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The BEGONIAN

The BEGONIAN

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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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See inside back cover

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THE COVER: *B.* 'Glacier Bay', a recent Barbara Rowe Philip hybrid. Thelma O'Reilly photographed it while visiting Barbara's home to see what exciting new plants this rex specialist is creating. See page 152.

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NOTES/ From the editors

We've decided to go straight.

Our style on horticultural classifications has been not to capitalize them, in keeping with Associated Press practice calling for a minimum of capitalization. It's easier to read a sentence written like this Than It Is To Make Sense Of Constant Ups And Downs Like This.

Now, however, we're reliably informed we have been violating the supreme authority in such matters, the *International Code of Nomenclature of Cultivated Plants*. The *Code* requires us to call it the *Rex Cultorum* group, not the *rex cultorum* group, so from now on we will sin no more.



Your gentleman co-editor, in his capacity as an editor of *Sunset* magazine, not long ago found himself in Vista, Calif., to report on the move to California of Kartuz Greenhouses, a Massachusetts institution for 20 years.

Mike Kartuz and Pat Worley are introducing several dozen new cultivars, with emphasis on rexes, to celebrate the opening of their new

quarters, where in-person sales are encouraged as well as mail orders. (See page 137 in the May issue.)

Before long, they'll have two large greenhouses and adjoining lath houses completed. Pat has plans to experiment with tissue culture propagation, a technique already successful with orchids.

Your co-editor also can second what Thelma O'Reilly says (see page 161) about Pat's culinary talents. When have *you* ever had hamburgers served on home-baked buns?



Elisabeth Sayers, still embroiled in organizing her office as membership secretary, finds she would be helped if she had a copy of each branch's most recent roster. This would speed correction of an errant mailing label if the addressee happens to belong to a branch.

So if you are a branch secretary or president, would you send a roster to Elisabeth today? Her address is on the inside front cover.

Please turn to page 157

Barbara Philip and her begonia paradise

Thelma O'Reilly

About two miles from the Santa Barbara coast, where the land begins to tilt up into the foothills behind Goleta, lies the homestead of Barbara Rowe Philip. Here the climate is mild and humid, and huge old trees form a canopy of filtered shade. Under these optimum conditions, Barbara creates stunning *Begonia rex* hybrids with striking results.

The original ranch contained 93 acres. Although most of the land has been sold, Barbara still lives in the home, surrounded with fruit and citrus orchards and tropical plantings. Scattered within this carefully tended scene are structures where she grows

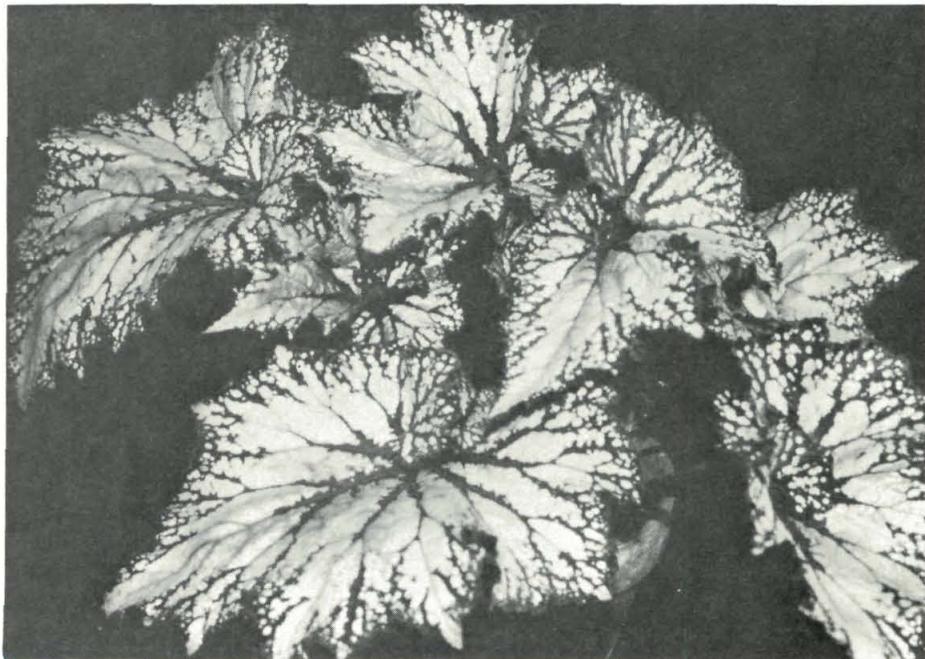
Thelma O'Reilly is an inveterate traveler and begonia collector who also is ABS nomenclature co-director. She lives at 10942 Sunray Place, La Mesa, CA 92041.

and displays an outstanding collection of begonias and companion plants.

Bougainvillea 'Barbara Karst', a dazzling red variety, covers the chain link fence that surrounds the property. An entrance road ends with a circular driveway which borders a large pond filled with waterlilies and fish. Behind this appropriate setting is a rambling ranch-style house of early California-Spanish influence.

Although Barbara lives casually in her warm and friendly home, the rooms are filled with handsome paintings and exquisite accessories. She cooks delicious meals which are served in splendor at the long dining room table and house guests enjoy tempting home-canned vegetables, fruits, and preserves. Specimen begonias complement rare treasures that decorate the elegant, formal living room. An infor-

Photos/Thelma O'Reilly



B. 'Pristine Beauty', a Barbara Philip hybrid, will be registered and distributed soon

mal den, filled with books and trophies, is the evening haven for relaxation in front of logs burning brightly.

You'll be overwhelmed as Barbara guides you through the grounds and planthouses which include a large white gazebo, lath-covered arbor, glasshouse, lath house, landscaped tube house, work and storage area and hospital for ailing plants.

Since her mother's death a few years ago, Barbara has lived alone with Sonya, a Norwegian elkhound, who is her constant companion. Manuel, faithful gardener and friend for over 20 years, lives in a small house behind the garden scene. Days are long and busy as she maintains the home and grounds.

Barbara always has been interested in tropical plants. When her mother, Genevieve, built the original glasshouse (later remodeled into a tube house) in 1925, Barbara became acquainted with begonias. In 1946 mother and daughter joined the Santa Barbara Branch of ABS. What exciting days in ABS heritage—the heyday of great begonia hybridizers in this area—Louise Schwerdtfeger, Elsie Frey, and Rudolf Ziesenhenné. Barbara recalls that some of the popular begonias included *Begonia* 'Joe Hayden', *B.* 'Robin', *B.* 'Thrush', *B.* 'It', and *B. dregei*.

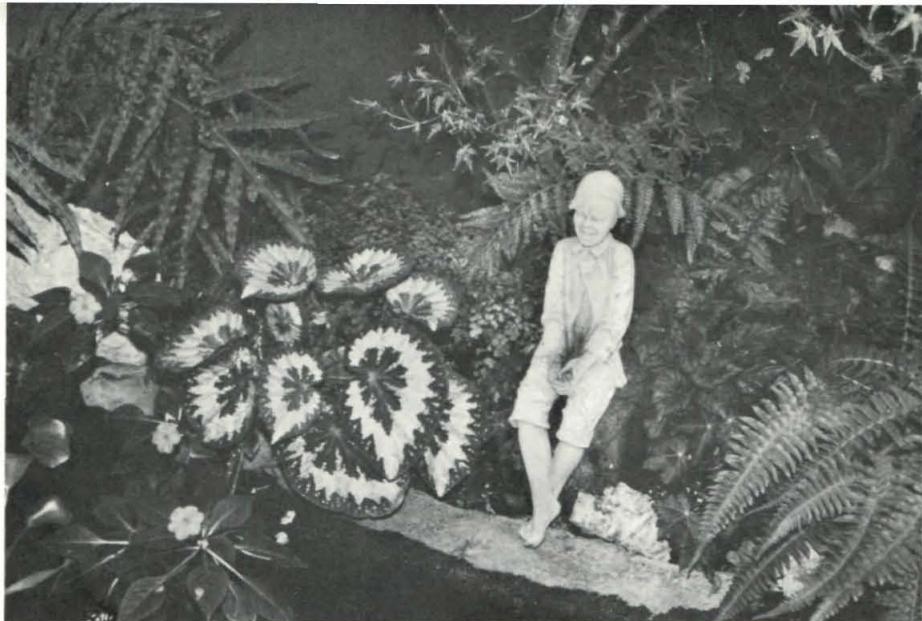
While pursuing her career as a nurse, she filled the ensuing years with faithful and untiring dedication to the Santa Barbara Branch. Besides participating in branch activities, she served as president and national director and hosted many delightful picnics in her garden. For years, with Manuel's assistance, she spearheaded the branch exhibit at the Santa Barbara National Horse and Flower Show.



Barbara Philip (left) shows the author her specimen of *B.* 'Murray Morrison' growing in lath house

Like many ornamental plant fanciers, Barbara found her interest was captured by *Begonia rex* hybrids. This interest grew in leaps and bounds during the past 20 years. About 10 years ago, she succumbed to the hybridizing "bug" and has never recovered. She quickly earned a reputation for beauty and distinctiveness in her *B. rex* cultivars, especially those adorned with a huge sinus spiral. Asked about the origin of this trait—a "trademark" on many of her cultivars—she willingly shared her secret.

The trait originates from an unnamed *Begonia rex* cultivar that was part of her mother's collection. Barbara says: "It is my most important 'stock' plant because of its beautiful, large curl." The original plant was given to her mother many years ago when they visited the garden of the widely known twin sisters Hattie Worden and Alice Murphy. Naturally, she cherishes this treasure and calls it 'Twinnies'.



Prominent in landscape next to small pool is *B. 'Fiesta'*, a rex cultivar strikingly similar to the species *B. rex*. This scene is in the tube house

Barbara's greatest joy is sharing. A visitor never leaves her garden empty-handed. If a particular begonia puts a gleam in your eye, and material is available, you have a cutting. As a result of this generosity, gardens all over the country hold one or more of her unnamed cultivars.

Jim Wyrzten visited her garden during the 1975 ABS convention in nearby Goleta. He returned to New York with many cuttings which he propagated. After receiving permission from Barbara, he named and registered *Begonia* 'Annette', *B. 'Curly California'*, *B. 'Regina Barbara'*, and *B. 'Snooky'*.

Her latest registrations include *Begonia* 'Corazon Rojo', *B. 'Glacier Bay'* (shown on the cover), *B. 'Manuel'*, *B. 'Sonya'*, and *B. 'Elegant Victoria'*.

Because of sharing, two outstanding cultivars are available from commercial nurseries, *Begonia* 'Eeyore' (also listed as *B. 'Barbara's Plant'*) and *B. 'Odyssey'*.

Keith Mautino, Barbara's hobby buddy, and I are assisting Barbara

with naming and registering the most distinctive hybrids. She rarely keeps records, hybridizing for the joy of creating beautiful begonias to enjoy and share with friends. They are her "children" and she is particular about their names—names must suit the plant's personality and each begonia must be worthy of a name. If not, it will remain an unnamed hybrid and probably be discarded the next season.

While I was Barbara's house guest for three marvelous days last October, Keith joined us in the glasshouse for working sessions. We spent many hours considering hybrids worthy of naming and registering. The following begonias are under propagation and will be registered in the near future: *Begonia* 'Airy Ashes', *B. 'Bashful'*, *B. 'Black Lagoon'*, *B. 'Green Shimmers'*, *B. 'Knockout'*, *B. 'Pristine Beauty'*, and *B. 'Bewitched'*.

A brief preview of my favorites:

Begonia 'Bashful'—A distinctly different begonia that has 11-by-10-inch leaves with a light maroon center and

a large zone of grass green which is bordered widely with shades of red and purple. The entire surface is decorated with splashes and spots of silver. Nearly round leaves, except for a few shallow lobes at the top, flaunt a giant sinus spiral that forms a completely flat circle, expressing the "bashful look."

Begonia 'Glacier Bay'—Giant 14-by-12-inch leaves are lobed and asymmetrical. A large center area of dark maroon is bordered by an emerald green zone that is patterned with silver splashes and dots. Dark maroon trims the edge. The leaf ripples deeply from sinus to sharply pointed tip. A large, lobed, uplifted spiral overlaps at the sinus.

Begonia 'Knockout'—Silver leaves, flushed with shades of lavender, are highlighted with veins that are trimmed in forest green. Measuring

6 by 5 inches, lobed and double spiraled, the leaves occasionally divide and overlap as if attempting to form spirals along the margin. A small beauty destined to give *B.* 'Purple Petticoats' competition.

Begonia 'Pristine Beauty'—a large part of the leaf surface is pale, silver green, appearing nearly white in sunlight. The outer zone of grass green is silver spotted and edged in pale maroon. As the veins emerge from the sinus they are bordered with forest green which flows onto the pale, silver green surface. Leaves are lobed, 14 by 11 inches, and hold aloft a huge sinus spiral.

I salute Barbara Philip, a special lady, whose creativity and generosity has gladdened the hearts of many begonia enthusiasts. Phyllis Mautino, president of Santa Barbara Branch, is right—"To know her is to admire and love her."

Named for her Norwegian elkhound, *B.* 'Sonya' has Barbara's spiral trademark



Easy to grow: fragrant *B. solananthera*



One of the most fragrant begonias, *B. solananthera*

Photo/Walter Haring

Elda Haring

Grown as easily as philodendron or ivy, *B. solananthera* is one of my favorite begonias. In late winter and early spring, the flowers are so fragrant they fill the whole greenhouse with perfume much like that of orange blossoms.

This begonia was found in the wild in Brazil as long ago as 1859. It is classified as trailing and scandent (climbing). The heart-shaped green leaves are about two inches in length on trailing stems.

The heavy clusters of white flowers dangle from the leaf axils covering the plant. The centers of the flowers are red, hence the common name of "Brazilian heart." As both male and female flowers are open at the same time, this plant can be self-pollinated easily to produce seed for the Seed Fund or to be shared with your friends.

When I first obtained my plant years

Elda Haring is the author of The Complete Book of Growing Plants from Seed and Color for Your Yard and Garden, both published by Hawthorn Books. She lives with photographer-husband Walt at P.O. Box 236, Flat Rock, NC 28731.

ago, I had no room for hanging baskets and I grew it in a deep pot, raising it above the bench by placing it on an upturned pot. On the windowsill or under fluorescent lights, the pot is kept in a footed compote so the stems do not rest on tray or table.

As with cane-like begonias, the new leaf grown at the tip of each branch is pointed. Pinching out this unfurled new leaf encourages the plant to branch and fill in at the top of the pot or basket. This practice may be continued until the stems are long enough to suit you.

B. solananthera likes good light but needs to be protected from too much sun unless the sun in winter where you live is very weak. It thrives in the shaded greenhouse or window during summer.

This begonia I have found grows happily in a variety of potting mixes as well as in any of the soilless mixes. As I use soil, sand, peat, dolomite, and bone meal in my potting mixes, I do not add additional fertilizer until the plant has become well established. At that time, I begin fertilizing twice a

month through the growing season with one of the water-soluble fertilizers like Miracle Gro, Ra-Pid Gro or Plant Marvel. During winter, it gets an occasional feeding of six drops of Schultz Instant to a quart of water. If you use a soilless mix, constant feeding is needed.

If the root ball of *B. solananthera* becomes dry, the leaves will turn pale and assume a glassy appearance. This is your cue to give it a thorough soaking, then not to water again until the top of the mix feels dry. The plant needs be only very slightly moist during the chilly and dark days of winter. If the temperature in your plant room or greenhouse is low, too much water will cause rot. Plant food cannot be assimilated by roots of plants if the potting mix is very cold.

The time to take cuttings is immediately after flowering—no later than early autumn. I like to place four or five cuttings close together, back-to-back, in a 4-inch pot of propagating mix with leaves pointing outward. When a firm tug indicates roots have developed, feed half-strength fertilizer once a week until the pot is filled with roots. Then the entire mass may be removed and placed in a 6- or 8-inch

basket or in a 6-inch pot.

I use plastic baskets with attached saucers in my greenhouse because I do not want water dripping on the plants on the bench. My friends Mildred and Edward Thompson prefer wire baskets lined with sheet moss.

Under fluorescent lights or in windows, it is best to grow *B. solananthera* in either plastic or clay pots placed inside decorative footed containers with a layer of gravel in the bottom. When growing plants this way, be sure to check frequently to be sure no water reaches the bottom of the pots for the roots of the plants rot if the pot is standing in water.

Keep in mind that this delightful species blooms in winter, indicating it needs a short day to initiate flower buds. If grown in a window, it should be kept in a little-used room where no lights are burning at night. When buds have developed, it may be brought into the dining or living room to be enjoyed.

If you are growing under lights, reduce the time the lights are burning to 10 hours beginning in late November.

After the buds have been set, the lights may be timed to burn 12 to 15 hours a day.

More editors' notes

Continued from page 151

We find ourselves with some spare copies of the covers of the January through April issues for 1980 (unpunched). If you could use copies, we'll part with them free first-come first-served.

Please indicate which ones you want and send 41 cents in stamps or coins to cover postage.



In ABS news, our report in February that Dr. Ernest Weitz established

the San Francisco branch's Elizabeth Banks trophy was correct but incomplete.

It was a co-establishment. The co-establisher was Carol Clement, another past president of the branch.

—C.A. & K.B.

**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!

Begonia adventures: a wild experience . . .

Thelma O'Reilly

It was Monday morning in New York City.

My companion, Carrie Karegeannes, and I had survived four days in the Big Apple. Now that the 1979 ABS convention was over, we were about to embark on a leisurely four-day begonia adventure in New England—or so we thought.

Maybe I should have paid more attention to what happened upon my arrival. I flew to Newark, N.J.—alone because my husband, Tim, was forced to stay home unexpectedly—and climbed into a cab in the dead of night.

Read this after you finish the article. In early April Thelma O'Reilly and her charming Tim set out for seven days of rambling through Arizona and New Mexico. "Just we two with no deadlines . . . sounds like heaven," she wrote before the trip. The vacation had barely started when Thelma fell down a flight of five stairs in a dark room, tearing ligaments in her left foot. Foot in cast, she became a virtual prisoner to her second-floor bedroom, but now is making progress with the aid of crutches and a wheelchair. Spirits are consumed to ease the pain. Oh . . . the vacation was cut short.

It wasn't quite suburban La Mesa, Calif., by any means. On the way to the convention motel:

1. The cabbie informed me the fare would be doubled because we were crossing a state line.

2. His route passed through some—well, *questionable* neighborhoods. When what looked like a strangely hefty woman walked up to the cab, the driver just smiled. It was a transvestite. "That's a lady of the night," he offered. "Ain't scared, are you, honey?" "Of course not," I fibbed. "Nothing to worry about," he countered—and pulled out a knife to prove it.

Without the charming escort and reputable chauffeur I left home, I should have guessed there would be some rough spots. I fear flying alone and I've always said I would never drive in New York City. Never.

Tim made the advance arrangements. He calmed my traffic fears by assuring me the route to New England started on a parkway near the motel. Jack Golding would point the way.

But as it turned out Jack didn't

Photos/Thelma O'Reilly



Begonia adventures visited: Logee's Greenhouses, where Tovah Martin showed them plants . . .

... and a more scholarly approach

Fred A. Barkley

Near the end of November, I received an invitation from a former student, Dr. Jorge Marroquin, of the Agricultural University of Coahuila, Mexico, to accompany him and his assistant, José Angel Villareal Q., on a plant collecting trip through the central part of Mexico. This area is the home of the tuberous *Begonia* in which I am most interested.

Since it was to be in December, near Christmas, I decided to decline. But the ABS Buxton Branch guaranteed transportation to and from Mexico, so I accepted the invitation.

We covered 1,980 miles on the trip, going from Monterrey to Ciudad Victoria, Jalapa, Jalapa, Orisaba, Cuernavaca, Toluca, Queretera, than back to Monterrey.

On the eastern slope from Valles to Jalapa and Fortín, we found five species of *Begonia* growing vigorously: *B. franconis* Liebm., another semperflorens-type species, *B. nelumbifolia* Cham. & Schlecht., and two more

Dr. Fred Barkley of 104 E. Highland, Tecumseh, OK 74873, has made numerous trips through Mexico, Central America, and South America to collect his favorite plants—begonias.

know how to get on the parkway northbound. He introduced me to somebody who knew “a much better route.” Right.

Over breakfast, we decided Carrie would guard the luggage and newly acquired begonias, while I taxied to pick up a rental car. Duane Campbell, knowing New York, had offered to accompany me. I unwisely decided to go it alone.

Did you ever try to hail a taxi in

rhizomatous species. This was during the rainy season and the ground was moist to wet.

On the slopes to the west of Mexico City, the ground was moist. But it was not the rainy season there, and we not only did not find a single species of *Begonia* but no sign that there had ever been any!

This was a real disappointment since I was very anxious to get tuberous *Begonia*, and that was the area where I had collected them several times during what is the summer season for North Americans. Although I had been collecting *Begonia* species in the field for many years, mostly during the Northern Hemisphere summer season, a point regarding *Begonia* distribution was pointed out vividly on this trip—very obvious, but one I had overlooked:

The temperature in the tropics is not the controlling factor in *Begonia* growth, but rather the seasons of rain or drought.

I am very grateful to the Buxton Branch and Northeastern University of Boston, and to Dr. Marroquin and the Agricultural University of Coahuila, for making this trip possible.

New York City on a Monday morning? On any morning? Finally, a non-English-speaking driver halted his beat-up cab. I entered. Within one minute we were in the Indianapolis 500 stock car race.

Somebody had told me there were areas of New York in which I shouldn't walk alone. The car rental office was in one. What's worse, the driver couldn't find the address, so I got out to search on foot.



... Northeastern University, where Carrie (lower right) and Thelma met with members of the Buxton Branch, Dr. Fred Barkley (right), and Gene Courtney, greenhouse supervisor (left) . . .

There were some rather unusual characters around, but I found what I was looking for three blocks away. My self-satisfaction was short-lived: they rented me a bucket of bolts that stalled whenever it idled and emitted a loud noise on every left turn.

The next hour was a nightmare: the “better” route went right through downtown Manhattan during rush hour—driving a car that kept stalling. I concentrated on the driving while Carrie handled the pithy comments and horn blasts of truck, taxi, and bus drivers.

Just as Carrie suggested nervously that we exchange the car, the freeway appeared. I headed directly for the safe, open spaces of New England. Away we went!

Arriving at Logee’s two hours late, I was nevertheless exhilarated by the anticipation of visiting this historic enterprise—America’s oldest begonia nursery.

We were welcomed warmly by the Martins—Joy, Tovah, Richard, and Byron—and spent a fascinating afternoon touring and taking notes. I was impressed with the extensive collection of *B. rex* cultivars, including the

stunning old-timer, *B. ‘Ojai’*.

Specimen begonias were spectacular, especially *B. alice-clarkae*, which stood more than two feet tall. We examined dozens of interesting new hybrids undergoing testing. After a delicious dinner hosted by Joy, she entertained us with the Logee family history.

Early the next day, we returned to say goodbye and pick up a large “eastern” *B. sementacea* I had discovered at the convention plant sale and which Tovah offered to pack for the flight to California. Tovah’s sad news was that packing was impossible without removing the two largest leaves, each 16 inches across.

As I removed the leaves, my consolation was that Chuck Anderson and Karen Bartholomew, *Begonian* editors, had photographed it for an hour at the convention. [But our film was ruined in processing—*Editors*.] Tovah packed the plant carefully in a box. I am still remonstrating with myself for failing to plan for two days at Logee’s begonia world.

Having been warned to take the “north” route at the Massachusetts Turnpike, we watched carefully for it.



... then on to see Mike Kartuz and Pat Worley, before their recent move to California

It took three backtrackings to find the north route—it was a mile down the south route.

Late again, we were greeted at Northeastern University by a welcoming committee including Dr. Fred A. Barkley, Joy Porter, and Orpha Fox. After a delicious lunch, we toured the university's large begonia collection, much of which had been collected by Dr. Barkley.

Several Buxton Branch members devote a day a week to work with the collection. The interest and enthusiasm of this committee and greenhouse supervisor Gene Courtney made us reluctant to end the tour.

We next arrived at Kartuz Greenhouses, innovative begonia hybridizers and dealers, and planned an early dinner and bedtime. Instead, Mike Kartuz and Patrick Worley treated us to a home-cooked turkey dinner with garden-grown vegetables and fruit.

With great relief, we unloaded the rental car next morning and Mike became our chauffeur. After a tasty breakfast prepared by Pat, we decided that if he tired of begonias, he'll be in demand as a chef.

At the end of another exciting day absorbing begonia information and admiring an outstanding collection, I came to a conclusion: Kartuz's Green-

houses' then-impending move to California would be New England's great loss and the West's gain!

Packing that night revealed the loss of my Visa card. I could hear Tim's clear warning at home still echoing: "Never *ever* lose sight of this card!"

After farewells at the airport, I called the Avis agency and was relieved to learn I had left the card there and it would be forwarded. One crisis resolved—one to go.

Onto the plane I walked, carrying gingerly a carefully packed box. A cabin attendant asked what it was and offered to take it off my hands. I had to think fast.

"Oh, no," I said. "This is a special cake from an Irish bakery in Boston. It's for my husband."

That crafty Tim had reserved me a first-class seat, so I tucked my box under the seat and, between naps, made two resolutions:

1. Never again fly without my escort-chauffeur, Tim.
2. Never again drive in New York City without a police escort.

Two months later, I flew—alone—to New Orleans, leaving Tim to water his cake.

So much for my first resolution. But if the Knickerbocker Branch hears sirens that sound too close for comfort, they'll know who's coming.

The Scot with dozens of hybrids to his credit

Joy Porter

When our plane landed at Heathrow, it was a cool 45 degrees—the coldest May 1 since official British weather records began in 1931. There had been snow in the north, but when we got to Holmes Chapel in Crewe, it was a beautiful spring day—just right for visiting Malcolm L. MacIntyre, the man everyone calls “Mac” and who has given begonia growers many beautiful hybrids.

With a twinkle in his eye and that baffling Scottish humor, he told me he forgave me for coming on Tuesday, his fishing day. I wanted to ask him which he liked better, fishing or begonias, but I didn’t dare. It was just as well; I soon found that I wouldn’t have gotten a straight answer to such a frivolous question.

On questions concerning begonias, however, he is a man with many fascinating answers. He does much of his begonia work through correspondence—if you have ever written him, you are on file. He is just as meticulous with his records on hybrids, which at last count numbered 42.

He was a dedicated member of the ABS research department for several years, and contributes seed regularly to the Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund.

Mac often visits the botanical gardens at Kew, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Liverpool to talk about begonias and provide plants he has grown from seed obtained from far-flung correspondents.

He lives only a few miles from the

Joy Porter, Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund director, visited Mac MacIntyre in May 1979. At press time she was visiting him again at The Cottage, New Platt Lane, Cranage, Holmes Chapel, Crewe, CW4 8HS, England.

Photo/M. L. MacIntyre

Mac MacIntyre tends plants in his greenhouse, site of his hybridizing efforts. One of his many successes is *B. ‘Red Spider’* (inset)



University of Manchester’s botanical experiment grounds at Fallowfield and Jodrell Bank, where a satellite tracking station is located. He named one of his hybrids *B. ‘Jodrell Bank’*, in fact. It and *B. ‘Many Colors’* were raised by a Jodrell Bank gardener from seed Mac provided.

“When I first went to Jodrell Bank,”

Mac MacIntyre starts this

M. L. MacIntyre

I have reread my article, “Experiments in Hybridization,” in *The Begonian* for February 1967 and find I did not start at the beginning.

It was about 1962 that I saw an advertisement offering three begonias for sale, one of which was *B. ‘Argenteo guttata’*, the “trout begonia.” Being an ardent trout fisherman, I had to have it.

Shortly after this, a friend who was on the Liverpool City Council arranged for me to call at the botanic gardens there and they would give me cuttings of any begonias I wanted.

I was now well and truly bitten, and I was advised by the secretary of our begonia society to join ABS. Since



Photo/Joy Porter

Mac at the very beginning

then, I have obtained seed from the Seed Fund of many rare species and have been able to give Kew and Edinburgh Royal Botanic Gardens many species they did not have. The above are only interested in species, but Glasgow has most of my hybrids.

One of my hybrids I did not mention in the 1967 article is *B. 'Maxwelton'* (*B. sutherlandii* x *B. suffruticosa*). I had sent this to Robert Shatzer, then ABS research director, in 1967 and heard no more of it—until I had a letter out of the blue from a lady saying she was giving a talk on it at a meeting of her branch and asking if I could tell her anything about it.

Regarding the name, I pinched

Please turn to page 164

Mac recalls, “they only had a few rexes, but now one greenhouse is full of begonias which I gave them.”

Mac’s first cross on April 15, 1964, was *B. 'Norah Bedson'* x *B. 'Clifton'*. It produced not only *B. 'Jodrell Bank'* and *B. 'Many Colors'*, but also *B. 'English Knight'*, *B. 'Scottish Cup'*, *B. 'Tracery'*, and *B. 'Veas'*. This cross produced another seedling Mac thought not worth naming—but he sent it to Robert Shatzer, ABS research director at the time, who named it *B. 'English Lace'*.

In 1967 came the widely grown *B. 'Maxwelton'* (*B. sutherlandii* x *B. suffruticosa*). I can’t think of another begonia with the same shade of pink in its blossoms.

Mac’s rhizomatous hybrids are neat growers, small enough for a collection to fit on a windowsill.

Ten of his hybrids are pictured in the pictorial review section of *The Thompson Begonia Guide*, volume III: *B. 'Florence Rita'* (named for the wife of his next-door neighbor, a judge-fisherman), *B. 'Fred Bedson'*, *B. 'Mac MacIntyre'*, *B. 'Mac's Gold'*, *B. 'Maxwelton'*, *B. 'Many Colors'*, *B. 'Red Dragon'*, *B. 'Red Eye'*, *B. 'Red Planet'*, and *B. 'Sun God'*.

I especially like *B. 'Red Spider'* (*B. 'Scottish Star'* x *B. conchifolia* var. *rubrimacula*), with its shiny, bright green leaves and bright red sinus and veins.

Other MacIntyre creations include *B. 'Clinic'*, *B. 'Motley'*, *B. 'Red Cleo'*, *B. 'Red Spot'*, and *B. 'Red Tracery'*.

It would be difficult to pick a favorite, since they all are worthy of being in a collection. Mac is a wizard with pollen—I wouldn’t be surprised to hear that his newest hybrid was wearing the MacIntyre plaid.



Begonia
'Mac MacIntyre'

Photo/Corliss Engle

Begonia
'Red Planet'



Photo/M. L. MacIntyre

More MacIntyre

Continued from page 163

"Welton" from *B. 'Weltonensis'* as one parent was common to both—and called it mine. I thought "Max-welton" was better than "Macswelton," so I used the former, which also is a place in my native Scotland.

Shortly after 1967 I decided I could not continue hybridizing with the tall types and concentrated on rhizomatous because they take up less room. I started by crossing *B. 'Cleopatra'* with *B. 'Tracery'* and produced *B. 'Scottish King'*, among others.

Then I wondered if I used the plant then called *B. 'Zip'* (now known as *B. conchifolia* var. *rubrimacula*) whether the red spot at the sinus would be reproduced. It was! Nearly all the plants so produced had the red spot, *B. 'Red Planet'* being the best.

Later I crossed *B. 'Norah Bedson'* with *B. pustulata* and produced some very interesting plants. I sent the three

best to Fred Bedson, suggesting he select one for me to name *B. 'Fred Bedson'*.

He did—and selected one of the remaining two to be called *B. 'Mac MacIntyre'*, saying it was time I had one named for me.

The penultimate cross I made was *B. 'Vees'* (*B. 'Norah Bedson'* x *B. 'Clifton'*) x *B. versicolor*. I did not think the cross would take, but it did. Only one seed germinated, which I have named *B. 'Veeversi'*. It looks something like *B. versicolor* but is quite hardy.

The last cross I made was earlier this year: *B. 'Norah Bedson'* x *B. versicolor*. I sowed a little of the seed and it has germinated. I look forward to seeing the results.

If I do any more hybridizing, I will have to send the seed to the Seed Fund. I cannot handle any more plants without throwing out some old ones, and I would hate to do that.

Begonia gallery: *B. rhopalocarpa* full length

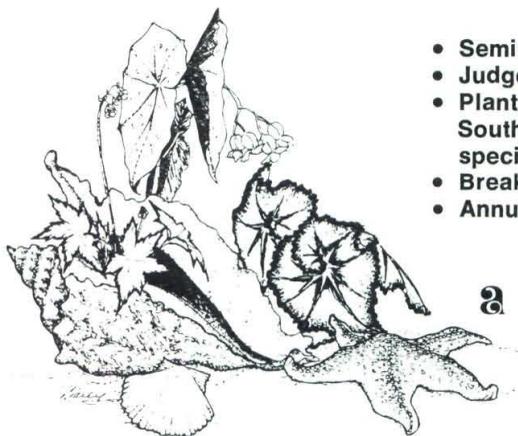


This photograph of *B. rhopalocarpa* did not arrive in time for publication in April with an article on the plant by Dr. Jan Doorenbos (see page 102, April). A dramatic close-up of the placenta and seeds of a *B. rhopalocarpa* fruit appeared on the April cover to accompany the article. Dr. Doorenbos has provided these details about the April cover for photography buffs: the slide was taken with a Hasselblad camera with a Carl Zeiss lens (Planar 1:2.8, f=80 mm); film was Agfachrome (professional). Dr. Doorenbos sent *B. rhopalocarpa* seed to the Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund, featured in the April listing. The editors have been told the seeds germinate rapidly and the seedlings are strong and healthy. Stems on the plant pictured here are held up by glass rods. Normally the plant will spread more. *B. rhopalocarpa* was first described by Warburg in 1896, but introduced only recently to cultivation through the generosity of Dr. Doorenbos, Wageningen, The Netherlands

Photo/Reyer Jansen

1980 american begonia society convention

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**Show rules and classifications available through branches or by request. Send large (#10) envelope, stamped and self-addressed, to: Margaret Lee, 1825 31st St., San Diego, CA 92102

Why a novice ought to enter a begonia show

Carl F. Laipple

Summer tells advanced begonia growers it's time to scrub pots, stake and groom plants, and get ready to enter them in the year's begonia shows.

For a novice grower, though, it often is a time of questions, anxiety, and fear.

"How can I compete with experienced growers? My plant is too small, the flowers are too few, and there aren't enough leaves. I haven't got a chance with all the good growers around."

Your fears and anxiety are needless. First, who says *you* aren't a "good grower"? Next, you won't be competing with advanced growers—you'll be judged with other novices. The only time you would compete with an advanced grower is when you have a

Carl F. Laipple, a devoted workhorse, has long been associated with flower shows in which the San Francisco Branch participates. Begonias he doesn't haul to shows are left at 516 Park Blvd., Millbrae, CA 94030.

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plant *you* think is ready for advanced competition.

All you need to compete in a show is to have a begonia in a clean pot, groomed, staked if necessary, and labeled properly.

Just bring it to the show at the appointed entry time. Members of the classification committee will help you figure out—if you haven't already—the proper classification. Then fill out the entry card, place the plant—and sit back, waiting for your first blue ribbon.

If you have questions, it's easy to get answers. Ask at a branch meeting, call the show chairman, or consult an advanced grower who has shown plants before. They'll be pleased to help. This is, after all, a friendly competition.

Keep in mind that all experienced growers started sometime. You don't win a sweepstakes award without having started in novice competition.

It seems that when you set your plant down on the show table with others, it assumes a whole new appearance. At home, it may be crowded or only one side can be viewed at once. But now it has space and shows off well.

It happened to me and it can happen to you—winning that first blue ribbon. It's a big thrill—and often is contagious.

So don't be afraid to enter a show. Do it. And good luck.

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Joy Porter, director, Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund

SPECIES

- JN 1 — *B. foliosa* var. *putzeysiana*: Shrub-like, bare, small leaves flushed red on underside. Leaves and flowers larger than *B. foliosa*. Photo *The Begonian*, August 1975. per pkt .50
- JN 2 — *B. venosa*: Shrub-like, white-felted leaves. Large, brown papery stipules clasp stem. Small white flowers in tight clusters in spring. . . per pkt 1.00
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Seed of the following is limited. Packets will contain 10 to 12 seeds each:

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- JN 6 — *B. ferruginea*: Horned fruit, long, orange-red flowers, 6 ft. Collected by Scott Hoover, Colombia, 9,900 feet altitude. Photo *The Begonian*, March 1978. per pkt 1.00
- JN 7 — *B. parviflora*: Collected by Scott Hoover on road to Buenaventura, Valle, Colombia. per pkt 1.00
- JN 8 — *B. meridensis*: Collected by Scott Hoover, road out of Alquintrana, Tachira, Venezuela, altitude 4,200 feet. per pkt 1.00

Germination time on JN 4-8: 10 to 15 days with bottom heat.

OTHER GENERA

- JN 9 — hybrid *Amaryllis*. per pkt .50
- JN 10 — *Sinningia cardinalis*. per pkt .50
- JN 11 — Mixed hybrid *Hemerocallis*, small and large types. per pkt .50

Send orders to Joy Porter, 9 Bayberry Lane, Framingham, MA 01701. Include self-addressed stamped envelope. Massachusetts residents add 5% sales tax. Checks and money orders should be made payable to: Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund. Foreign orders: U.S. funds only.

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GROWING FROM SEED/How to make a "greenhouse"

Kingsley F. Langenberg

I have a neat and convenient system for starting seeds and rooting small cuttings. This system allows me to grow begonias right under my nose wherever I go—work or home. In fact, I can fit a veritable begonia farm onto a 12-by-16-inch tray.

The elements of the system are three plastic dishes and a rubber band. I use small, shallow, molded plastic dishes commonly used in laboratories for weighing small quantities of powders. They are available from scientific supply houses (one is Scientific Products Div., American Hospital Supply Corp., 1430 Waukegan Rd., McGaw Park, IL 60085) in several sizes, but I find

Growing from Seed, a regular feature written by Joy Porter, was guest written this month by Kingsley Langenberg, an accomplished photographer and inventive begonia grower. King resides at 3437 Cheyenne Rd., Waukegan, IL 60085.

the 3-inch-square by ¾-inch-deep size works out best for me. Similarly sized containers that will nest together could be substituted.

Here's how to make the "greenhouse in the palm of your hand":

1. Poke some holes in the bottom corners of one of the dishes by means of a small nail heated over a stove burner (avoid breathing the vapors).

2. Fill the dish with seed-starter mix so that the mix is about level with the top of the dish.

3. Half-fill an unperforated dish with hot water. This dish serves as a saucer.

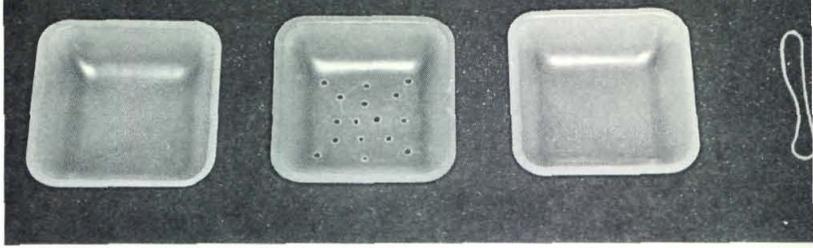
4. Lower the soil-filled dish into the saucer dish and allow the mix to become saturated.

5. Lift the upper dish out of the lower one and allow the excess water to drain. Discard the excess water and allow the mix to cool to room tem-

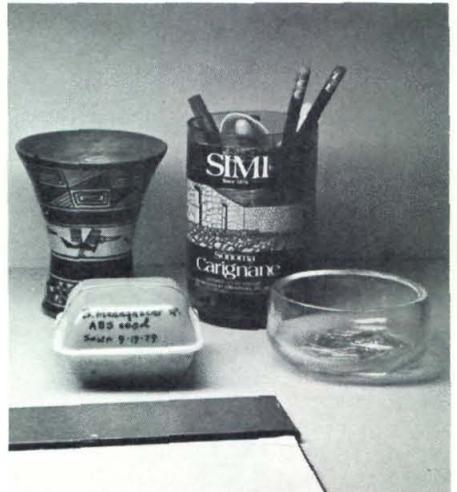
Photos/Kingsley F. Langenberg



Hand-held "greenhouse" provides excellent environment for seed germination



Plastic dishes for miniature greenhouse (above) are available from scientific supply houses. Seeds are germinated in sterile mix placed in perforated dish and watered from bottom (left). Miniature greenhouse is a nice accent to a plant lover's office (below)



perature.

6. Either plant seeds, transplant seedlings, or root small cuttings in the mix.

7. Repeat the wetting procedure (steps 3-5) after seeding or planting.

8. Invert the third dish, which may also be perforated, and place it over the planted dish.

9. Fasten the top and planted dishes together with a rubber band and replace in the lower dish.

There you have it—a greenhouse in the palm of your hand!

The three-inch square dishes seem to have the right dimensions for good

soil aeration. This size will start a packet of ABS seeds, which often will contain about 25-50 viable seeds, quite nicely. Later it will hold about four transplanted seedlings, and, finally, a single plant until it grows to about three inches tall.

After that, the plant goes into a 3-inch clay pot quite successfully. Of course, in the later stages the top is removed.

I have one of my palm-sized greenhouses under my desk lamp right in front of me at work. That way I can keep a watchful eye on the progress of my baby begonias.

ROUND ROBINS/ *ABS member gets rich*

Jan Clark

It pays to start a club: Art Sackentruther of California, founder of the San Mateo Indoor/Outdoor Plant Club, was presented with a money tree last Christmas in appreciation for his work. Club members gave him a Norfolk Island pine, to which they had attached 50 brand new \$1 bills.

Happy that one among us is getting rich, we now proceed to begonia growing news:

Hot weather transportation

Dottie Lillestrand, Minnesota, transported begonias safely in hot weather in a station wagon with no air conditioning. She put them in picnic coolers containing an inch or two of wet long-grained sphagnum moss in the bottom.

She put the lid on the cooler and kept the back windows of the car opened a couple of inches so there would be a good air flow. She watered plants well the day before.

Lena Bussard, Kansas, reported the coolers also work well in the winter. Her daughter lives in Wisconsin and she moved in December, transporting plants successfully in the coolers.

Soil pasteurization

Mary Harbaugh, Wisconsin, reported:

Sterilizing the soil kills all of the living organisms, so the thing to do is pasteurize it. This eliminates the harmful organisms.

To pasteurize the soil, moisten it with water so it is thoroughly wet. An

Jan Clark is round robin reporter. Information about joining a robin—a packet of letters circulated among begonia lovers—is available from Mary Harbaugh, round robin director. Write to her at Rt. 4, Box 343, Shawano, WI 54116.

oven temperature of 130 degrees for 25 minutes will kill insects. A temperature of 180 degrees for 30 minutes will kill plant disease pathogens or microorganisms.

There shouldn't be any odor problem while heating if the soil is thoroughly wet.

Tuberous in Canada

Norman and Donna Bakewell, Canada, grow many beautiful tuberous begonias. Last summer they were bothered with mildew. They used an electric paint gun for spraying. They found this an ideal tool for spraying any insecticide or fungicide as it breaks the water particles down almost to a mist.

To clear the fungus off in a hurry they used a solution of Javex (Clorox or Perfex would work), three to four tablespoons to an Imperial gallon. This is 160 ounces, not the 128-ounce American gallon. This cleaned the foliage in a hurry.

They recommend spraying every day until you are rid of the mildew. It is a little hard on the blossoms. As they dry, the edges turn brown.

They try to keep the plants growing as long as possible as they make tubers on the short days. This is when they store up a good supply of food for the next season's growth and they will produce better flowers.

An idea that's no turkey

Mabel Allen, California, found aluminum turkey roasting pans on sale for 10 cents each. She puts seed containers in them, plus the little pots she uses for transplanting seedlings. She puts plastic over the top for extra humidity.

QUESTION BOX / *Age-old problem: how do I wet peat?*

Elda Haring

Question: When starting my tuberous begonias, I had a problem of wetting the dry peat moss. Have you ever used a wetting agent? Is it the same as a spreader-sticker used to apply insecticides?

Answer: I have never used a wetting agent with peat moss or other materials. When we buy a bale of peat moss, we open it up, pour in a couple of buckets of water, cover tightly with heavy plastic and let it mellow for a week.

When it is ready for use we rub it through quarter-inch hardware screening. It is always lightly moist when used.

There are a number of wetting agents available such as Aqua-Gro and Water Mate. When you add a wetting agent to peat moss the surface tension is lowered and the peat picks up the water more easily.

There is a soil additive called Viterro hydrogel, which is said to increase the water-holding capacity of any medium.

Spreader-stickers were not formulated to use in potting mixes. They are added to pesticides to spread the active ingredient over the plant in a uniform film. Liquid detergents do just as well.

Question: In your article on *B. 'Universe'* in *The Begonian* you mention a cone leaf cutting. Do you divide it as soon as it is rooted or separate when new leaves show?

Answer: When using the cone leaf

method of propagating, let the cutting stay in the pot until it is filled with roots and new plantlets are showing. Then transfer *as is* to the next size, potting in your favorite growing medium.

As new growth starts in the center where the cut veins are, it should not be divided—the idea is to obtain a full, well-shaped plant that will not need immediate pinching or pruning.

Question: I have obtained small plants of *B. kellermanii*, *B. luxurians*, and *B. hemsleyana*. Should I pinch these for more bushy plants?

Answer: Yes — to obtain bushy, compact plants, it is important to pinch all of these when they are small. The first two you mentioned are classified as shrub-like, the third rhizomatous. Pinch the new growth on the rhizome to keep it compact.

Question: How do you pronounce the names of the following begonias: *B. plebeja*, *B. pustulata*, *B. sutherlandii*, *B. coccinea*?

Answer: They are pronounced as follows: pleh-BAY-ha, pust-you-LAY-tah, SUTH-er-land-ee-eye, kok-SIN-ee-uh.

Question: I have a *B. 'Joan Strong'* which has a few older stems that are much taller than the new growth. Should I cut the old stems back even with the new growth or all the way down to the soil level?

Answer: I find there are two begonias sold under this name, one a canetype, one a semperflorens. In either case, prune the taller shoots to be even with the new growth.

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

President Nathan Randall resigned unexpectedly on May 19 after a year and nine months in ABS' highest elective office. He cited personal reasons.

His announcement was made at a meeting of ABS directors, who accepted the resignation with regret.

President Elect Gil Estrada succeeded to the presidency according to terms of ABS bylaws. The unexpired term runs through Sept. 6.

Plant donations start for convention

Five ABS branches and five individuals so far have pledged 637 plants and \$45 toward plant purchases for the Seaside Rendezvous convention plant sale in Long Beach, Calif., Sept. 4-7.

Plant donation director Keith Mautino urged other branches and growers to promise plant donations, reminding members the convention sale "is the main money-raising event of the ABS." He can be reached at 420 Calle Palo Colorado, Santa Barbara, CA 93105.

The goal is 1,500 plants.

Pledges so far have come from Palomar branch, 100 plants; Sacramento branch, 150; San Gabriel Valley branch, \$20; Santa Barbara branch, 100; Theodosia Burr Shepherd branch, \$25; Louise Bower, 12; Joan Coulat, 50; Pat Maley, 100; Keith Mautino, 100; and Barbara Philip, 25.

Carolyn Wells wins in Houston

Carolyn Wells of Houston, Texas, won "best in show," "best cane-like begonia," and ABS cultural certificate for her plant of *B. 'Pinafore Sport'* at the Southwest Begonia Growers Get-Together in Houston April 17-20.

Other major winners included Tommy

Keepin of Houston, sweepstakes and "best gesneriad" awards; Patricia McGough of Houston, best novice; and Robert Hamm of Wichita Falls, Texas, the Mae Blanton award for service.

Get-Together organizer Bob Hamm said the event, the third annual, was "wonderful—better than ever." He said members from all across the country, "from Pennsylvania to California," were in attendance.

San Francisco shows

Members of San Francisco branch are gearing up for two summer shows. The branch show and sale is July 26 and 27 at Serramonte Shopping Center off Freeway 280 in Daly City. Members also will exhibit at the San Francisco County Fair Flower Show August 23 and 24.

The San Franciscans are widely known for the quality of their tuberous begonias, which are the highlight of the County Fair Flower Show.

Fern show

ABS will enter a competitive garden display at the 17th Annual Fern and Exotic Plant Show July 19 and 20 at the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum, Arcadia, Calif.

The Glendale branch won the division trophy last year for the best display by a plant society.

The show will feature competition plants, exhibits, patio displays, and a plant sale. Entrance to the show is free, but the regular Arboretum entry fee is required.

The event is sponsored by the Los Angeles International Fern Society.

In Memoriam

Edna Stewart

The woman for whom one of the Pittsburgh, Penn., branches was named, Edna Stewart, died April 14.

For decades Edna was the most active grower and propagator of begonias—particularly rexes—in the Pittsburgh area. She hybridized *B. 'Robert Shatzer'* and *B.*



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'Dale', a rex she named for her son.

Known to many across the country through the round robins, she had been ill for several years.

Survivors include Dale and his wife, Dorothy, both active members of the Edna Stewart Pittsburgh branch.

Charles Tusler

One of Seattle's best-known tuberous growers, Charles Tusler, died March 25.

Charlie, a past president of the Seattle branch, grew tuberous begonias that were the highlight of many branch shows.

Sharing his expertise was a special joy for Charlie. *The Begonian* in August 1979 published an article about his method of propagating tuberous begonias.

His wife, Ida, survives.

Stanley Michalski

Stanley Michalski, a senior member of the Jacksonville branch, died April 18 at the age of 84.

He was a committee chairman with the title of "Official Morale Booster" because of his happy countenance.

The Jacksonville branch made a \$10 donation to the research fund in his memory.

Hilda Gundell Ayersman

A former member of Santa Barbara branch, Hilda Gundell Ayersman, died in February. She was the widow of A. J. Ayersman, one of the branch's most active past presidents.

Hattie Worden

Hattie Worden, one of Santa Barbara's "begonia twins," died recently. Hattie and twin Alice Murphy were famous growers of rex begonias.

During the 1930s Hattie and Alice traveled with Rudy Ziesenhenne to Long Beach for ABS meetings. There were no branches at the time. Freeways did not exist and the trip home took four hours (they usually got back around 4 a.m.). They and others organized the Santa Barbara branch in 1940.

Hattie is mentioned in the article about Barbara Philip on page 153 of this issue.

Begonias

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 2,475 species and cultivars of *Begonia*

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We will appreciate your support and interest.

A letter from Jack Golding reported total profit from the ABS New York convention of \$6,204.75, which included a check for \$704.45 sent with the letter.

Acknowledgement was read from the family of Frank Reinelt for our offering at Mr. Reinelt's funeral. A sympathy letter from Clarence Hall to Mrs. Reinelt also was read.

Treasurer Eleanor Calkins reported a balance on hand Nov. 1, 1979, of \$4,032.39; receipts of \$8,150.43; disbursements of \$4,428.80, leaving a balance Nov. 30 of \$7,754.02. Dec. income was \$1,501.55; disbursements, \$2,424.19, leaving the balance on hand Dec. 31 \$6,831.38. Report was filed for audit.

Katharine Alberti, back issue Begonian sales, reported 10 orders processed for a total of \$99.50. She also announced she had 20 sets of Herb Warrick's reprints from 1934 through half of 1938 available at \$10 per set.

Business Manager Bill Walton reported costs for changes in the master list at the computer service have been raised from \$15 to \$25. President Nathan Randall announced Mr. Walton had submitted his resignation effective March 1.

Marge Lee, co-director of the Judging Department, reported accrediting Juana Curtis of San Diego as a new sophomore judge and advancing Wanda Elin of Fullerton to junior judge. She sold 1 judging course, 2 classification booklets, and 1 point scoring booklet. She also changed postage and handling fee for the judging course to \$1 and booklets-only fee to 50¢ to reflect increase in mailing costs.

Linda Miller, seed fund director, reported sales of \$293.50, postage 65¢, and sales tax 36¢, for a total of \$294.51; expenses of \$9.60; leaving a balance of \$284.91. Linda also sent a letter stating her intent to resign. She recommended Joy Porter of Framingham, Mass., who she said was willing to accept the position. Mabel Corwin moved to accept Linda's resignation with regret. Motion carried. Pat Maley moved appointment of Joy Porter to Seed Fund Director. Motion carried.

Co-director of Research Corliss Engle forwarded a letter from Dr. Fred A. Barkely asking for a \$100 grant from ABS Research Fund to help finance a plant and seed hunting expedition with Dr. Jorge Marroquin. Action was delayed pending further investigation.

Membership Secretary Kathy Brown reported 34 new members, 85 renewals, for a total membership in January of 2,373.

Nomenclature Co-director Carrie Karegeannes' report stated 15 cultivar descriptions were sent to *The Begonian* for publication. Fifteen registration certificates issued and 16 applications received for processing with checks totalling \$32. Eleven

forms were mailed in answer to requests. Carrie Karegeannes and Jack Golding spent several hours in the Smithsonian Institution, National Herbarium, with Dr. Lyman Smith examining pictures and discussing the typification of begonias.

The Ballot Counting Committee reported results of the constitution and by-laws revisions balloting. Of 24 votes cast, 10 articles were passed unanimously. Two articles passed 23-1. A letter from Bob Hamm was read protesting the short time allowed to return ballots.

Slide Librarian Dennis Maley reported 5 slide programs loaned and returned since August. Requests for two more are on file and will be filled. Dennis is putting together new educational programs. One new program of 26 slides has been created that shows a wide range of begonia types with emphasis on newer West Coast varieties. Text was prepared by Pat Maley. Income from the Slide Library to date is \$35, postage expense is \$10.22. Dennis pointed out that programs are available free to those presenting educational exhibits or programs to the public. The recipient must pay the postage, however.

Round Robin Director Mabel Corwin reported that Jan Clark of North Dakota has agreed to write the round robin column for *The Begonian*. The appointment was approved. This change will require about \$50 above the amount budgeted for the round robin program.

Bookstore Librarian Gil Estrada reported balance on hand Aug. 1, 1979, \$1,081.03; receipts, \$1,224.58; disbursements, \$517.53, leaving a balance on hand Dec. 31 of \$1,788.08.

Pat Maley moved that registration of new cultivars no longer be mandatory prior to entry into the new introductions division at an ABS national show. Motion carried.

Marge Lee moved to change the name of her department from School for Judges to Judging Department. Motion carried.

A letter from Thelma O'Reilly was read making the following recommendations: 1) Responsibility for ABS awards for culture be in the province of the Judging Chairman instead of the awards committee because judging for such awards must be done by accredited ABS judges. Records on status of ABS judges are maintained by the Judging Department, not the Awards Chairman. Also, culture award records are part of show records maintained by the Judging Department. 2) Actual presentation of culture awards should be made by the Show Chairman, not the Awards Chairman. Marge Lee moved acceptance of these recommendations. Motion carried.

Next board meeting will be 1 p.m. Sunday, July 27, at the home of Ralph and Mabel Corwin, 1119 Loma Vista Way, Vista, CA 92083.

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. Individual copies of *The Begonian* more than a year old are available from the back issue sales chairman (75 cents). A full year is \$6.50 for any year in the 1940s. \$5 for any year from 1950 through 1978. Back issues less than a year old are ordered from the membership secretary (75 cents).

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 DEPARTMENT—The judging department 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*. Donations of seed are encouraged. Please contact the Seed Fund Director.

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.

SPEAKERS BUREAU—The speakers bureau maintains a directory of speakers on begonias and related subjects. Contact the director.

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