves. Known as well by the synonym *Begonia scandens*, it produces large cymes of numerous greenish-white flowers. In the Display House at The Marie Selby Botanical Gardens it tenaciously clings both to a wooden support beam and the trunk of a palm.

On the other side of the world, residing on the tropical island of Fernando Po off the west coast of Africa, is another species, *Begonia prismatocarpa*, known among collectors for its yellow flowers as well as its epiphytic habit. It was discovered growing upon rocks and trees at a 3000-foot elevation on the island by Gustav Mann in 1860 who then sent the species on to Kew Gardens.

The species is a miniature in all respects, seldom reaching more than three inches in height. The small waxy leaves are bright green, and the tiny flowers are yellow with a flush of orange on the reverse of the tepals.

The fruit of this begonia is very distinctive and the source of its species name. It is an elongated, four-sided capsule, suggestive of a prism, lacks the winged structure that typifies most female flowers in the genus. *Begonia prismatocarpa* is placed in the section *Loasibegonia* of the genus.



***B. prismatocarpa***

**(Next: More epiphytes)**

# Easy-to-make wire baskets for begonias

*Corliss Knapp Engle*

After 10 years of growing begonias under lights, it is clear to me that all of them beyond the 3-inch pot stage do best in clay pots or moss-lined baskets, and that, in addition, rhizomatous begonias require shallow pots.

It is far harder to overwater in clay or in moss baskets, as the soil seems to dry out evenly around the root ball, not just at the soil surface as with plastic. Tall clay pots are readily available from 4 inches up—but try and find a 4- or 5-inch clay bulb pan for shallow-rooted rhizomatous begonias.

In desperation, I have scoured garage sales, hoping to find a cache of clay bulb pans belonging to a little old lady who specialized in forcing miniature narcissus.

I have even resorted to making wire baskets out of hardware cloth and chicken wire, both of which are lethal. Hardware cloth is impossible to cut, and only the infinite patience of my husband produced one hardware cloth pot after two hours of X-rated mutterings. Chicken wire not only leaves puncture wounds in one's hands, but the finished product looks homemade. It is also flimsy and rusts easily.

Last spring in the American Orchid Society *Bulletin* I read about the use of aluminum gutter screening to make wire baskets for orchids. My ears lit up!

I tore off to the hardware store immediately and purchased a 25-foot roll for \$2.98. Even with no pattern, wire

baskets were in production, and the first was a success.

The secret is the flexibility and ease of the aluminum gutter screen. Just as a fine woolen has an ease and can be molded into the desired shape, the aluminum cooperates and works with you. It can be cut easily with household scissors and will not rust.

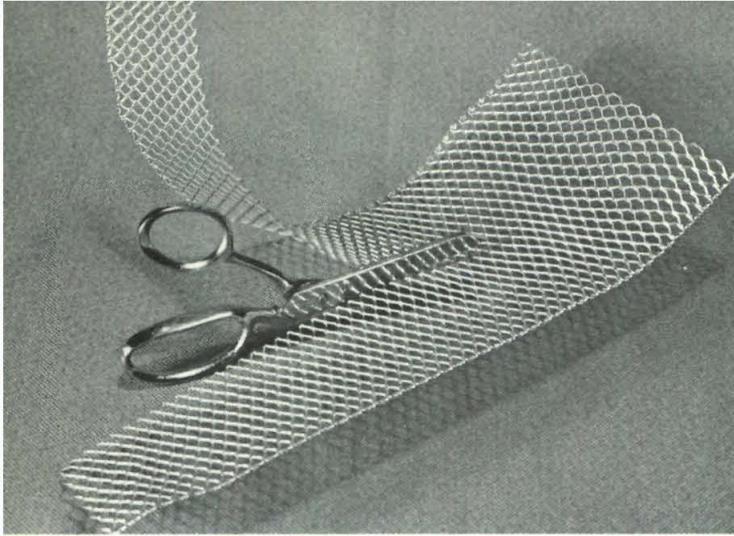
Sprayed with a soft brown paint after the pot has been made, and then lined with sheet moss or long-grained sphagnum, the baskets have a muted, natural appearance. And all for as little as 10 cents for a 4-inch basket.

The following directions are merely suggestions. Baskets can be tall or shallow, small for your miniatures or as large as you wish. There are no rules. Just remember the beauty of the system is the aluminum screening. (Its pliability also offers possibilities for topiary frames.)



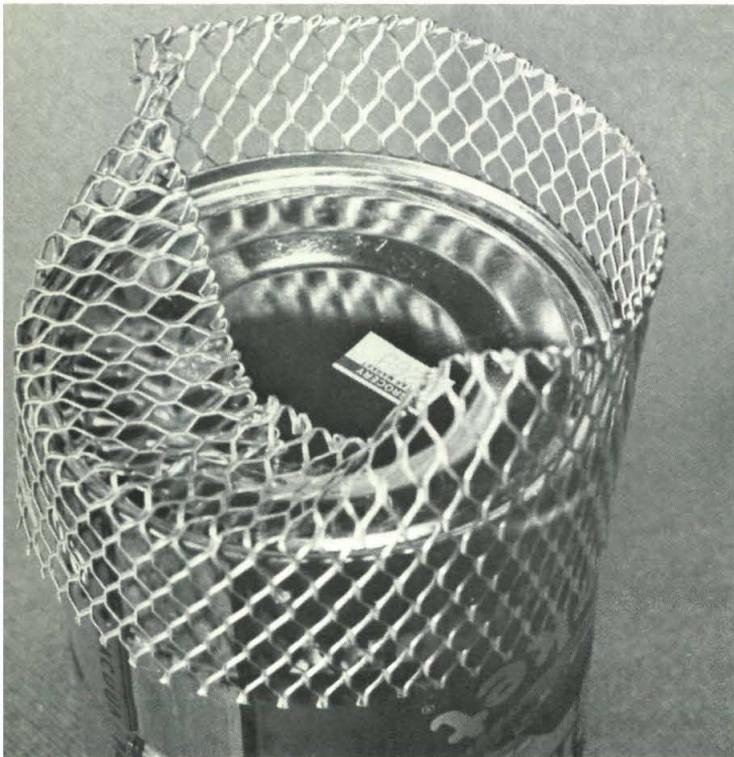
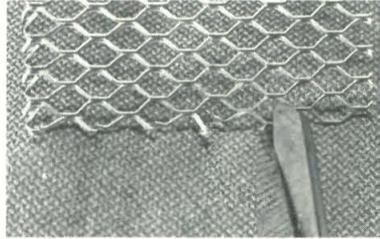
**1.**  
Assemble materials: 1-lb. coffee can, No. 10 pickle can, brown spray paint, scissors, 25-foot roll of 6-inch aluminum gutter screen (please turn the page)

*Corliss Engle of 26 Edgehill Rd., Brookline, MA 02146, described the wire baskets illustrated here in a seminar at the 1979 ABS convention in New York. Her begonia collection is the talk of New York state.*



**2.** Cut a length of screen one-fourth inch longer than the circumference of the can you are using for a form. Cut 2-3 inches off screen's width for a small basket; leave 6-inch width for a large basket

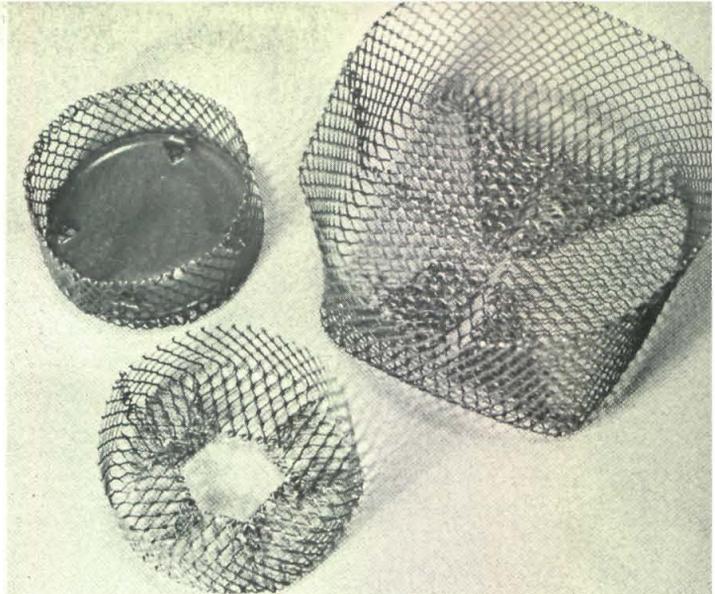
**3.** Snip the end link of each row of hexagons. Bend screen into collar, inserting snipped wires into corresponding links on opposite end and crimping



**4.** Place collar over can, sliding enough over sides of form to make basket of desired height. Bend rest over bottom of form to create bottom of wire basket

**5.**

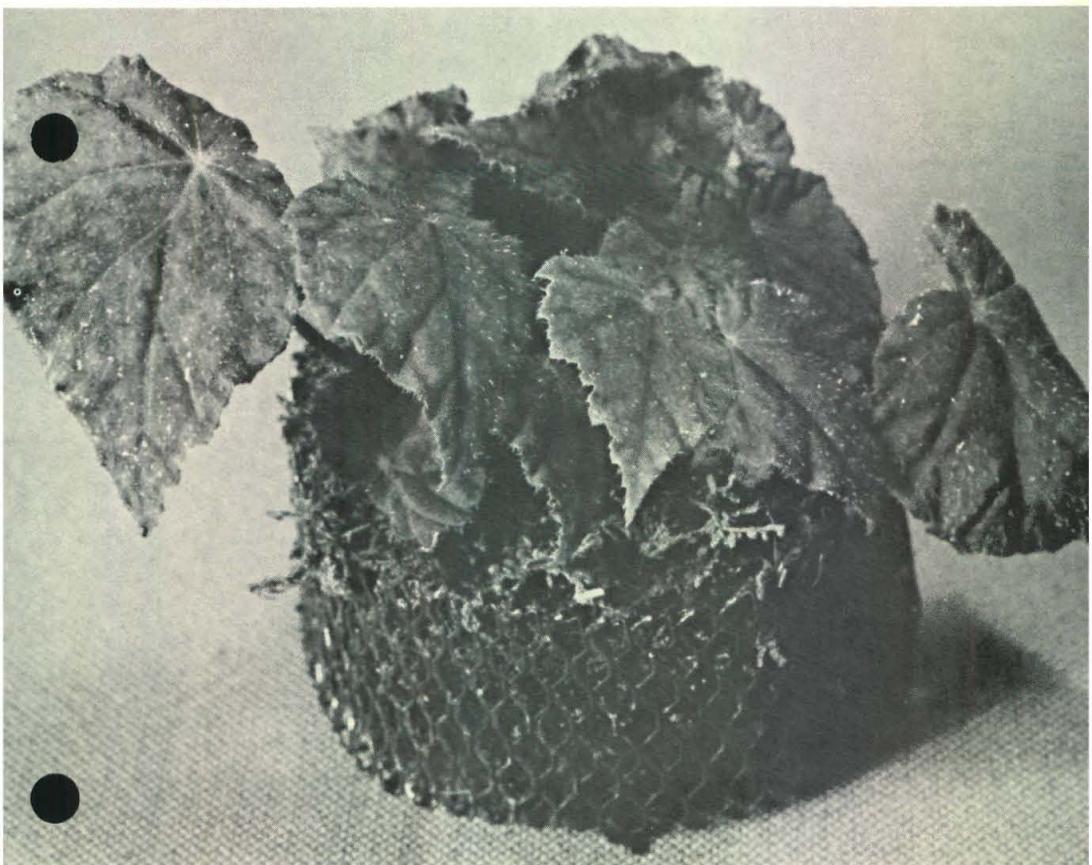
The bottom can be left with hole in middle, screen folded over envelope-fashion, or a can lid inserted. If hole is left, inserted moss can make firm contact with capillary matting



Photos/Corliss Knapp Engle

**6.**

Paint screening to make it unobtrusive. When paint is dry, line basket with long-grained sphagnum, sheet, or "green" moss. Plant begonia in more moss or in soilless mixture



## B. rhopalocarpa, a begonia with colorful fruit

J. Doorenbos

The genus *Begonia* is full of surprises, and—as long as hundreds of species have been described but have never been cultivated, while others still await discovery—this is likely to remain so.

Usually it is the growth habit and the shape and coloring of the leaves that delight us, sometimes it is the inflorescence or the flower, but it is rare that the fruit is the main point of interest. Such a case is *Begonia rhopalocarpa*, which recently was brought into cultivation for the first time.

This species was described in 1896 by Warburg from two herbarium specimens collected in Cameroon. It has since been reported from Congo. In 1978 it was found in Gabon by Dr. F. J. Breteler and Dr. J. J. F. E. de Wilde, who brought back living material. In our greenhouses it proved to be a hardy plant that grows rapidly and so far has been resistant to insects and mildew.

*Begonia rhopalocarpa* is in many respects similar to *B. eminii*, *B. mannii*, *B. polygonoides*, and other cultivated species of the section Tetraphila. In their natural habitat these species usually grow on trees.

They have trailing or creeping stems with long internodes which may root at the nodes. In *B. rhopalocarpa* these stems are about 5 mm. thick and very dark brown. The petioles are short (1 cm.), the stipules long (4 cm.) and caducous.

The leaves are elliptic or lanceolate, acute, nearly symmetrical, up to 14 cm. long and 5 cm. broad on our plants, dull dark green, set with scales, especially when young (use magnifying glass).

The flowers are white with four tepals, two broad and two narrow, the male and female flowers in separate inflorescences, the male ones two to three together on a short peduncle, the female flowers solitary.

The fruits are 3 cm. long and 1 cm. broad, elliptic or club-shaped (*rhopalocarpa* means “club-fruited”) with four to seven longitudinal ribs. When ripe, the green fruit turns yellowish and then suddenly opens with four flaps. Here comes the surprise: the inside of these flaps is bright red with a yellow midrib, contrasting with the exposed placenta which is yellow dotted with the small brown seeds.

It seems reasonable to suppose that these contrasting colors attract animals which then play a role in dispersing the seed. Dr. De Wilde told me these begonias grow as high as 20 to 30 meters (60-100 ft.) up in the trees, and it is hard to see what other agents than birds could have brought them there.

During the year that we have been growing *B. rhopalocarpa* the plants have not lost a single leaf. In this respect, it compares favorably with related species like *B. ebolowensis* and *B. cavallyensis*, which tend to go dormant from time to time and then shed most or all of their leaves.

Its main attraction, however, is the fruit. To obtain fruits the flowers have to be pollinated by hand, but this is not difficult. The male flowers should

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Dr. Jan Doorenbos, widely recognized *Begonia* authority, is professor of horticulture at Agricultural University, P.O. Box 30, 6700 AA, Wageningen, The Netherlands.

be harvested as soon as they drop off; at that moment, the anthers are open and the pollen can easily be brought on the stigmas of the female flowers. These have to be pollinated when young, preferably as soon as the flowers open. The fruits will take about three months to ripen.

Unfortunately, the spectacular beauty of the open fruit is short-lived as the yellow placenta collapses after only one day. The red star of the fruit wall survives much longer.

A few additional remarks for those who are interested in the classification and identification of *Begonia*:

In the same paper in which Warburg described *B. rhopalocarpa* he also proposed a number of new sections of the genus *Begonia* to accommodate African species. *B. rhopalocarpa* was put into Squamibegonia, a section of epiphytic species characterized by broad, palmately nerved, very asymmetrical leaves, bisexual inflorescences enveloped by two large persistent bracts, flowers with four tepals, and indehiscent, berry-like fruits.

As Warburg himself notes, none of these characters fits *B. rhopalocarpa*; he wrote that it is extraordinarily different ("ausserordentlich verschieden") from the other species of Squamibegonia. Why he nevertheless put it into this section remains a mystery.

It was an unfortunate decision. As a consequence, when one tries to identify our begonia with the key in Hutchinson and Dalziel's *Flora of West Tropical Africa*, or with the key in Wilczek's monograph of the Begoniaceae in the *Flore du Congo*, the only way to arrive at *B. rhopalocarpa* is to accept that the inflorescence is enveloped by persistent bracts, which is not the case.

Recently Dr. De Wilde (*Acta Botanica Neerlandica* 28, 1979, page 357-374) showed that *B. rhopalocarpa* is closely related to a species cultivated as *B. mauricei* Ziesenhenné, which should be called by its older (and therefore legitimate) name *B. loranthoides* Hook.f. from Sao Tomé and Príncipe.

The plants we grow have long-stemmed ovate leaves, up to 15 cm. (6 in.) long and 10-11 cm. (4 in.) broad, always more or less folded or twisted, flowers similar to those of *B. rhopalocarpa* but twice as large, spindle-shaped ovaries and fruits which open with flaps which are green on the inside.

Both species are variable. According to Dr. De Wilde, who saw 12 specimens of *B. loranthoides* and 33 of *B. rhopalocarpa*, there is insufficient reason to separate the two, and he reduced the latter species to a subspecies of the former.

As long as we grow only the present material, I prefer not to follow his example in order to keep the horticultural nomenclature as simple as possible. If in the future an intermediate form should be introduced, however, we might have to revise the present nomenclature.

## SANTA BARBARA BRANCH SHOW

Santa Barbara Branch's  
Memorable *Begonia* show  
and plant sale

Sat., May 24 (1-9) and  
Sun., May 25 (10-4)

Goleta Valley Community Center  
(main auditorium)  
5689 Hollister Ave., Goleta, Calif.

## Easy to grow: shrub-like *B.* 'Thurstonii'

*Elda Haring*

*B.* 'Thurstonii' is a rather elegant begonia, yet rarely seen in collections these days. It is not a new introduction but an old variety—a cross of *B. metallica* and *B. sanguinea* introduced in 1887 by its originator and named for him.

It is described in *The Thompson Begonia Guide* as shrub-like, bare-leaved, medium-leaved. The leaves are ovate, coming to a tip. They are a bright, shiny, dark green, the underside of the leaves red, and with red stems.

The flowers are rose pink with red hairs on the outer petals and they appear in summer. However, I have always found it to be a shy bloomer.

I have heard this begonia called "beefsteak begonia," "red-leaved begonia," *B. metallica*, and have even seen it described in catalogs of house plants as "rex" begonia.

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*Elda Haring wrote this story despite excruciating pain following oral surgery. Get well cards can be sent to her at P.O. Box 236, Flat Rock, NC 28731.*

*B.* 'Thurstonii' first came to my attention many years ago in flower-arranging classes of garden club workshops. The sturdy stems, each with several beautiful leaves, were favorites for use in massed arrangements and often rooted in the water before the arrangements were discarded.

The foliage of *B.* 'Thurstonii' becomes deeper, almost entirely red, in the rather subdued light of a north window, under fluorescent lights or in a shaded greenhouse. In bright light the leaves are bronzy green in color and the red beneath is less intense.

My plant has survived through the years although it has often been much neglected. It has been overwatered, left to get too dry, cut down innumerable times when it becomes too large for the space I have, yet it still persists.

It suffers no damage either in summer heat or in winter cold in the greenhouse. Actually this begonia is so rugged that if cut back to the pot level it will soon put up new shoots and leaves.

Stems should always be rigid and

**Please turn to page 111**

Photo/Walter Haring

An old-timer,  
*B.* 'Thurstonii'



# Borneo's large-flowered *B. burbidgei*

*J. Doorenbos*

Photo/Reyer Jansen

In 1977 Dr. Robert C. Dunnell from Seattle, Wash., sent me *Begonia* seed collected on Mt. Kinabalu in Sabah (northeast Borneo) by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Doleschy, who described the species as quite large with conspicuous white flowers, growing in highly acid soil (approximately pH 4.0) at an elevation of 8,330 ft. (2,500 m.).

The seed (also offered by the ABS Seed Fund in June 1977) germinated rapidly but the seedlings proved to be quite difficult to grow. Adjustment of the pH to 4.0 did not improve their growth. We could get them through winter only with the help of supplementary light.

When the plants grew larger they became less particular, and they survived the second winter without additional light. Now in their third year, they are about 1 foot high, which must be considerably less than their usual height. Surprisingly, they already began to flower when only 6 inches high.

Identification was not difficult. Ridley in his paper on begonias of Borneo (1906) mentions four species from Mt. Kinabalu, one of which, *Begonia burbidgei* Stapf, is described as follows: "A tall branched plant 6 to 8 feet tall with ovate acuminate oblique leaves, glabrous, a short terminal panicle of large white flowers 1½ inch across, with large persistent greenish white bracts." Ridley adds: "The biggest flowered *Begonia* I have seen from Borneo."



*B. burbidgei*

This fits in very well with our plants, except that these are not completely glabrous; young stems and petioles bear short, appressed hairs. The leaves are a uniform yellowish or bronze green on the upper side; at the back they are lighter with prominent red veins.

The inflorescence is essentially similar to that of *Begonia* species ex Kew (see *The Begonian* of 1976, page 246), but in the latter species the male flowers are very much smaller and more numerous. Moreover, they have only two tepals, whereas in *B. burbidgei* there are four. In both species, the female flowers have five tepals.

According to Ridley, *B. burbidgei* belongs to the section *Bracteibegonia*, which differs from the section *Petermannia*, to which *B.* species ex Kew belongs, by having four rather than

**Please turn to page 112**

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*Dr. Jan Doorenbos is professor of horticulture at Agricultural University, P.O. Box 30, 6700 AA, Wageningen, The Netherlands.*

## Begonia gallery: *B. aconitifolia*



Photo/Alfred D. Robinson Collection

Photograph by Alfred D. Robinson, Point Loma, Calif., dates from 1920s and appears to be *B. aconitifolia*. As *B. faureana*, an early synonym for *B. aconitifolia*, he listed it in the catalog of his Rosecroft Begonia Gardens more than 50 years ago. *The Begonian* archive contains approximately 60 negatives taken by Robinson, most of them measuring 5 by 7 inches. Many are on highly flammable nitrate film which deteriorates with age, although this one was shot with Kodak safety film. Contact prints recently were made from the negatives as a permanent record of Robinson's work. He died in 1942.

# AT LAST, IT HAS HAPPENED!

We are very happy to report TIMES BOOKS will be publishing our book entitled *BEGONIAS*. The publication date is planned for Christmas 1980. *BEGONIAS* will be available in bookstores and we will be selling it by mail order.



The present plans for *BEGONIAS* include:

Selling price \$35.00

350 pages

665 or more photos and line drawings; many photos in color  
Information included:

History

Horticultural classification

Information on more than 2,000 species and cultivars  
of *Begonia*

General culture described in detail:

Light, temperature, humidity, potting, containers,  
potting mixes, staking, pinching and pruning,  
watering, spraying, fertilizing, propagation, hybridi-  
zation, hanging baskets, contained atmospheres

Culture explained by groups:

Cane-like, shrub-like, thick-stemmed, Semperflor-  
ens, rhizomatous, Rex Cultorum, tuberous,  
trailing-scandent

Begonias in all growing environments:

Window gardening, fluorescent light gardening, the  
outdoor garden, greenhouse growing

Extensive glossary and bibliography

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We will appreciate your support and interest.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank all our *Begonia* friends for the thousands of letters and phone calls filled with encouraging words; for without these, we would not have had the courage to continue our efforts for the past 5 years to get this book published. Our sincere thanks and appreciation!

*Ed and Millie Thompson*

Jan Clark

Every begonia grower has faced the frustration and challenge of identifying unlabelled begonias and of learning the requirements of new plants.

Diane Fries, California, suggests reading back issues of *The Begonian*, because there might be articles on certain begonias you have recently acquired and know little about.

David Atkinson, Arkansas, enthusiastically endorses borrowing books from the ABS Library. He has borrowed several, and found them enjoyable and helpful.

Arline Peck, Rhode Island, a grower with considerable experience, comments:

"Sometimes when a plant isn't doing well at its location, I change it. When I grow from seed, I put seedlings in different places to see about their likes and dislikes."

When trying to compare an unknown begonia with pictures, Lynda Goldsmith, Vermont, reminds us begonias can vary greatly in appearance, depending on growing conditions. She has been trying to identify an unknown cane that might be *B. compta* or one of its hybrids.

She comments: "It's hard to tell, because any begonia takes on a range of colors and habits depending on location and other conditions. One specimen of this unknown plant was growing in a basket indoors all sum-

mer and looks like *B. compta*; the tall one that I put outside looks like *B. 'Grey Feather'*. Not only did it take on deeper color with the white veins more prominent, but the leaves became more crinkly."

### Setting up for propagation

For experienced growers who propagate on a large scale, Paul Lowe, Florida, describes his successful set-up:

"In spite of the hot, humid weather this summer, I have had good luck in propagating begonias due to the way I constructed my shade house. I covered the framework with saran shade cloth to within two feet of the ground, leaving the sides open for circulation.

"I built my propagating bench of 2-by-4s eight feet long and 26" wide with a bottom of reinforced metal lath. Over the lath I placed approximately 2 inches of sphagnum moss firmly pressed down. (I soaked this overnight so it would pack better.)

"On top of the moss, I put 2 inches of my potting mix soaked with phaltan to prevent soil-borne fungus. I use a mixture of one part peat moss and one part perlite with a sprinkling of dolomite to keep it from being too acid. This mixture is soaked overnight before using. This is essential, as the peat is hard to wet."

Arlene Waynick, South Carolina, offers some propagating tips for novice growers:

"If you enclose your propagating box in a plastic bag, make sure the leaves never touch the bag." She also reminds beginners to insert leaf wedges into the medium with the cut side down.

### Using begonias in the home

While begonias grace greenhouses,

---

Jan Clark is round robin reporter.

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.

shade houses and outdoor gardens in the warm parts of the country, northern growers welcome these plants into their homes in many ways.

Olga Elide, Minnesota, following a family tradition, decorates three large windows in her dining room with begonias on tiered stands.

Marie Treat, Pennsylvania, has a large basement and spreads her begonias all over it under lights.

Jo Hordan, Mississippi, uses her lights mainly as a "nursery zone" and rotates her plants to windowsills for show.

Mildred Swyka, Pennsylvania, has many windows filled with begonias. She experiments to find the best location for each.

Eleva Buesink, New York, maintains a permanent outdoor bed of *B. grandis* ssp. *evansiana*, which she mulches against winter weather.

Betty Hendrickson, Missouri, grows it next to the foundation on the east side of her home, where it provides a marvelous display from late summer until frost. She enthusiastically recommends it as "an extremely desirable hardy plant for the perennial garden."

### Cuttings, small plants

Thelma Adair, Minnesota, has had good results in sending small plants by putting them bare root with a little damp sphagnum moss around the roots. She places them in a baggie, stuffs one or two in a roll from toilet paper, and sends them in a small box.

Bill Reed, Washington, reports that, when rooting in water, he keeps the water shallow so there will be greater oxygen exchange near the developing roots.

Priscilla Beck, Connecticut, says that when she has to leave plants in care of a babysitter, she puts cuttings in a

clear sweater box or covered fish tank, so they don't have to be watered until she gets back.

Mary Harbaugh, Wisconsin, reports more success in growing *B. foliosa* in terrariums than in open pots. She suggests growers try growing small-leaved begonias in terrariums. She handles *B. exotica*, whose height often causes growers headaches as it pops the tops off ever-larger terrariums, by laying it on its side in a fish tank. Leaves grow up from all along the stems.

Bob and Nancy Haussler, California, find that *B. herbacea* does best in a light mix of coarse perlite, vermiculite, and long-grained sphagnum moss in addition to their normal potting soil ingredients. They grow it in a bubble in their greenhouse.

Mae Blanton, Texas, added orchid bark to her mix, and found that her plants didn't stay wet too long in stressful summer heat.

June Ponis, Washington, adds Osmocote 14-14-14 to her mix at potting time, for this saves time and she does not have to worry about constant feeding.

Arline Peck, Rhode Island, suggests fern growers sprinkle dried and broken egg shells over the soil of calcium-loving maidenheads.

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

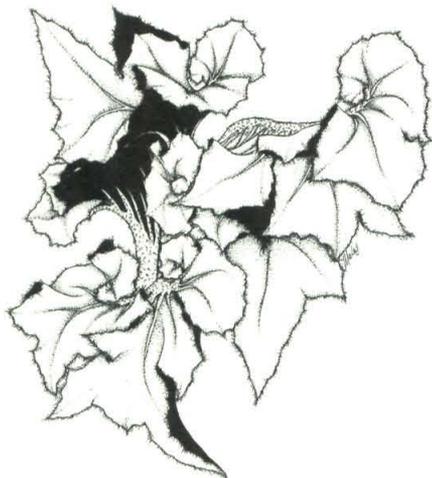
*In the citations of cultivar parents, the female (seed) parent is listed first.*

## **Begonia 'Sweet Magic'**

No. 746—*Begonia* 'Bokit' x *megaphylla* 'Sweet Magic'

Rhizomatous with distinctive foliage. Double-spiraled, deeply rippled, bronze-green leaves with golden highlights are accented by a mahogany-red undersurface and 10 veins outlined in cream with short red dashes. The 12" x 7" leaves are broadly ovate with long-acuminate tip; lobed, dentate, and ciliate margin; crisp texture and smooth, satiny surface. Petioles are 1/2" thick, yellow-green with red markings and white hairs. Stipules are sparsely hairy, buff-green with prominent red midrib ending in a long bristle. Sweet-

Illustration/Pat Maley



**B. 'Sweet Magic'**

*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.*

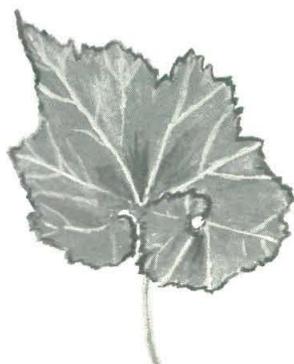
citrus-scented 3/4" flowers are white tinged with pink, have 2 male and 2 female tepals, and are arranged dichotomously on a 14"-18" peduncle; nearly everblooming. Stunning color effect, leaf shape, and fragrance distinguish this cultivar. Originated in 1976 by Leslie Woodriff, 1100 Griffith Road, McKinleyville, CA 95521; first bloomed in 1977; first distributed in 1976; first published in *San Miguel Beacon* (newsletter of San Miguel branch, American Begonia Society), May 1979. Also published in *Light Garden*, Vol. XVI No. 6, November-December 1979. Tested by Thelma O'Reilly. Registered Sept. 7, 1979.

## **Begonia 'Dryad'**

No. 747—*Begonia dregei* x 'Bokit' 'Dryad'

Shrublike with glabrous leaves and semi-erect 10-12" stems. Muted, medium-green leaves are flushed with bronze, brown, and red; delicate tiger-striped markings on the undersurface sometimes reflect through to the upper side. Measuring 1 1/2" x 2 1/2"-3 1/2", the leaves are ovate with a single spiral; a lobed, doubly serrate margin; a thin, soft texture with smooth satiny surface; and 7 veins. Petioles are 2"-2 1/2", glabrous, channeled, and buff-green with currant-red lenticels. Stipules are 1/2", buff-green, recurved, persistent. Flowers are pink, 3/4", with 2 male and 4 female tepals, and are borne in a

Illustration/Thelma O'Reilly



**B. 'Dryad'**

few-flowered cyme on an 8"-12" peduncle, blooming sparsely in the fall. Originated in 1976 by Leslie Woodriff (address above); first bloomed in 1977; first distributed in 1976. Tested by Thelma O'Reilly. Registered Sept. 7, 1979.

Illustration/Thelma O'Reilly



### **B. 'Silhouette'**

#### **Begonia 'Silhouette'**

No. 748—*Begonia* unknown x unknown 'Silhouette'

Rhizomatous with distinctive foliage. Asymmetrical 2½"-3" x 2" leaves with cordate base are grass green with a distinct brownish-red pattern on the upper surface and identical pattern in currant red on the undersurface. They are lobed, serrate, and ciliate, with crisp texture and smooth, velvety surface and 6 veins. Petioles are sparsely hairy and cream colored with bright red dashes. Stipules are ½", cream colored, papery. Flowers are white flushed pink, ¼", with 2 male and 2 female tepals, and are borne in a cyme on 4"-6" peduncles, blooming in early spring. The perfect reflection of the star pattern on both leaf surfaces is attractive and different. Originated in 1977 by Leslie Woodriff (address above); first bloomed in 1978. Tested by Thelma O'Reilly. Registered Sept. 7, 1979.

#### **Begonia (Collage grex) 'Iron Weave'**

No. 749—*Begonia* 'Cinco de Mayo' x 'Cachuma' (Collage g.) 'Iron Weave'

Rhizomatous. Star-shaped 6" x 8" leaves are bright green with rusty markings, cleft and serrate margin, smooth surface, and 7 veins; petioles 12"; stipules ½" x ½". Originated in 1978 by Bob Cole, 18007 Topham Street, Reseda, CA 91335; no bloom to date; first distributed in 1979. Registered Sept. 8, 1979.

#### **Begonia 'China Curl'**

No. 750—*Begonia versicolor* x *cathayana* X unknown rex cultivar 'China Curl'

Rex Cultorum group with distinctive, exotic foliage. Double-spiraled 8" x 7" leaves have a purple-black edge and center with a silver band in the middle, irregular margin, pebbled surface, and 7 veins; petioles and stipules light red. Flowers are light pink, 1¼", with 4 male tepals and 6" peduncle, blooming year-round. This tall cultivar shows characteristics of its distinctive parentage. Originated in 1978 by Leslie Woodriff (address above); first bloomed in 1978; first distributed in 1979. Registered Sept. 8, 1979.

### **More B. 'Thurstonii'**

Continued from page 104

leaves crisp. If they are at all limp and drooping, the plant has not had sufficient water for good growth.

B. 'Thurstonii' grows easily from stem cuttings. For compact plants, take shoots about 5 inches long and put several stems together in a 3- or 4-inch pot of propagating mix with the leaves pointing outward. Pinch out the top new leaf on each stem as it unfurls. When well-rooted, feed regularly until the pot is full of roots, at which time it is important to transplant to the next size pot as needed.

When it has become nicely branched, allow it to grow at will and feed twice monthly when in active growth.

To keep my plant small enough for the space I have, every year in spring I cut off half the rootball and give it a layer of fresh soil in the bottom, settling the plant a little lower than it had been, give it a top dressing of fresh potting mix, and, at the same time, cut back the stems by about three inches.

This provides me with a compact plant with smaller leaves suitable for growing in the window or under fluorescent lights.

## GROWING FROM SEED / *Scarcity of rare seed*

Joy Porter

*We wish for this column to be an aid for seed-growers in seedling identification, and an encouragement for others to join the ranks of seed-growers. For this to happen, we need your letters and comments.*

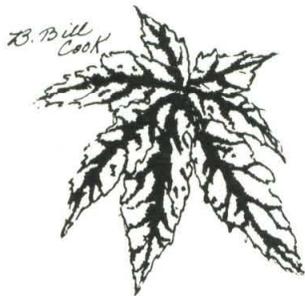
As your new Seed Fund director, I will do my best to give you seed listings that will appeal to old and new members alike and be as prompt, efficient, and friendly as former director Linda Miller.

The Seed Fund depends on seed donations, but we will also be happy to trade.

*Joy Porter, new director of the Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund, is an avid seed grower herself. Write to her at 9 Bayberry Lane, Framingham, MA 01701.*

### **NEW 1980 CATALOG** of the Cole Begonia Collection

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Seed of rare begonias is scarce for various reasons. In cultivation, some bloom sparsely, while some, like *B. mannii*, can bloom for months—even years—without producing a male flower with which to pollinate the female flowers.

Another problem occurs when all male blossoms drop before females have developed. To remedy this situation, let males air-dry for 24 hours and place in an airtight container in the refrigerator. If not exposed to moisture, the pollen should remain active up to four months.

The moisture in terrarium-grown plants can cause seed pods to rot before ripening. This may be avoided by admitting extra air temporarily.

The Seed Fund is very grateful to its many contributors. We hope more will be inspired to try the fascinating pollination game and share the seeds with the Seed Fund.

### **More *B. burbidgei***

*Continued from page 105*

two male tepals and by the presence of conspicuous bracts in the inflorescence. It seems to me, however, that it is preferable to combine these two sections to one section *Petermannia*, as there are also species with conspicuous bracts but two male tepals, or with small bracts but four male tepals.

*Begonia burbidgei* would be a nice plant for our collections if we could make it grow. As things now stand, however, it will probably share the fate of other species for which the right conditions could not be found in time. It seemed worthwhile to document it in this short note before it disappears from cultivation altogether.

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## SEED FUND/ *B. rhopalocarpa*: this month's cover plant

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Joy Porter, director, Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund

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### SPECIES

- AP 1 — *B. rhopalocarpa*: New to cultivation. Somewhat similar to *B. mannii* but with larger, white flowers and club-shaped fruits. See cover. . . . . per pkt 1.00
- AP 2 — Species from Hungarian Botanical Gardens. White, woolly leaves and stems; red hairs on backs of petals. In full sun, whole plant looks rosy. Not *B. subvillosa*, *B. leptotricha*, or *B. mollicaulis*. . . . . per pkt 1.00
- AP 3 — *B. patula*: Lovely small shrub; pink flowers. Discovered in Brazil in 1819. Discovered and named 37 more times in the following 150 years. See pictures, April 1977 *Begonian*. . . . . per pkt 1.00
- AP 4 — *B. scharffiana*: Brazil, 1925. Soft-hairy green leaves with red reverse. Red hairs on ivory flowers late summer, early fall. Makes a spectacular basket. . . . . per pkt 1.00
- AP 5 — *B. foliosa* var. *miniata*: 4-5 foot shrub with small leaves and small orange-red fuchsia-like flowers. . . . . per pkt 1.00
- AP 6 — *B. mannii*: West Africa, 1864. 2-3 foot scandent stems, oval leaves, small rose-to-red flowers attached close to stem. Cylindrical fruits red, opening lengthwise when ripe. . . . . 10 seeds per pkt 1.00
- AP 7 — *B. sharpeana*: Rhizomatous from New Guinea with large round, bronze leaves with flowers bright red on outside, white inside. Young seedlings need protection. Also called "the Omati begonia" (see *The Begonian*, April 1976, page 91, and August 1978, page 199). . . . . per pkt 1.00
- AP 8 — Terrarium mix containing *B. versicolor*, *B. rajah*, *B. masoniana*. Too few to offer separately, these are grouped together because they all can take up to three months to germinate. Well worth the wait. . . per pkt 1.00

### HYBRIDS

- AP 9 — Small rhizomatous hybrid mix containing as parents *B.* 'Heather Ann', *B.* 'Helene Jaros', *B.* 'Gaystar', *B.* 'Cleopatra', *B.* 'Black Beauty', *B.* 'Beatrice Haddrell'. Hybrids do not come true from seed, so please label seedlings: *B.* "rhizomatous mix." . . . . . 3 pkts 2.00
- AP 10 — *B.* 'Cubinfo': *B. cubincola* x *B. foliosa*. Profuse-blooming shrub with small, fleshy, bright green leaves, pink petioles and medium large white flowers. . . . . 3 pkts 2.00
- AP 11 — *B. metallica* x *B. tomentosa*. . . . . 3 pkts 2.00
- AP 12 — *B. rex* cultivars. . . . . 3 pkts 2.00
- AP 13 — Hybrid semperflorens: very special. Green-leaved, 10-12 inch plants with 2-inch ruffled pink flowers. . . . . 3 pkts 2.00
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## ABS Convention '80

### Long Beach, Calif.—Sept. 4-7

Jean R. Natter, M.D., of Long Beach, Calif. — an ABS member, president of American Fuchsia Society, and a director of National Fuchsia Society — will be chairman of the ABS convention and show in Long Beach Sept. 4-7.

ABS directors on March 17 ratified the appointment by President Nathan Randall and heard a report on early planning for the show, "Seaside Rendezvous."

Other convention appointments include Phyllis Bates, secretary-treasurer; Thelma O'Reilly, seminar director; Dennis Maley, show set-up; Margaret Lee, judging director, and Charles Richardson, sale plant purchase coordinator.

Keith Mautino, national director of Santa Barbara branch, was appointed coordinator of branch donations for the convention plant sale. He asked each branch to pledge a number of plants now by letter to him at 420 Calle Palo Colorado, Santa Barbara, CA 93105.

Branch members will have to propagate plants now to have them big enough for sale at the convention. Keith said he will send instructions on plant packing to any branch requesting them.

The San Miguel branch has agreed to solicit branch donations of show trophies. The Alfred D. Robinson branch, meanwhile, will distribute "donation tickets."

Pat Maley, San Miguel branch president, said trophies will be needed for each show division. This will be the second year national show trophies are donated.

"Response to last year's request was excellent," Pat said, "and we hope this year will duplicate that."

The name of a branch or a person the donor wishes to honor can be engraved on a trophy. A division trophy will cost between \$25 and \$50. Smaller donations to the trophy fund will also help, Pat said.

Checks should be payable to "1980 ABS Show Fund" and sent to Pat at 1471 E. Madison, El Cajon, CA 92021.

In related action, directors voted 11-6 to permit judges to register and classify plant entries in shows at which they judge. The ABS judging department asked for the authorization because of a shortage of workers with classification expertise.

## **Southwest program shapes up**

Four seminars led by horticultural authorities are on the preliminary program for the Southwest Begonia Growers Get-Together April 18-20 in Houston.

Dr. Fred A. Barkley, botany professor emeritus and begonia researcher, and Winnie Woodriff, daughter of the founders of Woodriff's Fairyland Begonia Garden, will speak in Friday afternoon sessions.

On Saturday, seminar leaders will be Dr. Charles Cole of Texas A&M University and Joy Logee Martin, proprietor of Logee's Greenhouses, Connecticut specialists in begonias.

Registration and accommodations information for the Get-Together is available from chairman Selma McGough, 1008 Mitchell Rd., Houston, TX 77037.

## **Scott Hoover update**

Plant explorer Scott Hoover's current expedition to South America has resulted already in shipment of seeds to ABS, including some never before in cultivation. Several are horned-fruit species from Colombia and Venezuela.

In Venezuela Scott found *B. formosissima*, a shrub-type with flame red flowers, which he described in a letter as the "most beautiful begonia I've seen."

Seeds are being sent to the research department, Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund, and individuals who made financial contributions toward the trip.

## **Santa Barbara's birthday**

The Santa Barbara Branch will celebrate its 40th anniversary on Memorial Day weekend, May 24-25, with a plant show and sale plus a birthday dinner.

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a combination begonia show, plant sale, and educational exhibit—will take place at Goleta Valley Community Center, 5689 Hollister Ave., in the Santa Barbara suburb of Goleta. Hours are 1 to 9 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday.

On Sunday night, the branch will have its annual "shared dinner."

### A change on new introductions

The ABS judging department has announced the following change in show rules on new introductions at national shows:

Registration of new cultivars is no longer a mandatory requirement prior to entry into the new introduction divisions at an ABS national show.

It is hoped that this change in policy will help reduce the overload of paperwork for the nomenclature department prior to a national show.

Also, we wish to maintain the high standards of distinctiveness expected of a plant that is an ABS registered hybrid. The winner of a "best new introduction" award would certainly be distinctive enough to warrant registration, and the judging department recommends the hybridizer register it if it is not already registered.

—Pat Maley

### About cultural certificates

An ABS cultural award is the highest award a begonia can receive, ranking above blue ribbons or trophies. To win a division trophy a plant must score 85 points or more. To receive a cultural award, a plant must receive a minimum of 90 points.

Ten cultural certificates are available for any one show, and may be awarded to any single specimen plant in a basic begonia division such as: Cane-like, Shrub-like, Thick-stem, *Semperflorens*, Rhizo-

matous, Rex, Semituberous/Tuberous, Tuberhybrida, Trailing-scandent, Species, Contained Atmosphere, Hanging Basket/Wall Pocket, or 25-Year or Older Cultivar.

These cultural certificates are available for national, regional, and branch shows.

For these certificates to be awarded, *all* judges on teams awarding certificates *must* be ABS accredited judges. It is recommended that a special team of ABS accredited judges be assigned the task of judging all possible cultural award winners after the regular judging is completed.

To obtain ABS cultural certificates for a show, organizers must first submit a list of the ABS judges who will award these certificates to the ABS judging department. No certificates will be allotted without this list being received. A record containing the name of the plant, name of exhibitor, and points scored for each certificate awarded must be submitted promptly to the judging department. Any certificates not awarded must be returned.

To obtain ABS cultural certificates for a show, contact Pat Maley, Judging Co-Chairman, 1471 E. Madison, El Cajon, CA 92021.

—Pat Maley

### It's award nomination time

An important aspect of the annual ABS convention coming up Sept. 4-7 is presentation of ABS awards. This is what the American Begonia Society is all about.

Growing begonias is, of course, the common interest that binds all the members of the society together. But the ABS awards are the way the society says "thank you" to its members.

When you stop to think that every job and office in the organization is filled by volunteers, you get an idea just how big those "thank-yous" can be.

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There are three awards.

The Eva Kenworthy Gray award is presented to a person who has contributed literary efforts which have aided members in their study and knowledge of begonias. It may also be given to someone who has been outstanding in his or her promotion of interest in the culture of begonias. The candidate need not be an ABS member.

The Herbert P. Dyckman service award is presented to a member who has rendered long service to the society or a phase of it which has been outstanding—beyond the normal duties of officer or member.

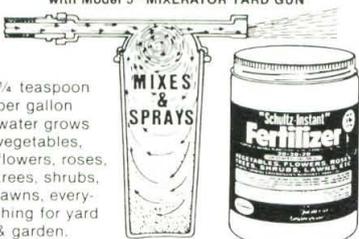
The Alfred D. Robinson Medal of Honor is presented to an outstanding begonia cultivar. The following rules govern this award: 1. All begonia nominees must have been registered with the ABS. 2. The originator of the begonia nominee must be a member of the society. 3. The begonia nominee must have been released to the public for at least 5 years and not more than 10.

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Any member may nominate a candidate for each of these awards. The more, the merrier. Actually, when you exercise your right of nomination, you are bringing nominees to the attention of awards committee members, who don't necessarily keep such interesting information to themselves.

Your candidate may not win, but it's like the young lady said when she was asked to dance: "No, thanks," she said, patting her cast, "but it's nice to be asked."

When you do nominate someone for an award, make sure the person fits the criteria for that award. Exceptional service is not necessarily built on friendship.

It naturally follows that when you send me your nominations, you include reasons for your selection. We need to know what makes an individual worthy of consideration. To this end, I'll give you an idea of what the society is looking for by listing the recipients of the awards over the last few years.

Last year, for instance, only *one* award was bestowed. Margaret Taylor received the Dyckman award. No other individual received a majority of the votes cast.

#### *Eva Kenworthy Gray award*

1955, Bessie Buxton; '56, Charlotte Hoak; '57, Connie Bower; '58 Alice Clark; '59, Rudolf Ziesenhenn; '60, Louise Schwertfeger; '61, Helen Krauss; '62, Bert Slatter; '62, Bernice Brilmayer; '63, Dr. Clyde Drummond; '65, Mary Gillingwaters; '66, May Taft Drew; '67, Sylvia Leatherman; '68, Drs. Lyman Smith & Bernice G. Schubert; '69, Harry Butterfield; '70, Ruth Pease; '72, Elda Haring; '73, Dr. Fred Barkley; '74, Carrie Karegean-

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nes; '75, Dr. Jan Doorenbos; '76, Alva Graham; '77, Mildred & Ed Thompson; '78, Jack Golding.

*Herbert P. Dyckman award*

1968, Florence Gee & Herb Warrick; '69, Alva Graham & Edna Korts; '72, Everett Wright; '73, Walter Barnett; '74, Hazel Snodgrass; '75, Mae Blanton; '76, Gordon Lepisto; '77, Gene Daniels; '78, Margaret & Paul Lee; '79, Margaret Taylor.

*Alfred D. Robinson medal*

1949, B. 'Silver Star', B. 'Freddie', B. 'Golden West'; '50, B. 'Ricky Minter'; '51, B. 'Glendale', B. 'Virbob'; '54, B. 'Orange Rubra'; '57, B. 'Verde Grande'; '61, B. 'Kumwha'; '64, B. 'Madame Queen'; '66, B. 'Sophie Cecile'; '68, B. 'Purple Petticoats'; '69, B. 'Lady Frances Jean'; '72, B. 'Eunice Grey'; '73, B. 'Paul-bee'; '77, B. 'Universe'; '78, B. 'Bowtique'.

Send nominations to: Awards Chairman Kit Jeans, Rt. 1, Box 319, New Johnsonville, TN 37134.

—Kit Jeans



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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.

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# ASSOCIATED GROUPS/ *Visitors always welcome*

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2nd Tuesday, 10:30 a.m.  
Homes of members  
Mrs. Peter P. Lee, Pres.  
1852 31st St., San Diego, CA  
92102

Margaret Lee, Natl. Dir.

## BUXTON BRANCH

3rd Saturday, Mass. Bay  
Community College,  
50 Oakland St., Wellesley, Mass.  
Percy Ehrlich, Pres.  
66 Fessenden St., Newtonville,  
MA 02160

Anthony P. Croce, Natl. Dir.

## CENTRAL SAN JOAQUIN BRANCH

William Ireton, Pres.  
1702 Camino Primavera,  
Bakersfield, CA 93306  
William Ireton, Natl. Dir.

## CHEEKWOOD BRANCH

Homes of members  
Pam Braun, Pres.  
Rt. 6, Pinewood Rd.,  
Franklin, TN 37064

## CONNECTICUT BRANCH

4th Monday, Homes of members  
Arlene Peck, Pres.  
Earle Peak Rd., Pascoag, RI  
02859

Priscilla Beck, Natl. Dir.

## DENTON BRANCH

4th Wednesday, 10 a.m.  
Homes of members  
Mae Blanton, Pres.  
118 Wildoak Dr., Lake  
Dallas, TX 75065

Glennis Crouch, Natl. Dir.

## DESERT BEGONIA BRANCH

Barbara Rogers, Pres.  
8508 Shasta Dr., Tucson, AZ  
85730

Barbara Rogers, Natl. Dir.

## EAST BAY BRANCH

3rd Thursday, 7:45 p.m.  
Northbrea Community Church,  
Berkeley, Calif.  
Susan Patrick, Pres.  
27406 Grand View Ave.,  
Hayward, CA 94542

Glen Maynard, Natl. Dir.

## EASTERN NEW YORK BRANCH

Betty Pullar, Pres.  
411 New Karner Rd., Albany, NY  
12205

Betty Pullar, Natl. Dir.

## EASTSIDE BEGONIA BRANCH

4th Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.  
590 116th Avenue N.E.,  
Bellevue, Wash.  
Dale Greer, Pres.  
1704 212th Ave. S.E., Issaquah,  
WA 98027

Shelton Fisher, Natl. Dir.

## EDNA STEWART PITTSBURGH BRANCH

3rd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.  
Pittsburgh Civic  
Garden Center  
Suzanne Colaizzi, Pres.  
115 Lillian Rd., Pittsburgh,  
PA 15237

Frank Kerin, Natl. Dir.

## ELSA FORT BRANCH

Helen Green, Pres.  
2100 Hunter St., Cinnaminson,  
NJ 08077

Gladys Cooper, Natl. Dir.

## FRED A. BARKLEY BRANCH

1st Sunday, Homes of members  
Dr. Fred A. Barkley, Pres.  
104 E. Highland,  
Tecumseh, OK 73475  
Dr. Jeffrey Black, Natl. Dir.

## GARDEN GROVE BRANCH

3rd Thursday, 7:30 p.m., New

*This directory appears quarterly. If your branch listing is incomplete or inaccurate, please notify the secretary immediately and send a copy of your letter to the editors.*

Community Meeting Center  
11300 Stanford, Garden Grove,  
CA 92643

Gil Estrada, Pres.  
7914 Springer, Downey, CA  
90242

George Allison, Natl. Dir.

## GLENDALE BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 8:00 p.m.  
Glendale Federal S & L,  
401 N. Brand, Glendale, Calif.  
Darlene Fuentes, Pres.  
2313 Hollister Ter., Glendale,  
CA 91206

Gladys Hatteberg, Natl. Dir.

## GREATER CHICAGO AREA BRANCH

4th Sunday, except Dec., 2 p.m.  
Oak Park Conservatory  
561 Garfield, Oak Park, Ill.  
Dan Haseltine, Pres.  
6950 W. Nelson St., Chicago,  
IL 60634

Paul Thomas, Natl. Dir.

## GREATER CINCINNATI BRANCH

Verda Stull, Pres.  
5 Burnham St., Cincinnati, OH  
45218

Erich Steiniger, Natl. Dir.

## GREATER ROCHESTER BRANCH

3rd Sunday, Homes of members  
Betty Fennell, Pres.  
1054 Shoemaker Rd., Webster,  
NY 14580

Eileen Franklin, Natl. Dir.

## HAMPTON BRANCH

2nd Monday, 7:45 p.m., Parrish  
Memorial Hall, Southampton,  
NY  
Lou Padavan, Pres.  
Box 127, Remsenberg, NY  
11960

Mary Burnaford, Natl. Dir.

## HOUSTON TEXAS BRANCH

4th Monday, 1:00 p.m., Garden  
Center, 1500 Herman Dr.,  
Houston, Tex.  
Mrs. B. A. Russell, Pres.  
5926 Jackwood St., Houston  
TX 77074

Gwen Brunka, Natl. Dir.

## JACKSONVILLE BRANCH

3rd Monday, 7:30 p.m.  
Agricultural Ctr.,  
1010 North McDuff Ave.  
Ann M. Helton, Pres.  
334 Brunswick Rd.,  
Jacksonville, FL 32216

Mary Harrell, Natl. Dir.

## KNICKERBOCKER BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.  
Horticultural Society of New  
York  
128 West 58th St., New York,  
N.Y.

Marjorie L. Mack, Pres.  
75 Henry St., Brooklyn, NY  
11201

Ed Grashelm, Natl. Dir.

## LONG BEACH PARENT BRANCH

2nd Sunday, 1:30 p.m., Great  
Western S & L  
6330 E. Spring St., Long Beach  
Loretta Salzer, Pres.  
4702 Ocana Ave., Lakewood,  
CA 90713

Muriel Perz, Natl. Dir.

## LONG ISLAND BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.  
Planting Fields Arboretum  
Oyster Bay, Long Island, N.Y.  
Mrs. Martha Graham, Pres.  
55 Duryea Rd., Melville,  
NY 11746

Marie Donnelly, Natl. Dir.

## MIAMI BRANCH

4th Tuesday, 8:00 p.m.  
Simpson Memorial Garden  
Center  
55 South West 17th Road,  
Miami, Florida  
Charles J. Jaros, Pres.  
2621 N.W. 23rd Court, Miami,  
FL 33142

Charles J. Jaros, Natl. Dir.

## MINNESOTA BRANCH

2nd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.  
Homes of members  
Dorothea Lillestrand, Pres.  
2100 W. 108th, Bloomington,  
MN 55431

Pat Burdick, Natl. Dir.

## MONTEREY BAY AREA BRANCH

4th Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.  
New Monterey Neighborhood  
Center  
Lighthouse and Dickman Sts.,  
New Monterey, Calif.  
Florence Peckman, Pres.  
1249 Buena Vista Ave.,  
Pacific Grove, CA 93950

Leslie Hatfield, Natl. Dir.

## NORTH LONG BEACH BRANCH

2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.  
Mercury S&L  
4140 Long Beach Blvd., Long  
Beach

Edith Van Landingham, Pres.  
6925 Lime Ave., Long Beach,  
CA 90807

D. G. Sullinger, Natl. Dir.

## ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.  
Fullerton S & L, 2310 E. Lincoln  
Ave., Anaheim  
Cruz Sandoval, Pres.  
2221 Evelyn Dr., Anaheim, CA  
92805

Margaret Taylor, Natl. Dir.

## PALM BEACHES BRANCH

2nd Monday, Home S & L  
Opp. Palm Coast Plaza, W. Palm  
Beach, Fla.  
Mrs. Frances Hunter, Pres.  
201 Potter Rd., W. Palm Beach,  
FL 33405

Paul Lowe, Natl. Dir.

## PALMETTO BRANCH

Lucille Peden, Pres.  
4 Willwood Dr., Greenville,  
SC 29607

John McWhorter, Natl. Dir.

## PALOMAR BRANCH

2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.  
Vista Recreation Center  
Ingebor Foo, Pres.  
1050 Melrose Way,  
Vista, CA 92083

Mabel Corwin, Natl. Dir.

## POTOMAC BRANCH

4th Sunday, 2:00 p.m.,  
National Arboretum  
Blandensburg & R. Sts., N.E.,  
Washington, D.C.  
Maxine Zimman, Pres.  
Rte 1, Box 73, Boyce, VA 22620

Carrie Karegeannes, Natl. Dir.

## REDONDO AREA BRANCH

4th Friday, 7:30 p.m., R. H.  
Dana School Cafeterium  
135th St. and Aviation Blvd.  
Hawthorne, Calif.  
Evelyn Isaac, Pres.  
2022 Bataan Rd., Redondo

Beach, CA 90278  
Diane Fries, Natl. Dir.  
**RUBIDOUX BRANCH**  
4th Thursday, 7:30 p.m.,  
Glendale S & L, Riverside,  
Calif.  
Claire Husted, Pres.  
13597 Indiana, Corona, CA  
91720  
Dorothy Ansevies, Natl. Dir.  
**SACRAMENTO BRANCH**  
3rd Tuesday, 7:45 p.m.,  
Garden Center  
3330 McKinley Blvd.,  
Sacramento, Calif.  
Shirley Wilson, Pres.  
2160 Stacia Way, Sacramento,  
CA 95822

Joan Coulat, Natl. Dir.  
**SALINE COUNTY BRANCH OF  
KANSAS**  
4th Monday, 1:30 p.m., Homes  
of members  
Mrs. Sam Gilmore, Pres.  
536 Crestwood Rd., Salina,  
KS 67401

**SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH**  
1st Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.,  
Garden Center  
Golden Gate Park, 9th Avenue  
and Lincoln Way  
Dolores Dupre, Pres.  
417 Hazelwood Ave., San  
Francisco, CA 94127  
Susan Muller, Natl. Dir.

**SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BRANCH**  
2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Los  
Angeles State and County  
Arboretum  
501 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia,  
Calif.  
Cecelia Grivich, Pres.  
2808 S. Baldwin Ave.,  
Arcadia, CA 91006  
Ellie Skinner, Natl. Dir.

**SAN MIGUEL BRANCH**  
1st Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., Casa  
del Prado, Rm. 104, Balboa  
Park, San Diego

Pat Maley, Pres.  
1471 E. Madison, El Cajon, CA  
92021

Paul Lee, Natl. Dir.  
**SANTA BARBARA BRANCH**  
4th Saturday, 7:30 p.m.  
Louise Lowry Davis Recreation  
Center  
1232 De la Vina St.  
Phyllis Mautino, Pres.  
420 Calle Palo Colorado, Santa  
Barbara, CA 93105  
Keith Mautino, Natl. Dir.

**SANTA CLARA VALLEY BRANCH**  
3rd Thursday, 7:45 p.m.  
Allstate Savings, Payne  
& Saratoga Aves., San Jose  
Mary Margaret Rafferty, Pres.  
18531 Ravenwood Dr.  
Saratoga, CA 95070  
Joseph McMahon, Natl. Dir.

**SEATTLE BRANCH**  
3rd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Bethany  
Lutheran Church, 7400  
Woodlawn Ave., N.E.  
Dorothy Williams, Pres.  
21519 92nd Ave. W., Edmonds,  
WA 98020  
Anton Soder, Natl. Dir.

**SOUTH SEATTLE BRANCH**  
4th Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.,  
Wm. Moshier Field House  
430 S. 156th St., Seattle  
Joanne Slosser, Pres.  
16419 3rd Ave., S.W., Seattle,  
WA 98166  
Herbert Briggs, Natl. Dir.

**SOUTHWEST REGIONAL  
ASSOCIATION**  
Robert Hamm, Dir.  
3817 Jo Ann 15-D, Wichita  
Falls, TX 76306

**TACONIC BRANCH**  
Mrs. John V. Steiner, Pres.  
Bullet Hole Road, Mahopac,  
NY 10541  
Mrs. John V. Steiner, Natl. Dir.

**TAMPA BAY AREA BRANCH**  
3rd Saturday, 1:00 p.m.

University of So. Florida,  
Student Chapel Bldg.  
Stefan K. Brown, Pres.  
4011 N. Howard, Apt. 101,  
Tampa, FL 33623  
Dora Lee Dorsey, Natl. Dir.

**THEODOSIA BURR SHEPHERD  
BRANCH**  
1st Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Senior  
Citizens Bldg., 420 Santa  
Clara St., Ventura, Calif.  
Velma Montgomery, Pres.  
433 Arnett Ave., Ventura, CA  
93003  
Lory Hansen, Natl. Dir.

**WESTCHESTER BRANCH**  
1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m.  
Westchester Women's Club  
8020 Alverstone St., Los Angeles  
Arnold Krupnick, Pres.  
11506 McDonald, Culver City,  
CA 90230  
Clair Christensen, Natl. Dir.

**WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA  
BRANCH**  
2nd Wednesday, 11:00 a.m.  
Northway Mall Community Room  
North Hills, Pittsburgh, Penn.  
Genevieve Allison, Pres.  
221 Schaffner Rd., Butler,  
PA 16001  
Agnes Hodgson, Natl. Dir.

**WHITTIER BRANCH**  
1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Palm  
Park Community Center  
5703 South Palm Avenue,  
Whittier  
Gertrude Blackstock, Pres.  
15311 Elmbrook Drive, La  
Mirada, CA 90628  
Dorothy Kosowsky, Natl. Dir.

**WILLIAM PENN BRANCH**  
4th Tuesday, noon, Homes of  
members  
Mrs. Herbert S. Webster, Pres.  
"Millbridge" 13 Summit Dr.,  
Bryn Mawr, PA 19010  
Mrs. Lancelot Sims, Natl. Dir.

## ABS SERVICES

These services are available to all ABS members. For names and addresses of department heads and other officers, see inside front cover.

**AT-LARGE MEMBERS**—Services for members who don't belong to branches are handled by the members-at-large director. Contact him for details. If you are interested in finding a branch or starting one in your area, contact the branch relations director for help.

**THE BEGONIAN**—The monthly journal of the society publishes how-to articles, scientific information, and ABS news. Articles on a member's personal experiences with begonias are welcomed, as are black-and-white photos of begonias and color slides suitable for use on the cover. Contact the editors. Copies of the Begonian more than a year old are available from the back issue sales chairman at 75 cents each. A full year is \$6.50 for any year in the 1940s, \$5 for any year from 1950 onward. Back issues less than a year old are ordered from the membership secretary.

**BOOKSTORE**—Books on begonias and related subjects can be purchased mail-order from the bookstore librarian. Contact him for a list of books available. Include a stamped, self-addressed envelope. The bookstore also sells reproductions of antique begonia prints.

**JUDGING COURSE**—The judging school director offers a course by mail with which you can learn to become an accredited begonia show judge. Also available are a booklet on point scoring, information

on fuchsia and fern judging, and other requirements to become a judge.

**LIBRARY**—Books about begonias and gardening may be borrowed by mail from the lending library. Contact the librarian for a list of books and the procedure.

**NOMENCLATURE** — The nomenclature department monitors newly published findings on begonia names as well as handling official international registration of new begonia cultivars. Registrations are published in The Begonian.

**RESEARCH**—The research department conducts a Grow and Study project in which members experiment with various begonias and compile their findings. The department also has other activities, including the review of requests for ABS backing of outside projects. For details, contact a co-director.

**ROUND ROBINS**—Members exchange information about begonias and their culture through a packet of letters which circulates among a small group of growers. There are dozens of these packets—called flights—on many specialized subjects. To join one or more, contact the round robin director.

**SEED FUND**—The Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund offers seeds of begonia species and cultivars by mail. New offerings are listed in The Begonian.

**SLIDE LIBRARY**—A series of slide shows on begonias and begonia growing can be borrowed by mail for showing at meetings and seminars. New shows are under preparation. Contact the slide librarian for fee information.



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