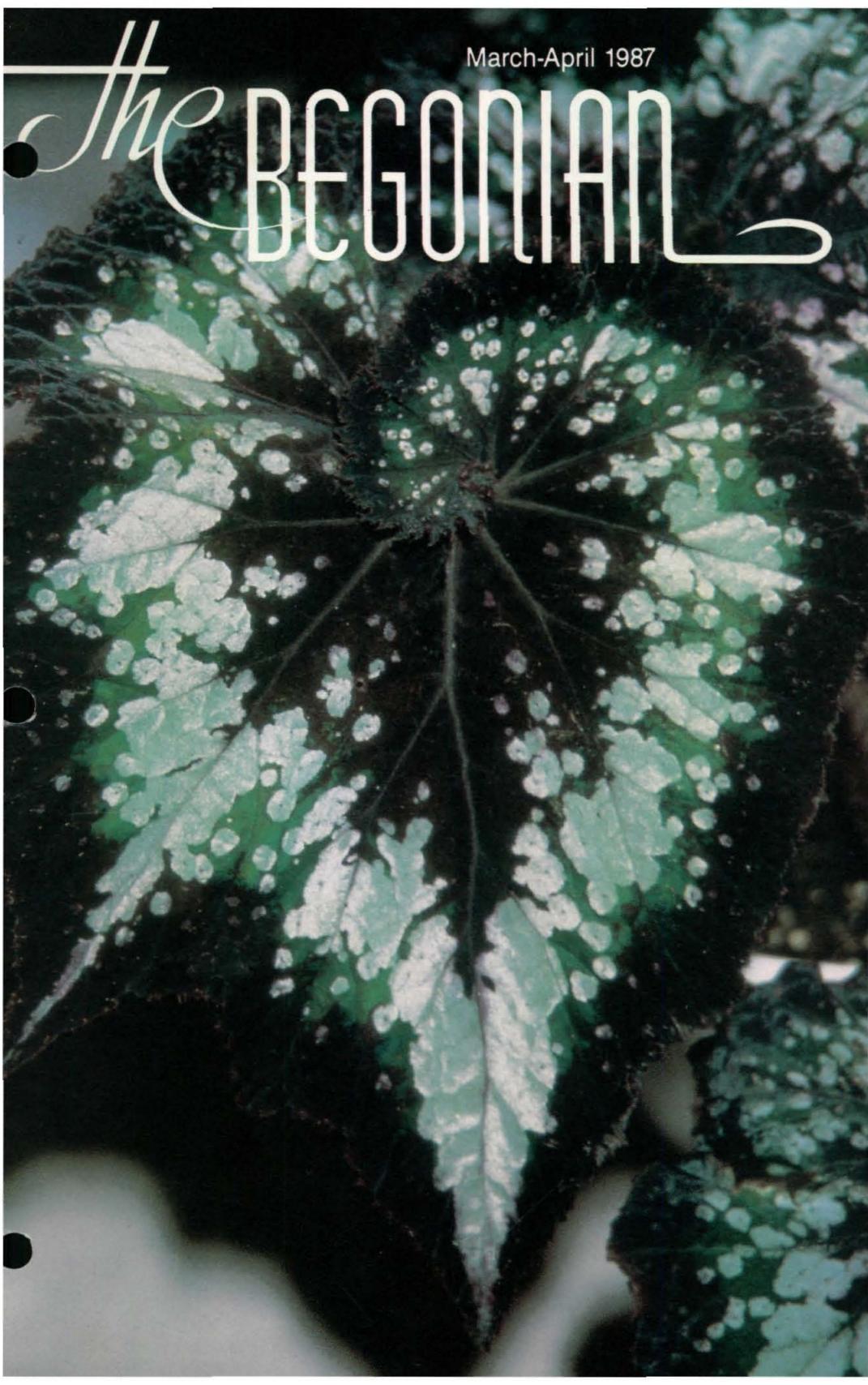


March-April 1987

The BEGONIAN



The BEGONIAN

ISSN 0096-8684

Publication of the American Begonia Society

The **Begonian** is published bimonthly by the American Begonia Society, Inc. Views expressed are not necessarily those of the society, its officers, or the editor. Contents, except where labeled otherwise, may be reprinted without limitation, provided credit is given to "The Begonian, magazine of the American Begonia Society."

Membership (subscription) \$15 annually, \$20 first class mail, also Mexico and Canada. \$19 foreign surface mail except Mexico and Canada, \$35 overseas air mail. Added member, same household, \$2. Consult membership secretary for sustaining, benefactor, life membership dues. U. S. currency only. Back issues (current volume) \$2.50.

American Begonia Society—P. O. Box 1129, Encinitas, CA 92024-0990

Membership—Subscription, dues, circulation inquiries, and address changes: John Ingles, Jr., 8922 Conway Drive, Riverside, CA 92503; (714)687-3728

Editor—Phyllis Bates, P. O. Box 502, Encinitas, CA 92024 (619)436-1419

Advertising Manager—Marion Paris, 4793 Soria Drive, San Diego, CA 92115; (619)287-0738

Circulation Manager Toni Baker, 6475 50th Street, San Diego, CA 92120; (619)582-7516



American Begonia Society

Founded January 1932 by Herbert P. Dyckman

Elected Officers

President Margaret Lee
1852 31st Street, San Diego, CA 92102
Phone (619)239-3196

Past President R. J. Ammerman
1770 Foothill Drive, Vista CA 92084

First Vice President Arlene Davis
923 E. Francis Street, Corona, CA 91719

Second Vice President Charles Jaros
2621 NW 23rd Court, Miami, FL 33142

Third Vice President Tamsin Boardman
Box 249, Roanoke, TX 76262

Secretary Jeannette Gilbertson
410 JoAnn Circle, Vista, CA 92084

Treasurer Eleanor Calkins
910 Fern Street, Escondido, CA 92027

Appointed Officers

Awards Committee Chairman Michael Ludwig
7007 Mt. Vernon Ave. Lemon Grove, CA 92045

Audit Committee Marion Paris
4793 Soria Drive, San Diego, CA 92115

Ballot Counting Chairman Ronnie Nevins
1913 Aspen Circle, Fullerton, CA 92635

Begonian Back Issue Sales Julie Panttaja
8969 Hope Ave, Riverside, CA 92503

Bookstore Manager Bob Bailey
5190 Mission Blvd, Sp.90, Riverside, CA 92509

Branch Relations Director Douglas Hahn
7736 Stonehill Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45230

Business Manager John Ingles, Jr.
8922 Conway Drive, Riverside, CA 92503

Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund Director Joan Campbell
814 NE Honeyhouse, Corvallis, MT 59828

Conservation Committee
Co-chairman Scott Hoover
718 Henderson Rd, Williamstown, MA 01267
Co-chairman Martin Johnson
959 Glennan Drive, Redwood City, CA 94061

Consulting Begonians Dir Charles J. Jaros
2621 NW 23rd Court, Miami, FL 33142

Corresponding Secretary Jeannette Gilbertson
410 JoAnn Circle, Vista, CA 92084

Judging Department Director Juana Curtis
4107 Taos Drive, San Diego, CA 92117

Historian Norma Pfrunder
3484 Jefferson St., Riverside, CA 92504

Members At-Large Director Thelma O'Reilly
10942 Sunray Place, La Mesa, CA 92041

Nomenclature Director Carrie Karegeannis
3916 Lake Boulevard, Annandale, VA 22003

Parliamentarian Edgar Bates
554 Arden Drive, Encinitas, CA 92024

Public Relations Directors
. Howard Berg
16 Highview Terrace, New Canaan, CT 06840
. Tamsin Boardman
Box 249, Roanoke, TX 76262

Research Charles J. Jaros
2621 NW 23rd Court, Miami, FL 33142

Research Librarian Lorra Almstedt
1965 Celeste Lane, Fullerton, CA 92633

Round Robin Director Margaret Coates
11203 Cedar Elm, San Antonio, TX 78238

Show & Convention Advisor Bob Ammerman
1770 Foothill Drive, Vista, CA 92084

Show and Convention Chairman Gilbert Estrada
7914 Springer, Downey, CA 90242

Show Entries Chairman Michael Ludwig
7007 Mt. Vernon Ave, Lemon Grove, CA 92045

Slide Librarian Dan Haseltine
6950 W. Nelson Street, Chicago, IL 60634

Speakers Bureau Director Muriel Perz
2141 W. 29th St., Long Beach, CA 90801

INSIDE THIS ISSUE



Those Very Important Begonias	32	Index to Volume 53-1986	39
Begonias and Their Kissing Cousins	33	Cover Photograph	43
A Gorgeous New Begonia	34	ABS Round Robin Flights	44
Begonias of Lasting Interest	35	Question Box	46
Wayton M. Kelly Seed Fund	35	Directory of Affiliated Groups	49
		Minutes	54

ABS NEWS

SOUTHWESTERN REGION HOLDS FIESTA DE LAS BEGONIAS

The San Antonio Sheraton Hotel in San Antonio, Texas will be the scene of the Southwestern Regional Get Together on April 10, 11, and 12. The theme in keeping with its proximity to the border will be Fiesta de las Begonias. A plant sale and judged show are open to the public. A full series of seminars is planned with Ed and Millie Thompson representing a full afternoon of programs on Saturday. Contact Melba Schultz, 603 Chauncey, San Antonio, TX 78216, if you haven't made your reservation already.

NATIONAL SHOW SCHEDULED FOR LONG BEACH IN AUGUST

Formal announcement of plans for the Annual National Convention, Show, and Meeting came as Chairman Gil Estrada signed contracts confirming the dates of August 27 through 30 with the Breakers Hotel in Long Beach. Five branches will join to manage the activities for a splendid weekend. A preliminary mailing will be sent to all members, and reservation forms will be forthcoming.

JACKSONVILLE SHOW

The Jacksonville Branch will hold its annual show and sale *'Tis Begonia Time* Friday, May 22 through Sunday, May 24 at the Roosevelt Mall, Boosevelt Blvd. (US17) and San Juan Ave, Jacksonville, Fla. Show open during mall shopping hours.

BRANCH DIRECTORY REVISION

If your branch listing is incorrect or outdated, send the revisions to the ABS Secretary, not the editor. It is the duty of the branch secretary to keep the national secretary informed of changes.

Jeannette Gilbertson, ABS Secretary
410 JoAnn Circle, Vista, CA 92084.

MANAGER OF BOOKSTORE HAS NEW ADDRESS

Bookstore Manager Bob Bailey and wife Hilda have moved once again. The new address is:

Robert Bailey, ABS Bookstore
5190 Mission Blvd, Space 90
Riverside, CA 92509.

50-YEAR MEMBERS

The ABS has kept no records of how long members have belonged to the American Begonia Society. Since it is more than 50 years since the organization has been formed, there are undoubtedly a number of members who have been part of the ABS for at least 50 years. Membership Secretary John Ingles would like to hear from anyone who has been affiliated for that time. He has a few names and would like to complete the list.

NAME CORRECTION

George McCormick whose hybrid is pictured on page 152 in the November issue says its name is *B. 'Sheila Mac'*.

Those Very Important Begonias

Seminar by Joan Coulat

Report by Charles J. Jaros

Joan Coulat has a reputation as a superb begonia grower. At the last Sacramento Show she received 8 divisional trophies, 4 horticultural awards and the Sweepstakes Award. She and her husband Paul are restaurateurs.

Very Important Begonias—that is how Joan Coulat thinks of all her begonias. She has won numerous awards, ribbons, rosettes and cultural awards at branch shows and national ABS conventions.

Joan lives in Sacramento, California, and is a member of the Sacramento Branch where she is a very active member. Joan joined ABS in 1974 and has held numerous offices and positions within the organization.

This was Joan's first seminar at a national convention, and only thru the coaxing of Seminar Chairman Thelma O'Reilly were we able to enjoy Joan's charming personality and methods of growing Very Important Begonias.

One very important item that Joan stressed as she was explaining her growing methods was that if the members have certain methods of growing begonias that work for them they should not change. Joan did this with disastrous results once.

Joan's potting mixture is as follows:

- 1 cubic foot of Supersoil
- 1 cubic foot of oak leaf mold
- 3 1/2 gallons coarse perlite
- 2 gallons coarse vermiculite
- 1 cup hoof and horn meal
- 1 cup bone meal
- 1/2 cup superphosphate
- 1/4 cup blood meal
- 1/4 cup Iron Plus, 7-7-7
- 3/4 cup agricultural lime

This mixture makes enough to fill two 33-gallon trash cans. When mixing soil in September she cuts in half the ingredients from vermiculite down. When mixing in January she uses the full recipe. As the mixture is put into the trash containers she moistens the soil mixture with 1 1/2 gallons of water.

For propagation Joan uses 1/2 vermiculit and 1/2 perlite in prop boxes with a 98% success rate. Joan feels that begonias are like people: they like to be kept very clean and fed often. Joan feeds her plants with every watering a weak solution, changing fertilizers each time so that the plants can get the trace elements the fertilizers have.

Joan does not use pesticides, etc., on her plants unless they get mildew; then she uses Doo-Spray. For pest problems she uses Lu soap in hot water which is worked up into rich lather then let to cool down to lukewarm before spraying on her plants.

She can tell if her plants need extra attention by the texture and color of the leaves: Limp or bleached foliage is an indication that a problem exists and needs further investigation to find out the problem. Foliage should be crisp with good color for a healthy plant. Joan finds that using 1 tablespoon of agricultural lime to 1 gallon of water as a lime wash brings back leaf color.

Joan has a 14' x 18' greenhouse that has both bottom and top misters. She uses electric heat during the winter and she keeps temperatures around 50°. She uses a swamp cooler for the summer to maintain a temperature around 75°. Joan also has a lathhouse which is covered with Filar sheet plastic on the back and top.

Joan ended her program with slides taken of her plants. One has to actually see Joan's plants to fully appreciate what an outstanding grower she is.

She brought approximately 60 begonias to be given to the conventioners at the end of the seminar. Those who received them were inspired to raise each one to be a Very Important Begonia.

Charles Jaros, from the Miami Branch, is second vice president of the ABS. His address is 2621 NW 23rd Court, Miami, FL 33142.

Begonias and Their Kissing Cousins

Seminar by Evelyn Weidner

By Judy Becker

Evelyn Weidner grew up in the nursery business, married a horticulturist, and operated a nursery with him for years. The present Weidner's Begonia Garden, started as a retirement project, is about four acres with lots of flowering plants and 25,000 tuberous begonias!

Tuberous begonias can be grown from seed or more usually from tubers that are started in flats. A fungicidal drench will help prevent loss of tubers. Tubers that are started early may also tend to go dormant early, but this early start gives the plants a chance to adjust to somewhat warmer growing conditions than otherwise. Tuberous begonias bloom better with bright light and should be given the minimum shade necessary to keep them cool, generally 50 to 70%. Tuberous enjoy humidity, not wet feet. Field-grown plants, in a mix that includes soil, humus mix, peat, and manure, are only watered every seven to ten days. The tubers are dug in the fall, left to dry in the sun, and stored for the winter trying to avoid too wet or too dry conditions.

The Non-Stop series of tuberous begonias are not as large nor do they show as much variety of color as the larger tuberous begonias. However, they have more heat tolerance—with lights and heat can be bloomed all year round.

Evelyn's "Kissing Cousins" were not other begonias, but plants which often thrive in similar climates. Frequently they will tolerate more sunlight.

Vinca major, which I generally use as a component of a mixed window box, makes a stunning plant by itself with green leaves, edged with white. It is extremely tolerant of full sun to partial shade conditions, as well as cool temperatures. Some plants that trailed

from a barrel planter to root into the ground have survived several New England winters. Blue flowers appear for a short time during the spring.

Clerodendrum thompsoniae can be pinched back to keep it a compact plant or allowed to vine. Clusters of bright red flowers emerge from papery white bracts and appear at various times of the year. Cool nights (50-55°F) encourage formation of flowers. This plant does best with light shade either inside or outside.

Dipladenia 'Red Riding Hood' is stunning, so long as you really don't expect red flowers. It seems more compact than the closely related *Mandevilla* 'Alice DuPont' and bears larger flowers than *D. rosea*. These plants like a fairly sunny location and warm temperatures.

Alogyne huegelii, usually called blue hibiscus, has lilac blue flowers year round, coming back into bloom about three weeks after the plants are heavily pruned in the spring. The plants are hardy to about 23°F, preferring full sun.

Fountain plant and coral plant are two common names for *Russelia equisetiformis*. The species name refers to the similarity to the appearance to the horsetails or *Equisetum*, a primitive plant group. The small reddish flowers show up well in the airy, branching plant.

New to most people is *Otacanthus coeruleus* cv. Amazon Blue. Along the Southern California coast Evelyn finds that it will take full sun, but it will need shade in the hot inland valleys. It blooms for months as the flowers keep going up the stems. This is so new that Evelyn has not checked for cold tolerance, but assumes that it should be kept above freezing. This plant is one greenhouse hobbyists may want to investigate.

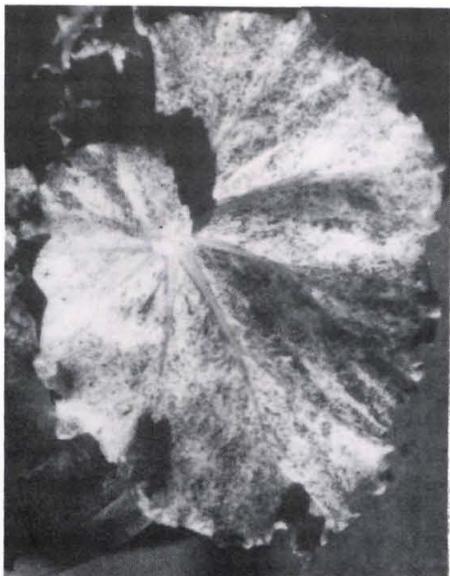
Other plants were shown and still others were seen at her nursery. It is interesting to see new plant material and tempting to see what it will do in the Northeast.

Judy Becker attended the San Diego Convention and agreed to report on this seminar of special interest to her as a fellow nursery person. Judy is with Lauray of Salisbury, Salisbury, CN 06068.

A GORGEOUS NEW BEGONIA

B. 'Glennis Crouch'

By Bob Hamm



Begonia 'Essie Hunt' is a beautiful rhizomatous begonia hybridized by Mae Blanton of Lake Dallas, Texas, by crossing *B. conchifolia* 'Zip' with *B. manicata* 'Aureo-maculata Crispa'. It inherits a thick waxy leaf with a crested edge from *B. manicata* 'Aureo-maculata Crispa' and from 'Zip' central veins that turn red when well grown. It seems as if the only characteristic that did *not* come through from its parents was the variegation that gave the epithet "Aureo-maculata" to the one parent. Or did it?

Right after *B. 'Essie Hunt'* was named by Mae, a young plant was given to the Fort Worth Botanic Gardens. It grew into a beautiful plant. It also developed strong variegation in parts of the plant.

Mae got back part of the variegated plant from Fort Worth Botanic Gardens, and I also received a start. Now, after several years of

Bob Hamm formerly lived in Oklahoma and was active in the Southwestern Region. His address is P.O. Box 160903, Sacramento, CA 95816.

growing it, Mae has named this gorgeous variegated version of *B. 'Essie Hunt'*. I have filed the ABS registration papers for it in her name and will, at her request, be distributing it.

Named after Glennis Crouch of Denton Texas, longtime ABS member and friend, as well as ardent supporter of the Southwest Region of the ABS, this unique begonia will be known as *B. 'Glennis Crouch'*.

The plant growth pattern is identical to that of *B. 'Essie Hunt'* but the coloring is distinctly different. The leaf is still thick and waxy with a ruffled, crested edge, and the veins and leaf edge still turn red, but instead of plain gloss green, the leaf is highly variegated with cream white color. In fact, the variegation is so intense in the foliage that it seems to be white spotted with green at times. I have some leaves that are up to 80% white, yet still have the red vein and edging.

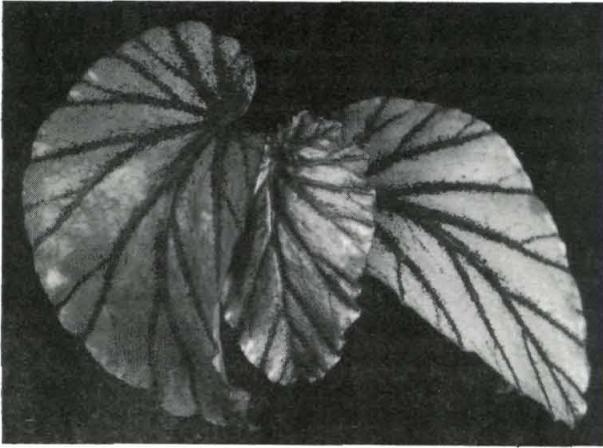
This intense variegation is variable. To get the best results from this plant a few special considerations are needed. The plant does not have a lot of chlorophyll for food production and needs very bright light to keep it growing and well variegated. Also, I have found that a low nitrogen, high phosphorus plant food helps increase the variegation in the foliage. Too much nitrogen forces fast, green growth. I use Peter's Variegated Violet Food on *B. 'Glennis Crouch'* and all my variegated plants to increase color.

One other note about *B. 'Glennis Crouch'* like most highly variegated plants, this is a slow grower and does not come reliably true from leaf cuttings. Rhizome cuttings are the best means of propagation, and even these are slow getting established.

While this plant makes a spectacular specimen and does extremely well under fluorescent lights, it is not a plant for inexperienced beginners. *B. 'Glennis Crouch'* should be in the collection of the experienced grower who doesn't mind giving it the extra care it requires to become an outstanding showy plant.

Begonias of Lasting Interest

By Bob Cole



Dark green veins enhance silvery leaves of *B. 'Misty'*.

Begonia 'Misty'

A magnificent foliage cane begonia, this cross of *B. 'Elizabeth Lockhart'* with an unknown begonia is a wonderful achievement by Marge and Paul Lee. I have had this plant for about twelve years, having received it from Sylvia Leatherman who got it from the Lees. The plant was registered in 1973 as ABS number 391.

It has never flowered for me, but because of the beautiful foliage I haven't missed the blooms. The leaves are delicate silver with green veins. The vein markings are enhanced as they unfurl by a pink blush that remains to outline the leaves. The plant is tall, about four feet. I find it quite robust as an outdoor plant and also a good greenhouse performer. I have not grown it under lights nor as an indoor plant, partly because of its size.

B. 'Misty' has done well in any good loose mix, but the best it has ever done for me was when planted in 100% sphagnum moss in a wire basket. This took quite a bit more attention and fertilizer, but if you tend to overwater

Bob Cole still retains an interest in begonias although he has been concentrating on orchid hybridizing recently. He is co-owner of the Plant Shop's Botanical Gardens, 18007 Topiam Street, Reseda, CA 91335.

this method will save the plant. It is well worth growing.

Begonia 'Lady Mary Harrison':

A Sylvia Leatherman hybrid, *B. 'Lady Mary Harrison'* is one of the most beautiful medium-sized rex cultivars. It is a cross of two Rex Cultorum begonias and exhibits the typical zonal pattern on the leaves. The marginal zone is lavender, the medial zone silvery white, and the central region lavender. The entire upper surface is stippled with small dots.

This plant is part of Sylvia's Royal Family of Begonias, most of which are named for her friends in the plant world. She honored fellow begonia grower Mary Harrison with this lovely plant. I am not aware of 'Lady Mary' being at the national ABS shows, but 'Sir Pinky' has been in many elegant displays. (Mary's husband was likewise honored by *B. 'Sir Pinky Harrison'*, registered with ABS Number 421.)

This plant ought to be more common in begonia collections. It is quite easy to grow. I have grown it for about fourteen years and it does well in various mediums. It does not go dormant unless the weather is cooler than normal. In my collection this plant is always singled out for questions and comments.

Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund

Joan Campbell, Seed Fund Director

The Seed Fund is a service provided for members of this society. It is a privilege of your membership.

The seeds are donated by fellow members and nearly all are tested before being offered to you. But testing becomes somewhat meaningless if the seeds cannot be offered to the members within a reasonable time. The seeds of some species are very short lived. For example, *Bs luxurians*, *glabra*, *fagifolia*, *convolvulacea*, *acerifolia*, *radicans*, *solananthera*, U049, U073, *peruviana*, *oxysperma*, *setosa*, *fischeri* and its various forms. The seeds of these species are thin and sickle shaped, and my predecessor, Joy Porter, learned the hard way that seeds with this shape are not viable for long. The only exception I know of is *B. franconis*. If you had poor luck germinating any of these species, the age of the seeds may have been to blame.

The Seed Fund is stored under refrigeration and it would be wise to keep your own seeds in a cool place before donating them or sowing them.

On the other hand, seeds of the tuberous species are very long lived, literally for years. In my experience, I've found seeds of hybrids to be long lived, many good for three or four years. How short a time is "short lived?" It is not easy to define since the methods of collection and storage are important and there is no way of knowing what methods were used.

There are many seeds I want to call to your attention in this issue. One mystery begonia, *B. albiflora* hort., although in cultivation since 1854, has never been classified. Its habit of growth appears to be shrublike and the plant is not humidity sensitive. Is it a species or a cultivar?

B. luzonensis from the Philippines is new to the Seed Fund. It is rhizomatous with large subentire leaves covered with short stiff hairs; the petioles are long and the flowers are pink, but few in number.

B. egregia from Brazil makes a good specimen plant. It is thick stemmed with long, rough-textured, pointed leaves and has small, fragrant white flowers in winter. It is quick to drop its leaves if allowed to dry. My three-year-old plant is two tall and very striking.

B. conchifolia from Panama was collected at an altitude of 2800 near a huge sacrificial stone. It is rhizomatous and noted for its small, shell-like, peltate leaves and wooly red petioles. The flowers are pink, and the plant is a good size for windowsill growing.

B. kellermanii from Guatemala is an old-timer and easy to grow. It is shrublike with cupped, ornamental leaves frosted with tomentum. It blooms profusely with pink flowers in the spring. *B. johnstonii* is another old-timer which is easy to grow. It is a thick-stemmed species from Africa and has fleshy, scalloped leaves and bears large, pink flowers in late winter and spring.

B. olbia from Brazil might be another mystery begonia, as some growers think the form grown in cultivation may be a hybrid. It is classified as thick stemmed, with thin, medium-sized, maple-shaped, lobed leaves, bronze green in color, with a satiny sheen on their surface. The flowers are large and white and nearly everblooming. This begonia prefers warm, even growing conditions.

B. hydrocotylifolia from Mexico is sometimes referred to as the "pennywort" or "pond lily" begonia. It is a small rhizomatous species with round, thick, waxy, green brown leaves and profuse pink blooms. It makes a good terrarium subject because of its small size, but may be grown as a windowsill pot plant, too. Often used in hybridization, this begonia is one parent of the ubiquitous *B. 'Erythrophylla'*, the original Beefsteak Begonia (noted for its sporting of frilled, spiral and variegated leaves).

B. U049 is a shrublike begonia similar to *B. peruviana*. See the article in the *Begonian* of March-April 1986 detailing Thelma O'Reilly's search for the identity of

this begonia. The seed is sickle shaped, so viability will not be long with this one.

B. humilis from Panama is one of several begonias which self-pollinate. See the article in the *Begonian* of November 1970, p.25, wherein Dr. Jan Doorenbos discusses this trait. The plants are small with white blossoms. This begonia would make an interesting study for a branch project—where do self-pollinating plants find variation?

B. U029 is an unidentified shrublike species from Honduras sold commercially under the name of *B. 'Mystique'*. It has glossy, 3'' x 6'' leaves, which are attractively pleated when small, with dark red margins and red on the reverse of the leaves. It is a spring bloomer with white, ruffled edges on the blooms. The donor comments, "I wish we could get more information on all the begonias with U-numbers. Many are such good plants and deserve to be widely grown."

B. holtonis from Colombia is classified as shrublike and has small, bare leaves with white blossoms. One grower found this plant slow to trail and bloom (as described in the *Begonian* of September-October 1984, p.100), but after the fall-repotting of a two-year-old plant, blooms appeared in December with the white flowers cascading nearly three feet. This begonia was grown in a cool greenhouse with temperatures ranging from 48° to 60°F, with diffused eastern morning light. The potting mix was Metromix 500 with some Osmocote added. Grow and compare this begonia with *B. U133*.

B. maculata from Brazil is canelike. This species has dark green leaves spotted with silver ovals and is known for its long-lasting pink flowers. *B. maculata* is subject to variation in its appearance, depending on its location, light, and other cultural methods.

B. sericoneura from Costa Rica is a thick-stemmed begonia with large velvety leaves with red veins. New leaves have short, furry hairs, reminiscent of down, and the blooms are white and profuse. This form is different from that offered in May-June 1986 as *B. pilifera*. The donor states this definitely is the form so admired at the Miami Convention and pictured in the *ERABS News* for

December 1985. There are several forms of *B. sericoneura*; some prefer cool temperatures and may decline or rest in warm weather.

B. carrieae from Mexico is named for Carrie Karegeannes, ABS Nomenclature Director. This begonia is rhizomatous with large, lobed, rugose green leaves and large white flowers. When studying this plant before naming it, Mr. Ziesenhenné reported he had to hide it, as everyone who saw it wanted it! See the picture and description in the May 1976 issue. The young seedlings show striking variation in leaf markings. This plant is reported to be difficult to propagate, but easy to grow from seed.

B. thelmae from Brazil is named for Thelma O'Reilly, ABS Members At-large Director. See the picture and story in the *Begonian*, May 1981, p. 114. Its closely set, small, dark green leaves have a velvet texture, and blooms are white. Although classified as trailing-scandant, this is not a satisfactory basket plant. Give it good humidity and let it creep over the surface of the soil.

B. nelumbifolia from Mexico is rhizomatous and noted for its large attractive peltate leaves which resemble waterlily pads. The blossoms on tall inflorescences are white edged with pink. This plant is so widespread in Mexico, it is considered especially hardy and adaptable.

B. epipsila from Brazil is shrublike with thick, fleshy, olive green leaves, glossy on top, with reddish tomentum below. This plant will quickly make a basket and blooms easily with fragrant, white blossoms. It is not humidity sensitive and endured 90° + temperatures with aplomb. This is another old favorite.

B. kenworthyae from Mexico is the "ivy-leaf begonia" named for Eva Kenworthy Gray who wrote and published (on her own printing press) the first book about *Begonia* in the United States. (A facsimile copy of this charming book is available from the ABS Bookstore). This begonia is rhizomatous with erect growth. Its cleft leaves are gray green or purple green, depending on its culture. It produces large, white flowers in win-

ter. It resembles a small form of *B. ludicra* with which it has been confused. Some growers consider this one "difficult." If you find a place where your seedlings are happy, do not move them.

B. peltata from Mexico (syn. *B. incana*). This shrublike begonia had been in cultivation for more than 100 years and has been referred to as the "succulent begonia." A strong plant, it has white-felted peltate leaves and medium-sized white flowers borne in dichotomous cymes on 6 peduncles. It is easy to grow.

An Australian member is offering seeds of her own cross of *B. 'Duchartrei' × B. coccinea* for the members to enjoy. Her cultivar is shrublike with compact growth. The glabrous, cupped leaves resemble *B. coccinea*, but are red beneath. The stems are also red, and blossoms are pink. This sounds like a spectacular cross.

Seeds of *Streptocarpus* species have been promised to the Seed Fund, and I have on hand seeds of *Aptenia cordifolia*, a succulent with tiny daisylike purple flowers, and *Ornithogalum caudatum* (Pregnant Onion). I still have seeds of miniature cacti available. Spores of *Platyserium bifurcatum* have been received and bulbs of the white-flowered form of *B. grandis* ssp. *evansiana*.

Please note: if your seedlings of *B. taiwaniana* are spotted, then you are growing *B. taiwaniana* var. *albomaculata* and should mark your plants accordingly. The plant pictured in the Seed Fund in the November-December 1986 is *B. squamulosa*, not *B. taiwaniana*.

NAMING CULTIVARS

The ABS board has stated its the policy concerning begonia seeds that are transferred by the person who produces the seeds to others to grow: the seeds become the property of the person who germinates them and selects the offspring for showing and distribution. Thus the cultivar is selected and named by the plant grower. In the event that two persons name cultivars from the same cross, the earliest name registered has preference. Consult the ABS Nomenclature Committee for assistance.

Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund March-April 1987

- M-A 1 *B. albiflora* hort.
- M-A 2 *B. luzonensis*
- M-A 3 *B. egregia*
- M-A 4 *B. conchifolia*
- M-A 5 *B. kellermanii*
- M-A 6 *B. johnstonii*
- M-A 7 *B. olbia*
- M-A 8 *B. hydrocotylifolia*
- M-A 9 *B. U049*
- M-A 10 *B. humilis*
- M-A 11 *B. U029*
- M-A 12 *B. holtonii*
- M-A 13 *B. maculata*
- M-A 14 *B. sericoneura*
- M-A 15 *B. carrieae*
- M-A 16 *B. thelmae*
- M-A 17 *B. nelumbiifolia*
- M-A 18 *B. epipsila*
- M-A 19 *B. kenworthyae*
- M-A 20 *B. peltata*
- M-A 21 *B. 'Duchartrei' × B. coccinea*
- M-A 22 *Streptocarpus* sp.
- M-A 23 *Aptenia cordifolia*
- M-A 24 *Ornithogalum caudatum*
- M-A 25 *Platyserium bifurcatum*
- M-A 26 *B. grandis* ssp. *evansiana*

All packets of seed \$1.00 except for the last six which are 50 cents each. Growing from Seed pamphlet is 25 cents. Orders from U.S., Mexico, and Canada need 45 cents over seed price for postage (60 cents if over 12 packets are ordered). Overseas orders require \$1.20 for postage. Send checks or money orders in U.S. funds made payable to Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund and mail to:

Joan Campbell
814 NE Honey House
Corvallis, MT 59828.

It is appropriate to keep the names of the parent plants, the source of the seeds, including pertinent dates. For example, if a cultivar comes from seed purchased from the Seed Fund, the identification of the offering should be part of the grower's record.

sies Robins report frequently on the U-numbered plants. Glennis Crouch finds yellow flowers on *B. U089* while Mabel finds intense orange flowers on *B. U014*. Those colors are not very common in begonias.

Mabel's cross of *B. U014* with the semperforens 'Rose Picotee' produced 'Christmas Candy,' which has the colorful blossoms of *B. U024* and the vigorous growth of the semp. Arline's experience with *B. U064* is not like Joan Campbell's. Joan is able to grow both *U064* and *U166* side by side on a windowsill.

Thelma O'Reilly, head of the ABS Nomenclature Committee's Unidentified Species Project, is gathering information and hints on all the U-numbers with the idea of compiling these for our use. She would enjoy hearing directly from some of you with experience in growing these.

Membership in the Members At-large group, which has its own newsletter, is restricted to ABS members who are not members of any ABS Branch. Robins, on the other hand, include MAL's as well as Branch members.

The **Propagation** Robin members share many hints, one concerning the popular *B. Christmas Candy*. (See above.) Mary Simon recommends this begonia not just for its loads of blooms all season, but also for its ease of rooting cuttings. They can be put right into the ground, she says. Mary lives in Ohio. G. Art Sackenruther has "propped" both *B. 'Cathedral'* and its look-alike 'Fiji Islands' from leaves. Other growers depend upon division for faithfulness to the original, as leaf cuttings do not always come true. Selby Gardens in Sarasota, FL, depends upon division, for example. Alton Lee, Florida, recommends propagating *B. 'Midnight Sun'* in the winter, as it does not respond well in hot weather.

Both Art Sackenruther and Bob Moore have installed misting systems to aid propagation. Their systems are different, however.

Russ Richardson passes on the tip he learned from a professional grower: dip leaves and cuttings into a dilute solution of

Clorox (1 tablespoon per quart) before planting them. This cuts down the losses from molds and fungi. *B. 'Midnight Sun'* can be propagated from branch tips, but getting the new plant to branch and fill out is a problem, says Thelma Crawford. The usual method of cutting back these stalks to force new growth from the base seems to cause leaf loss from the uncut older stalks.

Letting her cane cuttings stand for a day in vitamin B-1 solution (e.g., Superthrive) before planting helps rooting, reports Barbara Moody. She then plants in straight sand in a kitty litter pan, placed uncovered under lights. Elaine Ayers tried a controlled experiment: rooting canes in a traditional mix and rooting in Jiffy 7's. With Jiffy 7's rooting occurred faster, but it was a very messy process. Lena Bussard suggests when you get cuttings at an inconvenient moment, put them into a glass of water. Do not forget them, or you may find they have rooted when you remember them!

One grower avoids the fungus and mildew problems of the prop box by microwaving the mix. The small pots containing the mix are placed on a foam meat tray and microwaved at high power for one minute. (This is for six small pots).

One-fourth teaspoon Captan powder is dissolved in one pint of pure bottled water, and the pots are soaked in this until the solution is absorbed. After draining the excess solution, the pots are seeded. This grower uses a capillary mat in the bottom of her prop box, the mat also being soaked with this solution. Capillary matting can be obtained from the Violet Showcase, 3147 South Broadway, Englewood, CO 80110. Their price list is \$1.00. There are two matting. "Do not get the Vattex, get the white one," our grower advises.

If you would like to exchange begonia notes via one of the robin flights, write to me to tell me what your interests are. There are over 60 robin flights circulating.

Mary Ellen Taback
Round Robin Director
151 Show Lane
Newport News, VA 23606

BEGONIA QUESTION BOX

Mabel Corwin, ABS Horticultural Correspondent

QUESTION: Even though I sterilize my seed medium in the microwave after a while algae begins to grow on the medium. I've damaged or killed seedlings trying to get rid of it. Will this green algae harm rex seedlings? If so, what can I safely do to get rid of it? KANSAS

ANSWER: I don't know of any way to completely eliminate algae. Most of the time it doesn't seem to harm the seedlings. Some mixes seem to be worse than others in growing algae. You might experiment with other mixes. I always add more perlite to any mix that I use to make it lighter. I water with a Captan solution and very seldom have any trouble with algae. I use Orthocide, 1/4 tsp to 1 quart of water. I put the solution in a plastic tray and set the pots in this until the mix is completely saturated.

I usually start to transplant when the seedlings are quite small. This way I can get them out before the algae does any damage.

QUESTION: How long will begonia seeds keep well? I am especially interested in semps and rex, but also other begonia seeds. What is the best way to store begonia seeds? KANSAS

ANSWER: Begonia seed should keep well for at least a year. Some varieties will keep for several years. Semp seed usually has a long life. I often plant seed that is one to two years old. Usually the germination isn't as good and it takes longer for it to come up.

The best way to store seed is to wrap packets tightly in foil or plastic, put in a bottle or plastic container that is air tight, and store in the refrigerator. Seed stored this way will usually keep for several years, although the time does vary with the variety.

Send questions about begonia growing to Mabel Corwin, 1119 Loma Vista Way, Vista, CA 92084, Include a stamped, self-addressed envelope; you'll get a prompt reply.

QUESTION: How many weeks or months does it take before rex seedling leaves show what will be the more beautiful of the young plants? I want to know how long I will have to leave bench space for seedlings before I can start to discard. KANSAS

ANSWER: It takes at least a year for rexes to grow their true leaves. At first the seedlings will have plain green leaves. Then each new leaf will have a different color and pattern. It is really exciting to watch the new leaves develop. You do have to give them bench space for a long time.

QUESTION: I leave dilute fertilizer in watering can for a day or two. Does it lose its strength? I hate to throw it out if I don't use it all. KANSAS

ANSWER: No, your fertilizer won't lose its strength. I mix a gallon at a time and use it for a week or so.

QUESTION: I mix spray solution and keep it in a quart spray bottle and use it at least a week before mixing fresh solution. Is this all right, or should I mix it fresh each time. It seems such a waste to use a few squirts and discard the rest. KANSAS

ANSWER: It is probably all right to keep your spray a few days, if it still seems to be effective. However, some sprays lose their effectiveness after just a few hours. Check the label and see if it gives the length of time the spray will be effective.

QUESTION: I enjoy growing begonias from seed. I am usually successful with germination—then my troubles begin. I lose many seedlings when I start to transplant. I am determined to learn how to do it. Can you help? CALIFORNIA

ANSWER: You are probably trying to hurry them along too fast. Many growers make this mistake. Use the same mix that you used for planting the seeds. I use trays that are 4" by 6" for the first transplant. I usually start when the seedlings are quite small.

Sometimes it is better to plant in small clumps the first time, especially if the seedlings are crowded. They can be separated when they are larger. The most important thing is to put them back in the same environment. This is usually a plastic sweater box with the lid closed. They should be moist but not too wet. I water with an ear syringe to settle the mix around the stem. They should not need any more watering for quite some time. It will be several weeks before they are ready to transplant again.

The next step is to move up to a small pot. I still use the same potting mix. Usually I put 2 or 3 plants in one pot. This makes a fuller plant and takes up less bench space. The important thing here is to put back into a sweater box with the lid closed. Keep them in this closed environment until they have several leaves. Then you can start opening the lid a crack and gradually harden them off.

Patience is the most important thing to remember. As long as they are enclosed they require very little attention. If you try to open the boxes too soon it is very difficult to keep them properly watered.

BEGONIAN MINI-ADS

Miniads are a service to our members. Miniads are \$1 per line per insertion with a minimum of \$4. A line is 36 characters including punctuation and spaces. Payment must accompany order. Make checks payable to ABS and mail to Marion Paris, 4793 Soria Drive, San Diego, CA 92115.

BEGONIA CUTTINGS & PLANTS

Send \$1.00 for list. Kay's Greenhouse. 207 W Southcross, San Antonio, TX 78221.

NEW BEGONIAS, PERENNIALS

And much more! Lists + quarterly newsletter. Send \$3 to Robert Hamm, P.O. Box 160903, Sacramento, CA 95816

FAIRYLAND BEGONIA & LILY HYBRIDS

List 50¢. Visitors welcome. Leslie & Winkie Woodruff, Fairyland Begonia & Lily Garden, 1100-B Griffith Road, McKinleyville, CA 95521



GROW GREAT FERNS

Annual membership \$15.00

LAFS Journal with Fern lessons, Robins, Spore Store, Books, Educational programs.

Los Angeles Int'l Fern Society

P.O. Box 90943, Pasadena, CA 91109-0943

The Indoor Gardening Society of America, Inc., Dept. B

944 S. Monroe Rd, Tallmadge, OH 44278
Dues \$10 a year. **INDOOR GARDEN** issued
6 times yearly. Seed exchange, round robins,
cultural guides, slide library.

The First Book About Begonias Published in the United States

The Begonia Book

Written by *Eva Kenworthy Gray* of San Diego in 1931

Facsimile Copy by the American Begonia Society

On the Occasion of the 1986 Convention in San Diego

5 1/2" x 7 1/4", 52 pages, untouched photographs and text



Available from the ABS Bookstore for \$4.00 per copy, postpaid

Bob Bailey, Bookstore Manager

5190 Mission Blvd, Sp. 90, Riverside CA 92509

DIRECTORY OF AFFILIATED GROUPS

Visitors always welcome.

Notify ABS Secretary of changes for this roster.

REGIONAL GROUPS

Eastern Region

Howard Berg, Pres. ProTem
16 Highview Terrace
New Canaan, CT 06840

Southwest Region

Merril Calvert, Pres.
11201 Draper St.
Choctaw, Ok 73020

ARIZONA

Desert Begonia Branch

Barbara R. Moody, Pres.
1200 Christmas Tree Ln.
Pearce, AZ 85625

CALIFORNIA

Alfred D. Robinson Branch

2nd Tuesday, 10:30 a.m.
Homes of members
Hazel Jacob, Pres.
2035 Illion St.
San Diego, CA 92110

Central San Joaquin Branch

Ethyl Thompson, Pres.
P.O. Box 11
Strathmore, CA 93267

East Bay Branch

3rd Thursday, 7:45 p.m.
Northbrae Community
Church, Berkeley
Julia Huwe, Pres.
743 Albemarle St.
El Cerrito, CA 94530

Garden Grove Branch

1st Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
12860 Euclid St.
Garden Grove, Calif.
Douglas Frost, Pres.
10622 Teal Dr.
Garden Grove, CA 92643

Long Beach Parent Chapter

3rd Saturday, 1:30 p.m.
Mercury S & L
4140 Long Beach Bl, L. B.
Ruth Hurd, Pres.
2942 Sawyer St.
Long Beach, CA 90805

Monterey Bay Area Branch

4th Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.
New Monterey Neighborhood
Center, Lighthouse & Dick-
man Sts, New Monterey
Raymond Peterson, Pres.
192 Walker Valley Rd.
Castroville, CA 95012

Orange County Branch

2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Fullerton S & L
2310 E Lincoln Ave.
Anaheim, Calif.
Barbara Vallejos, Pres.
1021 Cardiff St.
Anaheim, CA 92806

Palomar Branch

2nd Sunday, 2:00 p.m.
Quail Botanical Gardens
230 Quail Gardens Dr.
Encinitas, CA
Tony Newnham, Pres.
487 Vale View Dr.
Vista, CA 92083

Rubidoux Branch

4th Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
West Riverside Memorial
Auditorium
4393 Riverview Dr.
Rubidoux
Richard Moore, Pres.
8710 Tourmaline Court
Riverside, CA 92509

Sacramento Branch

3rd Tuesday, 7:45 p.m.
Garden Center
3330 McKinley Blvd.
Sacramento, Calif.
Mary Vipond, Pres.
1719 Markham Way
Sacramento, CA 95818

San Francisco Branch

1st Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.
Garden Center
Golden Gate Park,
9th Ave. and Lincoln Way
Carl Meyer, Pres.
130 Piedmont Ave.
San Bruno, CA 94066

San Gabriel Valley Branch

2nd Tuesday, 7:45 p.m.
Los Angeles State and
County Arboretum
301 N Baldwin Ave.
Arcadia, Calif.
Dorothy Kosowsky, Pres.
712 Cunningham Dr.
Whittier, CA 90601

San Miguel Branch

1st Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
Casa del Prado, Rm. 104
Balboa Park, San Diego
Michael Ludwig, Pres.
7007 Mt. Vernon Ave.
Lemon Grove, CA 92045

Santa Barbara Branch

4th Sunday, 2:30 p.m.
The Cottage
1130 N. Milpas St.
Santa Barbara, CA 93103
Rudolf Ziesenhenn, Pres.
(same as above)

Santa Clara Valley Branch

3rd Thursday, 7:45 p.m.
Saratoga Library
13650 Saratoga Ave.
Saratoga, Calif.
Titia Alaimo, Pres.
4576 Kirk Road
San Jose, CA 95124

Theodosia Burr Shepherd Branch

1st Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Senior Citizens Bldg
420 Santa Clara St.
Ventura, Calif.
Barbara Schneider, Pres.
3774 Vineyard Ave.
Oxnard, CA 93030

Westchester Branch

1st Thursday, 6:30 p.m.
University Chrn Church
5831 W Centinella Ave.
Los Angeles, Calif.
George Ghiotto, Pres.
702 Sunrise Blvd.
Long Beach, CA 90806

Whittier Branch

1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Palm Park Community Ctr
5703 S Palm Ave.
Whittier, Calif.
Bill Scarbrough, Pres.
9320 Shade Lane
Pico Rivera, CA 90660

CONNECTICUT

Connecticut Branch

4th Monday, homes of
members, Arline Peck,
Pres., Eagle Peak Road
Rt. 1, Box 478
Pascoag, RI 02859

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AREA

Potomac Branch

4th Sunday, 2:00 p.m.
Sherwood Hall Library
1205 Sherwood Hall Lane
Alexandria, VA
Maxine Zinman, Pres.
Rt1 Box 73
Boyce, VA 22620

FLORIDA

Fort Lauderdale Area Br.

Eleanor Fisher Bender, Pres
4210 SW 6th St.
Plantation, FL 33317

Jacksonville Branch

3rd Monday, 7:30 p.m.
Garden Club/Jacksonville
1005 Riverside Ave.
Mary Bucholtz, Pres.
2411 Hendricks Ave.
Jacksonville, FL 32207

Miami Branch

4th Tuesday, 8:00 p.m.
Simpson Garden Center
55 SW 17th Rd., Miami
Ann Fergis, Pres.
10220 SW 123rd St.
Miami, FL 33176

Palm Beaches Branch

2nd Monday
Horticultural Center
531 N Military Trail
West Palm Beach
Frankleen Pinder, Pres.
1101 Bimini Lane
Riviera Beach, FL 33404

Pinellas County

Robert L. Moore, Pres.
7760 57th St. N
Pinellas Park, FL 33565

Tampa Bay Area Branch

3rd Thursday, 7:00 p.m.
North Tampa Comm. Center
N 11th St. & E Seward
Tampa, Florida
Fred Loeke, Pres.
1017 E North St.
Tampa, FL 33604

GEORGIA

Greater Atlanta Branch

Betty H. Lockett, Pres.
2064 S Akin Dr. NE
Atlanta, GA 30345

ILLINOIS

Greater Chicago Area Br.

4th Sunday (x Dec), 2 p.m.
Oak Park Conservatory
561 Garfield, Oak Park
Dan Paulson, Pres.
6339 S Kenneth Ave.
Chicago, IL 60629

MASSACHUSETTS

Buxton Branch

Call for meeting info.
Wanda MacNair, Pres.
177 Hancock St.
Cambridge, MA 02139

MINNESOTA

Minnesota Branch

2nd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
Homes of members
Elayne Gilhousen, Pres.
6738 15th Ave. S
Richfield, MN 55423

NEW JERSEY

Elsa Fort Branch

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

NEW YORK

Knickerbocker Branch

2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Hort. Society of NY
128 West 58th St
New York, NY
Virginia M. King, Pres.
444 W 48th St.
New York, NY 10036

OHIO

Greater Cincinnati Branch

Erich Steininger, Pres.
208 Beechpoint Dr.
Oxford, OH 45056

OKLAHOMA

Fred A. Barkley Branch

3rd Sunday, 2:30 p.m.
Will Rogers Garden Ctr
3400 NW 36th St.
Oklahoma City, OK
Sandy Crane, Pres.
Rt. 2, Box 502
McCloud, OK 74854

PENNSYLVANIA

Edna Stewart Pittsburgh Br.

3rd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
Pittsburgh Garden Center
Ellen C. Hamill, Pres.
271 Parker Dr.
Pittsburgh, PA 15216

William Penn Branch

4th Tuesday, noon
Homes of members
Mrs. J. Le Roux, Pres.
Dove Lake House
Gladwyne, PA 19035

RHODE ISLAND

Roger Williams Branch

3rd Monday night
Homes of members
Arline Peck, Pres.
Eagle Peak Road,
Rt. 1, Box 478
Pascoag, RI 02859

TEXAS

Alamo Branch

John L. Howell, Pres.
129 Trillium St.
San Antonio, TX 78213

Astro Branch

Gloria Quinn, Pres.
234 Tallent Dr.
Houston, TX 77076

Dallas Area Branch

3rd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Dealy Rec. Center
6501 Royal Lane, Dallas
Dael Jones, Pres.
6507 Waggoner Dr.
Dallas TX, 75230

Houston Texas Branch

4th Monday, 10:30 a.m.
Garden Center
1500 Herman Dr., Houston

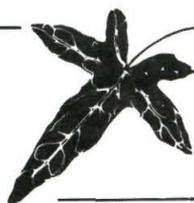
Mae Blanton Branch

4th Wednesday, 9:30 a.m.
Homes of members
Marguerite Vernon, Pres.
1213 Sherman St.
Denton, TX 76201

WASHINGTON

Seattle Branch

3rd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Bethany Lutheran Church
7400 Woodlawn Ave. NE
Alice Ordway, Pres.
3310 NW 80th St.
Seattle, WA 98117



THE AMERICAN IVY SOCIETY

is the International Registration Authority for *Hedera*; provides sources for new & unusual ivies; publishes *Ivy Journal* three times a year with reports on research, hardness testing, life-sized photos of ivies. Memberships: General \$15; Institutional \$25; Commercial \$50. Information: The American Ivy Society, P.O. Box 520, West Carrollton, OH 45449-0520.

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

JANUARY 12, 1986

The board meeting of the American Begonia Society was held at the Corona Steak House, Corona, Calif. President Margaret Lee called the meeting to order at 11:40 a.m. Aims and Purposes were read by First Vice President Arlene Davis. Minutes of the November 2 meeting were approved as mailed.

The treasurer's report showed a balance as of Dec. 31, 1986 of \$11,750.01 in checking, and \$32,100.59 in savings.

The board approved the appointments of Mike Ludwig as Show Entries and Classification Chairman and Gil Estrada as 1987 Convention Chairman.

Correspondence: A letter was read from Dan Haseltine, stating the Slide Library needs slides, and inquiring if the pamphlet of duties of officers has been completed. President Margaret Lee said she hoped it would be done by the end of her term of office.

Reports:

Branch Relations: All data was turned over to new chairman Doug Hahn in December.

Back Issues: There are now complete sets of *Begonian* issues from 1970 to the present. Individual issues may also be purchased. Inventory is now being taken.

Membership: There are 1488 members as of January 1. Four hundred six letters were sent to those people whose memberships had expired; 47 have rejoined so far. Those people who have sent in dues at the old rate will receive a prorated membership, along with a letter of explanation.

Nomenclature: Eight new cultivar registrations were published in the Sept.-Oct. *Begonian*, and six in the Nov.-Dec. issue, bringing the total to 914. Many complimentary letters have been received on *Begoniaceae*

NOTICE

Mention of a product in the *Begonian* does not constitute an endorsement of that product by the Society, its officers, or the author of the article. The ABS assumes no responsibility for reader's use of methods described.

PHOTO/ART CREDITS

From the Nov.-Dec. issue:

Ed Bates—155 left

Scott Hoover—145, 147, 148

R. Jansen—157

Pat Maley—162, 163

George McCormick—152, 153, 164

Thelma O'Reilly—155 mid. & right

R. Ziesenhenné—151 (1951 photo)

Photo, page 154,

Courtesy Smithsonian Institution

since its publication by the Smithsonian Press. ABS officers and branch libraries should have received their copies.

Members At-large: ABS Color Fund has been established as a savings account to allow for more color in the *Begonian*. Every three months a report will be submitted to the treasurer, listing all transactions. Initial deposit was \$200.00.

Reports were also received from the business manager, round robin director, and the treasurer received a check for \$20.00 from the Slide Library, and \$643.00 from the Seed Fund.

Convention: Chairman Gil Estrada reported plans for the 1987 convention in Long Beach are well under way. The Long Beach Parent Branch has invited the Westchester, Garden Grove, Rubidoux, Orange County Whittier, and San Gabriel Branches to help. John Ingles will be treasurer and Faye Garland secretary. The date and place have not been set. Gil should know by February 1. The first mailing should go out to members before the end of March with information and donation requests. Board approved a check for \$1500.00 for the 1987 Convention Fund as start-up money.

Branch Representatives: Palomar Branch reported a change in meeting place and time to 2nd Sunday of each month at 2:00 p.m. at Quail Gardens in Encinitas. Short Branch reports were given by Whittier, Garden Grove, Rubidoux, Long Beach, San Miguel, and Alfred D. Robinson.

Meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Next meeting is tentatively set for March 1, 11:00 a.m., at Quail Gardens. Secretary will advise if a change is made.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Jeannette Gilbertson, secretary

MEETING CALL

The next board meeting will be held at the Corona Steak House, Corona, California on May 3 at 11 a.m.

PHOTO CREDITS

Bob Cole 35
Erin Filbert 34

Pacific Horticulture

The color illustrated quarterly

for keen gardeners

\$12 a year

(\$14 Canada & Mexico,

\$16 elsewhere)

P.O. Box, 485, Berkeley, CA 94701

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 regards 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.

ABS Services

These services are available to all ABS members. For names and addresses of department heads, see inside front cover. Include a self-addressed envelope when you write.

AT-LARGE MEMBERS - Members who do not belong to branches are represented at board meetings by the members-at-large director. MAL committee works on projects by mail.

To find a branch in your area or to start a new one, contact the branch relations director for help.

BOOKSTORE - Books about begonias and back issues of the *Begonian*.

JUDGING DEPARTMENT - Mail order course for a member who wishes to become an accredited begonia show judge, \$10. Also available: a booklet on point scoring (\$2), the old (unofficial) classification booklet (\$2), information on fuchsia and fern judging, and other requirements to become a judge. Add \$1 for postage and handling on all orders and 6% tax for California residents.

NOMENCLATURE DEPARTMENT - Monitors newly published findings on *Begonia* names. Handles official international registrations of new *Begonia* cultivars and publishes these registrations. Gathers information about and assigns numbers to unidentified species.

QUESTION BOX - Prompt assistance with horticultural questions. Those of general interest will appear in the *Begonian* column.

ROUND ROBINS - Members exchange information about begonias and their culture through packets of letters which circulate among a small group of growers. There are dozens of these packets, called flights, on many specialized subjects. Contact the director for information.

SEED FUND - The Clayton M. Kelly Seed Fund offers seeds of begonia species and cultivars by mail. New acquisitions are discussed in the *Begonian*. Donations of seeds are encouraged.

SLIDE LIBRARY - List of programs available from slide librarian. Donations of individual slides and programs requested.

SPEAKERS BUREAU - The director maintains a list of speakers on begonias and related subjects.

ABS Bookstore

The Begonia Book. Eva Kenworthy Gray, 1931. Facsimile copy of the first book about begonias published in the United States. \$4.00.

Begonias:1980. Japanese text by H. Arakawa with 431 excellent color photos. Paperback. \$25

Begonias in Color. Text by Yuji Murotani, color photographs by Hideaki Tatsumi. With English translation. \$12.50

Growing Begonias. Eric Catterall, 1984. Hard cover \$17.00

Les Begonias. Chevalier's classic 1938 study of the *Begonia* as translated by Alva Graham from the French in 1975. Illustrated. Paperback. \$5

Mother Nature's Secrets. Fundamentals of indoor gardening. Illustrations of 341 houseplants in color. Paperback. \$5.

Buxton Check List. Reprints of original and supplements. \$20

Guidelines for National Conventions and Annual Shows. \$2.50. Order of 5 or more to same address, \$2.00 each.

Pamphlets. Begonias From Seed, 35¢ each, with book order 25¢. Culture of Begonias, 75¢ each, with book order 50¢.

Begonian binders. Keep your issues together. No repunching. Black. \$5.25 each.

All prices include shipping in the continental U. S. California residents add 6% sales tax. Send check or money order in U.S. currency payable to American Begonia Society.

Bookstore Manager Bob Bailey
5190 Mission Blvd. Sp.90, Riverside, CA 92509

The Begonian. Individual copies of back issues more than a year old. Price depends upon year. Write for information to Back Issue Sales.

Begonian Back Issue Sales Julie Panttaja
8969 Hope Ave, Riverside, CA 92503

Branch Directory Revisions

Send names and addresses of group officers, meeting place and time, and other information for the list of affiliated groups to the ABS Secretary. Keep your listing current.

Mailing Notice For Those With New Addresses

Issues sent by Third Class Mail are not rerouted to a new address unless the recipient has arranged for this service with the Post Office. The issues are destroyed, and the ABS pays for the notification of the new address if it is available. If the member misses an issue for failure to notify the Membership Secretary, he may purchase it from the ABS Bookstore.

SPOONIT[®]

"GETS THINGS GROWING!"

Gives exceptionally fast results when used on flowers, ferns, shrubs, trees and lawns. May be used for foliar feeding.



get 1 lb. for **\$4.25 pp**

MORRISON'S Orchard Supply

680 Jones Street, Yuba City, CA 95991 (916)673-8053

Begonia Buttercup



KARTUZ GREENHOUSE
 1408 Sunset Dr., Vista, CA 92083
 (619) 941-3613

Open Thurs. thru Sun., 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Begonias, gesneriads, flowering tropicals, including our exclusive introductions.

Catalog \$2.00

BEGONIAS

REX BEGONIA SEED
 RUDOLF ZIESENHENNE

\$1.00 per pkt plus 20¢ postage
 Calif. residents add 6% Sales Tax

1130 NORTH MILPAS STREET
 SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA 93103

BEGONIAS, GERANIUMS, EXOTICS
 FERNS, OXALIS, CACTI, HERBS

New Full Color Catalog—\$3.00

LOGEE'S GREENHOUSES
 Dept. B, 55 North St., Danielson, CT 06239

"Schultz-Instant"
 ULTRA PURE CONCENTRATED ALL PURPOSE
LIQUID PLANT FOOD

EASY DIRECTIONS
 "7 drops per quart water
 Every time you water,
 Every thing you grow."



Available at your store or send:
 \$1.85 for 5 1/2 oz., \$3.20 for 12 oz.,
 \$4.70 for 28 oz., (Includes Mailing.)

"Schultz-Instant"
 ULTRA PURE CONCENTRATED ALL PURPOSE SOLUBLE
Fertilizer

EASY DIRECTIONS
 "1/4 teasp. per gal. water
 Every time you water,
 Every thing you grow."



Available at your store or send:
 \$3.20 for 1 lb., \$12.50 for 5 lb.,
 \$46.00 for 25 lb., (Includes Mailing.)

© 1983 A. Y. Schultz. By the makers of "Plant Shine"
 Mfg. by SCHULTZ CO., St. Louis, MO 63043 U.S.A.

American Begonia Society
 P. O. Box 1129
 Encinitas, CA 92024-0990

Address correction requested

Non Profit Org.
 U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
 Permit No. 180
 Encinitas, CA